

## FUSE SELECTION

It is strongly recommended that you use Traditions Cannon Fuse, A1264, which is manufactured to U. S. Government specifications to have a burn rate of 1 foot in 30 seconds ±5%.

**Important:** Before firing your cannon, cut a 1 foot length of fuse, select a safe area, light it and time its rate of burn. It should nearly equal 30 seconds. If not do not use that lot of fuse. Always test each new lot of fuse, **Never** use homemade or fuse of uncertain origin.

## VERIFYING IF CANNON IS LOADED OR UNLOADED

**Caution:** Always keep barrel pointed in a safe direction.

1. Put on shatterproof shooting glasses and appropriate hearing protection. A cannon may shower sparks or fragments when fired.
2. Check to be sure the cannon is unloaded:
  - a. Place a rod down the barrel and place a mark on it exactly where it exits the muzzle.
  - b. Remove the rod and lay it along the outside of barrel while lining up the mark at the muzzle.
  - c. The opposite end of the rod should reach down the barrel and extend slightly past the touch hole. If the ramrod is short of lining up with the touch hole, the cannon is either loaded or obstructed and should be disarmed and cleared before proceeding.

## LOADING THE CANNON

**Caution:** Never smoke while loading, shooting or handling propellants. Always follow the manufacturer's safety precautions as listed on the propellant container. Avoid all potential ignition sources.

1. The shooter and any bystanders must wear shooting glasses and hearing protection.
2. Hold the muzzle upward, with right side toward you. Be sure no part of the body is over or in front of the cannon. Pour a measured charge of powder into the barrel (see load chart).
3. Lubricate a cloth shooting patch with Traditions Wonder Lube 1000 Plus™. Center patch onto the muzzle. Place the ball on top of the patch centered over the muzzle. (If cast balls are being used, place sprue (flat surface) facing upward.) Use a ball starter to apply moderate pressure to push the ball and patch into the muzzle. With a ramrod, continue to push the ball and patch into the barrel until it is firmly seated against the powder charge.

**Caution:** Be sure to seat ball completely. Any gap or space between the projectile and powder charge can cause a dangerous burst barrel. Possible bodily injury could result.

4. Determine your target.

**Caution:** It is recommended that the cannon be secured to ground prior to firing.

5. Cut approximately 6 inches of cannon fuse and place in the touch hole. Be sure the fuse runs down into the powder charge. The cannon is now ready to fire. Note: To insure that the fuse is well into the powder charge, it is also acceptable to install the fuse before loading the propellant.

**Caution:** Do not stand directly behind the cannon and do not let spectators gather near. Announce to all that you are about to fire.

8. Light the fuse and all stand away at least 6 feet. Never stand directly behind a cannon.
9. After the cannon has been fired, take a swab dampened with a muzzleloading cleaning solvent and run it down the bore and vent to extinguish remaining sparks within the barrel.
10. Reloading should not commence for five minutes after the previous shot has been fired. This will allow sparks or glowing embers in the barrel to die out prior to reloading.

## DANGER

If the cannon should fail to fire after approximately 30 seconds of fuse burning or if it appears that the fuse has gone out, do not approach the cannon. It is possible that a bend or tear in the fuse has prevented it from burning completely. The fuse may still be glowing internally and could reignite. Wait at least five minutes after such a misfire has taken place to allow the fuse to reignite or completely die out. Then approach the cannon cautiously, remove the unburned fuse, pour a little powder down the touch hole and insert fresh fuse and continue to follow the firing procedure.

## CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

1. Black powder fouling is extremely corrosive and can rust the barrel in a short time. All muzzleloading cannons must be cleaned thoroughly after each firing session is completed.
2. Black powder solvent or hot soapy water or bore cleaner can be used. Flush cleaning solution down the barrel and out the touch hole.
3. Follow by running a patched cleaning rod down the bore for a thorough cleaning. Depending on how your cannon is equipped, use a brush and/or cleaning patch on ramrod to aid in cleaning.
4. Wipe firing residue off wooden parts.
5. Thoroughly dry all parts. Note: In certain situations it may be necessary to separate the barrel from the carriage. Note: Gold cannons should only be polished with a soft cloth. Many metal polishes contain abrasives which will remove the gold plating from the barrel.

## SHOOTING NOTES: CANNON WARRANTY REGISTRATION

# TRADITIONS™

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## PERFORMANCE MUZZLELOADING

CANNON SHOOTING  
INSTRUCTIONS &  
WARRANTY  
INFORMATION



TRADITIONS PERFORMANCE MUZZLELOADING

P.O. Box 776  
1375 Boston Post Road  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475-0776

**TRADITIONS CANNON SHOOTING  
INSTRUCTIONS & WARRANTY INFORMATION**

1. This manual contains instructions, cautions and dangers for the safe handling of Traditions cannons. Be certain to read, understand and be willing to follow all of them completely.
  2. When properly handled, a cannon is safe and enjoyable to shoot if you follow a few basic rules.
  3. There is no way to build a cannon to absolve the user of the need to use good judgement. Do not abuse or carelessly handle your cannon.
  4. Your cannon should always be treated with the respect due every firearm plus your strict adherence to the cautions and dangers in this manual.
- Note:** If, after reading the instructions, you are not willing to accept the responsibilities involved in the safe shooting of a muzzleloading cannon, return the cannon to your dealer before firing, or write directly to Traditions, P.O. Box 776, Old Saybrook, CT 06475, explaining your particular situation.

**Note:** If you sell, trade or give this cannon to another person, make sure that you give the new owner a copy of this manual. Free copies are available upon request from Traditions.

**TRADITIONS PERFORMANCE MUZZLELOADING**

P.O. Box 776  
1375 Boston Post Road  
Old Saybrook, CT 06475-0776  
Phone: (860)-388-4656  
Fax: (860)-388-4657  
e-mail: trad@ct2.nai.net  
www.traditionsmuzzle.com

**ONE YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY**

To activate your warranty, please fill out and return the warranty card within 15 days of purchase.

Traditions warrants this product to be free of defects in material or craftsmanship for one year from date of purchase. In the event of a problem, Traditions will repair or replace, at its option, product or parts which are returned at owner's expense to the Traditions Customer Service Department. Please enclose a full and detailed explanation of the specific problem.

Traditions is not responsible for incidental or consequential damage to its cannon or any of its parts, as a result of accident, careless handling, improper loading,

corrosion, neglect, misuse, alterations from original manufacturer or improper packaging for return shipment. Damage to metal or wood that is not the fault of manufacturing or craftsmanship is not covered due to the inability of Traditions to control use and storage conditions.

**This cannon warranty will remain in force unless any of the following is determined by Traditions.**

1. Use of any propellant other than black powder or Pyrodex®.
2. Use of any propellant charges in excess of those recommended in this warranty and shooting instruction booklet.
3. Modification of parts as they were shipped from the factory.

**IMPORTANT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS**

1. Always wear shatterproof glasses and proper ear protection.
2. Always keep muzzle pointed downrange. Treat every cannon as if it is always loaded.
3. Use black powder or Pyrodex® only.
4. Never fire a cannon unless the appropriate projectile is firmly seated against the powder charge.
5. Never exceed recommended maximum powder charges.
6. Never lean over or point muzzle toward yourself or anyone else.
7. Treat a misfire or failure to fire as if the cannon could fire at any moment.
8. Be sure all spectators are well behind the firing line and are aware when you intend to fire.
9. Never smoke while loading, shooting or handling black powder or Pyrodex®. Always guard against any open flame, spark or ignition source.
10. Avoid taking drugs and alcoholic beverages before and during shooting.
11. Keep the cannon and all shooting supplies well out of the reach of children at all times.

**PROPELLANTS**

**Important:** Black powder or Pyrodex® are the only suitable propellants to be used in your Traditions muzzleloading cannon.

Propellant types and granulations that are recommended for use with your Traditions muzzleloading cannon are:

**1f/fg Black powder** - The coarsest granulation available for use in cannons.  
or

**2f/ffg Black powder or Pyrodex® RS** - The standard granulation used in Traditions cannons.

A finer granulation (3f black powder or Pyrodex® P) available for use in smaller caliber muzzleloading rifles. May also be used in small caliber cannons.

Store propellants according to the manufacturer's instructions listed on each container. Local fire regulations should also be followed. Always store propellants in a secure place well away from children.

**PROJECTILES**

The **only** recommended projectile to assure accuracy and consistency from your cannon is a round ball of the proper caliber (cast or swaged) of pure lead.

**RECOMMENDED LOAD CHART**

PROJECTILE	PROPELLENT			
	Round Ball Diameter	Lubed Patch Thickness	Black Powder - 1f/fg -2f/ffg or Pyrodex® - RS	
Minimum Grains			Maximum Grains	
.69/.70	.690	.015*	45	85
.50	.490	.015*	10	20

Loads are to be measured with a graduated (in grains) powder measure intended for muzzleloading firearms. Both black powder and Pyrodex®, when measured by this method, are used in equal amounts.

**Caution:** The term 'black powder' does not refer to any powder black in color. Modern smokeless powders are also black in color but are of a very different chemical composition. Use of smokeless powder in any cannon will result in excessively high pressures and can cause serious damage to the cannon and serious injury to the shooter and bystanders.

Referencing the label on the end of the carton, please write in the last 5 digits located on the right half of the UPC code into the boxes below.

Serial Number 4 0 5 8 9 | | | | |

Model # | | | | |

Is this your first cannon purchase?  
 YES  NO

Do you own muzzleloading rifles or handguns?  
 YES  NO

Will you use your cannon for...  
Shooting?   
Decoration?   
Both?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Purchased From:**

Store Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** This card must be returned within 15 days of purchase or receipt to validate your limited one year warranty. Complete all information above and mail to:

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