

THE FIVE RULES OF FIVE,
OR
How to hit the same target TWICE.

First, an overview of the elements, which are Grip, Stance, Sighting, Trigger Control, and Delivery.

Grip. You must develop a certain strength in the grip of your hand on the handgun frame. It matters not how hard that grip is, only that it is consistent. I suggest you grip as hard as you are able, because that is a 'lock' point.....you cannot grip 'harder'. Yes, as you progress, that grip will become stronger and stronger, but so long as you always grip as hard as you can, it will be consistent from shot to shot at that point in time. Now comes the difficult part. That 'grip' is with three fingers only! The thumb and index (trigger) finger MUST remain relaxed. Squeeze water out of that grip with three fingers and let the other two float as gently as a butterfly. Difficult, but not impossible. You should be able to do this after five minutes practice.

Stance. The most important part of 'stance' is PUSH. If you will learn to push the gun as hard as you can at the target, you will achieve another 'lock': you cannot push 'harder', and you have eliminated the possibility of vertically stringing your shots on the target. You will probably notice that your gun muzzle is about 4" closer to the target than it was previously! Once you have established a 'stance' relative to your target, DO NOT MOVE until your firing sequence is finished. Once the mortar baseplate is sunk in the ground, moving it will change its Point Of Impact (POI). Similarly, ALL the parts of the cannon's trail must stay put between shots. So do not fidget between shots or during reloads.

Sighting. You must learn to concentrate upon the front sight ONLY. Let everything else appear blurry in your field of vision, but keep that front sight SHARP! Alignment of one sight with the other is important, but only a little compared to this. Think always "Front sight, front sight!"

Trigger. You must learn to press the trigger firmly straight back to the rear, as any twisting or sideplay will affect your POI and jerking or flinching is NOT control!

Delivery. You must learn to consciously forget a shot once you have fired it. You did the best you could for it, but now it is on its way and beyond any control. Observe its POI if you have time and make any necessary corrections for the NEXT shot, but once it's gone, it's GONE and you must concentrate on delivering the NEXT one, not worry about that LAST one.

GRIP.

1. PLACE the handgun in your hand, grasping it FIRMLY.
2. Squeeze the water out of it, maintaining the thumb/trigger-finger 'butterfly'.
3. Align it with the wrist
4. Aligned with the forearm bones
5. Aligned with your sighting eye.

STANCE.

1. Face ~45 degs. to your Line Of Sight (LOS) to your target.
2. Set your feet parallel to each other, about shoulder-width apart.
3. Stretch the top of your erect head all the way up to God.
4. Without moving your head position, collapse your spine vertically.
5. To confirm your stance, close your eyes, get comfy, then open your eyes and adjust your TRAILING foot to correct any windage errors and bring your piece back onto your LOS.
6. Raise the handgun to your LOS and PUSH!!

SIGHTING.

1. Keep both eyes open at all times. Keep your head erect and look out of the middle of your eyeball/eyeglass lens.
2. Properly align the sights with each other.
3. Align the sights to your Point Of Aim (POA).
4. Concentrate on FRONT sight ONLY!
5. To confirm your stance, close your eyes, get comfy, then open your eyes and adjust your TRAILING foot to correct any windage errors and bring your piece back onto your LOS.

DELIVERY.

1. Place pad of first joint of trigger-finger on trigger.
2. Check that there is airspace between that finger and the gun frame. DO IT!
3. DO NOT relax any part of 'Stance'. Press trigger firmly straight back to the rear.
4. Control that press! Press when sights are on the target, or moving toward its center, NOT away from it. Stop pressing if sights move off the target (as they will!). It's called Trigger Control!
5. Shot will fire as a 'surprise break'. Consciously HOLD the trigger to the rear (Follow Through) THEN release it.