

Collecting and Shooting the Military Surplus Rifle



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Figuring out your Twist!

Article written by: [Mark Trope](#)

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Rate of Twist or Pitch

The distance a bullet must travel in the bore to make one revolution. The distance required for one complete turn of rifling usually expressed as a ratio.
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First you need a cleaning rod that rotates **easily**.

Place a cleaning jag on the cleaning rod.

With a cleaning patch over the jag, insert the rod a few inches into the barrel. Put a mark on the rod even with the end of the muzzle (tape really works well for this).

Put a small mark on the end of the cleaning rod near the handle.

Push the cleaning rod down the barrel until the mark near the end of the rod makes **one complete revolution**. Then stop.

Place another piece of tape on the rod even with the end of the muzzle.

Withdraw rod and measure the distance between the first mark you made at the muzzle

and the second mark you made at the muzzle and you have the twist rate of your barrel!

If you measure 10 inches then your Rate of Twist or Pitch is 1:10 meaning 1 revolution/10 inches.

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