



SafeTips from the Naval Safety Command

Don't fall prey to an injury or accident while hunting! Follow the proper precautions to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for yourself and others.

- Take a firearms safety course. The more you know, the better prepared you will be.
- Always keep your firearms unloaded until you reach the hunting area.
- Keep your gun in its case until you're ready to use it.
- Assume every firearm is loaded and check even if someone else claims it isn't.
- Never engage in horseplay or mishandle weapons.
- Never point a firearm at something you do not intend to shoot.
- Keep the barrel clear of obstructions to ensure safe operation.
- Use the correct ammunition for your firearm and hunting activity.
- Keep the safety on until you are ready to fire and immediately put it back on.
- If you're unsure of your target, do not take the shot.
- Be aware of what is behind or beyond your target before firing.
- If your gun doesn't fire, wait at least 45 seconds before removing the cartridge.
- Never climb fences, trees, or cross slippery areas while carrying a loaded gun.
- Avoid alcohol consumption while hunting and take extra care when fatigued.



Naval Safety Command
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