

Aide Memoire for the L98A2 Cadet GP 5.56mm Rifle

AIDE MEMOIRE
Produced by Zulu
Company Royal
Marines Cadets Skill
at Arms Instructors in
order to give you all
the information you
need in order to stay
competent on the
L98A2 Cadet GP
5.56mm Rifle
Zulu Company Skill
At Arms Cadre.







Eight Rules of Safety

- 1. A weapon must never be pointed at anyone in any circumstances.
- 2. A weapon must always be handled so that it points in such a direction that there is no danger if a round is accidentally fired.
- 3. Whenever a weapon is picked up, which has not been under an individual's direct supervision it must be examined to make sure that it is not loaded. I.e. Normal Safety Precautions must be carried out.
- 4. The muzzle of a weapon must never be rested against any part of the body.
- 5. Whenever a weapon is handed to someone else they must first be shown that it is unloaded (clear). When anyone else hands a weapon to you, you must insist that the same action is taken.
- 6. A weapon must be in the unloaded state prior to travelling in a vehicle or during non-tactical moves on foot.
- 7. A cadet must never be allowed to fire a weapon unless he/she has been instructed and practised in its use under supervision. A period of revision should be conducted on the weapon prior to live firing.
- 8. When conducting training with weapons, cadets should, at all times, carry their rifle with the sling fitted, except when undergoing formal parade ground drill.







Normal Safety Precautions:

Performed whenever you pick up a weapon for the first time, at the beginning or end of a lesson, practice period, range period, patrol or other exercise or duty.

To perform on own or to pass the weapon to someone else:

- 1. Check safety catch.
- 2. If fitted, remove magazine and place in ammo pouch.
- 3. Tilt weapon to the right pull the cocking handle to the rear and hold open with holding open device.
- 4. Tilt the weapon to the left and perform the 7 point check yourself (chamber, body, face of bolt, magazine housing, chamber, body, face of bolt again). Offer inspection to recipient if passing to someone else.
- If clear, release working parts with bolt release catch. Forward assist.
- 6. Set safety catch to fire, fire off the action in a safe direction, set safety to safe.
- Close dust cover.
- 8. Pass over if passing to someone else.

To perform when ordered during a lesson, range period or other:

- 1. You will receive the order "For inspection port arms"
- 2. Check safety catch.
- 3. Tilt weapon to the right pull the cocking handle to the rear and hold open with holding open device.
- 4. Tilt the weapon to the left and perform 7 point check.
- 5. Place weapon on your right shoulder so that the instructor can check your weapons.
- 6. An instructor will check your weapon and either individually or as a group give you the command "Ease Springs".
- 7. Release working parts with bolt release catch. Forward assist.
- 8. Set safety catch to fire, fire off the action in a safe direction, set safety to safe.
- 9. Close dust cover.







The Load:

On the command "Load":

- 1. Check the safety catch is set to safe with left thumb.
- 2. Tilt the weapon to the right, open the ammo pouch with left hand.
- 3. With the left hand remove a magazine from the pouch, inspect the top rounds and lips of magazine.
- 4. Insert magazine into magazine housing and push home until the magazine catch clicks.
- 5. Check Magazine is fitted correctly.
- 6. Fasten ammo pouch and return hand to hand grip.

The Ready:

On the command "Ready" or when given a range:

- 1. Bring the rifle into the alert position.
 - 2. Check the safety catch is set to safe with left thumb.
- 3. Then with the left hand:
- 4. Check the sights are set correctly.
- 5. Grasp the cocking handle and pull all the way to the rear of the rifle and let go.
- 6. Forward assist.

The Command "Stop"

On receiving the command "Stop":

- 1. Put the safety catch to "Safe"
- 2. Keep the butt in the shoulder but relax looking over the sights in the "alert" position.







The Unload:

On the command "Unload":

- 1. Check the safety catch and open the magazine pouch.
- 2. Tilt the weapon to the right. Remove the magazine at this point and place on the pouch.
- 3. Pull the working parts to the rear and hold open with the holding open device.
- 4. Perform 7 point check.
- If clear, release working parts with bolt release catch and forward assist.
- 6. Set safety catch to fire.
- 7. Fire off the action in a safe direction.
- 8. Set safety to safe.
- 9. Close dust cover.
- 10. Pick up any ejected rounds, replace into magazine.
- 11. Close pouch.

The Make Safe:

On the command "Make Safe"

- 1. Check the safety catch and open the magazine pouch.
- 2. Tilt the weapon to the right. Remove the magazine at this point and place on the pouch.
- 3. Pull the working parts to the rear and hold open with the holding open device.
- 4. Perform 7 point check.
- If clear, release working parts with bolt release catch and forward assist.
- 6. Set safety catch to fire.
- 7. Fire off the action in a safe direction.
- 8. Set safety to safe.
- 9. Close dust cover.
- 10. Pick up any ejected rounds, replace into magazine.
- 11. Put on a magazine with the amount of rounds as ordered.
- 12. Close pouch.







The IA (Immediate Action):

When firing if the weapon stops you perform the IA. To do this:

- 1. Set the safety catch to safe:
- 2. Tilt the weapon to the left and look at the cocking handle.
- 3. React to the position of the cocking handle and what you can see with one of the following stoppage drills:

Cocking Handle Fully Forward:

- 1. Perform the forward assist.
- 2. Set the safety catch to fire.
- Fire the rifle.
- 4. If the rifle fires, continue to fire at the previous rate of fire.
- 5. If it doesn't fire move onto Loose Magazine Drill.

Loose Magazine:

- 1. Starts the same as "Cocking Handle Fully Forward".
- 2. If after performing the above the weapon still fails to fire:
- 3. Set the safety catch to safe.
- 4. Tilt the weapon to the right and pull the working parts to the rear and hold open with the holding open device.
- 5. Look inside the ejection opening.
- If there are rounds in the magazine but no rounds in the chamber, check the magazine is fitted correctly by grasping and pushing home.
- 7. Release the working parts with the bolt release catch.
- Forward assist.
- 9. Set the safety catch to fire and fire the rifle.
- 10. If the rifle fires continue to fire at the previous rate of fire.







Obstruction Drill:

- 1. If the cocking handle is in a position other than fully forward or fully rearward:
- 2. Tilt the weapon to the right, pull the working parts to the rear and hold back with the holding open device.
- 3. Look inside the body, if there is an obstruction remove the magazine.
- 4. Shake the rifle to remove the obstruction and check inside the body again.
- If the obstruction is clear look into the chamber and check that is clear
- 6. If the chamber is clear replace the magazine.
- 7. Release the working parts with the bolt release catch.
- 8. Forward assist.
- 9. Set the safety catch to fire and fire the rifle.
- 10. If the rifle fires continue to fire at the previous rate of fire.

Empty Magazine Drill:

- 1. When looking at the cocking handle if it is fully rearward check inside the body.
- 2. If the chamber is clear and the magazine is empty:
- 3. Open the magazine pouch.
- 4. Remove the magazine, place in the pouch, take out a fresh magazine.
- 5. Check the top round and lips of the magazine, place into the magazine housing.
- 6. Push all the way home until the magazine catch clicks, check the magazine is fitted correctly,
- 7. Release the working parts with the bolt release catch.
- 8. Forward assist.
- 9. Set the safety catch to fire and fire the rifle.
- 10. If the rifle fires continue to fire at the previous rate of fire.

Note: if the above drills do not clear an obstruction or the weapon still fails to fire inform a member of staff. No rounds involved in an obstruction are to be refitted to a magazine and must be handed in.







Stripping the rifle:

- 1. Always strip onto a clean surface or poncho. Use a beret or similar to place the working parts and gas parts into.
- 2. Check the safety catch is set to safe.
- 3. Pull the working parts to the rear and hold back with the holding open device.
- 4. Perform your 7 point check.
- 5. Release the working parts with the bolt release catch.
- 6. Do not fire off the action or close the dust cover.
- 7. Remove the sling.
- 8. Withdraw the rear TMH pin to the first click. If it comes out to the groove push back in approximately 5mm until it clicks.
- 9. Withdraw the front TMH pin.
- 10. Note the pins do not come out all the way and remain in the body.
- 11. Turn the weapon upside down and lift the TMH away from the body by lifting from the toe of the butt and lift away from the body to the rear. Replace the front TMH pint and place to one side.
- 12. Hold the recoil rod assembly with the thumb and fully withdraw the rear TMH pin until the recoil rod moves from the weapon.
- 13. Remove the recoil rod assembly and place down.
- 14. Using the cocking handle pull the bolt carrier assembly to the rear.
- 15. Remove the cocking handle from the bolt carrier. Place down.
- 16. Lift the muzzle end of the rifle and let the bolt carrier slide out into your hand. Place down. Do not strip the bolt carrier.
- 17. Replace the rear TMH pin.
- 18. Flip open the top cover.
- 19. Push the gas piston to the rear until it clears the gas cylinder and move to one side and remove from the weapon and place down.
- 20. Remove the gas cylinder by pulling rearward off of the gas plug then place down.
- 21. Remove the gas plug by pushing in the plunger and pull to the rear without twisting the gas plug. Place down.
- 22. Close the top cover.
- The hand guard can be removed if exceptionally dirty under supervision.
- 24. Only strip magazines if they have been submerged in mud, water, sand.





Re-assembling the rifle:

- Insert the gas plug by lining the plunger up with the 9 o'clock or "N" setting position. Depress the plunger and push the plug through the gas block ensuring you do not twist it in the block.
- 2. Re-fit the gas cylinder on the gas plug with the knurled end to the rear of the rifle.
- 3. Lay the rifle on its side and re-fit the gas piston by pushing the spring end into the body into the central hole above the barrel extension. Use the ventilation holes to see into the body if needed. Once located, push rearwards and re-engage the open end into the gas cylinder.
- 4. Close the top cover.
- 5. Turn the weapon upside down and withdraw the rear TMH pin if pushed in.
- Extend the bolt from the bolt carrier by holding it vertically with the bolt lowermost so it extends. Place into the body bolt first with the flat of the carrier against the top of the body. Push forward until the cocking handle recess lines up with the cocking handle guide.
- 7. Refit the cocking handle then push the bolt carrier assembly home into the chamber.
- 8. Align the recoil roads with the holes in the bolt carrier and push the recoil rod assembly into the weapon until the rod assembly is flush with the end of the body.
- 9. Push the TMH rear pin in to engage the assembly, but not so that it protrudes into the gap in the centre of the assembly.
- 10. Pick up the TMH and withdraw the front TMH pin if pushed in.
- 11. Fit the front end of the TMH into the recess behind the hand guard then press the body and TMH together.
- 12. Engage the front and rear TMH pins.
- 13. Refit the sling.
- 14. Conduct the function test.







The Function Test:

After stripping and assembling the weapon you must perform the function test to ensure the weapon still working correctly. To do this:

- 1. Check the safety catch is set to safe.
- 2. Cock the rifle and forward assist.
- 3. Try operating the trigger, is should not fire.
- 4. Set the safety catch to fire.
- 5. Try operating the trigger, it should fire.
- Keeping the trigger held back, re-cock the weapon and forward assist.
- 7. Release the trigger.
- 8. You should hear a click of the hammer engaging the sear.
- 9. Operate the trigger, it should fire.
- 10. Set the safety catch to safe.
- 11. Close the dust cover.

L98A2 Cadet GP (5.56mm) Rifle Characteristics

- 1. The L98A2 Cadet GP (5.56mm) Rifle is a self-loading, magazine fed weapon which is capable of firing single rounds producing:
- 2. Quick and accurate fire at short range opportunity targets.
- 3. Accurate, rapid fire at ranges up to 300 metres and accurate deliberate fire at longer ranges.
- 4. Effective section fire at ranges up to 600 metres.
- **5.** A number of individual parts including the 30 round magazine are common to the Light Support Weapon (LSW).
- **6.** With its self-loading capability and a 30 round magazine, a high standard of fire control is necessary to prevent wastage of ammunition.







The Marksmanship Principles:

It is essential that you are capable of firing your rifle accurately under all conditions. This can best be achieved if you understand and apply the marksmanship principles, which are as follows:

- a. The position and hold must be firm enough to support the weapon.
- b. The weapon must point naturally at the target without undue physical effort.
- c. Sight alignment and the sight picture must be correct.
- d. The shot must be released and followed through without undue disturbance to the position.

In order to achieve a firm position that will support the rifle the following is a checklist of the key points that will help you to form the most stable shooting position you can and assist you in firing the shot:

- a. Leg position comfortable and stable.
- b. Butt position rifle butt pulled correctly into the groove in the shoulder.
- c. Left hand grip forward and comfortable, supporting the weapon.
- d. Left elbow position as close to the centre of the weapon as possible.
- e. Right hand grip controlling the pistol grip and pulling the butt into the shoulder.
- f. Right elbow position in a natural position providing support.
- g. Head position lowered to a natural position on the cheek piece with a 25mm gap between eye and rear sight.
- h. Relaxation in position relax, don't strain or hold unduly tight.
- Breathing controlled and used at the correct point at the bottom of the breath to release the shot.









