

Gun Cleaning Equipment for the Black Powder Musket

or

(An Idiot's Guide to cleaning his Black Powder Muzzle loading Musket)

Here is a list and photo of things that make cleaning your musket a lot easier.

.58 cal Jag Use with commercial patches or cut up Tee shirts



.58 cal breach plug scraper



Worm Used to retrieve a patch that might have come off the JAG. (I have never had one come off) Not used to pull out stuck bullets



Cleaning Rod (Check the threads on the rod, make sure they match your JAG's)

Black Powder Solvent / Barrel cleaner

I use a commercial product called Sagebrush that I get at Sportsman's Warehouse.

Use any brand you want, but make sure it is for Black Powder. NEVER use petroleum based cleaners IN the barrel. Oil is OK on the outside, just not on the inside.

Bore Butter Bore Butter is made from non petroleum oils like bee's wax and soy wax.



Hot soapy water is the cheapest solvent for black powder. But it will not remove the gunk from the barrel. You MUST use a JAG and patch to clean the barrel once you have softened the fowling, also use the scrapper to clean the breach. Any black powder left in the barrel will result in sever pitting. Get a nipple wrench and remove that nipple, clean it and the cavity. (I use pipe cleaners that have a stiff bristle and Q-tips.) Clean the blacken stuff around the nipple caused by the flash of the cap. I also use an anti seize on the nipple threads. Since most black powder cleaners contain some water, dry your barrel with a couple of dry patches and finish off with a protective coating of Bore Butter.

Optional Items (Nice to have, just in case)

Ball Puller (I have one, but luckily have never had to use it.)



Brush (A brush for the 20 gauge shotgun works pretty good)



Bore Light (Since you can not look “through” the bore of a muzzleloader, this works just as good. It’s a small flashlight that you slide down to the breach.)



Worthless Items

This type of slotted tip patch holder will not do the job...



You can look around on line, or try locally at Sportsman’s Warehouse or Cabela’s. Black powder hunting is very popular in Arizona