



DUTY
HONOR
SERVICE

MINNESOTA
NATIONAL GUARD
ESTABLISHED 1856

RESPECT
INTEGRITY
EXCELLENCE

TOWED HOWITZE (105 MM) M102

Mission

To provide destructive, suppressive, and protective indirect and direct field artillery fires in support of combined arms operations

Entered Army Service

1964



Description and Specifications

The M102 105mm towed howitzer is a lightweight towed weapon that provides direct support fires to light, airborne and air assault forces. It can be towed by a 2-ton truck or HMMWV, dropped by parachute or transported with its basic load of ammunition by UH60 or larger helicopter and C130 aircraft. It is nearly three-quarters of a ton lighter than the World War II-era M101A1 105mm towed howitzer that it replaced. When emplaced, the howitzer's high volume of fire compensates in large measure for the lower explosive weight of the projectile compared to the 155mm howitzers. It has a very low silhouette when firing and a roller tire attached to the trail assembly of the M102 permits the weapon to be rotated 360 degrees around a firing platform, which provides the pivot for the weapon. The weapon can be elevated from -5 degrees to a maximum of 75 degrees. The M102 has been replaced in the active Army by the M119A1 105mm towed howitzer. The M102 is still found in several Army National Guard units and the Air Force uses the same cannon and recoil system in the AC130 gunship.

Length:	17.1 ft
Width:	6.4 ft
Height:	5.2 ft
Weight:	3,004 ft
Crew:	8
Range:	11,500 m standard, 15,100 m rocket-assisted
Max rate of fire:	10 rounds per minute for first 3 minutes
Sustained rate of fire:	3 rounds per minute
Ammunition:	The M102 fires all standard NATO 105mm ammunition but not the newer extended range ammo

Information courtesy Army.mil

Manufacturer

Rock Island Arsenal

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Minnesota National Guard Public Affairs at public.affairs@mn.ngb.army.mil or go to www.MinnesotaNationalGuard.org/press_room/fact_sheets/military_equipment.php for a list of equipment used by the Minnesota National Guard.