



## Buttstocks Introduction & Overview

There are two basic types of buttstocks for the AR15; they are fixed, or telescoping. For fixed stocks the common standard types are the original and shorter A1 or the newer and longer A2. Stocks that telescope are commonly called M4's.



Both types of stocks offer advantages for certain applications. For instance, if you're building a long range varmint rifle you may want a longer A2 fixed stock or something similar in an aftermarket stock. If you're using your AR in close quarters or want adjustability for different sized operators an M4 style might suit your needs.

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While the lower receiver will accept either the fixed or telescoping stocks, there are differences in the parts that make up each of these two types. The lower receiver extension, buffers, springs, screws and how they attach are different, so make sure to order the correct parts. We have provided two different segments that describe the parts of the M4 and the fixed A1 & A2 buttstocks so be sure to watch the one that applies to you, or both of them.



Beyond providing a contact point for the shooter when shouldering the rifle, both types of buttstocks contain an action spring that pushes the bolt carrier assembly forward after firing to strip a cartridge out of the magazine and then to lock the bolt into battery. Part of this system includes the buffer which uses inertia to help control the timing of cycling. The lower receiver extension also holds in place the buffer retainer and spring. The A1 or A2

buttstock or the M4/CAR15 receiver end plate retains the take down pin detent and spring.

