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# I. Organize, not Agonize

Blessed be the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, and my fingers to fight. (Psalm 144:1)



God works in mysterious ways and there is no way to find out what His plans for you are. What will you do in case a pandemonium takes over your city when you least expect it? What if someone comes after you and your loved ones? It might happen tomorrow or it might happen in a year. If the situation calls for it, then you have to react as quickly as possible and do your best to stay in one piece.

But tell me: would you be able, at this very moment, to defend yourself if someone came and attacked you, out of the blue? Unfortunately, most of us wouldn't.

Finding that a close friend of mine has gone through a terrible criminal attack had a great impact on me. I became conscious that a similar attack or even worse can happen to me too and this made me more responsible. That's why I want to share the story with you.

It was a hot summer night, in 2012. My dear friend, John Bennett, was enjoying his sleep after a hard day at work. Who would have thought that an innocent mistake, like leaving his bedroom window unlocked, would end in a night of pure horror? That night, a burglar crept through his bedroom, savagely beat him with a tire iron and, of course, took all the valuables he found.

Although it sounds weird, the only thing that saved my friend was that the first few blows quickly rendered him unconscious. Thank God, the luck was on his side that night, considering the strangulation marks found on his neck after the attack. Police found the attacker's shoe print

in John's blood and he had also carelessly left the tire iron on his bedroom floor. As for John, he had to undergo extensive surgery and he was left with some permanent scars, but he is grateful for being alive. I don't even want to think about what would have happened if John wasn't so lucky.

Leaving your life in fate's hands isn't something you should always choose. Bad things can happen to good people. I strongly advise you not to wait any longer and learn more about improvising weapons, an alternative which you can keep near you all the time. And I am going to tell you how to make them, too. No worries. It's fairly easy, you'll see, and quite practical. Why? Because you don't actually have to go out and buy the materials. You can even use materials you already have in your house. In case of danger, you will be able to act on the spot. Quite useful, isn't it?

Also, there is no telling when SHTF, so getting to your home or crisis shelter may not always be possible. In other words, no one can predict the exact time when you have to improvise a weapon and protect yourself. But without learning how to do it, there is not much you can improvise on.

In the following chapters, we will be looking at how to improvise different weapons, guaranteed to come in handy, depending on the type of resources available to you. Now keep in mind that when you use weapons, it is always advisable to keep a level-head and use the knowledge that you gain only in the purpose of protecting and never with the intent of doing harm. With power there always comes great responsibility and as God teaches us, we must love our brothers and sisters and wish them no ill.

That being said, our Lord gave us the power to defend our loved ones. In the face of the unexpected, you have to be prepared to overcome any bad situation. You have to do it, for you and for your family. I know what you must be thinking: using weapons is bad. But it's not. As long as you use them for protection purposes and not to harm innocent people.

If you see that an armed assailant attacks an innocent person and you were unarmed, you would most probably be unable to help. Sometimes, inaction can be a really devastating experience, especially if you turn out to be the only one able to help in the given circumstances. What if someone were to attack your family? That's why a man must be prepared for anything! Weapons empower you. Weapons will give you the upper hand in what might actually prove to be a terryfing scenario.

We are all equal in God's eyes. But, even so, some people consider themselves to be above God. They believe to have the right to end one's life just because. Unfortunately, this is the harsh reality we live in. Therefore, is up to you to protect your freedom and your life from those who would like to take these away from you. Sometimes, the only thing you can do is grab a weapon and start fighting.

#### Types of weapons

There are two types of weapons. The most common ones are those used in close quarters combat. Here, we will be looking at a few classic examples of non-lethal tools, which you can easily improvise upon and which have proven to be very useful in immobilizing assailants or fending off vicious animals. Just to give you some examples, you will learn how to do a paper brick, a stone knife or how to prepare a pepper spray.

The second type of weapons we will be analysing are the ranged ones. Ranged weapons are weapons that generally require ammunition to work and can be used for long ranged shooting. Firing projectiles, bows and guns can be found in this category, because they use arrows and bullets as ammunition.

Unless you are highly trained and skilled in making guns, then you would need to buy safe firearms from authorized dealers only. But, in case of emergency, you would not actually have time to go shopping. So, this is where I come in and help you out with a few ideas on how you could make your own ranged weapons, by following a few simple guidelines. I also added a few "exotic" choices in case you are looking for that extra intimidation factor. But no worries, each of them are highly effective and help you defend yourself and your family, while also providing some distance.

In case you already have a gun, you will learn about the importance of keeping your gun clean and how to do so properly. Discussing the legal and ethical issues of using firearms for personal safety and defense is also on the list.

The need of being safe is, in fact, born out of neccessity. You need to learn how to use whatever resources available to you to ensure the safety of your family. Know that no object is evil in it's own. It only becomes a weapon of evil once it is wilded by a man who is consumed by his sins. But, in your hands, though, the hands of a God fearing man, it will become an instrument of justice.

You owe it to yourself and to your loved ones to keep the harbingers of evil at bay. Fear it not: God strikes mighty and powerful against the forces of Evil. We live in a world plaqued with crime and decanty, so you, too, must overcome your fear of evil and start fighting it to the best of your ability.

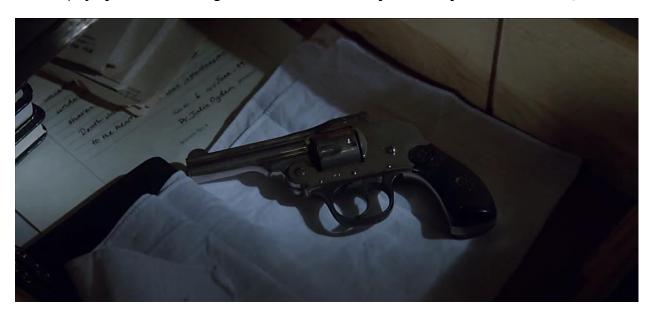
Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord, your God goes with you. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

God has a plan for all of us. Calm yourself. Otherwise, you'll panic yourself sick and fear is a prayer for what you don't want.

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# II. Use of Firearms for Personal Safety and Defense

If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him. He shall surely pay. If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft. (Exodus 22:2-3)



The right to self defense is a core right of human nature and this determined us to search for an effective way of defending ourselves. Firearms are considered to be one of the most effective defensive weapons. But, as we all know, every good thing comes along with a bad side.

It's important to realise that guns save more lives than they take and prevent more injuries than they inflict. Men and women alike use weapons. I remember reading about how more than 200,000 women use a gun every year to defend themselves against sexual abuse.

In Vermont, citizens can carry a gun without getting permission and even without paying a fee. Yet, for ten years in a row, Vermont is one of the safest states in the entire US, one of the top five actually and won the "Safest State Award" for three times so far.

In Florida, after the approval of the concealed carry law in 1987, the homicide rate fell 52%, in comparison to before 1987, when the rate was much higher than the national average. Also, in Florida, a citizen is much likely to be attacked by an alligator than to be assaulted by a concealed carry holder.

A study shows that guns are used 2.5 million times a year in self defense, but an overwhelming majority merely wave their gun or fire a warning shot to scare the attacker. A

citizen will kill or wound his attacker in less than 8% of the times. **Firearms are used far more often to intimidate than for self-defense.** 



On the other hand, using a gun to defend yourself from an assault could be considered "excessive force" in many jurisdictions. It would be up to the victim to prove that a life-threatening situation occurred and you had to use deadly force. Please bear in mind that **nearly 80% of all the assaults in our country are committed without using firearms,** but knives and edged arms.

In California, self-defense in legal terms means that you can't be found guilty of a violent crime that you committed in order to protect yourself, as long as your actions were reasonable under the circumstances. But what exactly does it mean reasonable under the circumstances?

- You were in imminent danger of being killed, injured or touched unlawfully;
- You needed to use force to prevent that from happening;
- You used no more force than was necessary to prevent that from happening.

Moreover, according to California's laws, you have no obligation to try to escape or run away before you use self-defense in order to protect yourself.

In Virginia and many other states, self-defense is all about proportions. Your actions must be proportional to the assailant's actions. The main idea is that you cannot shoot someone for punching you in the face and call it self-defense. Also, you have a duty to check if there are any other, less harmful options before applying force on the attacker.

You must be able to prove to the court that the assailant acted in a manner as to threaten your safety or even life. You can't rely strictly on fear when you shoot someone. Just compare these two statements:

"I thought he would shoot me."

"He was holding a gun in his right hand, pointing it at me and I thought he was going to shoot me."

A jury has the right to find your use of force to have been excessive, unreasonable or even that you have contributed to the conflict in such a way that you are actually responsible for it. This is why self-defense is a difficult defense. It will be up to the jury to decide if you meet all of the requirements if you invoke this defense.

What about the end days? Who will judge you when there is no legal system, when eveybody forgets all about the laws? The only laws that will apply are those that help you survive. Or maybe you've heard about the law of jungle with those terryfing sayings: "every man for himself", "eat or be eaten", "anything goes" or "survival of the fittest". Those are the cases when a gun is really useful in self-defense and there is no one questioning whether your actions were reasonable or not. Or is it?

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. (Corinthians 5:10)

But is it OK to always use guns? As I said before, weapons make you feel empowered, which can be a sort of psychological trap. You would probably use a gun with the intent of distracting and possibly disarming the attacker and be able to escape to get help, or even to give you some time just to grab another weapon. Believe it or not, a pepper spray is very effective in these situations.

You need to know when to pull the trigger and when to not pull the trigger. Even professional law enforcers have to go through intensive training in shoot and no shoot scenarios and yet they still sometimes get caught up in legal problems. Try to consider and anticipate the emotional trauma that you will be experiencing after killing or just injuring someone.

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# III. The Psychology Behind a Gun Fight

A man without self-control is like a city broken into and left without walls. (Proverbs 25:28)



You feel something right before making an important decision. You feel it in your stomach, makes you sick, unconfortable, sweaty and trembling. It's the fear of the unknown. Whether it's about a new job, welcoming your child into the world, you don't know what to expect and how to react. Maybe it sounds weird, but it's the same when it comes to self-defense and killing someone. And you need to follow the same old path of preparedness.

When you have time to prepare, to think about what's going to happen in detail, how your life will change, and take the necessary time to inform yourself in order to minimize the risk of any unwanted scenarios from happening, your mind is clear and fear is not the one that controls you. Fear is our greatest enemy. Learn how to approach the unknown and fear will fade away.

Maybe you think it's easy to talk about this. Unfortunately, I was the victim of a burglary and I can totally confirm that preparedness and thinking clear was the only thing that stopped me from directly killing someone a few years age.

It was 4 o'clock in the morning. I was awakened by the sounds of someone looking through my stuff in the living room. I grabbed my gun, entered the living room and yelled to the intruder:

"Drop everything, leave my house immediately and no one will get hurt!"

He dropped my stuff, but the next thing I remember, is him rushing towards me. I didn't want to kill him. I knew what I should do, so I lowered the gun and shot him in the leg. This immobilized him until the police arrived. Of course, this is just a particular case in which things remained on track. It could have happened that the intruder was armed too. In that scenario, just a wound in his leg wouldn't have stopped him from shooting back.

The instructors from the concealed handgun licence class have always told me that when you must use your gun in self defense... keep shooting until the threat has stopped. There are no *shoot to wound* or shoot to kill concepts. It's up to you to think whether the intruder is a dangerous threat. For example, if an intruder rushes at you with a weapon, you fire at them until they have both dropped the weapon and surrendered.



The first question you must answer before purchasing a firearm for self-defense is: "Am I able to make the decision to kill another human being in order to save my own life?" You may say that this is an easy answer. But think about if you are psychologically ready to do this. You will never be absolutely sure unless the situation really happens, but there are steps you can take to prepare yourself as much as you possibly can for that moment.

In case a life or death situation arises, you body responds to it, by releasing a lot of adrenaline. There are other psychological reactions to fear and stress, as well: your breath becomes quicker, your heart beats faster, your basic motor skills diminish. Remember a time when a crisis or emergency happened to you. How did you react? Did you remain calm and rational or did you freak out? Did you run away or freeze?

When an attacker threatens your life, you need to be sure that you can pull the trigger. If you hesitate, your time of reaction can cost you your life. Your body's physical response could interfere with your ability to defend yourself and that's why you should have a self defense plan. A plan that you are confident about. Winning in such a scenario requires mental preparation.

# For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. (Timothy 1:7)

#### **Locus of control**

What is locus of control? Locus of control is the concept that we have control over our lives and over our future. Every mental preparation has to start by believing this concept. Epictetus, the Greek philosopher, said that the key to happiness is to control the things in life that you can actually control and not to worry about the things you can't. Nowadays, one of the biggest sources of stress is trying to control the things that you cannot control. Unfortunately, sometimes you cannot control even your own body.

The key is to take control of those aspects of life you could change, such as your thoughts, your attitude, your faith and your beliefs. These principles are the foundation of The Soldier's Manual and can help you prepare not only for life threatening situations, but for life in general.

In order to be mentally prepared for survival, you must understand that you have an obligation to control those mental aspects. When you take control over them they allow the physical aspects to perform at their very best.

It is critical that you have belief and faith and understand that it is the mind that heals. I am sure you've heard about the placebo effect and the amazing results that have been observed in the medical research field. Those who believe that the medicine will work, then become well. You can apply the same principle for anything that you strongly believe in. The Universe and God will help you do anything if you believe in it.

The mind and body are a single unit. You have to train them together. This way, no matter how scared you are, you will still be able to control your response, you reaction. Your life is in your hands. You control it. You alone control whether or not you are prepared.

#### **Attitude**

What you believe about yourself is another key to winning a confrontation. Believe that you can control your attitude and that the mind-body link is a powerful and essential element to survival. Can you believe that you can control your heart rate, your blood pressure, even your level of fear?

Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. (Hebrews 10:35-36)

Every decision you make changes the present and creates a future for you. You choose to practice a skill because you want to create a different result, a different future. What you need to do is to think about the future you expect and you believe you deserve.

Do you truly believe you deserve a positive future, a successful outcome, or do you just hope for the best? Do you believe you deserve to win an armed confrontation? Do you deserve to be a winner? This is very critical in understanding proper mental preparation and you should be more concearned with your attitude toward yourself and your future.

#### Self talk

Monitor your self talk. What do you say to yourself when something good happens? "I was just lucky", right? And if something bad happens, do you say, "This is what I was expecting, anyway"?

You have to take credit for your successes, along with your failures. By accepting responsibility, you exercise control and change your future. Build an optimistic belief.

Think about whether or not you control your future. If your answer is "Yes, I do", you are on the right path, because this is an optimistic statement. And you know what? Science says that optimists are the ones who always survive, are the ones who always win.

We always hear about police officers suffering great emotional distress after they've taken a life. The main key to being emotionally healthy after a deadly incident is to mentally prepare yourself to take a life.

Ask youself if you can live with this result, with the future that will be created after you use deadly force. If your answer is "no", your unconscious mind will never take the necessary course of action in case of a high stress event. During the confrontation, you may never reach for your gun if you don't truly believe that you have the right to take a life in order to defend yourself and your loved ones. I don't want you to become emotionally ill because you successfully won an armed confrontation. You deserve to have a positive future.

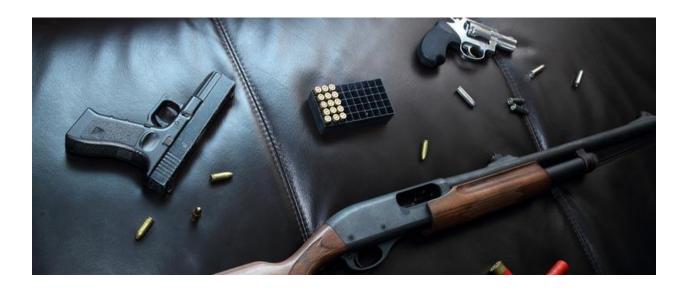
Closely examine how you talk to yourself. Do you anticipate losing or do you expect to win? And when you do win, do you recognize your own success? When you receive congratulations, always say "Thank you". "It was nothing, I was just lucky" is not a proper answer. Always practice positive self talk, not only when you think of a life threatening situation, but in every aspect of your life.

Change comes from within.

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## **IV.** Gun Safety Rules

Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. (Proverbs 11:14)



When it comes to firearms, safety has to be your number one priority. This is why I am going to teach you some rules that you should always keep in mind and respect, otherwise some terrible tragedies can happen.

#### Rule #1: Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction!

This is the most basic safety rule. Never point your gun at someone you do not intend to shoot. Simple as that! But as simple as it sounds, somehow this is the way firearms accidents happen and we all know that their number isn't insignificant. When loading and unloading a firearm this is particularly important. As long as your gun is pointed in a safe direction, even if an accidental discharge happens, there will be no injury.

What means a safe direction? It's a direction in which a bullet cannot possibly strike anyone. Always think about ricochets or the facts that bullets can penetrate ceilings and walls. In most cases, a safe direction may be "up" or "down", but never at anyone that do not represent your target. Even if the gun is unloaded, never point it at an unsafe direction.

Make a habit out of controlling the direction your gun is pointed towards. Think about a situation when maybe you would fall or stumble and being in control of your gun is really hard. It's still your responsibility to control the path of your gun.

#### Rule #2: Always keep your gun unloaded until you are ready to use it.

Load your gun only when you are ready to shoot. Otherwise, secure your gun and ammunition in a safe place, separate from each other. Preventing children or irresponsible adults from gaining access to your gun is your responsibility.

After you finished shooting, unload your gun immediately, not after you arrived home. Also, whenever you handle a gun or hand it to someone else, open the action and check the chamber, magazine and receiver to be absolutely sure that they do not have any ammunition. Always check for yourself, do not assume the gun is unloaded. Unless you are using the gun, keep the action open. Actually, this is a sign that you are an experienced gun handler!

#### Rule #3: Don't rely on your gun's safety mechanism!

Think of your gun as if it is a weapon that can fire at any time. The safety mechanism is just like any other device and can become inoperable at the worst possible time. By mistake, you may think the safety is "on", when actually is "off". Never handle a gun carelessly and just assume that the gun won't fire because the safety system is on.

If you don't intend to shoot, keep your fingers away from the trigger. When the safety is on, never pull the trigger because it is possible that the gun can fire at any time or when you release the safety it can fire even without you touching the trigger. The safety should never be placed in between positions. Believe me, you don't want to be half-safe.

Any blow strong enough to action the firing mechanism can cause it to fire, regardless the position of the safety system. This can happen too if you drop your gun. You can be absolutely certain that the gun won't fire only when the action is open and it is empty.

Rely only on your handling procedures. Your control should be your primary safety.



#### Rule #4: Use the right type of ammo.

Using incorrect or improper ammunition can not only destroy your gun, but cause serious personal injuries. Read carefully your gun's instruction manual and all the warnings that appear on the ammunition boxes and be absolutely sure that the ammunition matches your gun's specifications.

Similarly, you shouldn't use wet ammo. Also, oil or solvents and ammunition do not get along as you will see in the gun cleaning chapter. What could happen? Unsatisfactory performance, poor ignition, damage to your firearm and even harm to yourself. Never use damaged or substandard ammunition and make a habit from always examining every cartridge you decide to use.

# Rule #5: Depending on what firearm you are using, learn the mechanical and handling characteristics.

The handling method of firearms differs in accordance with the mechanical characteristics of each gun. Guns can be very different! First you have to familiarize yourself with the particular type of gun you are using. The rules of handling, loading, unloading etc. can be extremely different. Always read the instruction manual you received with your gun and make sure you fully understand it!

I know it's hard and already seems like a full time job, but you can't allow yourself to guess or to forget essential rules.

#### Rule #6: Before shooting, make sure the barrel is not obstructed by anything.

Firstly, open the action and make sure there is no ammunition in the chamber or magazine. Next, check if the barrel is clear. Mud, oil, grease can increase the pressure and cause the barrel to burst on firing. Always clean your bore (you will learn how in a few moments) and check for obstructions.

During firing, if the sound is weak or something doesn't seem quite right, stop the firing immediately and check your barrel. A smaller caliber cartridge can fall into the barrel and obstruct it. You don't want to imagine what will happen when a proper size cartridge is fired. Pay close attention to each cartridge that you use.

#### Rule #7: When you pull the trigger and the gun fails to fire, handle with care.

It can happen that when you pull the trigger, a cartridge may not fire. Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction and carefully open the action. Unload the firearm and get rid of the cartridge in a safe way. Even if you've tried to shoot and it did not go off, your gun is still loaded and ready to fire. It could go off at any time!

#### Rule #8: Don't modify your gun and have it serviced regularly.

Firearms are designed by experts and for sure are complicated mechanisms. Any change can make the gun dangerous. Do not play with your safety by altering the system or allowing an unqualified person to modify or repair it. Most of the time, an expensive gun is ruined. Sooner rather than later you gun will wear out. Make sure you inspect it periodically.

# V. Gun Cleaning 101

Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain quidance. (Proverbs 1:5)



If your gun fails to fire in a critical situation, like when you have to defend yourself, who do you think is going to help you? This is going to happen when the end days come and police won't be there to help you. So imagine yourself not being able to fire your weapon and no one coming to your rescue. The only person you can rely on is yourself. Gun cleaning isn't quantum phisycs and can assure you that your gun will function properly. Otherwise, you probably won't live to regret it, anyway.

Although, defensive handguns are reliable machines, they have to be properly maintained in order to preserve that ability. Malfunctions or even permanent damage can be the result of dirty or dry (or both) handguns. Clean your shooting gun regularly because sacrificing a defensive handgun's reliability for just a few minutes of work is something you will regret, for sure.

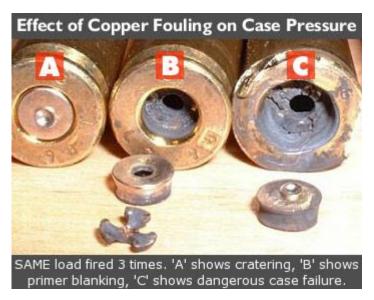
#### Why should you clean your gun?

After every time you fire your gun, residue like carbon, copper, lead and plastic are left in the barrel and the chamber. The fouling residue that comes from the powder, wad and bullets builds up each time you fire your gun and this has a terrific impact on your gun's reliability.

Ammunition that will not foul your gun is impossible to find. Also, corrosive rust caused by moisture from weather and sweat can damage your gun's metal parts.

The most common types of fouling are:

- Copper a result after firing copper-jacketed bullets leaving residue in the gun's barrel;
- Carbon is a result of the burning powder that moves the bullet from the chamber through the barrel;
- Plastic the plastic wads from the shotgun shell;
- Lead the residue left by lead bullets in the gun's barrel after firing.



A lot of military surplus ammunition is corrosive, including black powder, meaning that salt is found in the ammo's primer. Salt will damage your gun. If you use corrosive ammunition, you should clean your gun after each shooting session.

I became very interested in gun cleaning after a retired police officer told me to clean my gun as if my life depended on it. Now, I give you the same advice.

On the other hand, how much cleaning is enough? Some say that over cleaning is the same as under cleaning. Even if there are different opinions on that matter, all experienced gun owners agree that a little oil is more than enough.

What you must remember is that you aren't doing anything wrong if you clean your gun after every shooting session. I, for instance, find it very relaxing to clean my gun, along with breaking down my gun and putting it back together. This is just for my pleasure, because when it comes to cleaning, you don't have to disassemble the whole gun. Field stripping is the name of the process.

But **before cleaning a handgun**, it is critical to spend some time reading the manual because you have to know how to disassemble it. If you do not have a manual, order one or search it online. Make sure you gain insights into how you can disassemble and reassemble your gun back together. The last thing you want to do is to damage your gun.

A basic handgun cleaning tool set includes:

- Solvent;
- Lubricant (gun oil);
- A bore brush;
- Patch holder;
- Patches;
- A cleaning rod;
- Nylon cleaning brush;
- Cotton swabs.



#### **Getting started**

**Step 1:** When cleaning your gun, you need to work in a highly ventilated area. Why? Well, the chemicals and compounds produced by shooting, along with the ones used to clean and lubricate are toxic for human beings.

Cover your workbench with a plastic trash bag, the bag with a couple of newspaper pages and, on top, a layer of paper towels. You have to change the paper towels if they become filthy. Also, a solid advice is to wear some safety glasses and protective gloves in order to reduce exposure to toxic materials as much as possible.

**Step 2**: Make sure the gun is unloaded and before you start cleaning, point it in a safe direction. We've all heard those terrible stories about people getting shot while cleaning their guns, so remove any ammunition you have in your gun.

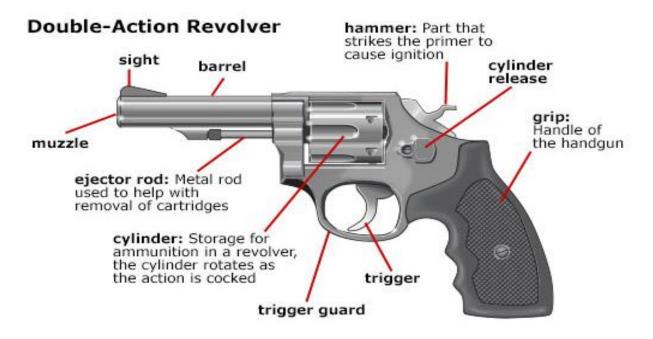
Another thing I feel it's important to mention is to remove the entire ammunition from your working space, because in contact with solvents and lubricants it can be damaged and result in a failure to fire.

**Step 3**: You don't have to disassemble your pistol completely for other purposes than repairing. Field stripping is the process of partially taking apart a gun for cleaning.

If you have a semi-auto, the pistol is broken down to barrel, slide, frame, guide rod and magazine.



For single action revolvers, all you have to do is to remove the cylinder from the frame. In case of a double action revolver, just swing the cylinder out into the open position. It may be required to remove the grip or the grip panels.



The most important part of a handgun that needs to be cleaned properly is the interior of the barrel. After shooting sessions, a layer of material is left in the barrel, and this can reduce the pistol's accuracy, by corroding the rifling.

#### The cleaning process



**Step 1**: Attach a bore brush to the cleaning rod and apply solvent on the brush. Push it back and forth through the bore several times. Add solvent to the brush as you work through. Once or twice should be enough.

**Step 2**: When the bore of the barrel is absolutely scrubbed, remove the bore brush from the cleaning rod and attach a patch holder. Now run it through the barrel. You'll see that the first patch will be very dirty and you need to replace it. Repeat the action until they come out looking relatively clean. If you want, you can use a flashlight to check the interior of the barrel bore. In case you still see fouling stuck in the interior, run the brush and solvent again along with a few more patches.

**Step 3**: When everything is clean, apply a little gun oil on a clean patch and run it through the bore. This will protect the rifling from moisture.

It is much easier cleaning semi-automatics, because you only have to do it once, since you only have to clean the barrel. On the other hand, revolvers have one long barrel and in the cylinder, five or six short barrels, called chambers. In this case, brush and patch each chamber.

**Step 4**: Take your nylon brush, apply solvent and scrub the other parts of the gun. Use the rags to wipe off the solvent and residue. If you don't believe that your gun is clean, then it most certainly isn't. Check everywhere for a buildup of fouling.

When cleaning semi-autos, pay close attention to the slide's interior grooves. For revolvers, it is possible to find a buildup around the forcing cone, the cylinder ratchet and the face of the cylinder. Don't forget to check under the ejector star, in case of a double-action revolver. You would only need to use a bit of solvent. Remove all the solvents before applying lubricants.

**Step 5**: The lubrication points may vary from pistol to pistol. Semi-autos need lubricant where some parts rub against each other, while single-actions need some on the cylinder pin and ratchet. Ejector rod and cylinder ratchet should be lubricated if you have a double-actions pistol. Revolvers need only a little lubrication, actually, in all cases you should not over lubricate. If there is too much, this will attract and hold gun fouling. Use cotton swabs to apply it to key areas.

**Step 6**: It's time to reassemble the gun. Once you do that, cycle the action a few times in order to spread the lubricant uniformly. If any lubricant leaks out of the joints, wipe it off with a rag.

**Step 7**: You also need to protect the exterior of the gun, so apply a little gun oil or metal preservatives to a clean rag and wipe the outer surfaces.

The cleaning process is now complete. Place the gun in a locked container or where you usually keep it, clean up your working space and then wash up with soap and cool water. This information will help you clean and maintain your gun in a good condition. A "healthy" gun functions effectively and is a reliable and accurate gun, which will keep you safe.

Please help us improve and rate this chapter at:http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2523325/AAAB?squid=c4

## VI. DIY Weapons

He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. (Psalm 18:34)



I only have one rule: **There is no rule when your life is at stake!** That's right. There is no such thing as the gentlemen's way to fight. When the attacker pulls his knife at you, don't wait for him to stab you before you retaliate. Act faster than him!

When someone is attacking you, do whatever it takes to get away! If that means kicking, biting, grabbing the groin and pulling as hard as you can, crushing the windpipe, breaking the kneecap, or snapping an elbow, you do it.

You should do whatever it takes to stay alive. And, do not stop until the attack is over. Be a savage. Do not hold back from anything. Don't think that: "Well, I'll just slap him and hopefully that will stop the attack." It won't.

Instead, tell yourself this: "I will do whatever it takes to disable this attacker and save my life and I'll worry about sorting it all out after the attack is over and I am safe."

All this is important. But I am also going to tell you how to seal your success in a fight, by creating some homemade weapons.

# 1. Paper brick – or how to make a weapon from a newspaper

The paper brick was initially used in the 1960's by English soccer hooligans who needed to concoct new and sharp approaches to sneak weapons into stadiums. Known as the 'Millwall Brick', it was the weapon of choice of the famously brutal aficionados of Millwall Football Club.

As the name suggests, paper bricks are bricks made out of paper, usually newspaper sheets that are rolled and folded in order to create a handle and a rounded head.



**Step 1**: Take a few sheets of daily paper and stack them on top of each other. If you want to add "weight" and for the weapon to be even more effective, soak the sheets with a liquid.

**Step 2**: Take one side of a newspaper and overlap an area that has a width of about 2 inches.

**Step 3**: Keep folding the area inwards until the whole newspaper is shaped as a roll.

**Step 4**: Bend the newspaper from the middle into equal parts and secure the two ends with some duct tape or string. You can use the block as a cosh or a club. Grasp the two ends with your clenched hand so the folded area is facing downwards.

**Step 5**: For extra weight, place coins or rocks on the spread newspaper and then start folding it. They will tumble down into the folded segment.









#### 2. Stone and wood clubs

A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich.

(Proverbs 10:4)

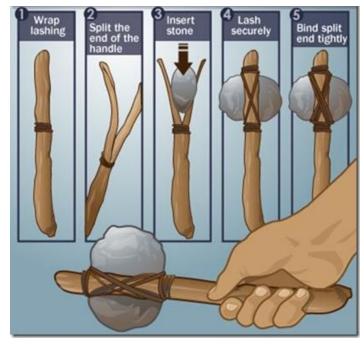


A stone and wood club is made from a stone attached to a wooden handle. In the past, the most common types of stones that were used were chert and flint (sedimentary rocks consisting of very small quartz crystals). The Native Americans relied heavily on this weapon when hunting or fighting other tribes. Although clubs are associated with primitive cultures, in a survival situation, they are very useful. In the wilderness, you will 100% be able to find a stone and a piece of wood.

**Step 1**: Begin by cutting a thick branch from a tree. Cut it so it can measure 1 foot long and has a width of around 2 inches. The key is to use crisp wood for this, as dried timber will break when you attempt to part them.

**Step 2**: Find a sturdy oval rock of a decent size to fit onto your handle. Tie some rope around the center of your handle.

**Step 3**: Divide one end of the handle down the center into 2 parts, and then place your rock in. Press the two parts of the handle together to confine the rock in between the divided pieces of wood



**Step 4**: Use more rope to tie the rock and the handle as hard as you can to secure it. This will prevent the rock from falling.

#### 3. Pepper spray





Pepper spray is the ideal non-lethal weapon that allows you to render assailants vulnerable. It is very useful because you can use it against animals like dogs and bears, too.

Although the effects are temporary, it gives you enough time to run away, hide or grab another weapon. The spray has inflammatory effects, nasal discharge, shortness of breath and coughing. It also causes eye problems; when pepper sprayed, you first feel your eyes so dry and sore. Your first natural reaction would be to close your eyes.

By not being able to keep their eyes open and see what happens around them, they will also lose the upper hand, in the battle. Panic will cloud their judgement, and your attackers will also begin experiencing fear and anxiety.

What you will need:

- 3 small glasses
- A funnel
- Coffee filter paper
- 250 ml acetone
- 10 chillies (the hotter the better)
- 50g of ground black pepper
- Red food coloring (optional)
- Small spray bottle

**Step 1**: You will first need to prepare the chillies in order to extract the capsaicin in them. Capsaicin is an active chemical, also found in the commercial pepper spray. To begin with, chop up the chillies as small as possible.

Next, put the pieces in one of the glasses and mash all the lumps with a fork, just to make sure that you will make the most of those chilies and extract most of the capsaicin.

**Step 2**: Cover all the chillies with acetone. Cover the top of the glass with a plastic wrap because you have to stop the acetone from evaporating. Let it rest in a cool dry place for 24 hours. Make sure you shake the glass every hour, though.

- **Step 3**: After 24 hours, remove the plastic wrap. Use the other glass to pour in the liquid through the filter paper and funnel. Now you have to leave the glass in a warm place because the acetone has to evaporate. Check if the acetone smell is gone, otherwise leave it for another 24 hours. What will be left are some small crystals or a red sticky substance (depends on the water content the chillies had).
- **Step 4**: Now you have to make the pepper extract. All you have to do is to pour the pepper in one glass and repeat steps 2 and 3. Just replace the chillies with pepper. The resulting mixture should have the consistency of a syrup and its color should be brown.
- **Step 5**: Mix the chillies and pepper extract in a glass and add 20 ml of water. Mix again. In case you want to color the substance, add food coloring until it reaches the color you want. Transfer the liquid to a small spray bottle. Now your pepper spray is ready to use.

#### 4. Stone knife

A blade is a key item that you will use to forage for food, make shelter, or use it to make other tools. Learn step by step how to shape one using only two stones!

- **Step 1**: Begin by finding a rectangular-molded rock that is generally leveled on one side. You will be using this as your edge.
- **Step 2**: Search for an alternative heavier rock that has an adjusted surface that you can use as a hammer.



- **Step 3**: Hold your edge with the leveled side facing downwards and, marginally, towards you. Hold it in mid-air or support the rock on your thigh but you should be very careful not to hurt yourself.
- **Step 4**: Start hitting the cutting edge with the hammer stone in a downwards, continuous movement and slowly wear down the edge of the sharpened steel until the level edge becomes sharp. Rub it against a rock to smooth it.
- **Step 5**: Wrap the base piece of the blade around with some rope, twine or some other strong material, which will prevent the rock from being too slippery, thus, allowing you to firmly grab it and hold on to it.

#### 5. Slingshot

The vast majority of us have played with one when we were children. A slingshot is a viable self-protection weapon. I'm sure you've seen your fair share of windows being smashed into pieces.

Even now, I still feel guilty for breaking my grandma's window, when I was 10. I remember visiting her during those perfect childhood summers, when all you have to do is play and have fun. My friend Jonathan and I, were always searching for new games and tools to play with. One day, he came with this terrific idea of building a slingshot.

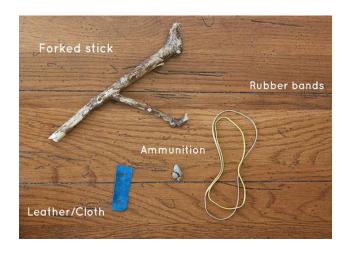
Since I was a child I enjoyed doing all sort of things with my own two hands. I particularly remember building the slingshot; it was fun and easy to do, as you will see in just a few seconds.

After making the slingshots, we spent the rest of the day trying to throw rocks into some cans. Because we were both getting really good at using the slingshot, we decided to turn it into a contest; the winner would get a chocolate bar. Of course, the cans were located on the windowsill of my grandma's house, so inevitably I broke her window, too. Just imagine little Nathan Shepard being grounded for two days. I lost the contest, too. But it was totally worth it!

Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. (Peter 1:10)

Things you'll need:

- A Y-shaped piece of wood;
- Strings;
- 12 inch rubber;
- 2 inch leather;
- Small rocks as projectile.



**Step 1**: Find a piece of wood that is Y-shaped. Similarly, you can find a piece of wood and carve it. Dogwood is a great choice.

**Step 2**: Fix every end of the rubber to the tips of the Y. You can connect them using the strings. But make sure that you tie them firmly to the wood.

**Step 3**: Cut the center of the rubber.

**Step 4**: Punch two holes at the end of the leather. Your rubber will be attached there. Fasten the ends using the string.

Now, although slingshots made our childhood awesome, they are a great weapon of self-defense for adults, too. All you have to do is to change the ammunition, because little small rocks aren't that effective if you need to defend yourself against the bad guys. Replace them with bigger rocks, steel balls, marble, nutts, even nails.

#### 6. Crossbow

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. (Peter 1:5-7)

Now, you will learn how to make a crossbow that has the ability to shoot a dowel over a distance of 800 inches.

**Step 1**: You will start by shaping the wood. Design the outline of the stock that you will be using as a main handle. After you designed the outline, draw it onto the wood and cut around the outside of the line with a jigsaw cutter. Use two sheets of 19 mm ply and screw them together.





**Step 2**: Now you have to build the prod, which is the part at the front of the bow that stores the energy when the string is pulled back. Use a flexible 5 mm craft wood (it's up to you if you want to make them at home or purchase them) and cut strips of wood into three different sizes as it follows: 2 strips of 500 mm, 2 of 350 mm and another 2 of 200 mm.

Because their purpose is to store energy and, then, transfer it efficiently to the arrow, the prod is tapered from the outside. In other words, from inside to outside the lengths are bigger and bigger.

- **Step 3**: At the front of the stock cut a square shaped hole in which the prod can simply slide through. Drive a screw that will hold the prod in place through the center of the prod and through the end of the stock.
- **Step 4**: On top of the stock make a channel for the arrows to fit and slide in. For example, I used a 10 mm width dowel, cut into 200 mm lengths and sharpened it. Depending on how big you want it to be, cut it accordingly. The arrow channel is important not only for the arrows to slide through, but it is used as a spot to hook the bow string in order to stay behind the arrow until you are ready to fire.
- **Step 5**: Cut one strip of 5 mm craft wood for the top of the crossbows top edge. The width of the craft wood will be 30 mm (because the stock is formed from two sheets of 15 mm each). Now you should have a strip of wood that runs along the top of the bow. You will need another 30 mm strip siting on the top of the other one, but because the arrow width is 10 mm, you will have 10 mm taken up from the center, leaving 10 mm on both sides.

You should cut two 9 mm width (allow 1 mm arrow clearance from both sides) strips of 5 mm height craft wood. Nail them using small nails to each edge of the top panel. Now you should have a 9 mm strip wood, a 12 mm gap, and another 9 mm piece of wood.

- **Step 6**: Cut a very small piece of wood (5 mm) and place it horizontally, following the direction the arrow is fired to. This completes the U shape channel in which the arrow is confined.
- **Step 7**: In order to make the trigger, drill a hole halfway between the width of the timber behind the arrow channel. This will allow you to slide a bolt through the hole. The head of the bolt on the underneath side of the stock enable you to slide a washer over the threaded end of the bolt and tighten a nut onto the bolt. Don't tighten up too much because when the head of the bolt is pushed, it



raises the washer higher than the arrow channel so the rope can slide off and launch the arrow.

**Step 8**: It's time to attach the rope to the prod. All you have to do is drill a hole on the both ends of the two 500 mm prod lengths and tie a rope from one hole to the other. Keep the rope slack, so that the wooden prod doesn't snap.

Great job! Be extremely careful with this, it conveys a lot of speed and energy to the arrow even if it's not sharpened. Put the rope behind the arrow channel and sit it on top of the washer. Placing the arrow in the channel and pushing the head of the bolt up, will lift the rope and the potential energy stored in the prod will be converted in kinetic energy and transferred to the rope, and then back to the arrow.

#### 7. Fire hardened spear

For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge. (Peter 1:5)

Fire hardening simply means super drying the wood, and it's not really about a structural change in the material as many people would think. Moisture softens the wood. When the wood is dry, it becomes lighter in weight, but, at the same time, harder. For fire hardening you would only need to put the piece above the flames, until it starts to get some color. But let's take a look on what materials you could find in the wilderness that you could use to make a hunting and personal defense spear.

**Step 1**: Choosing a wood species is a major concern. For sure you have to use hardwood species like oak, ash, hickory, maple, locust or anything that you have available near you and it's very dense. Never use soft woods, which break too easily such as pine, aspen, poplar and their relatives.

Another thing you should keep in mind is the dimension of your weapon. There is no reason to cut down a huge tree for a skinny weapon. The process alone would take a lot of time and effort. Cut a branch of a young tree that is growing in shady conditions and has dense wood.

**Step 2**: Start carving with a pocket knife one end of the wood (or even both ends, if you want) and make it as sharp as possible.

**Step 3**: Rotate the carved area above the flames of a small fire, in order to dry out the wood. Stop when it starts to get a "toasted" look. It should have a golden brown color, not black.



**Step 4**: Sharpen the spear again after fire hardening and rub some plant or animal oil on the sharpened top.

If you are wondering what could you possibly penetrate with a fire-hardened wood spear, I can assure you that is great for hunting a wide variety of animals from rabbits to horses and deers. Also, it is a great self-defense tool that you can use from distance. You just have to build upon your accuracy, by practicing your throws.

#### 8. Pocket stick

A pocket stick is a simple weapon, which you can carry around anywhere with you. They are also called kubotan or yawara sticks in Japanese systems, and olisii palad in the Filipino martial arts. This weapon can help you cause significant damage to your strikes, and will also protect against injuring yourself. How come? A rigid material concentrates and amplifies the force of your strike into a smaller area. Also, it protects yourself because the pocket stick is less vulnerable to breaking than the bones of your hand. Pure physics!

What you will need:

- A polymer rod;
- A drill;
- Paracord;
- Sharp knife;
- Saw;
- Lighter.



Please wear respiratory and eye protection when drilling and cutting material like this. You don't want to inhale things, such as Delrin and Nylon.

**Step 1:** When choosing the size of the rod, think about the size of your hand. Consider that you also have to hold onto the rod firmly. So, make sure you leave plenty of room: at least 2 inches from both sides. Now you can cut the rod with the saw.

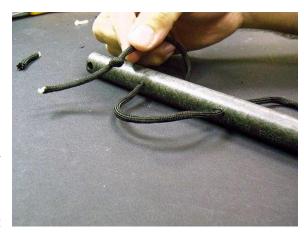
**Step 2**: It's time to drill four holes, in order to mount a loop for paracord. The first two should be large enough for the paracord to fit through and the other two have the role to countersink the paracord. So you have to create a larger opening. If you intend



to use your pocket stick to carry keys, drill a third small hole at the end of the stick.

**Step 3**: Use the knife to scrape out any irregularity that the holes might have. They have to be as plane as possible, otherwise they will tear the paracord when you draw it through the hole.

**Step 4**: At this stage you have to get your paracord because it's time to put the finger loop. First, you have to knot one end and go with the other end through one of the enlarged holes. The countersunk hole should contain the knot when you finish. Insert the paracord through the other hole and make a loop. Don't knot the other end yet, unless you're sure that the loop is the size of your finger.



**Step 5**: Burn and trim the first knot. That way the knot should fit into the countersunk hole.

**Step 6**: Now you have to size the loop for your fingers. Pass the loop over your middle fingers and make it tighter than you think you will need, because when you knot it off, it will stretch a little. Once knotted, you won't be able to change it, so give it a few tries until you are satisfied with the loop.

**Step 7**: Knot the paracord, cut the excess and burn the knot. Melt it just to form a single lump.

You should end with something similar with the one in the picture.

When fighting with a pocket stick, target the opponent's vital areas and attack him from angles that would make it impossible for him to avert your hits. Also, try not to be mentally stuck on only using the stick.



Please help us improve and rate this chapter at:http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2523325/AAAB?squid=c6

# **VII.** Final Thoughts

For wisdom will come into your heart, and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul. (Proverbs 2:10)



How do you feel after reading all of this? Prepared, more confident in your skills, more secure, more conscious about your future? I sure hope you feel that way. Now it's up to you if you decide to use all these information, and turn theory into practice. The more you read, the more you know, the more your chances to survive in critical situations are higher and higher.

Remember that every second counts. We always feel that we have enough time, but I am sure that you said not just once "How time flies." with a pinch of regret. Start practicing right in this moment not only the homemade weapons, but substantially begin your mental preparation. With the right mindset everything is possible. Believe in yourself and in your skills and you are ready to face any situation.

Know that wisdom is such to your soul; if you find it, there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off. (Proverbs 24:14)

In the end days there will be no civil laws, no morals, no religion, no ethics. Of course, everybody expects that these beliefs should be in our hearts, in our souls, but no one knows how he will react in survival circumstances. It's all about preparedness. Don't let anything take you by surprise, because that's when the tragedy happens.

Believe in a positive future and work for it, because when it comes to safety nothing comes for free. Be smart! Be prepared!

Godspeed.

Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. (Romans 13:11)