



Magpul BDA FAQ

Q: Is there an ATF opinion letter for the Magpul BDA?

A: The ATF is no longer issuing classification letters for firearm accessories, including braces. The BDA has been specifically designed to closely conform to the features and limitations identified in existing opinion letters.

An additional data point is that many common brace-type products do not have an individual letter for that specific product and instead rely on referring to classification of previous products in a manufacturer's line, and this is really no different. In fact, we conform quite closely to approved features, function, and dimensions in the body of existing classifications. It is still the responsibility of the customer to ensure that their specific configuration is compliant in their location.

Q: Is the BDA brace compliant with the proposed ATF scoring system?

A: As no final regulatory change has been published or implemented, there is no way to know what that would entail in final form. The BDA adds pistol tube compatibility to our line, accommodating multiple different tube diameters, as well as carbine and A5 receiver extensions while still being under the previous guideline of 13.5" back of brace to front of trigger measurement. This simplifies adding a brace to firearms shipped with a pistol tube installed, as well as allows using an A5 extension without exceeding prior length guidance. Our BSL and BTR braces cannot be used on a pistol extension, nor can they be used on an A5 tube without exceeding 13.5". In addition, it is a very minimalist option, foregoing adjustability for simplicity and a compact form factor.

Q: Why isn't the BDA adjustable?

A: The minimalist design of the BDA was conceived to be compatible with pistol receiver extensions and carbine receiver extensions; this compatibility took priority over length adjustments. If you require an adjustable brace, please consider our BTR and BSL.

Q: Is the BDA a stock?

A: **No.** The BDA is expressly designed to aid single handed operation of AR-based firearms. The features, dimensions, and characteristics have all been chosen specifically for this function.

Q: Can I fire this from the shoulder?

A: **The BDA is designed to aid single handed firing of AR-based firearms.** Any other use is outside the intended purpose of the product. There are several ATF opinion letters regarding the shouldering of brace-equipped firearms, and we encourage reading those opinions to be best informed about current interpretations.

Q: Can I use this on an A5 extension?

A: The BDA is specifically designed for a standard, mil-spec carbine-style receiver extension, or a cylindrical pistol receiver extension*, and can be used on standard AR lowers with an A5 length tube without exceeding previous ATF guidance of 13.5". As with any brace, the user must be sure that any other application on different receivers or firearms platforms that use adapters still comply with latest ATF guidance for length.

Q: Doesn't a carbine extension make a firearm into a rifle?

A: The ATF has issued several opinions that state that a carbine receiver extension does not in and of itself make an AR receiver into a rifle, and at least one brace classification letter has been issued approving the use of a carbine receiver extension with a blade-style brace and maintaining pistol classification.** **Final configuration is what is evaluated by the ATF, and it is recommended that the user be familiar with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations to make sure that their final configuration is compliant.**

Q: Do I need to use a sling with the BDA?

A: It is not necessary. The shape of the BDA provides stability simply by contacting the forearm. By using a sling, however, additional tension can be applied to add stability and control. The rear-mounted QD socket provides a centered sling mounting point for this purpose and can be used with either hand.

Full disclaimer info:

*Mil-spec carbine and pistol receiver extension equipped AR Pistols. Not compatible with proprietary or commercial receiver extensions. All ATF, NFA, state and local rules and laws apply, where applicable.

**ATF has ruled that attaching stabilizing braces with certain features will not make a firearm NFA controlled. This product conforms to this ATF precedent, and the body of existing classification opinions. As of December 10, 2019, ATF is no longer issuing classification letters for firearm accessories, including stabilizing braces.

***** This product is designed and intended to serve only as a forearm brace for one-handed firing of a pistol. It is not intended to be fired from the shoulder. Any redesign or reconfiguration of this product may render the attached firearm NFA controlled. The user is exclusively responsible for determining the correct application of state and federal law based on the unique configuration of each firearm.**