



A range rod is used to confirm alignment or detect unacceptable amounts of misalignment between a revolver's individual chambers and its barrel. When each chamber is properly aligned with the barrel, a revolver will be more accurate and less likely to "spit" or "shave" lead. Perfect alignment, although preferable, is not always attainable due to some degree of tolerance stacking, normal wear and manufacturing limitations.

A range rod can be a great help to the pistolsmith, armorer or collector who needs a quick visual check for a worn, unsafe gun, or a potentially expensive repair. Range rods are also a valuable tool for competitive shooters who want to make sure their revolvers remain consistently accurate.



### WARNING



Never attempt to disassemble or reassemble a firearm unless you are absolutely certain that it is empty and unloaded. Visually inspect the chamber, the magazine and firing mechanism to be absolutely certain that no ammunition remains in the firearm. Disassembly and reassembly should follow the manufacturer's instructions. If such instructions are not immediately available, contact the manufacturer to see if they are available. If they are not available at all, then you should consult other reference sources such as reference books or persons with sufficient knowledge. If such alternative sources are not available and you have a need to disassemble or reassemble the firearm, you should proceed basing your procedures on common sense and experience with similarly constructed firearms.

With regard to the use of these tools, the advice of Brownells Incorporated is general. If there is any question as to a specific application it would be best to seek out specific advice from other sources and not solely rely on the general advice and warnings given.

### HOWTO USE

First, swing the cylinder out or remove the center pin and make sure the range rod will pass down the barrel. If the range rod will not pass down the barrel, see NOTE section below. Remove the rod, close the cylinder and "full cycle" the gun to the "just fired" position, with the hammer fully down and the trigger held back. Pass the range rod through the barrel and into the revolver's chamber. There should be no resistance felt all the way down to the recoil plate. Any resistance encountered as the rod head passes from the barrel to the cylinder is an indication of barrel/cylinder misalignment, requiring repair.

**NOTE:** Sometimes the range rod will not pass down the barrel. This does not mean that the barrel is undersize or the range rod head is oversize. If the range rod will not pass down a clean, dry, unpitted barrel of the same caliber, closely examine the barrel and look for obstructions or tight spots that can be caused by the following conditions. If any of the following conditions exist, the range rod cannot be used on that revolver. **CAUTION:** Never drive or force a range rod through a barrel. Damage to both the range rod and the barrel will occur.

- 1) Installation of the front sight or a single-action revolver's ejector rod retainer has slightly collapsed the barrel.
- 2) The frame, threaded for the barrel, is undersized and has slightly collapsed the barrel when the barrel was screwed into the frame during assembly.
- 3) The barrel shank is oversized and when screwed into the frame during assembly, the barrel has been slightly collapsed.
- 4) Some makes and models of firearms have a retaining pin through the frame, passing through the barrel shank. Misalignment in driving this during assembly will sometimes cause the barrel to "dimple" on the inside slightly. This "dimple" can then be felt with the range rod.
- 5) If a barrel has been drilled and tapped for a sight rib, scope mount or underlug, the attachment holes may have been drilled too deep or the tap run into them too far, "dimpling" the bore in one or many places.

Reassemble the firearm according to the manufacturer's instructions. Check for proper functioning using **ACTION PROVING DUMMIES**. Make sure **ALL SAFETY MECHANISMS** are fully functional as designed and approved by the manufacturer. If these tests prove satisfactory, test-fire the firearm with live ammunition in a **SAFE** and **APPROPRIATE** manner.

# BROWNELLS<sup>®</sup> RANGE ROD



Serious About Firearms Since 1939<sup>®</sup>  
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READ & FOLLOW THESE  
**INSTRUCTIONS**