

Basic Handgun Safety and Concealed Carry Fundamentals



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Administrative



- ⌘ Cell phones on mute/vibrate
- ⌘ **No live ammunition allowed in the classroom**
- ⌘ Breaks

Agenda



- œ Safety
- œ Handgun Types and Selection
- œ Ammunition
- œ Shooting Fundamentals
- œ Firearms Malfunctions
- œ Concealed Carry Issues
- œ Notable Colorado Firearms Laws
- œ Next Steps
- œ Resources

Firearms Safety Rules



- ❧ The gun is ALWAYS loaded
- ❧ Muzzle always pointed in safe direction
- ❧ Finger off the trigger until ready to shoot
- ❧ Be aware of your target, what's behind it, and what is between you and the target

Storage Considerations



- œ Keeping unauthorized persons from obtaining firearm
- œ Loaded or unloaded
- œ In the safe or on the night stand...

Accidents versus Negligence



- ❧ There are NO accidents when it comes to unintentional firearms discharges
- ❧ If a gun goes off when it was not intended to, it was caused by NEGLIGENCE
- ❧ Know the safety rules, know how your firearm operates, and know your environment
- ❧ Keep your head in the game...

Handgun Types and Selection (Revolver)

Double-Action Revolver



Handgun Types and Selection (Revolver)



Handgun Types and Selection (Revolver)



☞ Advantages

- ☞ Reliable
- ☞ Fewer moving parts

☞ Disadvantages

- ☞ Lower ammunition capacity
- ☞ Reloading is more difficult/slower

Handgun Types and Selection (Revolver)



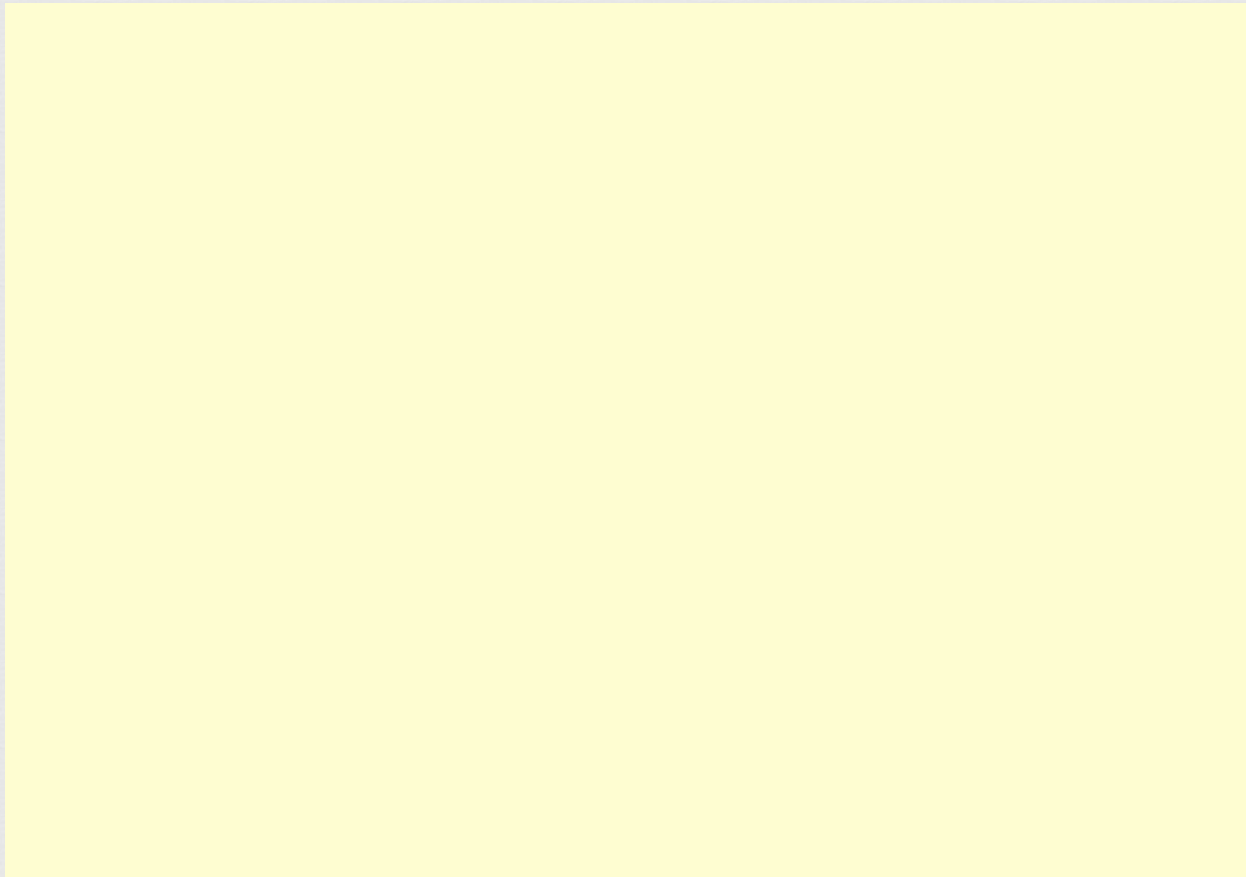
- ❧ Single action versus double-action
- ❧ Loading and unloading
- ❧ Safety features

Handgun Types and Selection (Semi-Automatic Pistol)

Semi-Automatic Pistol



Handgun Types and Selection (Semi-Automatic Pistol)



Handgun Types and Selection (Semi-Automatic Pistol)



∞ Advantages

- ∞ Higher ammunition capacity
- ∞ Faster to reload

∞ Disadvantages

- ∞ More moving parts
- ∞ More malfunction types

Handgun Types and Selection (Semi-Automatic Pistol)



- ❧ Single action versus double-action
- ❧ Loading and unloading
- ❧ Safety features

Handgun Selection



- ❧ What caliber should I select?

- ❧ What handgun should I select?
 - ❧ Primary use
 - ❧ Comfort and proper grip versus “coolness”

- ❧ What features should I look for?
 - ❧ Mechanical safety or not
 - ❧ Warranty and serviceability
 - ❧ Accessories



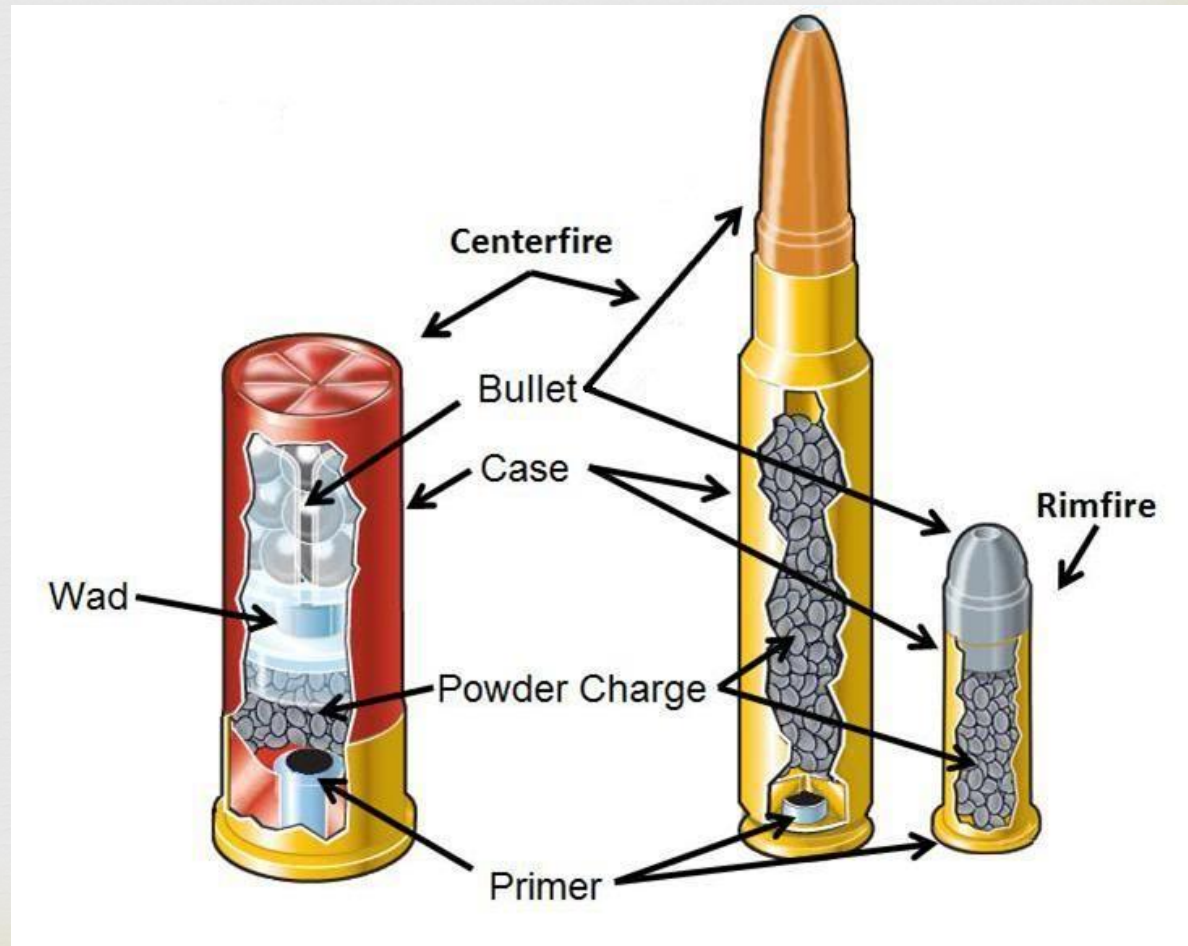
Ammunition



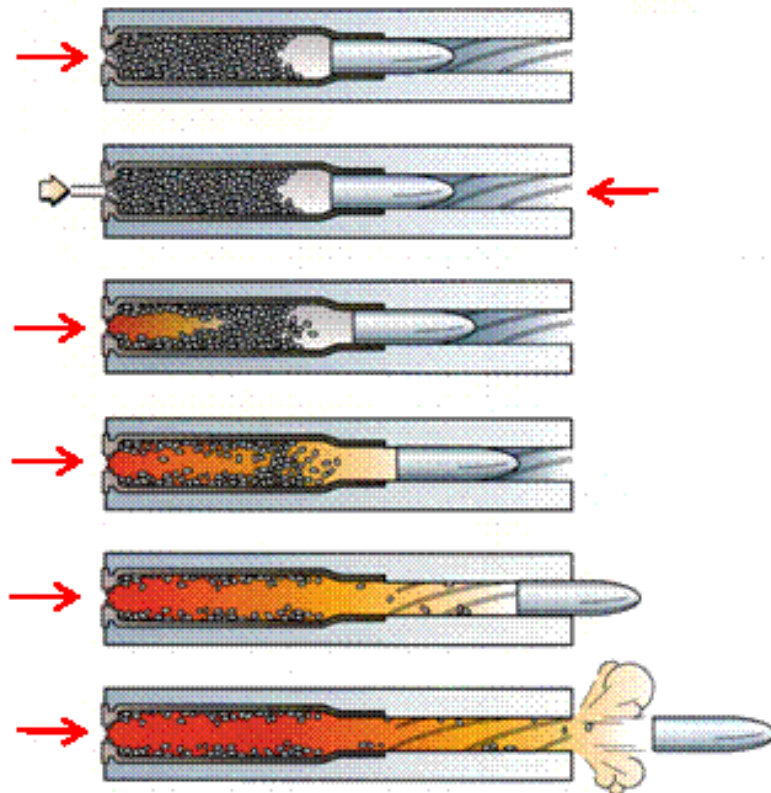
Types

Rimfire

Center fire



How Ammunition Works



CARTRIDGE FIRING SEQUENCE

CARTRIDGE IN CHAMBER

FIRING PIN STRIKES PRIMER OR CASE RIM AND IGNITES THE PRIMING COMPOUND

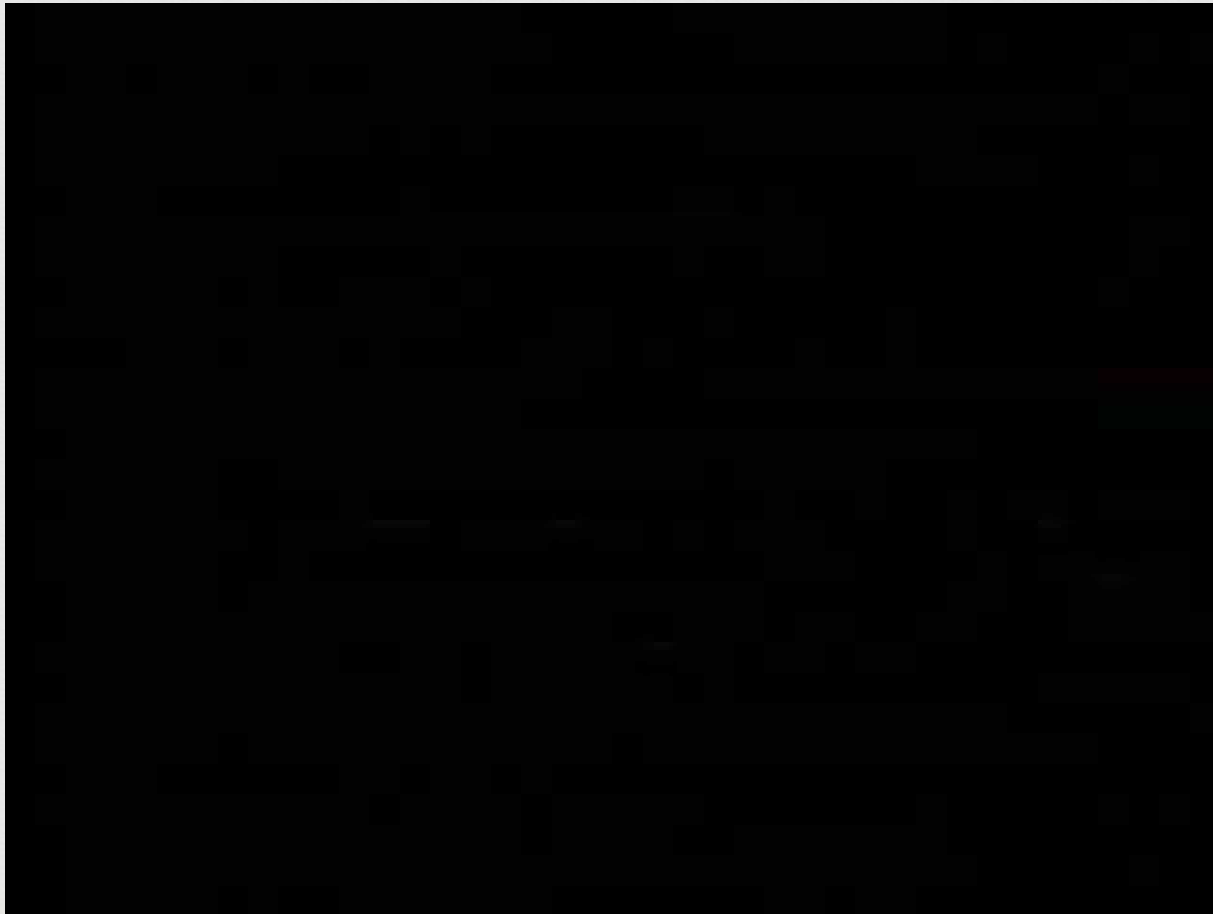
FLAME GENERATED BY PRIMING COMPOUND IGNITES POWDER CHARGE

POWDER BURNS RAPIDLY, GENERATING A VOLUME OF HOT, HIGH-PRESSURE GAS

GAS PUSHES BULLET THROUGH BORE AT HIGH SPEED

BULLET EXITS MUZZLE, HOT GAS MAKES "BANG"

How Ammunition Works



Ammunition



- ☞ Identification:
 - ☞ Headstamp



Ammunition



❧ Applicability

❧ The right ammo for the right gun

❧ How do you tell?

❧ Marked on gun barrel

❧ Marked on ammunition head stamp

❧ Marked on box (be careful!)

❧ Firearms owner's manual...

Ammunition



☞ Safety

☞ Ensure only proper ammunition is used in your gun

☞ Storage

☞ Factory versus hand reloads

☞ Ammunition disposal...

A "CLIP"



A "MAGAZINE"

Shooting Fundamentals



- ❧ Grip
- ❧ Stance
- ❧ Sight alignment
- ❧ Sight picture
- ❧ Breath control
- ❧ Trigger control
- ❧ Follow through

Shooting Fundamentals



☞ Grip:



Shooting Fundamentals



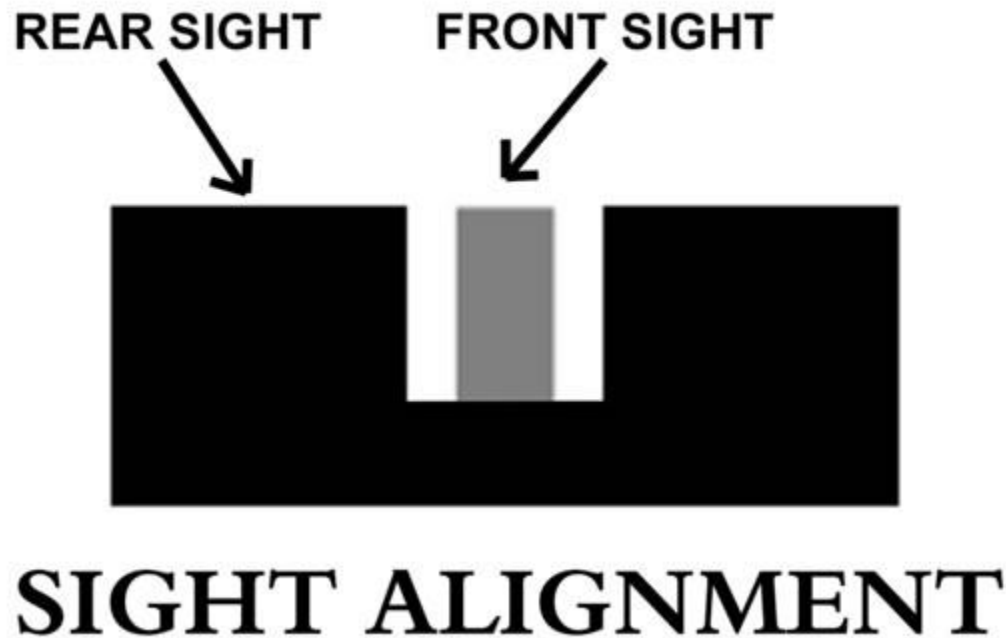
☞ Stance:



Shooting Fundamentals



☞ Sight Alignment



Shooting Fundamentals



☞ Sight Picture

- ☞ Target blurry
- ☞ Rear sight blurry
- ☞ Front sight crisp



Shooting Fundamentals



☞ Breath Control

☞ Trigger Control

☞ Follow Through

Firearms Malfunctions



- ❧ Type 1 - Failure to Fire (Revolver and semi-automatic)
 - ❧ Misfire
 - ❧ Hangfire
 - ❧ Squib Load
- ❧ Type 2 - Failure to Eject (Semi-automatic only)
 - ❧ Stovepipe
- ❧ Type 3 - Failure to Feed (Semi-automatic only)
 - ❧ Double feed
- ❧ Tactical malfunction assessment...
 - ❧ "SPIR"

Concealed Carry Issues



- ❧ Obtaining legal Assistance – BEFORE an incident
- ❧ Open Carry versus Concealed Carry
- ❧ Posted “Gun Free Zones”
- ❧ Reciprocity
- ❧ Holsters and Carry Options
- ❧ Accessories
 - ❧ Magazines & speed loaders
 - ❧ Flashlights
 - ❧ Non-lethal options
- ❧ Presentation and Tactics

Notable Colorado Firearms Laws



- ❧ YOU are responsible for knowing all applicable Colorado firearms laws!
- ❧ C.R.S. Title 18, Article 1, Part 7: Justifications and Exemptions From Criminal Responsibility
- ❧ C.R.S. Title 18, Article 12, Part 1: Firearms and Weapons - General
- ❧ C.R.S. Title 18, Article 12, Part 2: Permits to Carry Concealed Handguns
- ❧ C.R.S. Title 18, Article 12, Part 3: Large Capacity Magazines

Source: <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/colorado/>

Notable Colorado Firearms Laws



- ❧ C.R.S. Title 18, Article 1, Part 7: Justifications and Exemptions From Criminal Responsibility
 - ❧ 18-1-704: Use of physical force in defense of a person
 - ❧ 18-1-704.5: Use of deadly physical force against an intruder (“Make My Day Law”)
 - ❧ 18-1-705 Use Of Physical Force In Defense Of Premises
 - ❧ 18-1-706 Use of Physical Force in Defense of Property
 - ❧ 18-1-707 Use Of Physical Force In Making An Arrest Or In Preventing An Escape

Notable Colorado Firearms Laws



- ❧ C.R.S. Title 18, Article 12, Part 1: Firearms and Weapons - General
 - ❧ 18-12-105 Unlawfully Carrying A Concealed Weapon - Unlawful Possession Of Weapons
 - ❧ 18-12-105.5 Unlawfully Carrying A Weapon - Unlawful Possession Of Weapons - School, College, Or University Grounds
 - ❧ 18-12-105.6 (Limitation on local ordinances regarding firearms in private vehicles.)
 - ❧ 18-12-106 Prohibited Use of Weapons
 - ❧ 18-12-110 Forfeiture of Firearms
 - ❧ 18-12-111 Unlawful purchase of firearms
 - ❧ 18-12-112 Private firearms transfers - background check required - penalty - definitions

Notable Colorado Firearms Laws



☞ C.R.S. Title 18, Article 12, Part 2: Permits to Carry Concealed Handguns

- ☞ 18-12-202 (Definitions.)
- ☞ 18-12-203 (Criteria for obtaining a permit.)
- ☞ 18-12-204 (Permit contents-validity-carrying requirements.)
- ☞ 18-12-205 (Sheriff-application-procedure-background check.)
- ☞ 18-12-206 (Sheriff-issuance or denial of permits-report.)
- ☞ 18-12-207 (Judicial review-permit denial-permit suspension-permit revocation.)
- ☞ 18-12-208 (Colorado bureau of investigation-duties.)
- ☞ 18-12-209 (Issuance by sheriffs of temporary emergency permits.)
- ☞ 18-12-210 (Maintenance of permit-address change-invalidity of permit.)
- ☞ 18-12-211 (Renewal of permits.)
- ☞ 18-12-212 (Exemption.)
- ☞ 18-12-213 (Reciprocity.)
- ☞ 18-12-214 (Authority granted by permit-carrying restrictions.)
- ☞ 18-12-215 (Immunity.)
- ☞ 18-12-216 (Permits issued prior to the effective date of this part 2.)
- ☞ 18-12-213 Reciprocity
- ☞ 18-12-214 Authority granted by permit - carry restrictions

Notable Colorado Firearms Laws



Other Notable Statutes

- 18-12-302: Large capacity magazines prohibited – penalties - exceptions
- 33-6-125: Possession of a Loaded Firearm in a Motor Vehicle
- 33-14-117(Hunting, carrying weapons on snowmobiles - prohibitions)

18-1-704. Use of physical force in defense of a person



- (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, a person is justified in using physical force upon another person in order to defend himself or a third person from what he reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of unlawful physical force by that other person, and he may use a degree of force which he reasonably believes to be necessary for that purpose.
- (2) Deadly physical force may be used only if a person reasonably believes a lesser degree of force is inadequate and:
- (a) The actor has reasonable ground to believe, and does believe, that he or another person is in imminent danger of being killed or of receiving great bodily injury; or
 - (b) The other person is using or reasonably appears about to use physical force against an occupant of a dwelling or business establishment while committing or attempting to commit burglary as defined in [sections 18-4-202 to 18-4-204](#); or
 - (c) The other person is committing or reasonably appears about to commit kidnapping as defined in [section 18-3-301](#) or [18-3-302](#), robbery as defined in [section 18-4-301](#) or [18-4-302](#), sexual assault as set forth in [section 18-3-402](#), or in [section 18-3-403](#) as it existed prior to July 1, 2000, or assault as defined in [sections 18-3-202 and 18-3-203](#).

18-1-704. Use of physical force in defense of a person (Cont.)



(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, a person is not justified in using physical force if:

(a) With intent to cause bodily injury or death to another person, he provokes the use of unlawful physical force by that other person; or

(b) He is the initial aggressor; except that his use of physical force upon another person under the circumstances is justifiable if he withdraws from the encounter and effectively communicates to the other person his intent to do so, but the latter nevertheless continues or threatens the use of unlawful physical force; or

(c) The physical force involved is the product of a combat by agreement not specifically authorized by law.

(4) In a case in which the defendant is not entitled to a jury instruction regarding self-defense as an affirmative defense, the court shall allow the defendant to present evidence, when relevant, that he or she was acting in self-defense. If the defendant presents evidence of self-defense, the court shall instruct the jury with a self-defense law instruction. The court shall instruct the jury that it may consider the evidence of self-defense in determining whether the defendant acted recklessly, with extreme indifference, or in a criminally negligent manner. However, the self-defense law instruction shall not be an affirmative defense instruction and the prosecuting attorney shall not have the burden of disproving self-defense. This section shall not apply to strict liability crimes.

18-1-704.5. Use of deadly physical force against an intruder



- (1) The general assembly hereby recognizes that the citizens of Colorado have a right to expect absolute safety within their own homes.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of [section 18-1-704](#), any occupant of a dwelling is justified in using any degree of physical force, including deadly physical force, against another person when that other person has made an unlawful entry into the dwelling, and when the occupant has a reasonable belief that such other person has committed a crime in the dwelling in addition to the uninvited entry, or is committing or intends to commit a crime against a person or property in addition to the uninvited entry, and when the occupant reasonably believes that such other person might use any physical force, no matter how slight, against any occupant.
- (3) Any occupant of a dwelling using physical force, including deadly physical force, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section shall be immune from criminal prosecution for the use of such force.
- (4) Any occupant of a dwelling using physical force, including deadly physical force, in accordance with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section shall be immune from any civil liability for injuries or death resulting from the use of such force.

33-6-125. Possession of a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle



It is unlawful for any person, except a person authorized by law or by the division, to possess or have under his control any firearm, **other than a pistol or revolver**, in or on any motor vehicle unless the chamber of such firearm is unloaded. Any person in possession or in control of a rifle or shotgun in a motor vehicle shall allow any peace officer, as defined in [section 33-1-102 \(32\)](#), who is empowered and acting under the authority granted in [section 33-6-101](#) to enforce articles 1 to 6 of this title to inspect the chamber of any rifle or shotgun in the motor vehicle. For the purposes of this section, a "muzzle-loader" shall be considered unloaded if it is not primed, and, for such purpose, "primed" means having a percussion cap on the nipple or flint in the striker and powder in the flash pan. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars and an assessment of fifteen license suspension points.

Note: See also C.R.S. 18-12-105.6 (Limitation on local ordinances regarding firearms in private vehicles.)

When Is It Necessary to Shoot?



- ❧ A - Does an attacker have the Ability to do you harm?
- ❧ O - Does the attacker have the Opportunity to do you harm?
- ❧ J - Are you really in Jeopardy?
- ❧ P - Is there any way that Preclusion could have played a part in the event?

Next Steps



- Advanced/continuous training
- IDPA and other defensive pistol matches
- Shooting leagues
- Professional reading and memberships
- AirSoft

Resources



- ❧ Colorado Revised Statutes:
<http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/colorado/>
- ❧ Advanced Training:
<http://www.makhairagroup.com>
- ❧ Larimer County Sheriff Concealed Handgun Permit Process: <http://larimersheriff.org/resource/concealed-handgun-permit>
- ❧ US Concealed Carry Association:
<https://www.usconcealedcarry.com/>