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Magpul PMAG™

M16/NATO 5.56x45 mm Polymer Magazine

Overview

The Magpul Polymer Magazine (PMAG™) fits the M16 series and other 5.56x45 NATO compatible weapons. It features numerous enhancements intended to improve reliability, long-term storage, overall durability and is designed to fit 30 rounds without any need for downloading. A loaded magazine inserts and locks easily in a closed bolt weapon or may be stored for extended periods with the unique Impact Cover in place. The PMAG™ also features a special anti-tilt follower that prevents binding and improves feeding consistency. An optional MagLevel™ Round Indicator System allows for visual identification of round count on either side of the magazine.

The Impact Cover snaps firmly onto the top of the PMAG™ via interlocking tabs (unlike aftermarket dust covers) and can be quickly removed with one hand. Fitted into place, the Impact Cover provides impact protection for the feed lips, prevents dirt/dust intrusion, and eliminates distortion of the feed lips caused by long-term loaded storage. When separated, the Impact Cover serves as a magazine tool that facilitates unloading and disassembly. A lanyard hole is included to prevent part loss.

The proprietary Anti-Tilt Follower works in conjunction with the magazine body to stabilize the loaded round stack. The PMAG™ body features a constant internal curve (unlike metal magazines with a curve-to-straight transition) and allows for consistent round stack regardless of round count. This configuration prevents many of the common feeding malfunctions seen in other magazines such as nose-diving and bolt-over head failures.

The optional MagLevel™ Round Indicator System tracks the amount of loaded rounds remaining in the magazine. This dual window system is visible from either side of the magazine allowing for ambidextrous function. Unlike transparent magazines without this feature, the MagLevel™ tracks all the loaded rounds in the magazine from first to last including the final remaining rounds hidden by the magazine well.

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M16/NATO 5.56x45 mm Polymer Magazine

Specifications

Type: M16/NATO Compatible

Caliber: 5.56 x 45 mm NATO (All types meeting NATO and/or SAAMI specifications)

Capacity: 30-rounds (No downloading)

Dimensions:

- Length, Vertical: 7.46"
- Width, Max (at Floorplate): 1.16"
- Depth, Max (at Floorplate): 2.66"

Weight:

- Unloaded (w/o Impact Cover): 5.0 oz
- Loaded (30-rounds M855 w/ Impact Cover): 18.2 oz
- Impact Cover: 0.2 oz

Features

- 30-round capacity with no downloading necessary
- Special 4-way Anti-Tilt Follower for increased reliability
- Impact Cover/Magazine Tool protects feed lips, reduces contamination, allows long-term loaded storage as well as assists in unloading and disassembly
- One-piece molded polymer body resists denting, eliminates spot welds/joints, and improves durability when dropped or crushed
- Ease of assembly/disassembly simplifies maintenance
- Stainless steel spring is compatible with standard USGI magazines/springs
- Excellent thermal performance withstands full-auto suppressed fire
- Molded-in color does not scratch off and is provided at no additional cost
- Sealed magazine catch assists in protecting against debris intrusion
- Corrosion-resistant construction using polymer and stainless steel
- Exterior ribbing and texture improves grip surface
- Flared Floor Plate improves magazine extraction from pouches
- Future expandability with dedicated versions of the Ranger™ and L-Plate™

Options

- Dual-sided MagLevel™ Loaded Round Indicator System
- Colors: Black, Flat-Dark Earth, Foliage Green, and Olive Drab
- TPD-PMAG™ version with semi-transparent, smoke colored body
- High-Visibility Package (Lock Plate, Follower and Impact Cover molded in high-visibility colors)

Materials:

- PMAG™ and PMAG™ w/MagLevel™: Impact-modified, long fiber reinforced polymer
- TPD-PMAG™: Semi-transparent polycarbonate
- Heat-treated, stainless spring steel

Made in USA



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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What makes the PMAG™ better than a USGI Magazine?

The PMAG™ is superior to the standard USGI magazine in terms of increased durability and strength, ease of assembly/disassembly, multiple color selection and because of features such as the Impact Cover and optional MagLevel™ Loaded Round Indicator System.

What makes the PMAG better than later generation High-Reliability Magazines?

The PMAG™ is designed to provide the same level of performance as HRM magazines but is significantly lighter (5.0 oz vs. 9.0 oz). The PMAG™ also offers unique features and options not found on any current HRM magazine. Limited internal testing shows that the PMAG™ is actually stronger than the HRM magazines tested. Much of this performance is due to the strength and resiliency of the body material and the reinforced body cross-section.

Which weapons are compatible with the PMAG™?

The PMAG™ will fit any M16-series weapon with a mil-spec magazine well. Most NATO STANAG compatible weapons are also compatible. The PMAG™ will not fit the FN FS-2000, HK 416 or other AR variants with an extended magazine well.

Does the PMAG require a weapon with extended (M4) feed ramps?

No, the PMAG™ works with standard feed ramps. However, like other M16 magazines, reliability is generally improved with extended M4 feed ramps.

Are other calibers such as 6.8x43 mm SPC or 7.62x39 mm available?

No, currently the PMAG™ is available only in 5.56x45 mm NATO. At this time, there are no plans to offer other calibers.

Does an original Magpul™ fit on the PMAG™? How about a Ranger™/L-Plate™?

The original 5.56mm Magpul™ will work on the PMAG™ without modification. Standard Ranger™/L-Plates™ are not compatible. Dedicated versions of these products are planned but no release date has yet been determined.

Why is the PMAG marked “Restricted Law Enforcement and Government Use Only”?

Some states and/or local jurisdictions limit civilian possession/usage of these magazine and require this marking on all magazines beyond a specified capacity. Consult local laws for clarification. Versions without restricted markings are also available.

Does the PMAG fit into standard magazine pouches?

Yes, the vast majority of magazine pouches (including the USGI 3-magazine pouch) will accept the PMAG™ without modification. While uncommon, extra-tight magazine pouches may not fit properly.

Will the PMAG™ melt under the extreme heat of sustained fully-automatic fire?

One PMAG™ has been tested in extreme heat/sustained automatic fire and demonstrated no melt failure. PMAGs™ loaded into a hot gun have run without malfunctioning or showing any signs of strength loss. PMAGs™ have also endured full-auto suppressed fire without ill effects.

I saw a video of a PMAG™ being run over by a truck. Is this test for real?

Yes, the PMAG™ was actually run over with a truck. All test samples were randomly selected from shipping inventory. The vehicle belongs to a Magpul employee and no changes were made to the vehicle between tests. Video of the truck test may be found on various online video distribution outlets.

PMAG™ Truck Test: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCFXcOOb4jc>



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FAQ (continued)

How well does the PMAG™ stand up to cleaning chemicals?

Testing has shown the PMAG™ is not adversely affected by common gun-cleaning solutions such as Break-Free CLP, Hoppes #9 or Rem-Cleaner, or common household cleaners. Visit the Tech notes section at www.magpul.com for a complete list of compatible solvents and for more information regarding the TPD-PMAG™.

What materials are used to make it so strong?

The PMAG™ is constructed from impact-modified, long fiber reinforced polymer. This strong, resilient material is identical to that used in the CTR™ and PRS™ stock as well as the MIAD™ grip. The TPD-PMAG™ is made from a semi-transparent polycarbonate material.

Is the MagLevel™ (window) version as strong as one without the indicator?

All tests performed have shown the two versions to be equally strong.

PMAG™ Window Version Test: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BA-EdEAHVA>

Will the window pop out of the magazine body?

No, the window is molded into the body and locked into place by an internal flange. This configuration locks the two parts in all directions and has proven very effective at holding the window in place.

How strong are the feed lips?

All of the testing performed shows the strength of the PMAG™ feed lips are superior to those of other plastic magazines. Various testing (both internal and external) has shown minimal wear after live-firing thousands of rounds. Additionally, the PMAG™ feed lips have significantly more resistance to creep (deformation over time) versus other plastic M16 magazines. Due to material differences, the TPD-PMAG™ may perform slightly differently. Testing is currently being performed.

Can the PMAG™ accept a USGI or aftermarket spring?

The PMAG™ spring is made of a heat-treated stainless steel alloy commonly used in aerospace applications and is designed to complement the PMAG™ system. However, any USGI 30-round magazine spring (or compatible aftermarket unit) may be used in the PMAG™.

What colors are available? How about custom colors?

The PMAG™ is available in Black, Flat-Dark Earth, Foliage Green and Olive Drab. The TPD PMAG™ is a semi-transparent polycarbonate version. Custom colors are not generally available but special runs are possible. High-visibility Impact Covers, Lock Plates and Followers are available as part of a package.

Will a 20-round version be available? What about an extended 40-rounder?

There are currently no plans to offer capacities other than 30 rounds.

Does the PMAG™ have an anti-tilt follower?

Yes, a proprietary 4-way, anti-tilt follower is included. It provides similar functionality to a USGI magazine with the Magpul Enhanced Follower. However, unlike the USGI magazine, the internal geometry of the PMAG™ body is designed to work in conjunction with the follower in preventing undesirable follower tilt or rotation.

Does the PMAG™ have last-shot bolt lock-back?

Yes, the bolt group will lock in the open position after the last shot on all compatible weapons with that feature.



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FAQ (continued)

Is the follower compatible with a USGI magazine?

No, the PMAG™ follower is designed specifically to fit the PMAG™ and will not work with any other magazine. Conversely, USGI followers will not work in the PMAG™.

Can it be loaded with stripper clips?

Yes, the PMAG™ is fully compatible with USGI stripper clips and guides.

Will it work with a LULA™ Loader?

Yes, they are compatible.

Does the PMAG™ have to be downloaded to 28 or 29 rounds to fit in a weapon with a closed bolt?

No, the PMAG™ holds 30 rounds of ammunition with no need for downloading. To accommodate this, the PMAG™ is marginally longer than a 30-round USGI aluminum magazine.

What is the purpose of the Impact Cover (Snap Cap)?

When mounted, the Impact Cover provides protection to the magazine in three ways: it guards against dirt, dust or debris; it relieves upward pressure on the feed lips from the loaded rounds; and it serves to protect the feed lips from direct impact damage when a magazine is dropped. The cover also serves as a tool to assist in disassembling or unloading the PMAG™.

How does the Impact Cover improve long-term loaded storage reliability?

The Impact Cover locks into geometry on the front and back of the magazine exterior and presses down on the top most round of the loaded stack. This eliminates most of the pressure from the rounds that would normally deform plastic feed lips over time and cause magazine-related failures.

Is the Impact Cover included or must it be purchased separately?

All PMAGs™ are shipped with an Impact Cover as standard equipment.

Are replacement Impact Covers available?

Replacement covers are available at additional cost. Also, a high-visibility package is available that includes an Impact Cover, Lock Plate and Follower.

Can the PMAG™ be stored loaded without the Impact Cover in place?

Yes, the PMAG™ can be safely stored without the cover. However, use of the Impact Cover is recommended to insure safe storage. The TPD-PMAG™ should not be stored without the Impact Cover.

How does the PMAG disassemble/assemble?

To disassemble, push in the lock plate with the nose of a round or the tail of the Impact Cover and slide off the floor plate. Remove the spring and follower. Assemble in the reverse order.

In terms of weight, how does the PMAG™ compare to other magazines?

- PMAG™ (Unloaded w/o Impact Cover) – 5.0 oz
- USGI 30-round aluminum (Unloaded) – 3.6 oz
- 30-round stainless steel (Unloaded) – 6.0 oz
- HK SA80A2 HRM (Unloaded) – 9.0 oz

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