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Magpul gas block height front sight

© 1996-2014, Amazon.com, Inc. or its subsidiaries There is a company that sells a river that will put the gas block on the same level as the receiver. So if you really want to go this route, you need to make it work the MBUS. In the end, you'll end up spending more on the MBUS and rider than you'll get just one done for a gas block rail. Admit it – the AR of the future has removed iron sights as the main targeting mechanism. Optics offer huge benefits such as extended range, low-light visibility and ease of targeting. Even the U.S. military has largely made the transition to optics on M4 used in combat situations. But it's critical to remember that these high-tech replacements for reliable old iron sights can be turned off one way or another (damaged, dead batteries). Without a backup, damaged optics render the weapon useless for accurate shooting. So, you want the benefits of a scope with the incomprehensible durability of irons - what do you do? Four words: Back Up Iron Sights (BUIS) BUIS provide critical redundancy when setting up your AR. They can add weight, but having the ability to gain goals even after your main view (visual) descends is a worthwhile exchange. So let's discuss the basic things to look for when choosing backup iron attractions. What to look for When choosing AR 15 Iron Sights Different heights (same plane, gas block height, micro) AR 15 Iron attractions come in a couple of different configurations, based on the height of the sights. The basic idea is – you need the front and rear sights to be the same height if you want to hit the target. Where this really comes into play is where you place your front sight. Most spare iron attractions come in 2 varieties: Gas Block height, and Same-Plane height. We'll explain the difference: Gas Block Attractions: In the BUIS gas block configuration, the front view position is about 1/4 higher than the rear opening view, to make up for the fact that the front view is positioned about 1/4 below the upper receiver, where the rear view is positioned. Please note that gas block attractions are ONLY for mounting on gas blocks that are lower than the upper receiver! Some gas blocks are the same height as the receiver, in which case you would like the same sight level! Same-Plane Sights Same plane attractions (also known as rail-mount attractions) are made so that the front view position is on the same height as the rear aperture when the sights are set on a flat surface. This means that for these attractions, the spectacle must be placed somewhere at the same height as the upper receiver. Usually, people will place the front sight on a free flotation handguard with a rail on top. Some sight makers also make micro attractions that work well for some settings. These BUIS are usually the same level and the front and back are smaller than normal attractions. Your fixed or foldable total AR-15 setup will determine if you need fixed vs. BUIS folding. Fixed iron sights have the advantage of no moving part, which makes them almost indestructible. Also, they are always ready - you don't have to mess with them, just set and forget. Folding attractions have a different purpose - you'd usually like to fold attractions if you need to flip them to keep them off the road when you're not using them (for example, if you have a scope or red dot on your gun). In the end – we recommend you have fixed sights if you use them as the main targeting system for your AR, but if it's just a backup, folding is usually preferable. Visibility of attractions (high visibility sight positions, trill) Visibility is key with BUIS, especially in low light conditions. Considering that most attractions are black, it can be really hard to see that front view post in the dark. Also, people with poor vision can always have a tougher time using iron sights. There are a few things you can do to help this lack of visibility in vision: Option 1: High visibility foreground positions. These are usually brightly colored positions create a better contrast when targeting. Tapco high-visibility sight positions are a great example of places that will help with visibility - but can still be hard to see in the dark. Option 2: Trillium. T third is a gas stored in tiny vials and housed in iron sights. These vials provide a glow-in-the-dark effect that doesn't need to be recharged by sunlight - it shines all the time! Attractions with trillium are the best choice for visibility in low light conditions. Troy Tritium Attractions are generally regarded as the best on the market. Material (steel, aluminum, polymer) The most common materials for spare iron sights are steel and aluminum. And while steel sights will be the most durable for long-term use, they are also heavy – aluminum is also very hard, but a little lighter. If weight is a great consideration for you, there are a few polymer options. Be careful when buying polymer attractions – there are only a few good brands out there for these types of attractions (we recommend Magpul). Aperture style The aperture of your vision (also known as the peep hole) is the hole you're looking into in the back sight – you need to align the front post sight in this hole for the right target. In most iron sights, there are two different aperture sizes - the aperture is used for short-range situations (easier to quickly obtain a target), the smallest aperture is for long-range shots when perfect accuracy is the key. Some AR 15 attractions even use diamond-shaped aperture, which many consider superior for quick target acquisition versus standard round openings. Although selection may be a matter of preference, it can also be a matter of training. Some Attractions with diamond opening are the sights of Troy DOA and diamondhead attractions. 45 Degree (Offset) Sightseeing 45-degree iron attractions (also known as offset attractions) are great for quick transition between large and short-range targets when you have a field mounted on your weapon. The way you use the sights is to slightly tilt your rifle, and then look down at the sights just as you would normally. These attractions are great for any situation where you quickly jump goal distance, such as 3-gun shooting contests, or combat situations. So, in short - do you really need Backup Iron Sights for your AR 15? Think of it that way. Even if you don't plan on using them - they are the unplanned situations where they are most needed. One last tip if there's anyone who knows the AR-15 platform, it's the U.S. Army. As a special offer for our readers, you can get the official U.S. Army Manual for AR-15/M4/M16 now – free of charge. Click here to stick a copy, 03-10-13, 16:44 #1 Ok guys, I understand the gas block is less than ideal as a front positioning spectacle, but is there a solution that is at least remotely feasible? I have normal 2 piece standard hand guards on my rifle (armalite ... Know... it's already got a BCM brl and charging handle, working on other reliability improvements, it's good for me so far), and there's no real desire to hang a quad rail etc on the gun, it's just nothing I need. I'd like to have a reliable backup sight solution though, and the only rail in my gun other than the receiver is the front gas block. I have an EOtech 512 as primary, I like the FOV etc., and I'm comfortable with it. You just need an SHTF backup solution. Any thoughts? Thanks will last editing by wburns? 03-10-13, 17:32 #2 Anything metal will work. Troy, DD, KAC, etc. #3. Troy, DD, KAC, etc. That's not accurate. Most gas block rails have picatinny their rail at a lower level than your upper receiver. Not every manufacturer makes a front spectacle that will accommodate this. Troy does, but it's a different model from their normal sight front and is noticeably taller. S&W rail gas blocks are the height of the receiver, but most other companies use the lower level rail gas block, which I ASSume Armalite also uses. You'll want to know for sure though. And I know this next place is not what you're looking for, but in my experience it's simpler to sell the top and get a setup the way you're looking. The barriers with flip sights (that almost should always be placed backwards to fold flat) is a pain in. Last edited by Sanpete; 03-10-13 at 18:08. 03-10-13, 18:09 #4 Originally Posted by SpankMonkey Nothing Metal Will Work. Troy, DD, KAC, etc. All the great choices... NO Magpul or other plastic attractions. my friend bought an S&W o.p. and and that the hard way. I'm a fan of Troy, but it will be your eyesight and then sometimes come down to what is the best deal you can find at the time you are looking for you. 03-10-13, 19:36 #5 Originally Posted by Sanpete This is not accurate. Most gas block rails have picatinny their rail at a lower level than your upper receiver. Not every manufacturer makes a front spectacle that will accommodate this. Troy does, but it's a different model from their normal sight front and is noticeably taller. S&W rail gas blocks are the height of the receiver, but most other companies use the lower level rail gas block, which I ASSume Armalite also uses. You'll want to know for sure though. And I know this next place is not what you're looking for, but in my experience it's simpler to sell the top and get a setup the way you're looking. Gas bars with stroke sights (that almost should always be placed backwards to fold flat) are a pain in the ass. It's pretty easy to find out if you have the same plane gas block. Also because I will sell the upper just because of the gas block lol. This is not tos, most here are able to exchange a gas block, or, sending out to do it. And lol for the gas block comment flip. I haven't seen anyone riding one backwards yet. I'mo just use an FSB template and use it as a plus witness. The best way for anyone to go to the bar. Many here with fields, dots, etc use em without any matter what so ever. The best way for anyone to go to the bar. From TOS ... Buy the shit out of this thing, all the spec mil is just nonsense. 03-10-13, 20:42 #6 IMO, replace your forearm with a free float covering the gas block... then place on the rails on the forearm. A man with a gun is a civilian. A man without a gun is an issue. 03-10-13, 21:32 #7 Originally posted by Menacing In fact, putting the front sight on the gas block is preferred – your index finger is actually on the Bullet hose itself as opposed to a plane that doesn't move (while the barrel beats and vibrates like a tuning fork). I just got home and haven't checked to see if the gas block was on a different level (of course lower) than the receiver. If the GB is lower, what would be an ideal rear sight setting to compensate? It seems like in a perfect world the GB would be ideal, I definitely looked around, I've seen opinions both ways. I'm trying to find an ideal solution. Thank you for contributing so far guys, I definitely appreciate it. Will 03-10-13, 21:44 I used Troy for the short time I had my S&W as my main evil rifle. The gas rail in the mine is taller than the receiver. Last edited by Zane1844; 03-10-13 at 21:45. 03-10-13, 11:18 p#9 Midwest Industries makes a spectacle too. 03-11-13, 07:29 #10 Originally posted by wburns I just got home and haven't checked to see if the gas block was at a different level (of course lower) than the receiver. If the GB is lower, what would be an ideal back back installation to compensate? It seems like in a perfect world the GB would be ideal, I definitely looked around, I've seen opinions both ways. I'm trying to find an ideal solution. Thank you for contributing so far guys, I definitely appreciate it. I don't know a valid way to compensate for the lower gas block height with the help of rear view. I have a superior with a gas block rail that sits under the receiver rail. I have the Troy gas block folding spectacle and I had no problem with it. I haven't positioned it backwards and it folds down perfectly with standard handguards and Magpul handguards. One bonus is that it has qd sling rotating socket on each side, although I can't attest to their true functionality because I've never connected my slingshot to the spectacle other than the test placement. Last edited by FriggelyFrak; 03-11-13 at 08:50. 08:50.