



DAVIDE PEDERSOLI

PEDERSOLI HOWDAH OWNER'S MANUAL



WARNING

READ THIS MANUAL IN ITS ENTIRETY BEFORE USING YOUR FIREARM.

YOU MUST READ CAREFULLY THIS BOOKLET IN ITS ENTIRETY AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS SIGNIFICANCE , BEFORE USING YOUR FIREARMS.

REPLACEMENT BOOKLETS ARE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE FROM OUR FACTORY.

IF AFTER READING THIS BOOKLET, YOU STILL HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM , WRITE TO:

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WARNING: Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to the State of California 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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GENERAL HINTS FOR THE USE OF FIREARMS

BEFORE USING ANY FIREARM, MUZZLELOADING OR CARTRIDGE GUNS, WE ASK YOU TO READ CAREFULLY THIS BOOKLET, AND TO GET THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE OPERATION OF THE SPECIFIC GUN.

GENERAL HINTS

A firearm is a sport and law enforcement tool capable of injuring and killing. It is a precision instrument designed to function reliably with proper care and knowledgeable use. If you do not have full knowledge of the power and function of firearms, we recommend that you seek proper training. Careless and improper handling of guns could result in unintended discharge causing injury, death or property damage. Safety must be the first and constant consideration when handling a firearm and ammunition. Various safety features have been incorporated into each firearm but relying on mechanical features alone is, at most, only half safe. Mechanical safety devices are not failsafe, but more importantly the safe use of any mechanical instrument is dependent upon intelligent use. Accidents do not “just happen” but occur as the result of human behavior, thoughtless acts jeopardize the wellbeing of the user and those around him or her. Insure the safe use of firearms by following these guidelines.

NOTE: SAFETY DEVICES ON GUNS ARE EXTRAS AND ARE NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR PROPER AND SAFE HANDLING PRACTICES.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Davide Pedersoli Co. shall not be responsible for product malfunction or for physical injury, death, or property damage from the gun's intentional or accidental discharge, its criminal or negligent use, improper or careless handling, unauthorized modifications or alterations, corrosion or other failure to maintain, use of defective, improper, hand-loaded or reloaded ammunition, or other than original, good condition, high quality, commercially manufactured ammunition, from its use for purposes or subjection to treatment for which it was not designed. Davide Pedersoli Co. will not honor claims made by second or subsequent owner of the firearm.

While this firearm was tested, carefully inspected, and packaged before it left the factory, Davide Pedersoli Co. cannot thereafter control product handling. Please be sure to examine this firearm carefully when purchase to ensure it is unloaded and undamaged. Your gun dealer will assist you in making this examination and answer any further questions in this regard.

PROOF HOUSE TEST

According to the Italian Law ruling production and sale of arms, all muzzle loading and breech loading firearms must be submitted to forced firing tests at the National Proof House in Gardone Val Trompia, Brescia (C.I.P. rules).

Proper marks stating the tests are stamped both on the barrels and on the frame.

PRECAUTIONS

- Before shooting, learn this gun's mechanical and handling characteristics, and read and be thoroughly familiar with these safety instructions. If you do not fully understand any of the instructions in this manual, consult a competent firearms instructor through your local gun club or you can contact Davide Pedersoli Co. directly.
- Always point the gun in a safe direction, and handle it as though it were loaded. This is especially important when loading and unloading the gun, and when handing it to someone else. Never take someone's word it is unloaded, but always check it yourself with your fingers off the trigger and the gun pointed in a safe direction

- If your firearm is shipped disassembled, read instructions and totally understand proper assembly before proceeding.
- Place your finger inside the trigger guard only when you are ready to fire.
- Do not make any modifications or adjustments to your firearm, which will affect the safe and normal function of the gun.
- When purchasing accessories such as leather or when adding accessories such as grips or sights, be sure they are compatible with the firearm and do not interfere with safe operation.
- While at a shooting range, always carry the gun unloaded and open until preparing to shoot. Keep it pointing towards the backstop when loading, shooting and unloading.
- If you must carry a loaded gun, always carry it with the muzzle pointing in a safe direction and with the safety in the “safe” position. But remember that no mechanical safety is failsafe. Never carry firearms with an exposed hammer with the hammer cocked. In auto loading or hand repeating guns, do not chamber a round.
- Do not use your firearm for purposes other than those for which it was designed.
- Do not allow a firearm to be used by untrained individuals.
- When transporting your firearm in any vehicle, be sure it is unloaded and that the action is open.
- Never leave a gun, especially a loaded gun, unattended as someone, especially a child, could accidentally shoot it causing injury, death or property damage.

FIRING

- Whenever firing any type of firearm, wear safety glasses to protect your eyes from sparks, lead fragments, black powder residues, pieces of caps or flints, pellet rebound etc., and ear protection for the loud report.
- In selecting a place to shoot, be sure the area has a safe backstop, is free from obstructions and water surfaces which cause ricochets, and is protected so that persons or animals cannot accidentally walk into the shooting field. Making sure there is a proper backstop, which will stop and contain bullets. A bullet can travel through or past your target for several kilometers. If you have any doubt, **DO NOT SHOOT**.
- When firing on a target range, follow the range officer’s commands to load, fire, and cease-fire and unload.
- Before anyone is allowed to move forward the firing position on a range, be sure all actions of firearms are open and unloaded, without cartridges or ammunition of any kind, as well as igniting caps, and that they are safely positioned.
- Never use alcoholic beverages or other drugs before or during shooting.
- If your firearms fail to function properly, do not try to fire it and do not force an action that is jammed.
- Beware of obstructions in the barrel. If, when firing, a weak or peculiar report is heard, cease firing, open the action, if possible, and unload the gun and inspect the barrel for an obstruction or for damage. Do not fire a gun with an obstructed or damaged barrel.
- If you are carrying a loaded gun in the field, never follow a companion.
- Never cross obstacles such as fences or streams with a loaded gun.
- Never run with a loaded gun.
- Do not smoke while handling, loading or shooting any ammunition, especially black powder. Keep black powder in a closed container at all times, closing again the container after each and every use,
- Never shoot the gun near an animal, as the animal could be startled and cause an accident.
- Never engage in “horseplay” while holding your gun.
- Never shoot at hard, flat surfaces or water. The slug or shot charge may ricochet.

- PEDERSOLI. HOWDAH was manufactured to perform properly with the original parts as designed. Your gun is a complex tool, with many parts that must relate correctly to other parts.
- Putting a gun together wrong or with modified parts can result in a damaged gun, danger and injury or death to you and others caused by malfunction.
- Repair work should only be done by the manufacturer or a qualified gunsmith approved by the manufacturer.
- Unauthorised repair will void your warranty.
- Always be aware of other people around you. Keep spectators or others to your rear. Keep hands and face clear and keep others clear of the ejection port as ejected spent cartridges can cause injury. To prevent burns or injury from the slide moving forward, make sure your hand and fingers do not touch or obstruct the ejection port.

AMMUNITION

- Use only high quality, original, factory-manufactured shotgun shells, complying with CIP requirements or other similar national standards.
- Check ammunition to be sure it is the right caliber or gauge for your gun, and that it is not damaged or malformed. Keep in mind that a 20 gauge shell will fall through the chamber of a 12 gauge gun and lodge in the barrel. If a 12 gauge shell is then chambered and fired, the barrel may burst causing death or serious injury.
- Do not use cartridges that are dirty, wet, corroded, malformed or damaged.
- Do not oil cartridges or spray aerosol type lubricants, preservatives or cleaners directly onto cartridges or where excess spray may flow into contact with cartridges.
- Lubricants and other foreign materials on cartridges can cause potentially dangerous ammunition malfunctions.
- Use only ammunitions of the gauge or caliber for which the firearm was chambered.
- The use of reloaded, "remanufactured", hand-loaded or other non-standard ammunition voids all warranties.
- Improperly loaded ammunition can be extremely dangerous and may cause severe damage to the firearm and serious injury to the shooter or to others.
- Always use ammunition that complies with the industry performance standards established by CIP or other equivalent national bodies for other countries.
- Firearms may be severely damaged and serious injury to the shooter or to others may result from any condition causing excessive pressure inside the chamber or barrel during firing.
- Excessive pressure can be caused by obstructions in the barrel, propellant powder overloads or by the use of incorrect or defectively assembled cartridges.
- In addition, the use of a dirty, corroded or damaged cartridge can lead to a burst cartridge case and consequent damage to the firearm and personal injury from the sudden escape of high-pressure propellant gas from the firearm's mechanism.
- If You have difficulty or feel unusual resistance in chambering a cartridge, or A cartridge misfires or does not go off, or The mechanism fails to extract a fired cartridge case, or
- Unburned grains of propellant powder are discovered spilled in the mechanism, or
- A shot sounds weak or abnormal, immediately stop shooting and check for possible obstructions in the barrels. In such cases it is possible that a wad is lodged part way down the barrel. Firing a subsequent shot into the obstructed barrel can wreck the firearm and cause serious injury to the shooter or to bystanders.
- If there is any reason to suspect that something is obstructing the barrel (this can be anything – dirt, mud, snow, sand, water, a wad etc.) immediately unload the firearm and look through both bores. It is not sufficient to merely look in the chambers. An obstruction may be lodged some distance down the barrel, where it can not easily be seen.

- **IF SOMETHING IS IN THE BORE, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SHOOT IT OUT BY USING AN OTHER CARTRIDGE OR BY BLOWING IT OUT WITH A BLANK OR A SHELL FROM WHICH THE SHOT HAS BEEN REMOVED. SUCH TECHNIQUES CAN GENERATE EXCESSIVE PRESSURE, DAMAGE THE FIREARM AND CAUSE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY.**
- Dirt corrosion or other foreign matter on a cartridge can impede complete chambering and may cause the cartridge case to burst upon firing. The same is true of cartridges that are damaged or deformed.
- Do not oil cartridges and be sure to wipe the chamber clean of any oil or preservative before commencing to shoot. Oil interferes with the friction between cartridge case and the chamber wall that is necessary for safe functioning and subjects the firearm to stress similar to that imposed by excessive pressure.
- Use lubricants sparingly on the moving parts of your firearm. Avoid excessive spraying of any aerosol gun care product, especially where it may get on ammunition. All lubricants and aerosol spray lubricants in particular can penetrate cartridge primers and cause misfires. Some highly penetrative lubricants can also migrate inside the shell cases and cause deterioration of the propellant powder: on firing, the powder may not ignite. If only the primer ignites, there is the danger that the wad may become lodged in the barrel.

WARNING

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Our rifles, according to the Italian Law, are proof tested at the National Firing Proof House according to the rules imposed by C.I.P. (International Proof Commission); proof test pressure is 30% superior to the maximum pressure of a commercial cartridge. (Pmax). Commercial cartridges Pmax pressure is measured in BAR, and it is the maximum pressure **NEVER TO EXCEEDED** during the normal use of the gun.

The equivalent maximum pressure value of the commercial cartridge measured according to the English/American P.S.I. / C.U.P. system, it is obtained multiplying the BAR value x 14,5037.

The list below, complying with the C.I.P. charts, represents the maximum pressure to be developed by a COMMERCIAL CARTRIDGE to be used with our guns, in the various calibers. The below mentioned data are compared to the Crusher (C.U.P) / P.S.I method.

IN NO CASE SHOULD THE CARTRIDGES EXCEED SUCH VALUES OR THOSE SET FOR THE SPECIFIC MODEL RECOMMENDATIONS.

CALIBERS	PRESSURE BAR	PRESSURE C.U.P. / P.S.I
.45 Long Colt	1100	15954
.410/3 inch	1050	15229

USE OF STEEL SHOTS

Steel shot is not permitted in your Pedersoli Howdah

HOW TO OPERATE THE SAFETY

WARNING

Prior to firing, know and understand the operation of the safety by practising with the pistol unloaded. The safety is a rectangular sliding switch located on the tang of the action, directly behind the top lever of the pistol, which slides forward and backward. When the switch is at the rear end of its travel, the letter "S" appears immediately in front of the switch. This means that the pistol will not fire when the trigger is pulled. When the switch is in its forward-most position, the "S" is covered, which means the pistol is NOT ON SAFE and will fire when the trigger is pulled.



WARNING

The safety switch on your Pedersoli Howdah is automatic. In other words, it automatically goes to the SAFE position when the rifle breech is opened. Never try to put the safety switch between the SAFE and FIRE positions. Unless the safety is positioned all the way forward or all the way to the rear, you can not be certain whether it is on SAFE or FIRE.

The safest way to carry this rifle is WITH NO shells in the chamber. If you feel that you must carry the pistol with shells in the chambers, then the safety MUST BE ON SAFE ("S"). When you are ready to fire, the safety can quickly be moved to the FIRE position. The only time when the safety should be placed in the FIRE position is when you intend to shoot.

WARNING

Never disassemble the safety mechanism. It has been correctly designed, fitted and tested. Any mechanical device can fail, however, so never rely on the safety to justify careless handling or use. Never use a firearm if the safety does not function properly.

HOW TO FIRE

With the gun pointed at the target, move the safety to the FIRE position (all the way forward), aim, and pull the trigger. The selected barrel will fire. To fire the second barrel, pull the trigger again. If you don't fire both shells, be sure to put the safety on SAFE until you are ready to shoot again.

HOW TO UNLOAD THE PISTOL

With the safety in SAFE position, and the pistol pointed in a safe direction, open the action and manually remove the unfired shells from the chambers. The ejectors will pull the shells from the chambers far enough that you can reach them with your fingers.

WHAT TO DO IF THE PISTOL FAILS TO FIRE

- Misfires: if you squeeze the trigger and the cartridge does not fire, remain in the shooting position and count to 30. Then move the safety switch to SAFE and open the action to remove the misfired cartridge from the gun.
- Underpowered shot: an underpowered cartridge is unusual if the ammunition is fresh, clean and factory loaded. However, if you hear an unusual sound or low report, you should stop immediately and proceed as follows:
- As the wad and powder from the shell may still be in the barrel, you must unload the gun completely and then look through both barrels from the action end (not from the muzzle) to see if there is any obstruction.
- A wad can usually be removed with a cleaning rod. If not, it or any other stubborn obstruction should be removed by an authorised gunsmith.

STORAGE

- Make sure your gun is not loaded before cleaning, storing or traveling and the magazine is removed with slide-latched open before laying it down, and/or handing it to another person.
- Store your unloaded firearm and ammunitions separately and in places inaccessible to unauthorized persons and/or children.
- Do not encase your firearm in anything which will attract or hold moisture.
- The internal mechanism should be oiled after use and periodically during storage, with an acid-free lubricating oil, while the external mechanism plus frame and barrel should be coated with anti rust oil.
- Before using your gun, be sure to clean it and to check it for signs of wear or defects.
- If your firearm is to be used or stored in a cold climate, be sure to use oil, which will not freeze, at low temperatures.
- After use, the stock and wood parts must be cleaned with a soft woolen cloth and film covered with linen oil for wood.

DISASSEMBLING INSTRUCTIONS

IF YOU WISH TO DISASSEMBLE THE GUN FOR TRANSPORT OR STORAGE, PROCEED AS FOLLOWS:

- Place the safety switch to SAFE
- Make sure the pistol is unloaded
- In the center of the underside of the forearm stock, there is a a release button positioned at the top end of the forearm
- To remove the forearm, push the button while pulling the front end of the forearm away from the barrels.



- Move the top lever to the right and open the action.
- The barrels may then be lifted away from the action.



- Reassemble in reverse order. It is not necessary to pull the release lever when re-installing the forearm. Place the rear end of the forearm in position, then push the forearm toward the barrels. It should snap easily into place.
- Do not use excessive force.

NOTE: Further disassembly of your pistol is not recommended and should only be done by an authorized gunsmith

During freezing conditions, oil may congeal and cause sluggish operation of your gun, therefore it is recommended that only a very thin coat of light oil be used in these conditions.

Condensation droplets of water may form soon after a cold firearm is brought into a warm room. The gun may also become wet during inclement weather. In these cases all moisture should be removed immediately to avoid the formation of rust. Exterior metal finishing may be wiped down with a lightly oiled cloth.

For long term storage, lightly oil the bore, barrel and action with gun oil. Your firearm should be completely unloaded and stored in a dry area. Never store your pistol in a carrying case.