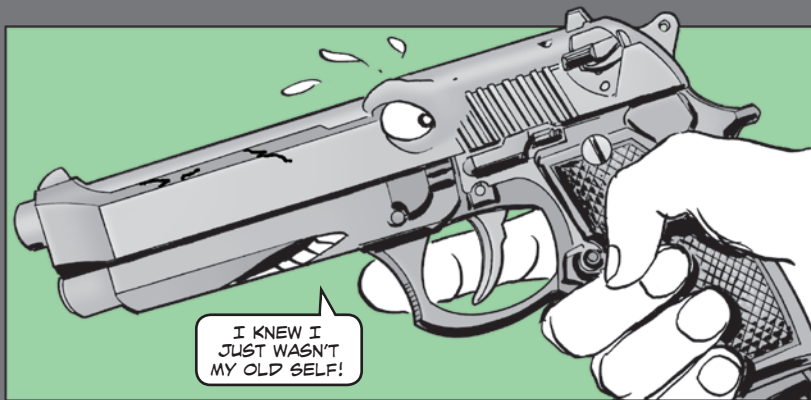


CRACK DOWN ON CRACKS... AND OTHER STUFF



An M9 pistol that is fired frequently will develop cracks eventually. There's nothing you can do to stop cracks, but you can spot them before they crack up your M9.

WHEN YOU DO PMCS, DO THIS CRACK CHECK. IT TAKES JUST A MINUTE.

FIRST, WIPE ANY OIL OFF THE PISTOL. OIL CAN HIDE CRACKS.



Crack Check

Check for cracks in these areas:

- the locking block along the front and rear of the locking lugs. That's where cracks and chips usually appear.
- the barrel in the area around the locking block
- the inside of the slide where the locking lugs sit
- the receiver rails where the locking block sits in the receiver
- around the magazine catch

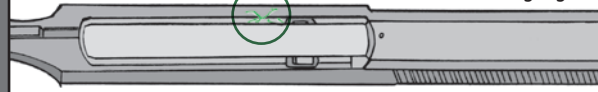
Check for cracks in locking block...



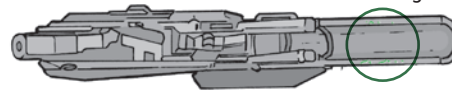
...in barrel around locking block...



...in slide around locking lugs...



...in receiver rails where locking block sits...



...and around magazine catch

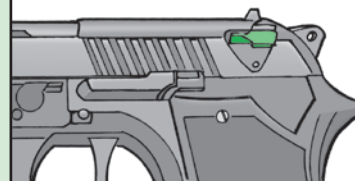


Cracks usually mean you need a new pistol. Tell your armorer if you spot any.

Safety Lever

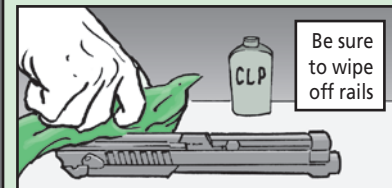
If the safety lever is bent, don't try to bend it back. That just weakens the lever or snaps it off. Support needs to replace the lever.

Report bent safety lever. Don't try to bend it back



Clean Rails

Make a point when cleaning to wipe off the receiver and slide rails. If the rails become gritty with sand, the back-and-forth action of the slide wears out the bearing surfaces and soon you've got firing problems.



Trigger Bar Spring

Be careful when cleaning inside the magazine well. Many trigger bar springs are lost each year during cleaning. The spring is under lots of tension. If you nudge it—ZING—it's gone. No spring means no firing. Keep cleaning tools away from the spring and make sure the spring is still in place when you're through cleaning.