

Contents

Introduction.....	1
Part 1 - Preliminary inspection, rifle setup and testing.....	4
My kit list	4
Step 1 - Inspect the bore.	6
Step 2 - Inspect locking lugs.	13
Step 3 - Disassemble rifle, inspect and adjust trigger.	21
Thoughts on trigger tinkering.....	34
Step 4- Check fit of action, magazine box and trigger in stock.	41
Step 5 - Assemble rifle	44
Mock bedding.....	46
Glue it and screw it.....	51
Glue and screw instructions for semi-permanent rifle set up.....	54
Tikka T3 setup for testing and final field usage.....	60
Torque settings.....	64
Step 6 - Fit optics	65
Step 7 - Test rifle, break in barrel	74
Tools for breaking in a rifle barrel.	82
Preparation for test shooting	86
Hand lapping.....	87
Test fire.....	92
Custom rifle set up	98
Step 8 - Assess rifle accuracy	102

Barrel stress and double grouping	104
Fire lapping	108
Action problems and flaws	116
Further thoughts	119
Rifle bedding with epoxy resin	121
To pillar bed or not, that is the question.....	121
Barrel knock bedding.....	132
Rifle bedding.....	134
MatchGrade Stock Stabilizer instructions	135
Mixing instructions for Stock Stabilizer	136
Clean up.....	136
Job planning.....	136
Stock preparation	136
Dams.....	138
Mixing and applying Stock Stabilizer compound.....	139
Curing.....	140
Finishing the job	141
Some notes about our bedding compound.....	143
MatchGrade Bedding Compound instructions.....	146
Mixing instructions for MatchGrade Bedding Compound	147
Clean up.....	147
Mindset.....	147
1. Stock preparation	150
2. Barreled action preparation	166

3. Stock preparation second phase	179
4. Action preparation second phase.....	182
5. Bringing it all together	183
6. Curing.....	193
7. Finishing the job	196
Rework.....	200
Extra tips for military bolt actions.	201
8. Bedded rifle re-assembly.....	207
Part 2 - Ongoing rifle maintenance	217
Step 1 - Bore preparation for field work	219
Step 2 - Field care of the rifle	224
Step 3 - cleaning the bore.....	232
Thoughts on bore cleaners.....	232
Bore cleaning method	239
Step 4 - Bore polishing routine.....	244
Step 5 - Storage. Rust prevention of the bore.....	253
Stainless.....	256
Chrome moly - regular usage	257
Chrome Moly - long term storage	258
Bolt maintenance	262
Protection of exterior metal work.....	279
Paint surface coatings.....	287
Tape and paint.....	291
Care of painted stocks, painted metal and plastics.....	298

Wood and laminate stock care.....	299
Rifle suppressor care	303
Muzzle brake care	307
Care of optics.....	308
Conclusion	315
Full bolt action rifle checklist:.....	317
Yearly bolt action rifle strip down checks:	318
Long term rifle storage:	318
Semi and full automatic rifle care:	319
Lever action rifle care:	320
The seven basic rules of firearms safety (NZ Arms code).....	321
About Nathan Foster	322