



# Mobile Clay Shooting, Traps and Spares

by

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Classic clay pigeon trap - Instructions for use, please read carefully.

Please note that I cannot/will not accept any liability or responsibility for any damage and/or injury howsoever caused to any person or property from the use or misuse of these products.

Before attempting to build or use your trap please read these instructions first.

The Classic clay pigeon trap will be supplied with parts shown below.



Trap, (throwing arms depend on purchase)



Spring, (depends on purchase)  
Eye bolt, 2 x nuts, washer, cap  
2 x mounting bolts, nuts, washers

(Note: The Classic is the same design as the Elevator, some instructions and pictures are the same for both)

### Instructions for assembly

1. Fix the trap to a solid base such as a purpose built seated frame or a post concreted into the ground. The trap must not be able to move.
2. Thread an inner nut onto the eye bolt and turn it up to the eye as far as it will go. Hook one end of the spring through the hole in the linkage and the other through the eye bolt then pass the eye bolt through the anchor point on the clay trap.
3. Add the washer and outer nut to the eye bolt. Adjust the outer nut until there is a small visible gap between each coil of the spring then tighten the inner nut against the anchor point to lock the eye bolt in place. Overstretching the spring could lead to premature failure. Push the plastic cap on to the end of the eye bolt.



**Clay traps have the potential to cause injury or damage, handle with care - just as you would a gun.**

## **WARNINGS**

NEVER leave the trap cocked or loaded  
NEVER use the trap without sitting on the seat  
NEVER fire a trap without any clay(s) loaded  
NEVER launch clays unless there is a safe zone for clays or fragments to fall on  
NEVER launch clays towards anyone  
NEVER use a trap in front of a gun  
NEVER adjust the trap while it is cocked

## **Instructions for use**

1. Ensure the trap is safe before approaching.
  - The trap throwing arms should always point away from the operator
  - The trap should never be left with clay pigeons loaded on the throwing arms
  - Always approach a trap from behind
  - Check that the trap is in good condition and that all fixtures and fittings are tight.
  - Clays should always be on the safe side of a trap, usually the operator's left hand side.
2. Wear ear defenders or plugs, eye protection, a hat or cap, stout gloves and sturdy outdoor footwear when operating the trap.
3. The operator should sit or stand behind the trap in a comfortable and stable position in order to safely cock and load the trap.
4. Make sure the operator is physically capable of using the trap safely. Test the strength of the trap by pulling back the throwing arms part of the way before trying to completely cock the trap.

To cock the trap:

- Hook the index and middle fingers of the right hand around the ends of the throwing arms
- Place the left hand over the right and pull back steadily until the trap cocks itself over-centre



5. To load the clays onto the trap:

- Hold the arms in place with one hand at all times to protect the cocked position
- For single targets, load the clay on the top arm
- For pairs of targets, load the bottom clay first and the top second



6. To launch the clays:

- Keep the right hand and leg well clear of the moving throwing arms.
- Push gently on the back of the throwing arms with the left hand until the spring takes over and launches the clay(s)
- Wait for the throwing arm(s) to stop moving before re-cocking



## Instructions for maintenance

Before each use:

- Ensure all bolts, nuts and fixings are tight.
- Ensure there is a visible gap between each coil of the spring.
- Ensure that teal clips hold targets in place.

As required:

- The throwing arms must move freely in the main bearing with the spring removed, lubricate if necessary via the grease nipple. If a grease gun is not available remove the split pin at the bottom of the main shaft, clean the inside of the bearing and the shaft. Grease and replace the shaft using a new split pin.
- The spring linkage should be lubricated at each end with a small amount of grease.

## Troubleshooting

Clays breaking as they are launched:

- Damaged clay pigeons. Clays that have been used before, dropped or mishandled may contain fine cracks or nicks around the rim which will cause breakages as they are launched.
- Worn rubber drive rail. The rubber on the drive rail will wear down through normal use and may allow the clay pigeon to touch the metal backing strip and break the clay as it is thrown.
- Damaged throwing arm. Nicks and dents along the throwing arm may cause a clay pigeon to break as it is thrown.

## General instructions

Targets must be thrown in a safe direction, check trajectories and the direction of targets before shooting takes place. Allow for varied weather conditions which could affect the direction of targets. Make sure trappers know how to adjust the trap to ensure safe target trajectory.

Trap operators should be made aware of the correct signals for target release, for instance, the words 'Pull' or 'Mark', air/bulb horn, bell or buzzer. Use electronic ear defenders if necessary.

Once the signal to release is heard, make sure the right hand is clear of all moving parts, especially the trap arms and teal clips. The trapper should then gently push the trap arms to the right with the left hand until spring tension takes over and throws the clays.

Do not rush to release targets, shooters must give the trap operator time to load and release the targets safely.

Clay targets should be kept on the safe side of the trap, i.e. the left hand side looking from the seated position.

Only trained operators should approach a trap, always from behind and on the safe side.

Do not leave any trap cocked or with targets loaded onto a trap arm.

All trappers, shooters and spectators must be adequately protected from shot and falling clays and should stay behind guns and traps at all times. Manual traps should not be used anywhere in front of the firing line or in an exclusion zone. It is advisable to position traps behind the firing line with all shooters in safety enclosures.

Shooters, trappers and shoot organisers are strongly advised to have suitable insurance in place.