



TA Targets Targets Mini Popper System A Genesis Steel Target System



The Exodus line of steel targets is a premium line of shooting systems. The Mini Popper System is no exception. The Mini Popper System is unique and offers many benefits to shooters who desire to increase their skill set. **BEFORE SHOOTING: FULLY READ THIS MANUAL AND THE INCLUDED SAFE SHOOTING PAMPHLET WE INCLUDE WITH EACH SHIPMENT. ADDITIONALLY, READ THE STICKER ON THE BACK OF YOUR TARGET PLATE PRIOR TO SHOOTING. ALWAYS OBEY OUR SAFETY REQUIREMENTS. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU ALTER OR MISUSE YOUR SYSTEMS. ALWAYS WEAR APPROVED HEARING AND SAFETY GEAR WHENEVER HANDLING A FIREARM.** As always, if you have ANY questions, please contact us via email **PRIOR** to using our products. The Customer Service email is info@tatargets.com. You may also call 1-833-746-4785 M-F during business hours. If questions **EVER** exist, cease use of your target until we can address your questions and/or concerns.

***BEFORE YOU BEGIN:** The Mini Popper System utilizes its own variants of our steel target gongs. This gong has special shooting exceptions and requirements. **READ THIS MANUAL FULLY PRIOR TO USING YOUR SYSTEM!!! FOLLOW ALL CALIBER AND DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS! NEVER ENGAGE WITH IMPROPER AMMUNITION OR AT CLOSER DISTANCES THAN SHOWN ON OUR SAFETY DOCUMENTATION FOR THE GENESIS SYSTEMS.**

****Lost Components:** During setup, tear-down and transport it is extremely important to make sure you do not lose any of your hardware or components. Always be mindful of how and where you tear down your base to reduce the risk of losing hardware or components.

I.) Mini Popper Assembly:

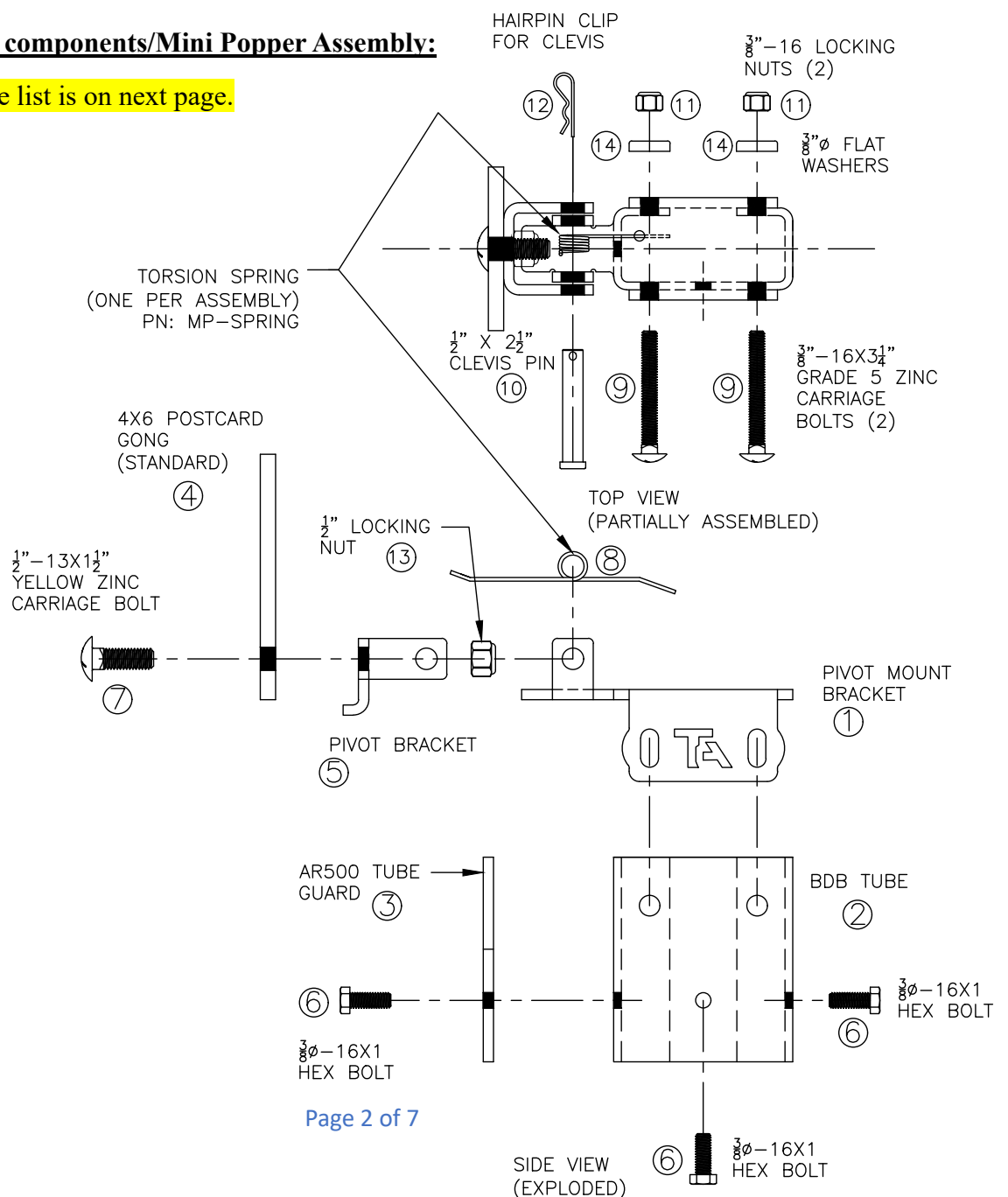
Note: The Mini Popper Target System is comprised of a target, a hinge, a bent pivot mount, and a bracket designed to slide over a 2X4 wooden board. All necessary hardware is included in the complete system. (SKU: 2X4-MINIPOPPER-ASSEMBLY)

*The Mini Popper Assembly is PARTIALLY assembled prior to shipment. You will need to read the installation instructions on Page 3 to finish the assembly. No tools will be needed to finalize the assembly.

****THIS SYSTEM USES A SPRING TO RETURN THE TARGET TO ORIGINAL POSITION UNDER PRESSURE. FOR THIS REASON, A PINCH HAZARD EXISTS. UPON ASSEMBLY, USE, DISASSEMBLY, OR MAINTENANCE ALWAYS BE SURE THAT YOUR FINGERS ARE CLEAR OF THE PIVOT MECHANISM****

II.) Diagram of components/Mini Popper Assembly:

***Note: Hardware list is on next page.**



Hardware and Component Table. Verify ALL components are present before use!		
#	Description of Component	QTY EA
1	Press Brake Bent Pivot Mount Bracket	1
2	Press Brake Bent tube for 2X4 attachment	2
3	“TEE” shaped AR500 Tube Guard W/hole for 3/8” Bolt	1
4	AR500 Gong Target for attachment to Pivot Bracket	1
5	Bent Pivot Bracket (Gong attaches to this part)	1
6	3/8”-16 X 1” Hex Bolt	3
7	½”-13 X 1 ½” Grade 8 yellow zinc Carriage Bolt	1
8	Custom Wound Torsion Spring	1
9	3/8”-16 X 3 ¼” Grade 5 Zine Carriage Bolts	2
10	½” X 2 ½” Zinc Clevis Pin with hole 2.26” from face of head	1
11	3/8”-16 Locking Nut	2
12	Clevis Hairpin Clip	1
13	½”-13 Locking Nut	1
14	3/8” Standard Flat Washers	2

III.) Maintenance Considerations of Mini Popper Target System:

Each time BEFORE using the Mini Popper Assembly, check and verify the following:

- Ensure the 3/8” hex bolts on the 2X4 tube are tightened into the 2X4 post
- Ensure the 2X4 wood post is structurally sound and capable of holding the system
- Verify proper movement of the target plate. Ensure the pivot is not binding
- Lubricate the pivot components with a light lubricant like WD-40 or similar
- Verify that the gong target nut is fully tightened
- Ensure the gong is properly attached to the pivot bracket
- Verify all other hardware components, ensure everything is tightened properly.
- Check for pitting on the target plate. Replace target plate if pitting is deeper than 1/8” or if ANY cracks are present.
- Check torsion spring. IF TARGET DOES NOT RETURN TO STATIC/BATTERY POSITION, YOU MUST ORDER A REPLACEMENT SPRING PRIOR TO USE.

****NEVER ENGAGE THE TARGET SYSTEM WITH THE PADDLE LEANING AWAY FROM SHOOTER. ROUNDS CAN SKIP OFF THE PLATE AND BE SENT INTO THE AIR. ONLY USE THIS SYSTEM IF THE SPRING IS IN GOOD CONDITION AND THE TARGET RETURNS TO STATIC/BATTERY POSITION PROPERLY.**

IV.) Full assembly of Mini Popper System:

If for any reason you ever find the need to remove the target plate, replace a bolt, spring, or other component, you will need to follow the below instructions for reassembly. Please read carefully.

- 1.) Verify all components are present by comparing the hardware you have with the hardware shown on the diagram on Page 2.
- 2.) Install the Pivot Mount Bracket (1) to the Breakdown Base Tube (2) with the supplied 3/8" Carriage bolts.
 - a. Slide pivot bracket over the 2x4 bracket, lining the slots of the brackets to the holes in the 2X4 bracket
 - b. Slide the two carriage bolts through the slots and holes of both brackets.
 - c. Install the flat washers onto the carriage bolts
 - d. Install the 3/8" locking nuts onto both carriage bolts.
 - e. Tighten each locking nut to 12 ft/lbs.
 - f. Install the AR500 Guard to the FRONT of the 2X4 tube with ONE 3/8" Hex Bolt
 - i. Fully tighten bolt until the head touches. Hand tighten snug.
 - g. Slide this bolted assembly onto your 2X4 (2X4 should already be installed in a base of your choosing)
 - h. Tighten both 3/8" Hex Bolts hand tight, making sure the 2X4 is pushed FULLY forward and FULLY to the side for stability.
- 3.) Assemble Target Plate (4) to Pivot Bracket (5) with supplied Hardware (1/2" Carriage bolt (7) and 1/2" Locking nut (13)
 - a. Line up target plate to pivot bracket
 - i. NOTE: Gong INDEXES around the pivot bracket to keep the paddle from tilting left or right if the bolt ever loosens. BE SURE both components fit together well.
 - b. Install 1/2" Carriage bolt THROUGH the target plate AND the pivot bracket.
 - c. Install the 1/2" Locking nut, torque to 35 ft/lbs.
 - i. Hand tightening is adequate, but nut may loosen over time.
 - ii. Additionally, you can use an impact wrench to tighten
 - iii. Users can opt to install blue Loctite (not included) if a more permanent fastening is preferred.
- 4.) Assembly paddle/pivot bracket to pivot / 2X4 mount
 - a. Install short bent leg of spring into the HOLE in the top of the pivot mount (1)
 - i. See top-down view on diagram
 - b. Align the hole of the spring with the bent ears of the pivot mount bracket (1)
 - c. Align the pivot Bracket holes (5) with the pivot mount bracket
 - d. Slide 1/2" Clevis pin (10) THROUGH the entire assembly.
 - e. Install hairpin clip to make sure the pin stays in place
- 5.) Test movement and function of the Mini Popper Assembly and ensure the paddle falls back and returns into static position properly.

V.) Safely shooting the Mini Popper Target System:

The Mini Popper system WAS DESIGNED FOR PISTOL USE ONLY. While LIGHT rifles CAN be used, they are not recommended due to risk of damage from unguarded components. Users who choose to shoot rifles at the Mini Popper Target **DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK.** Use of ANY rifle over 5.56 NATO ballistics WILL CAUSE DAMAGE TO SYSTEM. ANY AMMO OVER 3,000 FPS WILL CAUSE DAMAGE TO SYSTEM.

******PLEASE ONLY USE PISTOLS WITH THIS SYSTEM.******

22LR: Rimfire cartridges will NOT have enough energy to move this system, but they can be used safely.

Materials Used: The Genesis gongs are an economical domestic AR500 steel. This steel is subject to the caliber, velocity, and distance restrictions listed below. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU ENGAGE THIS TARGET AGAINST THESE REQUIREMENTS. DOING SO WILL LIKELY RESULT IN DAMAGE TO THE TARGET SYSTEM, PROPERTY, AND MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR EVEN DEATH. ALWAYS FOLLOW OUR POSTED SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

Weapon Type	Caliber	Velocity	Bullet Make	Distance
Pistol	22LR	All Velocities	FMJ, HP, Lead	10 Yards
Rifle	22LR	All Velocities	FMJ, HP, Lead	10 Yards
Centerfire Pistol	.380, 9mm, 40, 45ACP, 10mm, 357 Sig	Up to 1500 FPS	FMJ, HP, TMJ, LEAD, Soft Point	10 Yards
Magnum Pistol Calibers	44 Mag, 454 Casull, etc.	Up to 1800 FPS	FMJ, HP, TMJ, Lead, Soft Point	25 Yards
Pistol Caliber Carbines	9mm, 40, 45, 10mm, 44 mag, 357 mag, etc.	Up to 2,400 FPS	FMJ, HP, TMJ, Lead, Soft Point	75 Yards
Light Rifles	5.45X39, 5.56/.223, 7.62X39, 6.8SPC, 6.5 Grendel ETC	3,000 FPS OR LESS	FMJ, HP, TMJ, Lead, Soft Point, Ballistic Tip, Copper Expanding	Not Recommended
Larger Bore Rifles	.243, .308, 7mm-08, etc.	3,000 FPS OR LESS	FMJ, HP, TMJ, Lead, Soft Point, Ballistic Tip, Copper Expanding	DO NOT USE!
Magnum Rifles	.300 Win mag, 7mm mag, etc.	3,000 FPS OR LESS	FMJ, HP, TMJ, Lead, Soft Point, Ballistic Tip, Copper Expanding	DO NOT USE!
Shotgun Slugs	.410, 20GA, 12 GA	ALL RIFLED SLUG VELOCITIES	Rifled Slugs	DO NOT USE!
Shotgun Buck Shot	.410, 16 GA, 20 GA, 28 GA, 12 GA	All Lead Buck Shot Variants	Buck Shot	DO NOT USE!
Shotgun Bird Shot	.410, 16GA, 20 GA, 28 GA, 12 GA	All Lead Bird Shot Variants	Bird Shot	10 Yards
50BMG & Wildcat	NOT ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED	DO NOT USE!

Additional notes:

- RIFLE CALIBERS MUST BE 3,000 FPS OR LESS MUZZLE VELOCITY
- IF OVER 3,000 FPS, INCREASE DISTANCE BY 25 YARDS OVER ADVERTISED DISTANCE FOR EACH ADDITIONAL 100 FPS VELOCITY INCREASE

General Steel Target Distance Considerations:

Velocity kills. Small, fast bullets will cause more damage than larger, slower bullets. When using ANY rifle, ALWAYS ensure the muzzle velocity is 3,000 FPS OR LESS. Damage will occur if you disobey the distance ratings above. The Genesis Line of Gong Targets is meant to equip citizens at reasonable prices. If you desire to engage in extreme high-volume shooting, consider adding some of our Exodus Line of steel targets. These ½” AR550 gongs are better suited for faster, high-volume calibers.

Bullet Construction:

The following bullet types are approved for use on the genesis target plates

- Full Metal Jacket (FMJ)
- Ballistic / Plastic tip hunting ammunition
- Match Grade ammo (Boat Tail Hollow Points)
- Hollow Point Ammunition
- Soft Point Ammunition
- Bi-Metal Ammunition provided the velocity is 3,000 FPS OR LESS muzzle!
 - o See special note below

The Follow bullet/ammo types are incompatible with the Genesis Systems AND SHOULD NEVER UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE BE FIRED AT A GENESIS PLATE!!!

- M855 Steel Core Projectiles
- Solid Copper Machined Bullets (non-expanding solid copper)
- Expanding solid copper bullets over posted velocity limits
- SS109
- Russian Steel Core Ammunition
- Incendiary projectiles
- Tungsten core projectiles
- M855A1
- Any Armor Piercing or penetrating bullet construction not listed.
- Stainless Steel shotgun shot (Never acceptable on steel targets)

Special Notes and Considerations:

Hollow point ammunition, especially larger bore calibers, can leave slight impressions on the steel target faces. This is normal and will not create an unsafe condition. If heavy impressions are occurring (i.e. greater than 1/32” depth), increase distance until impressions cease. Shotgun slugs may also exhibit the same tendencies.

Expected wear and tear during use:

Over time it is normal to experience wear and tear on your system. This is expected. During normal use you may see:

- Chipped Powder coat or paint
- Worn out hardware/nuts/and bolts
- Edge chips from close edge impacts
- Chips around UNUSED holes (extra square holes) on target plates
- Worn out 2X4 posts
- Surface deformations on strike plate (OK to use unless craters with a depth of 1/8" or more exist)

Please note: Each Gensis system is guaranteed to arrive and be in working condition/working order. Normal wear and tear / expected wear and tear is always excepted from ANY warranty claims. The Genesis system when purchased as a complete system features a 1-year limited warranty.

Gongs purchased separately (without one of our complete Genesis systems) have a 30-day manufacturer's warranty. For full information on our warranties, please see our website at:

<https://tatargets.com/warranty/>

Maintenance Considerations:

The Genesis System is fully serviceable. If you are missing components or have damaged components, please reach out to our customer service team for replacement parts **OR** check our website for replacement parts and components. During use with steel targets, it is **NORMAL** to see chipping of the powder coat on the bases and top brackets. If you desire to touch up your base, you can purchase spray paint on our website.

Other Accessories:

Please consider checking out all our other products in the Genesis Line of steel targets. We offer a full line of targets and accessories to add to your range. Train with purpose!

If you have any other questions, please feel free to email our team and we'll be able to further assist you with setting up your new target system.

Customer Service Email: info@tatargets.com

TA Targets

PO Box 212

Womelsdorf, PA 19567