

Colt 1911 Optics Ready Models - Cover Plate & Optics Plate Assembly Instructions









⚠ WARNING READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE LOADING OR USING YOUR PISTOL. THIS MANUAL COVERS THE COLT 1911 OPTICS READY SERIES OF PISTOLS.


⚠ WARNING Colt 1911 Pistols do not have a magazine disconnect and will fire if the trigger is pulled with a live round in the chamber even if the magazine has been removed.

IMPORTANT

Read these Instructions and the warnings contained in it before loading or using your Colt's Manufacturing Company LLC ("Colt") 1911 Optics Ready Pistol. These instructions explain the disassembly of the cover plate, installation of the optics plate, and mounting of your optic and warns of the potential dangers, including death and serious personal injury that can result from the unsafe use of your pistol. These instructions should always accompany your pistol and be transferred with it if it is sold or loaned to another person.

Even if you are an experienced shooter, you must READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS ENTIRELY before mounting any optic on your pistol. These instructions provide the basic instructions for properly mounting an optic on your pistol. Your safety and the safety of others depends on you following the instructions and warnings in this manual and the constant use of safe firearms practices. If you are unfamiliar with firearms, take a course in the safe handling of firearms run by a qualified firearms instructor, your local gun club, or a similar qualified organization.

This manual contains several safety warnings and instructions preceded with  **WARNING**,  **CAUTION** or  **NOTICE**. These signal words are designed to draw your attention to important safety information.  **WARNING** indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious personal injury.  **CAUTION** indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in moderate or minor personal injury.  **NOTICE** indicates a hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in property damage.

 **WARNING** Failure to follow the safety information and safety instructions in this manual could result in death, serious personal injury, and/or property damage.

⚠️ WARNING Always seek a doctor's advice if you are taking medication to be sure that you are able to shoot and handle a firearm safely. Never drink alcoholic beverages or take drugs before or while shooting. Your vision, judgment and motor skills could be seriously impaired, making your firearm handling unsafe.

⚠️ WARNING If your pistol or any other firearm is carelessly or improperly handled, you could cause a negligent discharge, which could result in death, serious personal injury, and/or property damage.

⚠️ WARNING Always handle your pistol as if it is loaded so that you never fire negligently.

⚠️ WARNING Never point your pistol at anything you do not intend to shoot to prevent the risk of death, serious personal injury and/or property damage in the event of a negligent discharge.

⚠️ WARNING Never pull the trigger or put your finger on the trigger or in the trigger guard until you have made the decision to fire.

⚠️ WARNING Never take anyone's word that a firearm is unloaded; always check for yourself, with the firearm pointed in a safe direction (a safe direction is one in which no one can possibly be injured in the event of an unintentional discharge) and your finger is off of the trigger and outside of the trigger guard.

⚠️ WARNING Always make sure your pistol is unloaded and that the slide is locked open in the rearward position with the magazine taken out before handing it to another person.

⚠️ WARNING Never alter or modify your pistol because this could cause it to malfunction and create a dangerous condition.

⚠ WARNING If your pistol is dropped or forcefully struck, it could be damaged and may not function properly even if you do not see any visual damage. Have it inspected by a competent gunsmith or Colt before continuing to use it.

⚠ WARNING Never carry or handle your pistol with a cartridge loaded in the chamber until you are ready to fire it.

⚠ WARNING Always store and transport your pistol unloaded and locked in a suitable container, out of the reach and sight of children or other unauthorized person.

⚠ WARNING Never store or transport ammunition in the same container as your pistol.

⚠ WARNING Never leave your pistol unattended because it could be obtained by a child or unauthorized person who may use it in an unsafe manner, potentially resulting in death, serious personal injury and/or property damage.

⚠ WARNING If a battery operated optic or accessory is used with this firearm, the following warnings apply: Keep batteries away from children. There is a chemical burn hazard associated with batteries. If a new or used lithium button or coin-type battery is swallowed or enters the body, it can cause severe internal burns and can lead to death in as little as 2 hours. Always completely secure the battery compartment of the optic or accessory item. If the battery compartment does not close securely, stop using the product, and remove and secure the batteries from children. If you believe that batteries may have been swallowed or placed inside any part of the body, seek immediate emergency medical attention.

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC

⚠ WARNING Unload all magazines and remove all live ammunition from the area before disassembling your pistol to reduce the chance of a negligent discharge.

⚠ WARNING You should never rely solely on it or your memory to determine whether your pistol is unloaded. Always remove the magazine, fully retract and lock open the slide and then visually and physically (with your finger) check to make sure there is not a cartridge in the chamber.

⚠ WARNING Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction (a safe direction is one in which no one can possibly be injured in the event of an unintentional discharge) and your finger off the trigger and outside of the trigger guard when unloading your pistol to avoid a negligent discharge which could result in death, serious personal injury and/or property damage.

⚠ WARNING Always wear safety glasses when disassembling your pistol to protect your eyes from some of the spring-loaded components that could cause serious personal injury if you lose control of them.

⚠ WARNING Make sure that your pistol is unloaded (magazine removed and chamber empty) before installing an adapter plate and a reflex optic.

⚠ WARNING An optical sight which is improperly or un-securely mounted to a firearm may become detached during firing. A detached optical sight during firing could cause serious bodily injury to the shooter or bystanders, and cause damage to the optical sight. Ensure that all mounting screws are properly tightened and secured in accordance with these instructions and periodically inspect them for any loosening.

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)

The Colt 1911 Optics Ready pistols are configured with a cover plate that includes the rear sight, which allows you to mount an adapter plate with the correct mounting footprint for the reflex sight (red dot) that you choose to mount after removing the cover plate assembly (Figure 1).

Tools Required: 5/64" (.078) Hex Key Wrench.

To mount an adapter plate to your Pistol, follow the instructions below:

1. Make sure the pistol is unloaded, and magazine is removed before proceeding.
2. Using a 5/64" (.078) Hex Key Wrench remove the optics plate cover from the slide by turning the four cover plate screws counterclockwise (Figure 2).
3. Once the screws are removed, lift the cover plate straight up off the slide (Figure 3).



For a Series 80 Pistol, when lifting the plate up be careful not to lose the firing pin safety plunger spring (Figure 4), do not reassemble without the spring in place.

4. With the cover plate removed you can now mount the correct adapter plate for the reflex sight you will be using, torque the four #6-32 mounting screws clockwise to 15 in. lbs. (Figure 5).

NOTE: Use a medium thread locker like Loctite® 242® or similar on the mounting screw threads only.

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)

The adapter plates are marked as follows (Figure 6):

- “A” marked plate- DPP (DeltaPoint® Pro) footprint
- “B” marked plate- RMR® (Trijicon RMR) footprint
- “C” marked plate- RMS-C® & K series footprint

NOTE: The plates are threaded to allow use of the manufacturer’s screws, the thread size is noted on the plate.

5. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions to properly mount your reflex sight to the adapter plate (Figure 7).

Cover Plate Assembly



Figure 1

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)



**5/64" Hex Key (Allen Wrench)
Turn Counterclockwise to remove
screws**

Figure 2

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)



**Slide with Cover Plate
Assembly Removed,
Series 70**

Figure 3

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)

**Slide with Cover Plate
Assembly removed,
Series 80**

**Firing Pin Safety Plunger Spring,
Retained by the Cover Plate and
Adapter Plates, Do Not Reassemble
without the spring in place**

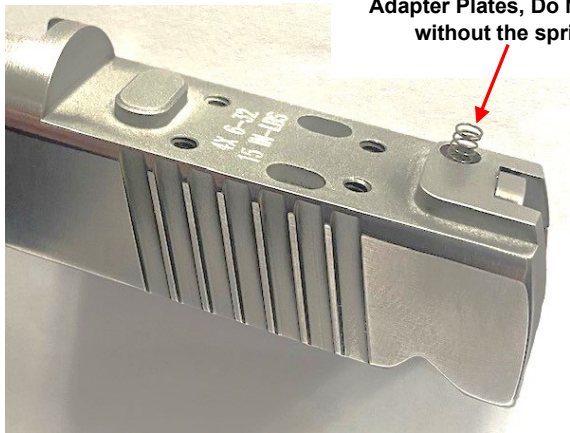


Figure 4

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)

(4) #6-32 Button Head
Socket Cap Screws,
Torque to 15 in. lbs.

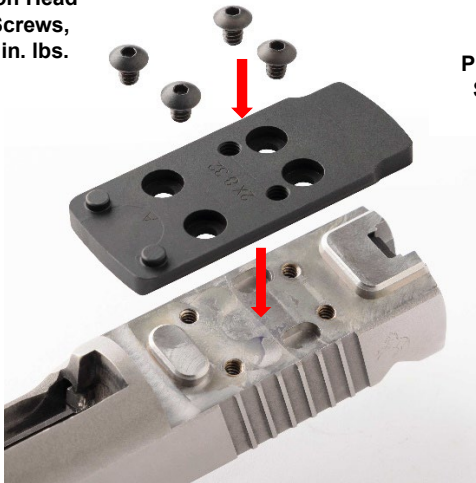


Plate "A"
Shown

Figure 5

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)

**Plate "A" shown, fits a
DPP (DeltaPoint® Pro)
Footprint**



Figure 6

REMOVING COVER PLATE & INSTALLING OPTIC (Cont.)

**Pistol shown with plate “A”
and a DeltaPoint® Pro Reflex
Sight mounted**



Figure 7

⚠ WARNING Only assemble Colt Factory supplied adapter plates to your Colt 1911 Optics Ready Pistol. Failure to do so could result in death, serious personal injury, and/or property damage.

⚠ CAUTION Depending on the frequency of use, the mounting screws torque (tightness) should be periodically inspected for any loosening. The torque requirement for the adapter plate mounting screws is 15 in. lbs. Refer to the Reflex Sight manufacturers instructions for the proper torque specification for those mounting screws. If you need to remove and reinstall the adapter plate make sure to apply Loctite® 242® or similar thread locker on the mounting screw threads each time.

If you do not have your instruction manual, you can obtain a replacement by downloading one from the Colt website at www.colt.com/manuals or contact Colt's Product Service area at 1-800-962-COLT (2658).