

Tools Needed for Assembly

Now that we've covered all of the options and variants that you'll have to consider when building your AR, we can talk about the tools that you'll need to have, should have and would like to have. If you're going to just pin an already built upper and lower receiver together then you won't need anything special in tools.

If you're going to do any barrel or stock work then you'll need to have a stock and a barrel tool or a combination tool that will work for both. The barrel nut and the receiver extension nut are unique and require special tools, so running down to the hardware store won't work. These tools are designed to fit other types of fasteners that you use on your rifle, they also eliminate clutter on the bench and are handy to take out in the field. They also have 1/2" cuts in them to accept breaker bars and torque wrenches so you can accurately torque your barrel and receiver extension nuts.



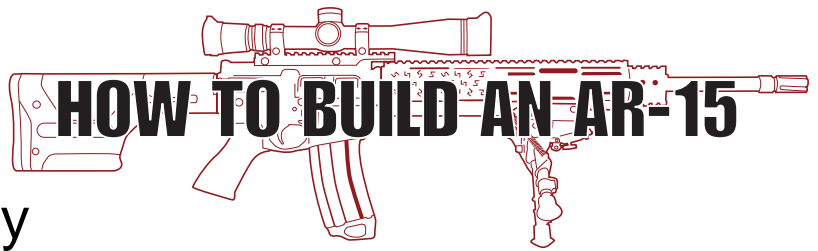
To firmly hold the upper and lower receivers while working on them you'll need to have the upper and lower receiver vise blocks. These firmly hold your firearm in a vise without damaging the finish or distorting the receivers.

If you're going to work on the mil spec gas block then you'll need to have 5 different types of punches to drive in or out three different types of pins. The gas tube roll pin requires a number 2 or 5/64" roll pin punch and number 2 or 3.5mm roll pin holder. The sight taper pins use a 3/32" taper starter punch for installation or removal. For the sling swivel you'll need a staking punch and a flat punch to peen over the rivet that holds the sling in place. To make working on the front sight base easier, you may want to consider the Brownells front sight bench block. The front sight bench block provides an easy method for securing or removing the front sight gas block.



For the upper receiver, you'll work with one pin size for the A1 sight and two pin sizes for the A2. The A1 sight uses a number 1, or 1/16", roll pin punch and holder for the windage drum roll pin. The A2 uses the number 1, and the number 3, or 3/32", roll pin punches and holders for the windage drum and elevation housing pin respectively. The rear sight elevation spring tool is also necessary for installing the A2 sight. The forward assist requires a number 3 roll pin punch and holder to install the retaining pin. And if you're going to fully assemble the forward assist you'll also need a number 1 roll pin holder and punch. For the lower receiver you'll need a bolt catch roll pin punch, and number 3 roll pin punch and holder for bolt catch and trigger guard roll pins. If for some reason you need to disassemble the trigger guard plunger it requires a number 1 roll pin holder and punch. To assemble the trigger you'll need .151" diameter punch for your trigger and hammer pins. This punch will work for all trigger and hammer pin sizes.

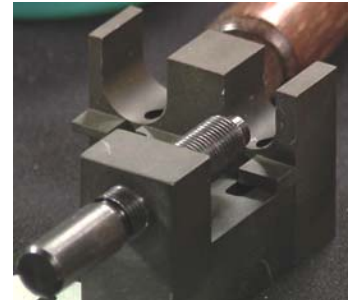




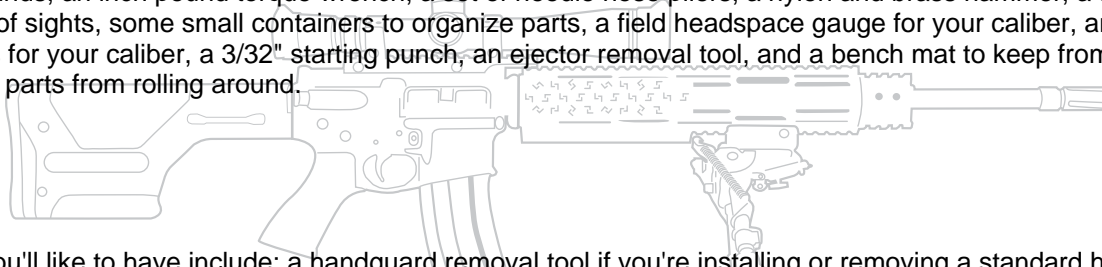
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To install the pistol grip you'll need a long flathead screwdriver with a shaft about 4" long and a 7/16" wide blade. This screwdriver can also be used for the buttstock screws. Our larger Magna-Tip flat head bits with our standard Magna-Tip handle works great for this.



Other tools that you should have are: a good bench vise, some pads for your vise jaws, a torque wrench capable of torquing from 30 to 150 foot pounds, an inch pound torque wrench, a set of needle nose pliers, a nylon and brass hammer, a sight adjustment tool for your type of sights, some small containers to organize parts, a field headspace gauge for your caliber, an AR15 magazine, dummy cartridges for your caliber, a 3/32" starting punch, an ejector removal tool, and a bench mat to keep from scratching your rifle and the small parts from rolling around.



Other tools that you'll like to have include: a handguard removal tool if you're installing or removing a standard handguard, a strap wrench if you're installing a free floating handguard, a gas tube alignment pin, a breaker bar for extra leverage, a set of snap ring pliers, a pivot pin detent installation tool, a set of English and metric hex wrenches and a set of Torx bits. For extensive work on you AR15 rifle you may want to consider either our field maintenance pack or our armorer's kit.

