



Standard Specification for Paintball Marker Warnings¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This specification covers warnings for paintball markers.

2. Referenced Documents

- 2.1 *ASTM Standards*:
F 1777 Specification for Paintball Field Operations²

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard*:

3.1.1 *cautionary statement*—the warning in 7.2.3, which is to be placed on paintball markers, packaging, and literature.

3.1.2 *paintball*—a spherical ball, commonly with a diameter of 17.3 mm (0.68 in.), comprised of a shell and a fill, designed to be expelled from a paintball marker.

3.1.3 *paintball marker*—a device specifically designed to discharge paintballs.

3.1.4 *range*—the maximum distance to which an object may be propelled, whether limited by energy or an obstacle.

4. Significance and Use

4.1 This specification addresses the appropriate warnings and instructions that are to be provided for literature, labels, packages, and procedures for safe use of paintball markers.

5. Conformance

5.1 Paintball markers shall not, either by label or other means, indicate conformance with this specification unless they conform with the applicable requirements contained herein.

6. General Requirements

6.1 *Literature*—Literature shall be provided with each paintball marker, at the time of manufacture, and shall include, as applicable, the instructions and cautionary statements specified in Section 7.

6.2 *Packaging*—Packaging shall be labeled in a prominent and conspicuous manner in accordance with the provisions of Section 7.

7. Instructions, Labeling, and Marking

7.1 *General*—Product markings and literature for paintball markers shall contain a cautionary statement as prescribed in this specification.

7.2 *Packaging*:

7.2.1 The packaging for paintball markers shall contain a cautionary statement. The statement shall be placed prominently on the main or front panel of the package and set distinctively apart from other wording or designs.

7.2.2 Prominence of the statement shall be achieved by placement within the borders of a rectangle and by use of a suitable contrasting background. The statement shall be in uppercase boldface letters of a size bearing a reasonable relationship to the other type on the main panel, but no less than 8-point type. The letters in the signal word shall be least 50 % larger than the letters in the other words in the cautionary statement. The signal word shall be preceded by a safety alert symbol. It is composed of an equilateral triangle surrounding an exclamation mark. The base of the safety alert symbol shall be on the same horizontal line as the base of the letters of the signal word. The height of the safety alert symbol shall equal or exceed the signal word height. The signal word shall be in black letters on an orange background. The solid triangle of the safety alert symbol shall be black and the exclamation point shall be orange. The cautionary statement shall have either black lettering on a white background or white lettering on a black background. When special circumstances limit the use of the warning to two colors, the colors assigned to the signal word background may also be used for the cautionary statement letters, provided that they contrast with the background color of the product. When special circumstances preclude the use of safety colors on base materials such as wood, cardboard, metal, plastic, etc., the marking used should (when feasible) contrast with the background color of the base material.

7.2.3 *Paintball Markers*—The packaging of all paintball markers shall convey the following information:

7.2.3.1 A signal word such as “WARNING,” “DANGER,” or “CAUTION.”

7.2.3.2 A warning that this is not a toy.

7.2.3.3 A warning that misuse may cause serious injury or death.

7.2.3.4 A warning that eye protection designed for paintball use must be worn by the user and any person within range.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 15.07.

7.2.3.5 A recommendation that a person be at least eighteen (18) years of age to purchase.

7.2.3.6 Instructions to read operation manual before using.

7.2.4 The packaging for paintball markers shall show conspicuously the name and address (city, state, country, and postal code) of either the manufacturer, the distributor, or the dealer.

7.2.5 The packaging for paintball markers shall be clearly marked with the following: a description of the type of paintball marker enclosed in the package and the model number of the paintball marker.

7.2.6 If a paintball marker is displayed or sold without the packaging that would normally contain the information required in 7.2.1-7.2.5, the information required in these sections shall be placed on the paintball marker itself, either on a label or hangtag that meets the same requirements for content, prominence, and visibility at the time of sale.

7.3 Product Marking:

7.3.1 Paintball markers shall be prominently and permanently marked to convey following cautionary statement:

7.3.1.1 A signal word such as “WARNING,” “DANGER,” or “CAUTION.”

7.3.1.2 A warning that this is not a toy.

7.3.1.3 A warning that misuse may cause serious injury or death.

7.3.1.4 A warning that eye protection designed for paintball use must be worn by the user and any person within range.

7.3.1.5 Instructions to read operation manual before using.

7.3.2 Each paintball marker shall be permanently and conspicuously marked to identify the manufacturer, distributor, or retailer.

7.3.3 Each paintball marker shall be marked with a model number or name that will allow proper identification of the paintball marker by the user.

7.4 Literature Accompanying Paintball Markers:

7.4.1 The instructions and warnings communicating to the user the information included in this section shall be provided as a leaflet or brochure packed with the paintball marker, or attached to the paintball marker.

7.4.1.1 A cautionary statement as noted in 7.2.3 shall be placed prominently in the literature or attached to the paintball marker. Prominence of the statement shall be achieved by placement within the borders of a rectangle and by use of a suitable contrasting background. The statement shall be in uppercase letters of a size bearing a reasonable relationship to the other type on the literature or tag, but no less than 8-point type. The signal word shall be at least 50 % larger than the other words in the literature or tag.

8. Keywords

8.1 paintball; paintball markers; paintball marker warnings; paintball sports

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