



JULY 2020 NEWSLETTER

DRILL OF THE MONTH

Throughout 2020 we will be running a Drill of the Month in each edition of the newsletter. The goal is help motivate folks to get to the range and actually shoot their defensive weapons, and to have some fun in the process. Each month we'll post a drill or a short course of fire. You are encouraged to go to the range, shoot the drill, and then post your thoughts and a photo of your target on the Rangemaster Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/rangemaster/> .

5 Second Standards

Designed by Tom Givens

NRA B-8 Repair Center; B-8; LTT-1: any hit beyond the 8 ring is a miss

Scored as printed, 20 shots, 200 points possible

Time limit for **ALL** stages is 5 seconds.

5 yards- Draw from concealed carry and fire 5 rounds, both hands

5 yards- Start gun in dominant hand, at the ready. Fire 5 rounds, using the dominant hand only.

5 yards- Start gun in non-dominant hand, at the ready. Fire 5 rounds using the non-dominant hand only.

10 yards- Start at ready, gun in both hands. Fire 5 rounds.

Your initial goal is a perfect 200 points under the time limit for each stage. Once you can do that, you can start cutting the time limit. Good luck!



Favorite Training Targets

There is a bewildering array of targets available commercially. Sadly, many of them promote bad habits by being poorly designed from a training perspective. Stark black or white silhouettes; silhouettes with vital zones that are way too big or placed in anatomically incorrect areas; targets bigger than a real human being; these are all common but counterproductive traits of commercial targets.

For maximum training value, silhouette targets need to meet these criteria:

1. Overall size that of a normal, average adult human;
2. Neutral color, like tan or light gray;
3. Subdued scoring rings, not highly visible at distance; and
4. Anatomically correct scoring zones, both in size and location.

In addition to silhouettes, bullseye type targets, small circles and other smaller target zones are useful for teaching visual patience and precision.

There are three targets I use almost exclusively in my own practice. They consist of one paper silhouette target, one bullseye and shapes target, and one cardboard silhouette target. Let's examine why I like these three.

My basic paper silhouette is the RFTS-Q target, available from Action target or Law Enforcement Targets:

https://shop.actiontarget.com/pc_product_detail.asp?key=BFDA006D99174162AE73D319BD2E898B

I designed this target to accomplish a number of goals. Here are some of the key points:

1. The target is the same outline as the FBI “Q target”. This is a reasonable outline of the head and torso of a grown man. This also allows us to use the same target for things like shooting the FBI pistol qualification course.
2. The target is a neutral, light gray color.
3. The scoring zones are of reasonable size and are anatomically relevant. The head ring signifies the ocular window. The inner chest ring is 8” in diameter, and covers the area from collarbone to diaphragm, nipple to nipple. There is a secondary 10” chest circle.
4. There is a horizontal line at the target’s waist. This signifies the belt-line on an adversary. When at The Ready, the student’s gun has to be low enough to see this line, which helps build good habits.
5. There are two zero circles above the silhouette’s shoulders, for checking zero or doing precision work.
6. For a scored course, we score this target as 5 points in the 8” chest circle or the head ring, 4 points for hits in the 10” circle, 3 points for hits outside the circle, above the belt line.

The LTT-1 target is my preferred precision target. The name comes from Langdon Tactical Technologies, as this target was designed by Ernest Langdon, a champion pistol competitor and first rate trainer. It is available from the National Target Company.

https://www.nationaltarget.com/advanced_search_result.php?keywords=LTT-1

This is a very well thought out training target. There are two bullseye targets, which replicate the size and rings of an NRA B-8, but without the X ring and without rings beyond the 8 ring. The “black” is about 5.5” in diameter, and the 8 ring is right at 8 inches in diameter. There are ten two-inch numbered circles, plus two one inch squares surrounded by four inch circles. There are numerous drills that can be fired on this target, and it has become my preferred target in my own practice sessions. Some of my favorite drills to run on this target include:

Justin Dyal’s 5 Yard Round-Up

Hackathorn's "The Test" or Dobbs/Bolke's "Super Test"

Rangemaster Bullseye Course and Advanced Bullseye Course

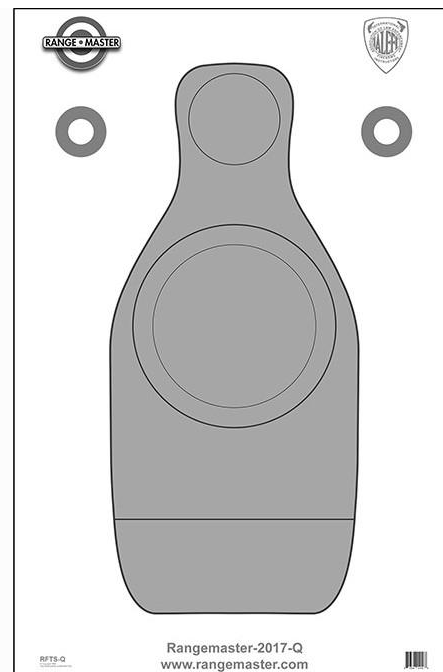
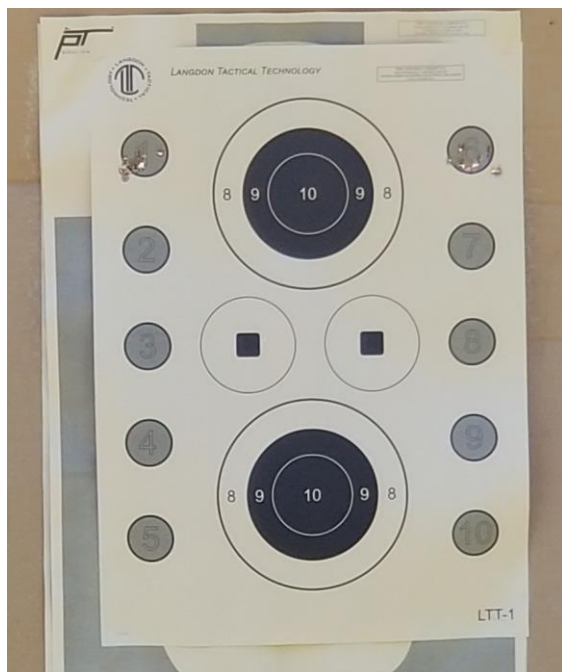
Dot Torture

Using the one inch squares as an aiming point, for precise work.

The final target is an improved cardboard silhouette from a company called Shoot Steel. <https://shootsteel.com/shootsteel-com-training-targets-pack-of-25/>

This excellent target is available in packs of 25 or in boxes of 100. This is an excellent cardboard target. The most obvious difference between this target and most other cardboard silhouettes is the presence of a well defined neck and a human shaped head. There is a marked ocular window in the head, correctly placed. In the torso, there is a 5" circle exactly where the heart lies, and a larger outlined box that defines the area from collarbone to diaphragm, between the nipples. This is a great target. I sometimes use this one with the blank side facing the student, then pull the target and score the hit zones on the back. This forces students to shoot for the anatomically vital area without a visual guide.

Put some thought into your selection of targets. Using correct targets helps build the correct responses, which is what practice should be all about.





Annual Rangemaster Instructors Reunion & Conference, 2020

Rangemaster Firearms Instructor 23rd Anniversary Reunion & Conference

We began offering our Rangemaster Firearms Instructor Development Course in 1997, so 2020 is our 23rd year of teaching this important course. To commemorate this milestone, we are having a gathering of the family at a very modern and comfortable training facility near Jackson, Mississippi, the Boondocks Firearms Training Academy. Entry is strictly limited to persons who have graduated from one of our instructor development courses at any location since 1997.

We held our 20th Anniversary Conference in Shawnee, OK, in 2017. It was attended by over 50 Rangemaster certified instructors from 15 states. We held a second such event in Georgia for all our certified instructors in the East in 2018. For 2019, we used the excellent facilities of KR Training, in Lincoln, Texas (pictured above). In 2020, we'll be at the Boondocks Firearms Training Center, a multi-million dollar facility in

Raymond, MS. There are modern classrooms, covered outdoor ranges, shoot-houses and much more. This is one of the nicest training facilities in the US.

We will gather to discuss new information, training techniques, professional development and other items we have observed and learned in conducting training courses around the country. There will be classroom presentations, plus live fire on the range to check out and refine our skills. This is a great networking opportunity for Rangemaster certified instructors from all over the country. There will be presentations by Rangemaster staff instructors, including Tom & Lynn Givens, John Hearne, Tiffany Johnson, Lee Weems, John Murphy, and Aqil Qadir, plus live fire training on the range. This promises to be an epic event for trainers. Space is limited and the event will fill far in advance. Don't procrastinate.

Rangemaster Firearms Instructor Reunion & Conference
November 7-8, 2020

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rangemaster-firearms-instructor-reunion-conference-tickets-61841720250>



Recommended Reading, Ralph Mroz

Ralph Mroz is an old friend and colleague who has written several books and was for a while a contributor at American Handgunner magazine. Ralph is a critical thinker, a highly trained shooter, and a long time martial arts student. Here are some of his works on Amazon in Kindle format for very little money. Recommended!

[Street Focused Handgun Training - Volume 1, Equipment](#)

[Street Focused Handgun Training - Volume 2, Training](#)

[Street Focused Handgun Training - Volume 3, Tactics](#)

While we're at it, here is an article by Ralph.

Why I zero my handguns at 25 yards

By Ralph Mroz

Most modern pistols come from the factory more-or-less, kinda-sorta zeroed for 7 yards with generic ammo. Most shooters live with that. Of course that often means that the gun shoots high, often significantly, at 25 yards, and the windage is often way off, too. I recall a post on some forum in which a poster said that most shooters don't care if their gun shoots to a POI different from POA at 25 yards. He was corrected by a subsequent poster who pointed out that most shooters don't even know where their gun shoots at 25 yards. I do know, and I do care, and if I need to I send my slides off to get sights installed that match POI at 25.

If that's impractical, or with a gun that I don't carry often, I at least know where the gun shoots at various distances and mentally note any change in tactics that that may require (like not taking a shot that I can't make). That information is written down in a dope notebook, and on a 3x5 card that lives underneath each gun in the safe.

If a gun is zeroed at 7 yards, it will usually shoot inches high at 25 (in addition to the relevant geometry, the gun is in recoil as the bullet travels down the barrel). By contrast, if a gun is zeroed at 25, it will usually shoot only an inch low at 7 yards, which is perfectly fine. Which would you rather have?

Do I think I'll have to make a 25 yard shot on the street? Well, I know that it's unlikely, but not completely improbable. In particular, I worry about long shots in an active shooter situation. I know that one of these is unlikely to happen on my watch, but if it does I'd likely be the only armed and trained person there to do something.

Besides, all great shooters advise the rest of us that long-distance shooting is a key to achieving proficiency at closer distances. If my gun is zeroed at 7, is off 5-inches at 25, than how the hell am I supposed to practice at 25, say, on a plate rack? I'd have no way of knowing if I was missing or the gun was.

So why not a 50 yard zero? Because you have to pick something, and a 50 yard zero 1) puts the zero out to a statistically zero real-life engagement distance, and 2) starts to require too much of an offset at the most likely 7 yard distance...and there's simply no time or mental bandwidth available when the bad thing happens to think about offset.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 14-16 Firearms Instructor Development, Brookville, OH

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/three-day-firearms-instructor-development-course-ohio-tickets-57759312659>

Aug 21-23 Firearms Instructor Development, Pittsburgh, PA

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/three-day-firearms-instructor-development-course-tickets-62048361319>

Aug 29-30 Advanced Pistol Instructor Development, S. Dakota

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/advanced-firearms-instructor-development-course-tickets-71321794407>

Sept 11-13 Firearms Instructor Development, Martinsville, IN (Indianapolis)

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/three-day-firearms-instructor-development-course-tickets-69908800103>

