The front sight on the AR-15/M16 is secured to the barrel by two tapered pins. These pins are driven into the front sight from the right side of the rifle (as viewed from the rear), and are often very firmly seated. Because they have slightly radiused or rounded ends, you should never use a regular flat faced punch to remove or seat these pins. The AR-15/M16 Taper Pin Starter is designed to enable you to install or remove these unusual pins without damage to either the pin or front sight.

**HOW TO USE**

Since the taper pins are installed from the right side of the rifle, they must be removed by driving from the left to the right. Please note the small end of the taper pin extends through to the left side of the front sight. Secure the rifle on a firm, non-marring surface with the left side of the rifle up so the small ends of the two taper pins are exposed. Make sure you have clearance below the heads of the taper pins so they can be driven from the front sight.

The Taper Pin Starter should be placed on the small end of the taper pin. Be absolutely sure its radiused face is firmly seated on the radiused end of the pin. Holding the Taper Pin Starter securely against the pin, and in line with the axis of the pin, strike the head of the Taper Pin Starter with a suitable machinist hammer. Most pins will move with moderate force. However, you may encounter some pins that require considerable effort to remove. Once a pin moves even a slight amount, the tapered design will quickly reduce the holding force that secures it.

Note that the Taper Pin Starter is designed to be used only as a starter punch when removing the taper pin. Its tapered shank prevents its use for complete removal of the taper pin. Once the taper pin has "broken loose", it can be easily removed with minimal pressure from a Starrett 1/8” punch.

In most cases, the taper pin will virtually fall free once it has been started with the Taper Pin Starter.

Installing the taper pin should be done with the Taper Pin Starter to avoid damage to the radiused head of the pin. Remember, the taper pins are installed from the right side of the rifle!

Never attempt to use a flat faced punch to start or remove a firmly seated taper pin. The head of the pin may be swaged outward, preventing removal and possible damage to the front sight.

The Taper Pin Starter should be used for removal or installation of the taper pins. Do not use it on flat end, solid pins or roll pins. Use such as this can damage both the pin and the Taper Pin Starter.

**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.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS IN YOUR BROWNELLS GUNSMITHS DATA RING BINDER