

## Tetra® Gun Care Guide

### Cleaning & Lubricating Procedures for Rifles, Shotguns and Pistols

Over many years, FTI, Inc. has developed a portfolio of performance lubricants, cleaning solvents and metal finishing products, each with a specific intended purpose. The following is a guide designed to help you navigate your way through effective firearm maintenance practices.

#### Bore Preparation

Apply **Tetra® Gun Copper Solvent** liberally on brush, mop or patch and pass through bore to wet barrel. For badly fouled barrels, leave solvent wet for 15-30 minutes (Tetra® Gun Copper Solvent can be left overnight with no danger of etching). NOTE: One pass with a brush cleans better than 10 with a patch, so use brush on heavily fouled bore.

Please be advised that aggressive solvents like Tetra® Gun Copper Solvent will dissolve bronze brushes over time. To avoid this, after using the brush, spray it with a few quick shots of **Action Blaster™** to neutralize the solvent. Your brush will last a lot longer and it will be clean for next use.

Now you will have a barrel full of solvent and residue that is normally cleaned by patching many times until clean. The easiest way to remove this residue from the barrel in preparation for bore conditioning is to hold the muzzle over a rag and spray some Action Blaster™ (use attached plastic straw) down the bore from the breech end. The Action Blaster™ will wash out all solvent and residue easily and leave a clean chamber as well.

We recommend that you use cotton patches, brushes, mops and jags that are sized correctly to fit the caliber of your firearm. Tetra® Gun Care offers a full line of accessories, including our **ValuPro™ III** cleaning kits and one-piece **Prosmith™** series premium rods.

Next, run one dry patch through the bore to make sure it is clean and ready for Tetra® bore treatment. To make sure your barrel is clean of copper and lead fouling, run an additional patch with Copper Solvent on it. Blue or green on your patch indicates there is still copper fouling in the barrel while gray/black indicates lead or carbon fouling. More solvent and brushing may be necessary if patch shows fouling is still present. Follow this procedure with a shot of Action Blaster™ and a dry patch until clean to properly prepare for bore treatment.

If there is no copper fouling, instead, use **Tetra® Gun Powder Solvent** as follows: Saturate a cotton patch or mop and run it through the bore until wet, and let it stand for several minutes. Then run nylon or brass brushes through the bore depending on how hard the buildup is, followed by dry patches. Lastly, run a patch saturated with **Tetra® Gun Lubricant** through the bore for treatment and rust protection. Use a dry patch to finish the process.

If you want to remove old or unwanted finishes, after spraying the target surfaces with Action Blaster™, you can apply **Tetra® Gun Blue & Rust Remover** to parts without damaging the base metal. Apply with moistened cotton, and let stand for a few minutes. Finish by wiping down parts with clean, dry cotton. And if you want to reblue the steel, brighten the metal with steel wool or abrasive cloth to prime the surface. Then, apply up to seven coats of **Tetra® Gun Liquid Blue**, depending on how dark you want the finish to be. Let it set overnight, and then polish in Tetra® lubricant.

#### Conditioning the Bore

After cleaning and preparing the bore, shake **Tetra® Gun Lubricant** well and saturate a patch or mop. Pass through bore 20 times wet. Replace with dry patch or mop and run through 20 times,

replacing dry patches as needed. Bore should be dry. If left wet, the first few rounds may shoot high and erratic until excess oil is blown out of barrel. A treatment should last up to 2500 rounds in .22 rimfire rifles and up to 1000 rounds in centerfire rifles and shotguns, depending on barrel condition and the ammunition used.

Brushing is not usually necessary after a Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun bore treatment. Normally, running a dry patch or two through bore after shooting, along with a little Action Blaster<sup>™</sup> is sufficient if there is suspect carbon fouling, or use Copper Solvent to check for copper.

#### Exterior and Actions

Clean entire exterior of firearm with Action Blaster<sup>™</sup>. Note that this removes all old oil, grease and solvent residue, so rust will likely form if not protected. **Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Spray cleaner and light lubricant** will clean like Action Blaster, but will leave lubricant and will protect against rust. Use Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Spray for actions and trigger groups where you want to clean, lubricate and protect from rust without leaving large amount of oil behind.

Shake Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Lubricant and apply a few drops to exterior surfaces, then work in with hand or rag and buff dry with clean rag. This will protect against rust and leave a very smooth finish that is easier to clean.

**Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Grease** is best for bolts, slides, rails, triggers, chokes and any other heavy wear areas where you want lube to stay put. Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Lubricant is similar to the grease, but will "migrate" into hard-to-reach areas like decocking levers, ejectors, rotating lugs, firing pins, etc. Both lubes can be buffed dry or left wet, depending on your preference and lubing application. FTI recommends buffing dry when used for surface protection and bore conditioning. Look for shiny spots on bolt, rails, and any metal-to-metal contact areas that indicate wear. A small dab of grease or oil here will reduce friction and smoothen action overall.

#### Auto Handguns

Clean with Action Blaster<sup>™</sup> and/or Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Spray the same as with rifles. We prefer to use the spray lube in the frame on trigger groups, springs, and levers, while using Action Blaster on slide and barrel. Remove and clean barrel, barrel bushing, and the guide rod. Give a quick shot of either on magazines, and then wiping dry with rag will clean it and make surfaces ready for Tetra Gun Lubricant.

Work 1 or 2 drops of Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Lubricant into magazine with hand or rag and buff dry. Use Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Grease or Lubricant on rails, slides, barrel bushing, guide rod, trigger, and hammer will smooth action noticeably. Use Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Lubricant on decocking lever and 1 drop on each side (rear) channel on slide, with Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Grease on male wear points that fit into the channels. Use 1 or 2 drops of Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Lubricant on barrel and work it in with hand or rag. Wipe a small amount of lubricant on the ramp with what is on your hand from applying to barrel, then buff dry. The ramp will be much easier to clean after shooting next time. Work a few drops into entire exterior of weapon with hand or rag, then Buff dry with clean rag.

Tetra<sup>®</sup> Gun Lubricant or Grease can be left wet or buffed dry, depending on preference and application. The weapon will stay cleaner with less lubricant on it, so FTI recommends wiping off most excess lube after working it into the action. Assemble gun fairly wet and work lube into all working areas by racking the slide several times. Then, disassemble and wipe off excess before reassembly.

Barrel treatment is same for handgun as rifle and shotgun. It is not uncommon to shoot high and erratic for about 20 rounds after treatment if barrel is left wet, so buff dry with dry patches.

## **Using the Tetra® Gun Triple Action™ CLP**

Think safety first. Make sure the firearm is unloaded before cleaning.

For bore cleaning, remove the barrel and clean from the breech out to the muzzle. If the barrel cannot be removed, clean from the muzzle to the breech, taking precautions not to push debris into the action.

Saturate a patch or mop with CLP and pass it through the bore 3-6 times. Then saturate a bronze brush with CLP and pass it through the bore 3-6 times. Follow with patches or mop until clean. Use CLP to lubricate all moving parts and to wipe down exterior metal surfaces to acid elimination and rust prevention. The contents are generally harmless to wood, rubber and polymers.