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***WINCHESTER.***

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**IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR  
MODEL 1886  
LEVER ACTION RIFLE**

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This is one of the famous line of Winchester World Standard arms. As one of the Classic Traditions models you can expect the same quality and satisfaction as with the original historic Model 1886 introduced over a century ago. And as with the original, you'll appreciate its elegant design, strong action and smooth functioning.

**U.S. REPEATING ARMS COMPANY, INC.  
275 Winchester Avenue  
New Haven, CT, U.S.A. 06511-1970**

**Administrative Offices:  
275 Winchester Avenue,  
Morgan, UT, U. S. A. 84050-9333**

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New gun owner's record.

Use the space below to record information about your new Winchester Model 1886 rifle.

Serial Number

Caliber

Grade

Purchase Price

Purchased From

Date of Purchase

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Printed in Japan 99043

# WINCHESTER.

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## MODEL 1886 CLASSIC TRADITIONS

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With the introduction of the 1886 the world of lever actions was changed forever. No previous lever action ever handled as well. No previous lever was as strong. No other offered chamberings in such powerful cartridges.

A new standard was set, and it would be years before another lever action would even come close to the perfection of a Winchester 1886.

This rifle accompanied settlers all across American. It soon became the premier big game hunting rifle. It was the rifle that became a Theodore Roosevelt favorite when he was a working cattleman in the Dakotas — years before he was President.

Today's Classic Traditions Model 1886 comes in several versions and caliber configurations. Whether you have purchased one of the exclusive limited edition versions or one of the standard in-line models, all are beautifully finished and made to the level of precision and quality that made the originals famous.

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## GUN SAFETY WARNINGS

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*IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT THESE OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS BE THOROUGHLY STUDIED BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM TO ASSURE PROPER AND SAFE GUN HANDLING. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS OR FAILURE TO OBEY ANY SAFETY WARNING MAY RESULT IN INJURY TO YOURSELF OR OTHERS, OR CAUSE DAMAGE TO YOUR GUN.*

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 your rifle and any other firearm with intense respect for its power and potential danger.

*PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE CAUTIONS, PROPER HANDLING PROCEDURES AND INSTRUCTIONS OUTLINED IN THIS BOOKLET BEFORE USING YOUR NEW FIREARM.*

1. Do not carry a loaded gun with a live round in the chamber while walking, running, climbing a tree, crossing a fence or anywhere you might slip or fall, drop the gun or otherwise bump or jar the gun. A gun that is dropped, bumped, or jarred with a chambered round might accidentally discharge even with the safety on, causing serious injury to you or someone else. When a round is chambered keep the safety on until you are ready to shoot.
2. Do not rely on the safety to prevent accidental discharge. Many safeties merely block the trigger and prevent firing by pulling the trigger. The safety may

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not prevent an accidental discharge due to dropping, jarring, or bumping a gun.

3. Use only ammunition for which the gun is chambered as indicated on the barrel, to prevent excessive pressure and possible serious personal injury.
4. Incorrectly reloaded ammunition can cause serious personal injury and damage to the firearm due to excessive pressure. Reload only after proper instruction and in strict compliance with instruction and data contained in current reloading manuals.
5. Never point a gun at anything you do not intend to shoot. Always keep it pointed in a safe direction in case of accidental discharge.
6. Always check to ensure that the barrel is free of obstructions before loading and using the gun. If you experience light recoil or off sound, check the barrel for obstruction.
7. Before firing, clean any grease or oil out of barrel with cleaning rod and patch. Grease or heavy accumulation of oil can cause excessive pressure and result in serious personal injury.
8. Keep barrel, chamber and action free of rust. Rust in the barrel and chamber can cause excessive pressures resulting in serious injury. A rusted, pitted or eroded barrel should be replaced.
9. Use hearing protection to prevent ear damage from repeated exposure to gunfire.
10. Always use proper shooting glasses to prevent eye injury from flying particles.
11. Never carry a loaded gun in a motor vehicle or carry one into a dwelling. Always carefully unload the gun before entering a motor vehicle, a dwelling or an area such as a camp. Always point a gun in a safe

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direction while loading or unloading to prevent serious injury in case of an accidental discharge. Never load in the house or in your vehicle.

12. Never shoot at a hard, flat surface or at the surface of water to avoid a ricochet and possible serious personal injury to yourself or a bystander.

13. Store guns in a clean dry place out of reach of children and separated from stored ammunition.

14. Never alter any parts of your gun. Any alterations or adjustments that may become necessary to the operating mechanism should be performed by a qualified gunsmith.

15. Hunting from elevated surfaces such as tree stands is dangerous. Doing so may increase the risk of handling any firearm. Always make certain that the stand being used is safe, sturdy and stable. Always make certain 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.

16. 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 exposure.

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## FIGURE 1

### MODEL 1886 FEATURES

The Winchester 1886 of today is a careful reproduction of one of the original configurations made over **110** years ago.

The 1886 design has always been rich in the visual beauty of complex machining and hand finish. These are qualities that are uncommon in most of today's mass produced guns. They are qualities that take more effort - but that you will appreciate for generations.

There is one primary difference between the original 1886 and today's version. On the top tang you'll notice that your new 1886 features a top tang mounted safety that serves as a hammer block. The hammer is also of the rebounding type, to help prevent accidental discharge. These safety improvements give your rifle an added **level** of safety you will appreciate.

The two vertical locking lugs lock into matching recesses in the breech bolt for secure lockup.

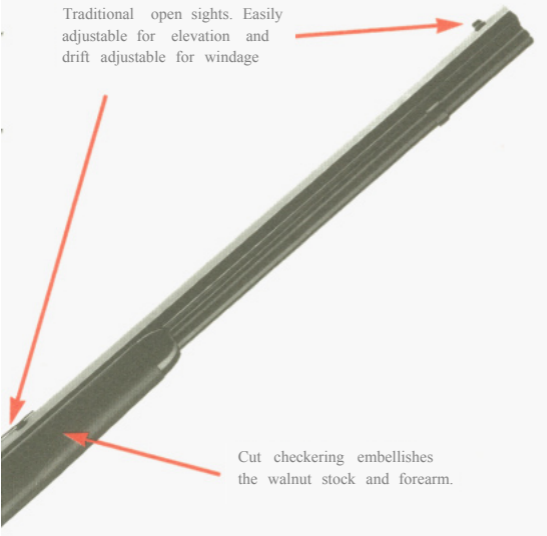


Your 1886 has a beautiful stock and buttplate design patterned after classic versions popular a century ago.



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Traditional open sights. Easily adjustable for elevation and drift adjustable for windage



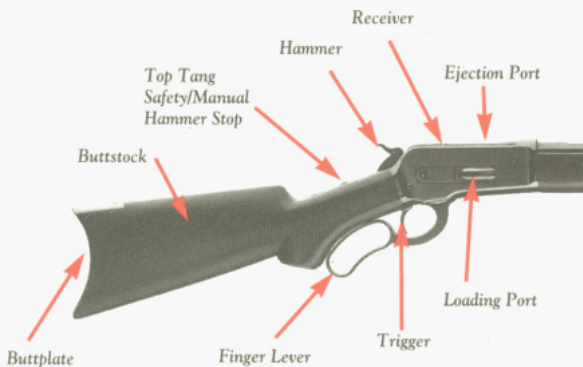
Cut checkering embellishes the walnut stock and forearm.

The tubular magazine loads through the right-side mounted loading port in the receiver.

The design was an instant success due, in part, to its ability to handle more powerful cartridges like 45-70 up to 50-110 Express, among others. The design of the her and Link mechanisms are both clever and unique. Other levers of the day had much bulkier designs, and still could not effectively handle the cartridges the 1886 could.

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FIGURE 2A

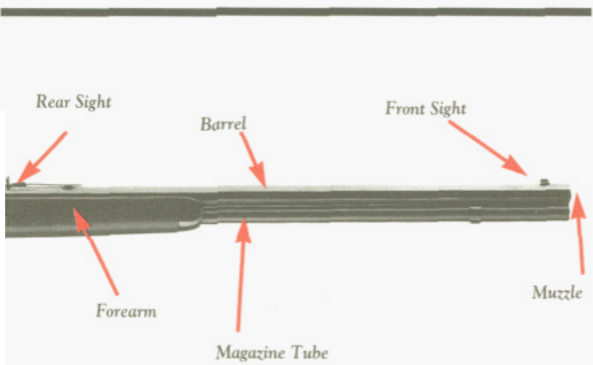


## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Your new Model 1886 rifle is a modern version of the rifle that gained popularity at the height of the Wild West. It immediately became a favorite of hunters, ranchers and lawmen who demanded a powerful cartridge. With a few minor exceptions, the action is virtually identical to the way the originals were made in 1886. The primary difference is the addition of a top tang mounted safety switch for added convenience and an increased margin of safety. The 1886's safety mechanism incorporates both a hammer stop and a rebounding hammer. These advanced features move the traditional Model 1886 design to a new level of convenience and safety. These features are explained in detail later in this manual.

Figure 1 covers the general features and benefits of the Model 1886 design. The appearance of your rifle may be slightly different, depending on the version you purchased.

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Cycling the lever smoothly moves a cartridge from the tubular magazine to the chamber. After firing, working the lever ejects the empty cartridge nearly straight up and slightly to the right, over your head. Returning the lever upward cycles a new cartridge from the magazine into the chamber. The 1886's uncanny, reliable, smooth function made it an instant success in its day. We are sure you will appreciate its incredible design and high level of precision as you become familiar with it by reviewing these instructions.

## **TERMINOLOGY AND DESCRIPTIONS.**

Descriptions in this manual generally refer to the gun in the horizontal position. That is, in the normal firing position. For example, the muzzle is forward or front; the buttstock is rearward or rear; the trigger is downward or underneath; the sight is upward or on top.

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FIGURE 2B

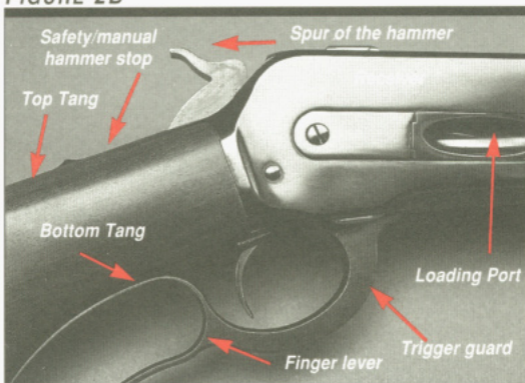
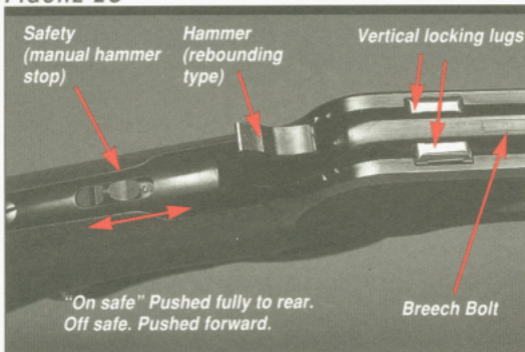


FIGURE 2C

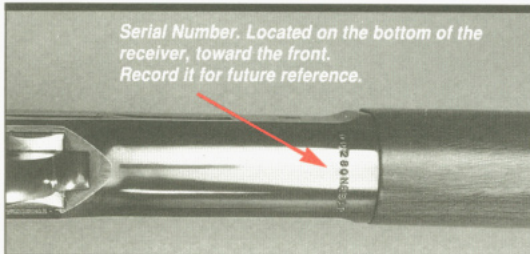


Throughout this manual the “action” refers to the mechanism of this rifle which loads and secures the cartridge in the chamber.

**IMPORTANT:** Refer to Figures 2A-C for general part descriptions and terminology regarding your new rifle. You must become familiar with all part names listed before proceeding with the rest of the instructions in this manual.

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FIGURE 3



## SERIAL NUMBER

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The serial number is located on the bottom of the receiver, where the receiver meets the forearm (see Figure 3). Record the serial number at the front of this book for future reference.

## AMMUNITION

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Your Winchester Model 1886 is designed to shoot modern factory cartridges only. The caliber of your new Model 1886 is inscribed on the top of the barrel in front of the receiver.

**MAKE SURE YOU USE ONLY THE EXACT AMMUNITION/CALIBER AS LISTED ON THE BARREL.**

**IMPORTANT: USE ONLY AMMUNITION SUITABLE FOR USE IN A CENTERFIRE RIFLE WITH A TUBULAR MAGAZINE.**

Use only flat point, hollow point, round nose flat point or similar bullets. Never use pointed or conical point bullets in a centerfire rifle with a tubular magazine. Failure to follow these instructions may result in injury to yourself or others, or cause damage to your gun.

Incorrectly reloaded ammunition can cause serious personal injury and damage to the firearm due to excessive pressure. Reload only after proper instruc-

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tion and in strict compliance with instructions and data contained in current reloading manuals.

Winchester ammunition is always an excellent choice for your new Winchester rifle, delivering the unmatched performance and dependability you want.

***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 EXPOSURE.***

## **INITIAL CLEANING**

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Some metal parts of your new Model 1886 have been coated at the factory with a rust preventative compound. Before using your Model 1886, clean the anti-rust compound from the inside of the barrel, receiver, cartridge feed mechanism and the action/chamber areas. A high quality, light gun oil should be used to remove this compound and to give your new gun its first lubrication. Clean the barrel using a cleaning rod and patch as explained under “Cleaning and Maintenance Suggestions” found later in this manual. First lubrication suggestions are outlined below.

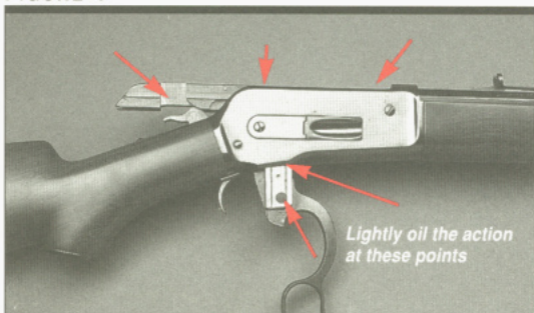
If your new Model 1886 is for collector’s purposes only, and is to remain unfired, it is permissible to leave the rust preventative compound in place and keep your Model 1886 in its box for maximum protection during long term storage.

## **OILING THE ACTION**

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Before beginning the first firing of your Model 1886

FIGURE 4



you should first wipe the mechanism completely clean, clean the bore and apply a few drops of quality oil on the following surfaces (See Figure 4):

- Along the breech bolt surface.
- Along the breech bolt rail surfaces.
- On all pivot points and bearing surfaces on the lever mechanism.

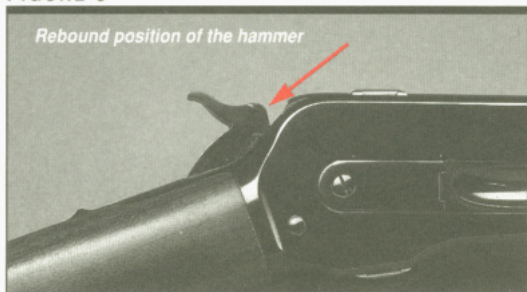
Avoid applying too much oil. Only a light film is necessary. Cleaning and Maintenance Suggestions should be followed before each oiling.

## OPERATION OF THE HAMMER & SAFETY

Your Model 1886 features a new, innovative safety (also called a manual hammer stop) built into the top tang of your rifle, as well as a rebounding hammer design built into the hammer mechanism itself.

The Model 1886's Rebounding Hammer is a safety feature designed to protect the firing pin from being struck by the hammer when the trigger is not being pulled. After firing your rifle the hammer immediately moves to the rebound position. The hammer can also be manually lowered from full cock to the rebound position. From the rebound position, under normal conditions, the hammer is prevented from moving forward and striking the firing pin. The

FIGURE 5



rebound position and the safety (manual hammer stop) are intended to work together to provide protection against unintentional or accidental firing.

#### HAMMER POSITIONS —

The rebounding hammer on your Model 1886 has two positions as follows:

- **Rebound position.** This position (See Figure 5) takes the place of the dropped and half-cocked positions found on the original Model 1886 of a century ago. The rebounding feature of the hammer essentially eliminates the dropped position. The hammer only travels to the dropped position momentarily after the trigger has been pulled with the hammer cocked. The hammer then automatically moves to the rebound position.

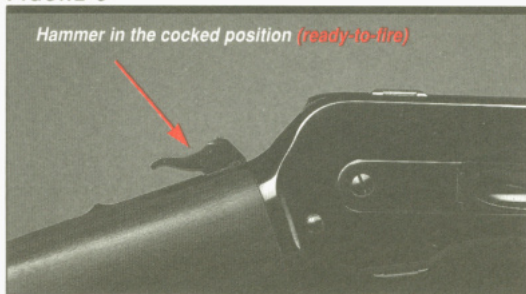
***THE REBOUND POSITION IS THE RECOMMENDED POSITION OF THE HAMMER AT ALL TIMES AND SHOULD BE IN THAT POSITION EXCEPT (1) WHEN FIRING IS IMMINENT (2) OR IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ACTION HAS BEEN CYCLED.***

- **Cocked position.** This is the position that the



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FIGURE 6



hammer is moved to when firing is imminent (See Figure 6). It is also the position the hammer moves to when the action is cycled using the finger lever.

**WHEN THE HAMMER IS IN THE COCKED POSITION THE SAFETY SHOULD BE IN THE “ON” POSITION (WITH THE “S” SHOWING) UNLESS FIRING IS IMMINENT.**

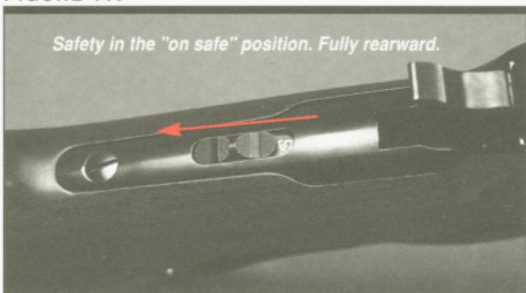
## SAFETY POSITIONS —

The safety (also referred to as the manual hammer stop) is a modern feature built into the action of your Model 1886 to provide an additional level of safety. When the safety has been placed in the “on” position it serves the function of blocking the hammer from striking the firing pin. Even if the safety is on, it does not prevent the hammer from falling to the rebound position when the trigger is pulled. When the trigger is pulled — with the safety on — the hammer drops, going immediately to the rebound position without impacting the firing pin.

The safety on your new Model 1886 is built into the top tang of the receiver. The safety “switch” itself is fitted into an elongated, machined recess in the tang.

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FIGURE 7A



## “On” Position.

When the safety is pushed all the way rearward it is in the “on” position (See Figure 7-A). In this position an “S” is visible directly in front of the safety. Moving the safety fully rearward and exposing the “S” blocks the hammer from striking the firing pin.

***THIS IS THE RECOMMENDED POSITION OF THE SAFETY FOR ALL TIMES EXCEPT WHEN FIRING IS IMMINENT.***

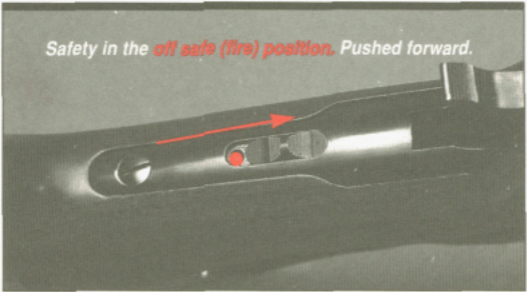
## “Off” Position.

When the safety (manual hammer stop) is pushed all the way forward it is in the “off” position (See Figure 7-B). ***THIS IS THE POSITION OF THE SAFETY WHEN FIRING IS IMMINENT.*** In this position, when the trigger is pulled, the cocked hammer will fall and strike the firing pin. If a cartridge is in the chamber, the firing pin will strike the primer and fire the cartridge.

## ***USING THE SAFETY —***

To place the safety (hammer stop) in the “on” position: First, point your rifle in a safe direction, then place the safety in the “on” position by pulling it fully to the rear with your thumb until the red “warning” spot is covered by the safety and the “S” is visible (Refer again to Figure 7-A).

FIGURE 7B



To place the safety (hammer stop) in the “off” position: Push the safety fully forward, covering the “S” inscribed on the rifle, and exposing the red warning dot. When the red dot is visible below the safety it is in the “off position (Refer again to Figure 7-B). The safety can be actuated with the hammer in the rebound or cocked position.

## **LOWERING THE HAMMER —**

At any time the hammer can be cocked either manually or by cycling the finger lever fully. Unless shooting is imminent it is important to lower the hammer immediately to the rebound position from the cocked position. To do this:

**1. MAKE SURE THE BARREL IS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND THAT THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) IS IN THE “ON” POSITION.**

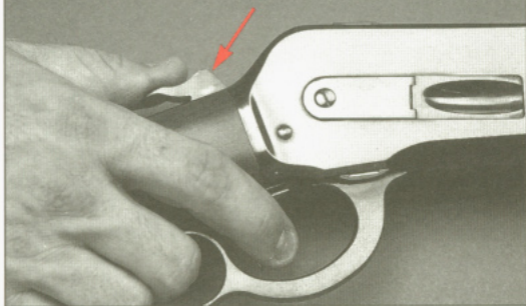
2. Get a stable grip on your rifle with your hand in shooting position. Place your thumb on the hammer and firmly hold the hammer back slightly with your thumb.

3. While holding the hammer back, apply just enough pressure on the trigger to release the hammer

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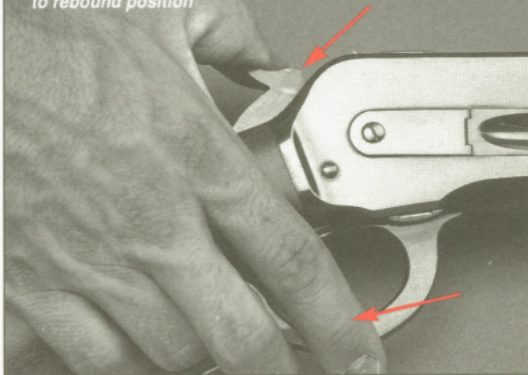
**FIGURE 8**

*Carefully hold the hammer back while pulling the trigger*



**FIGURE 9**

*Remove finger from trigger and lower the hammer to the rebound position*



from the full-cock position (see Figure 8). Immediately remove your finger from the trigger and slowly and carefully allow the hammer to lower into the rebound position (see Figure 9).

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS RIFLE'S SAFETY MECHANISMS —**

**REMEMBER, NEVER RELY TOTALLY ON YOUR FIREARM'S MECHANICAL "SAFETY" DEVICES.**

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As is true with other firearms, when the safety mechanisms on this rifle are engaged, they are designed to prevent accidental discharge. However, these mechanisms may not necessarily prevent the accidental discharge of this firearm as a result of jarring or abuse such as occurs when a firearm is dropped.

*ALWAYS ASSUME THAT YOUR GUN CAN BE FIRED AT ANY TIME, EVEN WITH ALL SAFETY MECHANISMS ENGAGED.*

*WHENEVER YOU ARE NOT ACTUALLY FIRING YOUR RIFLE ALWAYS BE CERTAIN THAT YOUR RIFLE IS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.*

Continually be aware of the position of the safety (manual hammer stop) on your rifle. Check it both manually and visually to avoid any chance of accidental discharge. Always keep the safety in the “on” position unless you are actually firing the rifle. It is a good idea to keep the action open (with the finger lever down) at all times other than when you are in the field and shooting is imminent.

*IMPORTANT: IT IS ALWAYS RECOMMENDED THAT THE ACTION BE KEPT OPEN AT ALL TIMES WHEN YOUR RIFLE IS LAYING ON ANY BENCH OR TABLE AT A SHOOTING RANGE OR OTHER FACILITY.*

*ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF YOUR RIFLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN INJURY OR DEATH TO YOURSELF OR OTHERS.*

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## ASSEMBLY AND DISASSEMBLY

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Your Model 1886 comes fully assembled in the box. No assembly is required. No disassembly is required for normal maintenance.

If your Model 1886 requires disassembly for any reason (such as requiring extra cleaning after being dropped in water) it should be performed by one of the U.S. Repeating Arms Authorized Repair Centers (ARCs). See “Service or Repair” later in this manual for details on how to obtain service for your Winchester rifle.

## GENERAL OPERATION

---

### ***ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.***

Prior to using live ammunition, it is essential that you familiarize yourself thoroughly with these operating instructions. Get accustomed to the feel of your new gun.

- Know the forces required to operate the action
- Know what forces are required to pull the trigger
- ***ABOVE ALL, KNOW HOW TO PLACE THE HAMMER INTO THE REBOUND POSITION AND THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) INTO THE “ON” POSITION.***

Throughout this manual the “action” refers to the mechanism of a firearm which loads and secures the cartridge in the chamber. If the action resists closing, do not force it. Small pieces of grit or other obstructions can make it difficult to close the action. Make sure all surfaces are clean if any unusual resistance is

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felt. However, remember that this is a finely fitted action purposely made with tight tolerances. This assures your gun of good part-to-part fit for many years to come and is the sign of a finely crafted firearm.

## LOADING

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*USE THE CORRECT AMMUNITION AS INDICATED BY THE INSCRIPTION ON THE BARREL. AS EXPLAINED PREVIOUSLY, BEFORE LOADING YOUR RIFLE MAKE SURE ALL GREASE AND OIL HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BARREL AND CHAMBER, AND THERE ARE NO OBSTRUCTIONS IN THE BARREL OR ACTION AREAS.*

### *LOADING THE CHAMBER -*

The chamber may be loaded two ways. Before attempting any loading procedure:

*MAKE SURE THE BARREL IS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND THAT THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) IS IN THE "ON" (SAFE) POSITION AND THE HAMMER IS IN THE REBOUND POSITION.*

- Load the chamber by placing a cartridge directly into the chamber through the opened action. This is for single shot loading only with the magazine empty. to do this, open the action by operating the finger lever fully down and forward. Insert a round into the chamber then close the action.
- Load the chamber by transferring a cartridge that was previously loaded into the magazine to the chamber by operating the finger lever. To cycle the lever,

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FIGURE 10

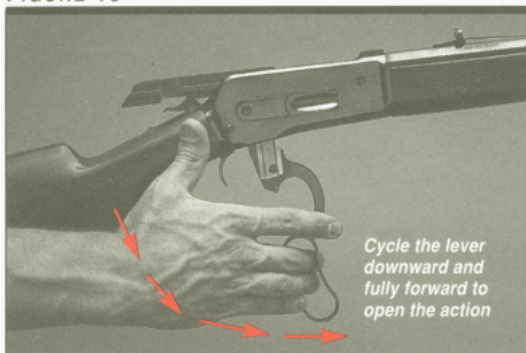
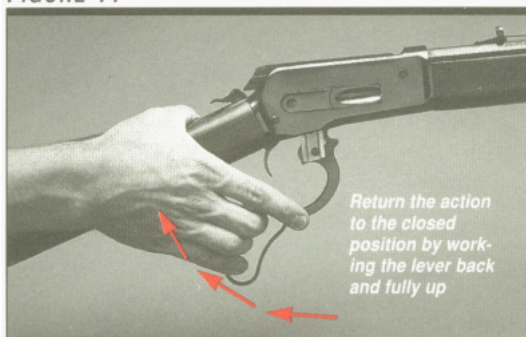


FIGURE 11

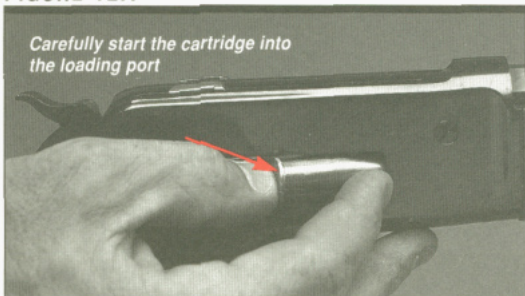


pull it downward and fully forward with the fingers of your hand inserted in the finger loop (see Figure 10). Then return it upward to its original position (see Figure 11). Keep your fingers clear of the trigger at all times when working the lever.

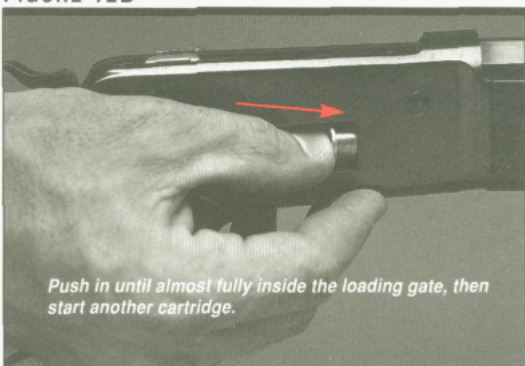
**IN EITHER CASE, ALWAYS FIRST PLACE THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) IN THE "ON" POSITION, AND THEN PLACE THE HAMMER INTO THE REBOUND POSITION UPON CLOSING THE ACTION.**



**FIGURE 12A**



**FIGURE 12B**

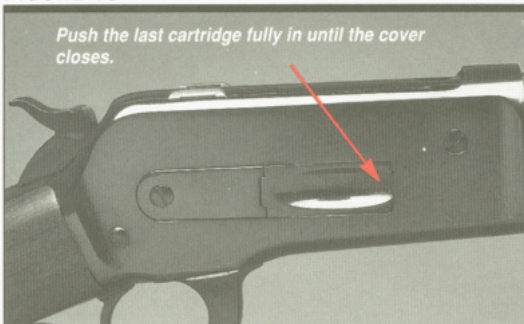


## LOADING THE MAGAZINE —

The magazine is loaded through the port on the right side of the receiver.

1. With the action closed and the safety (manual hammer stop) in the “on” position and the hammer in the rebound position, press the spring cover inward with the tip of the first cartridge until all but the rim has entered the loading port (See Figure 12A & B).
2. Then, insert the next cartridge in the same manner, pushing the preceding cartridge into the magazine.
3. Repeat this procedure with each cartridge, but push the last cartridge past the end of the spring

**FIGURE 13**



cover, allowing the cover to snap closed (see Figure 13). Do not exceed the recommended capacity of the magazine.

*BEFORE LOADING, ALWAYS MAKE SURE TO ALWAYS PLACE THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) IN THE "ON" POSITION, AND THE HAMMER IN THE REBOUND POSITION.*

*CAUTION: ALWAYS MAKE SURE THE CARTRIDGES ARE OF THE PROPER CALIBER FOR YOUR RIFLE. CHECK THE AMMUNITION DESIGNATION ON THE BARREL. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS INSTRUCTION CAN RESULT IN SEVERE DAMAGE TO YOUR GUN AND POSSIBLE SERIOUS INJURY TO YOURSELF OR OTHERS.*

## UNLOADING

Fully unloading your rifle when storing your rifle or in other appropriate situations is essential to safe gun handling.

*BEFORE UNLOADING, CHECK TO ASSURE THAT THE MANUAL HAMMER STOP IS IN THE "ON" POSITION (SAFE) BY PULLING*

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*IT FULLY TO THE REAR UNTIL THE “S” JUST FORWARD OF THE SAFETY IS VISIBLE. KEEP YOUR FINGER AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER WHEN CYCLING THE ACTION.*

*IMPORTANT:*

*1. WITH THE GUN POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION AND YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER, SWING THE FINGER LEVER DOWNWARD FULLY. THIS WILL EXTRACT ANY CARTRIDGE FROM THE CHAMBER AND EJECT IT.*

Capture (or pick up) the cartridge and return the finger lever fully upward.

2. Proceed to operate the finger lever in the same manner transferring all the remaining cartridges from the magazine to the chamber and then eject them out. It is possible, with practice, to carefully work the lever and capture the loaded ejected cartridges with your other hand.

*THROUGHOUT THE UNLOADING PROCESS MAKE SURE THAT THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) STAYS IN THE “ON” POSITION (WITH THE “S” SHOWING) AND THAT YOU KEEP YOUR FINGER AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER AT ALL TIMES.*

When cartridges no longer eject when you cycle the action, further assure that no cartridges remain by opening the action and visually checking the chamber and feed/magazine mechanism to be sure no cartridges remain.

*IMPORTANT: ALWAYS VISUALLY NOTE, BY LOOKING THROUGH THE TOP OF THE OPEN RECEIVER, THAT THE MAGAZINE FOLLOWER IS SHOWING—AND NOT A CARTRIDGE BASE.*

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*ALWAYS DOUBLE CHECK THAT NO CARTRIDGES REMAIN.*

After the last live round is moved out of the magazine and ejected, immediately lower the hammer to the rebound position as explained previously.

## FIRING

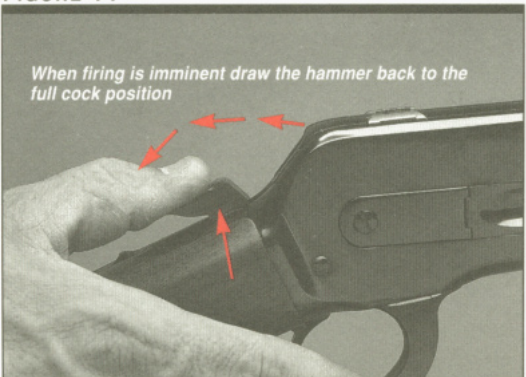
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*IMPORTANT: WHEN YOU ARE PREPARING TO SHOOT, IT IS ALWAYS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU BE TOTALLY SURE OF YOUR TARGET. ALWAYS BE AWARE OF ALL OBJECTS BEHIND YOUR TARGET. KNOW THE EXACT LOCATION OF PERSONS WITH YOU AND ANY OTHERS IN YOUR VICINITY. PICK YOUR TARGET WISELY AND CAREFULLY.*

With a loaded cartridge in the chamber, *THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) IN THE "ON" POSITION, THE HAMMER IN THE REBOUND POSITION AND YOUR FINGER OFF THE TRIGGER:*

1. Firmly position your thumb on the hammer and draw the hammer back to the full-cock position (see Figure 14).

**FIGURE 14**



# WINCHESTER.

2. Place the safety in the “off” position by pushing it fully forward, covering the “S”.

*CAUTION: YOUR RIFLE IS NOW READY TO FIRE. REMEMBER, THE RECOIL FROM A LARGE CALIBER CENTERFIRE RIFLE WILL BE SOMEWHAT HEAVY, SO FIRMLY SHOULDER YOUR GUN, TAKE AIM, AND — WHEN ON TARGET — SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER.*

3. Firmly shoulder your gun, take aim and when on target squeeze the trigger smoothly, without jerking. After firing, let the trigger return to the fully forward position.

**TO CONTINUE THE LOADING PROCESS AND CHAMBER ANOTHER ROUND FOR THE NEXT SHOT:**

1. Swing the finger lever fully down extracting and ejecting the fired cartridge case from the chamber.

2. Close the action by returning the finger lever upward. The closing of the action will transfer a new cartridge from the magazine to the chamber, leaving the hammer in a cocked “ready to fire” position. Start again at step #3 above or go immediately to step #6 below.

3. *WHEN THROUGH FIRING ~~AND~~ IMMEDIATELY PLACE THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) IN THE “ON POSITION AND THE HAMMER IN THE REBOUND POSITION.*

4. To later fire additional cartridges from the magazine — with an empty casing still in the chamber — simply work the finger lever downward fully ejecting the empty cartridge and then return the lever to the original upward position. Repeat the firing sequence again.

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5. WHEN FIRING IS COMPLETED OR WHEN SHOOTING IS NO LONGER IMMINENT, IMMEDIATELY RETURN THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) TO THE “ON” POSITION AND RETURN THE HAMMER TO THE REBOUND POSITION.

**IMPORTANT: UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU MOVE ON OR CONTINUE TO HUNT WITH YOUR HAMMER OR SAFETY IN THE FIRE POSITION.**

6. At this point you will need to either refill the magazine with loaded cartridges (if shooting is going to continue), or fully unload your rifle (if shooting is completed). Either way place the safety in the “on safe” position and the hammer in the rebound position.

**IMPORTANT: ALWAYS KEEP YOUR MODEL 1886 SHOULDERED WHEN EJECTING AN EMPTY CARTRIDGE CASE.** Ejection is up and slightly to the right. If you eject a cartridge with the rifle lowered and the action directly in front of your face, it is possible that the ejected cartridge could strike the shooter in the face. Caution should be taken by the shooter and bystanders behind the shooter. When an empty cartridge is correctly ejected it will fall to the ground in an area behind and to the right of the shooter.

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## IN THE CASE OF A MISFIRE

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Only rarely will modern factory ammunition experience a misfire. If this ever happens to you when shooting your Model 1886 please follow these instructions carefully.

***CAUTION: IN CASE OF MISFIRE, KEEP THE BARREL POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, PLACE THE MANUAL HAMMER STOP IN THE “ON” POSITION AND CAREFULLY OPEN ACTION WHILE AVOIDING DIRECT EXPOSURE TO THE BREECH BY YOURSELF AND OTHERS.***

Carefully inspect the ejected cartridge. If the primer is indented, the cartridge should be disposed of in a manner that would prevent accidental injury to you or others. If there is no indentation, your gun has malfunctioned and should be serviced by a qualified gunsmith or by a U.S. Repeating Arms Company Authorized Repair Center (ARC).

It is important that you be fully familiar and totally competent with your rifle's handling and operation procedures. With the safety in the “on” position, it is possible to cock the hammer and pull the trigger, and then, when the cartridge fails to fire, think the rifle has misfired. However, you may have merely forgotten to move the safety to the “off” position. In either case, always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction until you determine the cause.

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## SIGHT ADJUSTMENTS

Model 1886 rifles are fitted with traditional open sights.

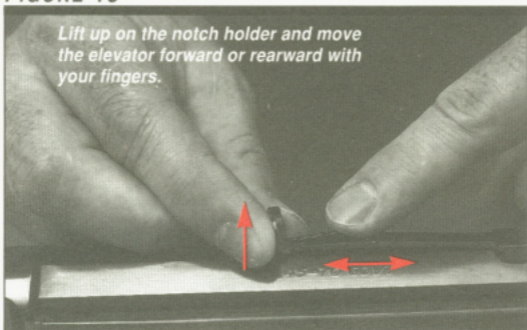
### OPEN STYLE SIGHTS

Your firearm can be adjusted to shoot higher by moving the rear sight elevator backward by one or more notches.

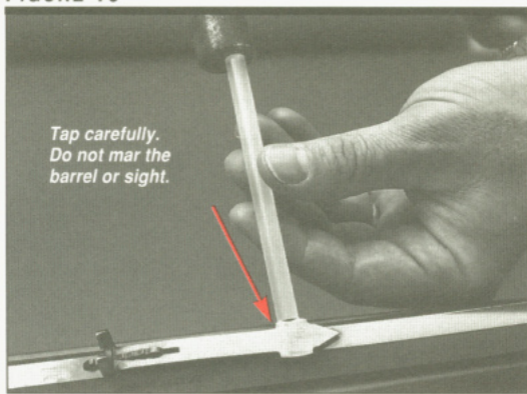
In order to shoot lower, the elevator can be moved forward (See Figure 15).

The rear sight is attached to the barrel in a dovetailed slot machined into the barrel. By gently tap-

**FIGURE 15**



**FIGURE 16**





# WINCHESTER.

ping the rear sight base (where fastened to the barrel) to the right, your gun will shoot more to the right. An adjustment to the left can be made by tapping the base to the left (See Figure 16).

Care should be taken not to mar the finish or bend sights when adjustments are made.

***A NONMARRING BRASS, PLASTIC OR FIBER HAMMER AND/OR DRIFT IS ALWAYS PREFERRED FOR THIS OPERATION.***

## CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE SUGGESTIONS

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The Model 1886 will function better and more reliably over a longer period of time if it is properly maintained and kept clean.

***BEFORE PERFORMING ANY CLEANING PROCEDURES, ALWAYS MAKE CERTAIN THERE ARE NO CARTRIDGES IN THE CHAMBER, MAGAZINE OR ACTION/FEED AREAS.***

You should clean your Model 1886 after every day of shooting and more often if it becomes excessively dirty. A minimum cleaning includes wiping down the action and oiling key parts. Most regular maintenance will also include cleaning the barrel. If you encounter a function problem (tight action when working the finger lever), be sure to give your gun a thorough cleaning to see if it solves the problem before seeking the services of our service facility or a competent gunsmith.

To clean your firearm, follow the general outline below:

CLEANING PROCEDURES —

***BE CERTAIN YOUR GUN'S CHAMBER AND***

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*MAGAZINE ARE UNLOADED. ALWAYS WEAR PROTECTIVE SAFETY GLASSES DURING ALL CLEANING PROCEDURES.*

*KEEP AMMUNITION AWAY FROM THE CLEANING AREA. DO NOT TEST THE FUNCTION OF YOUR FIREARM WITH LIVE AMMUNITION.*

*ALWAYS PLACE THE SAFETY (MANUAL HAMMER STOP) IN THE "ON" (SAFE) POSITION BEFORE BEGINNING ANY CLEANING PROCEDURE.*

1. Open the action. Use a cleaning rod with a tip and patch suitable for your caliber bore. Make sure the patch is 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. **USE A CROWN PROTECTOR IF POSSIBLE.** Be careful not to strike the crown of the muzzle with the handle end of the rod. Damage to this area can affect the accuracy of the rifle.

2. Inspect the chamber and bore for brass, copper, lead and powder fouling. A normal amount of powder residue can be expected and is not serious. It can usually be removed by repeating step one, using a patch saturated with solvent. If or when fouling should become heavy, it can be removed with a brass bore brush. Dip or spray the brush with 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 bore before

being withdrawn.

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

4. Wipe all exposed metal surfaces of the receiver, forearm and barrel with a clean rag. Finger marks should be removed because they provide a place where moisture can accumulate. Any dried oil in the receiver area should also be removed.

5. Then lightly oil your gun at the points described under “Oiling the Action” explained earlier in this manual. Ordinary good judgment will, of course, indicate that the metal of the gun should receive a light film of oil any time the rifle has been exposed to weather or handling. Remember, the polished, finely fitted surfaces of the receiver and action mechanisms must always have a thin film of oil. Make sure that the surfaces of the breech block, lever components and feed mechanism parts are especially clean and lightly oiled with a high quality gun oil. Do not use pure silicone or lanolin.

**6. INSPECT THE BARREL AND CHAMBER. TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT NO PATCHES HAVE BEEN INADVERTENTLY LEFT IN THEM.** Remove any that remain.

7. Wipe all wood surfaces.

8. When transporting only, place your Model 1886 in a quality protective case to prevent scratches and dents. Store in a dry place to prevent corrosion. Store

# WINCHESTER.

away from children. Make sure your gun is unloaded and always store ammunition separately.

## OTHER CLEANING SUGGESTIONS —

- Never pour large quantities of oil into the receiver or other parts. It can drain down to the wood and soften it — and cause permanent damage and loosening of the stock.
- After extended periods of heavy use, your gun should be taken to a qualified gunsmith to have the action disassembled for professional cleaning and lubrication.

## ***NEVER ATTEMPT TO TAKE YOUR MODEL 1886 APART FURTHER THAN EXPLAINED IN THIS MANUAL.***

This is a specialized, finely fitted mechanism. You may permanently mar it by attempting to disassemble the inner mechanism assemblies. If further disassembly for service or cleaning is required, take your gun to a U. S. Repeating Arms Company recommended Service Center or a competent gunsmith as explained under “Service or Repair.”

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## ORDERING PARTS

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To order parts, please write our parts department and furnish the following: your name, address, and telephone number. Also specify the model and serial number of your gun. When we receive your request, we will send an order form and a parts breakdown with prices.

Write to:

### **Pacts Department**

**U.S. Repeating Arms Company, Inc.**

**275 Winchester Avenue**

**New Haven, Connecticut 06511-1970**

***CAUTION: PARTS ARE MADE FOR WINCHESTER BRAND FIREARMS MANUFACTURED BY OR FOR U.S. REPEATING ARMS COMPANY, INC., AND SHOULD NOT BE USED IN OTHER GUNS EVEN THOUGH MODELS MAY BE SIMILAR. IMPROPERLY FITTED PARTS MAY BE DANGEROUS.***

## SERVICE OR REPAIR

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If your Winchester firearm should ever need repair or service, please utilize one of the world-wide network of U.S. Repeating Arms Company Authorized Repair Centers for Winchester firearms. If you have any questions about how to obtain service for your Winchester firearm, call or write the Authorized Repair Center (ARC) nearest you. A list of ARCs is packaged with your new gun. If you need to obtain a new list of ARCs call us at: **1-203-789-5000**

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## **QUESTIONS**

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If you have other questions about Winchester rifles and shotguns, call or write our Customer Service Department:

Customer Service

U.S. Repeating Arms Company, Inc.

275 Winchester Avenue

Morgan, Utah 84050-9333

Phone: 1-800-945-5237

## **WINCHESTER-GUNS.COM**

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U.S. Repeating Arms Company offers an information resource for you on the world wide web.

- List of authorized repair centers.
- Customer service information.
- Answers to many technical and historical questions.
- Links to helpful sites.

Go to: [www.winchesterguns.com](http://www.winchesterguns.com)

## **You Are Responsible For Firearms Safety**

As a gun owner, you accept a set of demanding responsibilities. How seriously you take these responsibilities can mean the difference between life and death. Failure to follow any of these instructions can cause extensive damage to your gun and/or possible serious injury or death to yourself and others. There is no excuse for careless or abusive handling of any firearm. At all times handle any firearm with intense respect for its power and potential danger.

**PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE CAUTIONS, PROPER HANDLING PROCEDURES AND INSTRUCTIONS OUTLINED IN THE OWNER'S MANUAL BEFORE USING YOUR NEW FIREARM.**

1. **ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE OF YOUR RIFLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION**, even though you are certain that the rifle 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 RIFLE'S MECHANICAL "SAFETY" DEVICE**. The word "safety" describes a gun's trigger block mechanism, sear block mechanism, hammer block mechanism or firing pin block mechanism. These mechanical devices are designed to place your gun in a **SAFER** status. No guarantee can be made that the gun will not fire even if the "safety" is in the "on safe" position. See "**Operations of the Safety**" for instructions on operation of YOUR gun's "safety."  
**LIKE ANY MECHANICAL DEVICE, A "SAFETY" CAN SOMETIMES FAIL; IT CAN BE JARRED OR INADVERTENTLY MANIPULATED INTO AN UNSAFE CONDITION.**  
Mechanical "safeties" merely aid safe gun handling and are no excuse for pointing your rifle's muzzle in an unsafe direction.  
While it is a good idea to "test" your rifle's mechanical "safeties" periodically for proper function, **NEVER TEST IT WHILE YOUR RIFLE IS LOADED OR POINTED IN AN UNSAFE DIRECTION**  
Safe gun handling does not stop with your gun's mechanical "safety devices -- it starts there. Always treat your rifle with the respect due a loaded, ready-to-fire firearm.
3. **WHENEVER YOU HANDLE A FIREARM, OR HAND IT TO SOMEONE, ALWAYS OPEN THE ACTION IMMEDIATELY, VISUALLY CHECK YOUR RIFLE'S CHAMBER, FEED MECHANISM AND MAGAZINE.**  
Make certain they do not inadvertently contain any ammunition. Always keep the chamber empty and "safety" in the "on safe" position unless shooting is imminent.
4. **DO NOT TRANSPORT YOUR RIFLE LOADED, WHETHER IN A SCABBARD, GUN CASE, OR OTHER CONTAINER.**
5. **HUNTING FROM ELEVATED SURFACES SUCH AS TREE STANDS IS DANGEROUS**, and may increase the risk of handling 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 to 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 to or down from the stand. **Remember**, a loaded firearm may discharge when dropped, even with the safety in the "on safe" position.

6. **BEWARE OF BARREL OBSTRUCTIONS**, for the safety of both your gun and yourself. Mud, snow, and an infinite variety of other obstructions may inadvertently lodge in a barrel bore. It takes only one small obstruction to cause dangerously increased pressures that can ruin (swell or rupture) the finest rifle barrels.  
**BEFORE CHECKING FOR A BARREL OBSTRUCTION, BE CERTAIN NO LIVE ROUND IS IN THE CHAMBER AND THAT THE MAGAZINE IS REMOVED AND FEED MECHANISMS ARE COMPLETELY EMPTY. PLACE THE "SAFETY" IN THE "ON SAFE" POSITION.**  
Look through the barrel to be sure it is clear of any obstruction. If an obstruction is seen, no matter how small it may be, clean the bore with a cleaning rod and patch as described in "**Cleaning and Maintenance Suggestions.**" Before the first firing, clean the bore with a cleaning rod and patch, and wipe away any anti-rust compound in the action/chamber areas.
7. **ALWAYS UNLOAD YOUR RIFLE WHEN NOT IN USE. REFER TO "UNLOADING THE RIFLE" FOR AN EXPLANATION OF HOW TO UNLOAD YOUR RIFLE PROPERLY.**  
As a safety precaution, it is preferable to disassemble your gun for storage. Store your gun and ammunition separately -- well beyond the reach of children. Take all safeguards to ensure your rifle does not become available to untrained, inexperienced or unwelcome hands.
8. **USE THE PROPER AMMUNITION.**  
The barrel and action of this rifle have been made with substantial safety margins over the pressures developed by established American commercial loads. Nevertheless, Browning assumes no liability for incidents which occur through the use of cartridges of nonstandard dimensions which develop pressures in excess of commercially available ammunition with standards established by the Sporting Arms and Ammunitions Manufacturers' Institute (SAAMI).  
**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.** Open the action and remove all cartridges from the magazine, chamber and action areas. With the action open, glance down the barrel to make sure that an obstruction does not remain in the barrel. If there is an obstruction, completely clear the barrel before loading and firing again. Failure to follow these instructions can cause extensive damage to your gun and possible serious injury to yourself and others.  
**MAKE SURE OF ADEQUATE VENTILATION IN THE AREA THAT YOU DISCHARGE A FIREARM. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER EXPOSURE TO AMMUNITION OR CLEANING A FIREARM.**  
Lead exposure can be obtained 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.
9. **DO NOT SNAP THE FIRING PIN ON AN EMPTY CHAMBER -- THE CHAMBER MAY NOT BE EMPTY!**  
Treat every gun with the respect due a loaded gun, even though you are certain the gun is unloaded.
10. **KEEP FINGERS AWAY FROM THE TRIGGER WHILE UNLOADING, LOADING, UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO SHOOT.**



11. **BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND BACKSTOP.**  
Particularly during low light periods. Know the range of your ammunition. Never shoot at water or hard object.
12. **ALWAYS UNLOAD YOUR RIFLE'S CHAMBER BEFORE CROSSING A FENCE, CLIMBING A TREE, JUMPING A DITCH OR NEGOTIATING OTHER OBSTACLES.**  
Refer to "**Unloading The Rifle**" for instructions on the unloading of your rifle. Never place your loaded rifle on or against a fence, tree, car or other similar object.
13. **WEAR EYE AND EAR PROTECTION WHEN SHOOTING.**  
Unprotected, repeated exposure to gunfire can cause hearing damage. Wear ear protectors (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 the scope and your eye when firing a scoped rifle or shotgun. Always keep a safe distance between the muzzle of your firearm and any persons nearby, as muzzle blast, debris and ejecting shells could inflict serious injury. Also, wear eye protection when disassembling and cleaning your shotgun to prevent the possibility of springs, spring-tensioned parts, solvent or other agents from contacting your eyes.
14. **DROPPING A LOADED GUN CAN CAUSE AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE** even with the "safety" in the "on safe" position. Be extremely careful while hunting or during any shooting activity, to avoid dropping any firearm.
15. **IF YOUR RIFLE FAILS TO FIRE, KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.**  
Hold this position for a minimum of 30 seconds. Carefully open the action and remove the cartridge. If the primer is indented, the 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 should be corrected before further use.
16. **BE DEFENSIVE AND ON GUARD AGAINST UNSAFE GUN HANDLING AROUND YOU AND OTHERS.**  
Don't be timid when it comes to gun safety. If you observe other shooters violating any of these safety precautions, politely suggest safer handling practices.
17. **BE CERTAIN YOUR RIFLE IS UNLOADED BEFORE CLEANING.** Because so many gun accidents occur when a firearm is being cleaned, special and extreme care should be taken to be sure your gun 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.
18. **TEACH AND SUPERVISE FIREARMS SAFETY TO ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY -- ESPECIALLY TO CHILDREN AND NONSHOOTERS.**  
Closely supervise newcomers to the shooting sports. Encourage enrolling in hunting/shooting safety courses.
19. **NEVER DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR TAKE ANY TYPE OF DRUGS BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING.**  
Your vision and judgment could be dangerously impaired, making your gun handling unsafe to you and to others.

20. **READ AND HEED ALL WARNINGS** in this instruction book, 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 gun. Browning assumes no liability for incidents which occur when unsafe or improper gun accessories or ammunition combinations are used.
21. **PERIODIC MAINTENANCE -- AVOID UNAUTHORIZED SERVICING.**  
Your rifle 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 Browning's service facility in Arnold, Missouri. Browning cannot assume any responsibility for injuries suffered or caused by unauthorized servicing, alterations or modifications of Browning firearms.
22. **BROWNING RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REFUSE SERVICE ON FIREARMS THAT HAVE BEEN ALTERED, ADDED TO OR SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED.**  
Removal of metal from barrel(s), or modification of the firing mechanism and/or operating parts may lead to Browning's refusal of service on such firearms. Browning will charge the owner parts and labor to return the firearm to original Browning specifications.  
**DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, ALTER THE TRIGGER, SAFETY OR 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!**



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**RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS**

**U.S. REPEATING ARMS COMPANY, INC.**

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