

## CHAMBER FLAG PROCEDURES:

- Remove magazine from the firearm.
- Completely clear the handgun and lock the slide to the rear.
- Examine the magazine and chamber to assure no live ammunition.
- Place the chamber flag in the empty chamber and release the slide.
- Insert a loaded magazine in the weapon.
- If the firearm is needed in an emergency, it merely requires charging the weapon (pulling the slide back and releasing).



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# child safety

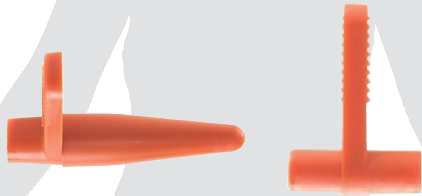


**Tennessee Department of  
Safety & Homeland Security**

Promoting safe firearm  
handling and storage  
practices among all firearm  
owners, especially those  
with children.

# LOCK IT!

Chamber flags are small, inexpensive items used as an added safety measure while transporting and storing semiautomatic handguns. Place a flag in an empty chamber as a visual confirmation that the chamber is clear.



**THE DEPARTMENT STRESSES THE MINIMUM SECURITY OF CHAMBER FLAGS. WHILE NOT A REPLACEMENT FOR SAFES, CASES, OR OTHER SECURITY DEVICES, THESE "PLUGS" ARE MERELY A DETERRENT AND THE FIRST LEVEL OF LIMITING EXPOSURE TO SMALL CHILDREN.**

If the firearm is not in direct control, the owner must absolutely ensure that it is inaccessible to a child. The department has begun distributing these items to gun owners at gun shows across the state. We demonstrate a wide variety of security devices (suggested below)

**GUN SAFES, TRIGGER LOCKS, HAND GUN SAFES, CABLE LOCKS**



# stop!

**CHAMBER FLAGS ARE NOT LOCKS OR SECURITY DEVICES.**

## LEVELS OF HANDGUN SECURITY

1. Unloaded weapon, locked in a gun safe
2. Unloaded weapon with cable and/or trigger lock
3. Unloaded weapon, chamber flagged and made inaccessible
4. Loaded weapon, cleared, chamber flagged, and made inaccessible

# SAFE HOME CHECKLIST

- ☆ Your firearm is YOUR responsibility at all times.
- ☆ Firearms are unloaded and securely stored in a location inaccessible to children and other unauthorized persons.
- ☆ Sporting firearms are unloaded before being brought into the home and never loaded while in the home.
- ☆ When firearms are removed from storage, always carefully check to confirm that they are unloaded.
- ☆ Ammunition is stored under lock and key, separately from firearms.
- ☆ The firearm owner's manual must be read and understood.