

Podcast #203 Transcription – 5 Simple DIY “Handgun Hacks”

Jeff Anderson: Hey there, welcome everyone, this is Jeff Anderson, Editor for Modern Combat and Survival Magazine, and Executive Director of The New World Patriot Alliance with another podcast to help you better prepare for any threat you may face in your role as a protector and a Patriot.

I'm on location this week. I am actually up visiting my family up in Illinois, so I'm actually doing this podcast on my phone. So, no hate mail if the sound really sucks on this right now. But I wanted to get something out this week, I did not want to skip a week.

And actually, this ones gonna be a really quick podcast, and I also I have a little special gift you at the end of the podcast. But, anyway, I've just, over the years, just talking with other firearms guys out there, trainers, and just people like you, like our listeners, on different little hacks that people use for making their firearm a little bit better prepared for a gun fight.

I thought I would, what I'd do is take the top five that I've collected over the years and put them together for you in this little, kind of short rundown of five simple hacks that you could use right away to apply to your handgun to be able to make it better, better suited for fighting.

Some of these might seem a little bit strange to you, actually, probably most of them are gonna sound a little bit strange to you, but, I promise you that at least one, probably multiples of these, you're gonna want to put to use right away, and you are gonna see an immediate difference.

I've got like a top five list here for you. Actually, not in any sort of order here, but let's just go ahead and get started, alright.

Hack number one has to do with the grip on your firearm, and, as you know, getting a good grip is really critical in being able to use your firearm for accuracy. But, also, especially in something like a real gunfight where you might have grime on your hand, you might have ... you might be coming off the ground, it might be dirty, you might have sweat, there might even be blood. Getting a good grip is gonna be even harder on your firearm. So, the hack that we're gonna talk about is using skateboard tape and applying it to the grips on your firearm. In fact, you can apply it to different areas on your firearm.

For example ... well, first of all, why would you use skateboard tape? Now, skateboard tape has ... is really, really sticky, it's meant to stick on a skateboard that kids are normally standing on. They are doing tricks with them. They're out in the heat, it's out in the rain, it's out in the snow, it's ... you know, so it's used to being out in the elements. They make this tape so that it's gonna stay on the skateboard really, really well. It also makes it stay on the ... your firearm really well as well.

All you need to do is really just cut out, just buy some skateboard tape, get it right off of Amazon, super cheap, and just cut out little panels for where you want to put it on your gun. I have put it on my grip. I started this with my 380 that I keep ... my pocket pistol. It's kind of got a ... it's a small frame pistol. I wanted to get a really grip on it, I've got kind of medium size hands so I put it originally on my ... on the grip of the handgun itself, on both the left and right side. And you really do get a ... a really good grip. It's like sandpaper on it so your hand doesn't slip as much as on it.

You can also apply this to the slide on a firearm to be able to get a better grip if you go to grip that slide and go ahead and rack it, to be able to chamber another round, or do a reload, then the tape is gonna give you a better grip. Especially if you have a problem with being able to ... maybe you don't have as much grip strength, or getting, again, if your hands are sweaty or have blood on it, or grime, or anything like that, it's gonna harder to get a grip on the slide. Maybe you might have to grip it really much harder, but with that skateboard tape on there, you actually can grip, quite easy, and it's ... and you actually get a better grip on it to be able to rack that slide even better.

Okay, so, go ahead and give that one a try. I think you're all gonna really like that a lot.

Alright, hack number two comes from my friend Nat Seabrook. If you listen to podcast episode number 125, this thing really changed the way that I look at my handgun for fighting back and this things works really, really well and it was taught to him by a Delta operator and it's to blackout the rear sight of your handgun.

Most people are trying to train to line up your front sight and your rear sight on the target and as we talk about all the time, most fights, the vast majority of gunfights happened within nine feet or less where you are really not going to be ... have all that time to be able to line up all of your sights on the target, shift your focus in between the target and the front sight, or ... it's not gonna happen. When you're that close, your both eyes are gonna be open. If you're able to see the front sight, that's gonna be great. But, when that rear sight is there it actually makes it a little bit harder to focus because your eyes are seeing two sets of sights and the target. The less you can ... you have to be able to focus your and adjust your eyes on, the better you're gonna be able to use those sights to begin with.

We talk about, you're probably not gonna use your sights at all, especially that close. But, even at a smaller ... for a little bit further distance then that, blacking out your rear sight, all you're gonna see is that front sight and it's gonna be ... it's gonna allow you to acquire your target much, much faster. I was surprised, I was shocked, actually, at how much better this works. You definitely gonna want to check out episode number 125 for the full blow out of that tip. Alright.

Hack number three is really cool and basically, the other part of being able to get ... be able to acquire the target using your front sight there is that that front sight really needs to stand out. Especially if you've got an attacker that's charging at you or that's a real threat. You want that sight to be right in your vision when you bring the firearm up.

We talk about with keeping both eyes open, focusing on the target, not your front sight, but that does make it harder for you to really see the front sight if it's the standard white front sight that you're using that normally comes with a firearm. I use an Ameriglo front sight so it does have tridium in it. It is a night sight, but it also has a bright orange ring around it so even in daylight my eyes grab onto that front sight really, really easily so I can still see, I can focus in on my target. But, that sight is right there in my vision. I don't have to go and look for it like I normally would with a white dot front sight.

If you ... if you want to get an Ameriglo front sight, or some other type of a highly visible front sight, I highly recommend you do that but, the hack for this is just to use an automotive paint that's either bright green or bright orange. I went ahead and got both of these, there's a British racing green that works really well, and also a hot orange. The hot orange one that I got, that I like the most, very, very ... it really does simulate my Ameriglo. It doesn't glow in the dark but it works really well and it has a clear finish that you can put over it as well so the paint will stay on there for a long period of time.

These come in a paint pen that you would normally use for detailing, for fine work on a ... it's meant to be a like a ... for an automotive detail paint that you would use for just filling in little chips and things like that. What you're looking for is hot orange, you can get this right off of Amazon as well. It comes in like a pen so you can put that on there and just get a dot, just right on that front sight post and then use, after that dries, use the clear finish to go over it to be able to protect it a little bit better. Alright. So that was hack number three.

Hack number four also comes from a buddy of mine, Ox, who also got this tip from a Navy Seal and it's called the GIP. I'm sure all of you have heard this saying of Aim Small, Miss Small. Essentially that means that if you are ... use a really small sight post, or anything like that then you are going to ... the smaller you focus in on, the better chance you have of hitting your target. In fact, I like to use the term Aim Small, Hit Small, rather than Aim Small, Miss Small. I would much rather hit a small area of my target than miss a small area of my target. Right?

The GIP is essentially taking ... let's go back to the front sight and all you're doing now is you're taking another type of a ... basically, almost taking a pin and some paint and putting a little micro-dot right at the very tip of the front sight post. Even if you are using a ... like my Ameriglo, what I did was, I just took a small little pen of paint and again, put this tiny little thing that I can still see so if I need to take a long distance shot, especially the smaller that you are using of a sight system, then the more accurate you're going to be because it forces you to

really zero in, really zone, zero in on your target with that micro-sight there. It's called the GIP, is the tag word that's been given to it and this is something you could do right on, no matter what front sight you're using, just put this tiny little bit above it and it works really, really well.

Now, there is a ... you can get your front sight modified. Lieutenant Colonial Dave Grossman, if you listen to episode number 112, he does some ... actually, I think it's his ... it's either his son or his son-in-law, but the two of them do modifications for firearms and one of them that they do is that micro-sight, kind of like that GIP. It's much more formal. It's a much better version of it. It's a more ... it's a better version of it so you can have that shipped off and Colonial Dave will go ahead and do that for you.

And, speaking of Dave, hack number five actually goes back to that same episode number 112. One of the things that I thought that Dave did really ... I thought it was really cool was, he has this little shelf, it's a ... it's like a trigger finger shelf. Now you know that if you're ... you only put your finger on the trigger when you're ready to shoot the firearm. Right?

So, if you are in your home and you're clearing your home, for some reason you have to clear your home, you don't just go straight to your safe room in like a home invasion, but if you have to clear your home for some reason, you want to have your finger off the trigger and just resting along, just above the trigger guard there, on the ... right underneath the slide so that it's ... you don't have that reactionary squeeze for some reason like somebody shut ... even if it's a family member, they come out, they were hiding somewhere, they come out and you instinctively squeeze your hand on the ... if your finger was on the trigger you may have that reflexive squeeze and all of a sudden you just shot a family member. Right? So that's why you always want to be safe, keep your finger off the trigger until you're ready to fire it.

Now, with ... what Dave does is they put this little shelf, it literally is like a little shelf on ... just underneath the slide on your trigger finger side so your finger rests on there. And what this does is it allows you to give your finger a resting place that's the same place every single time. And what that does is it allows you to, one, be safer. It keeps you from maybe your finger slipping down and getting down on the trigger. But, what it does mostly is it allows you to engage your target faster because you build in the muscle memory of that optimum place for your trigger finger to be so that it just comes straight down, right to the perfect place on the trigger for you to be able to pull as soon as you acquire your target to be able to engage it. Alright?

So it's a muscle memory thing and it's not the same for every firearm. One of the hack way to do this is to take just a little finishing nail and go ahead and snip off the head of a finishing nail and then superglue that to the perfect place on your weapon where you would want your finger to be so that it just comes straight down, right into the trigger guard, right onto the trigger itself, in the optimum place.

Now, again, this is not the same for every place on your firearm. For example, my Glock 26, I put this on there because I plan on sending mine off to Colonial Dave. I just ... I'm a procrastinator too and I just haven't done it yet. But, in the mean time, this little nail head that's on there, if it's right at the end where my tip of my finger would be on the slide of my Glock 26, then it's actually, if my finger comes straight down, it actually ends up on the front of the trigger guard of my Glock. Now again, not all trigger guards are the same for all firearms, right? So what I did was I placed this exactly where I want my fingertip to be touching that ... the head of that nail and that way, when it comes straight ... when it comes down, I miss the trigger guard entirely, it comes straight down to the trigger, it's in the perfect position every single time.

And, until our next Modern Combat and Survival broadcast, this is Jeff Anderson saying prepare, train, and survive.