

## Rapid Fire Device Examples

**Federal definition of a machine gun:** “...Any weapon which shoots, is designed to shoot, or can be readily restored to shoot, automatically more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.”

**Device:** Unmodified Semiautomatic Rifle (common AR/AK-style rifles, etc)

**Current Federal Legal Status:** Legal

**Current Vermont Legal Status:** Legal

**Approx Rate of Fire:** A skilled shooter may reach rates of around 120-180 rounds/minute, but generally only for short bursts due to human limitations like trigger pull speed, recoil management, and the need to maintain accuracy.

**Video:** [Ruger AR 556 Semi Auto NATO .223 shooting](#)

**Device:** Bump Stock

**How it works:** A bump stock harnesses a semi-automatic rifle's recoil to rapidly reset and re-engage the trigger against a stationary finger, mimicking automatic fire without a "single function of the trigger.”

**Current Federal Legal Status:** Legal. Not a ‘machine gun’ because the trigger functions for each bullet fired.

**Current Vermont Legal Status:** Illegal

**Approx Rate of Fire:** ~800 rounds/minute or over 13 rounds/second

**Video:** [Bump Fire Stock - SSAR15 OGR and Drum - Slide Fire | Freedom Unleashed](#)

**Device:** Forced-Reset Trigger

**How it works:** Uses the firearm's cycling action to mechanically push the trigger forward into its reset position after each shot, allowing the shooter to maintain continuous rearward pressure and “function the trigger” to fire subsequent rounds much more rapidly than with a standard semi-automatic trigger.

**Current Federal Legal Status:** Not classified as machine guns by the ATF following a May 2025 settlement between the Department of Justice and manufacturers, overturning previous ATF attempts to ban them.

**Current Vermont Legal Status:** Legal

**Approx Rate of Fire:** ~700 rounds/minute

**Video:** [FRT-15 Vs An Actual Machine Gun](#)

**Device:** Binary Trigger

**How it works:** A binary trigger allows a firearm to fire one round when the trigger is pulled and a second round when the trigger is released.

**Current Federal Legal Status:** Legal. Not considered a machine gun by the ATF, as it requires two distinct actions (pull and release) for two shots.

**Current Vermont Legal Status:** Legal

**Approx Rate of Fire:** Can significantly increase rate of fire, effectively doubling shots per trigger manipulation (pull and release).

**Video:** <https://youtu.be/Sxc2tvFT9HU?si=AKhx94rljBQ8xFVc&t=31>

**Device:** Glock Switch

**How it works:** Attaches to the rear of a semi-automatic Glock pistol, overriding its internal trigger mechanism to allow it to fire continuously with a "single function of the trigger."

**Current Federal Legal Status:** Regulated as a machine gun

**Current Vermont Legal Status:** Unclear, so it defaults to federal law

**Approx Rate of Fire:** ~1200 rounds/minute, or can empty an extended 33-round magazine in about 1.65 seconds.

**Video:** [GLOCK SWITCHES: LEGO-sized device turns handguns into machine guns](#)

**Device:** Trigger Crank

**How it works:** An external device that attaches to the trigger guard and features a crank or lever that, when rotated, repeatedly depresses the trigger, allowing for a rapid succession of shots.

**Current Federal Legal Status:** Legal. Generally not classified as a machine gun because it does not modify the internal mechanism of the firearm and requires continuous manual action to fire.

**Current Vermont Legal Status:** Legal

**Video:** [GatCrank 15](#)

**Device:** Hell-Fire Trigger

**How it works:** Attaches to a semi-automatic firearm, typically behind the trigger, pushing against the back of the trigger to accelerate the trigger's reset and push it back into position, allowing a user to maintain continuous pressure for a faster rate of fire, often facilitating a form of "bump firing."

**Current Federal Legal Status:** Legal. Not a 'machine gun' because the trigger functions for each bullet fired.

**Current Vermont Legal Status:** Legal.

**Video:** [Hellfire Stealth Installation and firing](#)