



**TACTICAL AR500  
TARGETS, INC.**

## **Safely Using Steel Target Systems**

Shooting steel targets is a fun and safe way to increase your skill level faster than shooting paper. By providing you instant, positive feedback with every successful hit, through sight and sound recognition, you will program your muscle memory to reproduce the same results, shot after shot. Targets from Tactical AR500 Targets, INC. are designed to provide you with outstanding durability and quality. Keeping your targets freshly painted also provides you with instant visual feedback of the exact location of each impact.

### **Physical Traits of high quality steel targets:**

When a bullet impacts a steel target, the speed and energy of the impact breaks the bullet into fragments. A properly designed steel target will be angled forward to allow dispersion of the lead and copper to mostly be directed towards the ground. All bullet fragmentation has been found to deflect typically between 0 and 20 degrees from the target face. (See figure 1 on back of page) Keeping targets and other objects out of this 20 degree line helps minimize the risk of any fragmentation returning back to the shooter. On our A-DAP system, for example, the target is angled forward AND is able to move when struck, thus absorbing the bullets energy and helping to direct much of the spalling into the ground. This design also increases the durability of the system in general. Another critical aspect of a properly designed steel target system is the steel itself. A high quality steel target will be made of either AR500 or AR550 hardened steel, no exceptions! This hardened steel is critical to ensure that the targets resist pitting or cratering from bullet impacts. Cheap targets are plentiful on the market, but they are cheap for a reason, and many are poorly designed and unsafe to shoot. Do not settle for less, investing in a high quality AR500 or AR550 steel target is the best value for your hard earned dollar and it is the only way to ensure a truly safe and effective shooting experience.

### **ALWAYS FOLLOW SAFE SHOOTING PRACTICES:**

**\*\*\* (NOTE: these are REQUIEMENTS, please always seek FURTHER professional guidance and training BEFORE engaging in ANY shooting sports activities!)\*\*\***

1. **ALWAYS** seek professional training and guidance/oversight
2. Handle all guns as if they are loaded, **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are on target and ready to shoot, and only place your finger on the trigger once your range instructor has determined it is safe to do so.
4. Always keep your gun pointed in a safe direction. Do **NOT** point the muzzle at yourself or others **EVER!**
5. Be sure of your target, what is in front of your target, and what is behind your target.
6. Always ensure there is a bullet stopping berm or certified trap behind your target to safely contain **ANY** and **ALL** misses. This is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure.

**\*\* Shooting any firearm, for any reason, comes with inherent safety risks and dangers. By purchasing any of our products you agree that you assume all risks of your actions or the actions of others while using our products for any purpose. Shooting steel targets also present risks that can be substantially reduced by following these safe shooting instructions. We cannot ensure that you follow these safe shooting requirements, it is your job to ensure you follow any and all safety guidelines contained here and elsewhere. If you have any concerns or questions do not begin to shoot your targets, contact us first for guidance. \*\***

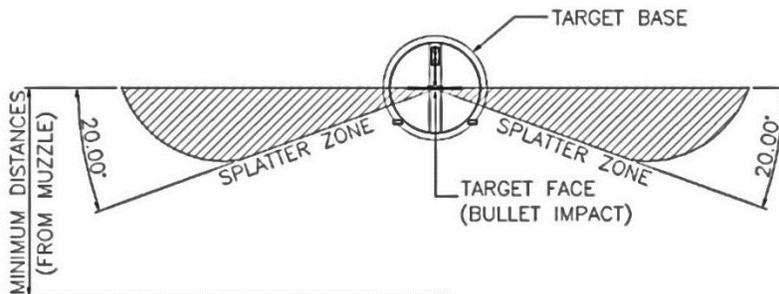


FIGURE 1  
(NOT TO SCALE)

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you are using more than one target system, you must **stagger** them and keep the targets out of each other's splatter zones. Placing them in a straight line can lead to some fragmentation becoming unpredictable and returning to the shooter.

TARGET SHOOTER

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: .300 BLACKOUT HAS SOME EXCEPTIONS THAT DIFFER FROM OTHER CALIBERS! \*\***

Due to the fact that .300 blackout can be shot with subsonic ammo, some users are tempted to shoot at pistol recommended distances. **MINIMUM** distance for **SUBSONIC AMMO** should be at least **30** yards due to the sheer size and weight of the bullets being fired, and their generally low velocities.

**SUPERSONIC .300 BLKACKOUT AMMO:** Follow our distance recommendations listed under light rifle calibers.

## SHOOTING GUIDELINES:

1. **Always** wear approved eye protection
2. **Always** use approved hearing protection
3. **Always** wear long pants and long sleeves
4. **Always** follow safe shooting distance recommendations:
  - a. 22 rimfire to 45 auto Handgun – 10+
  - b. Magnum handguns, **SUBSONIC 300 BLACKOUT** – 30+ yards
  - c. Light Rifles (.223,5.56, 300 blk, 7.62x39): 30 yards 1/2" AR550, 50 yards 3/8" AR550
  - d. Centerfire Rifles (.308, 6.5CM): 50 yards when using 3/8" or 1/2" AR550
  - e. Magnum Centerfire Rifles (.338LP)- 100+ Yards (1/2" AR550)
5. **Always** ensure your target is rated for the caliber you are shooting
  - a. Rifle targets are safe to shoot with handguns at a range of 10 yards. However, always inspect your target after shooting it with a centerfire rifle. **Rounds traveling at over 3000 feet per second can cause slight damage to the surface of the target depending on your distance.** This CAN lead to unpredictable splatter making the target unsafe to use at close handgun ranges. To prevent this from happening, always use **ammunition that travels less than 3000 feet per second AND follow our minimum recommended distances above.** If you are ever unsure of proper distance, add MORE distance than what we recommend. **DO NOT USE PENETRATOR AMMO EVER!** Use of steel core ammo (e.g. SS109, M855 Green tip) WILL result in damage to the target immediately! Hollow point and other expanding ammunition as well as lead core FMJ is acceptable.
6. Note that our 1/2" AR550 Magnum A-DAP or Goliath target plates should be used when calibers like .338LP and 50 BMG are to be used. Note that the targets are **NOT** intended to be shot at or impacted by **ANY** form of Armor piercing or incendiary rounds, period, **regardless of caliber or distance.**

Following these safety rules will ensure that you enjoy many hours and thousands of rounds on your steel target systems. These rules maximize safety and fun. If you ever have any questions, please contact us **BEFORE** engaging in shooting at your steel targets. We would be happy to provide you with assistance!