

## COMPANY SPOTLIGHT

# NEED A HAND? HERE'S AN EXTRA

Plate, post from Present Arms are helpful whether you're building an AR or cleaning a wide variety of handguns.

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**S**o you want to build your own AR? There is so much to consider. First, what do you want to do with it? Are you going to use it for competition, hunting, target shooting, plinking or home defense? Your options go on and on.

The next question is, how much do you want to spend? Do you want to buy a complete upper or build one from scratch? The lower receiver – forged or billet? Trigger assemblies? There are all kinds of good ones out there. What kind of trigger pull? Stock – fixed or collapsible? Hand guard? Here, again, the varieties are endless.

The good news is that there are parts available from the best suppliers, with instructions available on YouTube and on the manufacturers' and suppliers' websites, and quality tools from endless sources.

What Present Arms brings to the table is that third hand, our Large

Sentinel Plate and AR Magazine Post. These platforms and posts help with the assembly. A vise is not needed; if a shop bench is not available, the assembly can be done on your kitchen table. The AR Magazine Post has pins and is mounted into the plate. Place the lower receiver on it by way of the magazine well, making a secure mounting of the lower receiver in a vertical position so the assembly can begin. One side of the Sentinel Plate is a machine-cut pocket with radius corners to keep those small parts from going adrift.

The use of both hands makes the assembly of the lower receiver a lot easier, from the installation of the front pivot pin, with spring and detent, to the bolt stop, magazine catch assembly and trigger assemble. Working the dust cover is a two-hand job, as is the forward assist. Most of them are. Install the safety, rear takedown pin, buffer retainer spring and retainer and receiver

extension assembly. Turn it over to work the safety, spring, detent and grip.

Some jobs are made easier by laying the lower receiver flat on a table, but much of the work is done while in a vertical position and made a lot easier when both hands are free. Of course, always follow the manufacturer's procedures and sometimes those parts can go airborne, so always wear safety glasses.

When you're all done, the Sentinel Plate and Magazine Post is now a perfect stand to hold your AR for cleaning. Turn it over, smooth side up, and use as a display stand. Magazine posts are interchangeable, and are available for 1911s, Glocks, S&W, HK, Berettas and more. Now you have a platform to use for your pistols. ★

*Editor's note: For more information, visit [presentarmstnc.com](http://presentarmstnc.com) or call (413) 575-4656.*



Present Arms' plates come with beveled edges to keep pertinent parts close at hand. The flip side serves as a display platform.