

Misfires

They say the worse thing that can happen with a firearm is a bang when you expect a click, and a click when you expect a bang. Misfires are a lot of those unexpected clicks.

Safety is paramount in any shooting activity, particularly when dealing with the possibility of misfires. A misfire occurs when a firearm fails to discharge properly upon pulling the trigger. In such situations, it's essential to follow a strict protocol to ensure the safety of oneself and those nearby.

Firstly, maintaining proper firearm handling techniques is crucial. When a misfire happens, keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction at all times. This means ensuring the muzzle is never pointed at anything you do not intend to shoot, even if you believe the firearm to be unloaded.

Secondly, exercise patience and caution. If a misfire occurs, refrain from immediately attempting to fire again. Instead, wait for a brief period, most firearms instructors suggest 30 seconds, keeping the firearm pointed in a safe direction, to allow any potential hangfire to ignite on its own.

Thirdly, once a safe waiting period has passed without the firearm discharging, carefully unload it following proper procedures. Keep your finger off the trigger and engage any safety mechanisms if present.

Finally, inspect the firearm and ammunition for any signs of malfunction or damage before continuing shooting activities. If unsure, seek assistance from a qualified individual such as a firearms instructor or gunsmith.

Maintaining strict adherence to safety protocols is essential when encountering a misfire while shooting. By prioritizing safety at all times, potential accidents can be avoided, ensuring a secure and enjoyable shooting experience for everyone involved.

For more safety information, check out these links.

<https://gunsafetyrules.nra.org/>

<https://www.nssf.org/safety/rules-firearms-safety/>

<https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/hunting/hunter-education>