

How to disassemble an M4 step by step instructions

Quick overview:

1. Verify your rifle is completely unloaded. This is the most important step and must be done every single time you handle your M4
2. Separate the upper receiver from the lower receiver.
3. Disassemble the buffer tube assembly
4. Remove the bolt carrier group and charging handle from the upper receiver.
5. Disassemble the Bolt Carrier Group, Including Extractor & Ejector

Disassemble the buffer tube assembly

Those are the Steps to field strip or disassemble an M4. Below I will explain and use picture for each step to make the process as simple as possible:

Step 1.) To verify the M4 is completely unloaded and safe to disassemble, first remove the magazine if one is inserted in the gun. Alternatively, verify that there is no magazine in the gun (Image 1). Pull back the charging handle and look into the chamber to verify that no round is present (Image 2).



2.) Separate the Upper Receiver from the Lower Receiver.

[There are 2 take down pins that need to be pulled out. locate the pins on the left side of the rifle and push them in with your finger. Flip the rifle over and pull the pins out from the other side. They will not come out all the way, so pull them until they stop.]



↖ Location of the Take down Pins on left side of the rifle ↗

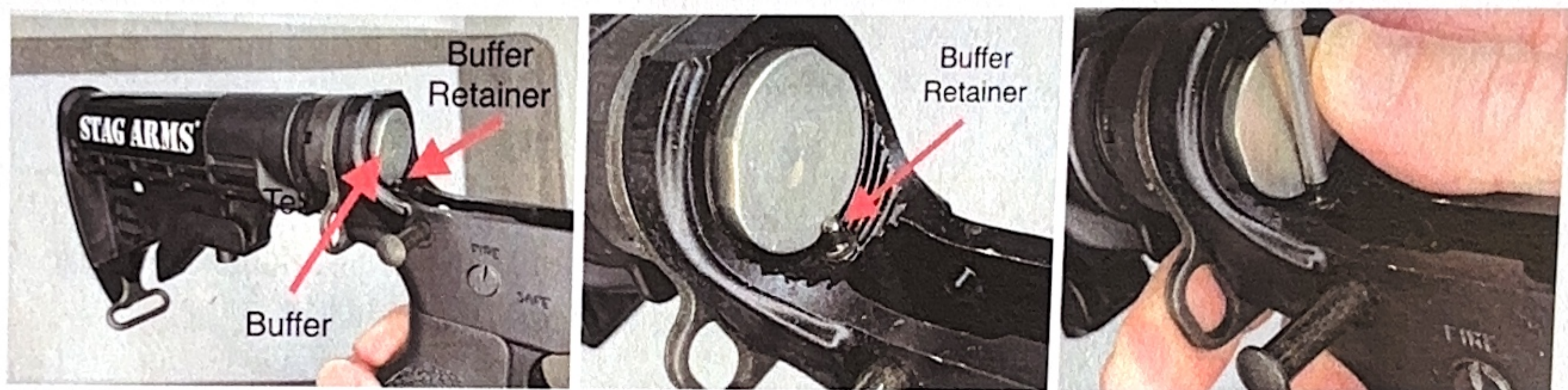
↖ Pull both Take down Pins all the way

up ↗



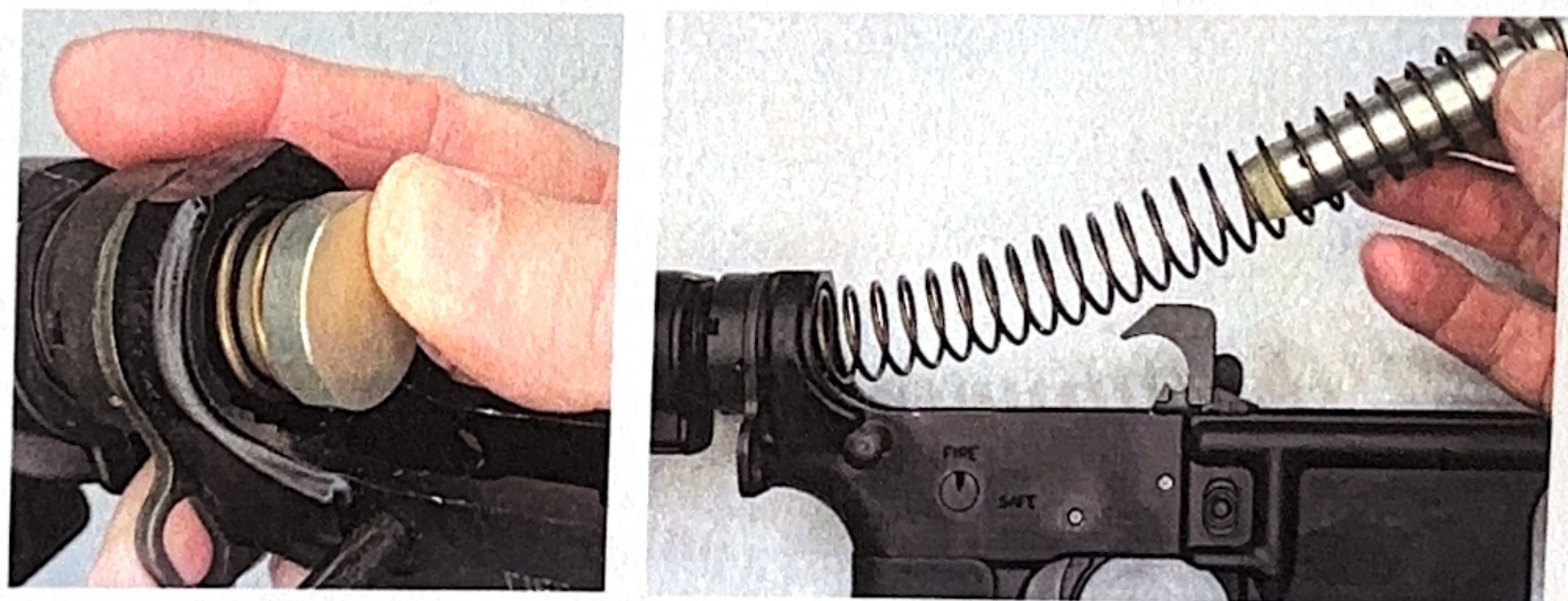
M4 Upper Lower Receivers are now separated ↗

Step. 3) Disassemble the Buffer Tube assembly



Place a thumb on the Buffer to keep it contained and press down on the buffer Retainer with a punch ↗

The Buffer Spring will push the Buffer out slightly. Grasp the Buffer Spring and Remove it from the Buffer Tube →



Step. 4) Remove the bolt carrier group and charging handle from the upper receiver.

[To remove the Charging Handle and the BCG (Bolt Carrier Group) from the Upper Receiver start by disengaging the Charging Handle latch. Pull the charging handle about halfway out of the Upper Receiver and the BCG will come along with it. Stop halfway and grasp the BCG and carefully pull it all the way out. Then you can remove the charging Handle by lifting it up when aligned with the notch]

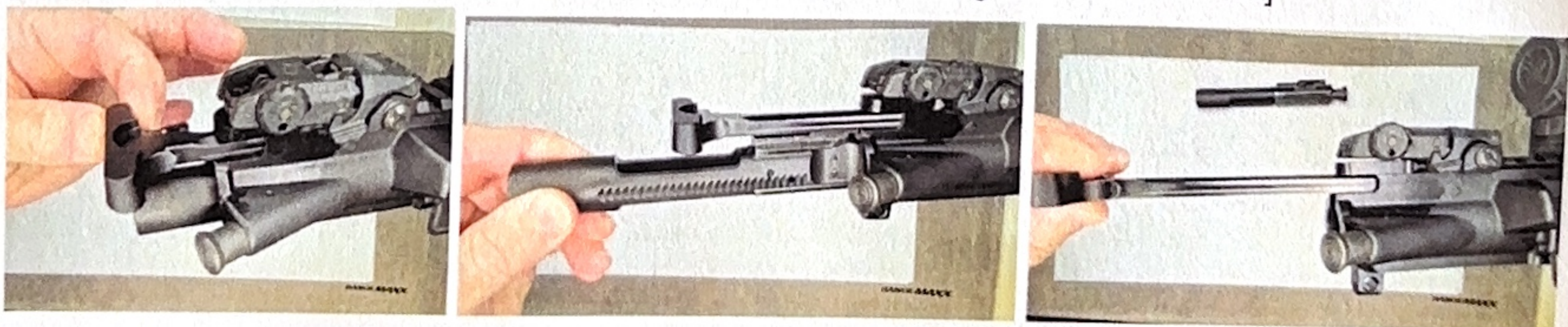


Image A: ↗

Image B: ↗

Image C: ↗

Image A: Squeeze the Charging Handle latch to release it and pull it halfway out with the BCG. **Image B:** Grasp the BCG and pull it all the way out of the Upper receiver. **Image C:** Pull the Charging Handle further until it aligns with the notch in the upper and let it drop down and remove it.

Step 5: Disassemble the Bolt Carrier Group, Including Extractor & Ejector



Remove the Firing Pin Retainer with a small punch or other tool. Remove the Firing Pin by letting it fall out of the Bolt Carrier.



Image A: ↗

Image B: ↗

Image C: ↗

Image A: Press the bolt as far as it will go into the Carrier. **Image B:** Rotate the Cam Pin 90 degrees as shown. **Image C:** Once the Cam Pin is rotated as shown it can be pulled out of the Bolt Carrier



Pull the Cam Pin out of the Carrier. With the Cam Pin Removed, the Bolt can be pulled out of the end of the carrier with relative ease.

To reassemble your M4, follow the disassembly steps in reverse order.

Weapons Lab

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