Important operating instructions for:

BROWNING BAR MK 3 RIFLES

If you have any questions about your new firearm, this owner’s manual or other Browning products, contact:

Browning Customer Service
One Browning Place
Morgan, UT 84050-9326
Phone: (800) 333-3288
browning.com

Please use the space below to record information about your new firearm.

Model ________________________________________________________________

Serial Number _________________________________________________________

Purchased From _______________________________________________________

Date of Purchase ______________________________________________________

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING A BROWNING BAR MK 3.

The Browning BAR MK 3 rifle incorporates the very finest in materials and craftsmanship. From the sleek receiver and stock design, to the reliable working mechanism you can see and feel traditional craftsmanship. These firearms are designed with proven features for excellent performance and accuracy.

With a reasonable amount of care, your BAR MK 3 rifle is designed to give you many years of dependable, enjoyable service.
Please read and understand all of the cautions, warnings, notices, proper handling procedures and instructions outlined in this owner’s manual before using your new firearm.

1 Always keep the muzzle of your firearm pointed in a safe direction even though you are certain it is unloaded. Never point any firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot. Be extremely alert and aware of all persons and property within the range of your ammunition.

2 Never rely totally on your firearm’s mechanical “safety” device. Like any mechanical device, a “safety” can sometimes fail; it can be jarred or inadvertently manipulated into an unsafe condition.

The word “safety” describes a firearm’s trigger block mechanism, sear block mechanism, hammer block mechanism or firing pin block mechanism. Mechanical “safeties” are designed to place your firearm in a safer status, and no guarantee can be made that the firearm will not fire even if the “safety” is in the on safe position. Mechanical “safeties” merely aid safe gun handling and are no excuse for pointing your firearm’s muzzle in an unsafe direction. See “Operation of the Safety” on pages 11-12 for instructions on the operation of this firearm’s “safety.”

Remember, safe gun handling does not stop with your firearm’s mechanical “safety” devices, it starts there. Always treat this firearm with the respect due a loaded, ready-to-fire firearm.

Some firearms do not have a mechanical “safety.” Many target firearms, lever-action firearms and pistols do not have manual “safety” mechanisms. Therefore it is critical to read and understand the owner’s manual for every firearm which explains the safe operation of the firearm.

While it is a good idea to “test” your firearm’s mechanical “safety” periodically for proper function, never test the “safety” while your firearm is loaded or pointed in an unsafe direction.

STATE WARNING

According to state law, California requires that firearm manufacturers, distributors and retailers include conspicuous, specific warnings with firearms sold in that state.

WARNING

“Children are attracted to and can operate firearms that 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.”

ADVERTENCIA

“A los niños los atraen las armas de fuego y las pueden hacer funcionar. Ellos pueden causarse lesiones graves y la muerte. Evite que los niños tengan acceso a las armas de fuego guardándolas siempre con llave y descargadas cuando no las esté utilizando. Si usted tiene un arma de fuego cargada en un lugar en que un niño tiene acceso a ella y la usa indebidamente, le pueden dar una multa o enviarlo a la carcel.”

WARNING: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FIREARMS SAFETY

Failure to follow any of the following warnings could result in serious injury or death.

As a gun owner, you accept a set of demanding responsibilities. How seriously you take these responsibilities can be the difference between life and death.

There is no excuse for careless or abusive handling of any firearm. At all times handle this firearm and all other firearms with intense respect for their power and potential danger.
3 \textbf{WHENEVER YOU HANDLE ANY FIREARM, OR HAND IT TO SOMEONE, ALWAYS OPEN THE ACTION IMMEDIATELY AND VISUALLY CHECK THE FIREARM’S CHAMBER TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT THE FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED.}

Make certain the firearm does not inadvertently contain any ammunition. Remember, merely removing the magazine does not mean the chamber is unloaded. Always keep the chamber empty and the “safety” in the on safe position unless shooting is imminent.

4 \textbf{ALWAYS WEAR EAR AND EYE PROTECTION WHEN SHOOTING.}

Unprotected, repeated exposure to gunfire can cause hearing damage. Wear hearing protection (shooting ear plugs or muffs) to guard against such damage.

Wear shooting glasses to protect your eyes from flying particles. Allow proper distance (eye relief) between a scope and your eye when firing a scoped rifle, shotgun or pistol. Do not use unorthodox shooting methods that could cause the rearward travel of the slide or bolt of a firearm to contact your eyes, face or hands. Always keep a safe distance between the muzzle of your firearm and any persons nearby, as muzzle blast, debris and ejecting cartridges could inflict serious injury.

Always wear eye protection when disassembling and cleaning any firearm to prevent the possibility of springs, spring-tensioned parts, solvents or other agents from contacting your eyes.

5 \textbf{KEEP ALL FIREARMS UNLOADED DURING TRANSPORT, EVEN WHEN STORED IN A HOLSTER, GUN CASE, SCABBARD OR OTHER CONTAINER.}

6 \textbf{DROPPING OR JARRING A LOADED FIREARM CAN CAUSE ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE.}

This can occur even with the “safety” in the on safe position. Be extremely careful while hunting or during any shooting activity to avoid dropping any firearm.

7 \textbf{HUNTING FROM ELEVATED SURFACES SUCH AS TREESTANDS IS DANGEROUS.}

Doing so may increase the risk of mishandling a firearm. The following rules should always be observed by you and those you hunt with. Always make certain that the stand being used is safe and stable. Always make certain that your firearm is unloaded when it is being taken up and down from the stand. Always make certain that your firearm is not dropped from the stand, or dropped while it is being taken up or down from the stand. Remember, a loaded firearm may discharge when dropped, even with the “safety” in the on safe position.

8 \textbf{STORE YOUR FIREARM AND AMMUNITION SEPARATELY, WELL BEYOND THE REACH OF CHILDREN.}

Take prudent safeguards to ensure your firearm does not become available to untrained, inexperienced or unwelcome hands. Store all firearms in secure, locked cases or a gun safe. Keep your firearm unloaded when not in use.

9 \textbf{BEWARE OF BARREL OBSTRUCTIONS.}

Mud, snow and an infinite variety of other objects may inadvertently lodge in a barrel bore. It only takes a small obstruction to cause dangerously increased pressures that can damage your firearm and cause serious injury to yourself and others.

\textbf{BEFORE CHECKING FOR A BARREL OBSTRUCTION, BE CERTAIN YOUR FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED, THERE IS NOT A LIVE CARTRIDGE IN THE CHAMBER AND THE “SAFETY” IS IN THE ON SAFE POSITION.}

After assuring yourself that the firearm is completely unloaded, open the breech or action and look through the barrel to be sure it is clear of obstructions. If an obstruction is seen, no matter how small it may be, clean the bore with a cleaning rod and patch as described on pages 25-28 of this owner’s manual.
10 BE ALERT TO THE SIGNS OF AMMUNITION MALFUNCTION. IF YOU DETECT AN OFF SOUND OR LIGHT RECOIL WHEN A CARTRIDGE IS FIRED, DO NOT LOAD ANOTHER CARTRIDGE INTO THE CHAMBER. If your firearm fails to fire, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction for a minimum of 30 seconds. Rotate the ejection area of the firearm away from you, carefully open the action and remove the cartridge from the chamber. If the primer is indented, the defective cartridge should be disposed of in a way that cannot cause harm. If the primer is not indented, your firearm should be examined by a qualified gunsmith and the cause of the malfunction corrected before further use. Glance down the barrel to make sure that no obstructions remain in the barrel. Completely clear the barrel before loading and firing again. Failure to follow these instructions can cause extensive damage to your firearm and possible serious injury to yourself and others.

11 NEVER INSERT A CARTRIDGE OF THE INCORRECT CALIBER INTO ANY FIREARM. The caliber of your firearm is marked on the barrel. Store all cartridges of different calibers in completely separate and well-marked containers. Never store cartridges of mixed calibers in a common container or in your pockets. See page 13 for more information on the correct ammunition for your firearm.

12 EXAMINE EVERY CARTRIDGE YOU PUT IN YOUR FIREARM. We assume no responsibility for the use of unsafe or improper firearm and ammunition combinations or damage or injury caused by damaged ammunition. It is your responsibility to read and heed all warnings in this owner’s manual and on ammunition boxes. See page 13 for more information on the correct ammunition for your firearm.

13 USE ONLY SAAMI APPROVED AMMUNITION. The barrel and action of this firearm have been made with substantial safety margins beyond the pressures developed by established American commercial loads. Nevertheless, we can assume no liability for incidents which occur through the use of cartridges of nonstandard dimensions or which develop pressures in excess of commercially available ammunition which has been loaded in accordance with standards established by the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers’ Institute (SAAMI).

14 MAKE SURE OF ADEQUATE VENTILATION IN THE AREA THAT YOU DISCHARGE A FIREARM. LEAD EXPOSURE CAN OCCUR FROM DISCHARGING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, CLEANING FIREARMS OR HANDLING AMMUNITION. Lead is a substance that has been known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm and other serious injury. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure to ammunition or after cleaning a firearm.

15 DO NOT SNAP THE FIRING PIN ON AN EMPTY CHAMBER; THE CHAMBER MAY NOT BE EMPTY! Treat every firearm with the respect due a loaded firearm, even though you are certain the firearm is unloaded.

16 KEEP YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER WHILE LOADING AND UNLOADING UNTIL SHOOTING IS IMMINENT.

17 BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND BACKSTOP, PARTICULARLY DURING LOW LIGHT PERIODS. Know the range of your ammunition. Never shoot at water or hard objects.

18 ALWAYS UNLOAD YOUR FIREARM’S CHAMBER BEFORE CROSSING A FENCE, CLIMBING A TREE, JUMPING A DITCH OR NEGOTIATING OTHER OBSTACLES. Never place your firearm on or against a fence, tree, car or other similar object.

19 BE DEFENSIVE AND ON GUARD AGAINST UNSAFE GUN HANDLING AROUND YOU AND OTHERS. Don’t be timid when it comes to firearm safety. If you observe other shooters violating any of these safety precautions, politely suggest safer handling practices.
20 BE CERTAIN YOUR FIREARM IS UNLOADED BEFORE CLEANING.
Because so many firearm accidents occur when a firearm is being cleaned, special and extreme care should be taken to be sure your firearm is unloaded before disassembly, cleaning and reassembly. Keep ammunition away from the cleaning location. Never test the mechanical function of any firearm with live ammunition.

21 TEACH AND SUPERVISE FIREARMS SAFETY TO ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY, ESPECIALLY TO CHILDREN AND NON-SHOOTERS.
Closely supervise newcomers to the shooting sports. Encourage enrollment in hunting and shooting safety courses.

22 NEVER DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR TAKE ANY TYPE OF DRUGS BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING.
Your vision, motor skills and judgment could be dangerously impaired, making your gun handling unsafe to you and to others.

23 READ AND HEED ALL WARNINGS IN THIS OWNER’S MANUAL, ON AMMUNITION BOXES AND WITH ALL ACCESSORIES THAT YOU INSTALL ON YOUR FIREARM.
It is your responsibility to secure the most up-to-date information on the safe handling procedures of your Browning firearm. We assume no liability for incidents which occur when unsafe or improper firearm accessories or ammunition combinations are used.

24 PRACTICE PERIODIC MAINTENANCE, AVOID UNAUTHORIZED SERVICING.
Your firearm is a mechanical device which will not last forever, and as such, is subject to wear and requires periodic inspection, adjustment and service. Browning firearms should be serviced by a Browning Recommended Service Center or by our Service Department in Arnold, Missouri. We assume no responsibility for injuries suffered or caused by unauthorized servicing, alterations or modifications of Browning firearms.

25 WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REFUSE SERVICE ON FIREARMS THAT HAVE BEEN ALTERED, ADDED TO OR SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED.
Removal of metal from the barrel, or modifications of the firing mechanism and/or operating parts, may lead to a refusal of service on such firearms. We will charge you for parts and labor to return the firearm to original specifications.

DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, ALTER THE TRIGGER, SAFETY OR OTHER PARTS OF THE FIRING MECHANISM OF THIS OR ANY OTHER FIREARM. FAILURE TO OBEY THIS WARNING MAY RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH TO YOURSELF OR OTHERS.

BE CAREFUL!

GENERAL DESCRIPTION AND OPERATION
The Browning BAR MK 3 is a gas-operated, autoloading rifle. With cartridges in the magazine and the chamber and the “safety” in the off safe position, the rifle will fire a single cartridge with each successive pull of the trigger until the magazine and chamber are empty. When the last cartridge has been fired, the bolt locks in its rearward, open position. This facilitates speedy, convenient reloading.
NOMENCLATURE

In conventional firearm terminology the position and movement of firearm parts are described as they occur with the firearm horizontal and in the normal firing position: i.e., the muzzle is forward or in front; the buttstock is rearward or to the rear; the trigger is downward or underneath; the sight is upward or on top. For general parts nomenclature, refer to Figure 1 on page 9.

SERIAL NUMBER

The serial number is located on the left side of the receiver, above the trigger guard. Record this number in the space provided at the front of this owner’s manual for future reference.

INITIAL CLEANING

NOTICE! PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BEFORE CLEANING YOUR FIREARM.

CLEANING PARTS WITH SPECIAL FINISHES

Be especially careful when cleaning firearms with camouflage, Dura-Touch® Armor Coating and other special finishes. Always prevent these surfaces from coming in contact with cleaning solvents, barrel scrubbers and other strong chemicals. It is preferable to clean these surfaces with a lightweight gun oil containing no solvents, or with a damp cloth and mild dish soap (be sure to keep water out of the action). When cleaning your firearm’s bore and action, protect the external finishes from any contact with chemicals used. Also, avoid any contact between external finishes and other strong chemicals like those found in DEET-containing insect repellents, sunscreens, etc. Damage to camouflage, Dura-Touch and other finishes caused by chemicals is irreversible and not repairable.

WARNING

WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN CLEANING YOUR FIREARM TO PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY OF SOLVENTS OR OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.

CLEANING

Various exposed metal parts of your new firearm have been coated at the factory with a rust preventative compound. Before firing your rifle, clean the anti-rust compound from the inside of the barrel, receiver and the action/chamber areas. A high-quality lightweight gun oil is ideal for removing this compound, and for giving your new firearm its first lubrication. Clean the barrel using a cleaning rod and patch as explained under “Cleaning and Maintenance Suggestions” on pages 25-28.

OPERATION OF THE “SAFETY”

WARNING

ALWAYS KEEP THE “SAFETY” IN THE ON SAFE POSITION UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

The “safety” is located at the rear of the trigger guard. It is designed to prevent the trigger from being pulled when in the on safe position. In the off safe position, a red warning band is visible on the safety button on the left side of the trigger guard.

To place the firearm on safe, push the “safety” button to the right (Figure 2). To move the “safety” to the off safe or fire position, press
the safety button to the left. This exposes the red warning band on the “safety” button (Figure 3, page 11).

**WARNING**

**DO NOT DEPEND ON THE RED COLOR ALONE TO INDICATE YOUR FIREARM’S SAFETY STATUS. TIME, EXPOSURE TO THE ELEMENTS, AND THE ABRASIVE ACTION OF CLEANING AGENTS CAN ERASE IT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS WARNING COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**

The “safety” can be reversed from right- to left-handed by a qualified gunsmith. When installed, the left-handed “safety” will have the “safety” button’s red warning band on the right side of the trigger guard.

**NOTICE! IF YOU PURCHASED YOUR RIFLE USED, THE “SAFETY” MAY HAVE BEEN REVERSED FOR A LEFT-HANDED SHOOTER. INSPECT THE “SAFETY” FOR THE POSITIONING MENTIONED ABOVE, AND BECOME FAMILIAR WITH ITS OPERATION AND POSITION IN THE ON SAFE AND OFF SAFE MODES.**

**BOLT LOCK**

**WARNING**

**WHEN USING THE BOLT LOCK ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND KEEP YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER. UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT, ALWAYS REMOVE THE MAGAZINE FROM THE RIFLE BEFORE CLOSING THE BOLT TO PREVENT INADVERTENTLY LOADING A CARTRIDGE FROM THE MAGAZINE INTO THE CHAMBER. MAKE SURE YOUR FINGERS ARE SAFELY AWAY FROM THE EJECTION PORT AT ALL TIMES WHEN THE BOLT IS LOCKED OPEN AND WHEN THE BOLT IS RELEASED TO AVOID PINching THEM WHEN THE BOLT CLOSES. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY.**

The bolt lock is located on the right side of the receiver, just to the rear of the forearm (Figure 4, page 13). It automatically engages after the last cartridge in the magazine has been fired and locks the bolt to the rear most, open position.

The bolt lock can be used to lock the bolt in the rearward position when the magazine is removed. To lock the bolt in the open or rear position, pull the operating handle all the way to the rear and press upward on the bolt lock.

To release the bolt when no magazine is in the rifle and the bolt is locked rearward, pull the operating handle to the rear to disengage the bolt lock and release the handle. This allows the bolt to return to the forward position.

**AMMUNITION**

**WARNING**

**DO NOT USE AMMUNITION OTHER THAN WHAT IS INSCRIBED ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE BARREL. EXAMINE EVERY CARTRIDGE YOU PUT IN YOUR FIREARM.**

**DISCHARGING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, CLEANING FIREARMS OR HANDLING AMMUNITION MAY RESULT IN EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND OTHER SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS, REPRODUCTIVE HARM AND OTHER SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY. HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION AT ALL TIMES. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER HANDLING AMMUNITION.**

The barrel and action of this rifle have been made with substantial safety margins over the pressures developed by established American loads. However, we assume no responsibility for incidents which occur through the use of cartridges of nonstandard dimension or those developing pressures in excess of SAAMI (Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers’ Institute) established standards.

**MAGAZINE CAPACITY**

The BAR MK 3 utilizes a detachable box magazine attached to a hinged floorplate. The capacity of the magazine is four cartridges for standard calibers and three cartridges for magnum and WSM calibers.
Another cartridge may be carried in the chamber, providing a total rifle capacity of five cartridges for standard calibers and four cartridges for magnum and WSM calibers. Remember, total rifle capacity includes an additional cartridge which can be loaded in the chamber in addition to a full magazine.

**LOADING THE MAGAZINE**

**WARNING**

WHEN LOADING YOUR RIFLE ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, ALWAYS PLACE THE “SAFETY” IN THE ON SAFE POSITION AND KEEP YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

DO NOT CARRY YOUR RIFLE WITH A CARTRIDGE IN THE CHAMBER TO AVOID ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE. WHEN FIRING IS NO LONGER IMMINENT, MAKE SURE THE “SAFETY” IS IN THE ON SAFE POSITION AND UNLOAD THE CHAMBER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

It is both convenient and fast to load the magazine while it is attached to the floorplate. However, you may prefer to load the magazine after detaching it from the floorplate. Both methods will be described. Extra magazines may be carried loaded for rapid replacement of an empty magazine using this same procedure.

**LOADING THE MAGAZINE WHEN ATTACHED TO THE FLOORPLATE**

**WARNING**

DO NOT INSERT A LOADED MAGAZINE INTO THE RIFLE, NOR LOAD A CARTRIDGE INTO THE CHAMBER, UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT.

1 Make sure the “safety” is in the on safe position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2 Pull rearward on the magazine latch in front of the trigger guard and allow the hinged floorplate and magazine unit to swing downward (Figure 5, page 15).

3 Pull the bolt completely rearward and inspect the chamber to make sure it is empty. Return the bolt to the forward, closed position.

4 Lay a cartridge on top of the magazine follower and press the cartridge down with your thumb until it is retained in the magazine (Figure 6). Load subsequent cartridges into the magazine in the same manner.

**NOTICE!** THE BASE OF EACH CARTRIDGE MUST BE FLUSH WITH THE REAR OF THE MAGAZINE. IF THE NOSE OF A CARTRIDGE PROTRUDES BEYOND THE FRONT OF THE MAGAZINE, IT COULD CAUSE FEEDING PROBLEMS OR INTERFERE WHEN INSERTING THE MAGAZINE INTO THE RIFLE.

5 After loading the magazine, swing the floorplate and loaded magazine upwards until they are retained by the magazine catch.

**LOADING THE MAGAZINE DETACHED FROM THE FLOORPLATE**

1 Make sure the “safety” is in the on safe position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2 Pull rearward on the magazine latch in front of the trigger guard and allow the hinged floorplate and magazine unit to swing downward (Figure 5).
LOADING THE CHAMBER

WHEN LOADING YOUR RIFLE ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, ALWAYS PLACE THE “SAFETY” IN THE ON SAFE POSITION AND KEEP YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

DO NOT CARRY YOUR RIFLE WITH A CARTRIDGE IN THE CHAMBER TO AVOID ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE. WHEN FIRING IS NO LONGER IMMINENT, MAKE SURE THE “SAFETY” IS IN THE ON SAFE POSITION AND UNLOAD THE CHAMBER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

LOADING THE CHAMBER FROM THE MAGAZINE

1. Make sure the “safety” is in the on safe position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Close the bolt using the bolt lock as detailed on pages 12-13.
3. Load the magazine in one of the methods explained previously.
4. Swing the floorplate and loaded magazine upwards until retained by the magazine catch.
5. If shooting is imminent, a cartridge can now be moved from the magazine to the chamber by pulling back fully on the operating handle and releasing it, allowing the bolt to slam closed from the open position. If the bolt is not allowed to close in this manner, there is a possibility that it will not close completely, preventing the rifle from firing.

THE RIFLE IS NOW READY TO FIRE BY SIMPLY MOVING THE “SAFETY” TO THE OFF SAFE POSITION AND PULLING THE TRIGGER.

To verify the bolt is closed completely, make sure the operating handle is in front of the red bolt forward indicator dot located on the receiver.
near the ejection port (Figure 9). You should first practice this technique with an empty chamber.

It is safer to hunt with an empty chamber until in the presence of game. In this situation, quietly chambering a cartridge is important. To quietly chamber a cartridge, cycle the action slowly by pulling the operating handle to its full rearward position, then easing the operating handle forward, making sure the bolt closes completely, exposing the red bolt forward indicator, to ensure proper firing. Practice this operation with an empty chamber.

**FIRING**

⚠️ **WARNING**

NEVER LOAD A CARTRIDGE INTO THE CHAMBER OR PLACE THE “SAFETY” IN THE OFF SAFE POSITION UNLESS SHOOTING IS IMMINENT. ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

1. Make sure the “safety” is in the on safe position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.

2. Load a cartridge into the chamber as explained previously. With a cartridge in the chamber, you need only to move the “safety” to the off safe position to make the rifle ready to fire.

⚠️ **WARNING**

THE RIFLE IS NOW READY TO FIRE BY SIMPLY MOVING THE “SAFETY” TO THE OFF SAFE POSITION AND PULLING THE TRIGGER.

3. When ready to fire, move the “safety” to the off safe position, take aim and squeeze the trigger.

4. After a cartridge has fired, the bolt automatically moves rearward, ejects the empty case, then returns forward, chambering a cartridge from the magazine. Because fired cases are ejected to the side, bystanders should not stand to the side of the shooter.

5. This operation is repeated each time you pull the trigger until the last cartridge from the magazine has been fired. If shooting is no longer imminent, immediately place the “safety” in the on safe position. See “Unloading” on pages 19-20 for more information.

6. After the last cartridge is fired, the bolt will lock in the rearward position. If you wish to continue shooting, you can reload the rifle as detailed previously. After reloading the magazine, if shooting is imminent, you can chamber a cartridge and resume firing by pulling the operating handle fully rearward and releasing it.

⚠️ **WARNING**

AFTER FIRING, OR WHEN SHOOTING IS NO LONGER IMMINENT, IMMEDIATELY PLACE THE “SAFETY” IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

EVEN WITH THE BOLT LOCKED OPEN AFTER SHOOTING, DO NOT ASSUME THE FIREARM IS UNLOADED. ALWAYS INSPECT THE CHAMBER, FEED MECHANISM AND MAGAZINE TO BE CERTAIN THE FIREARM IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

**UNLOADING**

⚠️ **WARNING**

WHEN UNLOADING YOUR FIREARM ALWAYS PLACE THE “SAFETY” IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND YOUR FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

ALWAYS INSPECT THE CHAMBER, FEED MECHANISM AND MAGAZINE CAREFULLY AFTER UNLOADING TO BE SURE ALL CARTRIDGES ARE CLEARED FROM THE FIREARM.
**MOUNTING A SCOPE**

**WARNING**

**BEFORE MOUNTING A SCOPE, SIGHT OR OTHER ACCESORIES TO YOUR RIFLE, PLACE THE “SAFETY” IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. OPEN THE ACTION AND MAKE CERTAIN YOUR RIFLE IS COMPLETELY UNLOADED. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**

The top of the BAR MK 3 receiver is drilled and tapped for scope bases. From the factory, the scope base holes are fitted with filler screws.

**NOTICE!** ALWAYS USE THE CORRECT BASES FOR THIS RIFLE AND THE APPROPRIATE LENGTH SCREWS.

1. Place your rifle in a gun vise or on a table or other safe/secure location with the top of the receiver upward. Protect the finish with rags or other padding.
2. You should have compatible one- or two-piece style bases and four screws of the correct length.
3. Clean all oil, grease or dirt from the receiver top and from the scope base parts.
4. Remove all four filler screws from the top of the receiver using a very small, thin-bladed gunsmithing-type screwdriver.
5. Pre-position the bases on the receiver top to determine the best orientation of the bases.
6. Insert the screws through the bases and screw them into the receiver top using the correct tool.

You must use screws of the appropriate length to ensure proper thread engagement. Once the bases are installed, check inside the receiver to verify that the base mounting screws are not too long and interfering with the operation of the bolt.

**UNLOADING THE RIFLE**

1. Make sure the “safety” is in the on safe position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Pull rearward on the magazine latch in front of the trigger guard and allow the hinged floorplate and magazine unit to swing downward.
3. Pull rearward on the operating handle to draw the bolt to its rear most, open position. This will extract and eject any live cartridge that may be in the chamber.

Remember that the bolt will not automatically lock in the rearward position when the magazine is removed or when the magazine is loaded. As a good safety practice, hold the bolt open and visually inspect the chamber to be absolutely certain a live cartridge is not present.

4. With the magazine removed and the chamber empty, close the bolt.

**UNLOADING THE MAGAZINE**

1. Make sure the “safety” is in the on safe position and the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction.
2. Pull rearward on the magazine latch in front of the trigger guard and allow the hinged floorplate-magazine unit to swing downward (Figure 5, page 15).
3. Pull the bolt completely rearward and inspect the chamber to make sure it is empty. Return the bolt to the forward, closed position.
4. Detach the magazine from the floorplate by grasping the sides of the magazine and pulling it off the floorplate (Figure 7, page 16).
5. Once the magazine has been detached, unload the magazine by pushing the cartridges, one at a time, forward and out of the magazine.
Stock Adjustment

WARNING

Before performing stock adjustment procedures, place the “safety” in the on safe position. Remove the magazine, open the action and make certain your rifle is completely unloaded. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Failure to follow these warnings could result in serious injury or death.

Six shims are included with BAR MK 3 rifles (Figure 10). The shims fit between the buttstock and receiver, allowing customized adjustments to the comb and heel (Figure 11, page 23). Each shim is labeled/stamped for a specific amount of adjustment. The neutral shim, No. 2, is already installed on your firearm.

Drop at comb is defined as the place on the comb that your cheek rests when taking aim. If drop at comb is correct, your eye falls in line with the sight. Shims marked 1, 2 and 3 do not give any cast on or off. The stock remains straight. They only adjust drop at comb.

These shims with their respective stamps are further clarified here:

- Shim 1 raises the comb approximately $\frac{1}{16}$", and the heel approximately $\frac{1}{8}$".
- Shim 2 is neutral. This shim is already installed on your rifle.
- Shim 3 lowers the comb approximately $\frac{1}{16}$", and the heel approximately $\frac{1}{8}$".

Cast is the offset of the buttstock from the longitudinal centerline of the firearm. Some right-handed shooters like the stock to angle away (cast off) from their face, making their line of sight more directly in line with the sight. Angling the stock to the left for left-handed shooters is “cast on.” Shims marked 1R1L, 2R2L and 3R3L, will all adjust drop at comb the same amount as shims 1, 2 and 3, and will also adjust the cast right or left approximately $\frac{1}{8}$". You will notice that the two opposing edges of these spacers are different in thickness. These shims with their respective stamps are further clarified here:

- Shim 1R1L adjusts the comb in the increment given above, (shim 1) and will adjust the cast on or cast off approximately $\frac{1}{8}$".

For right-handed shooters, install this shim between the receiver and the stock with the R facing the end of the buttstock, so its
thicker side is on the left side. This casts the stock slightly to the right, away from the face of a right-handed shooter. If you turn the shim around so the L is facing the end of the buttstock, and it will cast the stock to the left.

- Shim 2R2L adds the same amount of cast to the stock as shim 1RL and the same amount of drop to the comb as shim No. 2.
- Shim 3R3L adds the same amount of cast to the stock as 2RL and 3RL, and lowers the comb approximately $\frac{1}{16}$" and the heel approximately $\frac{1}{8}$".

**TO INSTALL A SHIM**

1. Make sure your firearm is completely unloaded and the “safety” is in the on safe position.

2. Use a #2 cross tip or Phillips screwdriver to remove the recoil pad at the end of the buttstock (Figure 12). Place a small amount of petroleum jelly on the screw access slits on the top and bottom of the rear of the buttstock to prevent damaging the recoil pad. Insert the screwdriver into each of the two access holes. Make certain the tip of the screwdriver engages the head of the screw. Turn the screw counterclockwise until the screw is completely loose from the stock. When both screws are free, remove the recoil pad.

3. Using a long 5mm Allen wrench, remove the stock screw and washer. (Figure 13, page 24).

4. Completely remove the buttstock from the receiver, along with the existing shim, and install the shim you have selected (Figure 14). Make certain you have the proper shim installed and in position before reattaching the buttstock and recoil pad.

**NOTICE! DO NOT USE MORE THAN ONE SHIM ON THE BUTTSTOCK.**

5. When you are satisfied with the fit, reattach the buttstock to the receiver with the washer and the screw.

6. Snug the stock screw with a screwdriver, do not overtighten.

7. Attach the recoil pad with care, so as not to scratch or mar the finish of the stock. Wipe any excess petroleum jelly off the recoil pad.

**CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE SUGGESTIONS**

**NOTICE! PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BEFORE CLEANING YOUR FIREARM.**

**CLEANING PARTS WITH SPECIAL FINISHES**

Be especially careful when cleaning guns with camouflage, Dura-Touch® Armor Coating and other special finishes. Always prevent these surfaces from coming in contact with cleaning solvents, barrel scrubbers and other strong chemicals. It is preferable to clean these surfaces with a light gun oil containing no solvents, or with a damp cloth and mild dish soap (be sure to keep water out of the action). When cleaning your firearm’s bore and action, protect the external
finishes from any contact with chemicals used. Also, avoid any contact between external finishes and other strong chemicals like those found in DEET-containing insect repellents, sunscreens, etc. Damage to camouflage, Dura-Touch and other finishes caused by chemicals is irreversible and not repairable.

**WARNING**

BEFORE PERFORMING CLEANING PROCEDURES, PLACE THE “SAFETY” IN THE ON SAFE POSITION. OPEN THE ACTION AND MAKE CERTAIN YOUR RIFLE IS COMpletely UNLOADED. KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

**WARNING**

WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN DISASSEMBLING AND CLEANING YOUR RIFLE TO PREVENT THE POSSIBILITY OF SPRINGS, SPRING-TENSIONED PARTS, SOLVENTS OR OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.

**WARNING**

KEEP ALL AMMUNITION AWAY FROM THE CLEANING AREA. NEVER TEST THE MECHANICAL FUNCTION OF YOUR RIFLE WITH LIVE AMMUNITION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

**CLEANING PROCEDURES**

Your firearm will function better and more reliably over a longer period of time if it is properly maintained and kept clean. Clean your firearm after every day of shooting, and more often if it becomes excessively dirty. A minimum cleaning includes wiping down the firearm and oiling key parts. Regular maintenance will also include cleaning the barrel.

If you encounter a function problem be sure to give your firearm a thorough cleaning to see if it solves the problem before seeking the services of a Browning Recommended Service Center or our Service Facility in Arnold, Missouri, or a qualified gunsmith.

1 Lock the bolt in the open position as explained previously.

2 Inspect the chamber and bore for powder fouling. A normal amount of powder residue can be expected and is not serious. It can usually be removed with a patch saturated with nitro solvent. Use a muzzle guard and a cleaning rod with a tip and patch large enough for a snug fit in the bore. Insert the rod and patch into the barrel at the muzzle end and run it back and forth several times. A muzzle guard should be utilized to ensure that the cleaning rod does not strike the crown of the muzzle, as damage to this area can affect the accuracy of your rifle. If, or when, fouling should become heavy, it can be removed with a brass bore brush. Dip or spray the brush with nitro solvent and scrub the chamber and bore until the fouling is removed. To prevent brass bristles from breaking off, the brush should be pushed completely through the barrel before being withdrawn.

To maintain the utmost accuracy of your rifle it is recommended you clean the bore with a copper solvent. Modern bullet jackets are made mainly of copper. Residues from copper bullet jackets stick to the barrel and require more frequent cleaning. Magnum calibers will require more frequent inspection and cleaning. Swab the bore of your rifle with a good copper solvent using the manufacturer’s recommended procedure.

Browning offers a complete line of products to make cleaning the bore of your firearm fast and easy. Be sure to follow all instructions when using any product to clean your firearm.

3 After all fouling has been removed, the chamber and bore should be wiped dry. When the bore is dry, pass a slightly oiled patch through it for preservation. A fine, light gun oil is recommended.

4 Inspect the barrel and chamber to be certain no patches have inadvertently been left in them. Remove any that remain.
5 Use a small brush or rag to remove dirt or other foreign matter from inside the receiver and other parts of the action. Lightly lubricate all moving parts with a high-quality, light gun oil. Use oil sparingly, a very light film is sufficient. A fine, light gun oil is ideally suited for this purpose.

**NOTICE! DO NOT POUR LARGE QUANTITIES OF OIL INTO THE RECEIVER OR OTHER PARTS. IT CAN DRAIN DOWN TO THE WOOD AND SOFTEN IT, CAUSING PERMANENT DAMAGE AND LOOSENING OF THE STOCK.**

6 Wipe all exposed metal surfaces with a lightly oiled cloth making certain that all finger marks are removed. Finger marks provide a place where moisture can accumulate. The metal of the gun should receive a light film of oil any time the rifle has been exposed to weather or handling.

7 Wood surfaces can also be wiped with a quality, lightweight gun oil or they can be polished with any quality furniture wax (but not both).

**CLEANING THE TRIGGER GROUP**

The trigger mechanism has been adjusted at the factory to provide a short, crisp pull consistent with safety and reliability. The trigger is a single-stage design with the weight of pull holding closely to four pounds. It is recommended that no attempt be made to change the weight of pull of the trigger.

This procedure should rarely, if ever, need to be performed. However, if the receiver area of your rifle should become excessively dirty or submerged in water it may be helpful to remove the trigger group and expose the inner cavity of the receiver for cleaning.

**NOTICE! DO NOT ALTER OR ATTEMPT TO DISASSEMBLE ANY PART OF THE TRIGGER GROUP OR REMOVE OR DISASSEMBLE THE BOLT MECHANISM.**

If any service of the trigger group or bolt becomes necessary, contact our Service Facility in Arnold, Missouri, or a qualified gunsmith.

**TRIGGER GROUP REMOVAL**

1 Be certain the rifle is completely unloaded and the “safety” is in the on safe position.

2 Release the bolt to its forward position by pressing down on the bolt lock as detailed previously.

3 Push in the two trigger group pins from either the right or left side of the receiver. Use a non-marring drive punch or similar object, using care not to scratch the firearm’s receiver (Figure 15). Push the trigger group pins clear through the receiver and remove them.

4 Grasp the trigger guard and pull the trigger assembly out of the receiver (Figure 16).

5 Perform any cleaning of the parts and receiver cavity as necessary using a quality aerosol gun solvent. Allow it to dry completely, then very lightly oil the moving parts.

**NOTICE! DO NOT DISASSEMBLE THE TRIGGER GROUP BEYOND THIS POINT. THIS IS A SPECIALIZED, FINELY FITTED MECHANISM; ANY ATTEMPT TO DISASSEMBLE THE TRIGGER GROUP MAY DAMAGE IT BEYOND REPAIR.**
**TRIGGER GROUP INSTALLATION**

1. Before reinstalling the trigger group, make sure that the bolt is fully forward and engaged in the locked position.
2. Visually check the “safety” on the trigger guard to make certain it is still in the on safe position.
3. Insert the trigger group back into the receiver, lining up the holes in the trigger group with the holes on each side of the receiver.
4. Insert the trigger group pins from either side of the receiver and gently tap them into place using care not to scratch the receiver.

Your firearm is now fully assembled. Immediately confirm that the “safety” is in the on safe position. Take time to wipe down and clean all external surfaces as explained under “Cleaning and Maintenance Suggestions” on pages 25-28.

**CLEANING THE MAGAZINE**

**WARNING**

**WEAR EYE PROTECTION WHEN DISASSEMBLING AND CLEANING THE MAGAZINE TO PREVENT SPRINGS, SPRING LOADED PARTS, SOLVENTS OR OTHER AGENTS FROM CONTACTING YOUR EYES, RESULTING IN INJURY.**

Frequently inspect magazines to determine the need for cleaning as lubricant and dirt will gradually collect in the mechanism. Normally, the magazine should be cleaned after firing 500 to 1000 cartridges.

1. Remove the magazine from the rifle as explained previously.
2. Clean the magazine by spraying it both inside and out with an aerosol solvent that will not adversely affect the polymer magazine follower or corrode the metal components.
3. Shake all excess solvent from the magazine and dry with a cloth or blow dry with compressed air, if available.
4. Wipe off any dirt or residue, then apply a very thin coat of oil and wipe clean again.

**NOTICE! NEVER ATTEMPT TO TAKE YOUR FIREARM APART FURTHER THAN EXPLAINED IN THIS OWNER’S MANUAL. YOUR FIREARM IS A SPECIALIZED, FINELY FITTED MECHANISM. YOU MAY PERMANENTLY DAMAGE IT BY ATTEMPTING TO DISASSEMBLE THE INNER MECHANISM ASSEMBLIES. IF FURTHER DISASSEMBLY FOR SERVICE OR CLEANING IS REQUIRED, TAKE YOUR FIREARM TO A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH, OR CONTACT OUR ARNOLD, MISSOURI SERVICE FACILITY AS EXPLAINED ON PAGE 32 UNDER “SERVICE OR REPAIR.”**

**MAINTENANCE OF OIL FINISH STOCKS**

Keeping the oil-finished wood surfaces on your firearm looking their best requires only a small amount of maintenance. When the surfaces become spotted or dull, the affected area(s) can be treated using rubbing alcohol on a soft, lint free cloth and allowed to dry. A small amount of a linseed oil-based finish, such as Watco® Danish Oil Finish, Deft® Danish Oil Finish, or Formby’s® Tung Oil Finish should then be applied to the surface of the wood with a soft, lint free cloth according to the manufacturers’ instructions. To treat the checkering, a small amount of oil-based finish can be applied and then distributed evenly using a toothbrush or other soft bristled brush.

**MODELS WITH SPECIAL FINISHES**

As with any gun, the only way to preserve its pristine condition and collector appeal is to never handle or fire it, which in turn would deprive you of much of the enjoyment that comes with owning a fine Browning firearm.

While special finishes such as engraving and gold plating greatly enhance the aesthetic appeal of your rifle, please be aware that they are no more durable, and in some cases may even be slightly less durable than more common gun finishes.

As you use your Browning rifle, you can expect special finishes to wear in much the same manner as any other firearm finish. These marks are the honest product of the hours spent enjoying your firearm and each scuff and scratch will probably have a good story to go along with it.
SERVICE OR REPAIR

If your firearm should require service or repairs, we suggest you first contact a local recommended Browning Firearms Service Center. To locate a service center visit browning.com, contact our Customer Service Department or your Browning firearms dealer for the address of the Service Center nearest you. Otherwise, you may send your firearm directly to our Service Department in Arnold, Missouri.

Parts listings, Firearm Service Center lists, service procedures, service/repair form and general product information are also found on the internet at: browning.com. For technical questions about your firearm or service, contact:

United States customers contact: 
Browning Firearm Status and Technical Service 
3005 Arnold Tenbrook Rd 
Arnold, MO 63010-9406 
Phone: (800) 322-4626

Canadian customers contact: 
Browning Canada Sports Ltd/Ltée 
5583 Chemin St-François 
St-Laurent, Quebec H4S 1W6 
Phone: (514) 333-7261

When returning your firearm for servicing, you must do the following:

1 Be sure it is completely unloaded.
2 Remove the scope or other optics.
3 Package it securely in a cardboard container.
4 Enclose the service/repair form available at browning.com or a letter that clearly describes the trouble experienced, the ammunition used and the repairs desired. Also include your name, e-mail address (if possible) and a daytime phone number where you can be reached.
5 If convenient, send a copy of the service/repair form or letter to us separately.
6 Never return ammunition with your firearm. It is against postal and most commerce regulations.