# **Identifying Marks**

# Kalashnikov-pattern weapons

The large number of very similar Kalashnikov-pattern models often makes them difficult to identify. This Weapons ID Sheet provides information on fire selector marks, proof marks, and rear sight marks, which, combined, are a useful means to identify the manufacturers of Kalashnikov-pattern weapons.





# small arms survey

Compiled by the Small Arms Survey with the technical assistance of the National Firearms Centre, Royal Armouries, United Kingdom. For further information or if you have identification queries, contact weaponsID@smallarmssurvey.org or call: +41 22 908 5777. This identification sheet may be downloaded in printable PDF format at www.smallarmssurvey.org/weaponsID

#### ARNING:

Make a full and informed appraisal of the local security situation before conducting any research related to small arms and light weapons.

## Distinguishing features

#### FIRE SELECTOR MARKS



Model illustrated: Misr, Egypt

The fire selector is a lever that enables the user to switch between safe (up), fully automatic (centre), and semi-automatic (down) modes of operation.

Fully	Semi	Origin
Д	1	Albania
L	D	Albania
AB	ЕД	Bulgaria
连	单	China
L		China
آك	فردي	Egypt
D	Е	Germany (GDR)
$\infty$	1	Hungary
ص	10	Iraq
렫	드	North Korea
С	Р	Poland
Z	0	Poland
1	3	Romania
Α	R	Romania
ΑВ	ОД	Russia
R	J	Yugoslavia

#### **REAR SIGHT MARK CHARACTERS**



Model illustrated: AKM, Russia

Kalashnikov-pattern weapons feature a tangent rear sight, which is marked with various distance graduations. The zero mark (at the base and closest to the sight notch) usually features a character, which differs according to manufacturer / country of manufacture.

manaractarer / country or manaractare.		
Si	ght Ma	rk Origin
	D	Albania
	П	Bulgaria
	D	China
	N	Germany (GDR)
	Α	Hungary
	口	North Korea
	S	Poland
	Р	Romania
	П	Russia
	0	Yugoslavia

### Kalashnikov-pattern weapons: Identifying Marks

Distinguishing features (continued)

## PROOF MARKS



Proof marks are numerals or symbols that designate the weapon's manufacturer/country of manufacture.

Model illustrated: Misr, Egypt

Proof Mark	Origin
10	Bulgaria
she ×63	Czechoslovakia/ Czech Republic (proof; date)
▲ 五六式	China (Type 56)
<u>66</u> 56式	China (Type 56)
<u>66</u> 56-I	China (Type 56-1)
<u>66</u> 56S-2	China (Type 56-2)
1977 \$ 1.178.5	Egypt (date:1972; proof mark; serial number)
$\Diamond$	Germany (GDR)
<b>K</b> 3	Germany (GDR)
3	Germany (GDR)
	Germany (GDR)
06	Germany (GDR)
	Iraq
تنوك (كي عيار ۲۰٫۲۷× ۲۹ملم	Iraq (calibre; model Tabuk; proof mark)
	Iraq

Proof Mark	Origin
₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩ ₩	North Korea
$\bigcirc$	North Korea
© 58 △1	North Korea (Type 58)
☎ 68년 4*	North Korea (Type 68)
(11)	Poland
$\triangle$	Romania (Cugir factory)
	Russia (Izhevsk factory)
$\triangle$	Russia (Izhevsk factory)
	Russia (Molot factory)
$\stackrel{\wedge}{\searrow}$	Russia (Tula factory)
ZASTAVA-KRAGUJEVAC	Yugoslavia/Serbia (Zastava factory)
	Yugoslavia/Serbia (Zastava factory)
M.70.AB2	Yugoslavia / Serbia (M70 B2 model)

