



Alexander Arms®

## **.17 HMR Heavy Buffer**

**Installation instructions for Alexander Arms®  
.17 HMR Heavy Buffer**

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The .17 HMR heavy buffer is designed and produced specifically for use with Alexander Arms® .17 HMR upper receiver assemblies that are installed onto lower receiver assemblies that have a lightweight fire control group. A lightweight fire control group is a broad-scope definition meaning any trigger that has what is considered a light pull weight, a reduced hammer weight, or a reduced hammer spring.

As currently designed, our .17 HMR weapon system is balanced to operate properly with a full-weight hammer and full-weight hammer spring typical of the stock semi-automatic AR-15 parts. Specifically, this includes the round-top hammer profile and not the earlier notched front profile.

Therefore, target-style fire control groups - specifically those with reduced hammer weight and reduced hammer spring weight - typically will not be suitable as the increased bolt speed will create a number of reliability issues.

For those who wish to use a lightweight fire control group with an Alexander Arms® .17 HMR upper receiver assembly, the .17 HMR heavy buffer must be used. Failure to properly balance the gun in this way will lead to function problems.

As with any modification to a rifle, it is recommended that this work is performed by a competent gunsmith. Please read and understand these instructions prior to commencing any fitting work and, if necessary, refer to a gunsmith for advice.

**ENSURE THE RIFLE IS UNLOADED AND IN A SAFE CONDITION BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH ANY WORK.**

If you cannot comply with the safety requirements or installation instructions, contact us.

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## Tools required for installation:

1. Small, flat blade screw driver

## Installation:

1. Detach the lower receiver from the upper receiver using the takedown and pivot pins.
2. Next, you must remove the recoil cassette from the lower receiver assembly. This can be done by either removing the receiver extension or by removing the trigger, bolt catch, and .17 HMR magazine block. We do not recommend removing the receiver extension. Because the removal of the other components is not specifically applicable to this document, instructions for their removal and installation will not be included here. For a visual aid to the removal and installation of the .17 HMR components, please consider viewing our online video titled “.17 HMR Upper Installation Onto an AR-15 Lower,” which can be accessed by visiting this Internet address: [www.alexanderarms.com/17hmrinstallation](http://www.alexanderarms.com/17hmrinstallation).
3. Once the recoil cassette assembly is removed from the weapon, locate the standard buffer inside the assembly. The buffer is the metal part inside the larger diameter end of the exterior cassette tube. The buffer is not the rubber bumper in the smaller end of the cassette tube.
4. Depress the buffer into the recoil cassette tube to reveal the large C-shaped retention clip located near the opening.
5. Using the flat blade screw driver, remove the retention clip by carefully prying under the sharp point of the clip. Take care not to gouge the housing or harm yourself.
6. Remove the buffer from the recoil cassette tube. Leave the buffer spring in place within the recoil cassette tube.
7. Set the .17 HMR heavy buffer into the end of the spring.
8. Push the buffer into the housing with your thumb and hold it there.
9. Starting at one end, or sharp point, of the retention clip, reinstall the clip into the recoil cassette tube. This can be done by using your other thumb or a tool. Work around the clip until it snaps fully into the slot inside the cassette tube. If the clip slips too far down into the cassette tube, simply depress the buffer further into the housing and quickly let it go. The force of the buffer should snap the retention clip in place.
10. Before installing the recoil cassette assembly into your lower receiver, verify visually and physically that the retention clip is fully locked into the slot in the cassette tube. This can be confirmed by depressing the buffer and allowing it to snap back against the retaining clip.

## NOTE:

- The standard buffer is normally black in color.
- The heavy buffer is normally silver in color.