

RANSOM “MASTER SERIES” REST INSTRUCTIONS

Your Ransom Rest has been designed to give a maximum of accuracy at minimum cost. It uses a proven concept in its recoil dampening system. The trigger release is also proven in concept and simplicity. Everything was designed to bring the shooter a tool for testing that is portable, accurate and simple.

BE POSITIVE THAT THE GUN IS UNLOADED BEFORE INSERTING OR REMOVING IT FROM THE REST.

HAVE YOUR GUNSMITH CHECK ANY AUTOMATIC THAT DOUBLE FIRES OR THE HAMMER WILL NOT STAY IN THE COCKED POSITION WHEN THE SLIDE RETURNS TO BATTERY.

USE ONLY THE PROPER GRIP INSERT, REMOVE GRIPS FROM THE GUN TO BE TESTED, EXCEPT WHERE NOTED OTHERWISE.

I Mounting the Ransom Rest without Windage Base

Your Ransom Rest is designed to be mounted on plywood, which in turn is attached with C-Clamps to a sturdy, permanently-mounted bench, at your pistol range. Select a good grade of $\frac{3}{4}$ or 1” plywood, 14” wide and long enough to extend across the shooting bench you will be using, Three C-Clamps are sufficient, one in front and two in the rear. If a heavy recoiling Pistol is to be tested, the addition of another clamp on the front is recommended.

To the bottom side of the mount-board, glue and nail two strips of wood, 2” x $\frac{1}{2}$ ” x 14” at the front and rear. These are to keep the center of your mount board from contacting the bench. Your mount-board should contact the bench only on the front and rear 2” strip. Place the Ransom Rest on your mount-board, two-thirds of the distance toward the rear, The left side of the Ransom Rest should be on the center line. The Spring Retainer Knob, the large Aluminum knob on the right side of the Rest, should be over the $\frac{2}{3}$ rd mark. Mark screw hole locations. Drill pilot holes for #10 wood screws (supplied). Place the base over its mounting position and install screws, tighten securely. Using a long shank Phillips Screw Driver, makes it unnecessary to disassemble the Rest for mounting.

**IMPORTANT, BE SURE THAT THE COMPRESSION SPRING ON THE SIDE
OF THE RANSOM REST IS ALWAYS KEPT AT 1 ½ INCHES.**

While the above mounting method is preferred by us, the Ransom Rest will work equally well mounted to a steel or concrete base. For maximum accuracy, the base you shoot your Ransom Rest from must be solid.

II Mounting of Pistol

1. Place your Ransom Rest on the bench at the position you have selected, attach C-clamps to the bench and mount-board, tighten moderately.
2. Remove the three “Star” Knobs, Washers and A B C Plate. Slide the inside Grip Insert half, for the gun to be tested, on to the Rocker Arm assembly. Seat this Insert half all the way down on the Studs. Place the outside Grip Insert half on the Studs and insert the gun into the inside Grip Insert. Press the outside insert into position, moving the gun slightly to make sure it is properly seated. Place the A B C Plate on the Studs, install washers and “Star” Knobs.
3. Tighten “Star” Knobs, one-half turn at a time alternating A to B, until both Knobs are finger tight. Tighten Knob C until it is snug. The most important part of this operation is to **make sure the gap between the inserts is the same, front to rear and top to bottom.** Some Inserts will not have any gap when properly tightened. Do NOT tighten “Star” Knobs with anything except finger pressure!
4. Be sure your Ransom Rest is pointed at your target. Once properly aligned, tighten the C-Clamps on your mounting board.

III Operation

1. Two holes are provided in the Trigger Finger to get proper positioning of the Trigger Finger on various guns. Adjust the Trigger Finger so that it comes in contact with the center of the trigger, and the Trigger Bar is about level. On revolvers, do this with the gun in the cocked position. Check double action revolvers to make sure the trigger has enough travel after the hammer has been released for it to come forward its full travel.
2. Adjust your gun for elevation with the Elevation Screw. When Elevation is set, tighten the Lock Nut on the Elevation Screw.

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3. The Trigger Bar is easy to use. We recommend, to start with, you depress the Trigger Bar with your thumb while your index finger is supported by the Compression Spring. Stand well to the rear of the rest, depress the Trigger Bar down and slightly outboard toward the index finger.
4. After each shot, depress the Rocker Arm back to the Rocker Stop Pad with the return lug on the right side of the Rocker Arm. DO NOT USE THE GUN BARREL AS A LEVER!

Note: Certain handguns present special situations in using the Ransom Rest. Please read the attachment (“special situation”) to ascertain if your gun presents one of the stated “situations”.

5. Load and fire five or more “settling” shots over your target. Now you are ready to shoot your group on the target.
6. We recommend that all test strings be of 10 or more shots. When you change ammunition, be sure that you fire several fouling shots with the ammunition to be tested before you record your group.

Note: The small Cap Nut on the rear of the Rocker Arm is a safety stop for automatics. Make absolutely sure that this is the place when you are testing any automatic. **HOWEVER,** Remove this Cap Nut and the allen stud when testing any heavy recoiling Revolver or single shot Pistol.

Maintenance: The only maintenance your Ransom Rest might need, if it has been kept inside when not in use, is cleaning of the Friction Discs. Remove the Rocker Arm from the Rest Base, using a 9/16 wrench. Clean both the Fiber and Steel Friction Discs with acetone or lacquer thinner. An aerosol brake cleaner can be used. Be sure no residue is left from the cleaner. Use 320 grit wet/dry sand paper to remove any rust or contamination of the Steel Friction Disc. For the Fiber Friction Disc, use 180 grit wet/dry sandpaper. Remove any discolored areas using a sanding block.

When both Friction Discs are clean, as well as the Pivot Pin and Bushing, place a small amount of a general purpose grease inside the Pivot Bushing. Coat the inside of the Pivot Bushing completely. Press the Rocker Arm onto the Pivot Pin and slide it into position. Any excess grease will be pushed to the outside of the Rocker Arm. **Under no circumstances should any grease or oil be allowed on the Friction Discs.** Reassemble the Rest by placing the Compression Spring over the Spring Retainer Knob and tightening the Retaining Bolt until the Compression Spring is 1 1/2” over all length.

SPECIAL SITUATIONS

Certain handguns present special situations when fired in the Ransom Rest. Most often this occurs when you are firing a polymer-frame pistol, such as a Glock, or when you are shooting a large revolver or a single shot in a heavy recoiling caliber. There are some things that help with both “situations”. In neither case will you find the solution in over-tightening the “Star” Knobs (A, B, & C) or tightening the Compression Spring to less than the required length of 1 & ½ inches.

Polymer frame autos sometimes compress slightly when gripped in the Inserts. Over-tightening compresses the Grip Insert to the point where the pistol may not function properly. The solution is to finger tighten the “Star” Knobs and shoot more than the usual number of “settling” shots to work the pistol down into the rubber of the Inserts. It may take as many as 20 or more rounds in order to properly settle the gun. When the group produced on target is more nearly round than vertically elongated, the adjustment is correct. Test groups may now be fired.

In the case of heavy recoiling Pistols, such as a T/C Contender in a large caliber, follow the installation instructions to the letter. The combination of hot ammo and the long barrel produces severe recoil. Often, the barrel will recoil to a full vertical position. This applies to large caliber revolvers also. Resist the temptation to over tighten the Compression Spring. Over tightening will adversely affect the braking mechanism of the Ransom Rest and it will wear out quicker. The solution is to use more than the usual number of “settling” shots. Be patient and shoot more rounds until the group rounds out. Remember, a certain amount of vertical stringing is perfectly normal and is caused by variances in velocities in even the best of ammunition. The condition is particularly pronounced in cold weather.

SAFETY WITH FIREARMS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY - - BE CAREFUL

We guarantee the exercise of reasonable care in manufacturing, but assume no further responsibility.

RANSOM REST WINDAGE BASE INSTRUCTIONS

1. Attach your Ransom Rest to the Windage Base with the 10-24 x 3/4 " Phillips Flat Head Screws supplied. Using a long shank Phillips Screwdriver, makes it unnecessary to disassemble your Rest. See page one of Ransom Rest instructions for type of mounting board to use.
2. Draw a line down the center of your Mounting Board, front to rear. Draw another line, from side to side, 2/3rd distance from the front of the Board. With your Ransom Rest and Windage Base assembled, place the left side of the Ransom Rest over the center line of the Mounting Board. The Spring Retainer Knob should be over the "2/3rd" line. If you try to center the Windage Base on the Mounting Board, your Pistol will point to one side.
3. Trace the outside of the Windage Base bottom on your board. Remove the Windage Base bottom from the Windage Base, and mark the screw holes.
4. Pre-drill the mounting holes then attach the Windage Base bottom using the #10 x 1-1/4" wood screws provided.
5. Reassemble the Windage Base making sure the Fender Washer is below the thick Black Washer.
6. To adjust Windage, loosen the Football Knobs and use the Windage Adjustment Knobs, to make your corrections. Retighten the Football Knobs and you are ready to shoot.

CAUTION: if you are going to test .44 magnum or more powerful leads, remove the left rear "football" knob (as viewed from the rear) and replace it with a 5/16" X 18 nut. This is to provide extra clearance for the long recoil movement.

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Be sure to check our website frequently for sales and new products. All Ransom products can be purchased direct from Ransom International.

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