

P.38 Magazine Quick Reference Guide

This guide is *not meant to be all-inclusive, but a general reference*. There are many magazine variations; these are the most common. While unusual, it's not unheard of to find a magazine with extra or missing acceptance marks or other markings, having markings not listed below, or even a totally unmarked magazine. Note that when two changes occur across a series, they may not occur at the same time. The "P.38" marking is assumed to be on the left side of the magazine body, unless otherwise noted. A magazine listed with a serial number location of "none" in the charts below may still have a serial number, likely applied after the pistol left the factory by an individual, a field armorer, or one of the many countries that used the P.38 post-war.

Walther Manufacture

Walther manufactured magazines marked "ac" are considered by most to be field replacement magazines. Walther magazines through early 1942 have all small parts (less the spring) marked e/359.

Pistol series	Serial number location	"P.38" marking and location	WaffenAmt marking and location
Zero Series (early)	Side of magazine body	None	Double e/359, spine
480	Side of magazine body	None	Double e/359, spine
ac no date	Side of magazine body	None	Double e/359, spine
ac(40) (date added)	Side of magazine body (early) Floor plate, across toe (late)	P.38	Double e/359, spine
ac40	Floor plate, across toe	P.38	Double e/359, spine
ac41	Floor plate, across toe	P.38	Double e/359, spine
ac42	Floor plate, along side (early) None (late)	P.38	Double e/359, spine (early) Single e/359, spine (late)
ac43	None	P.38 (early) P.38v (late)	Single e/359, spine
ac44	None	P.38v (early) P.38v U (late)	Single e/359, spine
ac45	None	P.38v U	Single e/359, spine

Spreewerk Manufacture

Spreewerk magazines were not serialized, and no small parts were WaffenAmt marked.

Pistol series	Serial number location	"P.38" marking and location	WaffenAmt marking and location
All	None	None	e/88, spine

Mauser Manufacture

Mauser magazines were not serialized with the exception of those issued with police pistols. No small parts were WaffenAmt marked.

Pistol series	Serial number location	“P.38” marking and location	WaffenAmt marking and location
byf42	None	P.38	e/135, spine
byf43	None	P.38 (early) P.38v (late)	e/135, spine (early) e/WaA135, spine (late)
byf44	None	P.38v (early) P.38v U (late)	e/WaA135, spine
svw45	None	P.38v U	e/WaA135, spine

Contract Manufacture

Magazines of Czech manufacture were distributed to primary manufacturers, as well as used as field replacement magazines. Magazines were not serialized, and no small parts were WaffenAmt marked. Replacement magazines will not have the primary manufacturers WaffenAmt (e/359, e/88/, e/135, e/WaA135). Magazines are marked with the manufacturer’s code “jvd”. This marking is found on the magazine body on the side, spine, or both. WaA/706 may also be found in one or more locations, or not at all.

Pistol series	Serial number location	“P.38” marking and location	WaffenAmt marking and location
cyq	None	None	e/88, spine
cyq (early 1944), byf44 (early)	None	None	WaA/706, side and/or spine
cyq (early 1944), byf44 (early)	None	P.38	WaA/706, spine
cyq second letter series	None	P.38 U, left or right side	WaA/706, side or spine
ac44, ac45	None	P.38, right side	e/359, spine
ac44, ac45	None	P.38 U	WaA706, e/359, spine
All (field replacement)	None	None	None