

# Rifle Merit Badge



Information to help you meet  
the requirements of the  
Rifle Shooting Merit Badge.

***NO LIVE AMMUNITION  
in the classroom  
NO EXCEPTIONS!***





# Gun Safety Rules



1. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
2. Always keep finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
3. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.

## SAFETY FIRST

- \* **ALWAYS** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
- \* **ALWAYS** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- \* **ALWAYS** keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.





# Gun Safety Rules



ALWAYS keep your gun pointed in a safe direction





# Gun Safety Rules

ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot





# Gun Safety Rules



ALWAYS keep your gun unloaded until ready to use





## Rules for Using a Gun Safely



- Know your target and what is beyond
- Know how to use a gun safely
- Be sure the gun is safe to operate
- Use correct ammunition for the gun
- Wear hearing and eye protection
- Never use drugs or alcohol before or while shooting



## Storing Firearms



- Always store firearms so they are not accessible to unauthorized persons
- What are some ways you can do this?





## Storing Firearms



- Gun Safes
- Locked Rooms
- Trigger/Action Lock







Explain why BB and pellet air guns must always be treated with the same respect as firearms.





- BB and Pellet Air Guns
- Air guns are not toys. Today's air gun is a technically sophisticated and precise instrument. Everything you do with a Shotgun or Rifle on safe gun handling, shooting stance, fundamentals of firing, hygiene, and etiquette—also applies to air guns.





Describe how you would react if a friend visiting your home asked to see your or your family's firearm(s).





- Explain the need for, and use and types of, eye and hearing protection.
- Demonstrate their proper use.



Give the main points of the laws for owning and using guns in your community and state.





## Laws for owning guns in our state

- Must be 18 to buy for long guns
- Must be 21 buy handguns
- Can not be a Felon
- Can not have any restraining orders against you
- All Federal Laws must be followed



Explain how hunting is related to the wise use of renewable wildlife resources.





## Hunting and Wise use of renewable Wildlife

- Hunting helps keep the balance between wildlife and the habitat that they need to survive
- Helps to ensure the health of the species







Obtain a copy of the hunting laws for your state. Explain the main points of hunting laws in your state and give any special laws on the use of guns or ammunition



## Hunting Laws

- Must have hunters education
- Must have hunting license
- No night hunting
- No hunting from a road way
- Bag limits
- Population of animals that an area will support without being damaged
- Always check local laws
- Never do anything you don't feel is ethical
- Ignorance is no excuse



Identify and explain how you can join or be a part of shooting sports activities.





# Shooting Sports

- Winchester Marksmanship
- NRA Competitions
- Silhouette
- 4-H
- Gun clubs





Explain to your counselor  
the proper hygienic  
guidelines used in shooting.





## Hygienic Guidelines

- Wash hands after handling lead ammunition
- Use cold water and soap
- Do not eat or drink while shooting or handling firearms



Give to your counselor a list of sources that you could contact for information on firearms and their use.





Identify the principal parts of a rifle, action types, and how they function





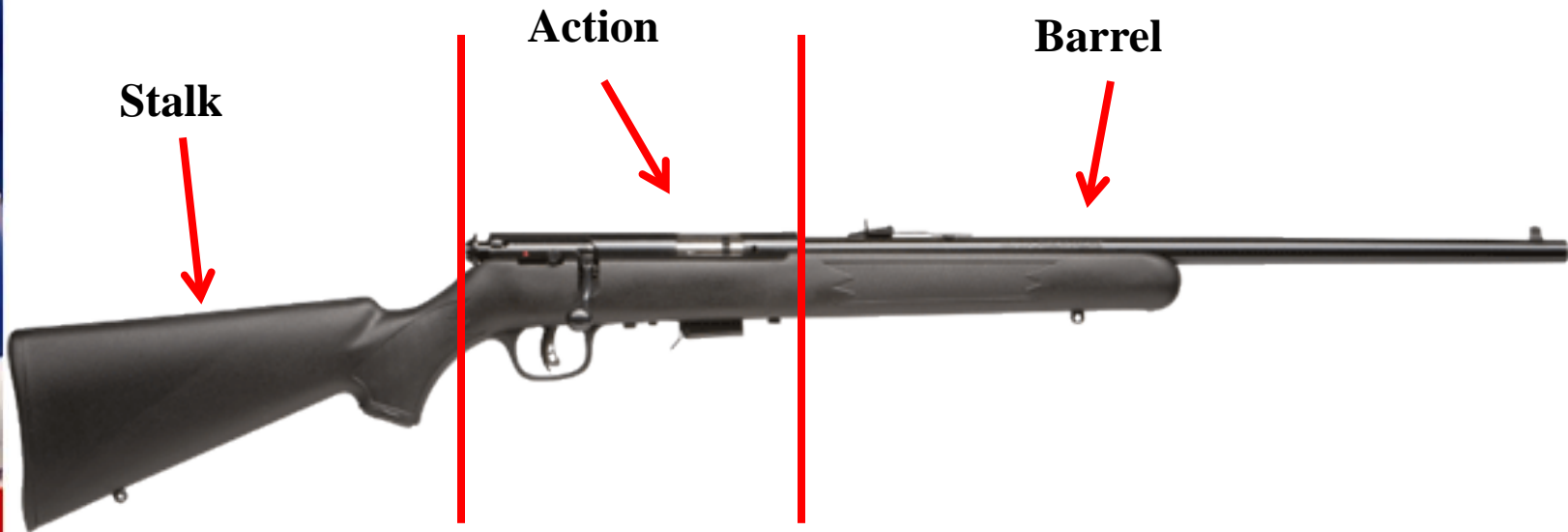


# Rifle Action Types

- Bolt\*
- Lever
- Semi – auto
- Break action
- Slide



# 3 Main Parts of a Rifle





# Parts of a Rifle





# Parts of a Rifle

**Comb**





# Parts of a Rifle

**Comb**



**Grip**



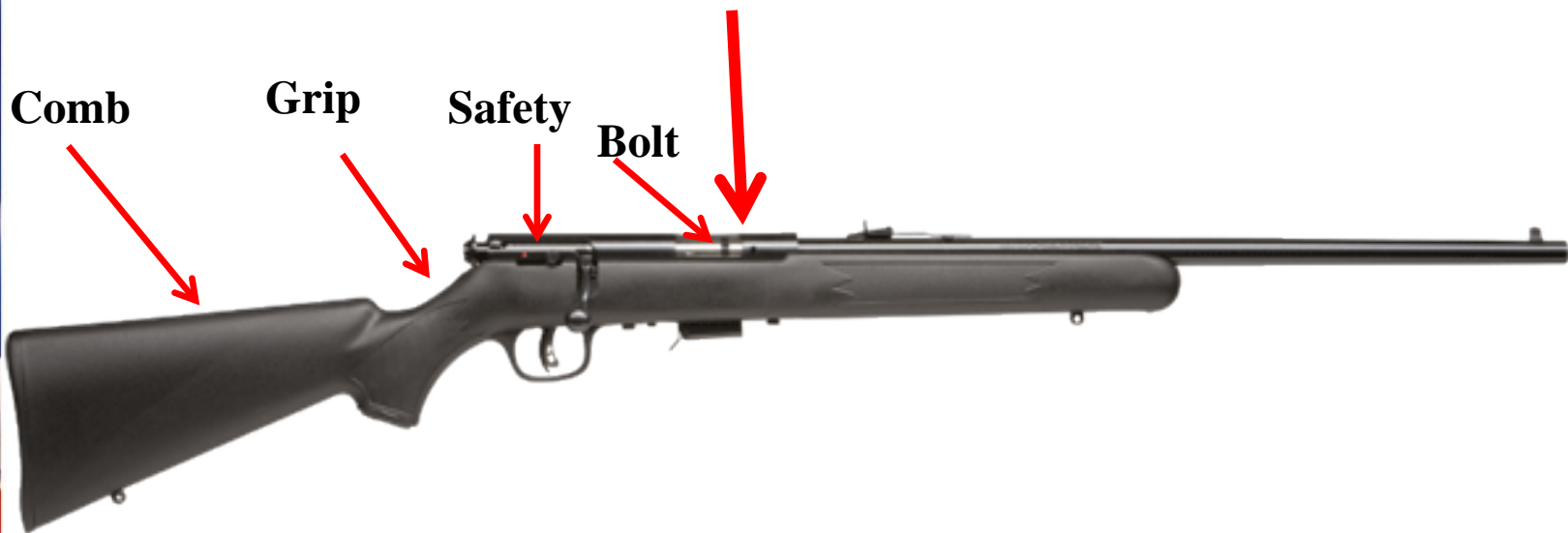


# Parts of a Rifle



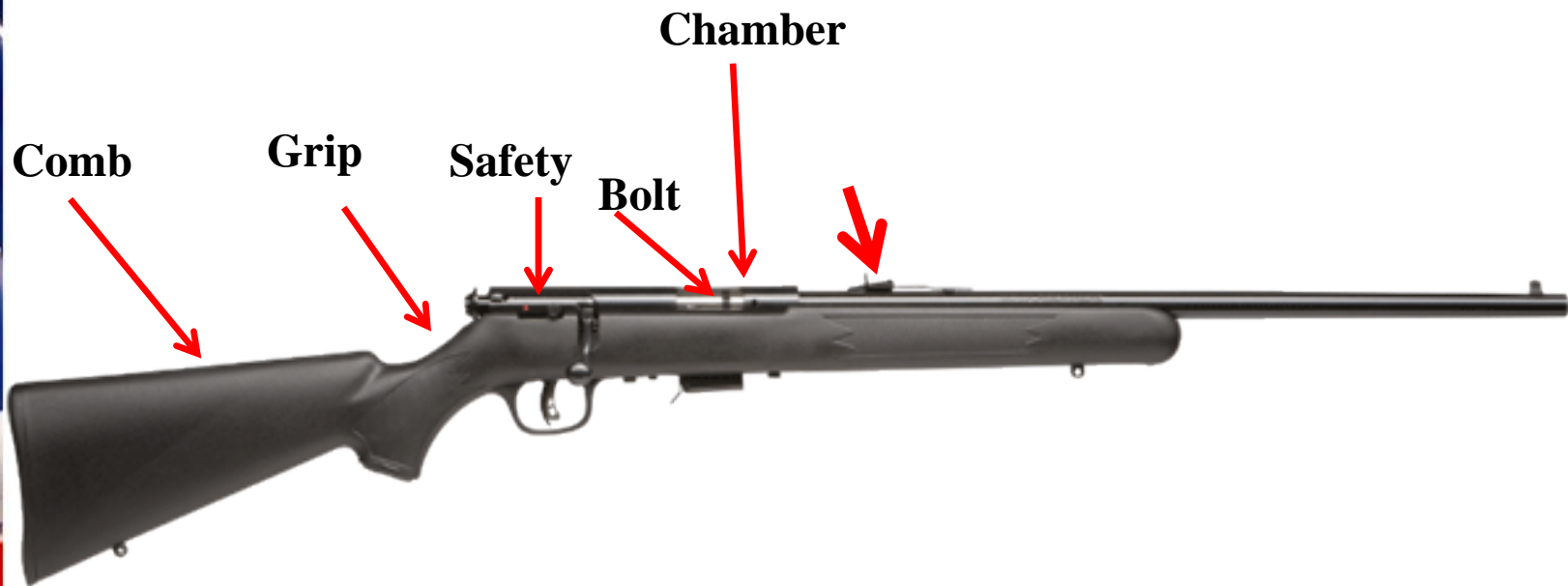


# Parts of a Rifle





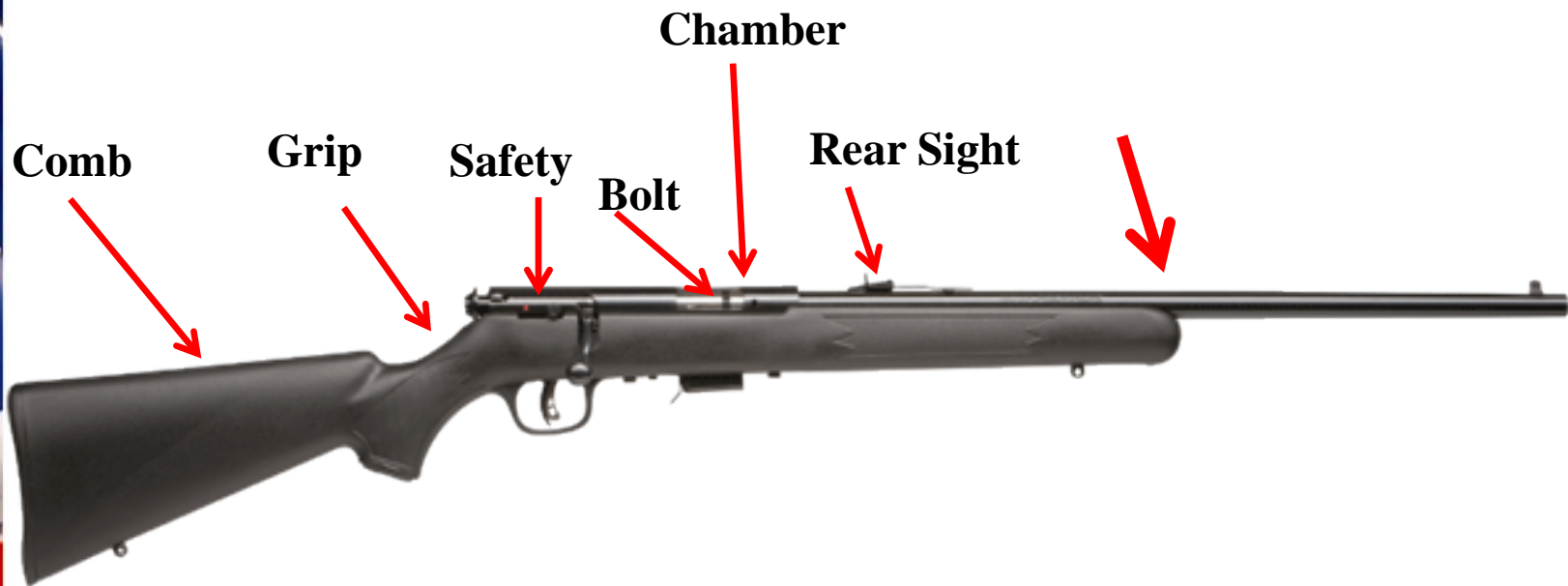
# Parts of a Rifle





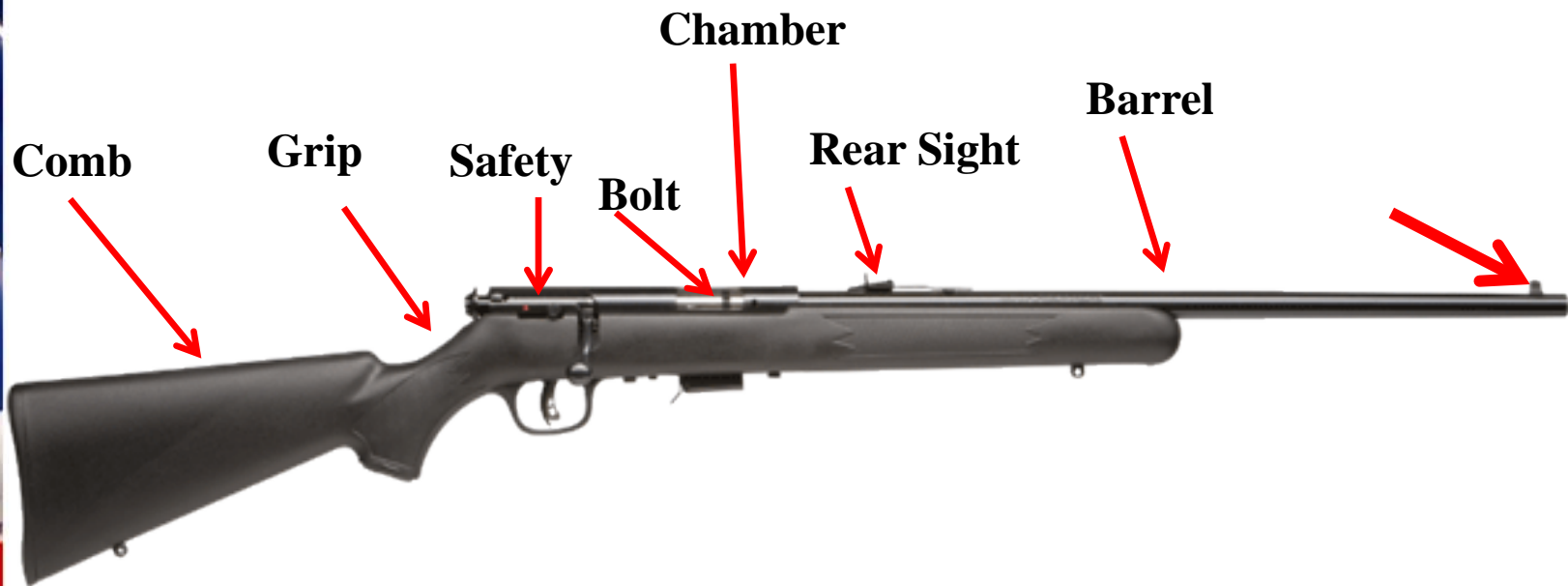


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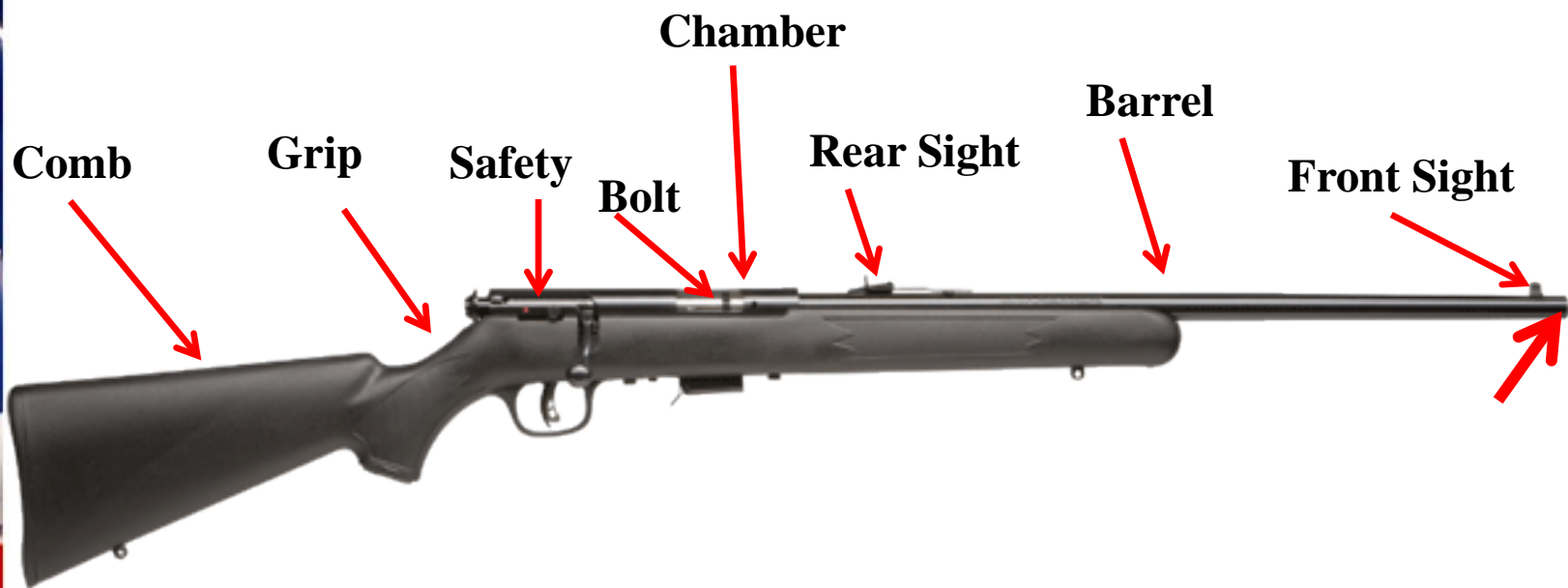


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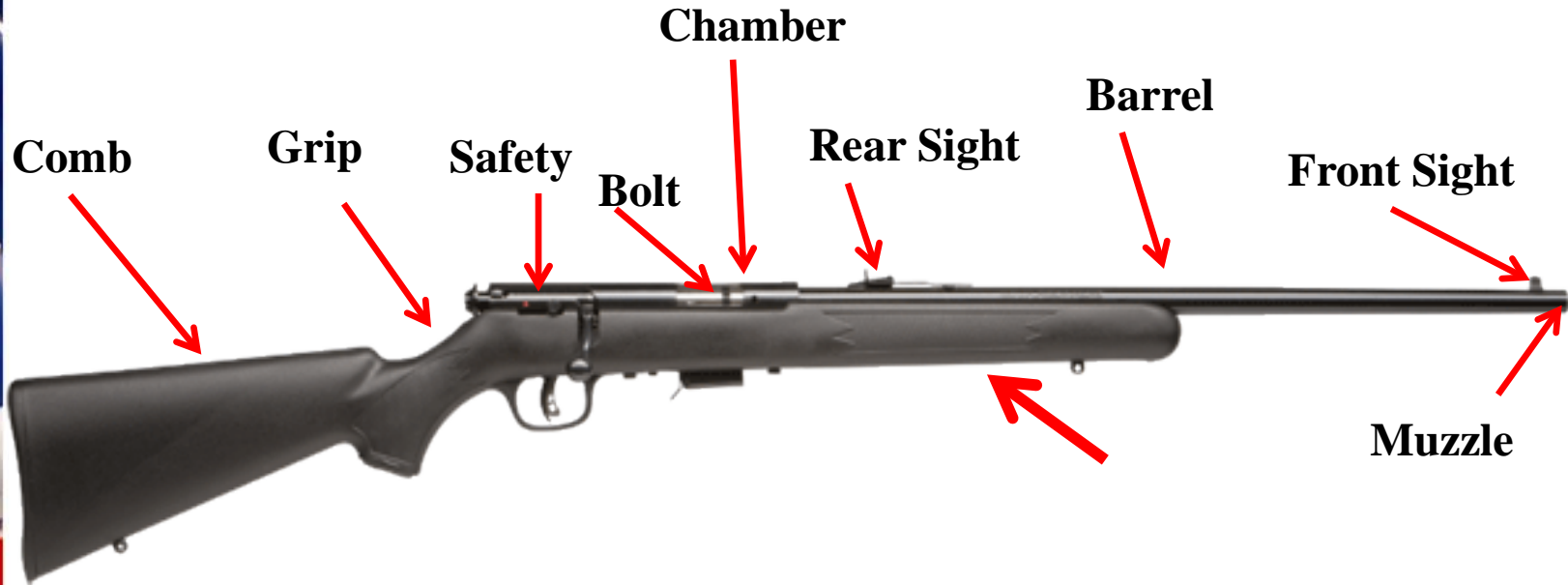


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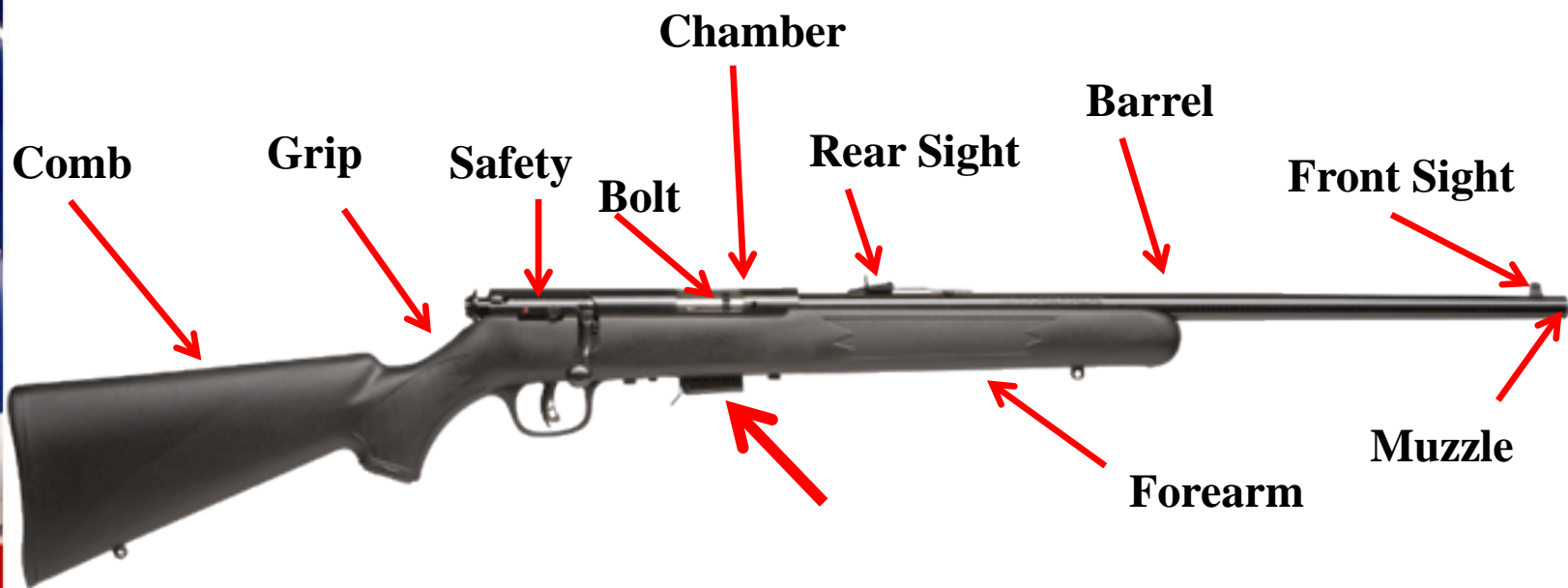


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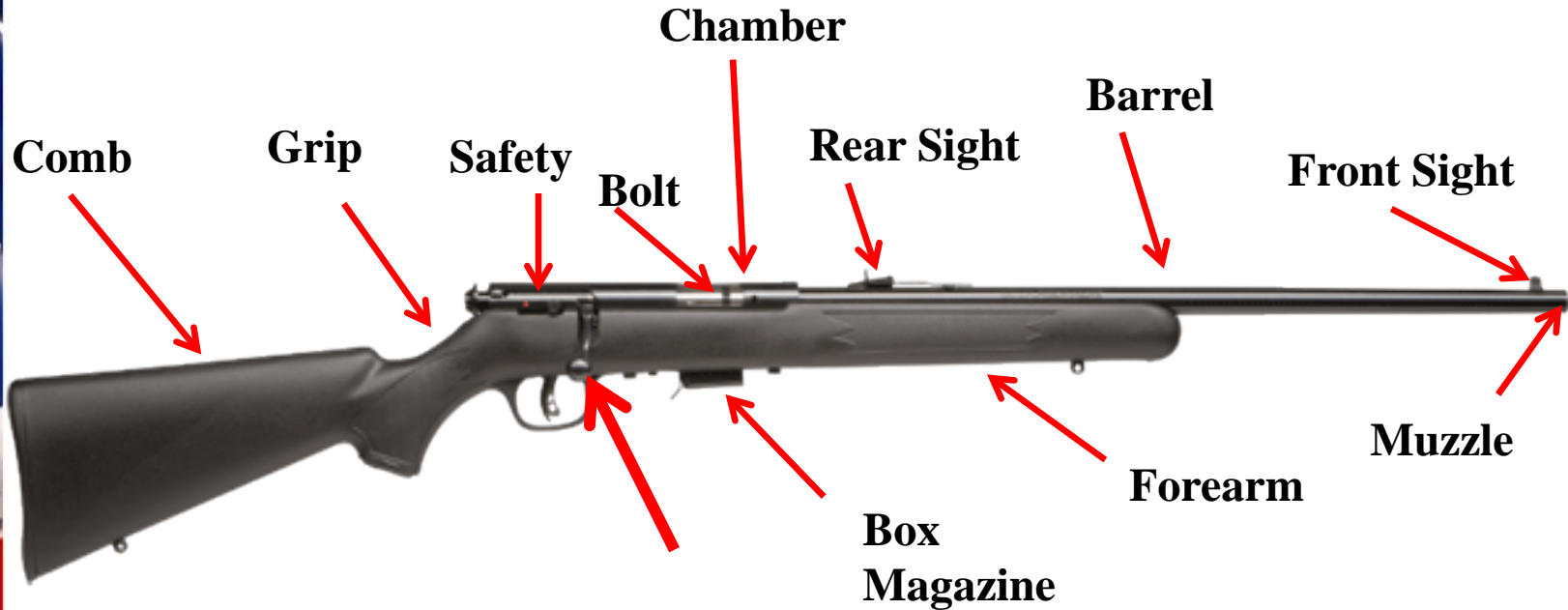


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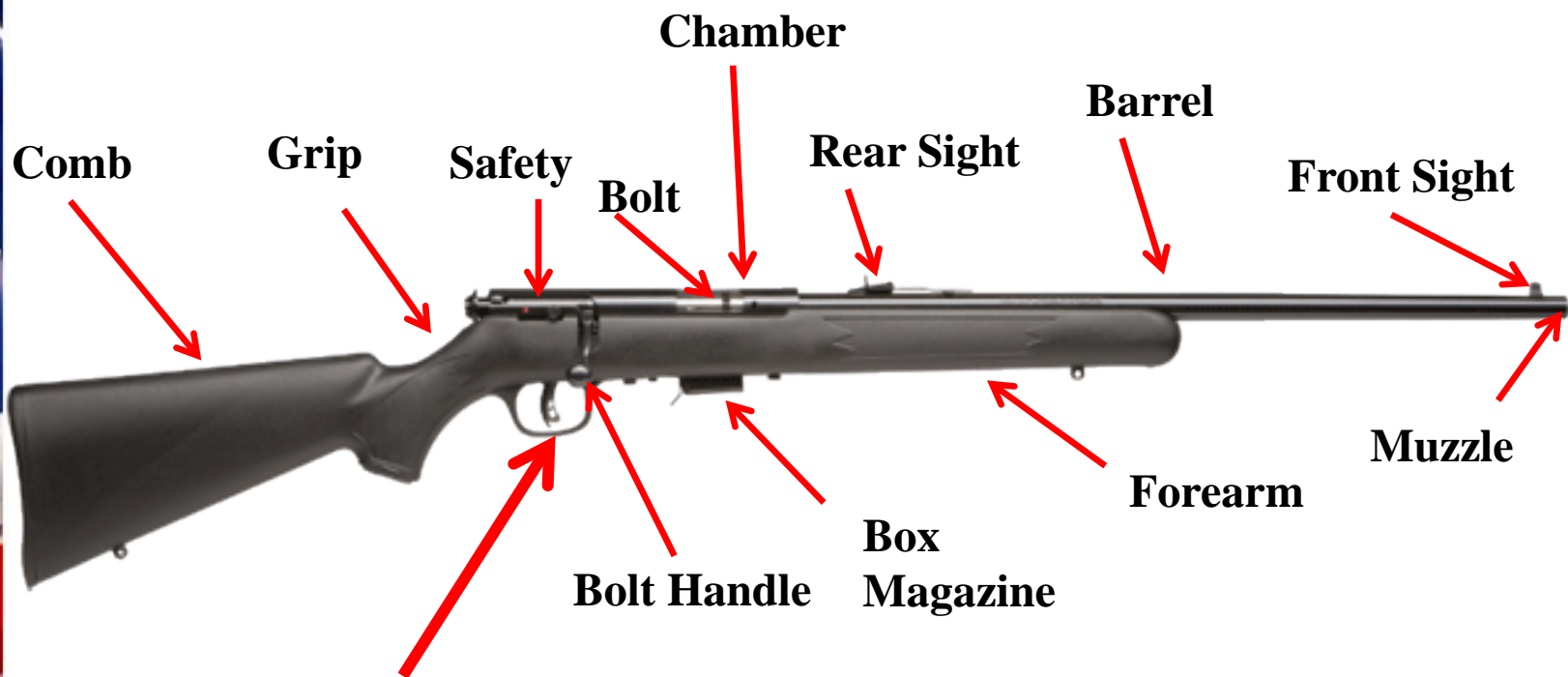


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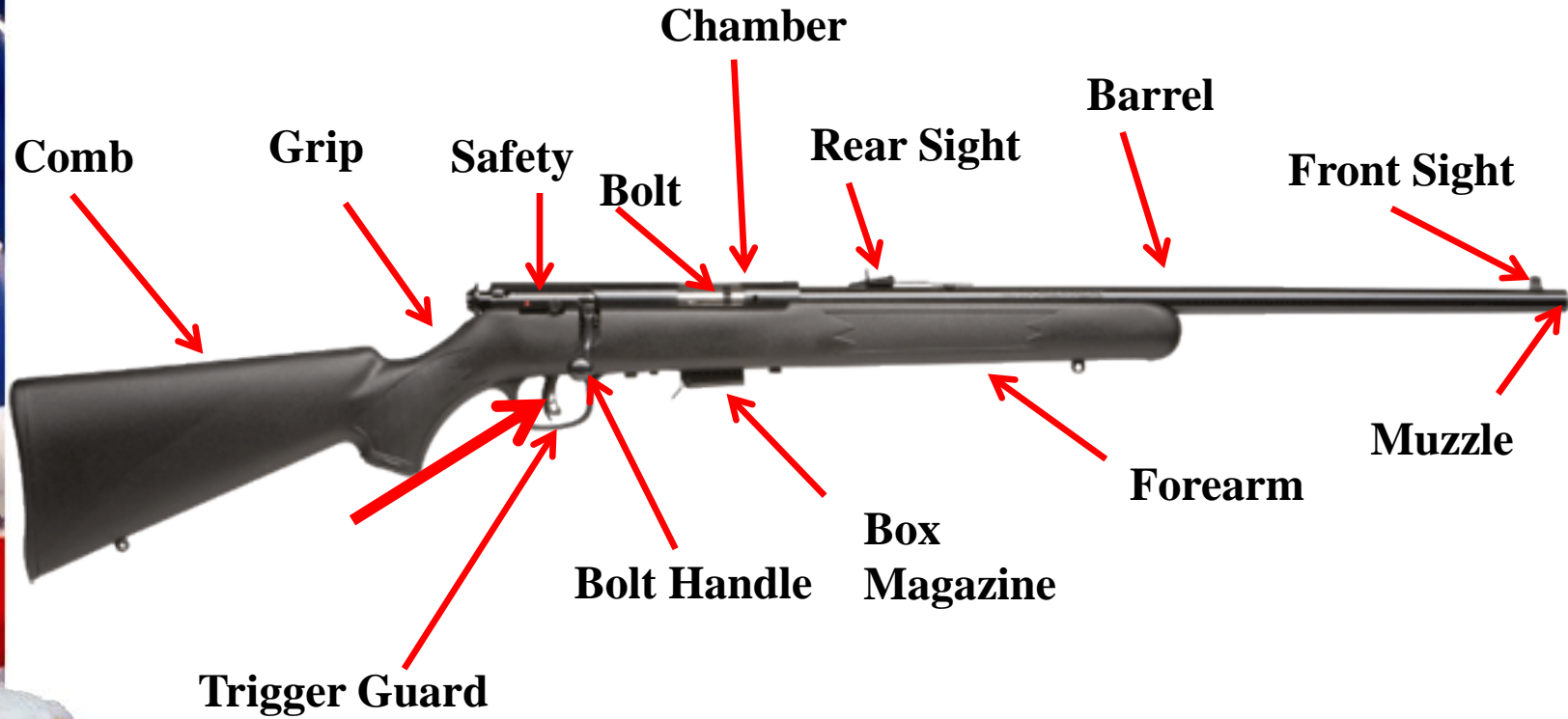


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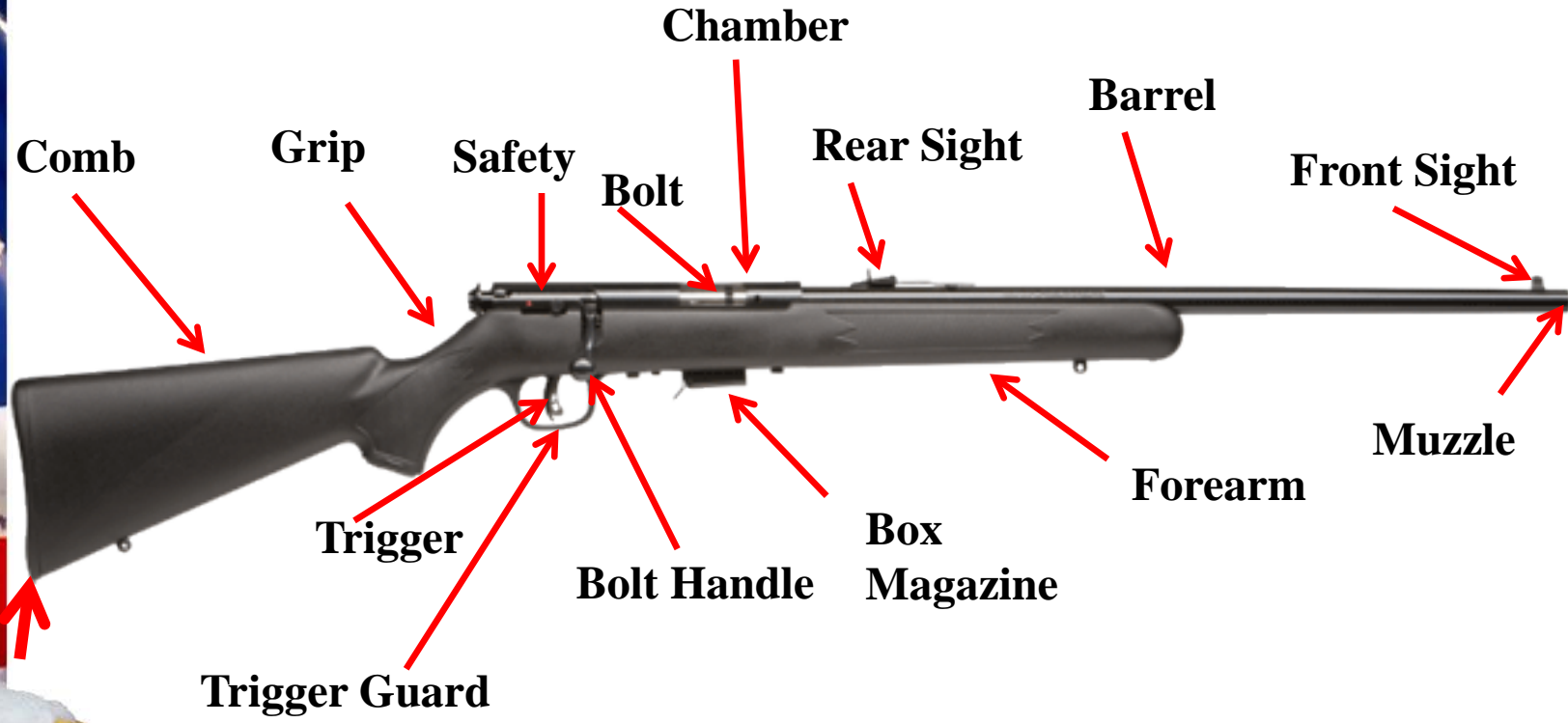
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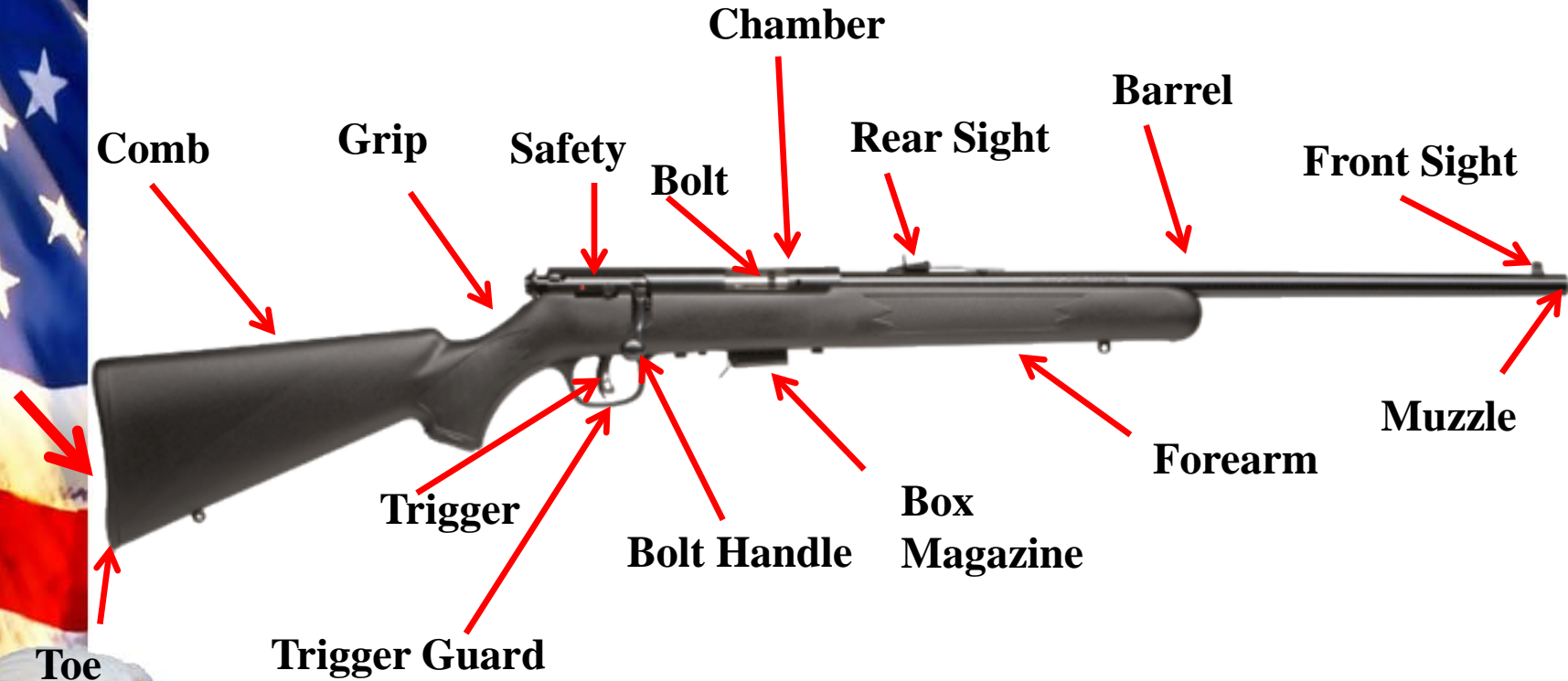


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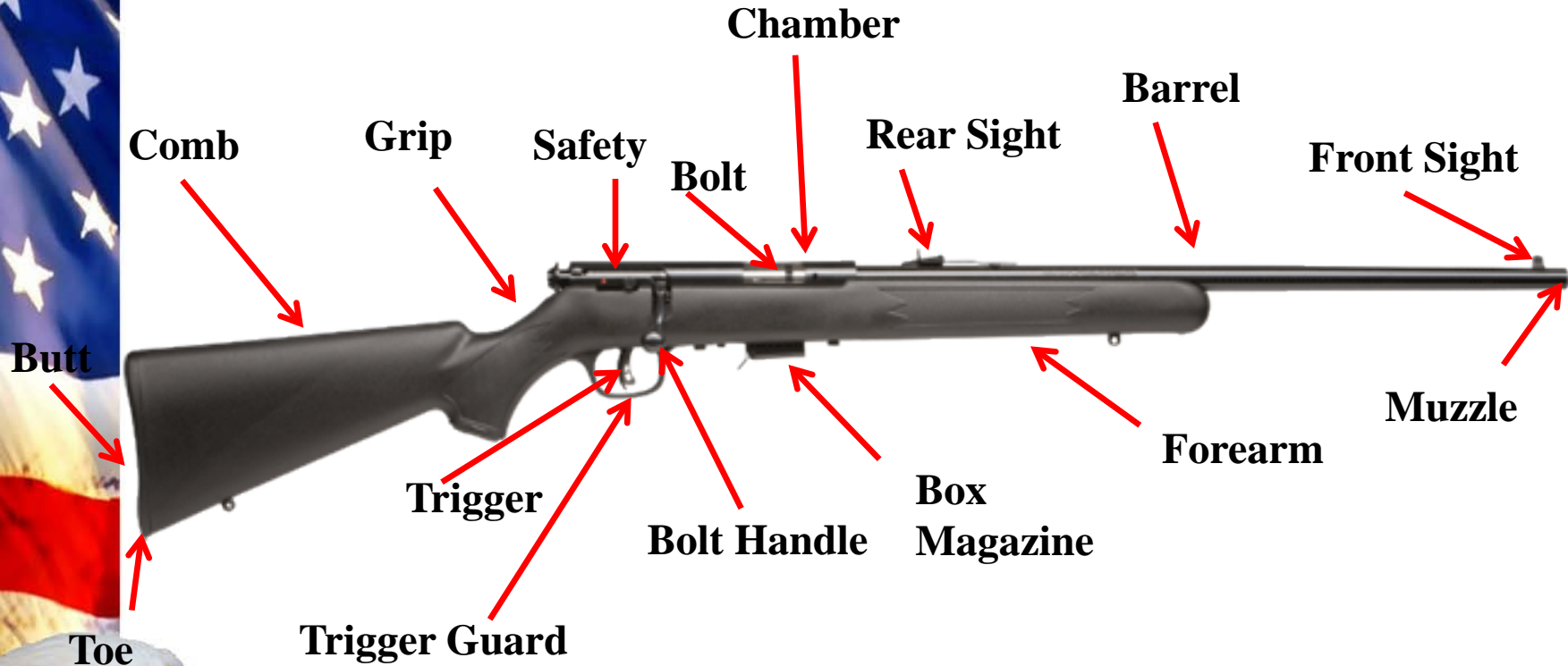


# Parts of a Rifle





# Parts of a Rifle





# Parts of an Air Rifle



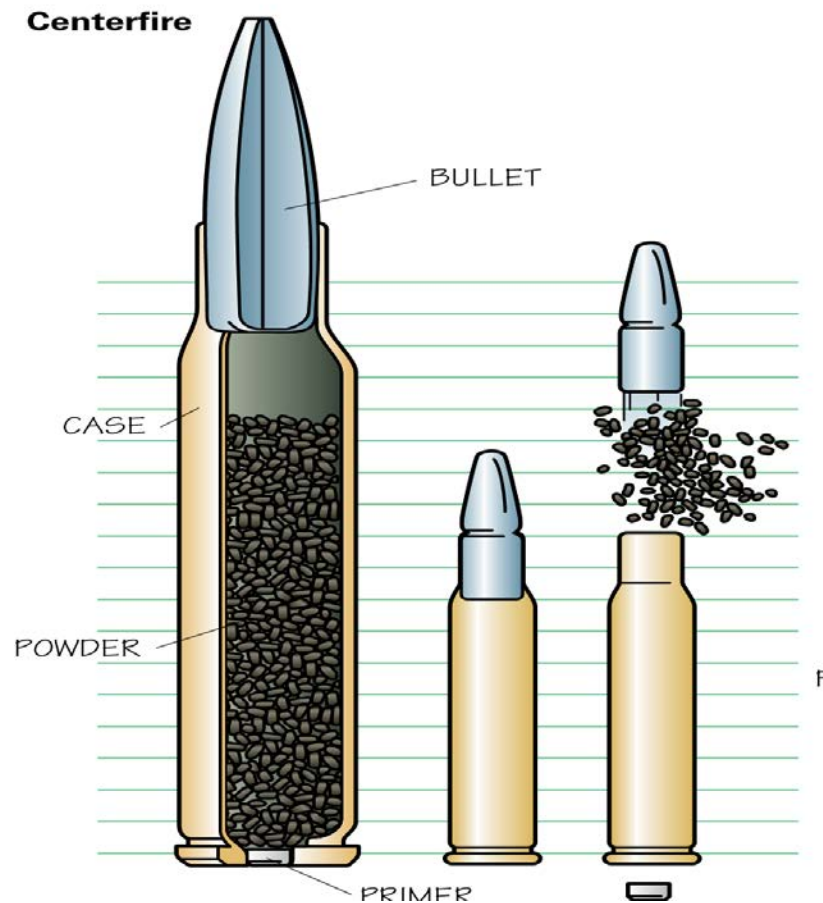
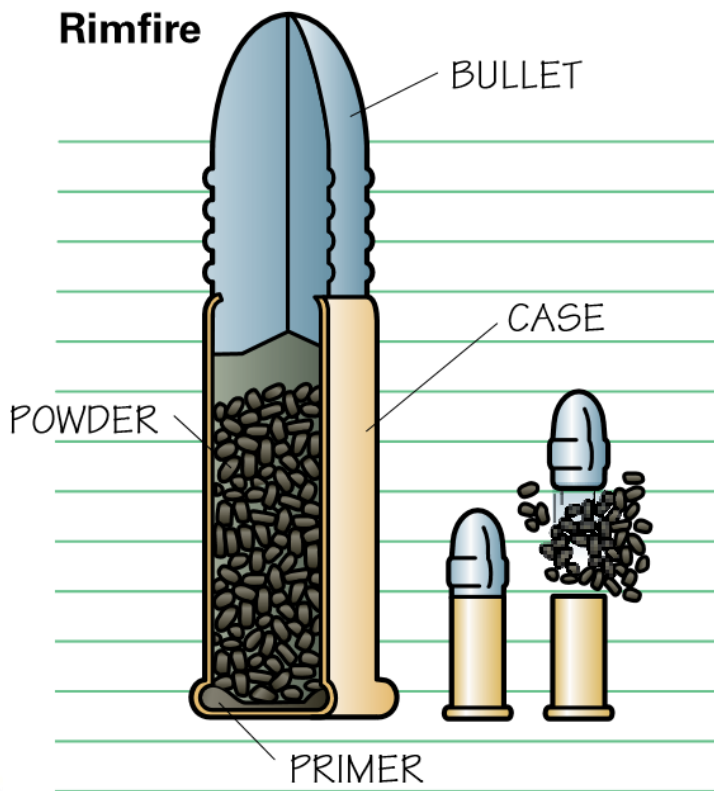


Identify the two types of cartridges, their parts, and how they function



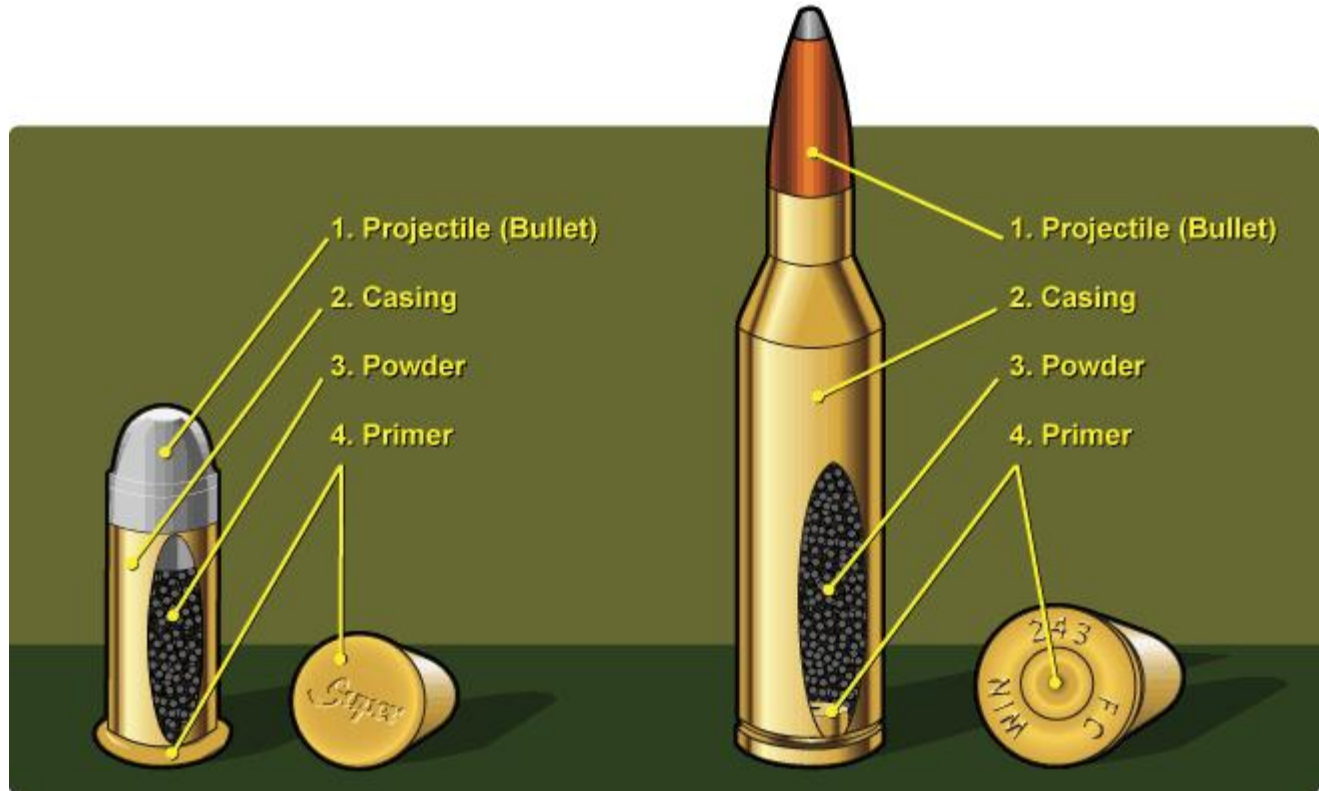


# Types and Parts of a Rifle Cartridge





# Types and Parts of a Rifle Cartridge





Explain what a misfire, hangfire, and squib load are, and explain the procedures to follow in response to each







# Malfunctions

- Misfire
- Hangfire
- Squib Load



# Misfire

When the firearm fails to fire.

Hold gun on target for 30 seconds then clear round.





# Hangfire

When the firearm has a delay in firing.

Hold gun on target for 30 seconds then clear round.





# Squib Load

When the round doesn't have enough powder to shot the bullet out of the barrel.

DO NOT chamber another round

Have someone check and clear the barrel



Identify and demonstrate  
the five fundamentals of  
shooting a rifle safely.





# Rifle Shooting Fundamentals



1. Aiming
2. Breath Control
3. Hold Control
4. Trigger Control
5. Follow Through



# Rifle Shooting Fundamentals

## Determining the Dominant Eye



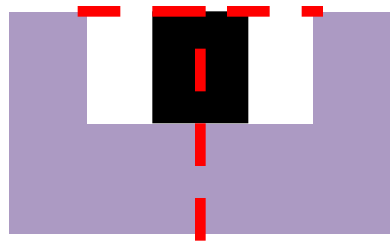
- Extend arms forward and form opening between the hands
- With both eyes open, look at a distant object through opening
- Bring hands to face while looking at object – Opening will be aligned with the dominant eye



# Shooting Fundamentals Aiming

## Notch Rear and Post Front Sight

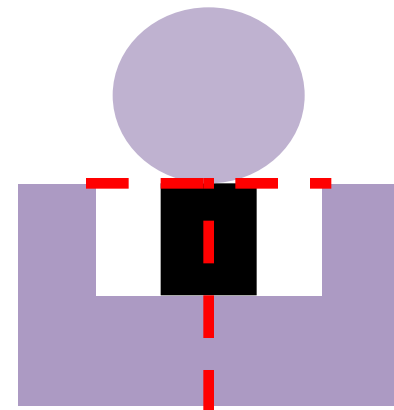
Front Sight is in sharp focus



Sight Alignment

The tops of the front and rear sights are even

The front post is centered in the rear notch



Sight Picture

6 O'clock Hold on the Bullseye

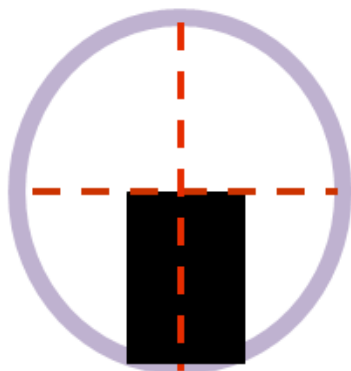




# Shooting Fundamentals Aiming

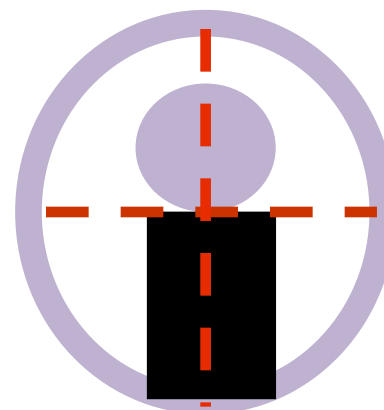
## Aperture Rear and Post Front Sight

Front Sight is in sharp focus



Sight Alignment

The top of the front  
is centered in the  
rear sight aperture



Sight Picture

6 O'clock Hold  
on the Bullseye

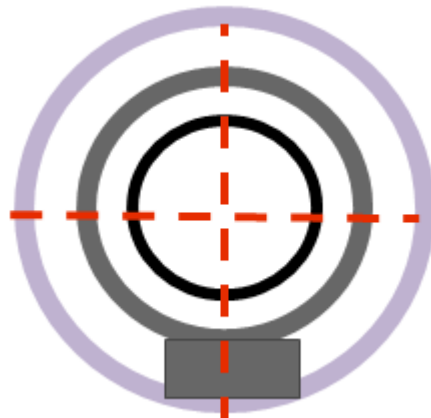




# Shooting Fundamentals Aiming

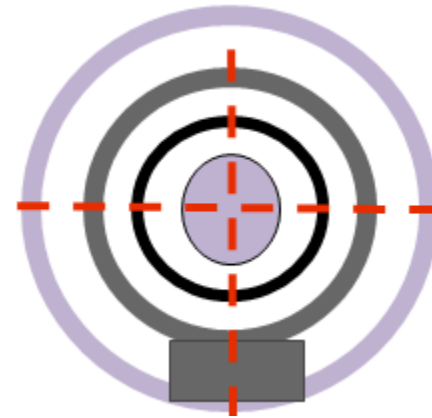
## Aperture Rear and Aperture Front Sight

Front Sight is in sharp focus



Sight Alignment

The front aperture is center in the rear sights aperture



Sight Picture

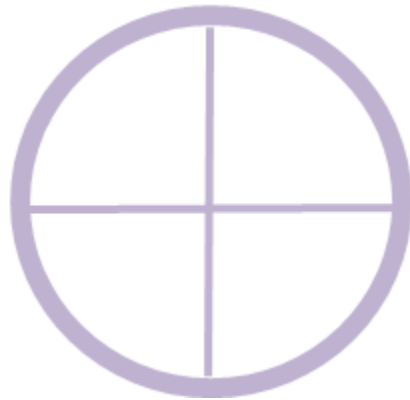
6 O'clock Hold on the Bullseye



# Shooting Fundamentals Aiming

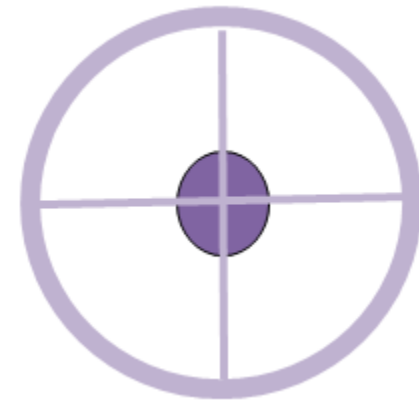
## Scope

### Focus on the Target



Sight Alignment

Looking through the scope , You see the whole scope tube (not just small hole in tube)



Sight Picture

Cross Hairs are centered on the target





# Shooting Fundamentals Breath Control

Body movement while breathing can produce gun movement that impairs shooting.

- Stop breathing momentarily while firing the shot! (Respiratory pause)





# Shooting Fundamentals Hold Control

Body movement affects the shot.

- Hold your body still.
- Hold control allows you to maintain the proper sight picture and sight alignment during the process of firing the shot.



# Shooting Fundamentals Trigger Control

- Trigger is pulled straight to the rear in a smooth, continuous manner without disturbing the sight alignment.
- Gradually and evenly increasing pressure until the mechanism releases.
- **SURPRISE** yourself when the gun shoots.





# Shooting Fundamentals Follow Through

In Rifle Shooting:

Follow-through means to maintain aiming (perfect sight alignment and acceptable sight picture), breath control, hold control, and trigger control until the gun settles back into the aiming area after firing.





# Shooting Fundamentals Review

1. “Maintaining perfect sight alignment and acceptable sight picture.” –
2. “Stop breathing.” –
3. “Holding still.” –
4. “Moving only your trigger finger.” –
5. “To maintain position, and continue aiming, breath control, hold control, and trigger control until the gun settles back into the aiming area after the shot is fired.” –





# Shooting Fundamentals Review

1. “Maintaining perfect sight alignment and acceptable sight picture.” – ***AIMING***
2. “Stop breathing.” – ***BREATH CONTROL***
3. “Holding still.” – ***HOLD CONTROL***
4. “Moving only your trigger finger.” – ***TRIGGER CONTROL***
5. “To maintain position, and continue aiming, breath control, hold control, and trigger control until the gun settles back into the aiming area after the shot is fired.” – ***FOLLOW-THROUGH***



# Most Important Fundamentals

*NOTE –*

*The TWO most IMPORTANT shooting fundamentals are.....*

- “Maintaining sight alignment” – **AIMING**
- “Moving only the trigger finger” – **TRIGGER CONTROL**





Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitude necessary to safely shoot a rifle from a bench rest position or a supported prone position while using the 5 fundamentals.



# Shooting Positions

- Bench rest\*
- Prone\*
- Standing
- Kneeling
- Sitting





# Bench Rest Position



- Feet flat on the ground with the legs relaxed.
- Seated directly behind the front support with slight lean forward.
- Butt of the rifle in the shoulder close to neck.
- Elbows on the table to support the rifle.





# Bench Rest Position



- Support hand under the Forearm.
- Trigger hand.
- Face firmly against the stock with eye looking straight down the sights.
- Align the position to target.





# Prone Position

- Feet and legs are flat on the ground with the legs relaxed.
- Butt of the rifle in the shoulder close to neck.
- Elbows on the ground to support the rifle.
- Support hand under the Forearm.





# Prone Position

- Trigger hand.
- Face firmly against the stock with eye looking straight down the sights.
- Align the position to target.







Identify the basic safety rules for cleaning a rifle, and identify the materials needed





# Cleaning Your Gun Safely



- Make sure gun is unloaded and empty
- Have all ammunition removed from area before cleaning



# Cleaning Your Gun



- Solvent
- Oil
- Bore snake or brush
- Cleaning Rods and Patches
- Owner manual
- Repairs need to be done by experts





Demonstrate how to clean  
a rifle properly and safely





Discuss what points you would consider in selecting a rifle





# Selecting a Gun

- Purpose
- Action
- Stock Fit
- Barrel Length
- Sights
- Weight
- Cost
- Easy to clean
- Rent before you purchase



# Demonstrate Firearm Operation

Instructor demonstration only

- Loading with Dummy Ammo
- Cocking
- Firing “Dry-fire only” with Dummy Ammo
- Unloading



# Range Safety Briefing

## Gun Safety Rules

1. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
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3. Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.

### **SAFETY FIRST**

- \* **ALWAYS** keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
- \* **ALWAYS** keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
- \* **ALWAYS** keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.





# Range Safety Briefing



- Range Layout
- Ready Area
- Shooting Station
- Back stop
- Target Path
- Down range shot drop zone
- Commands



# Range Safety Briefing



## Other Safety Rules

- Know your target and what is beyond
- Wear eye and ear protection as appropriate
- Never use alcohol or drugs before or while shooting
- Be aware that certain types of guns and many shooting activities require additional safety precautions

## Range Commands

- “Commence Firing”
- “Cease Firing”
- “Range is HOT”
- “Range is Cold”



# At the Shooting Station



One instructor will be at each firing point.

1. Follow the 3 fundamental gun safety rules.
2. Wear eye and ear protection.
3. Listen to range commands.
4. Use the 5 fundamentals of rifle shooting.
5. You will live-fire the prescribed number of shoots.





# Scoring Qualification



Using a .22 caliber rimfire rifle and shooting from a benchrest or supported prone position at 50 feet, fire five groups (three shots per group) that can be covered by a quarter. Using these targets, explain how to adjust sights to zero a rifle.

5 Groups and 3 shots per group. 15 shots total.





# Scoring Qualification

Adjust sights\* to center the group on the target and fire five groups five shots per group). According to the target used, each shot in the group must meet the following minimum score: (1) A-32 targets—9; (2) A-17 or TQ-1 targets—7; (3) A-36 targets—5.

5 Groups and 5 shots per group. 25 total shots

\*Note: It is not always practical to adjust the sights (i.e., when using borrowed fixed-sight rifle). For requirement 2l, you may demonstrate your ability to use the shooting fundamentals by shooting five shot groups (five shots per group) in which all shots can be covered by or touch a quarter and then explain how to adjust the sights to zero the rifle used. 2l





Any questions?

