

Pocket Artillery Mini Cannon Instructions

PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS IN THEIR ENTIRETY!!!

Safety Precautions:

Wear safety glasses at all times while loading and firing mini cannon.

Never under any circumstances should you point cannon at any living thing. Never under any circumstances point the cannon at anything that it could potentially harm or break. Always point it away from your face.

BB's CAN AND DO ricochet, so please keep that in mind when firing.

When cannon is loaded and fired using the ADVANCED method it is about as loud as a large firecracker so be prepared and wear hearing protection.

Required Materials:

(1) Pair of Safety Glasses For Everyone Within Viewing Distance

- (1) Pocket Artillery Mini Cannon
- (1) 1/16" or 2mm diameter cannon or fireworks fuse
- (1) Black powder or black powder substitute and/or cap gun caps
- (1) One BB or .177" pellet

Materials Sources:

Safety glasses can be purchased from many local retailers including Walmart, Home Depot and Harbor Freight. Sunglasses ARE NOT safety glasses.

The Pocket Artillery Mini Cannon can be purchased through pocketartillery.com.

Cannon or fireworks fuse (1/16" or 2mm in diameter) can be purchased from tons of online retailers including amazon.com. We have found that generally the cheaper fuses burn less cleanly and emit sparks and embers so be careful.

BBs and .177" pellets are easily sourced online from tons of places and are available locally at most sporting goods stores and Walmart.

Black powder and its substitutes are available from a lot of online retailers and select local retailers. Black powder is available in quite a few grain sizes from Fg (largest grain) to FFFFFg (smallest grain). The smaller the grain size the easier it is to ignite. Hodgdon's Triple Seven FFFg seems to work very well for the 'standard' method of firing and is readily accessible at many sporting goods stores.

General Information:

The cannon is, at the very least, on a Federal level, 100% legal. It is classified as an 'antique replica firearm' and is thus exempted from basically all regulations as far as manufacturing and shipping. In

addition it does not meet the qualifications for a weapon, firearm or explosive device as the amount of powder used and the size of the bore (.177") are below the thresholds. Any location that allows 'muzzle loading, black powder devices' (which is most of the USA and other parts of the world) also allow this mini cannon with no license or permit required. With that being said, there are particular locales such as Washington D.C. and the state of New Jersey where *everything* is banned and thus these are too. Other states such as Washington, Illinois and Michigan have particular counties or cities (such as Chicago) where our mini cannon is restricted to some extent. Unfortunately because every locale can have different regulations we request that our customers (THAT MEANS YOU!) call their local ATF or equivalent field office and double check the legality of owning and firing one of our cannons BEFORE ordering.

The cannons are designed and assembled in Little Rock, Arkansas.

The barrel of the cannons is made from surgical grade stainless steel billet and is machined first on a CNC lathe and then transferred to a CNC mill for the holes to be drilled and tapped. We chose to use stainless steel instead of the more popular brass because in addition to being stronger it has vastly superior corrosion resistance (black powder is corrosive). We want our cannons to look just as good for a lifetime as they did coming out of the box.

The bases are machined from aircraft grade T6 6061 alloy aluminum that has been CNC machined and then bright anodized for a durable finish.

All total the cannon is 2.06 L x 2.15 W x 1.22 H and weigh 7oz on a postal scale.

The hardware is custom machined from the same surgical stainless steel as the barrel and is also available in a brass finish. The handle on the right is for angle adjustment and the thumb screw on the left can be tightened to hold a certain angle.

The bore of the barrel is drilled to .177" in diameter. Standard BB's are typically .174 - .175" in diameter so there is usually about 1/1000th of an inch of clearance on both sides of the BB. This eliminates the need for any wadding during firing.

The cannon was designed to use black powder or its substitutes such as Triple Seven or Pyrodex. We have tried a lot of different readily available brands. Any black powder will work, however the finer the grain size (more F's the better) will produce a better result. If the cannon were filled to the top with powder with no room for any BB at all, it would total approximately 4 grains assuming a VMD (volume measured density of .0628 which for FFFg black powder). Typical loads are under 2 grains in total. Any standard 1/16" or 2mm diameter fuse works just fine.

Loading and Firing Instructions (2 Options):

*****TRY THIS ONE FIRST*****

BASIC Black Powder Loading - Very Safe, Relatively Quiet and a Lot Less Energetic Projectile

1. Be SAFE! Put on your safety glasses!
2. Insert a fuse FIRST. There is a small lip machined into the fuse hole that you will feel as the fuse is inserted, make sure that the fuse is seated PAST the lip and into the barrel.
3. Fill the cannon with black powder to the desired amount using a small funnel, creased piece of office paper etc. Different powder amounts will have different results. Using FFFg Triple Seven powder, filling it to about the halfway mark seems to be a good starting point. Experiment and have fun. You will not hurt the cannon. The more the cannon bore is filled, the less accurate the projectile will be.

4. POINT AWAY FROM YOU AND ANYONE AND EVERYTHING ELSE

Insert a BB into the barrel opening and GENTLY pack the material. A Q-tip with the cotton wadding ripped off, paper clip, skinny pencil or any other skinny object can be used. Lightly push the BB into the barrel, DO NOT TAP until it stops moving.

5. Unlock the left thumbscrew by turning it counter-clockwise. Adjust the desired firing angle with the handle on the right and tighten the left thumbscrew to lock it into position.

6. Light the fuse and get back!

ADVANCED Cap Gun / Black Powder (NOT REQUIRED) Loading –

VERY LOUD and VERY Energetic BB

This method requires the use of cap gun caps from toy guns. The caps can be purchased from Walmart, K-Mart and other big box stores as well as toy stores. They typically come in small red rings containing 8 VERY small charges.

1. Be SAFE! Put on your safety glasses!

2. Insert a fuse FIRST. There is a small lip machined into the fuse hole that you will feel as the fuse is inserted, make sure that the fuse is seated PAST the lip and into the barrel.

3. Fill the cannon with approximately 1/2 pea sized amount of black powder using a small funnel, creased piece of office paper etc. It is a very small amount. Add the cap gun caps that have been removed from their red plastic ring holders, there should be 8 caps from each cap gun ring. The purpose of the black powder is to start reaction more readily, although it is NOT REQUIRED, it helps misfires from occurring. Very finely ground powder FFFFFg or primer powder seems to work the best in this role.

4. POINT AWAY FROM YOU AND ANYONE ELSE

Insert a BB into the barrel opening and GENTLY pack the material. A Q-tip with the cotton wadding ripped off, paper clip, skinny pencil or any other skinny object can be used. Lightly push the BB into the barrel, DO NOT TAP until it stops moving. **The tighter it is packed the more energetic the shot will be.** It is possible due to friction to ignite the cap gun caps, please be extra careful when packing.

5. Unlock the left thumbscrew by turning it counter-clockwise. Adjust the desired firing angle with the handle on the right and tighten the left thumbscrew to lock it into position.

6. Light the fuse and stand back! WE RECOMMEND ON THE FIRST SHOT TO PLUG YOUR EARS as it may be louder than you would expect from such a small package.

Please e-mail us if you have any questions. We are here to help!

safety@pocketartillery.com