

# AR Platform Troubleshooting chart

A compilation by: [www.ednutter.ws](http://www.ednutter.ws)

## Failure of magazine to lock in weapon

Problem	Solution	Source
Defective or damaged magazine	Replace magazine	LEAC
Not enough spring tension	Adjust magazine catch tension or replace magazine catch spring	LEAC
Worn or broken Magazine catch	Replace	TM-9
Dirty or corroded magazine catch	Disassemble and clean	TM-9
Defective magazine catch spring	Replace	TM-9

## Failure to feed or go into battery

Problem	Solution	Source
Defective ammunition	Use new US factory made commercial or mil spec brass cased ammunition. Check for damaged cases	LEAC
Defective magazine	replace	LEAC
Ejector sticking	Clean or replace ejector or spring	LEAC
Dirty chamber	Clean chamber with chamber brush and cleaning solution. Wipe dry and inspect for debris or damage	LEAC
Debris in bolt lug locking area	Clean and inspect locking area. Check for lodged primer	LEAC
Bent gas tube	Replace gas tube and insure proper alignment	LEAC
Worn or defective carrier key	Replace carrier key. Reinstall screws and torque to 35-40 inch pounds. Double stake the screws	LEAC
Defective gas rings	Replace gas rings	LEAC
Live round stuck in chamber	Point firearm in safe direction. Put selector in safe position. Separate the upper and lower receivers. Remove bolt carrier group. Remove stuck round with live round extraction tool.	LEAC
Fired case stuck in chamber	Use a cleaning rod inserted from the muzzle end to gently tap out the	LEAC

	spent cast from the chamber.	
Case separation	Remove remainder of case from chamber with a case extractor	LEAC
Magazine catch spring weak or broken	Replace	TM-9
Magazine catch broken or defective	Replace	TM-9
Short recoil		TM-9

## Failure to chamber

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Obstruction in bore/chamber	- Remove obstruction - Rebarrel	TM-9



# Firing out of battery

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Broken Cam pin		AR-15

# Failure to Lock

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Damaged bolt carrier key	-Repair -Replace - Check alignment	TM-9
Loose screws on bolt carrier key	- Disassemble and repair - Reassemble using new screws	TM-9
Bent gas tube	- Adjust by bending in area of handguards - Replace gas tube - Check alignment	TM-9



## Failure to Fire

Problem	Solution	Source
Broken hammer	Replace	TM-9
Weak or broken hammer spring	Replace	TM-9
Hammer spring improperly assembled	Reassemble	TM-9
Selector lever frozen on safe position	- Disassemble - Clean	TM-9
Broken firing pin or firing pin does not meet protrusion requirement	Replace	TM-9
Damaged, dirty, or corroded spring and detent	Clean or replace	TM-9

# Light Hammer Strike

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Improper hammer spring installation	Reinstall correctly	LEAC
Damaged or weak hammer spring	Replace	LEAC

# Trigger Failure

Problem	Solution	Source
Multiple rounds per trigger pull	Replace weak disconnecter spring and/or worn disconnecter	LEAC
Semi-auto fires full-auto	Missing or broken disconnecter spring. Replace spring	LEAC
Hard to pull or failure to pull	Inspect for broken or loose parts. Inspect for debris (including blown primers) in lower receiver. Remove debris and clean as necessary.	LEAC



## Failure to extract

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Badly pitted chamber	Replace barrel	TM-9

## Failure to eject

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Short recoil		TM-9

## Failure to cock

Problem	Solution	Source
Worn or broken trigger nose or trigger spring	Replace spring or trigger	TM-9
Worn or broken hammer trigger notch	Replace hammer	TM-9
Worn or broken hammer disconnecter hook	Replace hammer	TM-9
Worn or broken hammer automatic sear hook	Replace hammer	TM-9
Worn or broken disconnecter hook	Replace disconnecter	TM-9
Weak, broken or missing trigger spring	Replace spring	TM-9
Worn, broken or missing automatic sear	Replace automatic sear	TM-9
Weak or broken automatic sear spring	Replace Automatic Sear spring	TM-9
Automatic sear spring incorrectly assembled in receiver	Remove automatic sear assembly and install correctly	TM-9

## Short Recoil

Problem	Solution	Source
Defective Ammunition	Use new US factory made commercial or mil spec brass cased ammunition. Check for damaged case	LEAC
Dirty chamber	Clean chamber with chamber brush and cleaning solution, wipe dry and inspect for debris or damage	LEAC
Loose carrier key	Remove bolt carrier group, clean all parts, remove any oil under the carrier key. Reinstall screws and torque to 35-40 inch pounds. Double stake the screws	LEAC
Broken carrier key screws	Replace	LEAC
Worn carrier key	Replace	LEAC
Bent or worn gas rings	Replace	LEAC
Bent or worn gas tube	Realign gas tube or replace gas tube	LEAC
Gas port in barrel and port in gas block or front sight misaligned	Carefully expand the gas block/front sight hole with a Dremel tool	LEAC
Improper gas port size	Check gas port size, carefully drill larger if undersized	LEAC
Bent lips on magazine causing bolt drag	Replace magazine	LEAC
Solid A2 buttstock screw	Replace with proper vented screw	LEAC



Improper buffer or spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Replace with proper buffer or spring</li> <li>- Rifle spring has 42 coils</li> <li>- CAR spring has 37 coils</li> </ul>	LEAC
Misalignment between gas port in barrel and port in front sight housing causing restricted gas flow	Open the port in the front sight housing with a dremel tool and a very small grinding bit. Drift port hole in the direction of the barrel hole to create a channel for the gas	LEAC
Improper gap, space, or worn, missing or broken bolt rings	Replace bolt rings and stagger gaps	TM-9
Broken or bent gas tube	Adjust by bending in area of handguards or replace gas tube	TM-9
Gas tube spring pin missing from front sight	Replace spring pin	TM-9
Partially plugged gas system because of carbon buildup in the gas tube	Replace gas tube	TM-9
Carbon buildup in barrel gas port	Remove carbon buildup	TM-9

## Weapon cannot be zeroed

Problem	Solution	Source
Bent or bulged rifle barrel	Replace barrel	TM-9
Barrel assembly out of alignment with rear sight on upper receiver	Align barrel and upper receiver	TM-9
Corroded front or rear sight	Disassemble, clean, lubricate	TM-9

## Decreasing Accuracy

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Excessive chamber throat wear	Check throat erosion with a Throat Erosion Gauge. Replace barrel if necessary	LEAC

# Failure to cycle with selector set on AUTO

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Broken automatic sear or spring	Replace automatic sear assembly	TM-9
Faulty selector lever	Replace	TM-9
Short Recoil		TM-9

## Full Auto cycles too fast

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Fast cycle	Use heavier buffer	LEAC

Fires when trigger is released with selector lever on SEMI,  
or fires two or more rounds in SEMI selector position  
(Doubling)

Problem	Solution	Source
Defective disconnecter	Replace	TM-9
Worn or broken hammer trigger notch or worn or broken hammer disconnecter notch	Replace hammer	TM-9
Worn or broken trigger nose	Replace trigger	TM-9
Worn trigger or hammer pin hole	Gage trigger and hammer pin holes	TM-9

## Fires with selector lever on safe

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Solution</b>	<b>Source</b>
Defective selector lever	Replace	TM-9
Worn or broken trigger – rear portion	Replace	TM-9

## Bolt fails to lock to rear after firing last round

Problem	Solution	Source
Defective magazine	Replace magazine. Destroy damaged magazine.	LEAC
Broken bolt catch	Replace	LEAC
Missing bolt catch plunger	Replace/install bolt catch plunger	LEAC
Broken or worn bolt catch spring	Replace spring	LEAC
Restricted movement of bolt catch	Disassemble and clean	TM-9



# Excessive Pressure

Problem	Solution	Source
Defective ammunition	Use new US factory made commercial or mil spec brass cased ammunition. Check for damaged case	LEAC
Improper gas port – too large	Replace barrel	LEAC
Short or excessive headspace	<p>Option 1. New bolt. Check headspace with new bolt to see if it cures headspace issue.</p> <p>Option 2. Replace barrel. Check headspace to verify.</p>	LEAC











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