



**Cooper Arms**

**Owner's Manual  
and  
Warranty Information**

**Models: 21, 22, 38, 52, 57M & TRP-3**

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## The Following Warnings Apply to the Operation of All Cooper Rifles

### **WARNING! READ PRIOR TO USE!**

- 1. TREAT YOUR COOPER and ALL FIREARMS AS THOUGH THEY ARE LOADED at all times.**
- 2. Be absolutely certain that you use the correct caliber and cartridge designed for the firearm.** The cartridge for which the firearm is designed is stamped on the barrel on the side opposite the bolt handle just forward of the serial number. If you have any doubt as to the caliber or cartridge the rifle is designed to use **call the factory immediately at (406) 777-0373. DO NOT USE THE RIFLE!!!** Firing the rifle when either the caliber or cartridge is in question can result in severe personal injury or death.
- 3. ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY GLASSES AND HEARING PROTECTION.** Failure to do so can result in loss of sight or hearing. Never fire a rifle with the muzzle within a 7-yard radius of a person or persons not wearing eye and hearing protection. This applies specifically to medium and magnum size cartridges and applies to use not only at shooting ranges but also in the field.
- 4. DENY ACCESS OF YOUR FIREARMS TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:**
  - Children
  - Anyone adjudicated as being mentally defective or convicted of violent tendencies
  - An unlawful user of, or an addict of, alcohol, marijuana, or any depressant, stimulant, narcotic drug or controlled substance

- A felon or fugitive from justice
- Anyone subject to a court restraining order
- Anyone convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence
- Anyone that you suspect not to possess extensive experience with firearms safety and operation

You can accomplish the above with the use of trigger locks, gun safes, or a system of cable and locks that secure the firearm to an immovable object. In the case of a bolt-action rifle you can simply remove the bolt and store it in a secure location separate from the rifle.

**5. ALWAYS STORE YOUR COOPER RIFLE UNLOADED, NOT ONLY FOR SAFETY BUT TO AVOID CORROSION OF THE CHAMBER AND BORE.**

**6. MISFIRES and HANG-FIRES:** In the event you pull the trigger and the loaded cartridge does not fire or the cartridge fires with a muffled sound, **LEAVE THE BOLT CLOSED AND POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION FOR NO LESS THAN 1 MINUTE, THEN REMOVE THE CARTRIDGE.** After removing the cartridge, run a cleaning patch through the barrel to check for any obstructions. Follow this and all warnings on factory ammunition labels.

**7. BEFORE USING A STORED OR NEW RIFLE, MAKE SURE THE BARREL IS FREE FROM ANY OBSTRUCTIONS, DEBRIS, OR EXCESS OIL.** It should be common practice to run a patch down the barrel before use. This will not only help to prolong the life of your barrel but will help prevent firing a round through an obstructed barrel.

8. There are many common sense safety precautions you should take when handling a firearm of any kind such as:

- Always treat every gun as if it were loaded.

- Always point the muzzle of your gun in a safe direction.
- Always be sure of your target and beyond.
- Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to fire.

Cooper Firearms endorses firearms and hunter safety classes. If you have any questions about safe operation of your rifle, **CALL US AT (406) 777-0373.**

**Reloading**

Because of our reputation for accuracy many Cooper Arms consumers will reload or hand load cartridges. Reloading is completely out of the control of the Company and is the consumer's sole liability. Keep in mind some wildcat cartridges do not have SAMMI approved dimensions. Because of this you may at first experience problems with accuracy, chambering and extraction due to "build up of tolerances". In these cases you will need to be patient and work through the problems. Please remember that we are here to help. You can reach customer service during normal business hours, Monday through Friday.

Your Cooper action is very strong but the factory will not warranty any damages due to hand loading. "Beating" the bolt handle open on a fired stuck case causes the most common damage. Further damage to your action, barrel, chamber, and stock may result by exceeding the maximum or not meeting (severely under-loading) the recommended load. Both situations can create severe pressures that can result in personal injury, property damage, and destruction of your rifle. When you do this, you are responsible for your own actions and the Company will not honor any claims or warranty service due to damage of any type resulting from hand-loading. To avoid any of these situations follow these simple precautions:

1. Know the caliber and the cartridge for which you are loading. Make sure there is published, tested data on the cartridge and follow the loading instructions and warnings.

2. Always begin with a recommended lower pressure load.
3. Always measure the diameter of your bullets to be sure you are using the right caliber. If you own a .17, .19, or a .20 caliber rifle, never mix the bullets and be certain when you are reloading that you are using the correct diameter.
4. In the case of a misfire, follow the procedure published in this manual. If you hear a muffled blast or something does not sound correct when you fire the rifle, wait at least one minute with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction then check the bore. If you have under charged the load or for some reason the chamber pressures did not meet minimum levels, the bullet may have lodged in the barrel thereby obstructing it. In this case, remove the bullet with a cleaning rod.
5. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FIRE ANOTHER ROUND THINKING THAT IT WILL DISLodge THE BULLET!** If you cannot or do not want to dislodge the bullet, either return it to the factory or take it immediately to a qualified gunsmith. **NEVER STORE THE RIFLE IN THIS CONDITION.** Take care of it immediately.

## Preparing Your Cooper Rifle for Operation

### **Lead Warning**

Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious physical injury. Have adequate ventilation at all times. Wash your hands after exposure.

### **Clean the Barrel**

The barrel has a light layer of oil on the inside. Before firing, run a dry patch down the bore.

### **Insertion and Removal of the Bolt**

The bolt has been shipped in the cocked position. If for some reason the bolt has de-cocked, place the cocking piece in a vice and lift the bolt handle while turning it to the top position (there is a small notch at the top where the cocking piece rests).

The bolt release is located on the opposite side on the receiver from the bolt handle. The release must be fully depressed in order to insert and remove the bolt.

Models 57M, 52 and 16 have solid bolt stops that rotate on a pin. To release the bolt stop, press in on the serrated area.

For all other models, the bolt is released by pressing the forward flat portion of the stop, which pulls a floating pin from the bolt stop slot on the bolt body itself. **CAUTION! The Model 16, 21, 22 and 38 are single shot actions and do not have fixed ejectors that require bolt interaction in order to eject. Avoid placing undue stress on the bolt release. The bolt should not be pulled back with unnecessary force; the cartridge will eject regardless of the amount of force on the bolt.**

### The Safety

The safety operates the same on all Cooper rifles. It is located on same side as the bolt handle. The safety blocks the trigger and allows the bolt to be opened when the safety is on. The safety is engaged when it is in the rearward position and the red dot is not showing. The rifle will fire when the safety is in the forward position with the red dot showing. The factory or a qualified gunsmith should only adjust the safety.



## The Trigger

The trigger can be adjusted for over-travel, sear engagement, and trigger pressure. The triggers are set at the factory at 2 to 2 1/2 pounds of pressure. **A qualified, experienced gunsmith should only adjust trigger. If the trigger is adjusted, the safety should always be checked for proper engagement.** The standard Cooper trigger is not a "competition" trigger. It is intended for sporting use only. While the triggers exhibit many characteristics and qualities of a competition trigger they cannot be safely adjusted below 1 1/2 pounds of pressure. For instructions on trigger adjustment, have your gunsmith contact the factory.

## Loading

### **Model 57M**

The magazine will drop freely from the action by pushing forward on the magazine release (located just forward of the trigger guard). The magazine is loaded from the top. The 22lr and 17 Mach 2 magazines hold 5 rounds. The 17HMR and 22WMR magazines hold 4 rounds. The Model 57M's use Anschutz magazines with custom floor plates. The standard Anschutz magazines will function in your Model 57M.

Older Model 57M rifles may use a different magazine. Their metal followers may differentiate these magazines. These two magazines are not interchangeable.

Note: Do not dry fire your Model 57M as you may damage the firing pin and barrel breach face.

### **Model 52**

The magazine will drop freely from the action by pulling backward on the magazine release (located forward of the magazine). The magazine is loaded from the top and holds 3 rounds.

### **Model 16, 21, 22, 38, and TRP-3**

These models are single shot and load through the ejection port.

## Scope Mounts and Bases

Your Cooper comes standard with Leupold or Talley bases. For 40mm or less objective lenses, you may use "low" rings in most cases, however scopes vary from manufacturer to manufacturer. Consult your Cooper Firearms dealer for more information.

## Caring for the Barrel

### **We recommend using a bore guide when cleaning your rifle.**

Bore guides are available from a number of sources such as Sinclair's, The Woodchuck Den, The Outdoorsman, Russ Hayden's Shooter Supply, or Sportsmen Den.

## Centerfire Break-in

**Do not use moly-coated bullets during the break-in period and only after 100 standard bullets or more have been fired through the rifle.** Clean after every round for the first 20-30 rounds. Run a wet patch through the bore using a copper removing solvent. Soak a nylon brush with solvent and brush the barrel 5-10 times. **Do not use brushes made from materials other than nylon or bronze. They can damage the internal surface of your barrel.** After brushing use wet patches with copper solvent until the bore is clean. Make sure the internal surface is dry by running dry patches through the barrel until there is no sign of solvent. **The bore must be dry before firing. Discharging a projectile**

through a wet bore may result in damaging the rifle and may result in personal injury.

### **Rimfire Break-in**

22WMR, 17HMR, and 17 Mach 2, use jacketed bullets and should be broken in as directed above.

22LR rifles should be cleaned to remove powder fouling, but with little or no attempt to remove leading. Owing to the nature of 22LR match bullets, leading of the bore allows the rifle to settle into consistent groups. Rimfire rifles tend to have their own unique behavior, as such; frequency of cleaning will vary from rifle to rifle.

### **Caring for the Stock and Metal Work**

All wood Cooper stocks have a hand rubbed oil finish that will water spot if not cared for immediately following exposure to rain or snow. If the stock gets wet, wipe it off immediately. We recommend treating the stock with a high-grade oil based furniture polish to help prevent water spots.

All metal parts should be protected with a thin layer of oil. Working surfaces should be lubricated on a regular basis. While many of the parts are blued they can rust if not cared for properly. Sweat from your hands can cause metal surfaces to rust. Contrary to popular opinion, stainless steel will rust. We suggest wiping your rifle down after handling and before storing. If you live in an area of high humidity, we suggest you wipe the rifle down with a thin layer of oil to repel moisture. This should be applied no less than once a month.

If you have any questions regarding the care of your stock and metal work, call or email the factory.

## **Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc. Limited 2-Year Warranty**

Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc. (the "Company") guarantees only those products manufactured by the Company. **Your warranty card must be on file with the factory in order for the warranty to be valid. The warranty card must be mailed within 30 days of the date of purchase to be valid. The warranty is non-transferable and applies only to the original purchaser.**

### **What Your Warranty Covers:**

-All metal component parts are warranted to be free from defects in materials and workmanship for a period of two (2) years from the date of purchase.

-The stock is warranted to be free from defects in workmanship for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of purchase. Due to varying climates, the Company does not warrant the wood to be free of natural characteristics that may cause warping, shrinking, swelling, or discoloration.

### **Limitations and Exclusions**

Any implied warranties are limited to ninety (90) days from the date of purchase. The Company is not responsible in any way for damage to a rifle, property damage or physical injury resulting in whole or part from:

- Intentional or negligent discharge or firing
- Improper or careless use of handling
- Unauthorized modifications
- Defective, improper, or reloaded ammunition
- Neglect of a rifle or other causes beyond the control of the Company

Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

### **What Your Warranty Does Not Cover**

- Trigger systems not manufactured by the Company
- Scope mounts and rings
- Cryogenically treated metal work
- Custom barrels specified by the customer
- Wood supplied by the customer
- Completed barreled actions not manufactured by the Company
- Any custom options not specifically listed in the sales literature
- Wood characteristics or defects resulting from environmental conditions.
- Normal wear to the finish of the blued metal parts
- Damage to the rifle that is determined by the factory to be the result of abuse, misuse, or improper care
- Damage due to natural causes or shipping
- Damage or malfunction due to alteration, adjustment or service of the rifle by anyone other than an authorized company technician

### **Exclusion for use in Sanctioned Competition**

Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc. does not warrant the merchantability and fitness for use of its rifles for competition shooting. While the Company manufactures what it believes to be the most accurate production rifles in the world, the Company does not intend or imply that its products are suited for sanctioned competition.

### **Your Rights Under State Law**

This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other legal rights, which vary from state to state.

### **Customer Service and Repairs**

If you need assistance with your Cooper rifle, have a question, or suspect a warranty problem, please contact the factory. If the Company representative determines that the rifle should be returned for service, you will be asked to ship the rifle to the factory.

**Possession of a Federal Firearms License (FFL) is not required to ship the rifle.** Federal Law allows the consumer to ship a rifle directly to the factory in the event of a warranty service claim.

If you have access to United Parcel Service (UPS), or Federal Express (FedEx), or any other delivery service requiring a physical address, address the rifle to:

Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc.  
Customer Service  
4004 Hwy 93 N  
Stevensville, MT 59870

If you do not have access to UPS or FedEx you can mail the rifle through the United States Postal Service by addressing it to:

Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc.  
Customer Service  
P.O. Box 114  
Stevensville, MT 59870

## Packaging Your Rifle for Return

Use either the original shipping container or an airline approved hard case. **Do not simply put the rifle in a box. It may not survive shipping.** The Company is not responsible for damages including broken stocks resulting from improper packaging or shipping damage. Here are some helpful suggestions:

- Remove the bolt.
- If you use the original box, there is a separate compartment for the bolt. If you use a hard case, you must protect the bolt from the body of the rifle. Often times during shipment the contents of the case can shift and an unprotected bolt can damage the body of the rifle.
- Protect the crown of the barrel by placing either Styrofoam or soft packing over the tip of the barrel.
- Do not send your scope or scope bases unless specifically requested by a service technician
- **Include a written explanation of the problem with the rifle. Make sure to include you name, your physical address and daytime phone number.**
- **DO NOT ENCLOSE LIVE ROUNDS!!**

## Warranty Registration Card

You must fill out, sign and mail the enclosed warranty card to Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc. within 30 days of the date of purchase in order for the warranty to be valid.

The enclosed warranty card has been encoded and cannot be duplicated. The original card attached herein must be sent. No other replica or duplicate will be accepted. In the event that the warranty card is not enclosed, notify Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc immediately. Please have the dealers name and date of receipt of the rifle.

Read all warnings and instructions included with the rifle. By signing the warranty card, you acknowledge that you have read and understand all warnings and the material contained herein. Additionally, you agree to be bound by all the terms and conditions contained herein.

## Cooper Firearms of Montana, Inc.

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