



## M-16 RIFLE

### **Mission**

To deter, and if necessary, compel adversaries by enabling individuals and small units to engage targets with accurate, lethal, direct fire



### **Entered Army Service**

1964

### **Description and Specifications**

A lightweight, air-cooled, gas-operated, magazine-fed rifle designed for either automatic or semi-automatic fire through use of a selector lever.

Accuracy is enhanced by incorporating an improved muzzle compensator, three-round burst control, and a heavier barrel; and by using the heavier NATO-standard ammunition, which is also fired by the squad automatic weapon. The M-16A3 is identical to the M-16A2 but has a removable carrying handle that is mounted on a Picatinny Rail (for better mounting of optics) and is without burst control. The M-16A4 is identical to the M-16A2 except for the removable carrying handle and Picatinny Rail.

<b>Caliber:</b>	5.56 mm
<b>Weight:</b>	8.8 lbs (includes sling & one loaded magazine)
<b>Range:</b>	800 meters for an area target / 550 meters for a point target

*Information courtesy [Army.mil](http://Army.mil)*

There are four variants of the M-16 rifle – the A1, A2, A3, and A4. The M-16A2 incorporates improvements in iron sight, pistol grip, stock and overall combat effectiveness.

### **Manufacturer**

Colt Manufacturing and Fabrique Nationale Manufacturing

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Minnesota National Guard Public Affairs at [public.affairs@mn.ngb.army.mil](mailto:public.affairs@mn.ngb.army.mil) or go to [www.MinnesotaNationalGuard.org/press\\_room/fact\\_sheets/military\\_equipment.php](http://www.MinnesotaNationalGuard.org/press_room/fact_sheets/military_equipment.php) for a list of equipment used by the Minnesota National Guard.