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What are the best books for a new collector?	In some ways, think of the specialized Luger collecting books as “Luger University”. This can be “attended” in a series of ways, first focused on an overview of Lugers and then later on specific eras and variations that interest you. There have been several series of books on Lugers by a number of authors over many years. Overviews of the Luger (NOTE- there are a several thoughts on this, but below is an answer that moderators also agree on) In our opinion, the very best basic reference for a new collector trying to identify models and determine what era(s) of Luger production are of most interest is Charles Kenyon's 1969 publication "Lugers at Random". As with the other older publications, some of the specific information in this book is out dated and incorrect and the photos in black and white are not of the quality found in today's references. However it is large format, usually not expensive and offers a very comprehensive pictorial overview of most of the model variations spanning the entire duration of Luger production. It is a good start. One of the earliest books dates from 1952 (revised in 1956, 1958, and 1962): “The Luger Pistol (Pistole Parabellum) – It's History and Development” by Fred A. Datig. It answered the demand the large number of WW-II captured Lugers created as veteran US soldiers and others became interested in their history. Out of print for years, it's often available for a very low price from used booksellers like AbeBooks online. It's contents are dated, but can be interesting to new collectors.	Books specializing on specific eras, manufacturers, variations or models: Jan C. Still (a sponsor of online Luger oriented discussion forums) is the author of series of Luger collecting books that are focused on the major eras during which Lugers were made. They include: • “Third Reich Lugers” published in 1988 • “Axis Pistols” published in 1989 • “Weimar Lugers” published in 1993 • “Imperial Lugers” published in 1994 • “Central Powers Pistols” published in 2007 Jan's books catalog variations of pistols within the specific era covered through photographs and descriptions. “Simson Lugers” by Edward B. Tinker and Graham K. Johnson was published in 2007. It is the most complete study of the extremely rare Lugers manufactured between WW-I and WW-II by Simson & Co., Suhl. It includes a historical perspective on Simson's operations and documents Simson variations and markings. “The Mauser Parabellum 1930-1946, Analysis of a Million Luger Pistols ” by Don R. Hallock and Joop van de Kant published in 2010. It is a detailed reference exhaustively covering all variations of Mauser manufactured Lugers made during the period including military (army and navy), commercial,	The most comprehensive and deeply researched book on Lugers was published recently by Simpson, Ltd., Galesburg, Illinois in 2013. Written by Joachim Goetz and Dr. Geoff Sturgess. Priced at $300, “The Borchardt & Luger Automatic Pistols: A Technical History for Collectors from C93 to P.08,” is an expensive 3 volume 1,992 page book (with included PDF copy and DVD documentary video), but it's also one the most deeply researched books on any subject. As of this FAQ writing it is still in print and available from the publisher. The Simpson, Ltd edition has a red cover and represents a revised and reorganized edition of the book. The earlier edition was called “Pistole Parabellum: History of the Luger System, 3 Volume Set” and was distributed by a different publisher in 2010. It has a green cover.

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	Another book that can help provide an overview of Lugers is "The Luger Story: The Standard History of the World's Most Famous Handgun" published by Walter, John in 1995. As with Datig's book, it is now considered dated and has inaccuracies. Also long out of print, "World of Lugers Proof Marks: Complete Listing of Different Variations of Proof Marks on the Luger" by Sam Constanzo was published in 1977 documenting many (but not all) known proof marks that appear on variations of Luger pistols.	export and police models. It's an invaluable reference if you collect these. "The Parabellum is Back! 1945-2000" by Mauro Baudino and Gerben van Vlimmeren was also published in 2010. It includes documentation of the post war commercial Lugers made by Mauser and imported into the United States by Interarms. It thoroughly documents the numerous variations and provides a deep reference for collectors. "La Luger Artiglieria" (The Artillery Luger) was also published by Mauro Baudino in 2003 in Italian with English photograph captions. The Krieghoff Parabellum was published by Randall Gibson in 1980 and has been revised in subsequent printings in 1988 and 2006. It is a comprehensive study of variations and markings of Krieghoff Lugers. It is particularly valuable when evaluating the originality and correctness of a Krieghoff. "Parabellum Luger: A Technical History of Swiss Lugers" was also published in 2003 by Vitorio Bobba. It is written in Italian and has full English translation. It's the most complete book on the Luger pistols used and made by the Swiss Military arsenal at Bern as well as those sold commercially. Fred A. Datig also published a short monograph on the Swiss Luger called "The Luger Pistol Its History and Development From 1893-1947 - Monograph IV: The Swiss Variations 1897-1947" "Navy Luger: The 9mm Pistole 1904 and the Imperial German Navy" was published in 1988 by Joachim Gortz and John Walter.	

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What companies manufactured Lugers?	• Deutsche Waffen und Munitionsfabriken (DWM, Charlottenburg then Wittenau, Berlin, Germany) 1898-1930 • Mauser-Werke A.G. (Oberndorf a. Necker, Wurttemberg, Germany). (using the tooling and gauges from Mauser) 1930 - 1942 ◦ During WW-II the concealment codes “42”, “S/42”, and “byf” were used on Lugers. “byf” and “svw” were subsequently used on P.38 Pistols. • Imperial German Arsenal at Erfurt (Erfurt, Prussia, Germany) 1911 - 1918 • Simson and Co., (Suhl, Thuringa, Germany) 1925 – 1934 ◦ About 12,000 Lugers Manufactured • VEB Ernst Thalmann (Suhl, East Germany) ◦ Mainly parts, magazines and a small number of complete pistols for the East German VolkesPolizei. • Heinrich Krieghoff, Suhl, Thuringa, Germany) 1933 – 1945 • Heinrich Krieghoff, (Ulm, Baden-Nuremberg Germany) Modern incarnation circa 2003 ◦ 200 Lugers Manufactured • Waffenfabrik Arsenal, also “W+F Bern” (Bern, Switzerland) 1918 – 1947 ◦ In two models, the M1906 W+F Bern and the M1929 W+F Bern pistols. ◦ Schweizerische Industrie Gesellschaft S.I.G. Neuhausen am	Note 1: Taken from The Luger Story, by John Walter, in it he states Manufacture of the Luger was so complicated that only four sets of machinery were ever made. The oldest was owned by Deutsche Waffen- und Munitionsfabriken; originally installed in the Charlottenburg factory, it was moved to new facilities in the Wittenau district of Berlin in 1916. This complete production line eventually went to the Mauser-Werke factory in Oberndorf in 1930. The second production line was installed in the Prussian rifle factory in Erfurt in 1909-10 Sold to Simson and Company in 1920, it was acquired by Krieghoff in the mid 1930s to guide retooling. The only other large scale military production line was installed in the Swiss federal arms factory in Bern in 1917 after delivery of DWM German made Lugers had been stopped by World War I.	Note 2: Post war Interarms / Mauser activities (which originated from the plans and tooling provided by the Swiss, but which involved re-engineering and creation of a new production line - the fourth)' Another the recent manufacturing effort that has taken place at the modern incarnation of Krieghoff in Germany. Sometime in the early 2000's, Krieghoff manufactured approximately 200 new Lugers priced at €12.000. Note 3: In another manufacturing effort at Aimco / Mitchell / Orimar in Houston, Texas, USA, Lugers were made using Stainless Steel and to manufacturing and metallurgy standards that are diverge from those found in German and Swiss made Lugers. Note 4: After WW-II, several firearms firms were combined by the Communist government into VEB Ernst Thalmann in Suhl, Thuringa, East Germany. This firm manufactured parts, magazines and about 100 complete Luger pistols. They used concealment code 2/1001 on their products.

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	Rheinfall, Switzerland (Luger Frames and other parts) • Mauser / Interarms, (Oberndorf a. Necker, Wurttemberg, Germany) ◦ Post WW-II Lugers based upon Swiss plans - 1972 to 1993 • Aimco – Mitchell Arms – Stoeger Industries and Orimar Firearms Manufacturing (Houston, Texas, USA) Post war through 2003		
Where was the manufacturer's brand placed on Lugers?	Generally, the manufacturer of a Luger placed their brand (like the intertwined DWM or the Mauser "Banner" barrel symbol) on the middle toggle of the Luger's toggle train. This also was where the military concealment codes were generally placed.	There were some special orders fulfilled by DWM that required a government's heraldic mark was placed on the middle toggle. Specifically, see this 1908 Bulgarian Luger with DWM placed on the area above the chamber. Most other foreign orders placed their national symbol over the chamber. This included the Portuguese "M2" symbol and the Swiss Cross on Starburst and Cross on Shield symbols. Some military organizations placed their mark on the barrel like the Finnish Triangle "T" symbol.	 Bulgarian 1908 DWM Luger contract (above). Finnish Triangle "T" symbol on barrel (below): 

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How many Lugers were produced through the end of WW-II?	**Production figures for all New Manufactured Lugers** (Military as well as commercial; but not including reworks) • DWM- approx. 818,000 (Jan Still-- 743,000 military; 74,955 commercial) • Erfurt- approx. 519,000 (Jan Still-- no commercial made; just P.08's and LP.08's) • Simson- approx. 11,900 (Authors-- all military and police; no commercial made) • Krieghoff- approx. 13,825 (Randall Gibson-- 12,200 Luftwaffe; 1,625 commercial) • Mauser- approx. 943,500 (Jan Still- 900,000 military; 43,000 Commercial Banner) • Swiss- 47,701 (Datig- from 1918 to 1947; 45,784 military and 1,917 commercial)	Additional information on Swiss manufacturing • DWM-made Lugers for the Swiss: ◦ M1900 - Military Issue - 5,000 Lugers ◦ M1900 - "A" suffix - ~ 100 Lugers ◦ M1906 Cross/Sunburst - Military Issue - 4,049 Lugers ◦ M1906 Cross/Shield - Military Issue - 6,164 Lugers • Mauser-made Lugers for the Swiss: ◦ M1906 - Commercial Issue (with v suffix) approximately 100 Lugers • Bern made Swiss Lugers: ◦ M1906 W+F ('24 Bern) - 17,873 Lugers ◦ M1929 W+F Bern - Military Issue - 27,940 Lugers ◦ M1929 W+F Bern - Commercial Issue - 1,917 Lugers	Additionally the following are sometimes (incorrectly) listed as manufacturers: • Spandau Armory- There are about a dozen guns known; some apparently genuine, but not made from scratch at Spandau, as there was no tooling or inspection gauges there. Purpose of manufacture is unknown at this time and those examples of known guns are dated 1917 or 1918. • Vickers- 6,000 guns assembled from parts made by DWM with the parts shipped to Vickers in England for the Dutch East Indies; in the years 1919 – 1922, (additional guns were made for the Dutch, but were not “Vickers” marked on the toggle). There were also about 35 guns assembled from surplus parts for promotional purposes.
What is the background on the tooling and gauges that were created for manufacturing Lugers at the various manufacturing companies?	DWM, (Charlottenberg and Wittenau, Berlin) used the original tooling and gauges until manufacturing responsibility was transferred by the Ludwig Loewe owned conglomerate to their other subsidiary Mauser A.G. (Oberndorf Am Neckar, Wurttemberg) in 1930 (Documented by August Weiss) The Imperial Erfurt Arsenal licensed the DWM blueprints and designs and made the second set of tooling and gauges. These were shipped to Simson & Co. in Suhl	Post-war, Mauser (pistols imported to the US and sold by Interarms) acquired the Swiss Bern tooling and gauge designs, then patterned their tooling and gauges with modifications after the Swiss. The Bern tooling was acquired by the post-war Mauser reincarnation in 1970. Tools and jigs proved to be unusable, due to differences in standards between Germany and Switzerland.	Concerning the relationship between DWM and Mauser: Mauser didn't absorb DWM. In fact, Mauser was a 100% subsidiary of DWM. Pistol production was transferred from DWM Berlin to Mauser at Oberndorf in 1930, with the task managed by August Weiss. DWM still exists today, although under a

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	after WW-I and used to make approximately 12,000 pistols under terms of the Versaille Treaty. This set of tooling and gauges went to Krieghoff in 1934 when the Jewish owned Simpson & Co. Firm was disbanded by the Nazis. Krieghoff made their own tooling after using the Simson set as a guide. Most think Krieghoff only used the old Simson tooling as a template to make their tooling and gauges. The Swiss Arsenal at Bern (Waffenbabrik Bern or “W+F Bern”) made their own tooling for both their locally manufactured M1906 W+F Bern and M1929 W+F Bern pattern pistols. Post-war Mauser-Interarms Lugers were made with German tooling based upon the Swiss tooling and gauges. Aimco (also Mitchell) in Texas in the USA appears to have reverse engineered their tools and gauges from extant Luger samples.	Mauser set up their own production lines, based partially on Swiss tooling and partially on original information provided by August Weiss.	different name 'IWK'. The Berlin branch of DWM existed until 1971, specializing in railroad equipment, slot machines for the food branch (gumball machines, etc...) and the rather wacky 'Amphicar', a commercially available 'schwimmwagen' concept. Names that may be encountered when researching DWM: -Deutsche Waffen und Munitionsfabriken. -Deutsche Waggon und Maschinenfabriken (Berlin Branch, 1952-1971). -Vereinigte Werkstatten Wittenau (Berlin Branch, 1945-1952). -Berlin-Karlsruher Industriewerke. -Industriewerke Karlsruhe. -Industriewerke Karlsruhe-Augsburg. Also:
When did the Swiss begin manufacturing?	According to Fred Datig in "The Swiss Variation 1897-1947" on page 49, after installing their production line in 1917 the first delivery of wholly Swiss made Lugers to the Swiss army was in Nov 1918 beginning at serial 15216.		
Did the French make Lugers?	April the 20th 1945, the first French soldier occupied the Oberndorf city. The Mauser firm started to produce Parabellum under French control.	According to August Weiss, who was responsible for Mauser gun and pistol production through 1945, in this period the following guns were produced: • 47,696 K98 carbines • 6,375 .22 long rifle carbines • 3,500 P38 • 20,000 HSC pistols • 2,560 Parabellum • A small number of LP08 Artillery Lugers were made and given as	

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<tr><th>FAQ Question</th><th>Answer</th><th>Detail</th><th>Notes</th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td>a gift to important army officers.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>How many original .45 ACP caliber Lugers are there?</td><td>Compiled from many comments on the Internet, one writer stated that there are an unknown number of .45ACP caliber Lugers with and without known serial numbers.

There is a .45 ACP caliber Luger on display at the Norton Gallery in Shreveport, Louisiana.

This pistol may not be serial numbered. It's possible that the #3 is on the magazine.</td><td>Another forum participant indicated that he had handled both known .45 ACP Lugers including the gun in the Norton Gallery (which has NO serial number).

It was purchased out of Canada in 1960 and was fired 150 times (empty brass retained by the author / contributor).

.45 ACP Luger serial #2 is privately owned according to the information heard a few years ago, and (with magazine #21) is still in the U.S.</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>How many 1900 American Eagle, 1902 American Eagle, & 1906 American Eagle Lugers were made.</td><td>In Jan Still's IMPERIAL LUGERS (1991) on page 11, the production of DWM Lugers in the commercial serial number range made before 1918 is estimated:</td><td>The A.E. estimates are:

<table><tr><th>Model</th><th>Number Reported</th><th>Estimated Production</th></tr><tr><td>1900 American Eagle</td><td>335</td><td>11,600</td></tr><tr><td>1900 American Eagle Test Pistol</td><td>161</td><td>1,000</td></tr><tr><td>1902 American Eagle</td><td>84</td><td>860</td></tr><tr><td>1902 American Eagle Cartridge Counter 9mm</td><td>30</td><td>50</td></tr><tr><td>1906 American Eagle .30 Luger (7.65mm)</td><td>261</td><td>13,900</td></tr><tr><td>1906 American</td><td>191</td><td>9,400</td></tr></table></td><td></td></tr>
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<tr><th>Model</th><th>Number Reported</th><th>Estimated Production</th></tr>
<tr><td>Luger 9mm</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
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</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>What are British Import Markings?</td><td>British law at the time required each gun imported be subject to British proofing laws, hence the markings. If you examine the piece carefully, you may also find "Not British Make" stamped somewhere on the piece, normally on right side of the receiver.

The proofs are British commercial proofs. They indicate that the pistol was sold commercially at some time in England. It could have been sold in country, or could have been bought by a British arms dealer and sold in some other country through England.

Either way, it was required to be proofed before it could be sold. The letters and numbers in the crossed scepter indicate the year of proof and the inspector. The OB on your pistol dates the proofing to 1963.</td><td>The NOT ENGLISH MAKE requirement was dropped with the Proof Act of 1955.

British proof laws have been constantly changing in regard to details on exactly what markings were and were not stamped. These changes, when known, can also be used to time bracket the date of proofing.

The BV in a circle under a crown was the view mark of Birmingham of the Proof Act of 1925-1955.

The view mark of the Proof Act of 1904-1925 was the BV under a crown with no circle.

The NOT ENGLISH MADE indicates that it was proofed under the Proof Act of 1925-1955.

Pistols have been observed that were proofed prior to 1955, had the barrel changed after 1955, with additional subsequent proofs.

Dates of British proofs are coded with a letter.

The United States does not have official government proof regulations. All commercial pistols exported from the US to England were subject to British proof marking. Military weapons sent to England under the Lend Lease Act were exempt from commercial proof until they were released by the British government for commercial sale. This is the reason we find M1 Rifles and</td><td>The proof “15 tons per square inch” is a very high proof for this type of pistol. Civilian weapons, that is, weapons sold through dealers to the public, and NOT military sales, are usually proofed at 9.5 tons.

Service military weapons, including our Browning SLP, were proofed at 13.5 tpsi. An example 1918 DWM was proofed at 9.5 tpsi - commercial proof.

Another example Mauser made “byf 42” was proofed at 13.5 tpsi - military proof, but was not stamped, at my request.

Instead, I obtained a proof test certificate to accompany the weapon wherever it goes.

At the time of proofing, Britain was using Imperial dimensions, hence the .752" equivalent to 9mm.The measurement used was in proofing was long tons or 2240 lbs. per square inch.

Proof laws of certain countries were recognized in England, but the information concerning the proofs and how and when they were applied is a matter of British record.</td></tr>
</table>

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		1911/1911A1 pistol with British commercial proofs here in the US.	
What Does a modern United Kingdom deactivation stamp look like?	This UK deactivation stamp was applied in 2015 to the left of the Luger's serial number:		
Share some examples of US Importer Markings	Guns imported into the USA since 1968 must comply with ATF Regulations. They must be marked indicating the importer, the city and state of the importer, the caliber of the firearm, model designation, serial number and the nation of origin. The requirements for content and their location, depth of stamping or engraving and visibility have varied over several revisions of the regulations. Prior to 2002, import markings on the frame could be placed where they were not externally visible. The importer assigned serial number (it's legal identity in the US) may not match the original manufacturer's serial number. For firearms imported after January 30, 2002, the engraving, casting or stamping (impressing) of the serial number must be to a minimum depth of .003 inch and in a print size no smaller than 1/16 inch. Importer city and state may be abbreviated. Since import markings deface the original state of firearms, collectors avoid guns with	CAI's (Century Arms, Inc) markings are fairly common and a reference to Century Arms might reduce inquiries. "DELLDWPB +1 9mm Germany" Importer marks... DELLD= ? WPB=West Palm Beach FL 9mm=Cal Germany=country of origin (actually an exporter marking) This importer was Pedro "Bello". He imported many of the late M & N suffix 42 BYF (Mauser) Lugers that went to Portugal. Many post war Russian Capture Lugers were imported like this 1921 VoPo with markings from "ECCSA PENN NJ" which refers to the now defunct "Crossroads Gun Shop" in Pennsauken, NJ. They brought in quite a few Lugers and P.38 pistols. Many Lugers, and in particular Swiss Lugers were imported by “CKC Ports. OH 45662”” in Portsmouth, Ohio, which appears to have be associated with Doug Smith's FGS gun shop (now out of business).	Import mark stamped lightly and inconspicuously into the frame above the trigger guard on a Swiss Luger imported before 2002 by ”CKC in Portsmouth, Ohio 45662”: 

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	them where possible – exceptions being very rare or unusual weapons.		
What are machine markings?	The circular machining marks visible on the right rear frame section and other areas are left over from the normal process of milling and then smoothing of metal. Pronounced machine marks may be caused when tools become worn. In a few areas, this was not as smooth as normal.	Examples of machine marks: 	

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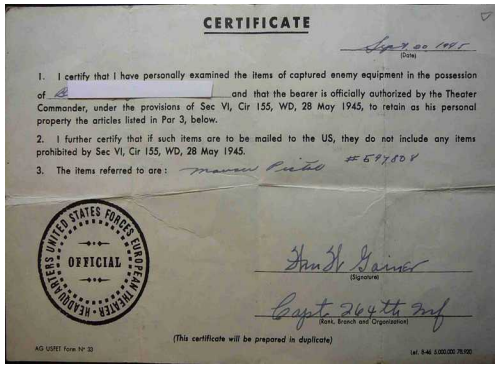
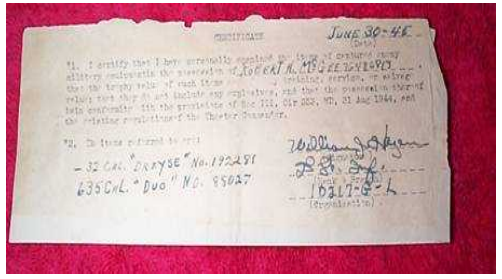
What is Artillery Notching?	In November, 1916, an amendment was added to the P.08 Dimensional Tables that allowed the receiver to be cut for the Artillery rear sight. Many Erfurt pistols dated 1916, 1917 and 1918 will be found with the receiver cut this way. ("Imperial Lugers", Still, Pg. 61) The discussion of the Erfurt proofed DWM LP08 barrels came up on the old forum and the consensus of opinion was that all LP08 barrels were made by Erfurt.	Here is an example of notching (seen above the 1920/1917):	
How can you tell if cold bluing is on a gun?	Guns that have cold blue applied to them have a distinctive odor as a result of the use of copper sulphate in the cold bluing solution. On an original finish, gun oil is all you should smell. If you smell anything else, be wary of cold blue touch-up.	Cold blue solution doesn't cost very much and can be helpful for touching up non-historical firearms. Apply some cold-blue solution to a sample of unfinished steel where it will just to know what the odor smells like...	The copper sulfate in cold blue has a very distinctive smell that an original finish pistol should not have. If you have any doubt, rub the area you suspect of being cold blued with your thumb to warm the bluing slightly. The odor will be much more apparent.
What are bring-back (or "Capture") papers?	Capture Papers were issued by an officer to grant permission for the soldier, airman or marine to legally bring a weapon or other item captured in battle into the United States. Capture papers were issued for military or government owned property, and not privately owned goods (theft of which constituted looting). Usually signed by an officer in the unit or battalion, they documented a description of the gun, a serial number and brief description. Capture papers can establish provenance, especially if other documentation identifying the soldier and service record are included.		Another example that is not as structured as above 

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	Unfortunately, it's become more common to find faked capture papers and related documentation recently.		
What does the Crown over RC stamp mean?	Parts rejected by inspectors were rejected and reworked. The Crown/RC stamp is thought to represent parts marked by the “Revisions Commission” as flawed by usable parts. The C/RC can be found almost anywhere on the pistols. I've seen it on the left side of the barrel in the rear, above the first inspection mark on the right side of the receiver, on the toggles and on the front of the frame. The C/RC stamp is found on the part that failed to pass inspection first time around but was found to function properly in spite of whatever was wrong and were acceptable to the Revisions Commission.	The Crown/RC stamp is found on 1911 to 1918 dated Erfurts. The earlier the Erfurt the less frequently the C/RC stamp is observed. The most frequent location is the right receiver, followed by the barrel and frame. It has also been observed on side plates, and toggle links (based on observation of the photographs in Imperial Lugers). Since it is so rare to encounter DWM Lugers with a C/RC mark, it is possible that the Revisions Commission was only active at the production line in Erfurt.	The Crown/RC appears above the leftmost proof stamp on this Erfurt receiver: 
What does “42” stamped above the receiver mean? What does “42” stamped on the middle toggle mean?	Mauser manufactured Lugers made in 1942 had the date code “42” stamped across the receiver above the chamber. Unlike 1940 when the complete 4 digit date was used, “41” was also used as a date stamp on Mauser made 1941 Lugers. When a large “42” is used in the center of middle toggle of the Luger toggle train, it is a military concealment code that was assigned by the German government to Mauser for use marking their products between 1939 and early 1941, when the code changed to “byf”. Several parts on military and commercial guns with serial numbers that end in “42” will have this number in the serial number position common for the part.	The code “S/42” was used as a concealment code on the center toggle of the Luger toggle train from 1936 until 1939. Occasionally, you will encounter parts and magazines marked with “S/42” or “42”. These parts are from armorer's replacement kits, and identify field or depot repair of the Luger.	Note that a small 2mm high “42” stamped on other parts indicates that they are armorer's replacement parts made by Mauser.
What does 2/1001 mean when stamped on magazines and parts?	After WW-II, in Russian occupied (ultimately Communist) East Germany, several arms companies were nationalized and combined as VEB Ernst Thalmann. They acquired the Erfurt / Simson / Krieghoff tooling and gauges	Thalmann used the concealment code “2/1001” to mark parts, magazines and about 100 Lugers they manufactured after the war. Thalmann was active in this field until about 1968.	

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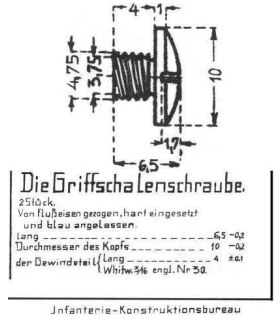
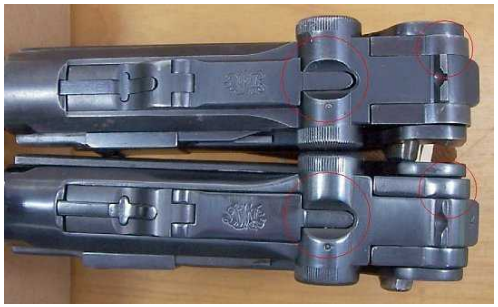
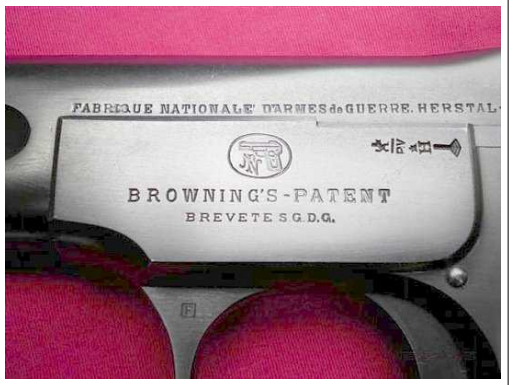
	as well as the Schmeisser magazine production line equipment. Starting around 1953, this firm made Luger parts, Haneal Schmeisser pattern milled aluminum base magazines and about 100 complete Lugers. There are differences between WW-I / WW-II and Thalmann 2/1001 Luger parts, many of which were sold through US dealers after East Germany and Russia / Ukraine surplussed their Luger stocks.		
What are the proper Grips on a BYF 41 Mauser Luger?	No doubt there were no wooden grips available at the time that the gun was assembled. It is my understanding that the "Bakelite" grips were authorized for use if wood grips were not available. They were not initially intended to replace wooden grips. Obviously, as the war progressed wood became scarcer and the use of the Bakelite grips became more and more prevalent. It should be pointed out that the byf 41 series did not begin with the "a" suffix. Black Bakelite grips were approved for use in mid 1941. After that both Bakelite and wood grips were used. A byf 41, no suffix would have been completed in Nov. or Dec 1941. The byf 41's spanned the serial numbers from the early N-Block to the early B-Block. Early grips used by Krieghoff and Mauser were brown in color. Later black grips were used. How to tell if they are original: if the grips have a threaded hole on the inside of both grips and that threaded hole is sized for the grip screw, you have a good chance of having original grips. My concern is that some of the recent fakers may have figured this out and have made corrections in their molds. I have a pair of obvious fakes on one of my shooters and they do NOT have the threaded holes present. Authentic Bakelite Luger grips should not melt when touched with a heated pin.	I looked and found these photos on the old Forum. The authentic grips are on the left side of each photo... 	As an aside: According to Still, the 41 byf models were generally issued with aluminum bottom magazines which were numbered to the gun. 42 dated Lugers usually had black plastic bottom magazines (no number). 

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
What are the proper Grips on a BYF 42?	Either wood or black Bakelite grips would be proper on your byf 42. If you remove the grips, be very careful when you remove the left grip as it is very easy to chip the upper rear corner behind the safety. The grips should, but not always, have an eagle/135 stamp on them and, perhaps, the last 2 digits of the serial #. Again, the grips were not always stamped. If there is an eagle acceptance stamp that is not 135 or numbers that do not match the last two digits of the serial # on your gun, the grips were not issued with your pistol and are replacements. If they are stamped with only a 42 then the are, no doubt, armorers replacements. Almost all of the byf 42's have the last two digits on the inside of the wood grips and almost all of them have the eagle 135 acceptance proof. In fact, it would be the exception to find an original issued byf 42 rig that did not have the last two digits and the Eagle/135 proof on them, or at least one of them. In regard to your question about the Luger grips of late war manufacture, they were just as I stated earlier. Namely, the byf 42's were almost always numbered with the last two digits and had the E/135 proof. A few just had the E/135 proof only. The exception would be to find a completely blank pair at this time. It is possible, -- yes -- but not many. I had byf 42 1766 H at one time with wood grips, 66 inside and an E/135.	As mentioned earlier, each year and variation has different grip markings and has to be considered separately. For instance, the 1936 S/42's are mostly blank with a very few numbered with the last two digits. The 1939 42's are mostly blank or blank with a E/655, and again very few are numbered to the gun. The 1939 S/42 are almost all numbered to the gun. So each year and variation have their own characteristics and you can not just lump them all together with a general conclusion. Why is it that some are numbered and some are only proofed and still others are completely blank? -- I have no answer and I doubt that anyone does, but the recorded facts are the facts. One explanation would be that the Lugers were assembled in certain batches of say 100 or so and that worker or inspector marked his and others did not. That is only a guess. I have well over 100 Mauser military Lugers and there are certain patterns that can be followed. The end of Luger production had nothing what so ever to do with blank grips on military models, as there was a contract and inspectors and a certain standard that had to be met. 1942 was not the end of the war, but only the end of Luger production. The Germans were very strict on standards and the quality of fit on the 42 date Mauser byf's is still very good as they were hand fitted to that specific Luger.	There are certain guides, or rules, or characteristics that we as collectors have to go by and we know this by looking at examples and recording what we see. You can make excuses for just about anything and say that there are exceptions to every rule, but we as collectors can not do that. Things are a certain way and if they vary from that certain known way, then one has to be leery. In this case, it would be the exception to have a 42 date Mauser byf with completely blank wood grips. It would be the exception to have a rear connecting pin that was blank, as it would be the exception for the hold-open or firing pin to be blank. On the particular byf 42 discussed in the beginning of this thread, I would guess that if they are the original grips that you will find a very faint E/135 on the inside of the grips. These are sometimes very, very hard to see and you need a glass to find them.

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
What is the specification for grip screws used on a Luger?	The original specification for Luger grip screws was for a British standard 3/16 inch Nr. 30 Whitworth (55 degree angle) thread. This is an obsolete thread profile, so finding replacements or taps and dies will be quite difficult.		
What does Parabellum mean?	It was the telegraphic address of DWM in Berlin from when they were Ludwig Loewe and it comes from the Latin: 'Si pax vis, Parabellum' - 'if you wish for peace, [prepare] for war'.		
Ways to remove the highlighting color from markings and numbers?	What is the best to remove white wax pencil or paint used to highlight lettering and numbers on Lugers? Was it finger nail polish remover? I Just want the paint gone, not all the bluing.... Fingernail polish remover will work, but lacquer thinner is not as harsh and will not harm the bluing. Be sure and remove the grips. An old toothbrush can be used as a cleaning tool. Gun oil and a toothbrush will do it.	NOTE: “Gesichert” in the safety area WAS originally painted white... Don't remove this cream colored paint!	
What is a Simichrome test?	As far as finish is concerned, I have found that *AFTER* a 100% surface inspection with the loupe and in the best light available (I prefer the Ott light, as a fail safe, I use what I call the "Simichrome" test.-basically a Q-tip with a slight amount of Simichrome or similar metal polish is swiped over inconspicuous parts of	In the case of boosted and improved guns, the oxidation will have largely disappeared as the old finish (the vehicle containing the oxidation) has been removed. In the case of original guns or guns with very old refinishes, the oxidation will be present but	The oxidation of the old finish is what makes the Mini-Maglite as indispensable as a gun show tool. Even an old Luger with 98% finish will have oxidation in the finish that is not visible in normal room light, and

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	the exterior, generally parts such as the recesses inside the toggle ears or behind the trigger inside the trigger guard. If the finish is old, there should be slight traces of oxidation visible. No piece of blued steel can survive 50+ years of exposure to changes in temperature and humidity without presenting some evidence of oxidation. Granted, this will not work for old arsenal reworks, but it is damn near 100% effective in detecting relatively modern refinishes. There is an almost infallible test to determine if a finish is new or old. Note: I did NOT say original. Very simply stated, the test relies on the fact that oxidation occurs to blued steel no matter what is done in the area of preserving it, short of total immersion in an anaerobic environment completely void of oxygen. Based on this, one can assume that there will be residue from oxidation that will happen in the course of time. In the case of well preserved, well maintained guns, the oxidation will be less, almost sub-microscopic, but it will be present none the less.	probably not visible to the naked eye and difficult to pick up via loupe. So, the solution is to swab the surface with a dab of Semi-chrome metal polish on a Q-tip. This simple test will pick up reddish-brown traces of oxidation immediately and is a pretty good indicator of an original or at least period finish. Yes, there are degrees of oxidation and depths of color that reveal far more than this, but as a quick and dirty acid test, this works pretty well. If a seller won't let you pop the grips and do a small swab test, shine him on. After the swab, it is undetectable to the unaided eye; it is not invasive and merely "cleans" the surface of otherwise invisible oxidation residue. This sounds like a good test, but I think Flitz would be better because it has no abrasives. I've used it with a brass brush to get red rust out of pits. You can definitely see the oxidation come off when you rub it on old blue.	normally gun shows have terrible light. Also as a test, the Mini-Maglite can shine through the blue and expose the brown oxidation that has formed. A newly blued Luger will not show this oxidation. Shine the light from an angle so that you don't get glare or a reflection, and the results are absolutely scary on what appears to be a near new condition Luger.
What are some of the signs of a refinished Luger?	Depending on the quality of workmanship and the process used, it can be quite difficult to determine if a Luger has been restored or refinished. Generally, one of the things Luger collectors develop over time is the skill to identify original finish on Lugers. Note that there are a number of different correct original finishes applied to Lugers. These include rust blued metal with strawed small parts; salt blued and a very small number that were Parkerized by their military after purchase. Many pistols captured by the Russians were dip refinished. When well done this can be more difficult to detect since they were not buffed after the refinishing.	• OVER polish to mirror under the bluing. • No wear on the side-plate island flat, or on the end of the frame side rails. • Grips that look out of place, non issue grips, i.e. Black Widow grips on a DWM. • Grips that have a fat edges or really bad checkering. • Look a the flat ares in the light, you can see the light reflect a bit wavy indicating the flat is no longer flat. • A blued firing pin or hold open	• A hold open on a DWM or Erfurt should have a small area on top that you see fire blue to straw color, with the spring in the white and the larger block in the white. • An original rust blue will usually show some brown color in strong sunlight. • Straw parts on an original gun almost always will show whiter color on one side of the trigger where the index finger has been drug across it, the bottom of the safety lever can look whiter than the top of it. • A original Luger should show

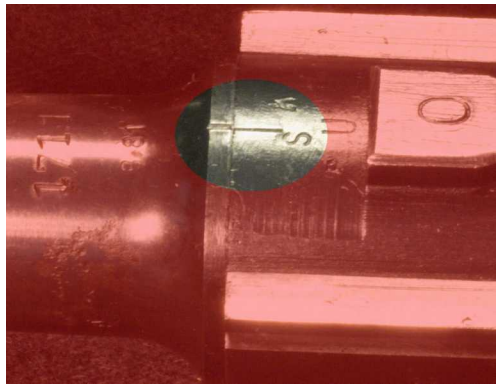
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	One of the first things to look for is whether the Luger is correct for it's era and factory of production. DWM, Erfurt and Simson Lugers were all rust blued with strawed small parts. Next look at the consistency of finish across all the parts of the Luger. They should show similar wear and age. Here are a few areas to check: • No paint in the safety marking • Blued in the magazine well and inside the forks of the receiver • The finish "feels" waxy when you rub your thumb across it. • Bluing looks thin, although some original finished Mauser Lugers have this appearance from early in their Salt Bluing process transition. • The absence of polish cut and/or tool marks, DWM and Mauser Lugers were polished differently • A blued muzzle • RED paint in one of the thumb safety "dots" (two small dimples in the frame ears)	on Erfurt or DWM Lugers • Any Luger that has a finish that is 100 years old will have been in a holster a few times, unless it has not been in war or preserved very carefully right off the assembly line. Sides of the muzzle barrel band will show wear, high edges on the receiver forks, etc • BLUED parts that should be strawed or fire blued. • Mis-matched parts, or engraver pen marked parts, different height of letters, numbers, fonts on parts. • You should see red oxide deep in the finish when examining the surface with a microscope under strong light.	some evidence of firing from the toggle stamping the rear of the frame by the lanyard loop area at the very back of the gun. • The area on the right side of the frame under the right frame rail should show some remainder of longitudinal tool marks (lines) if it is a Military model. • Inside of frame ears flats should have either circular tool marks or longitudinal tool marks that looks like lines at different angles, a MATTE look in these areas that has been salt blued really sticks out. Any number of these things MIGHT be found in a Luger that is over buffed and reworked. A restorer will try to mimic the original condition as best as they can. Rounded edges are the absolutely most graphic indicator of a amateurish re-blue. The frame ear edges round over REALLY stand out in many cases.
How does a poorly refinished Luger look?	These photos show an amateurish re-blue. The Re-blue is on top in the pictures below: 	The Re-blue is on bottom in the photo below: 	While this depicts another type of firearm, the effect on markings is visible. First, an original finish pistol:

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		Tool marks should be visible in the ears of the frame:  They were removed in the below Re-Blue: 	 Next, a buffed Re-Blue: 
Write up of things to look for when deciding if you want that gun.	Notes from an experienced examination approach follow: External General Appearance. There is appropriate wear on high spots of side plate, frame rails and sight. Not heavy wear but an even thinning wear to the finish in these areas. The font of the first digit of the SN (1) is somewhat larger and more deeply struck than the other two digits under the barrel. This same anomaly is present on the SN found on the frame and on all the "last two" digits markings found on toggle, side plate bottom, trigger and take-down lever. This is a very	Internal Inspection. I pop the side plate and note that the trigger lever and lever pin are encased in a layer of old, thick brown grease. I smell the grease and it is not Cosmoline. Under the Ott light and using the loupe, I find the grease has some sort of micro fiber as part of its composition. I will research this later, but a small buzz in	Sanity check. While she is still disassembled, I do a quick de-grease of the external parts so I can observe the texture and granularity of the metal surface, both the finish and inside the proof marks. I spend nearly an hour looking for consistency in texture and granularity of the surface, texture of milling marks, and metal distress in and around the

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	good sign that the numbers are probably legit. The finish is uniformly slightly faded throughout frame and cannon exterior. A sniff reveals no evidence of any cold blue touch up. The unit property markings, (U 11 surcharged over a lazy 2) are deeply struck and "haloed". There is oxidation and even patina present in the property markings that is uniform and consistently gray but a decidedly different shade from the shade of the bluing. Another very good indicator that the markings are legit. The straw is about .05% with gray metal and some dark blotching predominates, as it should be. The grips are intact and in excellent condition except that someone has used something that appears to be tung oil on them. I give the grip strap and the barrel exterior the "semi chrome test"; results are positive. I am beginning to feel very encouraged and a little excited. More careful examination in more light with a better loupe reveals just the faintest trace of oxidation, again, on top of the finish, a hint of rust color, invisible to the naked eye. A sigh of relief. No oxidation or oxidation under the blue and that’s a BIG problem.	the back of my brain tells me I remember reading something about this kind of grease somewhere. With a Q-tip moistened with solvent, I remove a little of the grease and surface lubricant from the interior flat surface of the side plate and note there are very slight traces of pin point corrosion that are on the surface of the finish, not under the finish. Another very good sign. Off comes the cannon and out comes the toggle assembly for a detailed exam under the Ott light with the loupe. The internal serial numbered parts are consistently numbered. The breech block face shows evidence of some firing of the piece but no metal filings from cartridge case can be detected. Who ever used this last cleaned it well. The internals of the bore are very pleasing. It presents just the slightest darkening very intermittently; hardly enough to notice using normal bore scope and naked eye. I pop the grip panels. Both are numbered to the gun and show the interior staining from coming into contact with oiled metal. I smell the grips and try to identify the odors. There is a slight scent but it is not the normal smell encountered with these. I suspect it is coming from the stain/oil that was applied to the exterior of the panels. Using the loupe and Ott light again, I examine the frame at the wood to metal points of contact. I am looking for signs of oxidation on the metal surface that one would expect as the wood "out gassed" water molecules onto the metal surface. I do not see any immediately and a red flag rises mentally.	proofs, serial numbers and property marks. This photograph depicts serial number “halos” struck through the rust blued finish: 

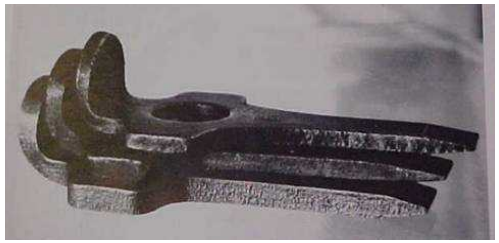
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
What are “halos”? How does it compare to bluing loss and what causes it?	Depending on the sequence of steps in manufacturing a Luger, dies used to stamp serial numbers and other things through the blued surface of a Luger may leave stressed metal areas that look like lighter “halos” around the digits. Bluing is an oxide layer on the surface of the steel. Its thickness in in the range of a few molecules. Stretching the metal will spread it thinly on the resulting surface. Abrasion will remove it. A grinding wheel would be one extreme of abrading away the finish layer, but it will happen eventually if the pistol surface is rubbed on anything often enough. If you can remember rubbing a penny on the carpet when you were a kid to shine it up, it's basically the same thing.	The bluing on the grip straps is handled over and over, and simply wears away where it's repeatedly contacted. Dirty hands and their perspiration will take their toll. Inserting and removing a pistol from a holster, however soft, will do the same thing wherever the holster is rubbed by the gun on its way in and out. Voila! Holster wear! It happens mostly on the high spots and corners because they stick out the farthest and are the first areas rubbed. If we extend this thought to the elevated, "upset" steel pushed up and out from under a die hammered into the surface, it is obvious that its peaks are susceptible to bluing loss simply because they stick up a little bit compared to the surrounding, undisturbed surface.	Should the numbers on the barrel have halos? That probably is most dependent upon whether the barrel is blued before or after the digits are stamped into the surface with the dies. Stamp the metal, then blue it and the bluing will be uniform. Blue it before you stamp it and you'll get halos. The process steps varied during different periods of Luger production, and at different manufacturers. Salt blued Lugers don’t generally have halos because they were blued after numbers were stamped. It's probably possible to crudely fake halos by lightly applying chemicals that destroy bluing like "Iron Out" or "Naval Jelly". if that has been done, only very close examination of the area will help you determine if the bluing is real or faked.
What parts must be numbered on a Luger?	On DWM, Mauser and Erfurt guns, the following parts should have serial numbers on them: Frame, full serial number with suffix Under barrel: full serial number with or without suffix Left side of the receiver, full serial number without suffix. When they left the factory, these numbered parts were matching.	On German military accepted Lugers, all the following parts should have the last two numerals stamped on them: • Firing pin • Extractor • Sear bar • Breech-block (proofed) • Front toggle link • Rear toggle link • Locking bolt (take-down lever) • Side plate (with a few exceptions through the years, see comments on side plate) • Trigger • Safety lever	There were two "styles" of serial number marking, Commercial style and Military style. The numbering and placement varies from era to era. Placement varies considerably between commercial pistols and military marked Lugers. In commercial style some of the numbers, notably the side-plate and locking bolt, were stamped underneath in a way which did not affect the surface look of the gun--military serial numbers were stamped on the visible surfaces. If your mismatched parts are stamped highly visibly they likely come from military guns.

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		• Safety bar • Hold-open latch • Grips (inside – some with no markings or worker marks only) Note that many DWM and Mauser side plates have either the first digits of the pistol's serial number, or the first digits plus 1 stamped inside. See below for a more complete discussion. Also note that the rear toggle pin was not serial-numbered until Mauser started to do so in 1934.	Early variations of DWM military Lugers have proof marks on the left of the receiver.
Some differences in telling fake or real Black Widow grips:	I wondered for some time how to tell the difference between real and fake so did some homework. The important items are not only the outside but the inside. The holes on the inside were threaded to hold the grip screws when the grips were off the pistol. Also used to remove the grips from the shallow mold when finished. Later they simply gouged them out with a sharp tool. So the grips have gouge marks in the center instead of threaded holes. Look at Randall Gibson's excellent book, The Krieghoff Parabellum. He has a nice page or two with photos and explanations of what is and what is not real. You will be amazed you did not read this sooner. These grips were manufactured in wartime Germany of petroleum and coal materials that really stink. You can smell an original pair of grips. They also crumble easily. Not that I would recommend this as a test but you need to know. There are four variations of original Bakelite grips. The first comes in both Brown and Black variants.		

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
When did Black Bakelite grips first start being used?	The black Bakelite plastic grips did not come out until June of 1941 to the best of my knowledge, so anything before is a replacement. Very early Bakelite grips (sometimes seen on Krieghoff and Mauser Lugers) were brown in color. NO black plastic were grips originally issued by the factory with Lugers before 1941. They may have been installed any time after manufacture by military armorers or subsequent owners.	No black plastic magazine bases were used on Lugers before 1941 either, as they are all replacements when found with these models -- or have been added more recently.	Note that when designing their cost reduced Luger (the M1929) the Swiss selected a red colored hard cloth based phenolic material called "Canevasit®". This material was ideal for molding and machining into shape, but proved too brittle for use, and the Swiss later moved on to other more resilient brown and black plastic materials after about 1938.
What is a witness mark?	Those little barrel/Frame alignment marks, are properly termed "witness" marks, as they provide witness to the fact that the barrel and frame are intact and no movement has occurred. Pistols with barrels that screw into a barrel extension typically have the barrel installed in the barrel extension and then the chamber is finish reamed to correct head-space. A witness mark is then made to indicate how far into the barrel extension the barrel must be re-installed if it is ever removed for some purpose. Position of the front sight and threading of the barrel or barrel extension are non-issues.	A "witness mark" is usually a line that is either scribed or stamped across the adjoining surfaces of two parts that are mated. They provide a means of ensuring proper alignment of the two parts and would normally be applied after the parts have been properly put together. The Luger will usually have witness marks on the underside of the barrel/receiver joint and the standard 100mm barrel models will have them on the front sight and front sight base on the top. Some Artillery Lugers - those with fine tune front sights - will have a center mark on the very front of the sight and three marks on the front of the sight base for reference.	Here's an example witness mark applied under the barrel where it intersects the receiver. Since the mark crosses the two parts, and compresses metal from one into the other it's possible to determine that the fit of both parts is original and as they left the factory: 

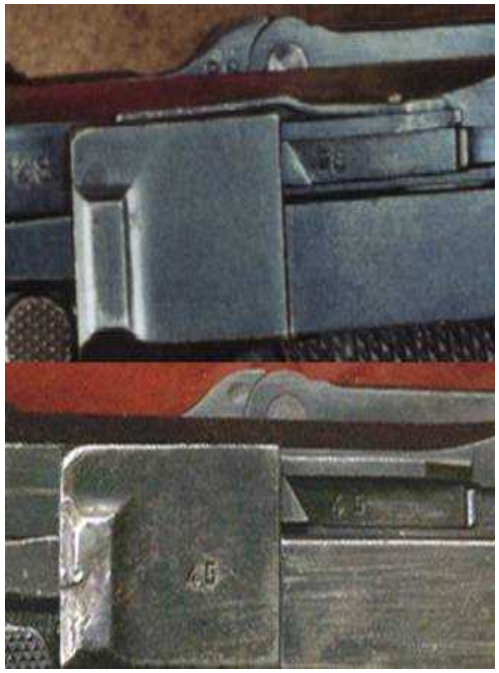
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
Describe DWM and Mauser Trigger Side plate Numbering & Information including Further detail on 1937 Mauser Side plates:	As an example, number found on the inside of trigger side plates on 1940 Mauser Lugers is the first one or two digits of the serial number plus 1. For Luger serial 123a, you'd find the number “2” stamped inside the side plate. For serial number “1234a” you'd find “13” stamped inside the side plate. K-dates, G-dates, and 1936 did not do this and the 1937 almost always had the same first one or two digits of the serial. Then, in 1937, they started going back to marking one digit higher. I do not know why and have never heard an explanation. Marking side plates this way ensures that all 10,000 Lugers in a letter block will have uniquely matching numbered trigger side-plates. DWM side plates often have the first one or two digits of the pistol’s serial number stamped in a more hidden location inside a broached area at the bottom of the place near the end of the trigger bar’s axle pin.	Further information on 1937 Mauser Side plates: I have looked over a 1937 Mauser s/42 I recently purchased and I believe the side plate is not correct to the gun. I need some help determining this. The Luger is SN# 2277u, making it a 2nd variation 1937 s/42. The side plate is stamped outside with 77, correctly. The side plate is stamped inside with a 22 near the center and a 3 in the upper right hand corner. Because the 3 is in the upper right hand corner, I can't believe this is the original side plate for this Luger. Also, I have read a post, where it was stated that the early 1937s were stamped inside with the first 2 digits of the SN. But this 1937 Luger is a 2nd variation well past transition, which to me suggests it should be stamped with 23 not 22. While not a scientific study, I do know that this question came up between Randall Gibson and Dr. Garrett Kinley several years ago. Between the two of them they looked at almost 100 Mauser Banners, and from these pistols determined that the change from the same first digits to one higher took place in late 1938 / early 1939 Usually 1937 S/42's have the inside side plate number (isp#) the same as the first two digits of a 4 digit serial number - example 4428, would have 44. If a three digit number it is usually the first digit -- example 118, would be 1. Some are completely blank and some are even one digit lower, or one digit higher, but the usual is as mentioned above. The 1938 S/42's are found usually found with either the first two digits or one digit higher. --- Example 4428 could be	NOTE: Some "42" date Lugers have no number stamped inside the trigger plate. "Doctor Bob VanM... conducted a survey in 1994 with the NAPCA membership. He had over 400 post-1933 Mauser produced Lugers reported. His summary was presented in the AutoMag issue dated 6/94, Pg. 66. My understanding of his conclusions are as follows. For the Mauser Army contracts: – In general, there will be no known relationship for the "K", "G", or 1936's. Some 1936's after the "m" block, may include the Inside Sideplate Number (ISPN); but, some early 1937 S/Var. 1's are known to be correct and are without the ISPN. – The transition seemed to appear in the 1936-1937 "m, n, o, p and or q" blocks. A 40k S/N spread was noted as rather large; but, the best that could be obtained based on the data received. – Also, sometimes, a single numeric or alpha character may appear on the insiide of these early side plates, usually in a horizontal attitude, and are thought to be factory (Mauser) worker marks. Again, in general for 1937-1938, the last 2 digits of the S/N will appear on the outside and the first 1 or 2 gun S/N digits will appear on the inside for 3 and 4 digit gun S/N's. In the case of a single or 2 digit gun S/N, the ISPN will always

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		found with either 44 or 45 and be correct. Same with example 118, could be either 1 or 2, and be correct. Then there are the few totally blank examples mixed in also. As you can see, in the 1937 and 1938 variations there are no set rules. They are a mixed up bunch. It is nice to have one that follows certain guidelines, but that is not always the case here. After 1938 almost always the inside plate number is one digit higher. Your side plate sounds correct to me. No idea what the 3 represents on you side plate but believe as someone else stated, it has nothing to do with the serial number. Sometimes you will also see an X. You will find that the numbers inside Mauser side plates are one digit higher than the first two digits of the serial number.... ...for Mauser Lugers made after 1938. Before then numbering was not consistently done and if so, it could be one higher, one lower or the same as the first two digits	be the numeral "1" in a vertical orientation. Now for (S/42)1939-(byf)'42, the last 2 digits of the S/N will appear on the outside and the first 2 gun S/N digits + 1 will appear on the inside. As an example, gun S/N 1234 would have a "34" on the O/Side and a "13" as the ISPN throughout this time period. A "99xx" Serial Numbered gun would have "xx" on the outside and "00" as the ISPN (not "100"). Mismatches are decidedly uncommon among Mauser Army pistols according to Mr. Van M.... Of the 295 reported, only 17 deviated from this pattern of rules(6%). Banner contract, Banner Police, '42 Portuguese, "Ku", & Out-of-Sequence Assemblies were much less consistent.
What is a “Banner” Luger?	After Mauser began manufacturing Lugers in 1934, some were made available for commercial sale to approved individuals and business concerns. Instead of the concealment marking used on military contract Lugers, these were marked with the Mauser “barrel” branding “Banner”. Note that some of these Lugers were sold commercially to foreign (non-German) military organizations like the Swiss and Swedish.	The “Banner” branding was placed on the center toggle of the toggle train. 	

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
How can you tell the Difference in real or fake loading tools?	Regarding your question; yes the totally reproduced tools aren't up to standards. I have posted a picture showing an original tool, on top, and two reproduced tools. Note the thickness differences and the detail on the edges. An original tool should measure 2.5 mm in thickness. This is according to military specifications. The entire tool had to made to spec, the point of the bend on top, the width of the grooves on the back the length of the tool, etc. Over or under would be cause to reject them. The other two in the attached picture are oversize. The bottom one is 3mm thick. Also note the difference in the length of the material at the bend of the tool on the bottom. One would think that something as simple as a loading tool shouldn't provide any mysteries but that isn't the case. They have been, and continue to be, faked, boosted, enhanced, what ever. Sarco has a decent total repro tool that is selling for $5.65 unmarked and $12.50 stamped with an E/63 acceptance stamp. It isn't a bad effort, wouldn't fool the knowledgeable, but if you want a tool to stick in your tool pouch, it serves the purpose. However, while some of these tools are totally bogus, others are original blank tools that have had bogus acceptance stamps applied . I have heard reports from credible sources and have seen pictures of crates of un-issued WW-II vintage blank tools that were purchased in Europe after the fall of the Eastern Block and brought into the US.	Using marking stamps that are readily available (a year or two ago, sets of WW-II German proofs and numbers were advertised in Shot Gun News, either as sets or individually) an unmarked original tool can be turned into a high grade $100+ E/135, E/2 Luft “marked”, Kreighoff tool simply with the strike of a hammer. So what is the answer? Usually, advice that a new collector doesn't want to hear. It takes time and looking at a lot of pictures and actual tools to get a feel for what is good and what isn't. And with that said, I am certain that there are tools out there that would fool me and most other collectors. I have approx 50 tools, mixed WWII and Imperial, that for various reasons, I feel are legit, however, and there are a couple that, depending on my frame of mind, cause me to wonder. I have a half dozen or so bogus tools that I have picked up to use as a quid. A couple, I will admit, I bought thinking that they were legit. My advice is not to pay too much for a tool unless you are certain of its provenance and only then when you have done some research into the matter and gained a bit of knowledge into the field. If you wish to put your faith in a dealer, that is your choice.	
Were there Krieghoff marked Luger loading tools?	Yes, references indicate that Krieghoff made loading tools. The ones that I have seen are stamped with the HK dagger logo. The the E/2 acceptance stamp is found on these tools.		

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
What is a Mauser Hump?	Can anyone explain to me the real thinking Mauser had when they produced their early Lugers with the No Mauser hump and then some were intermixed with the Mauser hump and finally all were produced with no Mauser hump? The majority of Nazi era Mauser manufactured Lugers have a pronounced “hump” visible at the rear of the receiver. This “hump” was created by milling away a few millimeters of the thickness of the rear receiver “ears”. Other manufacturers did not do this, leaving the thicker frame ear in place. The Hump causes the rear of the frame to not be vertical, it has a curved appearance to it. You can easily see it from the side. The Mauser Military Lugers are the only ones that have the :hump”. The hump was one of the most visible changes introduced by Mauser when they started production in 1934 after Manufacturing (including un-assembled parts, tooling and gauges) were moved from DWM Berlin in 1930. It was discontinued in subsequent years, only to re-appear in the early months of 1937. Early Mauser Lugers were mixed with some having and not having humps, “G” date Lugers were not humped, but they all have a thickened back where the hump is to better contain the rear axle pin during the rearward most movement of the receiver forks. The humped Mauser simply had some of the thickened rear frame REMOVED to form the hump.	The Hump but it is formed at the very rear back of the frame above the lanyard loop. The back of the frame on DWM's is straight up vertical. Mauser K-date S/42 (1934) Lugers introduced the “hump” profile receiver. It is thought that “K” date pistols produced without the receiver “hump” were made from old DWM parts stock, and newly manufactured Mauser receivers incorporated the “Hump”. This Mauser change may not have been desired or even acceptable to the military purchasing organizations. G-date S/42 (1935), 1936 date S/42 and early 1937 date S/42 Lugers are not “humped”. The receiver rear edge is straight up or vertical. During the first quarter of 1937 receivers shifted to the “hump” profile and the finish was changed to salt blued. For a period of time, there was a mix of features as older parts stocks were exhausted.	 
Has anyone ever seen a G-date with a "hump"?	I have never seen or heard of one, and all the data on serial numbers and guns shows none have been recorded. The only possibility in my mind would be a really early G-date in the low "a" block, which would be a transition from the	It has been discussed repeatedly here that there was no set pattern as to production and use of parts -- I believe it was stated many times by some that "first in was not necessary first out". --	These transition periods show that Lugers were made fairly close to the "first in, first out" concept. Otherwise you would have transition Lugers all throughout the production of each

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	last K-dates. In my mind, there would be a slight possibility of one in this case, but all others I would be very reluctant to believe. The possibility due to transition brings up the next point.	In my opinion this statement is not correct. There was a transition period with each change and this is when you find the odd configurations -- not before or not after. For instance, the Mauser "hump", or the sharp barrel band, or change from strawed to blued small parts. The 1936 S/42 is a good example of the sharp barrel band. The G-dates all had the sharp barrel band and only the very early 1936's. There is a very short transition period where you find all this -- not thousands of Lugers later.	variation, which is just not the case and can be proven as such. Sometimes I get the feeling no one wants to hear about serial numbers or data, but there is still a lot to be learned about Lugers and the different variations, as it is not all in the books as some seem to think, and by recording serial numbers and their characteristics, we can record these transitions and improve our knowledge. I would encourage all when posting to give the entire serial number of their Luger, as it is important for data and for correct information. I remember that in the 1930s Mauser added metal to the back of the frame in the area of the rear toggle pin in what is sometimes called the Mauser hump. Presumably that "hump" was to prevent this rear toggle pin from coming out during firing.
Is the sear safety on a Luger the same thing as the safety on the upper left hand side of the frame that is activated by the lever?	No, it is not, sear safeties were a Weimar and then Nazi police requirement, and is not found on army or navy Lugers (unless that weapon was transferred to them). This is how a sear safety works. If the top part (the "cannon") of a Luger is removed from the frame and the firing pin is cocked, it's possible to trip the firing pin by pressing in on the sear bar; especially the plunger at the front that can be pushed into the bar. Imagine what would happen if the chamber held a live round and that were done! Apparently, it did happen often enough to become an issue so the Police pistols were equipped with the "sear safety". It consisted of a flat spring shaped like a long "z" and riveted to the back of the small hood that shields the sear bar. The front of the spring has a small pin that drops into a hole in the sear bar when the side plate is removed and prevents the bar from being depressed and releasing the firing	Compare these two side plates. The upper one is on a 1929 u-block police Luger. The sear safety is the little bent "tang" of metal visible above the side plate. The lower Luger does not have a sear safety.	Details of sear safety. It is held by a rivet at one end and on the opposite end bears a small pin that blocks the sear and prevents the discharge of a partly dissembled Luger. The sear safety was a police requirement introduced by Prussian State Police orders dated August 30, 1933. It was not a military

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	pin. The top of the side plate is open so the pin in the front of the spring can move with the receiver under recoil. The back upper part of the side plate keeps the spring raised enough to prevent the pin from locking the sear bar. It's really a very simple setup. If I have a chance in the next day or two, I'll try to take a picture of my 1916 Erfurt Police pistol and show you what I've described above.		
What is a Magazine Safety?	A magazine safety would have been installed after a Prussian police directive of August 30th 1933. In 1937, the magazine safeties were directed to be removed. Some / most were actually physically removed and the hole where the clip of the safety held onto the frame was welded in and re-blued. A few you see are like this, almost completely there, with the last bit clipped off. See the next two pictures, one showing the clip, the next the outline of the clipped area. Quoting Jan Still: “Police sear safety is located on the left side of the receiver. The remains of a magazine safety can be seen above the grip. It was installed under the 1933 orders for the Sear safety. Reportedly the magazine safety was not successful as almost all were deactivated. “	The magazine safety required the frame to be drilled, when taken out, sometimes they were welded in and sometimes left like this. The second slit to the right is for the magazine part.	

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
When were magazines transitioned from code 655 to 122?	This information is not found in any book that I am aware of, but is from collecting serial numbers of both Lugers and magazines. From these data sheets one can determine approximate changes, transitions and what went with what. The blue rolled magazines with 655 on the base were used with the late 1939 code 42 Lugers and the early 1940 code 42 Lugers. The 1940 code 42 Luger magazines were mixed from the very beginning of production with either two 655 blue rolled magazines or two 122 code magazines. The most likely transition to exclusively 122 code magazines took place in the late "d" block. The Navy Lugers of 1940 though for some reason are found with either the 655 or 122 code magazines well beyond the "d" block, which is a real puzzle. Recorded magazines tell us this is what is marked on Navy magazines form this time period. The type of magazine, acceptance marks, and how they are pinned are a study in itself. If you are going to collect Lugers with a matching magazine, or two matching magazines, this is information that is a must for you to learn.		
What are American Test Lugers	When the pistols were purchased from DWM, the first shipment of 800 was received on October 26 and the second shipment of 200 was received on October 29. Of the 1000 pistols, 900 were issued to the Cavalry and 100 were reserved to be issued to the Field Artillery and for test purposes.	The pistols were standard Model 1900 Lugers with the Great Seal of the United States on the chamber, but did not have any proofs or the GERMANY import mark. The serial number range of the test pistols falls into the 6100 to 7100 range, but even the list of the pistols sold to Bannerman contains pistols 7108 and 7147. The practice of numbering the take-down lever on the round started before the test series as I have record of pistol number 6018 being numbered in that manner. Also the practice of numbering the take-down lever on the flat returned prior to reaching serial number 7100. It is also interesting to note that the list of serial	

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		numbers sold to Bannerman contains serial numbers 6361 through 7108 consecutively.	
What are the variations of a 1937 Mauser?	1937 was a time of transition at Mauser. The transition included moving from Rust Blued and Strawed Lugers to all Salt Blued guns. Variations in the Salt Blue finish are encountered as Mauser perfected and stabilized their manufacturing process. In addition, early 1937 was the final period of transition from the straight backed to “hump” Receiver ears. The variations are encountered in several lines of Lugers being made by Mauser. The appearance of Nazi government inspector stamps also changed during this period.	• There is a strawed gun with droop eagle 63's without a hump. • Then a strawed gun with droop 63's and a hump. • Then a strawed gun with droop 63's and a hump but with a combination of rust blued parts and salt blued parts. • Then all blued with droop eagle 63's. • Then all blued with a combination of one droop and one straight eagle 63. • Then all blued with straight eagle 63's • Then the Navy and police variations.	
The “n” and “p” suffix letters look very similar on “41” dated “42” toggle marked Lugers. Which is which?	There has been a lot of confusion in trying to identify the "n" and "p" letter suffix in 1941. This is very understandable because the frame fonts are very similar and to top it off the magazine fonts do not completely match the frame font.	This issue is addressed in the book, "The Mauser Parabellum" on page 234. The authors conclude that while some 41 byf's have been reported in the "n" block, none have been verified. They feel that many guns that were reported as a "n" were really a "p" suffix. 	Below are side by side pictures of two guns from 1941. Serial number 3513n is a 41-42 variation and Sn 3962p is a 41 byf variation. Both have matching magazines. With this comparison the minor frame differences can be observed as well as the more noticeable magazine differences.

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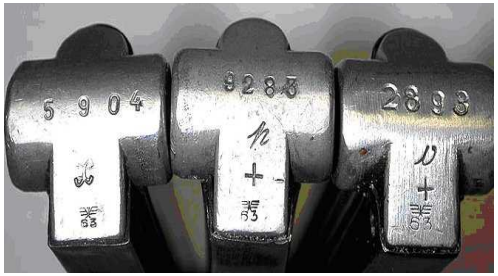
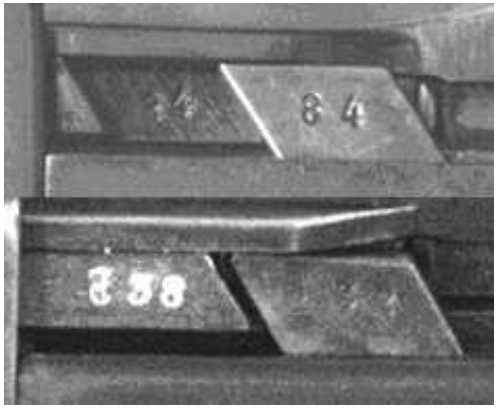
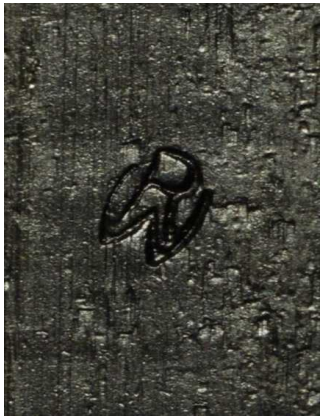
I don't understand what you mean by different sizes of acceptance or proof marks?	As an example, the small "63" is suitable for late 1936, 1937 and some 1938 and some 1939 S/42 Lugers. The medium and large "63" is proper for 1939 Code 42 Lugers, probably up to about the mid W-Block. The SE/83 is proper for the rest of the 1938 and 1939 S/42 Lugers, but I am unsure exactly where the crossovers are!	Here is a picture of a few acceptance mark size variations: 	
What is the Take-down Lever (or Locking Lever) spring?	This is the tiny spring which holds the take-down lever in position. Although this spring is unaffected by shooting, it spends its entire existence in a compressed state, and is exercised whenever the lever is moved. It can, therefore, be use stressed even in a Luger which is never shot. It is interesting to note that this is the second most broken part.	This small spring is “L” shaped with a small amount removed along the outside surface of the long leg of the “L”. This area intersects with a groove cut into the center of the lever, helping retain it in the frame.	

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
What is the Million-Dollar Chip?	The Million-Dollar Chip, the little piece of the left grip plate behind the safety lever which is commonly broken away; so called because that is the total amount all the Lugers which are missing this piece have been devalued. Several respondents mentioned this grip breakage, but it appeared to be beyond the scope of the survey as a condition of the pistol, rather than as a factor of active use, and I was not going to include it. However, recently I was at the range shooting a number of my Lugers; when I offered an LP-08 to a shooting companion, I noticed that the chip was missing from the grip. It was there when the shooting session started; usage therefore is one cause of this condition. This is not reflected as a statistic, merely mentioned as a cautionary note.		
What is a “VoPo”, “Russian Capture” or “RC” Luger?	During World War II, battles that were won in Russia, the eastern European war theater and Eastern Germany yielded a large number of weapons to the Russian victors that occupied large areas. The firearms, including the Lugers that they captured were gathered up, transported to Russian operated arsenals and initially stored. Some of these Lugers were later refurbished by the East German VolksPolezei (VoPo) and some by the Russians (Russian Capture, or “RC”) for use within the Soviet Union. Most Russian refurbished Lugers and a minority (about 25%) of VoPo Lugers were marked with a large “X” symbol on the receiver, frame, toggle train or other area. The X is approximately 3/16 high, and very distinctive. The appearance of the “X” varies slightly on RC and VoPo Lugers. The meaning of this “X” is unknown today, as is the timing of when it was placed on the Luger. This information is lost, or will be found	Mixes of parts from DWM, Erfurt, Simson and Mauser are commonly found. Some complete and matching guns are found, as are complete matching receiver canons mated to differently numbered complete matching frames. The refinishing process was quick, efficient, effective and not particularly attractive. The process is called “Dip Refinished”. “RC” or Russian Capture Lugers that were assigned to East German police units and refurbished by the East Germans are sometimes referred to as “VoPo” or “Volkespolizei” Lugers. It is possible that, prior to refurbishment, Lugers were stored in oil to preserve them. This could have destroyed wooden grips, and may account for the distinctive plastic grips that are found on RC and VoPo Lugers. While many Russian Capture Lugers	Some Russian Capture or VoPo guns were re-inspected, re-proofed before being put into service. A number of matching guns that were never issued to VoPo forces have even been found. Many of these guns were sold by the Russian, Ukraine and East German governments to US importers when replaced with newer guns. They have been imported periodically from the 1960's through current dates. VoPo Crown/U Proof:

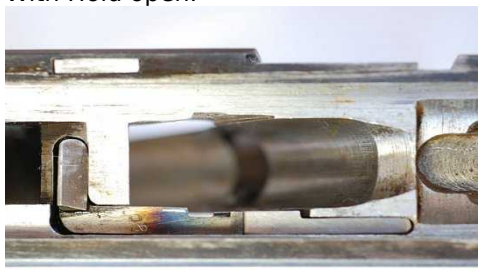
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	in the future in Russian or VoPo refurbishment procedure documentation. It may have been a property mark like the “1920” applied by the Weimar German government after WW-I to their Lugers. It may indicate that refurbishment procedures were complete and the gun was ready for storage and subsequent issue. As arms were needed by Russia and the police and military agencies in their occupied territories, these captured Lugers and other guns were inspected. Some were rebuilt and refinished. Most, but not all, RC or VoPo Lugers have import marks. When rebuilt, they generally kept all matched serviceable parts together.	retain original wooden grips, many have distinctive ribbed plastic grips. “VoPo” Lugers are found with plastic replacement grips with a “bullseye” pattern molded into the diamond grip field (shown in the photo at right). The Eastern Block manufactured new parts for Luger refurbishment, and even manufactured a small number of complete pistols at the Simson successor, VEB Ernst Thalmann works (Suhl, East Germany).	 Matching Crown/U proofed VoPo Luger: 
What is an unrelieved sear and a relieved sear bar?	In the photo you can compare the two sears. The lower sear is unrelieved, the upper is relieved. The safety is on in both photos. You can see that, unrelieved, the safety bar is almost right against the sear. The receiver cannot be pulled back and the action cannot be hand cycled with the safety on. The relieved sear (upper picture) is cut forward sufficiently far that the receiver can be pulled back enough to cycle the action even with the safety bar up.		

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
Are two numbers you see on a DWM or Erfurt receiver chamber (known as "Double-Date Lugers") both dates?	No. True double dates are fairly rare, and what most folks call a double date is really a Reichswehr 1920 property stamping. After WW-I, there was a government bounty paid when firearms were turned in by civilians. "The 1920 stamp was added sometime between August 1920 and April 1921. It is a Reichswehr property stamp applied to identify the Luger as German Army property to prevent theft. Civilians were paid a bounty for turning in their unauthorized weapons to be destroyed. The Army feared the theft of its unmarked Lugers for the bounty." (Jan Still, Weimar Lugers page 20-23) In this example the manufacture date is 1917, while the "1920" is NOT a date, but a property stamping. Note that there are a small number of DWM manufactured Lugers with only the "1920" date stamp.		
What is "1923 Commercial" and "DWM Alphabet Commercial" Lugers?	Late in 1919 Commercial Luger production at DWM started again, continuing the 5-digit serial numbering beginning around 74745. Guns have upright c/N proof. This is a new variation designation "1920 DWM" (formerly 1923 Commercial).	By mid-1921, the commercial serial number series reached 92000. DWM converted commercial production to the military convention of numbering, four digits with letter suffix. Numbering began with letter suffix i , guns have upright c/N proofs. This is new variation designation DWM Alphabet Commercial (formerly 1920 Commercial). Note that Not all sources agree with Still about the changeover beginning at serial # 92000.	By 1929 DWM Luger production began the move to Mauser. Serial# suffixes s, t, u are produced this year under disputed circumstances. This is a new variation designation "29 DWM" (formerly Sneak).
What parts tend to break on a Luger? (Broken Parts Survey)	Those of us who shoot our Lugers are alert to the possibility of breaking the occasional part on these 60- to 100-year-old guns. Those of us who collect as well know how much a broken/replaced part can reduce the value of our guns.	There were 19 respondents to the survey, although by the nature of the answers this represents more actual pistols than this number. 1. Ejector** 11	

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	But, what parts are likely to break in use? This brief survey was taken in the fall of 2002 to try to determine a pattern of potential parts breakage. The intent was to identify parts which break as a result of shooting, but a couple other noteworthy results cropped up. Lugers are a robust, sturdy pistol, designed to use ammunition more powerful than that found commercially, at least in the U.S. Although they are finely crafted (and considerably hand-fitted) machines, they are in no way 'fragile'. They are great fun to shoot, and incredibly accurate. Over the course of 60-100 years, however, metal can become fatigued, crystallized, parts can develop microscopic cracks. Care should be taken for one's personal safety, as well as for maintaining the value of our Lugers. --Dwight Gruber	2. Take-down spring 7 3. Extractor* 6 4. Grip screw** 3 5. Breech-block* 2 6. Rear toggle piece* 2 7. Hold-open spring 2 8. Firing pin* 2 9. Grip safety spring 1 10. Rear toggle axle pin*** 1 11. Trigger lever pin 1 12. Hold-open* 1 13. Upper receiver* 1 14. Recoil spring, flat 1 * serial numbered part ** proof stamped on Erfurts and most Simpsons *** serial number stamped, 1932 and later	
What is the RC marking seen on Imperial Erfurt and Weimar era Simson Lugers?	Crown/RC- Revisions Commission, the pre 1918 agency responsible for accepting serviceable weapons that were rejected for minor flaws. Hza-Heereszeugamt (army weapons office)2 were existing in 1931, Spandau and Kassel although there were 16 by 1939.	This info is from "Luger" by John Walter Erfurt stamps on grip screws: Erfurt stopped proofing the grip screws later in production but I don't recall the exact date. I have seen 1914 (mine) and a 1916 with proofs, but 1917's and 1918's without. Somewhere around the 1916 "a" suffix unmarked grip screws begin to occur, and by the end of that year just about all did not bear the Erfurt proof.	RC stamps usually appear above acceptance proofs, on some Simson and especially on Erfurt Lugers:

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
			
What is the “WR” or “RW” symbol found on later Mauser made Lugers?	The “WR” mark is thought to be associated with the “Werkes Revision” group at Mauser, responsible for inspection and acceptance of parts within the factory. During each step in Luger manufacture, the batches of parts were gauged and tested for accurate manufacture dimensions and quality. Regular inspection was performed by Mauser factory personnel as each part progressed through manufacturing to become part of the completed Luger as part of manufacturing control processes and procedure. This was separate from proof and acceptance inspections performed by government inspectors that were located at the plant.	When a part passed inspection during the later years at Mauser, instead of an individual inspector's number, letter or symbol, a unique intertwined “WR” or “RW” was applied to the acceptable part. While earlier Mauser manufacturing process markings followed the pattern of DWM's process markings, later Mauser Lugers are found with the intertwined “WR” mark, having eliminated the variety of marks.	The “WR” or “RW” symbol is illustrated below: 
How can you find the magazines that match your Luger?	The chances of finding your "correct" and original magazine is almost nil, but it is possible. Much easier and smarter to find one in your suffix block, fairly close to your number. So, to match a magazine; either you are VERY	A Military Mauser Luger's "Matching Magazine" must match the alpha-numeric serial's numeric digits, the letter suffix, the correct Waffenamt (Inspection) mark AND have the correct construction, including body finish.	A magazine is a "Proper Magazine" which meets all the criteria of a "Matching Magazine" except the numeric portion of the numeric-alpha number is not correct. It is also referred to as a “Period Correct” magazine.

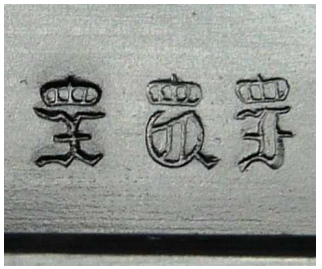
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	lucky and find the exact magazine; or you find one close; as each magazine to be "correct" must match time frame, must match serial number and possibly suffix, must match proper acceptance stamps.	Luckily, unnumbered black plastic based E/37 accepted FXO (Haenel-Schmeisser) magazines with milled bodies match 1941 and 1942 Mauser Lugers. This is one reason they command higher prices.	Note: it is not unusual to find Aluminum base “matching magazines” that have been ground down and re-numbered to match Lugers. All matching magazines should be carefully inspected to verify originality.
What are the characteristics of magazines that go with Mauser Luger variations?	**Military Mauser Magazine Identification Technique** Some years ago, a Luger Magazine Researcher, named Don Hallock, developed a Luger Magazine Cataloging Technique that I believe is the best I have seen. This discourse applies **ONLY to Military Mauser Magazines**. To describe these magazines, it is important to specify the magazine construction. As well as the inspection (Waffenamt) markings. When this is done properly, it will determine the approximate year and variation to which it applies. To this end, I give you a catalog technique that pretty well describes which Luger an orphan magazine will match up with. So for Military Mauser Lugers, don't give a serial number without the construction type and inspection mark. Also don't forget that the serial number consists of a number and suffix letter (if there is no suffix letter on the frame front under the number it is indicated with a “ns” No Suffix). Using this technique will better place orphan magazines with the appropriate pistol!	First, the types: • Type 1: Tin or Nickel Plated Rolled Metal Body, Aluminum Base • Type 2: Blued Body, Aluminum Base • Type 3: Blued Milled Body, Aluminum Concave Center Pinned Body, 122 Code, E/37 WaA • Type 4: Blued Milled Body, Aluminum Concave Center Pinned Body, fxo Code, E/37 WaA* • Type 5: Blued Milled Body, Aluminum Concave Center Pinned Body, fxo Code, E/37 WaA** • Type 6: Blued Milled Body, Black Plastic Concave Center Pinned Body, fxo Code, E/37 WaA * These magazines are marked with a P.08 on the left side that appears to be upside down when the magazine is placed on the spine ** These magazines are marked with a P.08 on the left side that appears to be right side up when the magazine is placed on the spine Next is the inspection marks. These Waffenamt Marks, (Waffen = Weapon,	Use the following to describe the Waffenamt (WaA) Marks: • O37 Early K Date • B90 Late K Date, Early G Date • DE1 Droop Eagle 154, Early G Date • DE2 Droop Eagle 211, G Date • DE6 Droop Eagle 63, Mid to Late G Dates to Early 1937 S/42 • SE6 Stick Eagle 63, Most 1937 S/42 to about the G-Block 1938 S/42 • SE8 Stick Eagle 83, Most 1938 S/42 after the G-Block to Early 1939 S/42 • SE6M Stick Eagle 63, Medium Size “63”, Late 1939 S/42, Early 1939 Code 42 • SE6L Stick Eagle 63, Large Size “63”, Later 1939 Code 42 • SE5 Stick Eagle 655, Late 1939 Code 42, Early 1940 Code 42 • 122 Side Marked 122, E/37 Mixed with Early 1940 Code 42, All 41 Code 42 and Early 41 byf • fxo Type 4, 41 byf Middle Range (about O-Block to R-Block) • fxo Type 5, 41 byf Middle Range (about T-Block to W-Block)*** • NSS Type 4, 5 & 6 with No Serial Number, Armor Special (Type 4) or Late 41 byf, all 42 byf *** Not many Type 5 were numbered after the U-Block

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		amt = office) then describe which inspector is present during production.	
Some guns have an action Hold Open and Some do not? Why? And what does it look like?	The 1908 model Luger was developed for the German Army in response to the Army's desire for reduced complexity and production cost by elimination of the grip safety and hold open. The Army accepted the resulting Pistole 08 in 1908, and let the production contract with DWM in December, 1908. However, in 1914 the hold open was re-instituted. The hold open allows the firer to see that the weapon is empty by "holding" the toggle in the open position; this is accomplished by the magazine follower pushing up on the hold open.	Below is a pre-1914 without a hold open and the later version with a hold open (used by Lugers ever since) No Hold Open: 	With Hold open: 
What was the relationship between the Mauser and DWM companies?	About the Mauser / DWM relation: Mauser didn't absorb DWM. In fact, Mauser was a 100% subsidiary of DWM. Both were part of the Ludwig Loewe (and later Quandt Group) conglomerate. Pistol production at DWM was transferred to Mauser in 1930. The project was managed by August Weiss who documented it well, including the loading of the train that carried machinery, tooling, gauges and parts that were in process at the time. DWM still exists today, although under a different name 'IWK'. The Berlin branch of DWM existed until 1971, specializing in railroad equipment, slot machines for the food branch (gumball machines, etc...) and the rather wacky 'Amphicar', a commercially available 'schwimmwagen' concept.	Names that may be encountered when researching DWM: • Deutsche Waffen- und Munitionsfabriken. • Deutsche Waggon- und Maschinenfabriken (Berlin Branch, 1952-1971). • Vereinigte Werkstatten Wittenau (Berlin Branch, 1945-1952). • Berlin-Karlsruher Industriewerke. • Industriewerke Karlsruhe. • Industriewerke Karlsruhe-Augsburg.	
Is it OK to dry-fire a Luger?	No, it is very hard on the firing pin, at a minimum, use snap caps, but best advice is not to do it.		

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
How do you de-cock a Luger properly?	• Point in a safe direction • Drop the magazine • Pull the toggle back and up to open the breech and eject any cartridge present • As you lower the toggle knobs, at the spot where the trigger engages the sear bar, pull the trigger, preventing the firing pin / striker from catching the sear when the toggle train returns to battery • Carefully lower and release the toggle to allow the breech to return to battery	This approach allows the firing pin / striker to ride forward within the breech block all the way until the gun is in battery. It all has to do with the disconnector, which is the little sprung plunger on the front end of the sear bar. When the upper moves back during a cycle, the disconnector moves back and out from under the trigger lever on the side plate. When the upper returns to battery, and if the trigger is still being held, the tip of the plunger encounters the side of the trigger lever instead of tucking under it. The spring action accommodates this mechanical meet-up and the plunger is pressed into the end of the sear bar. When the trigger is released, this allows the plunger to pop back out, placing it once again under the trigger lever.	For this to work properly, the trigger bar must engage the little disconnector pin on the sear bar and lift the sear away from the firing pin as you lower the toggles. Pull back on the toggle knobs and find the spot where the resistance increases noticeably. This will happen when the ***breech*** is open about 3/8". Now, pull into the resistance just a bit, to begin to take up a little of the strain. This is the point at which you'd pull and hold the trigger while lowering the toggle knobs.
BUG markings – what do they mean?	These proofs are found on early DWM manufactured commercial Lugers. “BUG” refers to Crown over B (abbreviated “C/B”); Crown over U (“C/U”) and Crown over G (“C/G”) proof marks. BUG proofs were used prior to the establishment of Nitro proofs, which received a Crown over N (“C/N”) mark. Crown/B and Crown/U are found on the breech-block and left receiver, Crown/G is added on the barrel. B is the overload test proof specified by the proof law of 1892; it also denotes a completely finished pistol. U represents the word untersuchung (inspected). G is found only on the barrel, and represents		

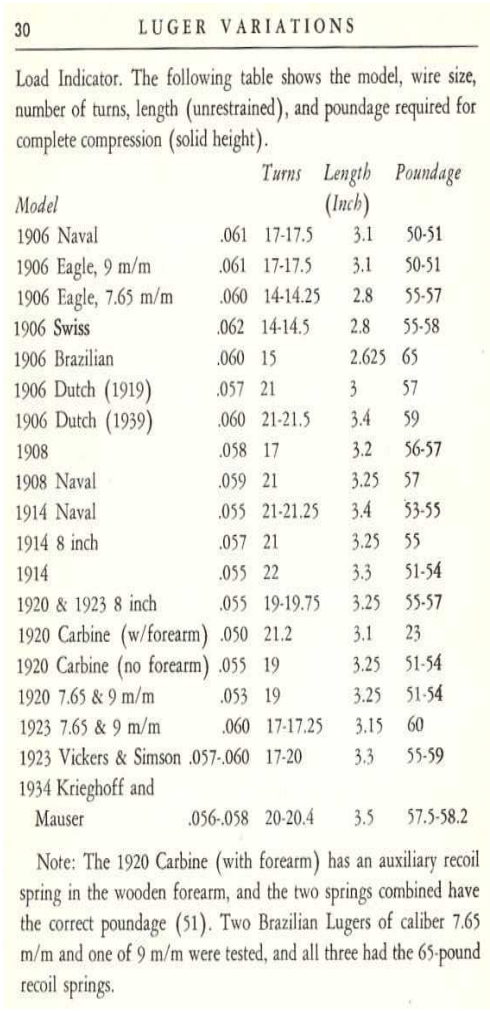
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	the word Gezogen (rifled) (from Costanzo, p. 196).		
What does the 118,35 or 172,28 mean when found on the underside of the barrel?	These markings are found on DWM Commercial “BUG” proofed Lugers (circa 1908). 118,35 is a bore diameter measurement in accordance with English proof laws of 1894. It represents a 9mm barrel, but is measured as the number of lead balls of the stamped diameter which weigh a pound. The 172,28 number is stamped on the barrel in accordance with English proof law and is the number of round lead balls of 7.65mm (.30 Luger) diameter that it takes to make a pound. Note the comma in the number. This is a European number and the comma has the same meaning as the decimal point in the US.	A point of interest... This British measuring system is what gave us the modern shotgun measurements of 10, 12, 16, 20, 28 gauge. As I understand it the gauge is the number of lead balls the size of the barrel it took to equal a pound. I think the mighty .410 gauge is actually a .41 caliber but I'm not sure. George Anderson	
What does the 8,81, 8,82, 8,83, 8,84, 8,85 found stamped on some Luger barrels refer to?	They represent the barrel rifling land to land measurement. Marking them on the barrel was a requirement for most military Lugers, but the practice and requirement varied, dropping marking toward the end of production at Mauser. Acceptable 9mm Lugers were gauged to measure between 8,81mm and 8,85mm (an exact measured number) when they were manufactured. An armorer could subsequently judge barrel wear by measuring the barrel rifling and determining variance from when it was new. Mauser stopped marking the bore diameter about the Middle D-Block in 1942.		

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
What is a "Deaths Head" Luger?	Lugers with stamped "Deaths head" symbols dating to WW2 are fake. WW-I (from the 1917 period and possibly right after that war), and some Lugers associated with units in Bavaria could very well be real. More research is needed in this area. There is considerable variance in the appearance of "Death's Head" symbols found on a variety items.		
Are Russian Lugers real?	There is another huge debate about this marking and the jury is still out – some believe, others don't. Even fewer people believe in Spandau Lugers ...		Note: This item does not refer to Russian captured Lugers (RC).
When were Firing Pins required to be fluted?	Goertz and Sturgess discuss this on page 1116 of "The Borschardt and Luger Automatic Pistols". They indicate that a Reichswehr order 17 September 1930 directed alteration of firing pins of pistols in official inventory, to be completed by unit level armorers by 30 September 1931.	New pistols bought after 1930 already were fitted with fluted firing pins. Police agencies followed suite with Bavaria issuing a decree 23 May 1932, Prussian Landespolizei on 14 April 1935 and Prussian Ordnungspolizei on 20 December 1935.	The justification was to improve operation of the firing pin. The three flutes cut into the front of Luger firing pins serve to vent high pressure gasses and prevent damage should a primer back out of the cartridge case during firing.
What Luger Parts Should Be Strawed?	Strawing is a technique for rust inhibiting steel by applying direct heat to specific	Strawed: • Take down lever -	Fire blued: • Grip Screws

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	temperatures followed by quenching the steel in oil. It results in a yellow / golden color. In the early eras (including WW-I, The Weimar era and early Mauser production, including later some commercial orders) Lugers were Rust Blued. Those variations (except for the 1937 Mauser transition period that mixed salt-blued and Rust blued parts)) included the following strawed parts:	• Safety lever • Trigger • Magazine release • Firing pin (probably in the white) • Firing pin spring retainer (probably in the white) • Ejector -Safety bar	• Rear toggle axle end In the White (unfinished): • Recoil Coupling link
What do DWM Imperial German acceptance and proof stamps look like?	DWM Lugers were manufactured in Berlin near the German military arsenal at Spandau. The military inspection and acceptance marking of these Lugers took place under control of the Spandau arsenal until 1915. Proofing officers and inspectors were assigned out of the Spandau arsenal, and inspection of DWM Lugers took place there until 1915. DWM was a private contractor, responsible to deliver P08s which entirely met specifications. Unlike DWM, the Royal Erfurt rifle factory was a government arms manufacturer, and the 1910 marking instructions were created to guide their inspection and acceptance of the P08 in detail. When Lugers passed inspection and were accepted by the military, metal stamps were applied to the receiver, barrel and breech block. Practically every part was stamped on Erfurt produced guns. Proof eagles do not "belong to" a specific manufacture, but the stamps used have different appearances. The "Spandau proofs" are the acceptance and power proof stamps used on DWM Lugers. They were applied to DWM Lugers by the "Abnahmebeamte" or “Acceptance Officials”	Each officer carried his own, personally-assigned stamp. The proofing officer assigned to DWM had a stamp with a different character from the proofing officer assigned to Erfurt; however, both stamps fell within the design requirements--"an heraldic Eagle, displayed"--and both stamps indicated and certified the same thing. An individual proofing officer, of course, could not personally proof and certify the hundreds of thousands of pistols which underwent proofing. These officers had staff underlings who were also trained in the proofing process, and they used the stamp of their officer to certify proof; the officer bore ultimate personal responsibility. The 1910 marking instructions require each part to be inspected and certified with the inspector's stamp. All Erfurt manufactured parts bear this mark. No LP08 barrels which bear the proof stamp of the Erfurt proof officer also have Erfurt inspection marks, which indicate that they were *not* made at Erfurt. Stamping of the proof was the next-to-	Closeup of Imperial German military acceptance stamps:  Early DWM Luger acceptance and proof stamps applied by Spandau assigned inspectors: 

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	Proofing officers and inspectors from the Spandau Arsenal. Acceptance Stamps were assigned to responsible officials and carried the Fraktur letter of their last name.	last stage in pistol acceptance, done well after the pistol was completely assembled, so proof stamps would not have been applied to the individual parts in any case. The presence of the Erfurt style proof on some DWM barrels and breech-blocks suggests that a member of the Erfurt proof officer's staff was assigned to DWM to assist in proofing and stamping DWM manufactured Lugers.	Later acceptance and proof stamps:  Eagle power proof stamp (aka “Crouching Squirrel”): 

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
What is special about the "Triple X" accepted Lugers?	There are at least 3 variations of the C/X C/X C/X acceptance marked Lugers that were routed from commercial production to military use during the build up in armament during late 1913 to early 1914. The "Crown/X" inspector may also have been involved in inspecting and approving reworked parts at the Erfurt factory.	The first variant is what might be called a "1908 Commercial/Military". It is a 1908 pattern without stock lug completely constructed, finished, numbered in the commercial 5-digit fashion (in the approximate serial number range 69000-70100 that you noted) and bearing no chamber date, evidently still in the inventory but without final commercial proof before being diverted to the military and acquiring acceptance and proof marking. The second variation is a "1908/14 Military/Commercial" (note the commercial/military description reversal). It is of the 1908 pattern without stock lug, evidently still in the stock inventory but in unfinished condition since it is numbered in a 4-digit a-suffix military fashion (in the approximate 8000a-9400a range as noted by Jan Still). Apparently, it received final assembly, finish, numbering, acceptance/proofing and a 1914 chamber date when transferred to the military. The third variation marks the transfer of last of the pre-war commercials to the military, produced late 1913 early 1914, earing no chamber date and with a stock lug. This could be considered a "1913 Commercial/Military" (or a "1914 Commercial/Military"?). We do not know the approximate serial number range, it may start below the aforementioned 70100 but most likely just above that number.	 Triple Crown/X inspection acceptance marks (above). Crown/RC with Crown/X acceptance mark on reworked barrel (below): 

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
Do different Lugers make use of different recoil springs?	The first Model 1900 Lugers used a laminated "S" shaped flat recoil spring. Later Lugers made in and after the "New Model" Luger was introduced in 1906 used helical coil recoil springs made of stiff piano wire. The caliber of ammunition, receiver design and length of the barrel all contribute to subtle changes in the timing, length and intensity of the recoil impulse. Since the timing of a Luger is quite dependent upon the balance of forces between firing recoil and the recoil spring that helps the toggle train recover to battery after firing, a number of different recoil springs were used. Here is a chart from Harry Jones, Luger Variations on mainspring coils		

30 LUGER VARIATIONS

Load Indicator. The following table shows the model, wire size, number of turns, length (unrestrained), and poundage required for complete compression (solid height).

Model		*Turns*	*Length (Inch)*	*Poundage*
1906 Naval	.061	17-17.5	3.1	50-51
1906 Eagle, 9 m/m	.061	17-17.5	3.1	50-51
1906 Eagle, 7.65 m/m	.060	14-14.25	2.8	55-57
1906 Swiss	.062	14-14.5	2.8	55-58
1906 Brazilian	.060	15	2.625	65
1906 Dutch (1919)	.057	21	3	57
1906 Dutch (1939)	.060	21-21.5	3.4	59
1908	.058	17	3.2	56-57
1908 Naval	.059	21	3.25	57
1914 Naval	.055	21-21.25	3.4	53-55
1914 8 inch	.057	21	3.25	55
1914	.055	22	3.3	51-54
1920 & 1923 8 inch	.055	19-19.75	3.25	55-57
1920 Carbine (w/forearm)	.050	21.2	3.1	23
1920 Carbine (no forearm)	.055	19	3.25	51-54
1920 7.65 & 9 m/m	.053	19	3.25	51-54
1923 7.65 & 9 m/m	.060	17-17.25	3.15	60
1923 Vickers & Simson	.057-.060	17-20	3.3	55-59
1934 Krieghoff and Mauser	.056-.058	20-20.4	3.5	57.5-58.2

Note: The 1920 Carbine (with forearm) has an auxiliary recoil spring in the wooden forearm, and the two springs combined have the correct poundage (51). Two Brazilian Lugers of caliber 7.65 m/m and one of 9 m/m were tested, and all three had the 65-pound recoil springs.

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
Why is it important to establish the provenance of a Luger?	Collectors always say to “buy the gun, not the story”. That is because many supposedly rare or unusual firearms, or those thought to be associated with specific individuals or historical events are regularly faked, and then sold for huge profits based upon added value associated with history. It's important to understand that when an object is faked, enhanced, boosted or misrepresented, the person committing the fraud often fakes the provenance as well. When judging a rare or historically significant Luger, take the time to step back and determine if the things you're not focusing on are consistent with the story. Again, believe the gun, not the story.	A recent auction offering of an elaborately engraved Luger (estimated to sell well into 5 figures) was associated with a famous WW-II Nazi party leader on a well established auction website. Lavishly illustrated, the site claimed to include documentation establishing the gun's provenance. Unfortunately, the write-up had nothing factually associating the gun with the named individual, and the gun itself was made up of a mix of DWM and Erfurt parts from the Imperial and Weimar eras. Wouldn't a WW-II Nazi Party leader deserve a new gun instead of one made up from older parts? Of course, the story is possible since the parts existed in the WW-II era, but does it really make sense?	
What are all the symbols, numbers and letters found inside Luger receivers and frames and on frames where grips cover the area?	During each step in Luger manufacture, the batches of parts were gauged and tested for accurate manufacture dimensions and quality. At DWM, Erfurt and in early Mauser Luger manufacturing, individual factory workers and inspectors were responsible for evaluating specific parts and processes. They had a unique personal stamp that they applied when they made a part, finished some manufacturing process or inspected the part. The individual symbols were thought to be personally associated with a plant worker or inspector.	The specific marking procedures were probably defined in manufacturing process documents which have been lost. The only evidence we have today is the variety of worker's stamps that are found on Lugers. Since these stamps tended to group into the periods that the workers and inspectors were active at the factory, the markings can be useful in determining the manufacturer, period or provenance of individual parts. Typical marks are one or more letters, numbers or symbols like the “Omega” Ω or “Ordinance Bomb”	These are typical plant worker and inspector marks: 
What is a “Lazy Crown/N” proof?	In early DWM Commercially proofed Lugers,	Dwight Gruber, who focuses on and tracks commercial Lugers, discusses the	The original P08 was designed without a stock lug. The army instituted the

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	the Crown/N Nitro proof was stamped horizontally instead of vertically.	commercial sale of the pattern of pistol accepted by the German Military in 1908: Production of these pistols, military and commercial, likely did not start until calendar year 1909. The first P08 recorded in the Commercial Database is *sn* 39142. So, the range of the original pattern P08 commercial dates from 1909, approximate *sn* 39000, to 1914, earlier than *sn* 71172. The first lazy c/N proof mark shows up approximately *sn* 49000, and is found intermixed with c/BUG proofs until approximately *sn* 53190. This range of pistols can be roughly dated thereby to 1912.	change in P08 production to include a stock lug in August, 1913. Stock lug P08s show up in commercial production with *sn* 70185. The two styles of P08 were intermixed in commercial production until *sn* 71156, after which there are no reports of this style pistol. A detail change was made to the frame machining of the P08 frame interior in late 1914. *sn* 71156 is in the middle of the range of reports of this change, which reliably dates the serial number to this year.
Is it true that Lugers were shipped with "Rust" on them from the factory when they were new?	Contracts fulfilled by DWM for sale to the Dutch (Netherlands) military were marked with "Rust" and an arrow. "Rust" means "Safe" in the Dutch language.		
What is Rust Bluing? What is Salt Bluing?	"Bluing" is a passivation process based upon a variety of techniques for converting the surface to inhibit the corrosion of steel. It is accomplished by oxidizing and converting the surface of steel to a blue / black colored "magnetite" which is the (Fe_3O_4) form of iron oxide. Magnetite is hard and durable and by definition is iron that has already oxidized. This is in contrast to "rust" which is the (Fe_2O_3) form of iron oxide. It is soft, unstable, crumbles easily and pits and destroys the surface of steel.	Rust bluing has been used by gunsmiths to finish metal since the 19th century. In the early eras of the production of Lugers, they were slowly "Rust Blued". This produces a very durable and beautiful thoroughly and uniformly blued steel. "Rust Bluing" is a laborious process wherein carefully cleaned steel is coated with a warm caustic acid based chemical solution and allowed to slowly oxidize. After many hours hanging in a humid environment both rust and	In "Salt Bluing" the steel surface is oxidized directly to magnetite in a hot bath that contains a mixture of alkali salts and other chemicals. It is less laborious than "rust bluing" and while creating a durable surface is less attractive. Mauser switched production of Lugers to hot salt bath bluing in early 1937. The variance in appearance of early salt blued Mauser Lugers would indicate that it took Mauser some time to perfect the process and establish consistent process control.

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		magnetite will form on the coated surface of steel. The relatively soft red “rust” form of iron oxide must then be removed by hand in a laborious process called “carding”. After being thoroughly carded and cleaned, the process is repeated several times.	
What technique can be used to remove surface rust (red iron oxide)?	It must be done with great care, but it's possible to remove light surface rust from a blued finish by using well oiled “0000” steel wool or bronze wool on a well oiled steel surface. First, test the process by trying it on a place that is not normally externally visible. Do not use too much pressure or aggressively rub a small area. It's possible to do damage. Work slowly and consistently to gradually reduce the amount of surface rust.	Active surface rust will eventually lead to pitting steel. Oiled steel or bronze wool is softer than the layer of magnetite that form the blued steel surface. It is not softer than the steel under the surface, but it is harder than the soft red iron oxide rust.	Hard materials remove softer materials in nature.
How do you clean and lubricate a collector Luger for best preservation?	There are many approaches to this, and opinions vary. Gun owners are typically very loyal to products that they have had successful experience with, and discussion on the Internet can be confusing. The general principal of metal on metal lubrication is that parts that rotate against each other are oiled, and parts that slide against each other are greased. Improper lubrication (especially over-lubrication) and incomplete cleaning can lead to the build up of dirt and dried lubricants in corners and places that are difficult to reach. Some silicone based chemicals deposited on metal gun surfaces can be particularly difficult to remove, and should be avoided. Clean firearms without using too much pressure and with non-abrasive cloths and tools. Soft brushes (like old toothbrushes) are	It's important to select lubricants that are hydrophobic (repel water) and that contain corrosion preventatives. Cleaning can be over done, and has contributed quite a bit of damage to firearms over many years. The use of improper chemicals (like WD-40, a water displacement chemical) can also lead to surface deterioration and damage. In a thorough field stripping and cleaning it's wise to carefully remove and separate wooden and plastic grips to avoid contact with potentially damaging chemicals. Chemicals like acetone can completely remove lubrication from gun surfaces, and should be used with care. Acetone can also dissolve plastic. Never use stainless steel brushes on	Commercial products are available for bore and action cleaning from companies like Hoppes, Remington, Birchwood Casey, Winchester, Outers and others. These are generally available at sporting goods stores and big box store sporting goods departments. Their chemical formulations have sometimes been derived from military cleaning solutions (like CLP – Clean-Lubricate-Protect). When using bottled liquid chemicals be careful not to contaminate the stock left in the bottle. Drip it onto cleaning tools or decant a small amount into another container. Spray cleaning chemicals are often quite convenient. The metal surface of a firearm should be lightly coated with a corrosion preventative prior to storage.

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	particularly useful for dislodging dirt from crevices.	collector guns. While expensive, ultrasonic cleaning techniques utilizing proper cleaning baths may be the most effective at removing dirt thoroughly from guns.	
What's the best way to store a collector Luger? In a case, open air? Any storage pitfalls to avoid?	There are many approaches to this, and opinions vary. If you have a low humidity environment, (and assuming you have it secured) storing it in open low humidity (below 50%) air will allow circulation and prevent buildup of moisture. Some store collector guns in silicone impregnated woven socks made for gun storage. The silicon impregnated cloth repels moisture, and has been known to help preserve firearms in safes that have gone through fires. These have proven problematic because some silicone formulations can deposit on metal surfaces. These are very difficult to remove. Zippered padded gun “rugs” are popular with many shooters, but may not be the best storage for collector guns because moisture can accumulate right against metal gun surfaces. Wax and petroleum compounds made for metal protection can be used to “seal” metal surfaces for long term storage. Some collectors coat the surfaces of their Lugers, wrap them in soft cotton cloth and seal them inside plastic bags. Some collectors use products like “Renaissance Wax” to seal the metal surface of firearms. This affects the color appearance of rust blued guns and leaves a slick handling surface.	Never store a Luger or other collector guns in their original holster. This can lead to finish damage since the porous leather can accumulate moisture. Hides used for leather are first soaked in salts and lime (a base agent) to clean them and remove hairs. They are then washed and treated with salts and acids to “tan” them. Even the high quality leathers used for Luger holsters can contain traces of tanning process chemicals which, combined with humidity and moisture, can damage the finish of blued gun steel.	Never leave WD-40 on the metal surface of a gun. While petroleum based, it is a “water displacement” chemical, and not designed to coat and preserve metal from corrosion. There are several formulations of spray preserving gun oils available from manufacturers like Hoppes, Outers, Remington, 3M, Birchwood Casey, and others. These formulations include corrosion inhibitors and are designed to protect guns from rust. Ballistol, Break-Free, CLP (Clean-Lubricate-Protect) and numerous other branded products are available from sporting goods and automotive parts retailers. Gun owners that have experienced good performance from specific products are generally quite loyal to them and you'll find exhaustive and somewhat confusing discussion on the Internet. All collector guns should be periodically taken from storage, cleaned, inspected, re-lubricated and prepared for long term storage on an annual or more frequent basis.
What’s the best way to clean a Luger holster?	Luger holsters suffer all kind of abuse and aging damage. It may seem obvious, but the best care for a Luger holster is proper careful	A member of LugerForum is the international expert on restoring and rebuilding Luger holsters. His	One other thing that ruins holster leather is mothballs. I have gotten

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	storage.	recommendation is to do as little as possible, and store in cool and dry static conditions. First, NEVER use Neats Foot oil. There is a clear preference for using lanolin based Connolly Leather Care (it ain't cheap). Frankly, it might be too late if a holster has already been ruined with Neats Foot Oil. Thus it is really the most expensive stuff you will ever use on a vintage holster because it will kill all value. The main difference between Lanolin, (Connolly's Leather Care) and Neats Foot Oil is that Neats Foot Oil penetrates from one side of leather to the other.. and does so INSTANTLY! Your leather becomes oil soaked. Lanolin, (Connolly's Leather Care) stays on the surface epidermis, and out of the leather fibers that make the hard shell a hard shell. If the leather fibers become soaked with oil they slip and slide making leather have a soft mushy oily condition. Lanolin, (Connolly's Leather Care) only helps with surface cracking..But for the most part, that's all we need on vintage leather kept in cool & dry static conditions.	holsters in for repair and had to send them back..couldn't work on them. Remember this if nothing else..don't put anything on your expensive vintage leather you can't get off. WATER included! If you want an easy cleaner use a little medical alcohol or acetone on a toothbrush. It will very quickly evaporate. Tandy Corp. sells "leather cleaner" in a jar but it's really acetone. I get mine at the drugstore, acetone based nail polish remover. A lot of nail polish removers also contain oil to help keep the skin around the nails from drying out. Probably something like baby oil, but with cheap removers who knows? There are many with perfumes added too..I stick with 100% acetone. The bottles usually indicate percent and other additives. It's got all that other stuff cause acetone can be harsh/dry to your skin. Washes oil right out of of it! You can also get acetone at the hardware store but larger metal containers seem to evaporate away , I like nail polish bottles. Plastic bottles keep it really well. I actually don't use it very often but it's good when you do need it. Like any other chemical I use it sparingly and with good ventilation.
Can a Luger be fired disassembled?	Yes. When the canon (receiver/barrel assembly) is off the frame, and the sear is holding back the firing pin striker, it is possible to fire a cartridge by compressing the sear bar on the side. This lead to many accidents and a poster published for German military forces.		

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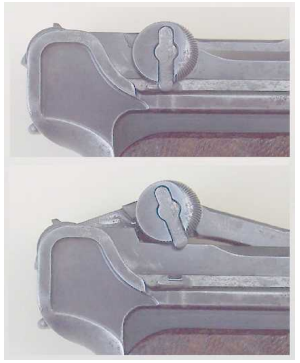
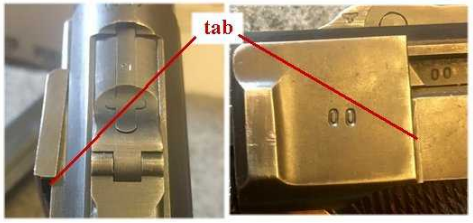
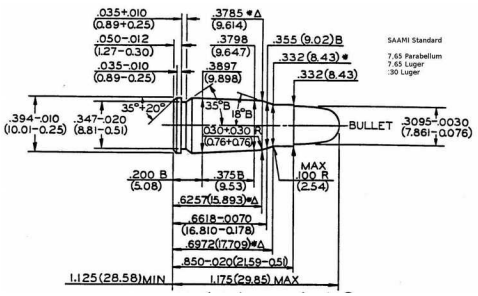
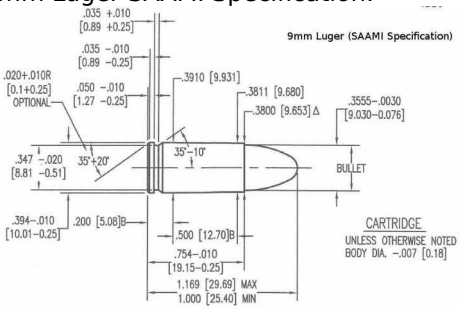
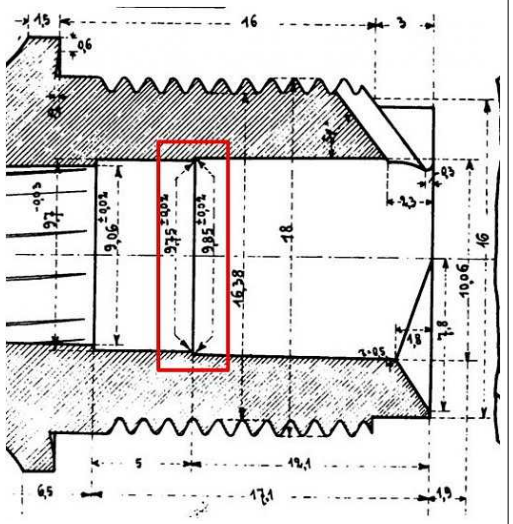
What is a “Toggle Lock”?	On 1900 and 1902 “Old Model” Lugers, the axle pin that attaches the middle toggle to the rear toggle was retained in position with an external lock which also holds the toggle down against the receiver when the Luger is in battery. The lock is retained in the middle toggle with a small axle pin and spring, and engages with a small ridge milled into the receiver just above the frame when closed. To open the toggle, the receiver must be pushed rearward a small distance to clear the ridge the lock is engaged with. Once clear, the toggle can be lifted.	Toggle lock: 	An example of the M1900 Luger Toggle Lock in closed and released positions: 
What are Finnish Luger “Square Sights”?	This square profile sight was refitted onto Lugers by the Finnish:		
How is the point of aim set on a Luger?	The “point of aim” of factory installed Luger sights appears to have changed over time. If you're firing your shooter Luger and find that it's shooting above point of aim at short	Early P08's were sighted in at 100 meters and had front sight blades 5.0mm tall. From mid 1913 onward this was reduced to 50 meters by fitting a 5.5mm blade.	One forum member's experience at 25 meters with 115 grain bullets requires a 6 o'clock hold on the ISSF C50 target. With most 124 grain bullets they have to

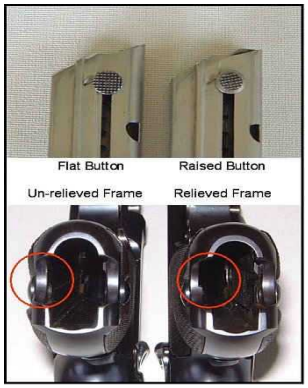
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	distances, this might help explain what's happening. The original design as a combat handgun makes the Luger point of aim appear high at shorter distances	Most of the early guns were refitted with the taller blade at the same time as they were retro-fitted with hold-opens.	hold a little lower, around the 3 ring.
How should a trigger side plate be re-assembled into the Luger frame?	The rear edge of the trigger side plate has a thin tab that must be inserted into the frame before the plate is placed against the receiver and the locking lever is returned to assembled position. The plate must lie flat against the receiver and frame. It's possible in some cases to completely re-assemble a Luger with the plate in the wrong position. It will not operate properly this way.	This illustrates improper positioning of the trigger side plate: 	
What is the range of serial numbers in the military and alphabet commercial style of numbering?	The first production Lugers had serial numbers with between 1 and 5 numeric digits. In 1910, the German military established a serial numbering system that combined numeric digits with an alphabetic suffix. Serial numbers ranged from “1” to “10000” within each alphabet letter suffixed range. For example, “1x” through “10000x”. The first group of 10,000 pistols will have no suffix letter, and is commonly designated “NS”.	Manufacturers reset the alphabet suffix in different ways. DWM and Mauser ran from “NS” and “a” through “Z” before returning to the no suffix block and “a” again. The suffix letter “j” was not used by DWM or Mauser. Erfurt reset the letter to “a” at the beginning of each year, indicated by the year stamped on the chamber. Because of this, you must know the numeric manufacturer, numeric serial number digits, suffix and year of manufacture to uniquely identify a Luger. Note that manufacturers occasionally numbered experimental and special production guns with their own unique serial number series.	When DWM switched from 5 digit commercial numbering around “92000” to alphabetic military style numbering, the suffix letters ran from “i” in about 1921 to “t” at the end of DWM production in 1930. The “u” and “v” blocks were also used out of sequence for police and special commercial orders. Note: Swiss military Lugers are numbered in their own continuous sequence from “1” for a M1900 Luger through their last 1924/29 W+F Luger in 1933 sn 33092 and possibly sn 33094. Serial numbers on the redesigned 1906/29 W+F Luger start at sn 50001 in 1933 and run through sn 77941 in 1947. The “P” serial civilian number series runs from sn P25000 in 1938 through sn P26600 in 1946 and sn P77941 to sn P78258 in 1947 after which the SIG P210 became the Swiss service pistol.

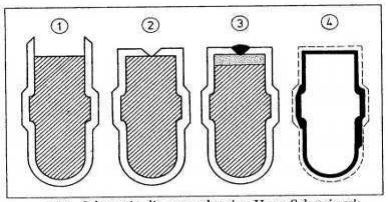
FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
			Simson Lugers are numbered in the military style, extending into the “a” block, Krieghoff Lugers are not numbered in the military style, and have 1 to 5 numeric digits. Post war Mauser / Interarms Luger are not numbered in the military style, and have serial numbers that indicate the caliber of the gun in a prefix.
What is the Bö mark stamped on some 1913-14 Luger barrels and what does the number represent?	An early German military marking regulation required that the steel manufacturer be identified on rifle barrels. The regulation was only applied to P.08 Lugers for a short timef rame between 1913 and 1914 when the pistols received Böhler steel barrels. The barrels were stamped with “Bö” mark and often the steel batch number.		Note that this picture also depicts serial number “Halos”.
Is my Luger chambered for 9mm Luger or .30 Luger (7.65 Luger) ammunition?	Here's how to determine if your Luger is chambered in 9mm Luger or .30 (7.65mm) Luger The most simple test is the “pencil test”. Take a normal No. 2 sized, round, old fashioned pencil and drop it down the bore. If its fairly tight, its 30 Luger (aka 7.65mm Luger) If it falls easily and loosely into the barrel and there is plenty of room, its 9mm. Because it's a bottleneck cartridge, the neck in the chamber will prevent a 9mm Luger round from completely entering the chamber. Note that the cartridge body and length of	Comparison of barrels:	First, the pencil tightly in a .30 Luger (7.65mm Luger) barrel:

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	a .30 Luger or 7.65mm Luger cartridge is similar enough to a 9mm Luger cartridge for the same magazine to fit and work in both caliber pistols. They are functionally interchangeable.	 7.65 Parabellum (Luger) or .30 Luger SAAMI Specification:	 Next, the pencil loose in a 9mm Luger barrel:

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		 9mm Luger SAAMI Specification: 	
What is a “stepped chamber” also known as the obturation ring?	After observing the seal accomplished by the bottleneck in the .30 Luger cartridge, Georg Luger patented the "offset obturation" or 0.1mm chamber step in 1910, to ensure the chamber sealed gasses when firing the tapered case 9mm. This is a very thin distinct step to the rear of the point on the chamber that the mouth of a chambered cartridge rests on, establishing the headspace reference. It is located near the rear of the point where a bullet is normally seated in a loaded cartridge. The stepped chamber was eliminated in the P.08 by the army in late 1941 and early 1942 because of extraction problems when firing the new steel cased cartridges.	 The above photo clearly shows the chamber step as a thin line ring to the rear of the point where a 9mm	This blueprint shows the location and measurement of the obturation ring (stepped chamber):

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
		cartridge's mouth rests when the cartridge is chambered.	
Describe an approach to sear plunger pin removal? The pins holding the sear plunger are very tight. Here is an approach to removing them using a common drill press:	I found a very small drill bit in my parts box that fit the pin face, and chucked it into my drill press upside down. Sorry I don't have the exact drill bit size, I just made a visual fit of the bit face to the pin. I placed a block of wood under the sear assembly. I found I had to tightly chuck the bit into the drill press or I could not budge the sear plunger pin. But, on about the third try I had things tight enough and pushed the pin out.  There is a hole in the wood block to receive the pin. This photo was taken right before I pushed the pin out.	I did not push the pin all the way out, rather just enough to allow the plunger and spring to come out. The spring is small and thin, easy to lose or damage. I cleaned out the channel with pipe cleaners and Ballistol.  I used a slightly larger drill bit, also mounted upside down, to press the pin back in. I also build a crude wooden jig to keep the plunger in its channel at the correct distance as I pushed the pin in. I was concerned the spring might pop out during the reassemble. I was not optimistic that anyone would have a replacement spring in stock.	The jig worked and the press of the pin was smooth. It is a tight fit and flush. 

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
Describe an approach to S-link pin removal? The pins holding the S-link are very tight. Here is an approach to removing them using a common drill press., Note that the drill press table must be able to withstand the compression pressure:	I was able to dissemble the toggle parts fairly easily, but the pin holding the S-link would not budge using a 3/32 punch and mallet. So, I chucked a 3/32" drill bit into the press, upside down. As with the sear plunger pin, there was a hole in the wood to receive the pin when it was pressed out. I had to pull down pretty hard on the drill press handle - the pin would not move and the drill bit began to slide upward into the chuck vise. So I then chucked the punch into the drill press; the punch has a textured handling surface less less likely to slip. Note that this toggle has been re-blued. I'm wondering if that was why the pin was so tight. Plenty of pressure, then a "bang", and the whole thing was apart.	I cleaned out ancient sludge where the pin had held the s-link into the rear toggle, then used the mallet to start the pin. It was tight going back together, but the pin went in much easier than it came out. Pistol is now reassembled and function checked. There you have it. I've now 100% dissembled a P 08 including the toggle, S-link and sear plunger assembly. Having done it, I would not recommend dis-assembly of the toggle and sear plunger absent an issue - the grime removed was not that significant, and the risk of marring the parts or losing the spring was always present. But, for those like me, who cannot leave perfectly functional P 08s alone, or who enjoy the challenge, use at your risk and as you wish.	This photo shows the 3/32" punch mounted in the drill press, which was used to remove the pin, just before I pressed the pin back in. 
What are the “relieved” and “unrelieved” frame?	After reading up on Swiss Lugers I have come across these two terms- Can someone tell me what "relieved frame" and Unrelieved frame" mean? There was a change to the loading button on the magazine to make it thicker. This lead to the need for a relief cut in the frame to accommodate the thicker profile.	The “unrelieved frame” is only a feature of the very early production M1900 Swiss Lugers and are probably only found on pieces serial numbered under 700 (we have not observed seeing any beyond that range). Unrelieved frame examples are very rare as most were reworked to relieve the frame to accept the later raised button magazine.	

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
How were Haenel-Schmeisser magazines manufactured?	Even though they may have the appearance of being extruded, these steel Luger magazines were made by welding a folded steel blank and machining it to close tolerance. These magazines were initially manufactured for commercial / police sale with bright plated bodies. They had aluminum and plastic magazine bases.	The magazines were manufactured by C.G. Haenel; Haenel-Schmeisser before and during WW-II and at the factory absorbed into VEB Ernst Thalmann in East Germany in 1953 after the war. The war period magazines have “122” and “fxo” concealment codes E/37 acceptance markings. Post War VoPo magazines have the 2/1001 Thalmann concealment code. Fabrication is described by an actual worker at the factory:	 1436. Schematic diagrams showing Hugo Schmeisser's method for manufacture of monolithic magazine bodies from sheet steel, not seamless drawn tube. 1. A pre-formed stamped blank with pre-chamfered edges is folded around a former with the internal shape of the P.08 magazine. 2. The edges are folded in along the spine. 3. The former is replaced by a welding jig with a ceramic spine to which the weld will not adhere, and seam-welded along the spine 4. Final shaping by profile slab milling, grinding and polishing. Hans Jürgen Stoll, 1983, from description by Haenel operative Viktor Leick, Merzig
What are some of the special characteristics observed in Haenel-Schmeisser magazines?	As discussed earlier, there are several Mauser magazine variations. Four of those are blued milled Haenel-Schmeisser magazines typed by Hallock and van de Kant as: • Type 3: Blued Milled Body, Aluminum Concave Center Pinned Body, 122 Code, E/37 WaA • Type 4: Blued Milled Body, Aluminum Concave Center Pinned Body, fxo Code, E/37 WaA – upside down “P.08” • Type 5: Blued Milled Body, Aluminum Concave Center Pinned Body, fxo Code, E/37 WaA • Type 6: Blued Milled Body, Black Plastic Concave Center Pinned Body, fxo Code, E/37 WaA	Early in 1941 there was a change from the 122 to fxo marked magazines when Haenel-Schmeisser's concealment code changed. A small number of 122 code magazines have the “P08” stamp. The “P” of the “P.08” is properly near the bottom of the magazine. The upside down “P.08” was not described by Hallock and van de Kant on plastic based magazines. Those shown in this photo must be variants of the Type 6 – and possibly show overlap manufacturing both aluminum and plastic based magazines at the same time or from the same batches of tubes. These were prevalent in 41 byf's with a p,q,r,s suffixes. After that, the P08 was stamped in the other direction as shown in the bottom magazine in your picture.	
How well prepared/fitted were the German divisional armorers and gunsmiths during WWII?	Gortz & Sturgess discusses Luger field repair for WWI. I can't find discussion of actual capability and I don't know if the comments apply to WWII; hope someone will comment. During WWI, Assistant Armorers existed at the Company or Battery level for simple repairs with more extensive capability at Regimental	Damaged pistols that had usable parts were scrapped if they were sent back to the armorers who traveled behind lines with the troops. Some of those original souvenir :Lugers came home with mismatched parts because the field armorers used them to fix pistols, rifles,	

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	or Battalion level via Master Armorers. Master Armorers were Sergeants and Assistant Armorers could be any rank below that. Armorers were trained to fix multiple weapon types. Since "divisions" moved around geographically; it's doubtful that they would carry any re-finishing equipment- the logistics just to " inconvenient" and the chemicals "nasty". The German Army was set-up, more or less, similar to the American Army, which used an echelon system. 1st echelon = users. 2nd echelon = repairers in the field. 3rd echelon = repair in a rear area. 4th echelon = depot major repairs away from the war zone. 5th echelon = factory made as new. Anything like rebluing would have occurred at no lower than 4th echelon. The German Police Armorer system was outlined in Allied Intelligence source material on the configuration of the Polizei. There were approximately 100 wartime Police Armorer workstations set up in occupied Europe with each one manned by a certified armorer and assistant(s) as necessary. Damaged firearms were collected and sent or taken to one of these workstations which could be just behind the lines or in the interior. Police Armorers would repair and replace firearms parts to return them to functionality but they would not do anything they were not equipped to do. For instance, they would replace broken/damaged springs and small parts but would not normally re-barrel or re-blue firearms. Typically, they would use new unnumbered parts or scrounge parts from their stock of really broken firearms. Typically, they would leave the part unnumbered or they would force match the serial numbers according to established protocols.	etc. and the GIs could have cared less. As the war went further East an increasing number of weapons were repaired due to the lack of new weapons reaching troops in those remote locations. Thus the armorers had plenty to do because of a lack of new weapons getting where they were needed at the right time. Police firearms that required re-working, as opposed to repair, would be sent to a Police Armory or Depot such as the Police Technical Armory in Berlin. The military had similar Armories for major repairs or re-working such as the one at Spandau. This practice continued after the war. For instance, the East German Volkspolizei set up a Police Armory at Suhl and reworked WWII period firearms for re-issue to the DDR Volkspolizei. Rare Example of WW-II Field Armorer's Kit:	  

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	During WW-II new unnumbered parts from Mauser were marked with their “42” concealment code in a small approximately 2.5mm high die.	 	
How can you electrically remove heavy rust from a firearm?	This article comes by way of moderator “Mark” over at the P38Forum.com who posted this a while back and thought it might be interesting to the community once again. It’s used with his permission. About 10 or 15 years ago he received an email from someone who was cleaning up a hoarder’s house and found many guns. He was most interested in the P.38 which was mint on one side and corroded on the other. Mark bought the rest of the rusted guns for $25 each and used his knowledge as a	Here is the recipe. Electrolytic rust removal causes rust to be electrically etched off of iron or steel in a bath of mild alkali, such as Sodium Carbonate (Washing Soda). Connect the rusty metal part to the negative terminal of a 12V battery charger (a 40 amp charger works great) and the positive side to a steel bucket. Mark used a wooden dowel to suspend the gun because you do not want the gun touching the metal side of the bucket. Use one tablespoon of Washing Soda per	Process takes a really long time 10-12 hours for a complete functional pistol after the initial treatment. I did have to take the grips off before the process and a little Kroil helped getting the grip screws out and they only had mold on them which cleaned up in soapy water and a tooth brush. Note that it does not always work, and you use this process at your own risk.

FAQ Question	Answer	Detail	Notes
	Scuba Diver to remove the rust and get the guns functional. This is a well known technique known to divers who want to preserve metal items from ship wrecks and is used by museums to preserve items like iron cannons and artifacts but on a larger scale.	gallon of water. An advantage of electrolytic rust removal is that it will have no effect on good metal, so you can leave the gun in the bath for a long time and not damage the metal. However it will leave a black oxide surface, which is the result of a process that doesn't remove any good metal at all. The only thing removed is loose rust and embedded oxygen. Photos of before and after are included with his technique. The slide on the gun was frozen solid and the mag could not be removed. After the initial process he was able to remove the mag and field strip the gun. It was found loaded with a round in the chamber! Anyone considering a process like this must assume that there is a round in the chamber, try to remove it and always point the firearm in a safe direction. Always assume a firearm is loaded and could go off. In this case, there was a round in the chamber, but the process did not ignite it. After he took it completely apart and did an ultrasonic cleaning, and replaced all the springs, it shot dead center!	Here's the electrolysis setup:  Example of results:  

German – English Glossary

Abbildung illustration
Abrzung abbreviation
Abzug trigger
Abzugsb gel trigger guard
Abzugsfeder trigger spring
Abzugshebel trigger lever
Abzugsstange sear
Anatomischer anatomical
Anschlagschaft extension stock
Ansicht von links/rechts view from left/right side
Aufbau conversion
Aufgeschnitten cut-away
Aufsteckbar detachable
Aussenliegenden external
Auswerfer extractor
Automatisch automatic
Beschussampt proof-house
Beweglich moveable
Bewegung action
Blank stamped [metal]
Blech sheet [metal]
Blei lead
Bleigescho lead bullet
Blick view
Bodenst ck magazine base
Breniert blued
Dachkorn barleycorn sight
Daumenlager thumb-rest
Deckplatte side-plate

Drall turn [rifling]
Druck pressure
Dunkel dark
Durchmeer diameter
Durchschnitt cross-section
Einbau assembly
Einheit s standard
Einselnschu single-shot
Einstecklauf insert barrel assembly
Elfenbein ivory
Energie energy
Ersatz spare
Erstenweltkrieg WW1
Feld land [rifling]
Fischhautschalen checkering [grips]
Ganzstahl all-steel
Geändert altered
Gebraucht used
Geräte devices
Geschmiedete hammered
Geschwindigkeit velocity
Gezogen rifled
Glanzpoliert highly-polished
Glatt smooth
Graviert engraved
Griff grip
Griffschalen grip plates
Hahn hammer
Halbautomatische semi-automatic
Handballenauflager palm-rest

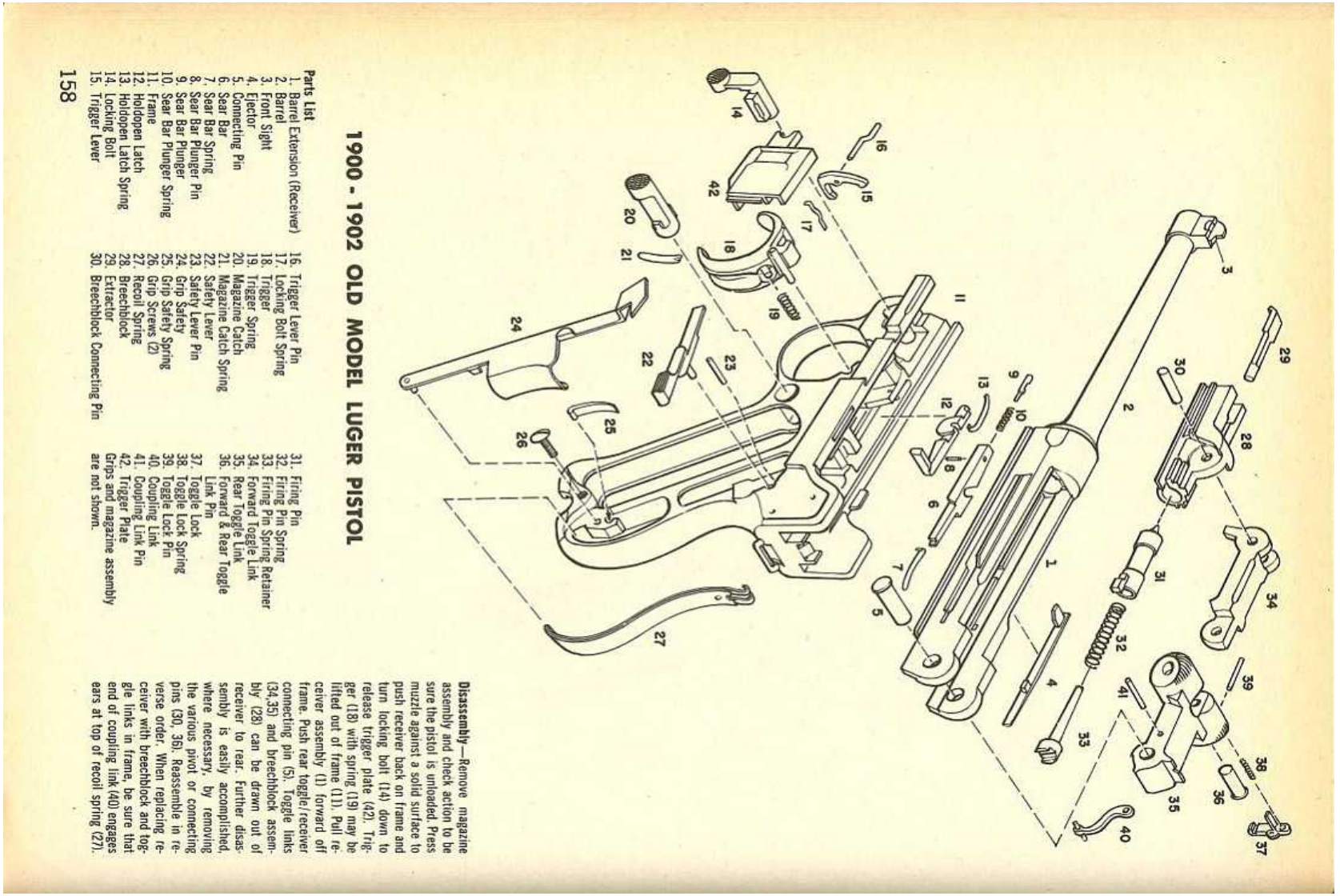
Hauptfeder mainspring
Hauptfedersicherungsschraube mainspring securing screw
Hersteller manufacturer
Hinterenknebel rear toggle
Hintergelenk rear link
Hochleistung high-performance
Holz wood
Hulse receiver/cannon
Hulsen cartridge-case
Innenliegenden internal
Kaiserlich imperial
Kaliber calibre / caliber
Kammer breechblock
Karabiner carbine
Kimme rear sight
Knebel toggle
Kniegelenk toggle [assembly]
Kniegelenkte toggle-locked
Koenigliche royal
Korn foresight
Krieg war
Kugel bullet
Kugellager breech
Kunststoff plastic
Kupfer copper
Kurz short
Laden to load
Ladung load [of powder]
Lange long

Lauf barrel
Legierung alloy
Leichtmetall aluminum
Loch hole
Losnummer delivery number
Magazinhalter magazine release button
Mantel gilding metal
Maßstab scale
Mehrschu multishot
Merkmal feature
Messing brass
Mittel medium
Modell pattern, model
Modelle model
Mündung muzzle
Mündungsgeschwindigkeit muzzle velocity
Muster example, pattern
Nagelneu! Brand new!
Nummer number
Nummerngleich matching numbers
Original original
Para. Parabellum
Patrone cartridge
Perlmutter mother-of-pearl
Prägungen stampings
Prufungstempeln proof marks
Pulver powder
Pulvermesser powder measure
Putzstock cleaning rod
Rahmen frame
Rauch smoke

Rauchlos smokeless
Reisenfeuer fully-automatic fire
Rost rust
Rostfrei stainless
Ruckschlag recoil
Rucksto minderung recoil-reduction device
Rust safe [Dutch]
Sammlerwaffe collector’s weapon
Sammlung collection [of things]
Schaft gun-stock
Schalgbolzen firing pin
Schichtholz laminated [stock]
Schliessfeder recoil spring
Schlitten slide [of pistol]
Schraube screw
Schraubenzieher screwdriver
Schuss shot [a]
Schussbilder target group
Schussleistung shooting performance
Sehrgebraucht[e] well-used
Seitenanblick side-view
Seitenst cke side-piece
Seriennummer serial number
Sicherung safety
Sicherungshebel safety-catch
Spannen to cock
Spannhebel cocking-piece
Sperrst ck take-down latch
Stahlblech steel sheet[plate]
Stempel stamp [marking]

Stift pin
Teil part
Treffsicherheit accuracy
Trommelmagazin drum-magazine
Typ type [of]
Umgeändert modified
Velocität velocity
Verbessert[e] improved
Verbindung connection
Verlängert extended
Vermattet matte-finished
Versuch trial
Visier sights
Vollmantel jacketed bullet
Vordereknebel front or leading toggle
Vordergelenk front link
Waffenampt armaments bureau
Wechselsystem conversion system
Werk factory
Werkzeug tool
Wie neu! Like new!
Wiederlader handloader
Ziel target
Zielfernrohr telescopic sight
Zubehör accessories
Zubringer follower [magazine]
Zugnuten rifling grooves
Zundhtschen primer (percussion cap)
Zuverlässig reliable
Zweitenweltkrieg WW2

Luger Parts Diagrams and Nomenclature – M1900 "Old Model"*Guns Digest Exploded Firearms*



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1900 - 1902 OLD MODEL LUGER PISTOL

Parts List

1. Barrel Extension (Receiver)
2. Barrel
3. Front Sight
4. Ejector
5. Connecting Pin
6. Sear Bar
7. Sear Bar Spring
8. Sear Bar Plunger Pin
9. Sear Bar Plunger
10. Sear Bar Plunger Spring
11. Frame
12. Holdopen Latch
13. Holdopen Latch Spring
14. Locking Bolt
15. Trigger Lever
16. Trigger Lever Pin
17. Locking Bolt Spring
18. Trigger
19. Trigger Spring
20. Magazine Catch
21. Magazine Catch Spring
22. Safety Lever
23. Safety Lever Pin
24. Grip Safety
25. Grip Safety Spring
26. Grip Screws (2)
27. Recoil Spring
28. Breechblock
29. Extractor
30. Breechblock Connecting Pin
31. Firing Pin
32. Firing Pin Spring
33. Firing Pin Spring Retainer
34. Forward Toggle Link
35. Rear Toggle Link
36. Forward & Rear Toggle Link Pin
37. Toggle Lock
38. Toggle Lock Spring
39. Toggle Lock Pin
40. Coupling Link
41. Coupling Link Pin
42. Trigger Plate

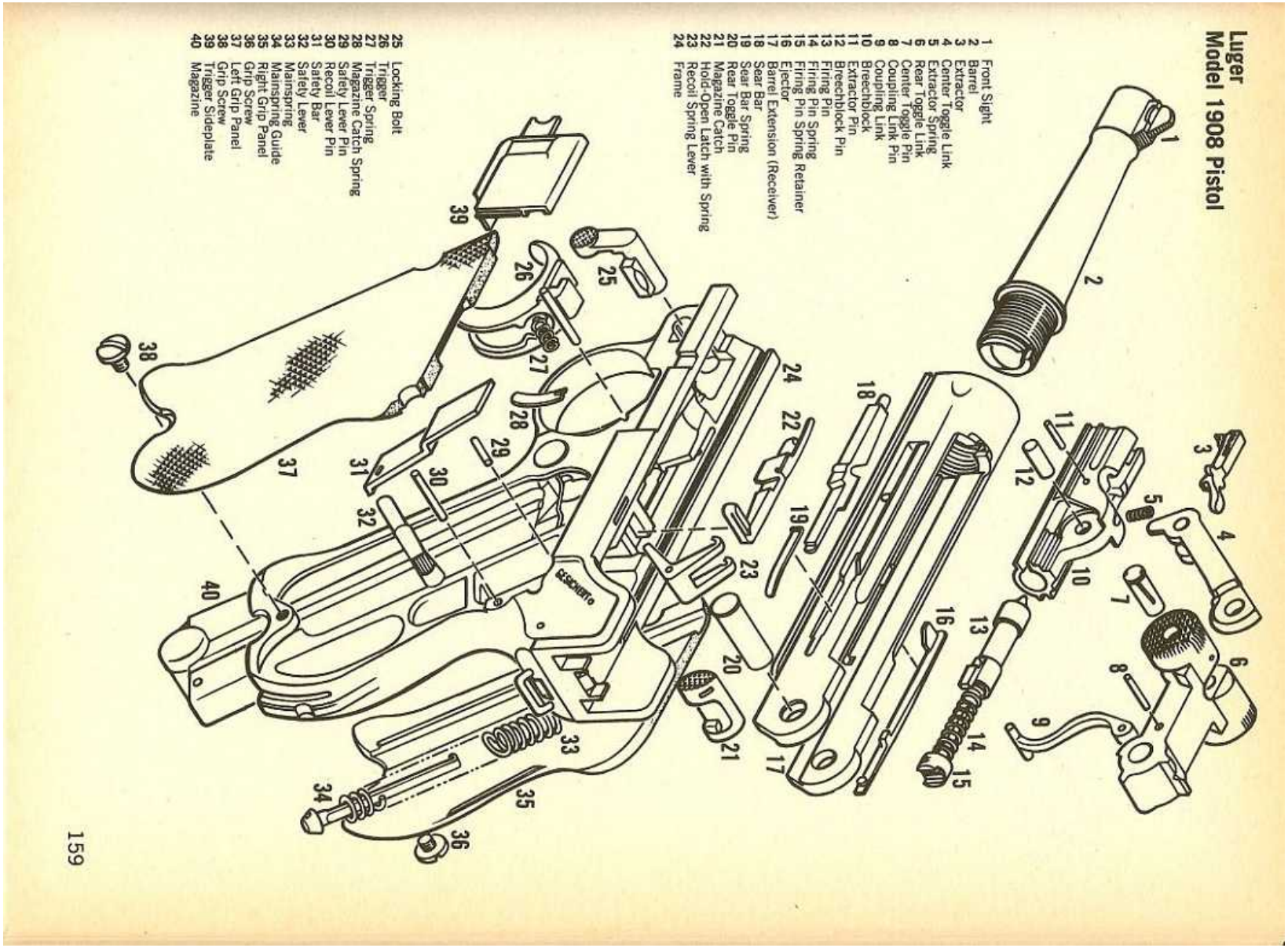
Grips and magazine assembly are not shown.

Disassembly—Remove magazine assembly and check action to be sure the pistol is unloaded. Press muzzle against a solid surface to push receiver back on frame and turn locking bolt (14) down to release trigger plate (42). Trigger (18) with spring (19) may be lifted out of frame (11). Pull receiver assembly (1) forward off frame. Push rear toggle/receiver connecting pin (5). Toggle links (34,35) and breechblock assembly (28) can be drawn out of receiver to rear. Further disassembly is easily accomplished, where necessary, by removing the various pivot or connecting pins (30, 36). Reassemble in reverse order. When replacing receiver with breechblock and toggle links in frame, be sure that end of coupling link (40) engages ears at top of recoil spring (27).

***Drawings* has such illustrations, names included, on single pages, for the two main Parabellum models.**

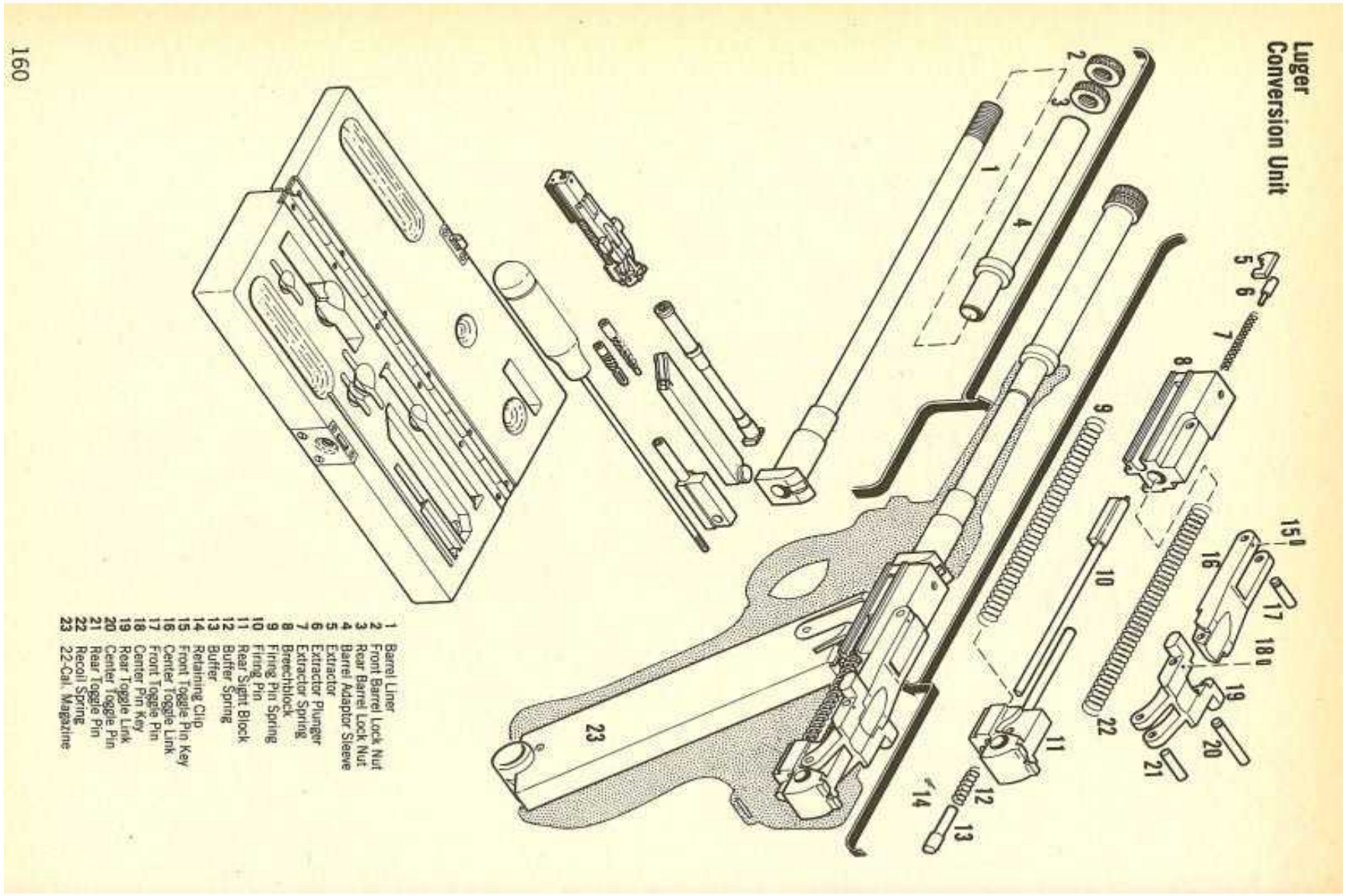
Luger Parts Diagrams and Nomenclature – M1908 "New Model"

Guns Digest Exploded Firearms Drawings has such illustrations, names included, on single pages, for the two main Parabellum models.



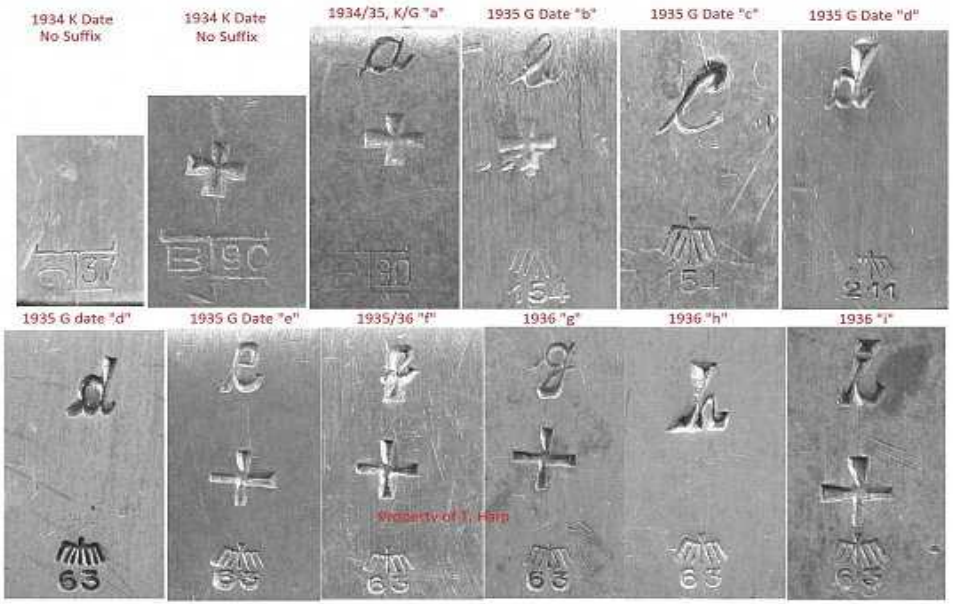
Luger Parts Diagrams and Nomenclature – ERMA .22 Conversion

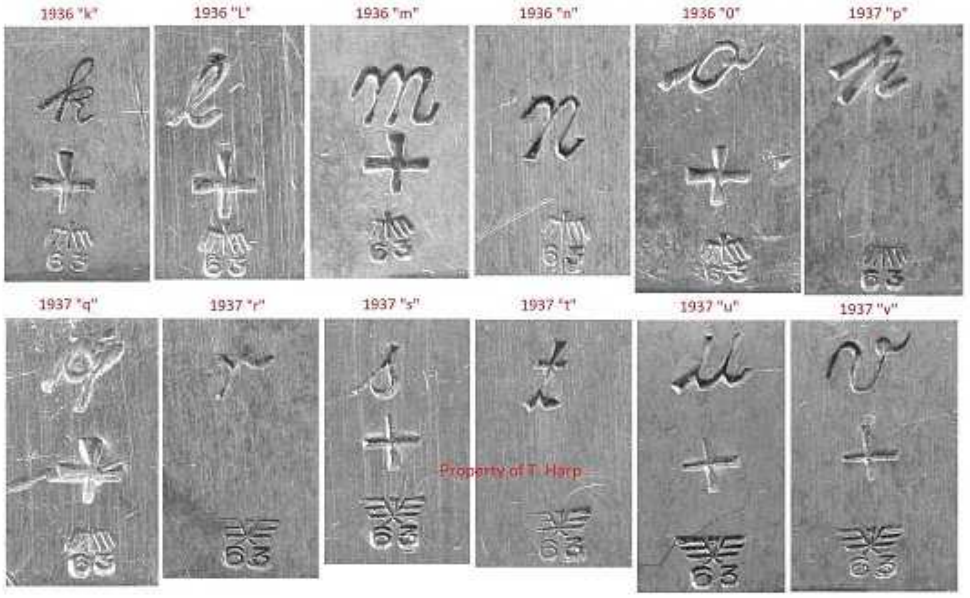
Guns Digest Exploded Firearms Drawings has such illustrations, names included, on single pages, for the ERMA .22 / 6mm Conversion Kit.

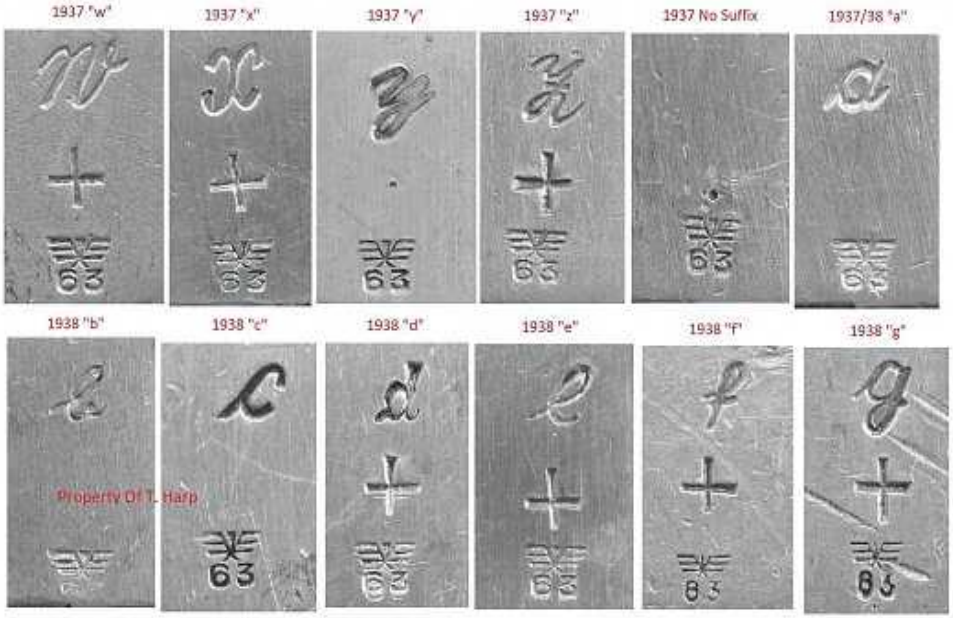


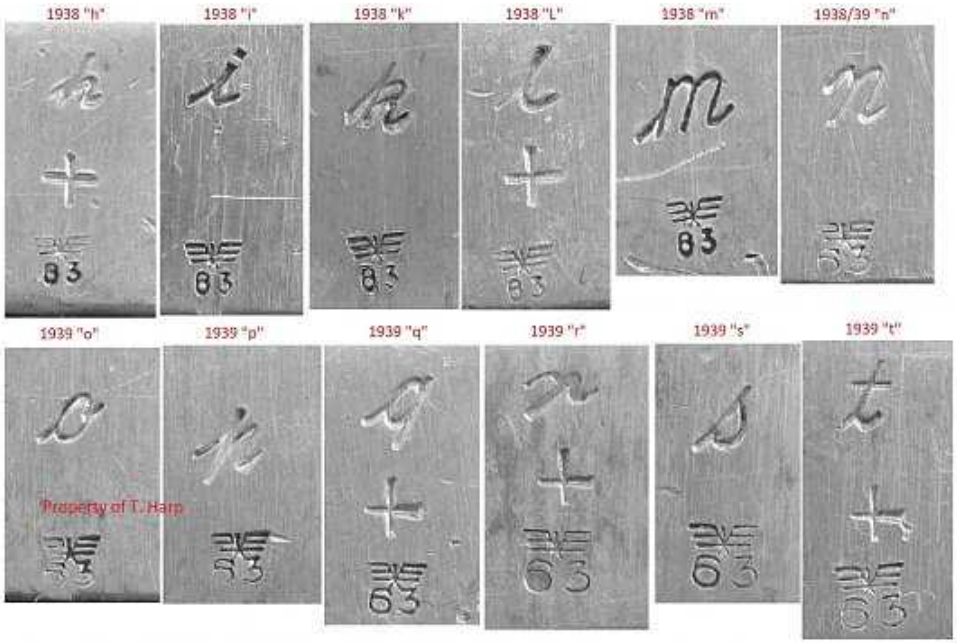
Photographic Mauser Magazine Study

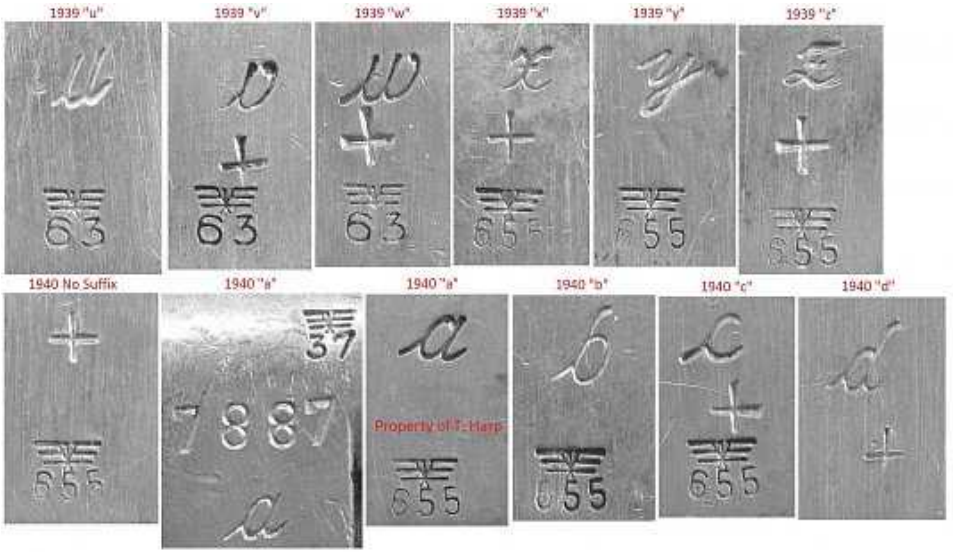
(Study Courtesy of forum user THARPO)

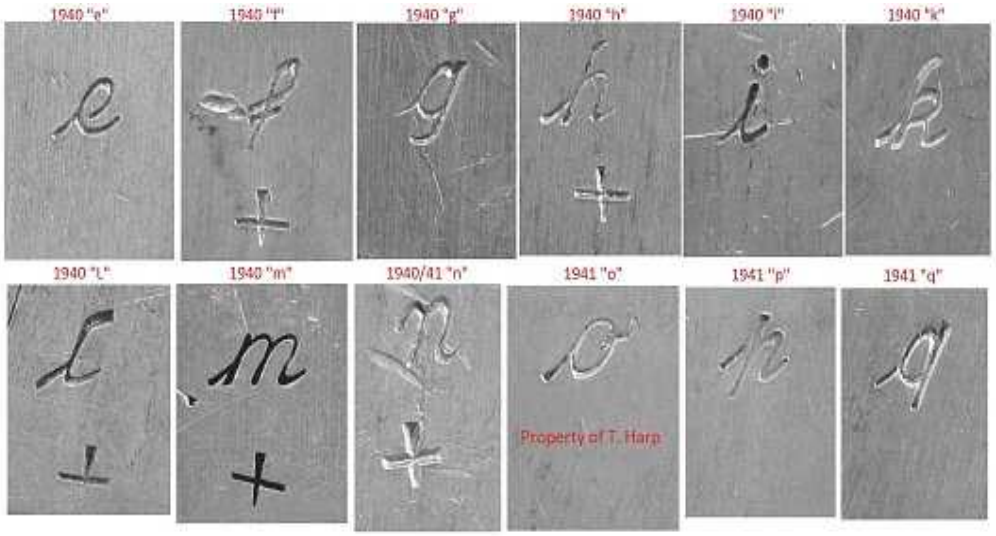


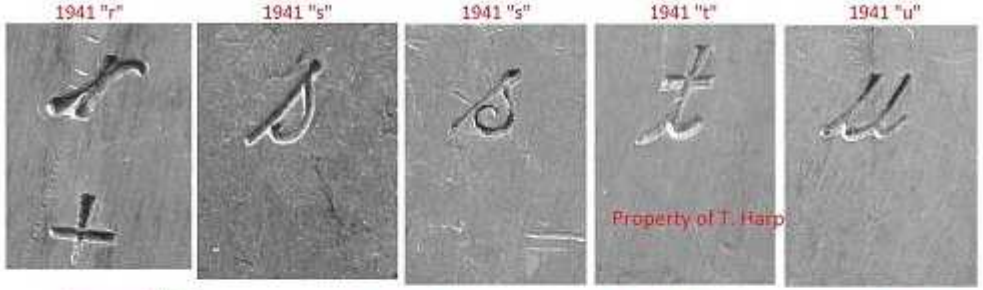


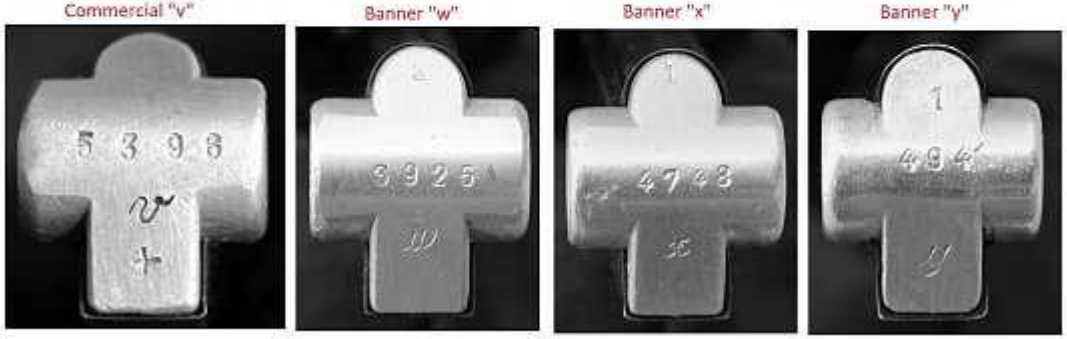





1939 "u"
1939 "v"
1939 "w"
1939 "x"
1939 "y"
1939 "z"
1940 No Suffix
1940 "a"
1940 "a"
1940 "b"
1940 "c"
1940 "d"


1940 "e"
1940 "f"
1940 "g"
1940 "h"
1940 "i"
1940 "k"
1940 "L"
1940 "m"
1940/41 "n"
1941 "o"
1941 "p"
1941 "q"
Property of T. Harp


1941 "r"
1941 "s"
1941 "s"
1941 "t"
1941 "u"
Property of T. Harp


Commercial "v"
Banner "w"
Banner "x"
Banner "y"