

# SIG SAUER®

RELIABILITY. FIRST TIME, EVERY TIME.™

## **P556™** **Pistol**

**HANDLING & SAFETY  
INSTRUCTIONS**



**\*Shown with  
optional accessories  
not included.**

**READ THE INSTRUCTIONS  
AND WARNINGS IN THIS  
MANUAL CAREFULLY BEFORE  
USING THIS FIREARM; DO NOT  
DISCARD THIS MANUAL.**

This instruction manual should always accompany this firearm and be transferred with it upon ownership, or when the firearm is loaned or presented to another person.

**FOR PRODUCT SERVICE ON THIS  
MODEL, PLEASE CALL (603)772-2302  
SIG SAUER, INC. • 18 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE,  
EXETER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03833 USA**

OWNERS MANUAL

## State-By-State Warnings

Certain states require, by law, that their own specified warning notices, in larger-than-normal type be conspicuously included by the manufacturer, distributor, or retail dealer with firearms sold in that state. SIG SAUER Inc. sells its products in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Because our products may be sold these states, we include the following:

### **CALIFORNIA:**

#### **WARNING**

“Children are attracted to and can operate firearms that can cause severe injuries or death. Prevent child access by always keeping guns locked away and unloaded when not in use. If you keep a loaded firearm where a child obtains and improperly uses it, you may be fined or sent to prison.”

#### **ADVERTENCIA**

“A los niños atraen las armas de fuego y las pueden hacer funcionar. Ellos pueden causarse lesiones graves y la muerte. Evite que los niños tengan acceso a las armas de fuego guardándolas siempre con llave y descargadas cuando no las esté utilizando. Si usted tiene una arma de fuego cargada en un lugar en que un niño tiene acceso a ella y la usa indebidamente, le pueden dar una multa o enviarlo a la cárcel.”

### **CONNECTICUT:**

**“UNLAWFUL STORAGE OF A LOADED FIREARM MAY RESULT IN IMPRISONMENT OR FINE.”**

### **FLORIDA:**

**“IT IS UNLAWFUL, AND PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT AND FINE, FOR ANY ADULT TO STORE OR LEAVE A FIREARM IN ANY PLACE WITHIN THE REACH OR EASY ACCESS OF A MINOR UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE OR TO KNOWINGLY SELL OR OTHERWISE**

TRANSFER OWNERSHIP OR POSSESSION OF A FIREARM TO A MINOR OR A PERSON OF UNSOUND MIND.”

**MAINE:**

“ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD IS A CRIME. IF YOU LEAVE A FIREARM AND AMMUNITION WITHIN EASY ACCESS OF A CHILD, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO FINE, IMPRISONMENT OR BOTH. KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SEPARATE. KEEP FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION LOCKED UP. USE TRIGGER LOCKS.”

**MARYLAND:**

“WARNING: Children can operate firearms which may cause death or serious injury. It is a crime to store or leave a loaded firearm in any location where an individual knew or should have known that an unsupervised minor would gain access to the firearm. Store your firearm responsibly!”

**MASSACHUSETTS:**

“WARNING FROM THE MASSACHUSETTS ATTORNEY GENERAL: This handgun is not equipped with a device that fully blocks use by unauthorized users. More than 200,000 firearms like this one are stolen from their owners every year in the United States. In addition, there are more than a thousand suicides each year by younger children and teenagers who get access to firearms. Hundreds more die from accidental discharge. It is likely that many more children sustain serious wounds, or inflict such wounds accidentally on others. In order to limit the chance of such misuse, it is imperative that you keep this weapon locked in a secure place and take other steps necessary to limit the possibility of theft or accident. Failure to take reasonable preventative steps may result in innocent lives being lost, and in some circumstances may result in your liability for these deaths.”

“IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE OR KEEP A FIREARM, PISTOL, SHOTGUN OR MACHINE GUN IN ANY PLACE UNLESS THAT WEAPON IS EQUIPPED WITH A TAMPER RESISTANT SAFETY DEVICE OR IS STORED OR KEPT IN A SECURELY LOCKED CONTAINER.”

**NEW JERSEY:**

“IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE TO LEAVE A LOADED FIREARM WITHIN EASY ACCESS OF A MINOR.”

**NEW YORK CITY, NY:**

“THE USE OF A LOCKING DEVICE OR SAFETY LOCK IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF RESPONSIBLE FIREARMS STORAGE. FOR INCREASED SAFETY, FIREARMS SHOULD BE STORED UNLOADED AND LOCKED IN A LOCATION THAT IS BOTH SEPARATE FROM THEIR AMMUNITION AND INACCESSIBLE TO CHILDREN AND OTHER UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS.”

**NORTH CAROLINA:**

“IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE OR LEAVE A FIREARM THAT CAN BE DISCHARGED IN A MANNER THAT A REASONABLE PERSON SHOULD KNOW IS ACCESSIBLE TO A MINOR.”

**TEXAS:**

“IT IS UNLAWFUL TO STORE, TRANSPORT, OR ABANDON AN UNSECURED FIREARM IN A PLACE WHERE CHILDREN ARE LIKELY TO BE AND CAN OBTAIN ACCESS TO THE FIREARM.”

## WISCONSIN:

“IF YOU LEAVE A LOADED FIREARM WITHIN THE REACH OR EASY ACCESS OF A CHILD YOU MAY BE FINED OR IMPRISONED OR BOTH IF THE CHILD IMPROPERLY DISCHARGES, POSSESSES, OR EXHIBITS THE FIREARM.”

\* \* \* \* \*

Please check with your licensed retailer, state police, or local police for additional warnings which may be required by local law or regulation. Such regulations change constantly, and local authorities are in the best position to advise you on such legal matters.



### WARNING - LOCKING DEVICES



This firearm was originally sold with a key operated locking device. While it can help provide secure storage for your **unloaded** firearm, any locking device can fail. All guns are designed to fire if they are loaded and the trigger is pulled. Therefore, **never install the locking inside the trigger guard or in any way that it can possibly pull the trigger!** Do not leave the keys in the lock.

The ultimate responsibility for secure storage of any firearm must depend upon its owner and his or her individual circumstances. **Guns should be stored unloaded, in a secure location, separate from their ammunition.**



**NEVER INSTALL THE LOCKING DEVICE INSIDE THE TRIGGER GUARD**

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**WARNINGS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE ARE FOUND  
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**OTHER CAUTIONS AND WARNINGS APPEAR  
THROUGHOUT THE MANUAL**

**FIREARMS ARE DANGEROUS WEAPONS –  
READ THE INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS  
IN THIS MANUAL THOROUGHLY AND CAREFULLY  
BEFORE USING.**



**WARNING - ALTERATION**



This product was designed to function properly in its original condition. Alterations can make it unsafe. Do not alter any part or add or substitute any parts or accessories not manufactured by SIG SAUER Inc.

**DO NOT ALTER ANY GUN**

# GENERAL SAFETY INFORMATION AND MECHANICAL CHARACTERISTICS

## 1.0. Safety Information

The safety warnings in this manual are important. By understanding the dangers inherent in the use of any firearm, and by taking the precautions described herein, you can enjoy complete safety in the use of your pistol. Failure to heed any of these warnings may result in serious injury to you or others, as well as severe damage to the firearm or other property. SIG SAUER Inc. shall not be responsible in any manner whatsoever for malfunctioning of the firearm, physical injury or property damage resulting in whole or in part from:

- 1) criminal or negligent discharge;
- 2) improper or careless handling;
- 3) unauthorized modifications;
- 4) defective, improper, hand-loaded, or reloaded ammunition;
- 5) corrosion;
- 6) neglect; or
- 7) other influences beyond our direct and immediate control.

This limitation applies regardless of whether liability is asserted on the basis of contract, negligence, or strict liability (including any failure to warn). Under no circumstance shall SIG SAUER Inc. be liable for incidental or consequential damages, such as loss of use of property, commercial loss, and loss of earnings or profits.

## 1.1. Protect Your Eyes And Ears

Always wear safety glasses and ear plugs or “ earmuff ” type protectors whenever you are shooting. Always make certain that persons close to you are similarly protected. Unprotected eyes may be injured by powder, gas, carbon residue, lubricant, metallic particles, or similar debris which may emanate occasionally from any firearm in normal use. Without ear protection, repeated exposure to shooting noise may lead to cumulative, permanent hearing loss.

## 2.0. Mechanical Characteristics & Weapon Theory

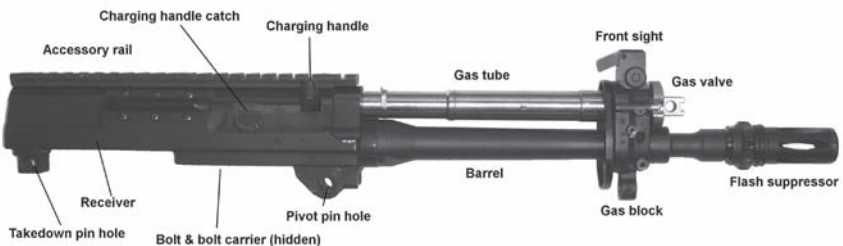
### 2.1. Weapon Description

#### 2.1.1. General

The P556 Pistol is a semi-automatic, gas operated weapon with a rotary bolt mechanism. Semi-automatic means one round will fire each time the trigger is pulled until the magazine is emptied of ammunition. The pistol is chambered in 5.56mm NATO and is compatible with .223 Remington ammunition.

#### 2.1.2. Barrel With Receiver And Gas System

The barrel is mechanically mated to the receiver. The flash suppressor is screwed onto the muzzle end of the barrel which features a  $\Omega$  x 28 TPI thread pattern. The gas block, which is fixed on the barrel, contains the gas port, locates the gas system (gas tube and operating rod), accepts the front sight and also serves as support for the hand guards. The receiver guides the bolt and bolt carrier, and houses the locking system. An accessory mounting rail is fixed to the upper part of the receiver, providing an attachment point for sighting systems and other accessories.



### 2.1.3. Bolt

The bolt consists of two main parts:

- Bolt Carrier
- Bolt Head

a. Bolt Carrier: The bolt carrier guides the bolt head, controls the locking and unlocking by means of the cam, holds the operating rod, and cocks the hammer.

b. Bolt Head: The bolt head locks the bolt assembly, houses the firing pin and extractor and feeds the cartridges from the magazine to the chamber.



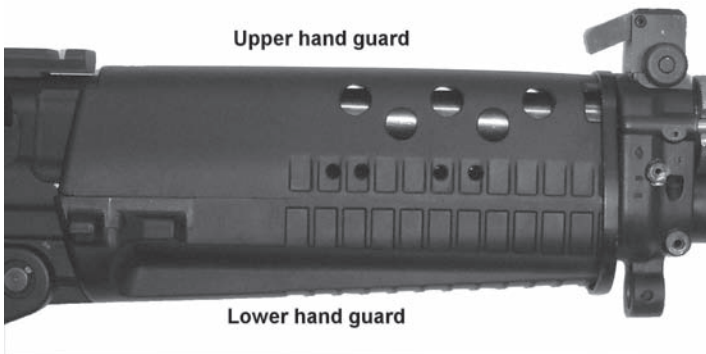
**Bolt carrier**



**Bolt head**

### 2.1.4. Hand Guards

The hand guards protect the barrel and the gas system from damage. They also provide ergonomic positioning of the hands during operation as well as protecting the hands from burns.

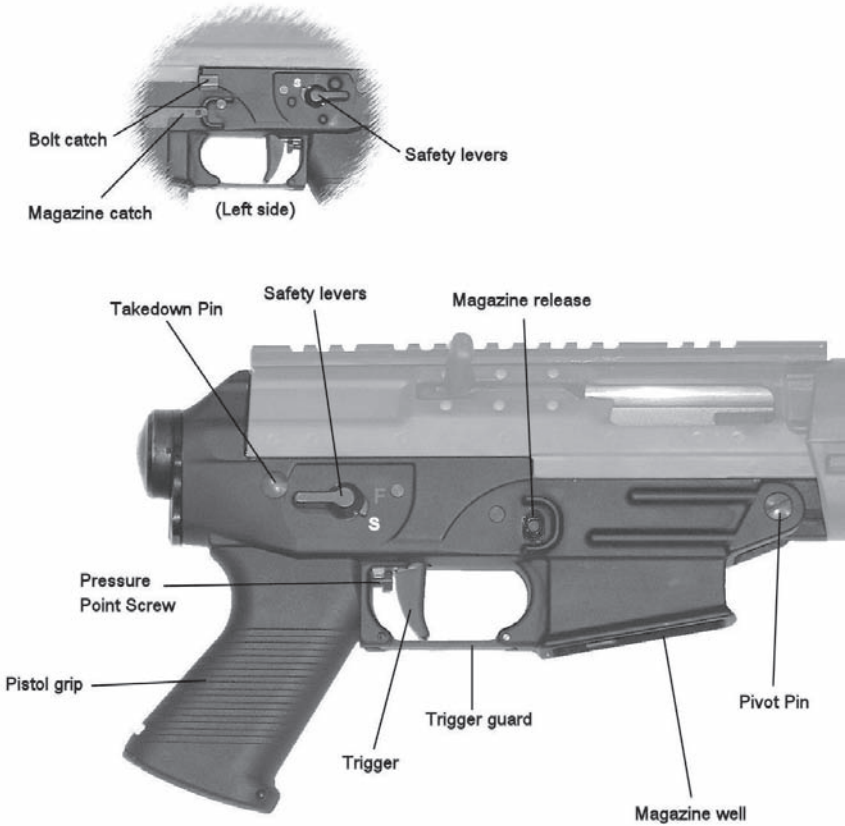


**Upper hand guard**

**Lower hand guard**

### 2.1.5. Trigger Casing Assembly

The trigger casing assembly contains the internal components of the firing and safety mechanisms, bolt catch, magazine well, magazine catch, trigger, trigger guard and pistol grip.



The safety lever, located on both sides of the trigger casing, can be set to two positions:

- Position “S:” The weapon is locked in the safe position.
- Position “F:” The weapon will fire in the semi-automatic mode.

The trigger guard may be released from its normal position to make the trigger accessible for shooting with gloves. For safety reasons the trigger guard must not be released until just before firing the weapon, and after firing should be immediately returned to the normal (closed) position.

**CAUTION:** Be careful of accidental discharges when inserting gloved fingers into the trigger guard.

### 2.1.6. Gas Valve Position

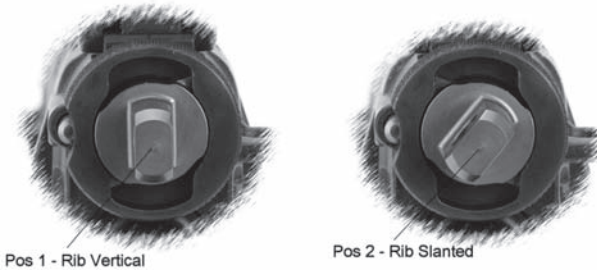
The gas volume required for the function of the P556 pistol can be controlled by the gas valve. The gas valve has two positions:

- a. Position 1 (Rib of gas valve in vertical position).

Under normal conditions, the gas valve should remain in Position 1. This will give the best all-around performance and function.

- b. Position 2 (Rib of gas valve in the slanted position).

When cycling or ejection problems are encountered due to heavy



fouling, the gas valve can be moved to Position 2 by rotating clockwise as far as the stop. In this position, a larger gas volume is released against the operating rod. The need to use the gas valve in Position 2 is an indication that the pistol requires cleaning.





























































































