# MAG RWANDA AK GUIDE

**THIS GUIDE IDENTIFIES AK VERSIONS THAT HAVE BEEN ENCOUNTERED BY MAG WITHIN RWANDA. THIS IS NOT A WORLD AK GUIDE.**

| SERIAL | MODEL | COUNTRY OF ORIGIN |
|---|---|---|
| 01 | Type A | Albania |
| 02 | Type B | Albania |
| 03 | Type C | Albania |
| 04 | AK 47 | Bulgaria |
| 05 | AR | Bulgaria |
| 06 | AR-F | Bulgaria |
| 07 | Type 56 | China |
| 08 | Type 56-1 | China |
| 09 | Type 56-2 | China |
| 10 | Misr | Egypt |
| 11 | Gafat 97-1 | Ethiopia |
| 12 | MPIKM | Former East Germany |
| 13 | MPIKMS | Former East Germany |
| 14 | M70B1 | Former Yugoslavia |
| 15 | M70AB2 | Former Yugoslavia |
| 16 | M92 | Former Yugoslavia |
| 17 | AK 47 | Hungary |
| 18 | AK 63 | Hungary |
| 19 | AKM 63 | Hungary |
| 20 | AMD 65 | Hungary |
| 21 | Type KL | Iran |
| 22 | Tabuk | Iraq |
| 23 | Type 58 | North Korea |
| 24 | Type 68 | North Korea |
| 25 | Type 98-1 | North Korea |

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| SERIAL | MODEL | COUNTRY OF ORIGIN |
|---|---|---|
| 26 | KbK AKM | Poland |
| 27 | Model 63/AIM 63 | Romania |
| 28 | Model 65 | Romania |
| 29 | Model 90 | Romania |
| 30 | AK 47 | Russia |
| 31 | AK 47S | Russia |
| 32 | AKM | Russia |
| 33 | AKMS | Russia |
| 34 | AK 74 | Russia |
| 35 | AKS74 | Russia |
| 36 | AKS74U | Russia |

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# Albanian Type A

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | L<br>D |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | D |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Albanian State Arsenals |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Albania |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The serial number is frequently a group of numbers followed by '- 88', where 88 is the year of manufacture. As with Chinese models, Albanian AKs have smooth receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

This is a direct copy of the Type-56. Factory markings not known.

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# Albanian Type B

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | D |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Albanian State Arsenals |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Albania |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The Type B is based on the Type 56, with the barrel extended forward of the muzzle. A grenade launcher spigot is fitted over the barrel extension, with a gas cut-off lever positioned on the right side of the gas port. The serial number is frequently a group of numbers followed by '- 88', where 88 is the year of manufacture. Factory markings not known. As with Chinese models, Albanian AKs have smooth receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

Factory markings not known.

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# Albanian Type C

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | D |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Albanian State Arsenals |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Albania |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The Type C is a further modification of the Type 56 but with a longer-than-normal barrel. A grenade-launcher spigot is fitted over the barrel extension as on the Type B, but there is provision for gas cut-off during grenade firing. As with Chinese models, Albanian AKs have smooth receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

Apart from the barrel, this is a direct copy of the Type-56. Factory markings are not known. The serial number is frequently a group of numbers followed by '- 88', where 88 is the year of manufacture.

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# AK-47 (Bulgaria)

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ<br>ЕД |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | 10 |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | **п** |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Arsenal, Kazanlak |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

The basic recognition features are the same as the Russian AK 47. There rectangular stamp on the side of the magazine well, a flat muzzle with no compensator, four gas vent holes present either side of the cylinder and a rear sight with 800m maximum range. Often a rearsight **п** character is present. (Same as on Izmash models). Bulgarian AK 47s often have distinct brick brown or biege plastic furniture. Bulgarian AK, unlike other Eastern European models, often have smooth receivers.

**RELEVANT INFO**

Izhmash produced the AK 47 from 1948-1959. Arsenal in Bulgaria still produce the AR, the model closest to the AK 47 original.

# AR

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ<br>ЕД |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | П |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Arsenal |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Bulgaria |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Black polymer furniture, no cooling vents on foregrip, underfolding stock version is AR-F. The easiest way to distinguish this weapon from modern variants is the four vent holes on the gas cylinder and the lack of a compensator. Izhmash AK 100 series assault rifles typically have a muzzle brake, recoil compensator and flash suppressor. Bulgarian AK, unlike other Eastern European models, often have smooth receivers.

## RELEVANT INFO

Modern Bulgarian copy of AKM. The AR-F version has underfolding steel stock. The black polymer furniture is very similar to that used on the Izhmash AK 100 series.

# AR-F

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ<br>ЕД |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | **П** |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Arsenal |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Bulgaria |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Black polymer foregrip, no cooling vents on foregrip, underfolding stock. The easiest way to distinguish this weapon from modern variants is the four vent holes on the gas cylinder and the lack of a compensator. Bulgarian AK, unlike other Eastern European models, often have smooth receivers.

## RELEVANT INFO

Modern Bulgarian copy of AKM. The AR version has a fixed polymer stock. The black polymer furniture is very similar to that used on the Izhmash AK 100 series. This weapon is still widely used in Rwanda.

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# Type 56

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | L 关 D 单 |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | 386 66 36 |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | D |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Polytech (circle factory marking) and Norinco (triangle factory marking) |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Under folding uniform bayonet under barrel. Chinese AKs have smooth receiver covers. The receiver may be in either the milled or stamped style.

**RELEVANT INFO**

The serial number will often begin with the prefix '56' or the equivalent in Chinese characters.

# Type 56-1

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | L 关 D 单 |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | 386 66 36 |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | D |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Polytech (circle factory marking)<br>Norinco (triangle factory marking) |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Type 56-1 usually have brown bakelite furniture. Chinese AKs have smooth receiver covers. The receiver may be in either the milled or stamped style.

**RELEVANT INFO**

The serial number will often begin with the prefix '56' or the equivalent in Chinese characters.

# Type 56-2

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | L 关 D 单 |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | 386 66 36 |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | D |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Polytech (circle factory marking) and Norinco (triangle factory marking) |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | China |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Distinctive side folding buttstock. The receiver is typically based on the AKM rather than the AK 47. All furniture is typically plastic. A cleaning kit may be found in the plastic support within the stock. Chinese AKs have smooth receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

The serial number will often begin with the prefix '56' or the equivalent in Chinese characters.

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# MPiKM

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | D<br>E |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | K3 ◇ |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | N |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Ernst Thaelmann VEB and Suhl |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | East Germany |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Distinct brown mottled buttstock. The handguard maybe brown bakelite or wood with either a distinct bulging wooden fingergrip or bakelite with vertical grooves. Distinct pistol grip with divide of mottled pattern by clear divide. MPIKM series assault rifles usually have a compensator fixed to the muzzle.

**RELEVANT INFO**

VEB models are relatively rare. Suhl models are common in Africa and the Middle East. K3 is the factory marking for Ernst Thaelmann VEB. The circle in the rotated square is the Suhl marking. MPIKMs often do not carry factory markings.

# MPiKMS

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | D<br>E |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | K3 |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | N |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Ernst Thaelmann VEB and Suhl |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | East Germany |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The side folding buttstock is the “coat hanger” version also seen on the Romanian AKM Model 90 and some Polish KbK models. The handguard is typically brown bakelite with distinct vertical grooves. Distinct pistol grip with divide of mottled pattern. MPIKM series assault rifle usually have a compensator fixed to the muzzle. K3 is the factory marking for Ernst Thaelmann VEB. The circle in the rotated square is the Suhl marking.

## RELEVANT INFO

MPIKMs often do not carry factory markings.

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# Misr

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Factory 54, Maadi Engineering Company, Cairo |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Egypt |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Fixed buttstocks tend to wooden. Side folding buttstocks are a distinct sheet metal coat hanger style.

## RELEVANT INFO

Sometimes called Maadi. The word Misr means "Egypt" in Arabic. It is believed this is a straight copy of the MPIKM version of the AKM. All furniture is wood.

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# GAFAT ET 97-1

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | GAFAT ARMAMENT ENGINEERING COMPLEX |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Ethiopia |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Distinct plastic furniture. Buttstocks (not shown above) are plastic.

## RELEVANT INFO

Little is known above the ET -97. If fitted with a 30mm grenade launcher it is designated the ET 97-2.

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# M70 B1

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | U<br>R<br>J |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Zastava Arms,Kragujevac, Serbia |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Former Yugoslavia |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Fixed wooden stock stock, grenade sight, distinctive bar on the receiver above the magazine housing, three vent holes in the handguard. Distinctive pistol grips are often black plastic.

## RELEVANT INFO

Note that the Rwandan Defence Force have remarked many M70s. The receiver is based on the RPK and is thicker than most AK models.

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# M70 AB2

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | U<br>R<br>J |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Zastava Arms,Kragujevac, Serbia |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Former Yugoslavia |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Underfolding stock, grenade sight, distinctive bar on the receiver above the magazine housing, three vent holes in the handguard. Distinctive pistol grips are often black plastic.

## RELEVANT INFO

Note that the Rwandan Defence Force have remarked many M70s. The receiver is based on the RPK and is thicker than most AK models.

# M92

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | U<br>R<br>J |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Zastava Arms,Kragujevac, Serbia |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Former Yugoslavia |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Very short, distinctive muzzle flash hider, usually fitted with under-folding stock, three cooling slots in foregrip

**RELEVANT INFO**

A shortened version of M70AB2 – this weapon is unlike the AKS 74 U in that it is chambered for 7.62mm ammunition. Although not conforming to the strict definition of a sub machine gun, Zastava currently market this weapon as such.

# AK 47

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT SELECTOR** | A |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | FEG (FÉGARMY Arms Factory Ltd) |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Hungary |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

As is standard on the AK 47 there are four vent holes on the gas cylinder, sight graduated to 800m, milled receiver with square stamp, no compensator.

## RELEVANT INFO

Note that some selector markings are very similar to the North Korean models.

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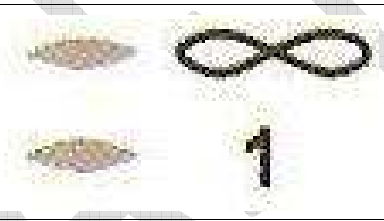
# AK 63

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** |  |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | A |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | FEG (FÉGARMY Arms Factory Ltd) |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Hungary |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Essentially an AKM with a distinct angular wooden pistol grip.

## RELEVANT INFO

Note that some selector markings are very similar to the North Korean models. The fixed-stock AK-63 became known as the AK-63F (Wooden Stock) and the folding-stock version was designated AK-63D. Adopted by the Hungarian military in 1977. In Hungarian service, the AK-63 F and D are designated as the AMM and AMMSz, respectively. FÉGARMY Arms Factory Ltd went bankrupt in 2004.

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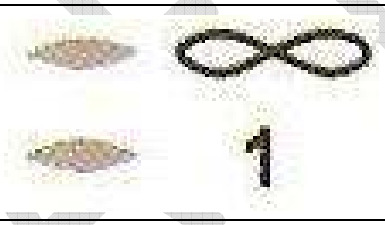
# AKM63

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** |  |
| **SIGHT SELECTOR** | A |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | FEG (FÉGARMY Arms Factory Ltd) |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Hungary |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Fixed wooden or plastic butt stock with distinct angular fore grip.

## RELEVANT INFO

Note that some selector markings are very similar to the North Korean models. Fore grips are often found damaged.

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# AMD 65M

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | ∞ 1 |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | FÉG |
| **SIGHT SELECTOR** | A |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | FEG (FÉGARMY Arms Factory Ltd) |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Hungary |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Distinct angular foregrip and side folding metal strut stock.

## RELEVANT INFO

Note that some selector markings are very similar to the North Korean models. AMD series often have serial numbers beginning with “Z”. This weapon is common in Afghanistan. Fore grips are often found damaged. The FEG mark is only found on post 1991 models.

# Type KL 7.62

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | L<br>D |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Defence Industries Organisation |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Iran |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Reverse engineered Type-56 lacks folding bayonet and lugs. Older versions have a wooden hand guard and a distinct brown plastic pistol grip. The modern version currently marketed for export by DIO has black furniture and is available with fixed and folding buttstocks. It also has no compensator and four vent holes on the cylinder.

## RELEVANT INFO

While this weapon has not been destroyed by MAG in Rwanda it has been encountered. For a fixed butt stock the rifle is designated a KLS, an under folding butt stock KLF and side folding butt stock KLT.

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# Tabuk

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | أ ج ر |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Tabuk factory |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Iraq |

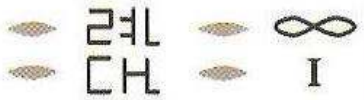
**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

Also comes with underfolding stock.

**RELEVANT INFO**

Copy of Yugoslav M70. Manufactured from the mid 1990s onwards.

# Type 58

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** |  |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Tractor Plant Number 26, Kanggye, Chagang Province |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | North Korea |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

This is a North Korean copy of the AK 47. The only slight difference from the original is not having the two finger grooves in the fore-end.

## RELEVANT INFO

Note that some selector markings are very similar to the Hungarian AMD series.

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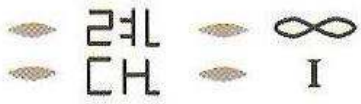
# Type 68

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** |  |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Tractor Plant Number 26, Kanggye, Chagang Province |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | North Korea |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Two cooling vents in foregrip. Distinct machined under-folding stock on 68-1 version.

## RELEVANT INFO

This is the North Korean copy of the AKM. Be careful not to confuse some selector markings with Hungarian versions.

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# Type 98-1

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | 2ㅋㄴ ∞ ㄷㅐ I |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | ☆ |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | ㄱ |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Tractor Plant Number 26, Kanggye, Chagang Province |
| **CALIBRE** | 5.45 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | North Korea |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Two cooling vents in foregrip. The 98-1 has a side folding stock, the 98 has a solid buttstock.

## RELEVANT INFO

This is the North Korean copy of the AK-74. Be careful not to confuse some selector markings with Hungarian versions.

# Karabinek AKM

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKING** | C<br>P |
| **FACTORY MARKING** | 11 |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | S |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Zakłady Metalowe "Łucznik" (Metal Works "Łucznik") Radom |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Poland |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Some weapons have the side folding coat hanger stock.

## RELEVANT INFO

AK 47s and AKMs were made under licence at Lucznik. Polish weapons tend to be regarded as high quality. Some weapons have the side folding coat hanger stock.

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# AKM Model 63 (AIM 63)

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | S S<br>FA A<br>FF R |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKINGS** | P |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Ratmil Factory, Cugir |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Romania |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Many, although not all Romanian Model 63 and 65s have the distinct rounded wooden foregrip. The Model 63 has a fixed wooden stock. The model above has a barrel attachment for launching grenades.

## RELEVANT INFO

The Cugir proof mark is similar to the Izhevsk factory markings. The Russian marking has feathers, the Romanian is rooted at the base of the triangle. Romanian markings have no feathers. AIM refers to the export designation of Romanian AKM-derived rifles.

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# AKM Model 65

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | S S<br>FA A<br>FF R |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | P |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Ratmil Factory, Cugir |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Romania |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Many, although not all Romanain Model 63 and 65 have the distinct rounded wooden foregrip. The Model 65 has an under-folding stock. The model above has a barrel attachment for launching grenades.

## RELEVANT INFO

The Cugir proof mark is similar to the Izhevsk factory markings. The Russian marking has feathers. Romanian markings have no feathers.

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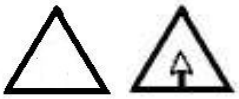
# AKM Model 90

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | S S<br>FA A<br>FF R |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** |  |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | P |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Ratmil Factory, Cugir |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Romania |

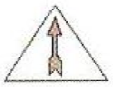
## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Side folding “coat hanger” stock. Typically this weapon will have a compensator. (Missing from the image above)

## RELEVANT INFO

The Cugir proof mark is similar to the Izhevsk factory markings. The Russian marking has feathers. Romanian markings have no feathers.

# AK-47 (Russia)

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ ПР ОД ОГОНЬ |
| **FACTORY MARKING** |  |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | **П** |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Izhmash, Izhevsk |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia |

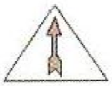
## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The easiest way of identifying the weapon is the rectangular stamp on the side of the magazine well. (Type 56s also have this feature). AK 47 receivers were milled, not stamped. This makes the weapons slightly heavier. AK 47 usually have a flat muzzle with no compensator, causing it to veer up and to the right. (Other modified barrels can be fitted). Four gas vent holes are present either side of the cylinder. The rear sight will show 800m rather than 1000m maximum range. Russian AKs often have ribbed receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

Izhmash produced the AK 47 from 1948-1959. Arsenal in Bulgaria still produce the AR, the model closest to the AK 47 original.

# AK-47S (Russia)

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ ПР ОД ОГОНЬ |
| **FACTORY MARKING** |  |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | **П** |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Izhmash, Izhevsk |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The easiest way of identifying the weapon is the rectangular stamp on the side of the magazine well. (Type 56s also have this feature). AK 47 receivers were milled, not stamped. This makes the weapons slightly heavier. AK 47 usually have a flat muzzle with no compensator, causing it to veer up and to the right. (Other modified barrels can be fitted). Four gas vent holes are present either side of the cylinder. The rear sight will show 800m rather than 1000m maximum range. Russian AKs often have ribbed receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

Izhmash produced the AK 47 from 1948-1959. Arsenal in Bulgaria still produce the AR, the model closest to the AK 47 original.

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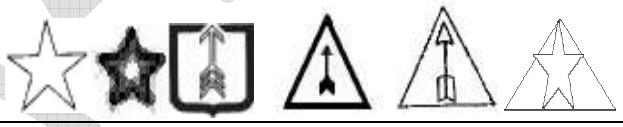
# AKM

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ ПР ОД ОГОНЬ |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** |  |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | П |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Tula Arsenal and Izhevsk Mechanical Works |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

A small recess in each side of the receiver centrally over the magazine serves as a magazine guide. The lower hand-guard has a groove for the firer's fingers. The receiver top cover has reinforcing ribs in the Russian style. The sight is graduated to 1,000 m instead of to 800 m. A dished or cutaway compensator is fitted to the muzzle. Russian AKs often have ribbed receiver covers.

**RELEVANT INFO**

A modernised version of the AK-47 that is much more commonly encountered than the AK-47. Widely copied.

# AKMS

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ ПР ОД ОГОНЬ |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | П |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Tula Arsenal and Izhevsk Mechanical Works |
| **CALIBRE** | 7.62 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia |

**KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES**

The AKMS has an under-folding butt-stock. A small recess in each side of the receiver centrally over the magazine serves as a magazine guide. The lower hand-guard has a groove for the firer's fingers. The receiver top cover has reinforcing ribs in the Russian style. The sight is graduated to 1,000 m instead of to 800 m. A dished or cutaway compensator is fitted to the muzzle. As with all Russian and many eastern European AKs the receiver cover is ribbed. The image above shows an AKMS fitted with a Chinese magazine. Russian AKs often have ribbed receiver covers.

**RELEVANT INFO**

A modernised version of the AK-47 that is much more commonly encountered than the AK-47. Widely copied.

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# AK-74

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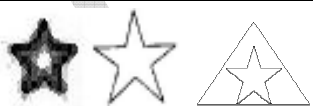
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ ПР ОД ОГОНЬ |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** |  |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | **П** |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Izhmash |
| **CALIBRE** | 5.45 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia, copied by East Germany, Bulgaria, Poland and Romania |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

The AK-74 has a horizontal finger groove along each side of the butt. Together with the muzzle brake, this is the quickest way of picking out an AK-74 from other AK-series rifles. Late-production AK-74s have black all-plastic furniture. The folding stock version is called AKS-74. The sight is gradauted to 1000m. Russian AKs often have ribbed receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

Officially adopted by the Soviet Army in 1974 as the 5.45mm Avtomat Kalashnikova, obraztsa 1974 goda (AK-74). The receiver is almost exactly like the AKM.

# AKS-74

| | |
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKING** | АВ ПР<br>ОД ОГОНЬ |
| **FACTORY MARKINGS** | |
| **SIGHT MARKING** | П |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Izhmash |
| **CALIBRE** | 5.45 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia, copied by East Germany, Bulgaria, Poland and Romania |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Together with the muzzle brake, this is the quickest way of picking out an AKS-74 from other AK-series rifles. Late-production AK-74s have black all-plastic furniture. Folding stock differentiates this rifle from basic AK-74. Russian AKs often have ribbed receiver covers.

## RELEVANT INFO

A small-calibre Kalashnikov assault rifle, officially adopted by the Soviet Army in 1974 as the "5.45mm Avtomat Kalashnikova, obraztsa 1974 goda (AK-74)". It is essentially the AKM re-chambered for a new round, with very minor modifications. Polish versions (not found in Rwanda) have the distinct side folding coat hanger stock).

# AKS-74U

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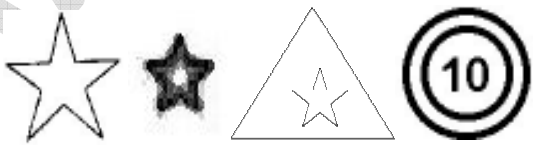
|---|---|
| **SELECTOR MARKINGS** | АВ ПР АВ<br>ОД ОГОНЬ ЕД |
| **FACTORY MARKING** |  |
| **WEAPON TYPE** | Assault Rifle |
| **MANUFACTURER** | Tula Arms Plant/Arsenal |
| **CALIBRE** | 5.45 x 39mm |
| **COUNTRY OF ORIGIN** | Russia, Bulgaria |

## KEY RECOGNITION FEATURES

Very short, folding stock, distinctive muzzle flash hider.

## RELEVANT INFO

The AKS-74U is a shortened version of the AKS-74. It is chambered for 5.45mm ammunition rather than 7.62mm used by the Zastava M92. In Rwanda parts are often mixed: lower receiver stampings are often made in Kazanlak, upper receiver stampings in Tula. Often complete original weapons have Bulgarian selector markings and a Tula factory stamp.– why is not clear. Arsenal no longer manufacture this weapon. Complete weapons from one manufacturer are also found in Rwanda. While not strictly conforming to the definition of a sub machine gun, Tulsky Oruzheiny Zavod markets the weapon as a sub machine gun.