

Home Training - Shotgun Dryfire Drill 1

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One of the most difficult skills with the shotgun is keeping it fed with ammunition. Drill (1) of the home training shotgun dryfire series is: Shoot 1- load 1 and Shoot 2- load 2.

Required Gear & Equipment:

- 1) Shotgun - verified safe and clear
- 2) Inert training rounds, preferably with brass bases but the orange safety trainers will work
- 3) Computer or shot timer



Preparing the training area:

- 1) Safety FIRST- designate a clear and safe training area which you have verified NO LIVE ammunition is within. Take any live ammunition and place it in a container and then place that container in a totally separate room.

2) Safety FIRST- visually & physically verify the shotgun is safe & clear. Inspect the chamber and tube - twice!

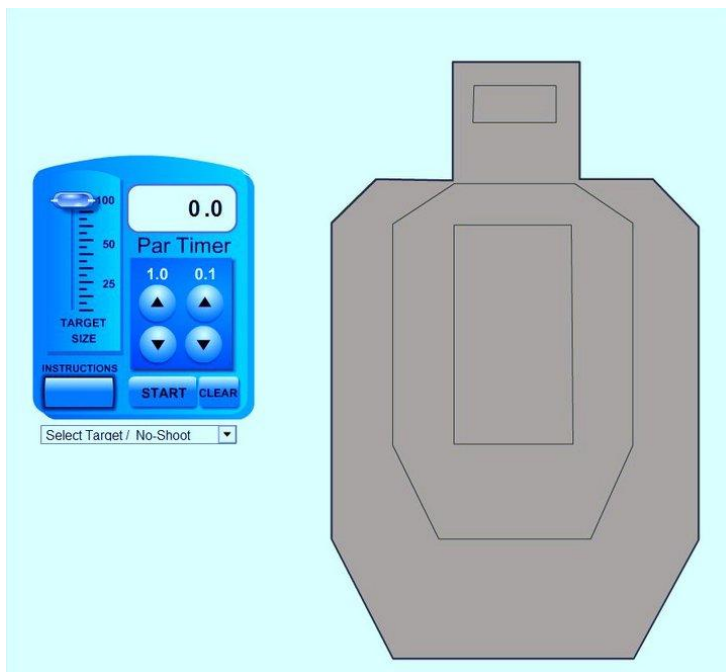
3) Safety FIRST- verify that the dummy rounds you will be using are inert and that no live ammunition has gotten mixed in with your inert rounds by accident.

4) Safety FIRST- ALWAYS adhere to the fundamental safety rules of firearms handling:

- Treat ALL guns as if they are loaded at all times
- Never let your muzzle cover anything you're not willing to destroy
- Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on target and you have made a conscious decision to shoot
- Maintain the mechanical safeties until your sights are on target and you have made a conscious decision to shoot
- Know your target, what's behind it, to the sides and in front of it

Once the training area and your gear is properly set up and safety has been verified set up a dryfire target in your training room or access the predatortactical.com online par timer and target.

<http://www.predatortactical.com/uploads/media/Flashfiles/drawbeepSlider082504.swf>



PredatorTactical online shot timer & target



Home made dry fire target

Warm Up & Fundamentals:

Re-verify safety: Shotgun is clear + only dummy rounds are available. Then begin by properly working the action of the shotgun as a warm up in 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 shot strings. Strive to achieve smooth rearward and forward motion paying close attention that you're not short stroking. Next, prepare your gear and training area for the Shoot 1-Load 1 drill.

Shoot 1- Load 1 dryfire drill:

From a modified low ready position, bring your sights up on target, dry fire 1 round, work the action ejecting the dummy round you just dry fired on and chamber the second round. You have just reduced your carry load by one round so it is important to replenish the shotgun back to full fighting capacity, from a side saddle or other carry gear, load one round into the magazine tube. You have just Shot 1 + Loaded 1.

If you have your own shot timer set a par time of 2.5 seconds for shoot 1- load 1 and work to consistently achieve that time standard. Once you can consistently achieve that standard either move onto another skill OR reduce the time standard by .25 and then .50 seconds.

Shoot 2 - Load 2 dryfire drill:

Repeat the above drill this time shooting and ejecting 2 rounds and then loading 2 rounds. Par time for this is 3.5 seconds. Follow above guidelines. From here you can expand the drill as you see fit with shoot 3-load 3 etc.

Notes:

I really like using the PredatorTactical.com online dry fire resource. This way, a par timer is available wherever or whenever I have a laptop or PC. Work your way up to utilizing time pressure. Get the fundamental manipulations down first and once comfortable add time. If you are unfamiliar with shotgun loading techniques, check out the MDTs Youtube channel video on Shotgun Loading Procedures: <http://www.youtube.com/user/MDTSLLC?feature=mhum#p/u/14/xQwvHnM5Pjw>

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