

F41C

SMALLARMS, e.g. PISTOLS, RIFLES (functional features or details common to both smallarms and ordnance, mountings therefor [F41A](#); projecting missiles without use of explosive or combustible propellant charge [F41B](#)); ACCESSORIES THEREFOR

Definition statement

This place covers:

Small arms means a firearm which is generally held with one or both hands for firing. Small arms in the sense of man-portable firearms, i.e. a weapon capable of launching a projectile by confined deflagration of a pyrotechnic propellant, such as pistols, rifles, shotguns or the like, and details and accessories that are unique to small arms

Pistols:

- Pistols including revolvers,
- Signal, starting and alarm pistols,
- Cap-firing pistols (including toy pistols),

Shoulder-fired small arms:

- Rifles, carbines, shotguns,
- Submachine guns, machine carbines,
- Machine guns Other types of small arms:
- Hidden small arms, e.g. in pencils, walking-stick guns
- Small arms specially adapted for underwater use,
- Muzzle-loading small arms; small arms with flintlock mechanism; accessories therefor

Parts of small arms:

- Butts; butt plates; stocks,
- Attachment of slings,
- Stocks or grips for pistols
- Forestocks; handgrips; hand guards

Miscellaneous attachments for small arms; accessories:

- Arrangements for mounting accessories for small arms including means for mounting of monopods, bipods, tripods or shields,
- Adaptations of small arms for firing grenades or ammunitions for special purposes, e.g. signaling, smoke producing, deterrent dispersing, marking or sensor carrying; barrel attachments therefor
- Small arms combined with thrusting or cutting weapons; bayonets; bayonet mounts,
- Attachments for wire cutting,
- Balancing or stabilizing arrangements

Means for wearing or carrying small arms

- Holsters including special attachments therefor
- Containers for carrying small arms
- Handles for carrying small arms

Relationships with other classification places

In addition to the classification of the small arm as whole in subclass [F41C](#) the functional details of these weapons should be classified in the relevant groups of subclass [F41A](#). [F41A](#) is added to

Relationships with other classification places

[F41C](#) if the functional feature is a part of invention, for example [F41A 3/76](#), [F41A 9/27](#), [F41A 15/02](#), [F41A 3/58](#), [F41A 19/41](#), **F41A9/08**, [F41A 5/06](#), [F41A 11/04](#), [F41A 23/02](#).

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Pistols or machine guns operated without detonators	A63H 5/04
Pistols for shooting bolts into concrete constructions, metal walls or the like	B25C
Hand-held nailing tools operated by combustion pressure generated by detonation of a cartridge	B25C 1/10
Arrangement of guns on vessels	B63G 1/00
Arrangement of military equipment in aircraft	B64D 7/00
Functional features or details common to both small arms and ordnance, mountings therefor	F41A
Weapons for projecting missiles without use of explosive or combustible propellant charge	F41B

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Spades per se	A01B 1/02
Slaughtering pistols	A22B 3/02
Supports for articles placed thereon in general	F16M 11/00 ; F16M 13/00
Thrusting or cutting weapons	F41B 13/00
Rocket launchers adapted to be carried by a person, e.g. bazookas	F41F 3/045
Sighting devices	F41G 1/00
Armour shields	F41H 5/06
Shields for small arms	F41H 5/12

Glossary of terms

In this place, the following terms or expressions are used with the meaning indicated:

Under-barrel grenade launcher	firearm for launching grenades, can be an auxiliary firearm attach to a primary firearm, usually single shot
Machine gun	firearm with a long rifled barrel capable of sustained firing in full automatic mode, the projectiles are fed from a belt or a high capacity magazine that can be fitted or portable
Carbine	short shoulder-fired firearm, originally for cavalry use
Submachine gun	short, light weight machine gun, designed to fire pistol cartridges
Rifle	shoulder-fired firearm with a long rifled barrel. Rifles can be capable for firing with magazine fed projectiles in single shot mode (repeater rifle) or in semi automatic and full automatic mode (assault rifle)

Shotgun	smooth booth bore shoulder-fired firearm for firing shot at a relatively short distance
---------	---

Synonyms and Keywords

In patent documents, the following words/expressions are often used as synonyms:

- "machine carbine", "submachine gun" and "automatic firearm"
- "shotgun", "scattergun" and "peppergun"
- "repeater rifle" and "repeating rifle"

F41C 3/00

Pistols, e.g. revolvers (specially adapted for underwater use [F41C 9/06](#); for slaughtering or stunning animals [A22B](#); for shooting bolts into concrete constructions, metal walls or the like [B25C](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Includes both general types of handheld (as opposed to shoulder-fired) firearms, pistols, i.e. handgun with a chamber that is integral with the barrel, and revolvers, i.e. handgun that has a cylinder containing multiple chambers and at least one barrel for firing. Further includes toy, signal and cap-firing pistols.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Small arms specially adapted for underwater use	F41C 9/06
Muzzle-loading small arms	F41C 9/08
Devices for slaughtering or stunning animals	A22B
Devices for shooting bolts into concrete constructions, metal walls or the like	B25C

F41C 3/005

{Toy guns, e.g. cannons, firing a projectile by means of the combustion of a propellant charge, e.g. a cap}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Cap firing toy pistols	F41C 3/06
------------------------	---------------------------

F41C 3/06

Cap-firing pistols, e.g. toy pistols

Definition statement

This place covers:

A cap gun is a toy gun that creates a loud sound simulating a gunshot and a puff of smoke when the trigger is pulled.

F41C 3/14

Revolvers ([F41C 3/10](#) takes precedence; sealing aspects [F41A 3/76](#); using a revolving drum magazine for feeding revolver-type guns other than revolvers [F41A 9/27](#); extractors or ejectors therefor [F41A 15/02](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Handgun that has a cylinder containing multiple chambers and at least one barrel for firing.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Cap firing pistol with rotatable cap carrier, e.g. drum	F41C 3/10
Obturator or packing devices for gas leak prevention in breech mechanisms specially adapted for sealing the gap between the forward end of the cartridge chamber and the rearward end of the barrel, e.g. sealing devices for revolvers or revolver-type guns	F41A 3/76
Feeding of unbelted ammunition using a revolving drum magazine in revolver-type guns other than revolvers	F41A 9/27
Extractors or ejectors for revolver-type guns	F41A 15/02

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Cocking mechanisms for revolvers	F41A 19/52
Double action mechanisms for revolvers	F41A 19/53

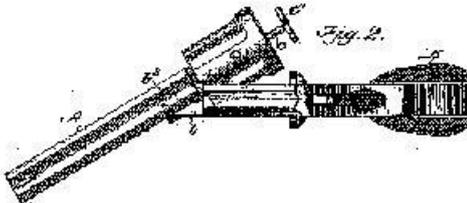
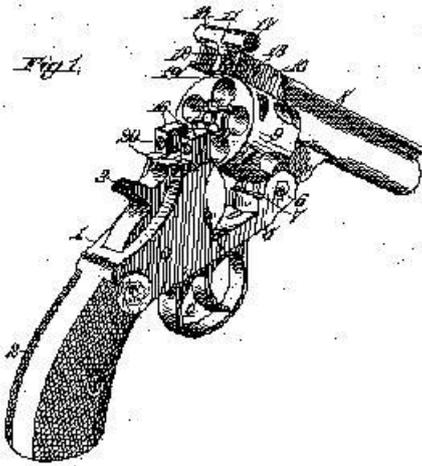
F41C 3/16

Hinge-frame revolvers

Definition statement

This place covers:

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Shoulder-fired breakdown guns	F41C 7/11
Articulated or collapsible guns	F41A 11/00

F41C 7/00

Shoulder-fired smallarms, e.g. rifles, carbines, shotguns (specially adapted for underwater use [F41C 9/06](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Long guns, normally supported against the shoulder for recoil absorption during the firing.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Small arms specially adapted for underwater use	F41C 9/06
Muzzle-loading small arms	F41C 9/08

F41C 7/04

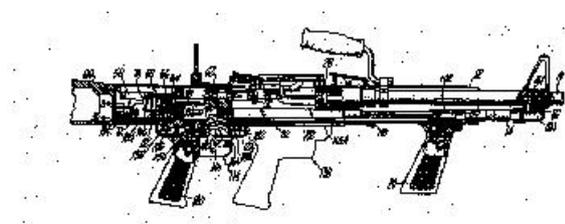
with reciprocating handgrip under the buttstock for loading or cocking

Definition statement

This place covers:

The primary handgrip under the receiver, including the trigger arrangement is used for the reciprocation (pumping).

Illustrative example of subject matter classified in this group.



F41C 9/00

Other smallarms, e.g. hidden smallarms or smallarms specially adapted for underwater use

Definition statement

This place covers:

This is a residual group for specific or exotic small arms, not particularly covered in [F41C 3/00](#) and [F41C 7/00](#)

F41C 23/00

Butts; Butt plates; Stocks {(handles for carrying smallarms [F41C 33/08](#))}

Definition statement

This place covers:

Includes handgrips for handguns and handgrips/pistol grip for shoulder-fired small arms, i.e. the grip associated with the trigger system.

Includes stocks for shoulder-fired small arms, in particular: forestocks, i.e. the part which is held by the forward hand (not the shooting hand) for support during shooting and buttstocks, i.e. the part held against the shoulder during shooting.

Includes butts, i.e. the proximal ends of the buttstocks, the part actually contacting the shoulder.

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Handles for carrying small arms	F41C 33/08
Weapon manufacture involving plastics	B29L 2031/777

F41C 23/02

Attachment of slings

Definition statement

This place covers:

The attachment for attaching the sling, integral or fixed to the stock, forestock of handgrip.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Slings for carrying long guns	F41C 33/002
-------------------------------	-----------------------------

F41C 23/04

Folding or telescopic stocks or stock parts (articulated or collapsible guns [F41A 11/04](#))

Definition statement

This place covers:

Only the stock is folding, telescopic or collapsible, no functional parts of the firearm is folding or articulated.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Hinge frame revolvers	F41C 3/16
Breakdown guns	F41C 7/00
Articulated or collapsible guns	F41A 11/04

F41C 23/06

Stocks {or firearm frames} specially adapted for recoil reduction

Definition statement

This place covers:

Stocks with integrated recoil buffers only in the stock.

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Bolt buffers or recuperators acting on the bolt but partially entering the stock	F41A 3/78
--	---------------------------

F41C 23/10

Stocks or grips for pistols, e.g. revolvers ([F41C 23/12](#) takes precedence)

Definition statement

This place covers:

Also includes pistolgrips associated with the trigger group of a shoulder-fired small arm

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Auxiliary stocks for stabilising, or for transforming pistols, e.g. revolvers, into shoulder-fired guns	F41C 23/12
---	----------------------------

F41C 23/14

Adjustable stock or stock parts, i.e. adaptable to personal requirements, e.g. length, pitch, cast or drop

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Adaptations of guns to both right and left hand use	F41A 35/06
---	----------------------------

F41C 23/22

Stocks having space for the storage of objects

Definition statement

This place covers:

Also pistol grips or magazine extensions having space for the storage of objects.

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Holders for extra ammunition mounted on the outside of the gun	F42B 39/00
--	----------------------------

F41C 27/00

Accessories; Details or attachments not otherwise provided for

Definition statement

This place covers:

Residual group for attachments, accessories and details especially adapted for small arms, but not covered in [F41C 3/00](#) - [F41C 23/22](#).

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Accessories or details for firearms, common to both small arms and ordnance	F41A 35/00
Devices to attach tubular or beam projecting sighting or aiming devices (telescopes, night sights, reflex sights, flashlights, etc) on handguns:	F41G 11/00
Camera guns or guns with a camera attached; cameras for guns	F41J 5/10

F41C 27/22

Balancing or stabilising arrangements {on the gun itself, e.g. balancing weights}

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Stabilising devices worn on the body	F41C 33/001
--------------------------------------	-----------------------------

F41C 33/00

Means for wearing or carrying smallarms

Definition statement

This place covers:

Includes shooting harnesses for supporting the gun during shooting.

Includes slings, holsters and other means for wearing or carrying small arms on the body of the shooter when not in use.

Includes stationary, closed containers for transport or storage of small arms.

References

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Travelling or camp equipment; sacks or packs carried on the body	A45F
Storing or displaying firearms	A47B 81/005

F41C 33/001

{Shooting harnesses; Stabilising devices, e.g. straps on the body (balancing arrangements on the gun itself [F41C 27/22](#))}

References**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Balancing arrangements on the gun itself	F41C 27/22
Shooting stands, e.g. for firing hunting rifles from trees	A01M 31/02

F41C 33/02

Holsters, i.e. cases for pistols having means for being carried or worn, e.g. at the belt or under the arm

Definition statement

This place covers:

Includes carrying means for firearms including long guns or parts thereof (e.g. mortar parts) worn on the human or animal body in a non-shooting position in so far as not covered by [F41C 33/003](#) - [F41C 33/008](#)

References**Limiting references**

This place does not cover:

Magazine holsters, magazine pouches	F42B 39/02
-------------------------------------	----------------------------

F41C 33/04

Special attachments therefor

Definition statement

This place covers:

Means for attaching holsters to a belt or webbing, i.e. intermediate parts between actual holster and belt/webbing

F41C 33/046

{Webbing, harnesses, belts or straps for wearing holsters}

References**Informative references**

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

For carrying articles on the body in general	A45F
--	----------------------

F41C 33/06

Containers for carrying smallarms, e.g. safety boxes, gun cases ([F41C 33/02](#) takes precedence)

References

Limiting references

This place does not cover:

Holsters	F41C 33/02
Rests for supporting small arms in non-shooting position	F41A 23/18

Informative references

Attention is drawn to the following places, which may be of interest for search:

Travelling or camp equipment; sacks or packs carried on the body	A45F
Storing or displaying firearms	A47B 81/005