

WEAPON GUIDE

RGD-5

SMALL ARMS REVIEW TEAM

DEFENSIVE (FRAGMENTATION) HAND GRENADE

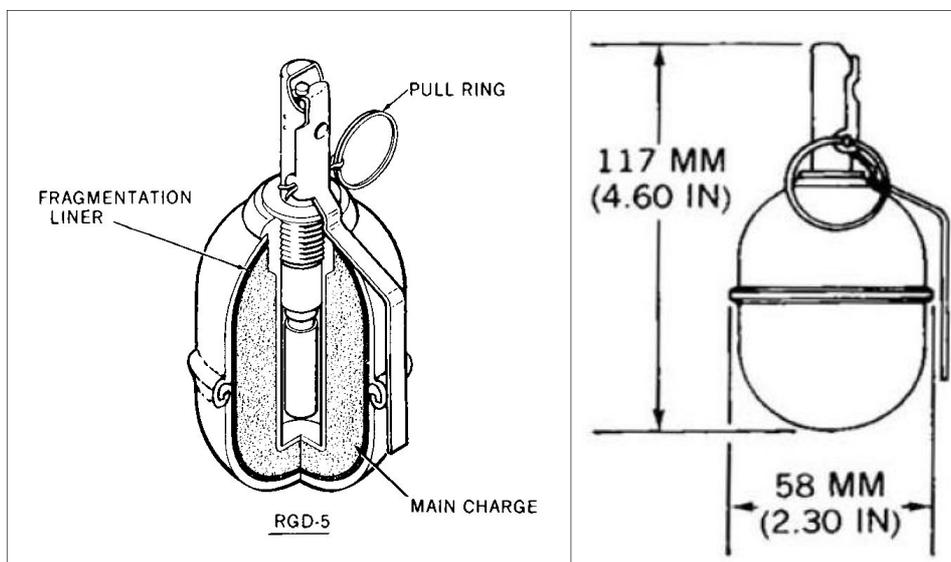


The Russian RGD-5 defensive (fragmentation) hand grenade (c. 1954) was designed to replace the WWII era F1 grenade. Whereas the heavier F1 had a ribbed cast iron body like the American MK2 that would shatter into irregular pieces, the RGD-5 uses a smooth, pressed steel outer body with a fragmentation liner that contains about 350 uniformly shaped fragments.

They are typically fitted with the 3.2 to 4 second UZRGM fuze; a universal type also fitted to the F1, RG-41 and RG-42 hand grenades. It may also be fitted with the later DMV-78 fuze, or variants of the UZRGM with delays of between zero to 13 seconds. It is also possible to screw a booby-trap firing device (MUV fuze) into the fuze-well for perimeter defense.

Later designs like the Yugoslavian M75 have thousands of steel balls designed to penetrate light body armor, but earlier designs like the RDG-5 and the America M67 are still very effective and much cheaper.

The RGD-5 is still made in Russia while clones are made in a variety of nations including Bulgaria, China and Georgia.



RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES

Grenade Manual
FM 3-23.30 Grenades and Pyrotechnic Signals.
[US Army]

Booby-Trap Adaptor
MUV fuze.
[RGD-5 manufacturers]

Grenade Pouch
S.T.R.I.K.E. Sting Ball Pouch.
[Blackhawk]

SPECIFICATIONS

Weight: 397 grams (14 oz)
Length: 90 mm (3.53 in)
Diameter: 64 mm (2.5 in)
Filling: Composition B
Filling Weight: 180 grams (6.5 oz)
Fuze: Pyrotechnic delay fuze
Delay: 3.2 to 4 seconds

HOT TIP

Store grenades separately from their fuzes in a dry environment.