

LOADING AND SHOOTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR 1873/1875 SPRINGFIELD TRAPDOOR

WARNING: BEFORE PROCEEDING ALWAYS MAKE SURE THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED AND POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

The exploded view drawing shows SPRINGFIELD TRAPDOOR OFFICER RIFLE, but the suggestions apply for all Trapdoor models.

CAUTION

- We strongly recommend you to practise the procedure of placing the rifle on safe **BEFORE** attempting to load and fire the rifle.
- To place the rifle on safe, slowly drop the hammer in the safe half-cock position. We strongly recommend not loading the rifle until you are in the hunting field, or on the target range and you are ready to shoot safely.
- With this rifle the hammer has four positions, (except the Officer model, which has three of them, lacking of the safety position 1st. click):
 - Fired position.
 - Safe position.
 - Half cock position (used to open breech).
 - Full cock, ready to fire.

LOADING AND FIRING

- 1) Use only factory loaded .45-70 ammunition C.I.P ruled or reloaded with black powder or equivalent propellant (Pyrodex). Ammunition used should not exceed 18,000 C.U.P.
- 2) Put hammer (part. # 21) at half cock. Keep finger off trigger (part. # 49).
- 3) Open action (part. # 15) by pushing forward and up on breech block release lever (part. # 14).
- 4) When open, inspect chamber and barrel to see that they are free of obstruction.
- 5) Insert cartridge into the chamber. Make sure rim of cartridge does not go beyond extractor (part. # 7).
- 6) Close action, making certain locking block is engaged (you can see it from the position of release lever, hammer must be able to swing over release lever).
- 7) Return hammer to the safe position, keeping the thumb on it, while pulling the trigger. The hammer, in this position, should be over the release lever.
- 8) When ready to fire, bring hammer back to full cock.

To adjust and use the set trigger and for sighting adjustment, see section "GENERAL TECHNICAL INSTRUCTIONS" in this booklet.