COLT'S AUTOMATIC PISTOL

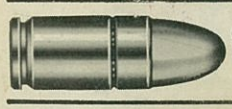
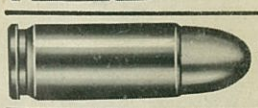
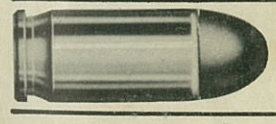
LIGHTWEIGHT COMMANDER MODEL

MODEL 0-4 SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber	Magazine Capacity	Length of Barrel	Length Overall	Weights	Sights
.45 Automatic	7 rounds	4¼"	8"	26½ oz.	Fixed type, ramp-style, glare proofed
.38 Super Automatic	9 rounds				
9 m/m Luger	9 rounds				

Housing	Safety	Trigger	Hammer Spur	Stocks	Finish
Arched	Standard Colt .45 Grip and Thumb Safety	Grooved	Round Top Grooved	Checkered Coltwood	Colt Blue only

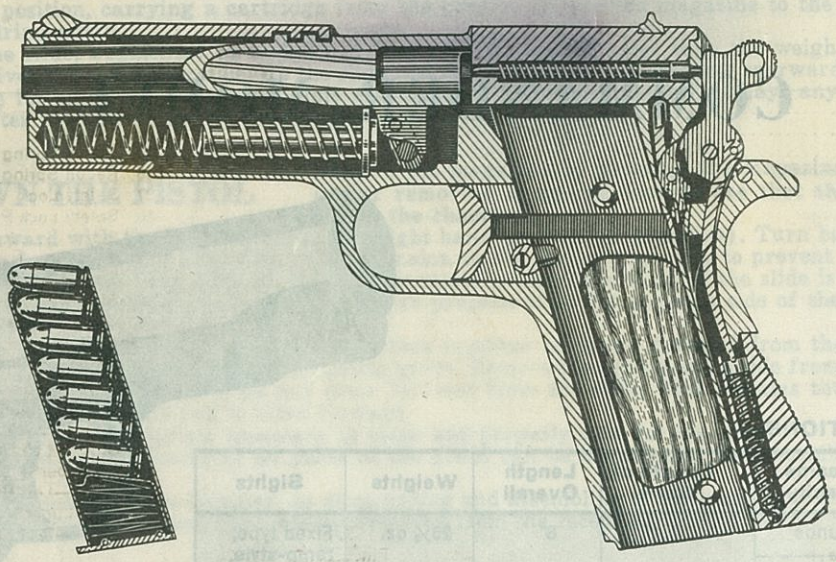
BALLISTICS PERFORMANCE

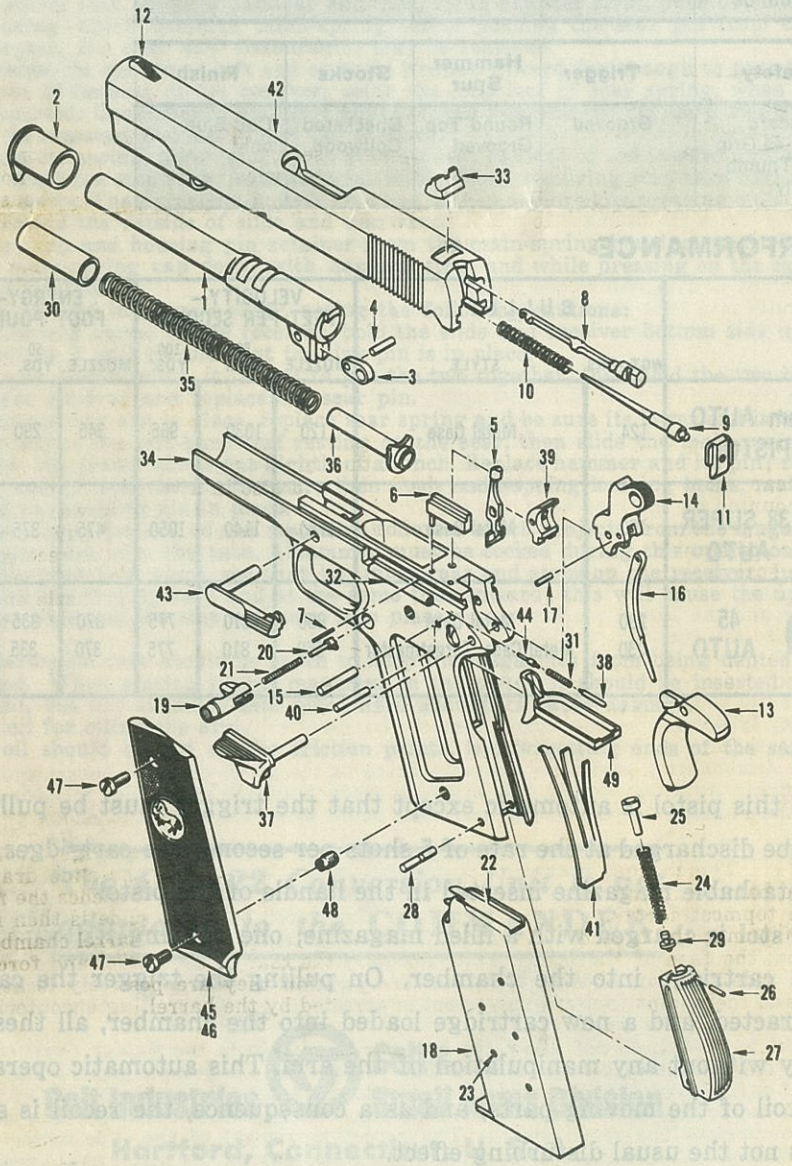
CARTRIDGES	BULLET		VELOCITY—FEET PER SECOND			ENERGY—FOOT POUNDS			MID-RANGE TRAJECTORY		TEST BARREL LGTH.
	WGT.-GRS.	STYLE	MUZZLE	50 YDS.	100 YDS.	MUZZLE	50 YDS.	100 YDS.	50 YDS.	100 YDS.	
 9mm AUTO PISTOL	124	Metal Case	1120	1030	965	345	290	255	1.0"	4.1"	4"
 38 SUPER AUTO	130	Metal Case	1280	1140	1050	475	375	320	0.8"	3.4"	5"
 45 AUTO	230	Metal Case	850	810	775	370	335	305	1.6"	6.5"	5"
	230	Metal Case, Targetmaster	850	810	775	370	335	305	1.6"	6.5"	5"

THE action of this pistol is automatic except that the trigger must be pulled to fire each shot. The arm can be discharged at the rate of 5 shots per second, the cartridges being automatically supplied from a detachable magazine inserted in the handle of the pistol.

After the pistol is charged with a filled magazine, one opening [illegible] is made by hand, bringing the first cartridge into the chamber. On pulling the trigger the cartridge is fired, the empty shell is extracted, and a new cartridge loaded into the chamber, all these operations taking place automatically without any manipulation of the arm. This automatic operation of the pistol is effected by the recoil of the moving parts, and as a consequence, the recoil is so absorbed in being utilized that it has not the usual disturbing effect.

Sectional View, Colt Commander Model Automatic Pistol - - Calibers .45, .38 Super, 9 M/M





Component Parts Commander Model, Colt Automatic Pistol - - Calibers .45 Automatic, .38 Super, 9 M/M Luger

When ordering parts, specify: Model, Caliber, Serial Number, Number and Name of Part.

Drawing Number		Part Number
1	Barrel—.45 Automatic	51002
1	Barrel—.38 Super	51023
1	Barrel—9mm Luger	51031
2	Barrel Bushing—.45 Automatic	51039
2	Barrel Bushing—.38 Super	51003
2	Barrel Bushing—9mm Luger	51003
3	Barrel Link	50143
4	Barrel Link Pin	50144
5	Disconnector	50147
6	Ejector—.45 Automatic and .38 Super	51040
6	Ejector—9mm Luger	51044
7	Ejector Pin	50170
8	Extractor—.45 Automatic	50184
8	Extractor—.38 Super	50217
8	Extractor—9mm Luger	50217
9	Firing Pin—.45 Automatic	50185
9	Firing Pin—.38 Super and 9mm Luger	50218
10	Firing Pin Spring	50186
11	Firing Pin Stop	50219
12	Front Sight—1/10" Blade	50189
12	Front Sight—.125" Blade	50193
13	Grip Safety	51004
14	Hammer	51006
15	Hammer Pin	50153
16	Hammer Strut	50151
17	Hammer Strut Pin	50152
18	Magazine Tube Detail Assembly—.45 Automatic	50201
18	Magazine Tube Detail Assembly—.38 Super	50227
18	Magazine Tube Detail Assembly—9mm Luger	51036
19	Magazine Catch	50155
20	Magazine Catch Lock	50007
21	Magazine Catch Spring	50156
22	Magazine Follower—.45 Automatic	50199
22	Magazine Follower—.38 Super	50226
22	Magazine Follower—9mm Luger	51034
23	Magazine Spring—.45 Automatic	50200
23	Magazine Spring—.38 Super	51038
23	Magazine Spring—9mm Luger	51035
24	Main Spring	50158
25	Main Spring Cap	50159
26	Main Spring Cap Pin	50160
27	Main Spring Housing	51008
28	Main Spring Housing Pin	50163
29	Main Spring Housing Pin Retainer	50162
30	Recoil Spring Plug	51017
31	Plunger Spring	50165
32	Plunger Tube	50171
33	Rear Sight—1/10"	50190
33	Rear Sight—.125"	50194
34	Receiver	
35	Recoil Spring	51015
36	Recoil Spring Guide	51016
37	Safety Lock	50174
38	Safety Lock Plunger	50166
39	Sear	50177
40	Sear Pin	50178
41	Sear Spring	50179
42	Slide—.45 Automatic	51021
42	Slide—.38 Super	51029
42	Slide—9mm Luger	51127
43	Slide Stop—.45 Automatic	50195
43	Slide Stop—.38 Super and 9mm Luger	50277
44	Slide Stop Plunger	50167
45	Stock—Left Hand—.45 Automatic and .38 Super*	50207
45	Stock—Left Hand—9mm Luger*	51012
46	Stock—Right Hand—.45 Automatic and .38 Super*	50208
46	Stock—Right Hand—9mm Luger*	51013
47	Stock Screw (4 Required)	50209
48	Stock Screw Bushing (4 Required)	50173
49	Trigger Assembly	50180

*Stocks sold only in pairs, with Stock Screws

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The three main parts of the pistol are the receiver, barrel and slide. The receiver has suitable guides for the reciprocating slide, and a hollow handle in which the magazine is inserted from below and automatically locked by the magazine catch.

The trigger is seated in the receiver and its front end projects into the trigger guard; in the rear of the receiver the firing mechanism is arranged, comprising the hammer, sear, automatic disconnector, grip safety and safety lock; also the main-spring and sear spring. The main-spring is seated within the main-spring housing and there held by the main-spring cap pin; the main-spring housing contains also the main-spring cap and housing pin retainer.

The sear spring has a rib fitting into a slot in the rear wall of the receiver so as to keep the spring from moving vertically, the main-spring housing bearing against the rear of the spring locks it in position and gives it the required tension.

The hammer strut is attached to the hammer in rear of its pivot, with its end resting in the main-spring cap.

Above the handle in a tube are the slide stop and safety lock plungers with their ends protruding from the front and rear respectively of the tube, also the spiral plunger spring seated between the plungers and yieldingly holding them in position.

The ejector is secured to the top of the receiver near the rear end.

The top of the receiver forward of the trigger guard has a semi-tubular extension which forms the seat for the rear portion of the recoil spring.

The barrel of the pistol is provided with two transverse locking ribs which postively interlock the barrel with the breech slide when in firing position. The rear end of the barrel is attached to the receiver by a link and pins and swinging thereon can move a limited distance lengthwise and also in a vertical plane.

The slide is mounted on the receiver from the front and is stopped in its rearward movement by a tubular abutment which postively prevents it being thrown rearward from the receiver under any circumstances.

In the abutment of front end of the slide are seated the forward portion of the recoil spring and the plug, while the rear end of the spring and its guide are supported by the shoulder at the front of the receiver.

The barrel bushing is secured in the front end of the slide and supports the muzzle end of the barrel.

When the slide and the barrel therein are mounted upon the receiver and the slide stop is in its place so as to lock the link and barrel to the receiver, the slide also is thereby postively locked in place.

The slide stop is provided with a checkered thumb piece for releasing the slide from the open position.

The safety lock is so arranged that when in the upward or locked position it enters a recess in the slide, the stud on its inner face at the same time locks the sear and the hammer when in the full cocked position.

The grip safety is pivoted in the upper part of the receiver and automatically locks and releases the firing mechanism without requiring the attention or thought of the shooter.

The automatic disconnector positively prevents firing of the pistol until the barrel and the slide are in their fully closed and locked firing position; and it also prevents more than one shot from following each pull of the trigger.

Do not allow the hammer to rest in the half cock notch when the arm is loaded.

OPERATION

The magazine may be charged with any number of cartridges from one to seven (or nine). The charged magazine is inserted in the handle and the slide drawn once to the rear. This movement cocks the hammer, compresses the recoil spring and, when the slide reaches the rear position, the magazine follower raises the topmost cartridge into the path of the breech bolt. The slide is then released and is forced forward by the recoil spring; the breech bolt carries the first cartridge into the barrel chamber. As the slide approaches its forward position, the face of the breech bolt encouters the rear of the barrel and forces the barrel forward and upward. When the slide and barrel reach their forward position they are postively locked together by the locking ribs on the barrel and their joint forward movement is arrested by the barrel lug encoutering the slide stop post.

The pistol is then ready for firing.

When the pistol is loaded, do not allow the hammer to remain in the Safety (half cock) notch.

On pulling the trigger the cartridge is fired. The pressure of the powder gases while driving the bullet forward forces the slide and barrel together rearward; then the downward swinging movement of the barrel releases it from the slide leaving the latter free to continue its rearward movement, which cocks the hammer, extracts and ejects the empty shell and compresses the recoil spring. The return movement of the slide under the influence of the recoil spring forces a cartridge into the chamber and locks the slide, leaving the pistol again ready for firing.

These operations may be continued as long as there are cartridges in the magazine.

When the magazine has been emptied, the slide stop engages the slide and holds it open, thus serving as an indicator to remind the shooter that the empty magazine must be replaced by a charged one.

Pressure upon the magazine catch quickly releases the empty magazine from the handle and permits the insertion of a loaded magazine.

To release the slide from the open position, press upon the thumb piece of the slide stop, when the slide will go forward to its closed position, carrying a cartridge from the previously inserted magazine to the barrel and making the pistol ready for firing again.

The weight of the slide, augmented by that of the barrel is so much greater than the weight of the bullet that the latter has been driven from the barrel before the slide and barrel have moved together rearward to the point where the barrel commences its unlocking movement. This construction, therefore, positively delays any opening movement of the breech until after the bullet has left the muzzle.

TO TAKE DOWN THE PISTOL

Remove the magazine by pressing the magazine catch. **(After removing magazine, look to see that there is no cartridge left in the chamber.)**

Press the plug inward with the index finger of the right hand (or butt of magazine). Turn barrel bushing to the right until the plug is free to go forward; then release tension on the spring gradually to prevent plug from jumping away. Draw slide back until the rear edge of the smaller recess in the lower edge of the slide is even with the rear end of the slide stop; press against end of slide stop which projects from the opposite side of the receiver above the trigger guard, and draw out the stop.

This releases the barrel, link and slide, which may then together be drawn forward from the receiver, carrying also the barrel bushing, recoil spring, and recoil spring guide. Remove the spring and guide from the slide. Turn the barrel bushing to the left as far as it will go and draw forward from the slide. This releases the barrel which may then be drawn forward and out if the link is tilted forward.

The foregoing is all the dismounting necessary to clean and properly care for the arm.

It is not necessary to remove stocks as all parts of the pistol can be dismounted and assembled with the stocks in place.

In taking the pistol apart, **use no hammer,** as dismounting and assembling is quick and easy after a little practice. The hammer should not be snapped when slide is removed from the receiver.

TO COMPLETE DISMOUNTING

The safety lock is removed by cocking the hammer; then grasping the thumb piece of the safety lock between the thumb and index finger, steadily pull outward and at the same time move back and forth. Lower hammer (don't snap) and push out hammer pin using the safety lock. Remove hammer and then, using hammer strut, push out the housing pin; then withdraw main-spring housing which contains main-spring. After pushing the sear pin from right to left, using hammer strut for this purpose, the sear and disconnector may be removed.

To remove magazine catch, its checkered left end must be pressed inward far enough to permit the catch lock to be turned to the left and out of its seat in the receiver, using the long leaf of sear spring, when the catch with its lock and spring may be removed. Care should be taken not to let the lock and spring jump away when released.

The trigger may then be removed rearward from the receiver.

To remove firing pin and its spring, take hammer strut and push rear end of pin inward and at same time downward on the stop; this will start the stop from its seat in the slide. When removing stop take care not to allow firing pin and its spring to jump away. The extractor is now free and may be removed by pressing on its front end with the end of the hammer strut toward the outside of slide and rearward.

To remove main-spring, cap and housing pin retainer from the main-spring housing, push the main-spring cap pin partly out, and press main-spring cap down with hammer strut and while pressing on the cap, pull the cap pin out. The parts may be then removed.

To assemble the pistol proceed in reverse order, noting the following **cautions:**

When replacing the slide and barrel on the receiver, hold the slide and receiver bottom side up and see that the link is tilted forward as far as it will go and that the link pin is in place.

To assemble the sear and disconnector, it is best to put the two together, then hold the two by their lower ends and put them in place in the receiver and replace the sear pin.

After the sear and disconnector are in place, replace sear spring and be sure its lower end is located in the cut in the receiver and the upper end of the left-hand leaf resting on the sear, then slide the main-spring housing in until its lower end projects below the frame about one-eighth of an inch. Replace hammer and its pin; replace grip safety; cock hammer and replace safety lock; lower hammer, then push main-spring housing home, making hammer strut enter main-spring cap, and put housing pin in place.

When assembling safety lock, the end of the magazine follower which projects from the magazine can be used to push the safety lock plunger back into the tube. (Hammer must be cocked during this operation.)

When pressing the slide stop into place, see that its upper rear end stops on the receiver, just under the small slide stop plunger, then push the stop upward and at the same time inward; this will cause the upper round part of the stop to push the plunger back and the stop will snap into place.

MAGAZINES

Reasonable care should be taken to keep the magazines from being dented or otherwise damaged. When placing loaded magazine in the pistol, it should be inserted in the handle by a quick, continuous movement, but not slammed into place hard enough to cause damage.

Use nothing but thin oil for oiling the arm.

Occasionally a little oil should be put on the friction points, not forgetting ends of the safety lock and slide stop plungers.

***The Colt .22 Conversion Unit is not adaptable to the* COMMANDER.**

Colt Industries **Colt's Small Arms Division**
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