STEEL TARGET SAFETY GUIDE

ACTION TARGET™

ActionTarget.com

WHY SHOOT STEEL?

Steel targets provide a safe, clean shooting experience. The instant visual and audible feedback program muscle memory and reinforce positive shooting habits. Shooting on steel targets will enhance your experience no matter what your purpose is.

TRAIN
Training on quality steel targets develops skills that save lives. For decades Action Target has been trusted by hundreds of agencies worldwide.

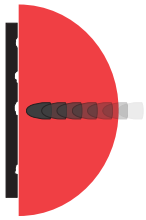
COMPETE
Professional shooters and national competitions choose Action Target because their steel targets are the safest and most durable on the market.

ENJOY
Experience the thrill of shooting steel. While honing your skills or sharing your passion with new shooters, the instant feedback rewards you with every shot.

STEEL HARDNESS

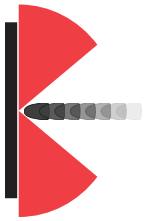
Steel hardness is essential to the quality of a steel target. Through hardened, abrasion resistant (AR) steel is available in Brinell Hardness Levels from AR350-AR700. The lower the number, the softer the steel and the higher the number, the more brittle the steel. Action Target only uses AR500 or AR550 steel because they provide the perfect balance of toughness and strength for shooting.

AR STEEL TYPES	
RATING	**QUALITY**
AR350	Softer ↑
AR400	
AR450	
AR500	IDEAL FOR SHOOTING
AR550	
AR600	↓ Harder (Brittle)
AR650	
AR700	



SOFT STEEL
Softer steel is more likely to pock, crater, and deform when shot, causing an uneven surface which makes bullet splatter **unpredictable**.

UNPREDICTABLE SPLATTER



HARD STEEL
Properly hardened steel resists pocking and cratering which makes bullet splatter **predictable** and **consistent**.

CONSISTENT SPLATTER

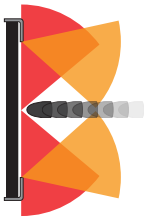
Steel Plate Splatter Zone

TOTALLY FLAT SURFACES

Steel targets need to have a perfectly flat surface in order to be safe for shooters and bystanders. The use of brackets and bolts to hold targets in place creates angles that make bullet splatter unpredictable. Also, improper welding of the steel creates soft areas on the steel that can crater or pock. Action Target uses a proprietary manufacturing process that maintains the integrity of the steel and keeps the shooting surface perfectly flat.

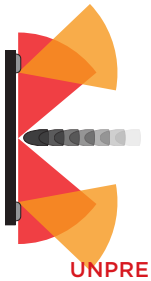
KEY FACTS

- **No exposed bolts or brackets eliminate secondary splatter**
- **Proprietary welding technique maintains steel integrity**



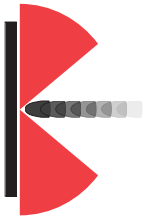
BRACKETS
Primary splatter deflects off bracket angles which can direct secondary splatter towards the shooter.

UNPREDICTABLE SPLATTER



BOLTS
Primary splatter deflects off bolt heads or sunk steel which can direct secondary splatter towards the shooter.

UNPREDICTABLE SPLATTER



FLAT STEEL
Perfectly flat surface which eliminates secondary splatter and makes bullet splatter **predictable** and **consistent**.

CONSISTENT SPLATTER

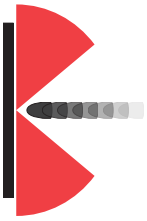
Steel Plate Primary Splatter Zone Secondary Splatter Zone

PROPERLY ANGLED STEEL

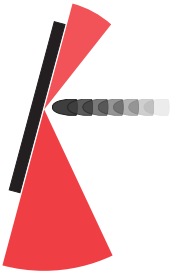
The angle of the steel target makes a dramatic difference in the way that the splatter reacts. The steeper the angle, the more splatter is deflected towards the ground and the more the energy is dissipated. Through years of research Action Target has been able to determine the best angles for each target.

KEY FACTS

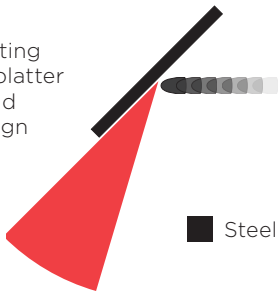
- **Angles engineered to minimize splatter returning to the shooter**
- **Majority of splatter directed towards the ground**



90º ANGLE
Splatter is evenly distributed in a circular shape. Some splatter is still distributed towards the shooter



15º ANGLE
Ideal for most shooting since most of the splatter is directed down and the target face design requires less steel.



45º ANGLE
Can be shot at closer range with more powerful ammo, but the target face requires more steel and additional cost.

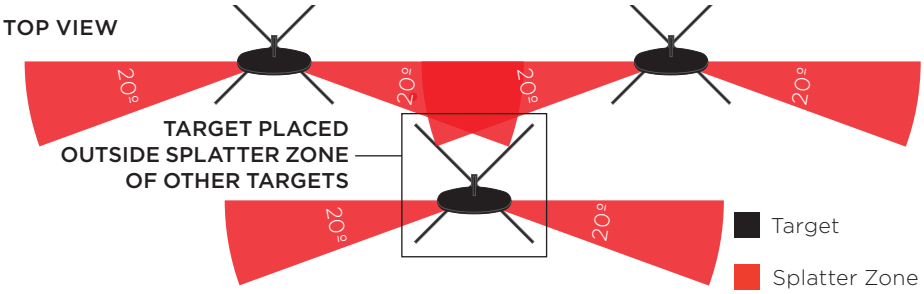
Steel Plate Splatter Zone

TARGET PLACEMENT

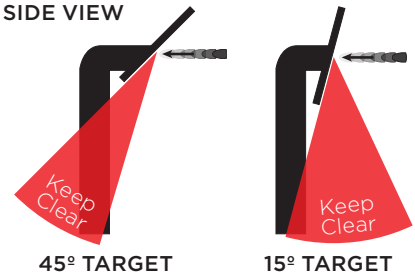
When setting up multiple steel targets consider the effects of secondary splatter. To prevent splatter from hitting other targets, ensure that the targets are outside the 20º splatter zone of another target. Also, the ground where targets are placed can affect splatter. Avoid ground with rocks and cement. Sand, wood chips, grass, and fine gravel generally make the best base. Also, ensure that the ground is clear within the in the splatter area.

KEY FACTS

- **Place targets outside the 20º splatter zone of other targets**
- **Check the ground for rocks or other material that can ricochet splatter towards the shooter**



RECOMMENDED TARGET PLACEMENT



STEEL USAGE CHART

The following chart shows the steel types that Action Target uses in it's targets as well as the maximum ammunition recommendations and minimum shooting distances for each. Because of the wide variety of ammunition the following chart is for reference only and is not all inclusive. Also ammunition must be soft (such as lead) or frangible. Frangible ammunition requires the same shooting distances as traditional lead ammunition. Smaller ammunition will work on higher-rated targets, although rimfire ammo may not be able to move heavier reactive plates. To ensure that your ammunition is compatible with your target and distance, take your first shot and then inspect for damage. If there is a crater or pock mark, increase your distance. Handguns and shotgun shot loads can be used on rifle targets at 10 yards, however, once the target has been shot with a centerfire rifle round or shotgun slug, it needs to be inspected for integrity. If there is any visible damage to the target, such as pocking or cratering, the target should not be used at distances closer than 100 yards with any type of firearm or ammunition.

KEY FACTS

- **Do not use ammo that travels slower than 400 ft/sec**
- **Do not use BB's or Airsoft**
- **Do not use armor piercing, steel core, or green tip ammo**
- **Rimfire ammo can be used on all steel types, but may not be strong enough to move heavier reactive plates**
- **Warped or pocked targets should not be shot at close distances.**

STEEL TYPE

¼" AR500	⅜" AR500	⅜" AR550	½" AR550

RECOMMENDED AMMUNITION (Type / Load / Max Velocity / Max Energy)

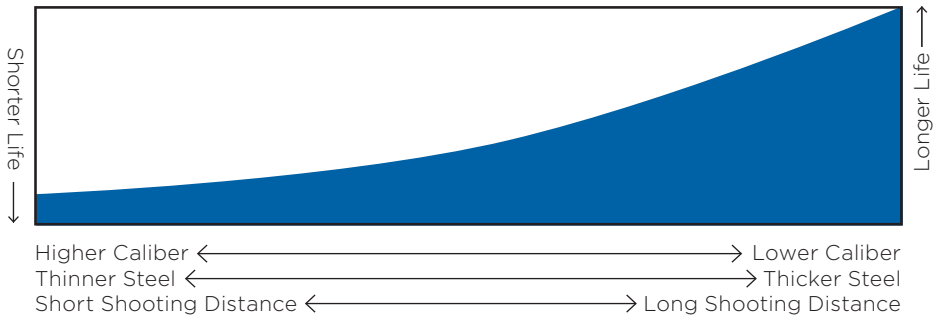
Rimfire Pistol				Centerfire Handgun				Centerfire Rifle				Big Bore Rifle			
.22LR Pistol	40gr HP	1,060 fps	117 ft/lbs	9mm Luger	124gr FMJ	1,293 fps	460 ft/lbs	5.56x45mm	55gr FMJ	3,388 fps	1,4102 ft/lbs	.338 Lapua	200gr SP	3,330 fps	4,967 ft/lbs
				.357 Mag	158gr JSP	1,375 fps	663 ft/lbs	7.62x51mm	150gr FMJ	2,750 fps	1,400 ft/lbs	.50 BMG	700gr Barnes	3,000 fps	13,971 ft/lbs
				.40 S&W	180gr TMJ	1,000 fps	400 ft/lbs	.308 Win	150gr SPTZ	2,900 fps	2,800 ft/lbs				
				.45 ACP	230gr TMJ	845 fps	365 ft/lbs	30-06	180gr SPTZ	2,900 fps	3,360 ft/lbs				
				.44 Mag	240gr SWC	1,485 fps	1,175 ft/lbs	300 Win Mag	190gr BTHP	2,900 fps	3,548 ft/lbs				
Rimfire Rifle				**Shotgun Shot**				**Shotgun Slug**							
.22LR Rifle	40gr HP	1,260 fps	141 ft/lbs	.410 Bore	2¾" Bird	1,250 fps	600 ft/lbs	.410 Bore	2¾" Slug	1,600 fps	900 ft/lbs				
				20 Gauge	2¾" Bird	1,300fps	1,276 ft/lbs	20 Gauge	2¾" Slug	1,600 fps	2,236 ft/lbs				
				12 Gauge	2¾" Bird	1,420 fps	2,000 ft/lbs	12 Gauge	2¾" Slug	1,600 fps	2,935 ft/lbs				
				.410 Bore	2¾" Buck	1,300 fps	700 ft/lbs								
				12 Gauge	2¾" Buck	1,325 fps	2,400 ft/lbs								

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM SHOOTING DISTANCE

10 Yards	10 Yards	100 Yards	100 Yards

TARGET LIFE EXPECTANCY

Although there are no set-in-stone numbers for the life expectancy of a steel target, proper use will extend its life. Using the correct ammunition and steel combination will allow you to get the most out of your targets. The best ways to extend the life of your target is to use lower calibers, thicker steel, and a longer shooting distance. As any of these factors decrease, so will the life expectancy of the target.



KEY FACTS

- **Following published ammunition and shooting distance recommendations will increase the life expectancy of your target**

GENERAL CARE

Always inspect your target for damage before shooting. Shooting usually only chips paint off the shooting surface, which, upon close inspection, causes no damage to the steel. Simply repaint the target with any commercially available paint and your target is as good as new. If your target has minor cratering, the target can still be used, but needs to be shot at distances 100 yards or greater. In the case of large craters, holes, or cracking, discontinue use of the target.

Steel targets can be stored indoor or outdoor in any climate. Leaving targets in the rain or humid conditions can cause rusting. This is generally not an issue as the rust will be shot off during normal use. Also, leaving the target out in the sun can make the target very hot to the touch. We recommend using gloves when moving or carrying the targets.

During normal use the targets will collect lead dust. Use gloves when handling the target to keep your hands clean and always wash your hands after use before eating, drinking or touching your face.

KEY FACTS

- **Targets can be stored indoor or outdoor**
- **Repaint targets with any commercial paint**
- **Wear gloves when moving or carrying steel targets**

SAFE SHOOTING PRACTICES

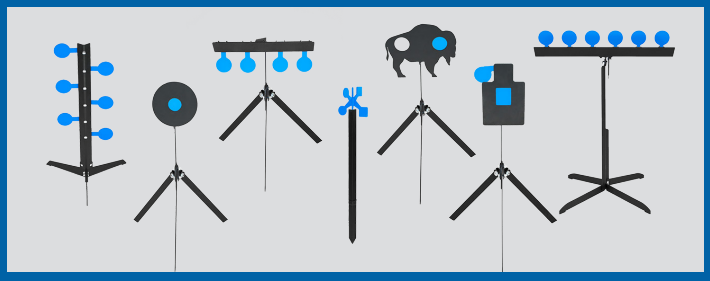
When shooting steel targets, always observe the following safety rules.

1. Always wear wrap around eye protection and hearing protection.
2. Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction.
3. Always keep your finger off the trigger until you're ready to fire.
4. Always keep your gun unloaded until ready to use.
5. Know your target, what's below it, and what's beyond it.
6. Use the correct ammunition for the gun and the target.
7. Never use alcohol, over-the-counter prescription, or other drugs before or while shooting
8. Always shoot steel targets from at least the recommended minimum shooting distances.
9. Wear gloves when handling steel targets.

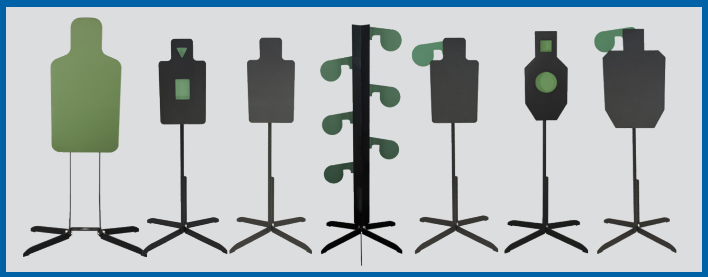
KEY FACTS

- **Always use wrap around eye and ear protection when shooting steel**
- **Always observe the NRA rules of safe gun handling**

PORTABLE STEEL TARGETS



RIMFIRE BLUE TARGETS



HANDGUN AND RIFLE TARGETS

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