

AMERICAN PISTOLSMITHS GUILD  
COLT REVOLVER  
INSPECTION GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURE

Unload revolver and remove all ammunition from the inspection area.

I. EXTERNAL CHECKS

A. All screws tight.

B. Open and close cylinder six times and check for:

1. Hard opening and closing.

2. Bolt engages cylinder slots.

3. Latch hard and sticks.

4. Crane loose in frame.

C. Check latch for proper operation and recovery.

D. Check for hammer hits on rebound lever.

E. Open cylinder:

1. Check ratchets for burrs.

2. Push up on ejector rod and check for loose extractor pin and loose extractor.

3. Inspect charge holes for scoring, bulging, etc.

4. Check bolt slots for peening.

5. Check for loose extractor rod and runout.

6. Check firing pin protrusion.

7. Check ratchet race for excessive peening.

8. Check nose of hand for proper clearance in window.

F. Close cylinder:

1. Check tightness of crane to frame.

2. Check double action timing:

a. With and without dummies.

b. Multiple orientation.

c. Pull through rapidly to see if cylinder misses bolt.

d. Right and left indexing.

3. Check single action timing.

4. hand "sings" or ratchets.

5. Slow bolt (timing to factory specs).

G. Check for end to end cylinder play.

H. Check headspace and barrel joint (to factory specs).

I. Check forcing cone with plug gauge for proper depth.

J. Check barrel alignment and ranging with gauges (all six charge holes).

K. Check barrel crown for burrs and square.

L. Check timing of bolt and rebound lever.

M. Static weight test:

1. Double action mainspring weight.

2. Single action (cylinder open).

N. Check trigger pull:

1. Double with clean break and without shifting on stud.

2. Single action (no creep).

O. Check for barrel looseness and alignment.

P. Check for hard ejection of shells (grips should not interfere).

Q. Check hammer for pushoff.

## II. INTERNAL CHECKS

A. Remove grips.

B. Loosen crane lock assembly and remove crane and cylinder.

C. Remove cylinder from crane. Replace crane and tighten crane lock assembly. Check alignment of crane with thimble gauge. Remove crane and lock assembly.

D. Remove side plate.

E. Check for clearance between bolt and frame.

F. Check timing and condition of hand.

G. Remove mainspring pin and mainspring.

1. Check mainspring for:

a. Factory springs (no kits).

b. Proper contour.

c. Broken stirrup fingers or fractures.

d. Shaved condition.

H. Remove rebound lever pin and check for indications of hammer hitting lever.

I. Check hammer for "overhaul".

J. Check hammer for excessive movement on stud.

K. Remove hammer assembly:

1. Check single action cocking notch for:

a. Damage.

b. Improper alteration.

2. Check strut for:

a. Pin loose.

b. Free movement and recovery.

3. Check stirrup for:

a. Damage.

b. Free movement.

c. Pin loose.

4. Check hammer nose (D & E models) for:

a. Damage.

b. Properly riveted.

c. Free movement and recovery.

L. Remove firing pin stop plate and firing pin assembly ("I" models) and check for:

1. Firing pin stop plate:

a. Fractures.

b. Peening.

2. Firing pin:

a. Damage to nose head.

b. Return spring unaltered.

c. Burrs.

M. With trigger and safety lever in revolver check:

1. Tail:

a. Damage.

b. Improper angle.

2. Safety lever pin loose.

3. Burrs on lever.

4. Safety lever assembly:

a. Damage.

b. Alteration.

P. Remove latch pin and check for damage.

Q. Check to see if bolt is loose in frame. Also check proper tension and recovery.

R. Remove bolt and check for excessive wear and alteration:

1. Head (contour matches leads).

2. Stop shoulder.

3. Actuator tip.

4. Bolt spring proper length.

S. Check hammer and trigger studs for:

1. Alignment.

2. Looseness.

T. Check latch for:

1. Operation.

2. Latch spring guide present.

3. Latch spring proper length and number of coils.

Reassemble revolver in reverse order and check function in both single and double action. Revolver should be test fired with factory to insure proper function. When test firing always proper eye and ear protection.

### III. APPEARANCE

A. Bluing:

1. Polishing.

a. No washed out holes or lettering.

b. No edge or corner distortions.

c. No wheel burns.

d. No scratches.

e. No screw slot damage.

2. Masking of matted areas should be clean and sharp.

3. Bead blasting should be even. Check for evidence of "over blasting" in barrel.

B. Sights, ribs, and scope bases:

1. Firmly attached.

2. Square to frame.

#### IV. PPC BARREL INSTALLATION

A. Underlug tight and square to the frame. Underlug radius should match underlug of barrel.

B. Diameter of barrel should be consistent the entire length.

C. Flats should be consistent in length the entire length and on both sides.

D. Finish comparable to frame.

E. Length of six inches overall.

F. Crown should be clean and true (machined).

G. Ball détente yoke lock:

1. Must secure yoke without movement.
2. Be positive.
3. Détente must not be drilled into barrel threads.

H. Check over travel stop in trigger:

1. Drilled and tapped off center.
2. Location above center of trigger bow.

FIELD INSPECTORS GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS: