# MAG RWANDA MACHINE GUN GUIDE

**THIS GUIDE IDENTIFIES MACHINE GUNS THAT HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED BY MAG WITHIN RWANDA.**

| SERIAL | MODEL | COUNTRY OF ORIGIN |
|---|---|---|
| 01 | FN MAG | Belgium |
| 02 | FN MINIMI | Belgium |
| 03 | FN MLE D | Belgium |
| 04 | Type 56 | China |
| 05 | Type 57 | China |
| 06 | Type 67 | China |
| 07 | Type 80 | China |
| 08 | Type 85 | China |
| 09 | ZB vz.26 | Former Czechoslovakia |
| 10 | Rachot Model 59 | Former Czechoslovakia |
| 11 | M72 | Former Yugoslavia |
| 12 | AAT-52 | France |
| 13 | MAC Modele 1924/29 | France |
| 14 | DEGTAREV DP/DPM/RP 46 | Russia |
| 15 | KPV | Russia |
| 16 | PKM/PKT | Russia |
| 17 | RPD | Russia |
| 18 | SS77 | South Africa |
| 19 | Bren Mark I/II | UK |
| 20 | BAR 1918 A1/A2 | USA |
| 21 | M60 | USA |

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# FN MAG

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | FN |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 51mm NATO |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Belgium but very widely copied. |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Carrying handle, distinctive bipod design, gas regulator located below the barrel. Distinct stamped receiver with five distinct knotches along the line of the cocking handle.

**RELEVANT INFO**

Mitrailleuse d'Appui Général – MAG. In America, known as the M240. The MAG comes in 3 versions: the infantry Model 60-20 machine gun, the Model 60-40 coaxial machine gun for armoured fighting vehicles and the Model 60-30 aircraft variant.

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# FN Minimi

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | FN |
| **CALIBRE** | 5.56 x 45mm NATO |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Belgium |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

On FN versions the factory markings and serial number are found on the left hand side of the receiver above the trigger and pistol grip.

## RELEVANT INFO

Produced from 1982. Made under license in America, where it is known as the M249. The American variant has a different stock, without a cutout, and a flash hider similar to the M16A2. Several variants are in production.

# FN Modele D

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | FN |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 51mm, 7.65x57mm Mauser, .30-06 |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Belgium |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The factory marking is found on top of the receiver behind the change barrel locking device.

## RELEVANT INFO

Copy of the Browning Automatic Rifle. (D –means 'Demontable' or "removable") which has a quick-change barrel, shoulder rest (not in images above) and a simplified take-down method for ease of cleaning and maintenance.

# Type 56-1

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Chinese State Arsenals- Norinco |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Bipod, stock shape and drum magazine. The Type 56-1 has a folding cleaning rod stored in the weapon's stock.

**RELEVANT INFO**

This weapon is a copy of the Soviet RPD. Type 56-1 is belt fed. A detachable round box (drum) can be clipped under the receiver. This box can hold a 100-rounds non-disintegrating metallic belt, and loose belt also can be used.

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# Type 57

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Chinese State Arsenals - Norinco |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 54mmR |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The barrel is longitudinally fluted to save weight and improve air cooling. Markings found on the top of the receiver, forward of the breach.

## RELEVANT INFO

Copy of Soviet SGM. The Type 57 replaced the Type 53. It has a similar design and performance to the Type 53, with a tripod to replace the original two-wheel carriage on the Type 53. The barrel of the Type 57 is 2 mm longer (722mm) than that of the Type 53. There is an Egyptian copy of this weapon.

# Type 67

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Norinco |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 54mmR Type 53 |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Smooth barrel, belt fed from right, bipod

**RELEVANT INFO**

The Type 67-2C was the export model and the Type 67-1 was only issued to Chinese troops. Can be installed on tripod and quickly converted to air-defence role. The air-defence sights consist of a pillar permanently attached to the top of the rear-sight and a speed ring foresight, which fits into dovetails in the top of the receiver and is held by a spring catch.

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# Type 80

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Norinco |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 54mmR |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Distinctive cut out in stock. Like most Soviet designed machine guns, feeds from the right and ejects from the left. Many Type 80s have fluted barrels as shown above.

## RELEVANT INFO

A copy of the Russian PKMS. The vehicle mounted version is known as the Type 59. Will often have “Type 80” stenciled above the feed block.

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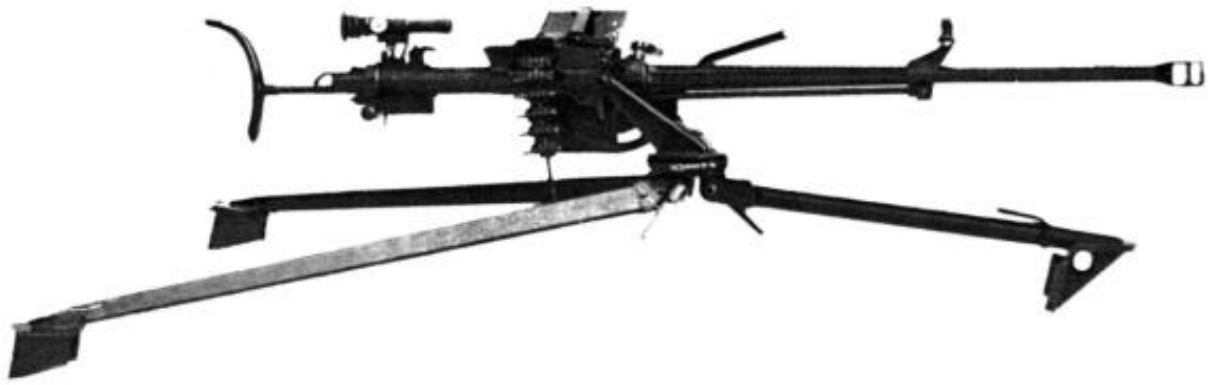
# Type 85



| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Heavy Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Norinco |
| **CALIBRE** | 12.7 × 108 (12.7 mm Type 54) |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Distinctive fluted barrel.

## RELEVANT INFO

Development of the Type 77 Heavy Machine Gun. This is a dual-purpose weapon for use against aerial targets or as a heavy support machine gun against ground targets. Possible to cut with shears but oxy acetylene advised. China has recently marketed an export version of the Type 85 designated the W95. The W95 is chambered for 12,7x99 NATO / .50BMG ammunition.

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# ZB vz. 26

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Brno Arms Factory |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.92 x 57mm Mauser |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Former Czechoslovakia |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Bipod, carrying handle, magazine housing on top and ejection port on bottom of receiver. Heavily fluted, removable barrel.

## RELEVANT INFO

Development began in 1923. Do not confuse with the Bren gun. The Bren lacks the fluted barrel.

# Rachot Model 59

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | ZVI as. |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 54mmR |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Former Czechoslovakia |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Prominent flash hider. There is a factory mark is found on top of the receiver just forward of the butt. Distinct extraction port on the right side of the receiver.

**RELEVANT INFO**

There is also a model 68, which differs only in that it is chambered for 7.62 NATO. As a Light Machine Gun (LMG) with heavy barrel and bipod, it is known as the Model 59L. As a medium machine gun with heavy barrel and light tripod, it is called the Model 59. This tripod also enables the gun to fire in the air-defence role. The Model 59 has no conventional cocking handle. Instead, pistol handle with trigger unit is used to cock the gun. Press the button on the receiver and then, while pressing the trigger, cycle the pistol handle forward and then back. Safety lever is located at the left side of the receiver.

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# M72B1 & M72AB1

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Zastava |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Former Yugoslavia |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Note ribbing on barrel, just in front of fore-grip. Unlike Zastava assault rifles the M72 only has two vent holes on the hand-guard, rather than three. As usual the weapon may be categorically identified by the selector and factory markings.

## RELEVANT INFO

Copy of RPK designed in 1971. More than 120,000 have been produced. Can be fitted with 75 round, drum magazine or 40 round box magazine. The M72B1 has a fixed wooden stock, whereas the M72AB1 has an under-folding metal stock of the AKMS type.

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# AAT-52

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Manufacture d'Armes de Chatellerault MAC |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.5 x 54mm M29 |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | France |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Steel telescoping stock. Folding bipod attached to barrel. Wooden carrying handle.

**RELEVANT INFO**

If found chambered in 7.62 NATO, the weapon is called AAT F-1. Can be mounted on tripod or with an optional rear monopod. Barrels are quick-detachable and available in two versions – "light" (intended for the LMG role) and "heavy" (intended for sustained fire role).

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# MAC Modele 1924/29

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Manufacture d'Armes de Chatellerault MAC |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.5 x 54mm M29 |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | France |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Bipod, Wooden foregrip under front of receiver, double trigger mechanism, magazine housing on top of the receiver.

**RELEVANT INFO**

The rear trigger is for fully-automatic and the front trigger is for semi-automatic.

# DEGTYAREV DP DPM RP-46

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Soviet factories |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 54Rmm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Soviet Russia |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The DPM has a pistol grip, the DP has no pistol grip. Both have a distinct drum magazine. (Not shown on DP 46 image above). The RP 46 is belt-fed from the left. All have a bipod and a distinct flash hider

## RELEVANT INFO

The drum-magazine fed DP-28 Degtyaryov was adopted as the standard LMG by the Red Army in 1927 and was in use until the end of World War 2. The belt-fed RP-46 was developed in 1946. Both the DP and RP were widely exported to the Soviet-friendly countries and regimes. RP-46 also was manufactured in other countries, including China, as a Type 58 machine gun.

# KPV

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Heavy Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Degtyarov Plant JSC. |
| **CALIBRE** | 14.5 x 114mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia – Chinese versions also encountered |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Large calibre, 2.006m length, handle on changeable barrel.

**RELEVANT INFO**

The version for use in armoured vehicles is called KPVT. It is used in the ZPU-4 (4 barrel), ZPU-2 (2 barrel) and ZPU-1 (single barrel) anti-aircraft guns. Known as Type 56 14.5mm in China.

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# PKM/PKT

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Soviet factories |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 54Rmm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Soviet Russia but widely copied |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Unlike the PK barrel, the PKM barrel is not fluted. Cut out in stock.

## RELEVANT INFO

Entering service in 1969, the PKM is a product-improved PK with a lighter unfluted barrel, a feed cover constructed wholly of stampings, and a hinged butt-rest fitted to the butt-plate. Excess metal is machined away wherever possible to reduce weight to about 8.4 kg. The PKMS version can be mounted on a light tripod. The PKT is a coaxial weapon used on most Soviet and Russian main battle tanks. It has a heavier, non-fluted barrel. The barrel is also longer than on the PK. The gas block is modified and the stock, bipod and pistol grip are discarded. The firing solenoid is attached to the rear of the receiver, but the PKT also retains an emergency mechanical (manual) trigger.

# RPD

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Various Soviet factories |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Former Soviet Union |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Bipod, stock shape and drum magazine. A folding cleaning rod, stored in the weapon's butt indicates the Chinese Type 56-1 variant or the RPD variant.

## RELEVANT INFO

Ruchnoy Pulemet Degtyarova - Degtyarov Light MG. RPD is usually belt fed. A detachable round box (drum) can be clipped under the receiver. This box can hold a 100-rounds non-disintegrating metallic belt, and loose belt also can be used. There is a Chinese (Type 56-1) copy.

# RPK

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Soviet factories |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Soviet Russia but widely copied |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Stock shape. Basically an AKM with a lengthened barrel and a bipod.

**RELEVANT INFO**

RPK stands for Ruchnoy Pulemjot Kalashnikova - Kalashnikov hand-held (light) machine gun. The basic action, with a long-stroke gas piston located above the barrel and a rotating bolt, is similar to that of the Kalashnikov assault rifle. Can be fitted with 75 round, drum magazine or 40 round box magazine. RPK and AKM magazines are interchangeable. The receiver is milled and thicker than the standard used for the AKM. This receiver is copied by Zastava for the M70s assault rifle series.

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# SS 77

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Vektor |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 51mm NATO |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | South Africa |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

The SS77 has a quick change barrel with external longitudal flutes to reduce weight and improve cooling.

**RELEVANT INFO**

Designed in 1977 by Colonels Richard Joseph Smith and Soregi, hence the name "SS-77". Issued from 1986 onwards. Mini-SS kits were developed in 1994 to convert any SS-77 to fire 5.56x45mm NATO ammunition. Mini-SS kits included a new barrel, bolt, gas piston, feed cover and some other small parts. The SS could be converted in approximately 10 minutes.

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# BREN MARK I/MARK II

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Royal Enfield, John Inglis |
| **CALIBRE** | .303 |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Great Britain, Canada (No Australian versions have been found in Rwanda). |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Bipod, carrying handle, magazine housing on top and ejection port on bottom of receiver. Mark I version has a distinct radial style dial for adjusting the sight, the Mark II version has a simplified sight.

## RELEVANT INFO

Originally developed in the former Czechoslovakia prior to WW2, the design for the ZB vz. 33 became the Bren. L4 versions are chambered for 7.62 x 51 mm

# BAR M1918 A1/A2

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Light Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Winchester, Colt and Marlin-Rockwell Corp. |
| **CALIBRE** | .30-06 |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | USA |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Short wooden foregrip, M1918A1 has a short, spiked bipod mounted directly in front of the foregrip. M1918A2 version has a bipod mounted towards the end of the barrel.

## RELEVANT INFO

The initial M1918 had a single shot capability but this was removed on the M1918A2 version and replaced by a capability to choose between 350 rnds/minute or 550 rnds/minute. The initial M1918 version also lacked the bipod.

# M60

| | |
|---|---|
| **WEAPON TYPE** | General Purpose Machine Gun |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Saco Defence, U.S. Ordnance |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 51 NATO |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | USA |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Original M60s are fitted with plastic butt-stocks and plastic forearms, combined with heat shields made from stamped steel. Folding carrying handles are attached to the heat shield close to the centre of gravity of the weapon.

## RELEVANT INFO

Seven M60 variants entered production.