GUARDIAN DEFENSE MFG.

GDM® 556 SERIES

CENTERFIRE 5.56 RIFLE SUPPRESSORS

OWNER'S, MOUNTING & OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Silent Defense. Loud Impact.®

WARNING	Read and understand this manual completely before installing or using any GDM® 556 Series suppressor. Improper installation, alignment, mounting, ammunition selection, or maintenance can cause suppressor damage, firearm damage, serious personal injury, or death.

Document	Details
Document	GDM® 556 Series Owner's, Mounting & Operating Instructions
Models	GDM® 556Ti • GDM® 556 • GDM® 556 Bantam
Mounting	Direct Mount
Revision	Draft Rev. A
Effective Date	July 2026

1. IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Read and understand these instructions completely before installing or using a GDM® 556 Series suppressor.

WARNING	Follow all firearm safety rules and verify the firearm is unloaded before installation, removal, inspection, or service.

- Always treat every firearm as if it is loaded.
- Keep the firearm pointed in a safe direction.
- Remove the magazine, open the action, and physically verify the chamber is empty.
- Never install or remove a suppressor from a loaded firearm.
- Never fire through a suppressor that is loose, damaged, obstructed, or improperly aligned.
- Never use a crush washer behind a suppressor or direct mount.
- Verify projectile stability before suppressor use.
- Wear appropriate eye and hearing protection.
- Suppressors become extremely hot during firing; do not touch a hot suppressor with bare skin.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The GDM® 556 Series is a family of centerfire 5.56 rifle suppressors offering lightweight, duty-rated, and compact configurations. Select the model that matches the host firearm and intended firing schedule.

3. MODEL COMPARISON

Model	Construction	Use profile	Key distinction
GDM® 556Ti	Fully titanium	Precision, hunting, sporting	Lowest muzzle weight; manage heat carefully
GDM® 556	Inconel and 17-4 stainless steel	Duty and high-volume use	Full-auto rated; hard-use construction
GDM® 556 Bantam	Fully 17-4 stainless steel	SBR and compact carbine use	Shorter overall configuration

Ratings apply only within Guardian Defense Mfg.'s current barrel-length, ammunition, and firing-schedule limits. Confirm those limits before use.

4. CALIBER, HOST & DIRECT-MOUNT COMPATIBILITY

Use only ammunition and host configurations expressly approved by Guardian Defense Mfg. for the specific suppressor model. The core 5.56 Series applications are:

Cartridge / chamber	Status	Required verification
5.56 NATO	Core application	Model, barrel length, twist, ammunition, firing schedule
.223 Remington / .223 Wylde	Core application	Model, barrel length, twist, ammunition, firing schedule
Other cartridges	Not established by this manual	Obtain written GDM approval before use

IMPORTANT	Bullet diameter alone does not establish compatibility. Pressure, projectile stability, barrel length, twist rate, thread geometry, ammunition quality, and suppressor model all affect safe use.

5. DIRECT MOUNT CONFIGURATIONS

Depending on the configuration ordered, the suppressor may use an interchangeable GDM direct mount installed into the rear of the suppressor.

Common 5.56 Host Thread

- 1/2-28 - use only when it matches the host barrel and the selected GDM direct mount.
- Other thread pitches - use only a GDM-approved direct mount specifically matched to the host firearm.

NO CRUSH WASHERS	Mount against a clean, square barrel shoulder or the mounting surface specified by the firearm and mount manufacturer. A crush washer can create angular misalignment and contribute to a baffle or end-cap strike.

6. PRE-INSTALLATION INSPECTION

1. Unload the firearm completely and remove the magazine.
2. Open the action; visually and physically verify the chamber is empty.
3. Inspect barrel threads, shoulder, direct mount, and rear suppressor threads.
4. Remove carbon, chips, burrs, dirt, excess thread compound, and other debris.
5. Verify the suppressor bore is unobstructed.
6. Confirm the mount matches both the host firearm and suppressor.

STOP	Do not proceed if any component is damaged, obstructed, incompatible, or questionable.

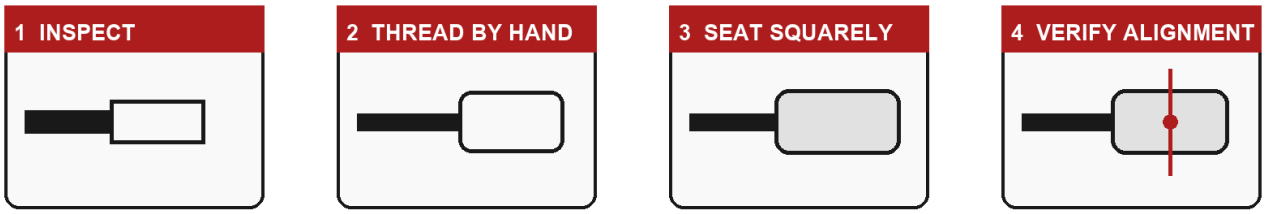
7. INSTALLATION

Installing the Direct Mount into the Suppressor

1. Confirm the suppressor is cool and the firearm is unloaded.
2. Verify the selected direct mount has the correct host-barrel thread pitch.
3. Inspect and clean all mating threads.
4. Thread the mount into the rear of the suppressor by hand.
5. Confirm smooth engagement and full seating.
6. Secure the mount using the supplied or approved wrench when applicable.
7. Verify the mount is fully seated and secure.

Installing the Suppressor on the Firearm

1. Start the suppressor onto clean barrel threads by hand.
2. Rotate slowly; stop if resistance, binding, or cross-threading is felt.
3. Continue until the suppressor seats fully and squarely against the proper shoulder.
4. Secure firmly and perform a light hand check.
5. Perform a bore-alignment check before firing.



WARNING	Never fire if the suppressor is partially threaded, loose, improperly seated, or misaligned.

8. BORE ALIGNMENT CHECK

With the firearm unloaded and the suppressor fully installed, insert the correctly sized straight alignment rod through the suppressor and into the barrel bore. Observe clearance at the suppressor exit.

Even clearance around rod

Rod off-center or contacting bore

DO NOT FIRE	If the rod contacts the suppressor bore or appears significantly off-center, remove the suppressor and inspect the complete mounting system. Contact Guardian Defense Mfg. if alignment remains questionable.

9. FIRST-FIRE PROCEDURE

1. Keep the firearm unloaded until ready to fire.
2. Verify the mount and suppressor are fully seated and secure.
3. Complete the bore-alignment check.
4. Load one round only and fire from a safe position.
5. Unload and inspect the system.
6. Confirm the suppressor and mount remain secure and show no evidence of projectile contact.
7. Inspect the target for abnormal impact behavior.
8. If normal, continue firing while periodically checking mount security.

10. ACCURACY & POINT-OF-IMPACT SHIFT

A repeatable point-of-impact shift may occur when a suppressor is installed. A major, erratic, or changing accuracy loss is not normal.

1. Stop firing and unload the firearm.
2. Verify suppressor and direct-mount tightness.
3. Inspect for projectile contact and perform another alignment check.
4. Verify square seating before resuming fire.

11. MODEL-SPECIFIC HEAT & FIRING GUIDANCE

Model	Heat / firing guidance
GDM® 556Ti	Titanium minimizes weight but requires conservative heat management. Avoid prolonged continuous strings and allow adequate natural cooling.
GDM® 556	Full-auto rated hard-use model. Rating does not eliminate heat limits; follow current GDM barrel-length and firing-schedule requirements.
GDM® 556 Bantam	The shorter 17-4 configuration heats quickly because of reduced mass and internal volume. Allow additional cooling during extended strings.
HOT SURFACE	All suppressors can cause severe burns and ignite nearby combustible material. Never cool a hot suppressor by immersing it in water or another liquid.

12. PERIODIC MOUNT CHECKS

Periodically verify suppressor tightness, direct-mount security, full shoulder seating, and the absence of abnormal movement. If anything loosens: stop firing, unload, cool, correct the condition, and recheck alignment.

13. REMOVAL

Removing the Suppressor from the Firearm

1. Unload the firearm completely.
2. Allow the suppressor to cool naturally.
3. Secure the firearm safely.
4. Rotate the suppressor in the removal direction; use the approved wrench when applicable.
5. Remove it without damaging barrel threads.
6. Inspect barrel and mount threads after removal.

Removing or Changing the Direct Mount

1. Confirm the suppressor is completely cool.
2. Secure it using a safe, non-damaging method.
3. Use the supplied or approved mount wrench when applicable.
4. Rotate and remove the mount carefully.
5. Inspect and clean mount and rear suppressor threads before installing another compatible mount.

HOT SURFACE	Never attempt to remove a dangerously hot suppressor with bare hands.

14. CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

Do not disassemble welded suppressor components unless specifically authorized by Guardian Defense Mfg.

Routine Maintenance

- After cooling, wipe down the exterior with a clean cloth.
- Inspect the suppressor bore for obstructions.
- Inspect barrel, mount, and rear suppressor threads.
- Remove loose carbon and debris from accessible mounting surfaces.
- Check for impact, erosion, cracking, corrosion, or abnormal wear.
- Store clean and dry in a ventilated location.

Do Not

- Cut open the suppressor or remove welded components.
- Drill, modify, or probe internal components.
- Use aggressive chemicals or cleaning methods that may damage the material or finish.
- Fire with a bore obstruction or continue after a suspected baffle or end-cap strike.

SERVICE	If damage or abnormal wear is suspected, discontinue use and contact Guardian Defense Mfg. before firing again.

15. AMMUNITION & PROJECTILE STABILITY

Use only high-quality ammunition appropriate for the firearm and approved suppressor application. Before suppressor use—especially with a new firearm or ammunition combination—fire the host without the suppressor and inspect the target for clean, stable bullet impacts.

- Do not use ammunition showing unstable projectiles or keyholing.
- Do not use damaged or improperly loaded cartridges.
- Do not use ammunition with suspected bore incompatibility.
- Do not use remanufactured, reloaded, frangible, or specialty ammunition unless specifically approved for the application.

16. TROUBLESHOOTING

Condition	Possible cause	Required action
Will not thread smoothly	Wrong pitch, dirt, burr, damage, cross-threading	Stop. Remove, inspect, clean, and confirm compatibility. Never force threads.
Becomes loose during firing	Insufficient seating, contamination, vibration	Stop firing. Unload, cool, inspect, reinstall, and recheck alignment.
Significant accuracy loss	Loose mount, misalignment, harmonics, projectile contact	Stop firing and inspect the complete system before reuse.
Suspected baffle / end-cap strike	Misalignment, instability, obstruction, loose mount	Stop immediately. Do not continue use. Contact GDM.
Extreme heat / visible glow	Firing schedule exceeded	Stop firing. Keep clear of combustibles and allow natural cooling.

17. WARRANTY & SERVICE

Coordinate warranty evaluation and repair directly through Guardian Defense Mfg. Do not attempt unauthorized structural repair or modification.

When requesting service, provide:

- Suppressor model and serial number
- Host firearm make, model, barrel length, and barrel thread pitch
- Direct mount used
- Ammunition type and approximate round count
- Description of the issue and photographs when applicable

DO NOT FIRE	Visible contact, cracking, deformation, an obstructed bore, or persistent alignment doubt requires immediate discontinuation of use.

18. FINAL PRE-FIRE CHECKLIST

- ☐ Firearm, cartridge, barrel length, and suppressor model are compatible
- ☐ Correct GDM direct mount is installed
- ☐ Direct mount is fully seated and secure in the suppressor
- ☐ No crush washer is present
- ☐ Barrel threads and shoulder are clean and undamaged
- ☐ Suppressor is fully installed and secure on the firearm
- ☐ Bore is unobstructed
- ☐ Alignment has been verified
- ☐ Projectile stability has been confirmed
- ☐ Eye and hearing protection are in use
- ☐ Safe firing direction and backstop are confirmed

DO NOT FIRE	If any item cannot be confirmed, do not fire.

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For technical support, warranty evaluation, mounting assistance, replacement components, or service questions, contact Guardian Defense Mfg.

Made in the USA

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NOTICE: Guardian Defense Mfg. reserves the right to revise product specifications, approved cartridges, barrel-length requirements, direct mounts, accessories, firing schedules, and instructions as product designs evolve.