



**Zastava**  
a r m s

**Pistol M88**  
Caliber 9 mm PARA

DESCRIPTION, HANDLING AND MAINTENANCE

*The name ZASTAVA arms  
on the weapon that you now own represents quality,  
reliability and gunsmith tradition since 1853.  
Your weapon was made in accordance with very strict requirements,  
of the highest quality materials used for this type of products and tested by our quality control.  
To be able to handle this weapon safely,  
you are obliged to read carefully and completely the Instruction manual.  
In case of any misunderstanding,  
please apply to your dealer or manufacturer for detailed explanations within shortest time.  
If your weapon needs servicing, apply to one of the service shops authorized by your dealer.  
Do not send your weapon directly to the manufacturer.  
Thank you for choosing our product.  
ZASTAVA ARMS*

**DESCRIPTION, HANDLING AND MAINTENANCE**

**WARNING:** BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM, READ AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS!

CAUTION: ALWAYS KEEP AND CARRY YOUR WEAPON EMPTY TO AVOID UNINTENTIONAL DISCHARGE.

WARNING: USE ONLY ORIGINAL HIGH QUALITY COMMERCIALY MANUFACTURED AMMUNITION IN GOOD CONDITION, WHICH IS APPROPRIATE TO THE CALIBER OF YOUR PISTOL.

READ CAREFULLY THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS BEFORE TAKING THIS FIREARM OUT OF ITS PACKAGE.

This product is classified as a firearm or dangerous weapon; it is, therefore, potentially lethal!

**WARNING:** IF THIS FIREARM IS CARELESSLY OR IMPROPERLY HANDLED, UNINTENTIONAL DISCHARGE COULD CAUSE INJURY, DEATH, OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

**CAUTION:** Your safety and safety of others depends on your compliance with these recommendations and proper handling with this weapon.

TRAINING AND ALL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED IN YOUR LOCAL SHOOTING CLUBS AND SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS.

We want you to enjoy safe shooting with your ZASTAVA weapon. You may be an experienced shooter, already familiar with the procedures in this Instruction manual, but we urge you to read this entire Instruction manual carefully. You must follow the safety instructions for your safety and the safety of others. **WARNING:** ALWAYS CARRY YOUR WEAPON EMPTY IN ORDER TO AVOID RISK OF ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE.

## **SAFETY MEASURES**

1. ALWAYS HANDLE YOUR WEAPON AS IF IT WERE LOADED so that you never fire it accidentally when you think it is unloaded.
2. NEVER POINT YOUR WEAPON AT ANYTHING YOU DO NOT INTEND TO SHOOT so that if it fires accidentally, injury, death or damage to property will be prevented.
3. NEVER TAKE ANYONE'S WORD THAT A WEAPON IS UNLOADED, check it for yourself with fingers off the trigger and weapon pointed in a safe direction.

4. ALWAYS KEEP AND CARRY YOUR WEAPON EMPTY AND BLOCKED, EXCEPT WHEN YOU INTEND TO SHOOT, SO THAT IT CANNOT BE FIRED WHEN YOU DO NOT MEAN IT.

5. NEVER DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR TAKE DRUGS BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING, as your vision and judgment could be seriously impaired making your weapon handling unsafe.

6. ALWAYS SEEK DOCTOR'S ADVICE IF YOU ARE TAKING ANY MEDICATION, to be sure you are fit to shoot and handle your weapon safely.

7. ALWAYS USE ONLY CLEAN, DRY, ORIGINAL HIGH QUALITY COMMERCIALY MANUFACTURED AMMUNITION IN GOOD CONDITION, WHICH IS APPROPRIATE TO THE CALIBER OF YOUR WEAPON.

8. ALWAYS BE SURE THAT BARREL INTERIOR IS CLEAN AND THAT THE BORE AND THE MUZZLE ARE CLEAR OF OBSTRUCTIONS. Clean a fouled weapon immediately, so that it will function correctly and safely.

9. ALWAYS WEAR AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO WEAR EAR PROTECTION WHEN SHOOTING, especially on a range. Without ear protection the noise from your weapon and other weapon close to you, could

leave ringing in the ears for some time after firing, while the cumulative long term effect could be permanent hearing loss.

10. ALWAYS WEAR AND ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO WEAR PROTECTIVE-SHOOTING GLASSES.

11. ALWAYS PUT A KNOWLEDGEABLE AND RESPONSIBLE PERSON IN CHARGE TO MAINTAIN SAFETY CONTROL WHEN A GROUP IS FIRING ON A RANGE. Obey his commands so that discipline is maintained to reduce the likelihood of accidents.

12. ALWAYS BE SURE YOUR BACKSTOP IS ADEQUATE TO STOP AND CONTAIN BULLETS BEFORE BEGINNING TARGET PRACTICE, SO THAT YOU DO NOT HIT ANYTHING OUTSIDE THE RANGE SHOOTING AREA.

13. ALWAYS BE ABSOLUTELY SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND THE AREA BEHIND IT BEFORE YOU SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER. A bullet could travel through or past our target. It has enough energy to cause unwanted consequences at large distances. If in doubt, do not shoot.

14. NEVER SHOOT AT A HARD SURFACE OR AT WATER. A bullet may ricochet and travel in any direction to strike you, or an object you cannot see, causing injury, death or damage to property.

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15. NEVER FIRE YOUR WEAPON NEAR AN ANIMAL UNLESS IT IS TRAINED TO ACCEPT THE NOISE; an animal's startled reaction could injure it or cause an accident.

16. NEVER USE YOUR WEAPON IF IT FAILS TO FUNCTION PROPERLY, AND NEVER FORCE A JAMMED ACTION, AS A ROUND MAY EXPLODE CAUSING SEVERE DAMAGE TO YOUR WEAPON, SERIOUS INJURY OR POSSIBLE DEATH.

17. DURING SHOOTING ALWAYS KEEP YOUR HANDS AWAY FROM THE BARREL AND EXTERNAL MOVING PARTS OF THE WEAPON SINCE THEY CAN BE HURT.

18. NEVER SQUEEZE THE TRIGGER OR PUT YOUR FINGER IN THE TRIGGER GUARD UNTIL YOU ARE AIMING AT A TARGET AND READY TO SHOOT. This will prevent you from firing the pistol when it is pointing in an unsafe direction.

19. IN CASE OF MISFIRE: When the weapon fails to fire, keep holding it pointed toward the target or a safe open area and wait 60 seconds. If a hang fire (slow ignition) has occurred, round will fire within 60 seconds. If round does not fire, remove magazine, eject round, and examine primer.

If firing pin indent on primer is light, off center, or non-existent, have the pistol examined by a competent gunsmith. If firing pin indent on primer appears normal (in comparison with similar previously fired rounds) assume faulty ammunition. Segregate misfired round from other live ammunition and empty cases, reload and carry on firing.

20. NEVER LEAVE YOUR WEAPON READY TO FIRE, SINCE THIS POSITION IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS BECAUSE OF RISK OF ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE CAUSING SERIOUS INJURY, DEATH OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

21. KEEP THE WEAPON POINTING TOWARDS THE BACKSTOP WHEN LOADING, FIRING AND UNLOADING, TO ELIMINATE THE RISK OF INJURY, DEATH OR DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

22. NEVER LEAVE A LOADED WEAPON UNATTENDED. There is always a chance that someone will use it and cause injury, death or damage to property.

23. NEVER INDULGE IN HORSEPLAY WHILE HOLDING YOUR WEAPON AS IT MAY BE ACCIDENTALLY DISCHARGED.

24. ALWAYS INSTRUCT CHILDREN TO RESPECT FIREARMS. Keep your weapon out of reach of children. The training of all, including children (age determined by law), should be performed by authorized people in institutions equipped and authorized for that kind of activity.

25. NEVER WALK, CLIMB OR FOLLOW A COMPANION WITH YOUR WEAPON COCKED READY TO FIRE, OUT OF ITS HOLSTER, TO ELIMINATE RISK OF ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE. Always hold your weapon so that you can control the direction of the muzzle.

26. ALWAYS MAKE SURE YOUR WEAPON IS NOT LOADED BEFORE CLEANING, STORING OR TRAVELLING, MAGAZINE REMOVED FROM IT, BEFORE YOU STORE IT OR TRANSFER IT TO SOMEBODY ELSE, SO THAT IT CANNOT FIRE ACCIDENTALLY.

27. ALWAYS KEEP AND STORE YOUR WEAPON AND AMMUNITION IN SEPARATE LOCKED RECEPTACLES, OUT OF REACH AND SIGHT OF CHILDREN AND UNTRAINED PEOPLE.

## **DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

The manufacturer shall not be responsible for injury, death, or damage to property resulting from either intentional or accidental discharge of this firearm, or from its function when used for purposes or subjected to treatment for which it was not designed. The manufacturer also will not honor claims involving this firearm which result from careless or improper handling, unauthorized adjustment or parts replacement, corrosion, neglect, or the use of wrong caliber ammunition, or the use of ammunition other than original high quality commercially manufactured ammunition in good condition, or any combination thereof.

## **IMPORTANT**

Before it left the factory, this firearm was tested, carefully inspected and packaged. The manufacturer cannot control product handling after it leaves the factory, therefore, please examine this firearm carefully at the time of purchase to insure that it is unloaded and undamaged. This Instruction manual should always accompany this firearm and be transferred with it upon change of ownership.



Fig. 1> Pistol 9 mm PARA M88

1– slide (with rear and front sight), 2– hammer, 3– barrel, 4– guide bushing, 5– frame, 6– coupling, 7– trigger, 8– magazine release button  
9– covers, 10– magazine

## MAIN FEATURES

Pistol cal. 9 mm PARA M88 is developed on the basis of famous Soviet pistol TT, with numerous improvements.

It is a semiautomatic handgun, which operates on the barrel short recoil principle. Locking is achieved by vertical oscillation of the barrel, which enters a hole in the slide.

Designer solutions make possible that the same operating controls have several functions. Sights are square with white dots, optionally with tritium powered inserts, for aiming at low visibility.

The pistol has an automatic safety, which blocks the trigger and prevents firing of the cartridge when the magazine is taken out from the pistol.

Choice of steel, as well as the quality and precision in making of parts are completely in accordance with standards for military production — which is an important guarantee of the quality of Zastava's pistols. Pistol can be delivered with polymer or wooden handgrip covers.

TECHNICAL DATA	M88
Caliber (mm)	9 mm PARA
Muzzle velocity	325 m/s
Barrel length	96 mm
Length	175 mm
Height	130 mm
Number of grooves	4
Weight	760 g
Magazine capacity	8 rds



## FUNCTION OF THE PISTOL

The hammer is cocked by pulling the slide backwards. By releasing the slide to the front position, a cartridge is taken from the magazine and put into the barrel. The pistol is loaded and ready to fire.

To trigger and fire the cartridge, the trigger is pulled backwards, which releases the hammer. Under the effect of its spring, the hammer moves forward, strikes the firing pin, which strikes the primer of the cartridge and the firing is done. After the cartridge is fired, under the effect of powder gas, the bullet comes out of the barrel and the slide moves backwards, the cartridge case is extracted and ejected. At the same time, the hammer is being cocked. Under the effect of recoil spring, the slide moves forward and brings a cartridge into the barrel.

To fire the next cartridge it is necessary to pull the trigger and further process is done as previously explained.

When the last cartridge is fired, the coupling (A) is lifted and its lug comes into the notch on the slide. The slide is kept in rear position (Fig. 2).

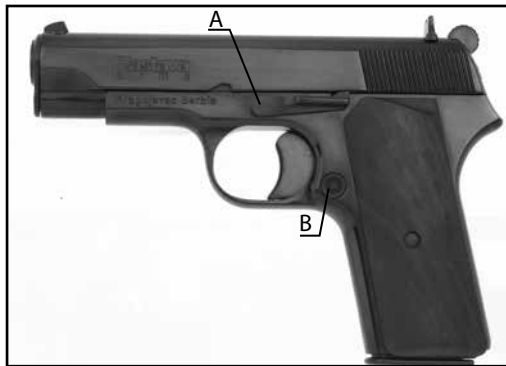


Fig. 2> Slide in front position (A) – coupling, (B) – magazine release button

To continue shooting, it is necessary to replace the empty magazine with a loaded one. To take out the magazine, it is necessary to press the magazine release button (B) and take the magazine out (Fig. 2). When a loaded magazine is put into the pistol, the coupling (A) is pushed downwards. In that way, the

slide is released and it moves forward, bringing a cartridge into the barrel. The pistol is again ready to fire.

If there is no need to replace the magazine after the last cartridge is fired, the coupling is pressed downwards. This releases the spring, which returns the slide to the front position.

Pistol M88 is blocked by the hammer. Pistol can be blocked in two ways - when the hammer is in two different positions:

- When the hammer is cocked (Fig. 3): hold the hammer and then pull the trigger until the hammer is released. Release the trigger and slowly lower the hammer, until the sear catches the first cam on the hammer. In that way, both the hammer and the slide are blocked. This should be done very carefully and the pistol must be pointed upwards.
- When the hammer is down, like after firing (Fig. 4): pull the hammer backwards (short stroke), until the sear catches the first cam on the hammer. To cock the hammer and fire, only pull the hammer fully backwards. We recommend that you block the pis-

tol when the hammer is in this position. The pistol also has an automatic safety. It prevents triggering (of the pistol that is not blocked) when the magazine is out and there is a cartridge in the barrel. In that case, the automatic safety blocks the trigger. It is now impossible to pull it.

Fig.3> Pistol M88 blocking when the hammer is cocked



Fig.4> Pistol M88 blocking when the hammer is down



## Stripping

### 1. Taking out the magazine (Fig. 5).

The magazine is released by pushing the magazine release button and then it is taken out from the pistol.

Before further stripping, pull the slide backwards and check whether there is a cartridge in a barrel.

### 2. Separating the coupling (Fig. 6).

The coupling is locked by a fork-like lock. To release the coupling, push the fork-like lock backwards with a wooden object.

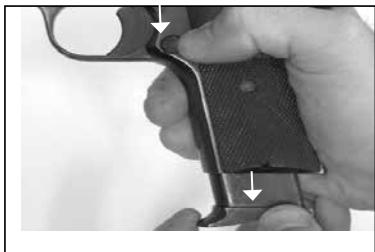


Fig. 5> Taking out the magazine



Fig. 6> Separating the coupling



Fig. 7> Taking out the coupling

### 3. Taking out the coupling (Fig. 7).

Push the released coupling to the left side of the pistol and take it out.

### 4. Separating the slide and trigger mechanism from the frame (Fig. 8, 9).

Push the slide forward to separate it from the frame. The barrel, recoil mechanism and the guide bushing are taken off together with the slide. When the slide is separated from the frame, pull the trigger mechanism upwards and separate it from the frame.

5. Taking out the recoil mechanism (recoil spring with guide) (Fig. 10).

The guide is pushed towards the muzzle, lifted and taken out from the slide.

6. Taking off the guide bushing (Fig. 11).

Turn the guide bushing by 180° and then take it out from the slide.

7. Separating the barrel (Fig. 12)

Push the barrel so that the ribs come out from the grooves of the slide. Rotate the connecting plate

until it leans on the barrel and pull it forward to take it out from the barrel.

The pistol is stripped for cleaning and lubrication.

The owner should not strip the pistol further.

Detailed stripping is done in service shops (experts and appropriate tools).

The assembly of the pistol is done by the opposite sequence of actions in relation to stripping.

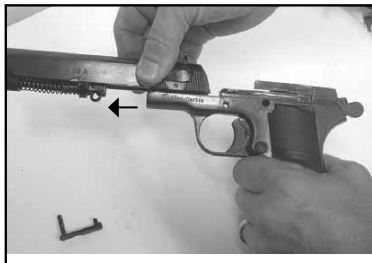


Fig. 8> Separating the slide

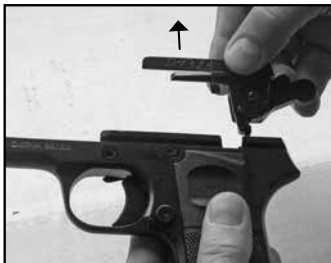


Fig. 9> Separating the trigger mechanism from the frame



Fig. 10> Taking out the recoil mechanism (recoil spring with guide)

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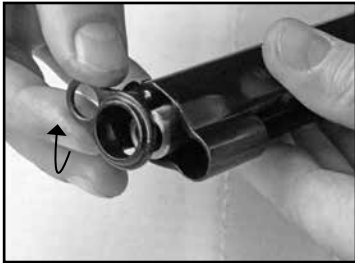


Fig. 11> Taking off the guide bushing



Fig. 12> Separating the barrel



Fig. 13> Stripped pistol

1- slide (with rear and front sight), 2- trigger mechanism, 3- barrel with connecting plate, 4- guide bushing, 5- frame with trigger and magazine release button, 6- coupling, 7- recoil spring with guide, 8- magazine

During the assembly, observe the following:

- When inserting the recoil mechanism, the connecting plate of the barrel should be normal in relation to the barrel.
- The groove on the guide should properly lean on the barrel lug.
- The guide must come into the appropriate hole on the guide bushing (Fig. 14)
- Cylindrical part of the coupling should, at the same time, come through the holes on the frame and on the connecting plate. (Fig. 15)

To check whether the pistol is properly assembled, pull the slide rearwards, block the pistol and trigger it.



Fig. 14> Position of the guide



Fig. 15> Position of parts before inserting coupling

## HANDLING AND MAINTENANCE

Like any other precision mechanism, your pistol will function better, last longer, and remain safer when it is properly maintained. Follow the advice in this section to keep your pistol in peak competitive conditions.

**CAUTIONS:** Before stripping and cleaning, make sure that the pistol is not loaded.

**WARNING:** Do not strip your pistol if you suspect a major defect and when additional expert servicing and repairs are necessary.

**WHEN TO CLEAN:** You should clean your pistol as soon after firing as possible, so that the job will be easier and there will be less opportunity for corrosion to start. When your pistol has not been fired, clean it periodically, every three months, or once a month if storing conditions are unfavorable.

**HOW TO CLEAN:** The following cleaning procedure may be used both periodically and after firing.

**MATERIALS:** Cleaning rod, lubrication brush, cotton flannel patches (cut to fit into the bore), lubrication oil and gun cleaning solution to eliminate powder deposits.

**NOTE:** If ambient temperature is below 0° C (32° F) avoid use of lubrication oil; instead, apply a dry lubricant sparingly.

### CLEANING PROCEDURE:

1. **CAUTION:** Ensure that the pistol is not loaded.
2. Strip for cleaning as described in this Instruction manual.
3. The brush dipped into gun cleaning solution pass through the barrel several times to eliminate powder deposits.
4. With the same brush, clean the grooves on the slide, frame, slide interior and top surface of the insert in frame.
5. Attach cotton flannel patch to end of cleaning rod and pass it through the barrel several times to eliminate dirt and powder deposits. Change the patches until the last patch comes out clean.
6. With cotton flannel patches clean external surfaces of the barrel, slide interior and the frame.
7. After cleaning, lubricate the barrel and other metal parts with oil.

After five magazines were fired without stopping (40 rounds), the pistol should be cooled in the air for at least 10 minutes, to avoid overheating of the barrel.



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