



SLR.8  
1 Oct 99

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
WEAPONS TRAINING BATTALION  
MARINE CORPS COMBAT DEVELOPMENT COMMAND  
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134-5040**

**DETAILED INSTRUCTOR GUIDE**

LESSON TITLE

STANDING POSITION

COURSE TITLE

SUSTAINMENT LEVEL RIFLE MARKSMANSHIP (PHASE I, II, III)



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Marine Corps Combat Development Command  
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**INSTRUCTOR PREPARATION CHECKLIST**

**ESSENTIAL DATA**

LESSON DESIGNATOR	SLR.8
LESSON TITLE	Standing Position
DATE PREPARED	1 October 1999
TIME	30 min
METHOD	Lecture and demonstration
LOCATION	Indoor/outdoor classroom
INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED	One Primary Marksmanship Instructor (PMI)
REFERENCES	MCRP 3-01A and MCO 3574.2_
TRAINING AIDS/EQUIPMENT	M16A2 service rifle, sling, cartridge belt, magazines, magazine pouches, and slides (sSLR.8-1 - sSLR.8-3)

***INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:*** A load-bearing vest may be substituted for magazine pouches. Gear will be worn in accordance with the MBST Handbook.



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**DETAILED OUTLINE**

**STANDING POSITION**

**INTRODUCTION**  
MIN)

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1. **GAIN ATTENTION.** The standing position is quickly assumed and useful in a variety of combat situations. The standing position is often employed upon initial engagement of a target before a more stable position and cover can be assumed. The standing position is the most unstable of all firing positions, however, use of the hasty sling can stabilize the weapon sights. By applying the seven factors common to all shooting positions with a hasty sling, the Marine can master the standing position.

2. **OVERVIEW.** This lesson will cover the standing position and the hasty sling.

3. **INTRODUCE LEARNING OBJECTIVES.** The Terminal Learning Objective and Enabling Learning Objectives pertaining to this lesson are as follows:

a. **TERMINAL LEARNING OBJECTIVE.** Given an M16A2 service rifle, sling, cartridge belt, magazines, magazine pouches, ammunition, data book, and targets, without the aid of references, engage stationary targets IAW MCRP 3-01A and to achieve a qualifying score IAW MCO 3574.2\_. (PVTX.11.5)

b. **ENABLING LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1) Given an M16A2 service rifle, sling, cartridge belt, magazines, magazine pouches, and a target, without the aid of references, adjust the hasty sling to a shooting position IAW MCRP 3-01A. (PVTX.11.5a)

2) Given an M16A2 service rifle, hasty sling, cartridge belt, magazines, magazine pouches, and a target, without the aid of references, assume the standing position IAW MCRP 3-01A and MCO 3574.2\_. (PVTX.11.5d)

4. **METHOD.** This lesson will be taught in a classroom setting using lecture and demonstration.

5. **EVALUATION.** The Marine will be evaluated on the standing



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position and application of the hasty sling via a performance checklist during the Positions Practical Application class, SLR.8a.



TRANSITION: By establishing a solid foundation and controlling the balance of the weapon, the Marine can employ the standing position effectively. Since the standing position is the least stable position from which to fire, special attention should be given to assuming the standing position.

BODY  
MIN)

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**NOTE**

The procedures in this lesson are written for right-handed Marines. Left-handed Marines should reverse instructions as needed.

**1. (20 MIN) THE STANDING POSITION**

a. Description. The standing position is the quickest position to assume and the easiest to maneuver from. It allows greater mobility than other positions. The standing position is often used for immediate combat engagement. The standing position is supported by the Marine's legs and feet and provides a small area of contact with the ground. The body's center of gravity is high above the ground. Therefore, maintaining balance is critical in this position. The hasty sling is employed to enhance stability when firing from the standing position.

***INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:*** *Demonstrate the position as it is explained. Review the seven factors common to all shooting positions with a hasty sling, covered in SLR.4.*

b. Assuming the Standing Position. Apply the seven factors to this position. To assume the standing position with the hasty sling:

Refer to slides sSLR.8-1, sSLR.8-2, and sSLR.8-3.

- 1) Begin in the Alert.
- 2) Square the body to the target.
- 3) Spread your feet apart to a comfortable distance with the left foot slightly in front of the right foot.



This distance may be wider than shoulder width depending on the need for balance.

4) Distribute your weight evenly over both feet and hips. Balance will shift forward slightly to reduce recovery time and improve the stability of the hold. Your legs should be slightly bent for balance.

5) Grasp the pistol grip with your right hand and place the rifle butt in your right shoulder pocket.

**NOTE**

The h-harness or load-bearing vest cannot be used as artificial support for placing the butt of the rifle in the shoulder in any firing position. The butt of the rifle will be placed on top of the h-harness or load-bearing vest.

6) Bring the rifle sights up to eye level instead of lowering your head to the sights and place your cheek firmly against the stock. Ensure your head is erect so the aiming eye can look through the rear sight aperture.

7) Rotate your left hand up, pinching the handguard between your thumb and forefinger.

a) Your left hand will be under the handguard with your thumb on the outboard side of the handguard.

b) Your left hand will not grasp the slip ring or the magazine. The magazine must be on the inside of your left arm.

8) Hold your right elbow in a natural position.

9) Adjust the position of your left hand on the handguard to allow the sling to support the weapon and the front sight to be centered in the rear sight aperture.

10) To adjust for a minor cant in the rifle, rotate the handguard left or right in the "V" formed by the thumb and forefinger by rotating the pistol grip left or right.

Confirm by questions.



TRANSITION: To get your rifle sights settle on the desired aiming point on the target, it may be necessary to adjust natural point of aim. Natural point of aim can be achieved in the standing position by making minor body adjustments.

## 2. (5 MIN) ADJUSTING NATURAL POINT OF AIM

a. Adjusting Up or Down. If the rifle sights are above or below the desired aiming point:

1) Vary the placement of the left hand in relation to the handguards.

a) Moving the left hand forward on the handguards lowers the muzzle of the weapon, causing the sights to settle lower on the target.

b) Moving the left hand back on the handguards raises the muzzle of the weapon, causing the sights to settle higher on the target.

c) Open or close the "V" of the left hand for small adjustments (closing the "V" elevates the muzzle).

2) Vary the placement of the stock in the shoulder.

a) Moving the stock higher in the shoulder lowers the muzzle of the weapon, causing the sights to settle lower on the target.

b) Moving the stock lower in the shoulder raises the muzzle of the weapon, causing the sights to settle higher on the target.

3) Vary the distance between the feet, either placing them wider apart or closer together.

b. Adjusting Right or Left. Natural point of aim can be adjusted right or left in the standing position by varying the placement of the feet in relation to the target. This can be accomplished by keeping the forward foot in place and shifting the rear foot to the right or left.

Confirm by questions.

TRANSITION: Successfully assuming a shooting position takes practice. Practice assuming the standing position while incorporating the hasty sling to stabilize the sights. This concludes instruction for assuming the standing position. Are



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there any questions?





OPPORTUNITY FOR QUESTIONS:  
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1. Respond to questions from the class.
2. Prompt Marines with questions to the class.
  - a. QUESTION: What is an advantage of the standing position?

ANSWER: The standing position is the quickest position to assume and the easiest position to maneuver from.

- b. QUESTION: When is the standing position most often used?

ANSWER: For immediate combat engagement.

- c. QUESTION: Why is maintaining balance critical in the standing position?

ANSWER: Because the body's center of gravity is high and only a small area of the body is in contact with the ground.

***INSTRUCTOR'S NOTE:*** Ask Marines as many questions as necessary to ensure they fully understand the material presented in this lesson.

SUMMARY:  
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The standing position is the least stable position from which to fire. However, by virtue of practice and application of the elements of a good shooting position and the factors common to all shooting positions, the Marine can consistently achieve good results from the standing position.



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