

Benelli MP90/95 Lubrication Guide

Doug White 1/15/2011

Benelli .22 target pistols are a bit fussier about lubrication than some. However, they will function very reliably with a little care.

What Lubricants to Use?: Benellis are designed to use a very thin oil. The factory oil comes in a small gray bottle (see Figure 1), but is hard to buy in the US. Rem Oil works well, but it is extremely thin, and hard to apply sparingly. BreakFree CLP is OK, but it's a bit thicker than the factory oil. There are some points with high pressures & small contact areas where grease will last much longer than oil. Some greases contain small particles of Teflon or other compounds that supposedly embed themselves in the metal for even longer lubrication. Tetra TW-25B is one that I have used for many years.

How Much to Use?: Generally, very little. A thin smear of grease is plenty. With oil, the rubbing surfaces should be wet, but not dripping. One small drop is usually plenty. Excess lubricant is messy, and it can attract dirt.

Where Does it Go?: Figures 2 through 6 show the critical lubrication points. A detailed description of each is given on the following page.



Figure 1: Lubricants

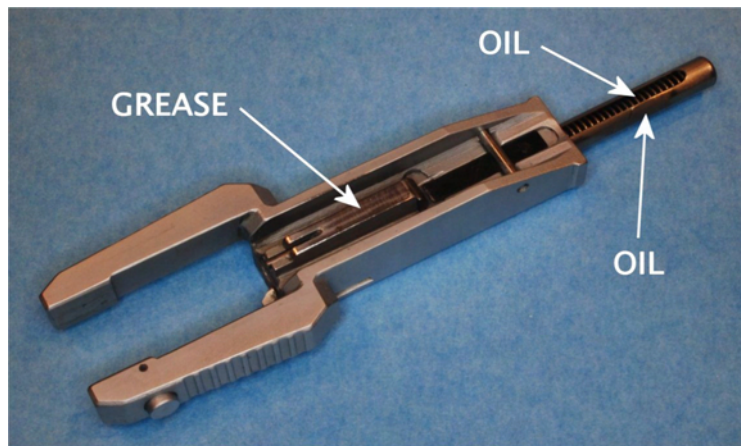


Figure 2: Lubrication points on slide

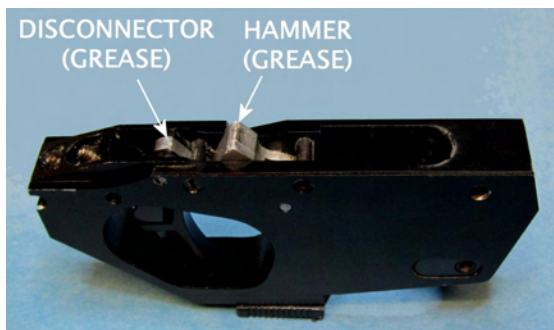


Figure 3: Old style firing assembly

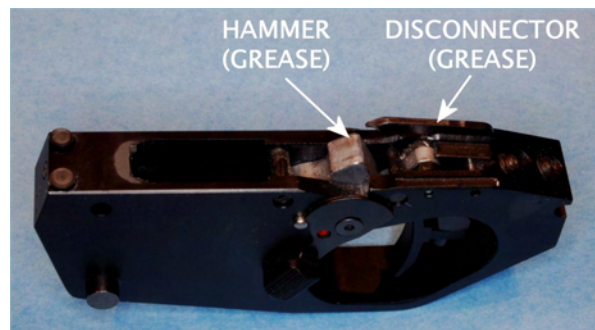


Figure 4: New style firing assembly

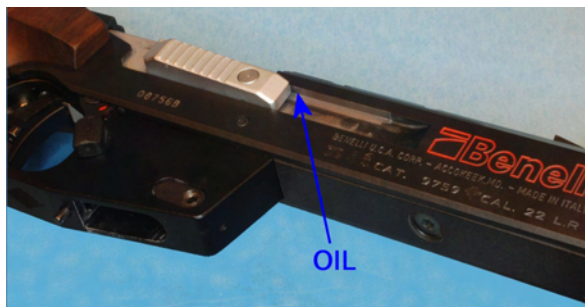


Figure 5: Right & left side "slide forks"

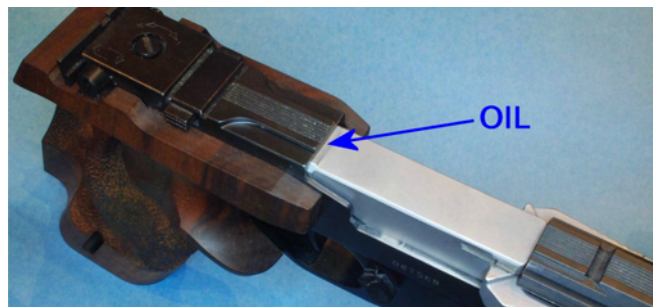


Figure 6: Top rear of slide

The first three photos show lubrication points that require attention while the pistol is disassembled for cleaning. The last two are best done with the pistol assembled, and can also be done if the pistol acts up in a match and time doesn't permit a full disassembly & cleaning.

Figure 2: Slide Lubrication Points. With the slide removed for cleaning, there are three critical locations that need lubricating. The center rib on the underside is where the hammer rides, pressing up with considerable force. A thin film of grease should be applied to the full length of the rib.

One area that is often neglected is the rebound spring and guide. A drop of oil should be applied through the slot onto the spring, and then a second drop should be applied to the outside of the guide (tube). It's a good idea to press the end of the guide in an inch or so a few times to distribute the oil before reassembly.

Figure 3: Old Style Firing Assembly. On the older pistols, the disconnecter is a small silver piece behind the hammer (the other, larger, silver piece). The disconnecter is what prevents the pistol from firing more than once with each pull of the trigger. Both the hammer & the disconnecter ride on the rib on the bottom of the slide, and the grease applied to the bottom of the rib should be adequate lubrication. As a little added insurance, you can apply a tiny dab of grease to the top of both of these.

Figure 4: New Style Firing Assembly. On the newer pistols (after ~ 1985?), the disconnecter design was changed. There is a black extension lever on the right side that extends forward of the regular silver disconnecter. Instead of the rib in the bottom center of the slide pushing the disconnecter down, the extension lever operates the disconnecter. The lever is actuated by the silver cross pin at the rear of the slide. The top of the black extension lever should have a small amount of grease applied to it. There will usually be wear marks to indicate where the grease is needed.

Figure 5: Right & Left Side Slide Forks. The force of the hammer on the bottom of the slide pushes the top of the two slide "forks" up against the top of the slots on either side of the barrel. A small drop of oil should be applied to each side. It helps to apply the oil with the slide locked to the rear, and with the pistol upside down. This ensures that the oil flows where it is needed most, on top of the forks. Work the slide back & forth a few times to spread the oil evenly.

Figure 6: Top Rear of Slide. The other critical moving contact point between the slide and the frame is between the top of the back of the slide, and the underside of the back of the frame. On older models, the top of the slide is wide and flat, and it slides back and forth against the inside of the frame with a large contact area. On the newer models, the contact area is reduced to a small raised bar across the rear of the slide. In either case, a drop of oil applied where the two meet with the slide closed will flow oil into the critical area. Again, work the slide back & forth to distribute the oil uniformly.