

Field Stripping 1911 Short Slide Pistol

(Perform in a contained area manner so no parts are lost)

Safety First: Review and follow all firearm safety rules

Carefully take your time and understand this process.

Remove all live ammunition from work area. Wear heavy duty safety glasses at all times.

Remove Magazine from the pistol. Unload Chamber. Double check. Remove live ammo from work area.

No Tool Disassembly:

Cock hammer. Grip the upside down pistol with web of right hand under the beavertail grip safety and 4 fingers over the top of the slide and rear sight area. Pull the slide back until the half-moon notch in the bottom edge of the non ejection port side of the slide lines up with the rear of the slide stop, and hold the slide in this position, then push slide stop part way (1/4") out of the frame. (If the slide stop has a flush cut cross pin you may need the point of a pen or similar object to push the slide stop part way out). Then grip the slide stop lever with your fingers and pull it all the way out of the pistol. At this point the slide can be pushed off the front of the frame. *Caution*: The recoil spring and guide rod are not captive and can spring free and cause injury or parts loss if they are not controlled. Wrap the 4 fingers of your left hand around the dust cover of the pistol frame and around the bottom of the slide as you push it forward. Be sure to maintain control of the spring and guide rod as you push the slide off the front of the frame. Then carefully release the spring tension and remove spring and rod from the rear underside of the slide. Note that the spring plug seats on a small shelf. The plug also removes from the rear of the slide. (The plug MUST seat back in this same position when you reassemble). To remove barrel bushing simple turn it ¼ turn counterclockwise. Once the bushing lug is turned free from the slide's lug recess, then the bushing will come out from the front of the slide, and so will the barrel. Reverse order to reassemble.

Small Tool Disassembly:

Put the plastic finger ring on tip of right hand index finger. Grip the pistol with right hand around pistol grip. Put the ring point on the ejection port side of the slide stop cross pin. Put mild pressure on the slide stop cross pin while slowly pulling slide to the rear with left hand. As the rear of the slide stop passes the half-moon notch on the bottom edge of the non-ejection port side of the slide the slide stop will pop out approximately ¼". Leave the slide stop in this position. Now grip the pistol upside down with the web of the right hand under the beavertail and 4 fingers over the top rear of the slide and rear sight area. Pull the slide back until you can see the recoil spring guide rod protruding out of the front underside of the slide and you can see a small hole across the guide rod. Hold the slide back in this position. Use a high quality paperclip bent into an L shape (with a long leg and a short leg) and place the short leg of the paperclip through the hole in the guide rod. The long leg should run parallel along the guide rod and extend out of the front of the pistol frame. While still gripping the slide and holding the spring pressure slightly to the rear, use your fingers to grip the slide stop lever and remove the slide stop completely. At this point the slide / barrel / spring / guide rod etc can all be moved off the front of the pistol frame as one unit. The recoil spring, rod and plug will all be held captive together by the paperclip. *Caution* They are under great spring pressure as a unit. Do not point them in any unsafe direction. Handle them

very carefully. They can be removed from the rear of the slide's spring tunnel as a unit and should be placed in a secure safety container on your workbench. Use a non-marring bushing wrench to remove the barrel bushing by turning it ¼ turn counterclockwise to free the bushing lug from the lug recess in the slide. The bushing and barrel can then be taken out from the front of the slide. Reverse order to reassemble. Put spring / guide rod / plug assembly back in as a captive unit. Make sure spring plug is properly seated on slide seat. Taking care not to scratch the pistol, install the slide stop cross pin through internal barrel link and align rear of slide stop with half-moon notch in the bottom edge of the slide and fully install slide stop. The back dull edge of a pocket knife can assist you in pushing the slide stop plunger spring inward. There will be no recoil spring pressure on the slide during this process because recoil spring is still captive as a unit by the paperclip. Once the slide stop is fully in place, grip under the grip safety with the web of your right hand and over the top of the rear of the slide and rear sight area with 4 fingers. Pull back slightly against recoil spring tension until the paperclip can be removed from the guide rod. Then let the slide all the way forward. With the slide fully forward look at the front end of the pistol frame's dust cover and the rear end of the slide's recoil spring tunnel and make sure the recoil spring plug is fully seated on the small shelf at the rear of the slide's recoil spring tunnel. If it is, cycle the slide a few times to assure all is functioning smoothly and correctly. If the spring plug is not properly seated on the shelf, disassemble and properly seat the plug. Do not fire the pistol unless the spring plug is properly seated. The spring plug must be properly seated on the slide shelf and the large end of the guide rod must be positioned so that the concave portion of the guide rod head rests against the convex portion of the underside of the barrel.

The above described procedure is all a very simple process once you become familiar with your 1911 short slide pistol. Take your time to understand each step completely before moving on. There is no need to force anything. It is a matter of understanding how the components fit and function together.

Do not snap the hammer down when the slide is not in place on the frame.

When reinstalling the slide on the frame make sure the frame's series 80 plunger arm is not up and interfering the slide installation. Keep the plunger arm down and flush in the frame when reinstalling the slide on the frame.

Consult your D&L Sports inc 1911 pistol manual for more information. Feel free to call any time can questions arise.

Thank you, and Good Shooting!

DLS inc.