Congratulations on your purchase of a Shooters Arms Model X9 Pistol. With proper care and handling it will give you long, reliable service.

We specifically disclaim any responsibility for damage or injury whatsoever, incurring as a result of the use of faulty, non-standard or remanufactured ammunition, any modifications or changes made to the firearm; improper use or unsafe handling of the weapon. FIREARMS SAFETY IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SHOOTER. ALWAYS TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS IF THEY WERE LOADED.

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www.centuryarms.com
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IMPORTANT! READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS IN THIS BOOKLET BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM.
IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGE

Children are attracted to, and can operate firearms which can cause severe injuries or death. Prevent child access by always keeping guns locked away and unloaded when not in use. If you keep a loaded firearm where a child obtains and improperly uses it, you may be fined or sent to prison.

Firearm Safety Depends on You!

A gun is only as safe as the person operating it. You can never be overly careful when handling a firearm. Carelessness is often the cause of shooting accidents, such as failing to keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, not being sure of your target and what is behind it, failing to engage the safety properly, leaving ammunition in the chamber or using improper loads. Since a bullet can never be called back once fired, such errors in gun handling can result in the loss of life, severe injury or property damage. It is thus crucial for your safety and the safety of those around you that you learn the principles of safe gun handling and storage before you begin to use your new firearm. Be a safe shooter - please read this instruction book thoroughly even if this is not your first firearm purchase as not all firearms are the same. The first step in being a safe shooter is to learn the rules for the safe operation and handling of firearms. There is nothing more important in gun handling than safety.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FIREARM SAFETY

The Ten Commandments of Firearm Safety must be etched into your memory before you begin to handle firearms. These rules are intended to be followed by all persons handling firearms in the field, on the range, or at home. Please read, review and understand these rules before you begin to use or even take your new firearm out of its box. Remember, firearms safety depends on you!

Commandment #1

Always Keep the Muzzle Pointed in a Safe Direction.

This is the most basic and most important safety rule. A safe direction is one in which an accidental discharge will not cause injury to yourself, to others or property damage. This is particularly important when loading or unloading your firearm. Never point your gun at anything you do not intend to shoot. Treat every gun as if it were loaded at all times.

Commandment #2

Firearms Should Be Unloaded When Not Actually in Use.

Firearms should only be loaded when you are in the field or on the target range or shooting area, ready to shoot. When not in use, firearms and ammunition should be secured in a safe place, separate from each other. Remember to unload your firearm completely, so that there is no ammunition in the chamber or magazine. Before handling this or any firearm, or handing it to someone else, visually check the chamber, receiver and magazine to ensure they do not contain ammunition. Always keep the gun's action open when not in use. Never assume a gun is unloaded - even if you were the last person to use it. Never cross a fence, climb a tree, wade through a stream, or perform any awkward movement with a loaded gun. When in doubt, unload your gun!

Never pull or push a loaded firearm toward yourself or another person. And never carry a loaded gun in a scabbard, a holster not being worn, or a gun case. Common sense prevails in gun safety!

Alcohol, Drugs and Guns don’t mix. Make no mistake about it! Never handle firearms after consuming alcohol or taking drugs which can affect your judgment.
Commandment #3
Don’t Completely Rely on Your Gun’s Safety.
Treat every gun as though it could fire at any time, even if you are not applying pressure to the trigger. The “safety” on a firearm is a mechanical device which, like any such device, can become inoperable at the worst possible time and fail to function. By mistake, you may think the safety is “on” when it actually is not. Or you may think your gun is unloaded when there is actually a round of ammunition in it. The safety serves as a supplement to proper gun handling but cannot serve as a substitute for common sense. Never handle a gun carelessly and assume that the gun won’t fire, just because “the safety is on.” Never touch the firearm’s trigger until you are ready to shoot. Keep your fingers away from the trigger when loading or unloading. Never pull the trigger when the safety is engaged or when the safety is positioned between the “safe” and “fire” positions. Never place your finger on the trigger unless you intend to fire.

Commandment #4
Be Sure of Your Target - And What Is Beyond It!
Once fired, a bullet (or shot charge) can never be called back, so before you shoot know where the bullet is going and what it will strike. Be certain your shot will not injure someone or strike something beyond the target. Never fire in the direction of noise, a movement, or at any object you cannot positively identify. Be aware that a .22 Short bullet can travel over 1-1/4 miles. A centerfire cartridge, such as the .30-06, can send its bullet over 3-miles. Shotgun pellets can travel 500-yards and a shotgun slug has a range of over a half-mile. Make sure your shot has a backstop such as a hillside. Keep in mind how far the bullet will travel if it misses your intended target.

Commandment #5
Use the Correct Ammunition.
Every firearm is designed to use a certain caliber or gauge of ammunition. It is important that you use the correct ammunition for your firearm. Information on the correct ammunition to use with your firearm appears in the firearm’s instruction manual and the manufacturer’s markings on the firearm itself. Use of the wrong ammunition or improperly reloaded ammunition can result in the destruction of the firearm, serious personal injury and/or death.

Form the habit of examining every round of ammunition before you put it into your gun to ensure it is of the proper gauge or caliber and that it is in good condition.

Commandment #6
If Your Gun Fails to Fire When the Trigger Is Pulled, Handle With Care.
If a cartridge or shell does not fire when the trigger is pulled, follow Commandment #1 and keep the firearm’s muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Keeping the muzzle pointed away from your face and anything you do not intend to shoot, wait at least 20-seconds (to ensure that the ammunition is not delayed in firing) before carefully opening the action, unloading the firearm and disposing of the ammunition safely.

Commandment #7
Always Wear Eye & Ear Protection When Shooting.
Exposure to shooting noise can permanently damage hearing and flying debris, such as powder residue and ejected cartridge cases can injure your eyes. Thus, it is only common sense to wear both eye protection (such as shooting glasses) and ear protection (such as a sound muffling headset) whenever shooting. Also, wear eye protection when cleaning or disassembling your gun to ensure that cleaning solvent and tensioned parts (such as springs), do not come into contact with your eyes.
Commandment #8

Be Sure the Barrel Is Clear of Obstructions Before Shooting.

Discharging a firearm with an obstruction in the barrel can result in personal injury, property damage or death. Before you load your firearm, check the chamber and magazine to ascertain that no ammunition is inside. Also, check the inside of the barrel (called the "bore") to ensure it is free of obstructions. Even a small amount of mud, snow or excess lubricating oil or grease in the bore can cause excessive pressures resulting in a bulged or burst barrel which can injure or kill the shooter and bystanders. It's a good idea to make a habit of cleaning the bore and checking for obstructions with a cleaning rod just before each shooting session. If the noise or recoil experienced upon firing seems low or weak, or something doesn’t feel “right”, cease firing immediately and check to make sure that there is no obstruction in the barrel. Placing an undersized shell or cartridge into a gun (such as a 20-gauge shell in a shotgun chambered for 12-gauge ammunition) can result in the smaller round of ammunition falling into the barrel and acting as an obstruction. When a round is subsequently fired, the barrel may burst causing injury to the shooter and bystanders. For reference, re-read Commandment #5.

Commandment #9

Do Not Alter or Modify Your Gun and Have It Serviced Regularly.

Firearms are complex mechanisms that are designed to function properly in their original condition. Any alterations or changes made to a firearm after its manufacture can make the gun unsafe and will void its warranty. Do not jeopardize your safety or the safety of others by altering the trigger, mechanical safety or other mechanisms of your firearm. You should have your firearm periodically checked for proper functioning and serviced by a qualified gunsmith.

Commandment #10

Learn the Mechanical and Handling Characteristics of Your Firearm.

Not all firearms operate the same way. The method of carrying, handling and operating firearms varies with the mechanical characteristics of each gun. Thus, you should never handle any firearm until you become familiar with the safe handling, loading, unloading and carrying procedures for that particular firearm, as well as the rules for safe gun handling in general.

Basics of Safe Gun Handling

1. Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
2. Firearms should be unloaded when not actually in use.
3. Don’t totally rely on your gun’s safety.
4. Be sure of your target and what’s beyond it.
5. Use the correct ammunition for your firearm.
6. If your gun fails to fire when the trigger is pulled, handle with care.
7. Always wear eye and ear protection when shooting.
8. Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions before shooting.
9. Don’t alter or modify your firearm and have your firearm(s) serviced regularly.
10. Learn the mechanics and handling characteristics of the firearm you are using.

Safe gun handling depends on you! A safe shooter is a knowledgeable shooter.

There is one other rule that must be strictly observed when handling firearms - Shoot Sober! Alcohol, certain kinds of drugs and firearms don’t mix. Safe firearms handling requires alertness and concentration on one’s actions. You cannot handle a firearm safely after consuming alcohol. Never consume anything that can impair your judgement or physical coordination when handling a firearm.
The picture above shows the main operational parts of the Shooters Arms X9 Pistol. Study of this picture will aid you in understanding the instructions in this booklet.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!** The Shooters Arms X9, 9mm pistol should be carefully inspected before use, and the owner should thoroughly study the instructions in this booklet to ensure safe operation of this fine product.

*Congratulations on your purchase of a Shooters Arms X9 Pistol. With proper care and handling it will give you long, reliable service. The X9 is a semi-automatic pistol chambered for the 9mm Parabellum cartridge.*

**Model X9 Pistol Background** - Your new X9 pistol, while designed for sporting use, has as its design inspiration, the famous MAC/Ingram M10 military machine pistols made for the U.S. military. While your new X9 fires in the semi-automatic mode, it shares the M10’s attributes of characteristics of being light in weight, durable construction, compact size and ease of use.

**Operational Characteristics:**
The X9 pistol is a highly-compact semi-automatic firearm with a detachable box magazine. It is composed of the following major components: barrel, receiver, bolt, frame, firing mechanism and magazine. Its ease-of-use is complemented by its straight forward disassembly procedure for cleaning and maintenance. It is equipped with a non-adjustable rear sight, and a post front sight. Attachment points for sling swivels are located on the protective wings of the front and rear sights. The bolt assembly is fitted with a cocking handle. Its design, while reminiscent of the short, handy firearms used by tank crews, gun and mortar crews, tactical police applications, etc., also makes it ideal for use by campers and hunters needing a short, handy pistol for carry in a backpack into the field, and other users needing a compact firearm.

**Specifications:**
Caliber: 9mm Parabellum  Type of Firearm: Semi-Automatic Pistol
Magazine Capacity: 14-rounds  Magazine Type: Double column
Overall Length: 8-1/2 inches  Overall Height (with magazine): 7-inches
Barrel length: 3-3/4 inches
Weight (without magazine): 2-3/4 pounds
Sights: Front - fixed post, Rear: Peep aperture, non-adjustable.
Finish: Black
Sling Attachment Points at Front and Rear Sights
To load the pistol:

WARNING! Before loading, make sure the inside of the barrel is free of dirt or other obstructions.

WARNING! Always check each cartridge to ensure it is of the correct caliber before loading the firearm.

WARNING! Keep your fingers away from the trigger while loading.

WARNING! Keep muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

1. Place the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position. The safety lever is in the “ON” position when it is moved fully to its rear-most position where it is aligned with the stamped word “SAFE” on the receiver (designating the “SAFE” position). You should hear an audible “click” when it is correctly in place. (See Illustration #2.)

NOTE: When the safety lever is in its forward position (aligned with the stamped word “FIRE” on the receiver), it is in the ready mode to fire. Pulling the trigger when the safety lever is in this lower position will result in the pistol firing a round (if there is ammunition in the chamber). To avoid serious injury, death or causing property damage, make sure you know the “SAFE” and “FIRE” positions of the safety lever before attempting to load your pistol!

Loading the Magazine

2. Press the magazine release lever forward to allow you to pull out and remove the magazine from the receiver (see illustration #3).

3. Load the magazine with up to 14-rounds of 9mm ammunition by pressing the cartridges one-at-a-time into the spring-loaded magazine’s feed lips - rear of the cartridge entering the magazine first. Ensure that the base of each cartridge is against the rear of the magazine.

4. Install the magazine back into the pistol by inserting it straight into the magazine well (with the cartridges facing forward) all the way until it locks into place and an audible click is heard. Pull on the magazine slightly to ensure it is secure locked into position.

Readying to Fire

5. Keeping the muzzle pointed in a safe direction, grasp the pistol by its grip with one hand and while keeping the index finger outside the trigger guard, pull back on the cocking handle moving it fully to the rear with the other hand and then release it, allowing the bolt to travel forward under its own power. This action will strip a round of ammunition from the magazine and insert it into the chamber, thereby charging the pistol. (See Illustration #4.)

WARNING! The pistol is now loaded and will fire if the safety lever is moved rearward to the “OFF” or “FIRE” position and the trigger is pulled! Handle with extreme caution and keep the muzzle (the end of the barrel) pointed in a safe direction!

To Fire the Pistol:

1. Keeping the 10 Commandments of Shooting Safety in mind, aim the pistol downrange at the target.

2. Release the safety lever by moving it fully forward until it is aligned with the stamped word “FIRE” on the receiver.

3. Place the trigger finger inside the trigger guard and on the trigger.

4. After aligning the sights on the target, slowly press the trigger back to fire the first round.

5. Being a semi-automatic, after the first round is fired, the pistol’s action (its moving parts) will cycle and as the bolt moves rearward, the extractor will pull the empty cartridge case from the chamber and eject it from the pistol.

Make sure there are no bystanders in close proximity on either side of the pistol who could be hit and injured by the ejected cartridge casing.

6. Note: If the trigger is again pressed, the pistol will fire! Keep the pistol pointed in a safe direction.

7. Firing may be continued in this manner until the magazine is empty.

8. When firing is finished, place the safety lever in its “ON” or “SAFE” position by pressing it fully-rearward. (See Illustration #2.)

9. Remove the magazine from the pistol. (See Illustration #3.)

10. Check the pistol’s chamber to ensure it does not contain a round of ammunition by pulling back the bolt handle and visually checking to ensure no ammunition is in the pistol’s chamber. (see Illustration #4.)
Unloading the Pistol:
**WARNING!** Keep muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
1. Place the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position by moving it to its fully rearward position aligned with the word “SAFE” stamped on the receiver. You should hear an audible “click” when it is in place. This position prevents trigger movement. (See Illustration #2.)
2. Remove the magazine by pressing forward on the magazine catch lever while pulling the magazine out of the pistol. (See Illustration #3.)
3. Pull the operating handle fully back to its rear-most position and look into the open action to ensure there is no remaining cartridge in the barrel chamber. (See Illustration #4.)
4. When storing the pistol, it is a good idea to keep the safety lever in the “ON” or “SAFE” position. Store the magazine and ammunition in a separate place from the pistol.

Cleaning the Pistol:
**WARNING!** You should wear eye protection, such as shooting glasses or goggles when cleaning your firearm to protect your eyes from tensioned parts, such as springs, that may become dislodged during disassembly.
**WARNING!** Before beginning the cleaning process, check to ensure the pistol is unloaded. To do so, follow the instructions above on this page. Firearms can inflict death or serious injury. You can never be ‘too safe’. Follow this procedure each time you clean your pistol to ensure safety.

Note: Disassembly instructions begin on page 8 of this manual.

TO CLEAN THE BARREL
1. Obtain a quality gun cleaning kit and thoroughly review its provided instructions.
2. To clean the barrel, select the correct caliber cleaning brush and attach it to a cleaning rod.
3. Dampen the brush with gun cleaning solvent and then push the brush through the barrel several times.
4. Remove the brush and attach a correctly-sized cloth cleaning patch to the cleaning rod and push it through the barrel several times to remove loosened fouling.
5. Repeat this process with the brush and cleaning patches until a final patch comes out clean after swabbing the bore.
6. Repeat the procedure just followed to clean the bolt, and other action parts (swab with brush followed by cloth cleaning patches).
7. Remove all shooting residue from the outside of the pistol by wiping outside surfaces with a piece of soft cloth dabbed in solvent.
8. Wipe down the outside surfaces with a dry cloth. Finally, wipe down all outside surfaces with a soft cloth dipped in a good quality metal preservative oil.

TO CLEAN THE BOLT ASSEMBLY & RECEIVER GROUP
1. Remove all powder residue with a solvent soaked patch. Make sure the bolt face is completely free of carbon residue.
2. Wipe dry and apply a light coat of oil.

**WARNING!** There may be sharp edges on parts of the firearm. Keep fingers protected, such as by wearing a pair of protective gloves when cleaning.
**WARNING!** Excessive use of cleaning solvents or lubricants can adversely affect the functioning of your pistol. Always wipe dry the inside of the barrel before firing and ensure it is free of obstructions.
**WARNING!** This firearm should be checked periodically for worn or damaged parts by a competent gunsmith. This will help ensure its safe functioning and a long service life.

**WARNING!** Some cleaning solvents produce hazardous vapors. Read and follow the solvent manufacturer’s cautions found on the product’s package.
**WARNING!** Handling ammunition and cleaning firearms results in exposure to lead and other substances that could pose health risks. Always wash your hands and face after firing your pistol or after cleaning it.
X9 Pistol Disassembly

To disassemble the pistol for cleaning and maintenance, first ensure the pistol is unloaded by removing the magazine and then pulling back the operating handle and visually checking the chamber to ensure there is no round of ammunition present. Then follow the steps below.

WARNING! You should wear eye protection, such as shooting glasses or goggles when disassembling and re-assembling your pistol to protect your eyes from tensioned parts, such as springs, that could become dislodged during the following procedures.

**STEP 1:** Using a metal punch, push in on the barrel housing pin located on the left side of the pistol.

**STEP 2:** Pull out the barrel housing pin from the pistol’s right side.

**STEP 3:** Using a punch, push in on the barrel housing bushing situated on the right side of the pistol.

**STEP 4:** Pull out the barrel housing bushing from the left side of the pistol.

**STEP 5:** While firmly holding the pistol’s grip with one hand, pull the upper receiver upward with the other hand.
X9 Pistol Disassembly

If your pistol becomes excessively fouled or requires repair and/or maintenance follow the steps below for further disassembly.

**STEP 6**: Pull out the buffer assembly from the rear of the upper receiver.

**STEP 7**: Position the bolt handle in the rear-most section of the bolt handle slot (in alignment with the circular cut-out); then twist and pull upward to remove the bolt handle.

**STEP 8**: Tilt the upper receiver to allow the bolt to slide out from the rear of the upper receiver.

**STEP 9**: If it is necessary to remove the trigger assembly, push the c-lock washer of the trigger pin (situated on the left side of the pistol) with a metal punch to remove it.

No further disassembly is needed for routine cleaning.
STEP 10: Pull out the trigger pin on the right side of the pistol. The trigger assembly may now be removed.

STEP 11: If it becomes necessary to remove the hammer assembly, use a metal punch to remove the c-lock washer (situated on the left side of the pistol) of the hammer pin.

STEP 12: Using a thin metal punch, pull out the hammer pin on the right side of the pistol. The hammer assembly may now be removed.

To reassemble the pistol, follow the disassembly steps in reverse order.

When putting your pistol away for storage, it should be thoroughly cleaned and lightly lubricated. Outside surfaces should be wiped with a light coat of good quality gun oil. CHECK TO ENSURE YOUR FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE PUTTING IT AWAY FOR STORAGE BY VISUALLY EXAMINING BOTH ITS CHAMBER AND MAGAZINE. Store the firearm in a separate location from its ammunition. When the firearm is to be reused, remove all excess lubrication before firing. Make certain that the bore (inside of barrel) is dry and free of obstructions before firing.

Note: The use of reloaded, re-manufactured, hand-loaded, or other non-standard ammunition may result in damage to the pistol and injury to the shooter and/or bystanders. The manufacturer and importer cannot accept responsibility for malfunctions resulting from the use of non-standard, defective ammunition.

Magazine Dis-Assembly
Should the pistol’s magazine become fouled with shooting residue, it will need to be dis-assembled and cleaned. To do so, follow the instructions below:

WARNING! The X9 pistol’s magazine contains a spring which is kept under great tension. You should wear eye protection, such as shooting glasses or goggles when disassembling and reassembling your pistol’s magazine to protect your eyes from the mainspring which could become dislodged during the following procedures.

Using a metal punch, depress the stud in the magazine’s floor plate while sliding the floor plate from the magazine body. Keep a finger over the open magazine’s base to prevent the mainspring (which is under tension) from flying out. Keeping the magazine’s base pointed in a safe direction, slowly allow the main spring to release from the magazine body by covering it with and catching it in your other hand. Thoroughly clean and lightly oil all parts. Reassemble in reverse order of disassembly.
Operating Principle: Knowledge of how your X9 pistol operates will make you a better shooter and better equip you to resolve malfunctions.

As the bolt moves to the rearward position it compresses the recoil spring and the sear engages the bolt’s sear notch. When the trigger is pressed, the sear releases the bolt, which is driven forward by the recoil spring. As the bolt moves forward it strips a round of ammunition from the magazine and pushes it into the chamber. The bolt continues its forward movement until the firing pin makes contact with the chambered cartridge’s primer, causing ignition. As the bullet passes through the barrel, the built-up chamber pressure forces the bolt to the rear. At the same time, the extractor pulls the empty cartridge case along with the bolt and ejects it from the open chamber. The bolt’s rearward movement is stopped when it contacts the buffer plate. When the bolt starts forward, driven by pressure from the recoil spring, it strips a round from the magazine and pushes it into the chamber. The pistol is now ready to fire another round (when the trigger is pulled), thus starting the operating/firing cycle once again.

Malfunctions & Their Causes

Malfunctions are usually the result of worn parts, improper care of the firearm, or the use of inappropriate ammunition. Have your pistol checked regularly for worn parts by a qualified gunsmith. Make sure you follow the recommended cleaning and maintenance procedures outlined in this booklet. Make sure you are using ammunition of the correct caliber and that the ammunition you are using is in good condition. Proper care of your firearm will help to ensure malfunctions do not occur.

1. Failure to feed. - The top cartridge in the magazine is not positioned properly where it is up and in front of the bolt. The cause of this malfunction is often a dirty chamber, a dirty or dented magazine, a worn magazine spring or a broken magazine catch. Please clean your firearm regularly and make sure you do not drop your magazine onto hard surfaces which could damage it. Have it serviced regularly by a qualified gunsmith.

2. Failure to Chamber a Round. - The top cartridge from the magazine was not properly seated in the chamber. Possible causes are: an accumulation of shooting residue in the chamber; not fully seating ammunition in the magazine when loading; the use of corroded, reloaded or other non-industry specification ammunition; weak recoil springs, or, a failure to properly seat the loaded magazine into the magazine well.

3. Failure to Fire - The cartridge is chambered but does not fire when struck by the firing pin. This malfunction can be caused by the use of defective ammunition, a broken or defective firing pin or a weak recoil spring. Use only ammunition in good condition. Have your firearm regularly serviced by a qualified gunsmith.

4. Failure to Extract or Eject - The empty cartridge case is not fully removed from the chamber and ejected from the pistol after firing. Possible causes are a broken extractor or ejector. Have your pistol regularly checked by a qualified gunsmith.

5. Failure to Cock - The firing mechanism does not cock after the bolt is retracted or if, during firing, the bolt does not move to the rear far enough to clear the top cartridge in the magazine and the pistol fails to cock. Possible causes are a worn sear, a worn sear notch, bent guide rods or the use of under-powered ammunition. Have your firearm checked by a qualified gunsmith. Use only industry standard ammunition.

The two most common malfunctions are:

- Failure to feed (usually caused by a defective magazine).
- Failure to fire - usually caused by defective ammunition.

These two common malfunctions can readily be avoided by taking care of your pistol and having it regularly serviced by a qualified gunsmith and using only ammunition in good condition and of the correct caliber.
Shooters Arms X9 Pistol, Cal. 9mm

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