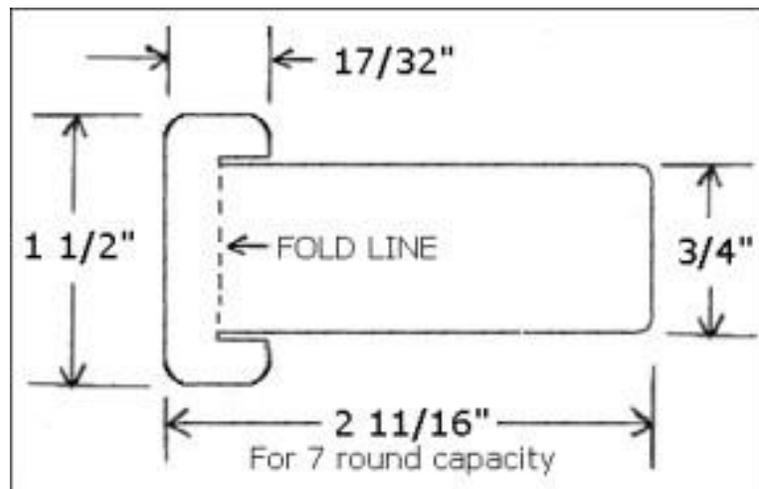


REDUCING CARBINE MAGAZINE CAPACITY

Some state or local governments say 15 round carbine magazines are illegal, or must be registered. This, as we know, is "feel good" and "showmanship" legislation, which might not help with crime reduction. But unless those laws are overturned, if ever, carbine collectors have to decide whether to obey or take their chances. The magazines can be modified to accept fewer rounds, after which they are not in violation of the laws. But collectors do not want to mess up the original appearance of the mags by drilling holes and inserting pins to limit the downward movement of the follower inside the mag. There are several ways that the downward movement of the follower can be reduced without bothering the external appearance. The "adapter" described below works well, and is not too complicated to make.

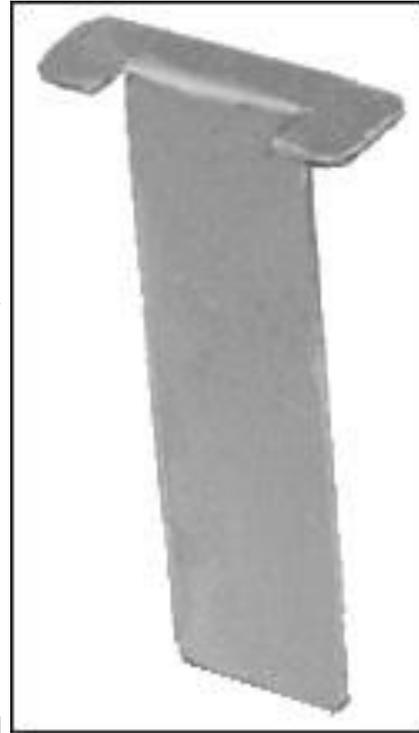
The suggested material is sheet aluminum, about 0.030" thick. It is easy to cut, and easy to file if filing is used to round the corners or to adjust dimensions later.

Other sheet metals will work, but something as thin as a drink can is not recommended. The sketch shows the way the flat piece of metal is cut, and the overall length for reducing capacity of a 15 round magazine to 7



rounds. The photo shows the shape of the finished adapter, after making a 90° bend. It is important that the bend be 90° so that the vertical part of the adapter will not contact the spring as the follower moves up and down.

Care should be used in disassembling the magazine to insert the adapter. The base or floor plate will bend if excessive pressure is used. The rounded end of the base has to be lifted just enough to let the indent slide past the front wall of the mag. A thin sharp tool or knife blade can be used to lift the rounded tip, while applying pressure to make the base slide out. Once the base is removed, the spring can be removed, if it did not jump out. Notice that the taller side of the spring goes toward the back wall of the mag, and the shorter side goes toward the front. The follower will have to be rotated inside the mag so that one end can be pulled out around the tabs that hold the base in place. With the follower out, look inside it and note that it is not completely flat, but has a flat area on the right hand side. Also note that the adapter has a flat area on one side of the folded end. Insert the adapter into the follower, with the flat areas matching up, and file or trim the edges of the adapter and round the corners as needed to get a close fit that does not bind. When fitting is finished, put the follower back into the mag, then insert the adapter, being sure the flat areas match up. When the spring is inserted, it will hold the adapter snugly inside the follower.



The height of the adapter can be made to suit whatever magazine capacity is legal. The overall height of the adapter, after the fold is made, should be as follows:

For 7 rounds, $2 \frac{7}{16}$ ". For 8 rounds, $2 \frac{4}{16}$ ". For 9 rounds, $2 \frac{1}{16}$ ". For 10 rounds, $1 \frac{14}{16}$ ". Note that each round is equal to $\frac{3}{16}$ " of adapter height. These figures could be off by $\frac{1}{32}$ " or so, depending on dimensional tolerances or variations found in the various makes of 15 round mags.

Modified mags could be labeled with a small adhesive label stating the number of rounds the mag will hold. What if the law says the mags have to be "permanently" modified, or cannot be "readily convertible" to higher capacity? With the follower inside the mag. put some epoxy on the flat area of the top of the adapter before inserting the adapter into the magazine. Then take the position that the adapter is permanent, and anyone who removes it is violating the law.

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