IMPORTANT SAFETY WARNINGS AND INSTRUCTIONS READ PRIOR TO USING GALCO PRODUCTS

**DANGER** Firearms users must understand and obey the Rules of Firearms Safety:
1. All firearms are always loaded.
2. Never let the muzzle cover anything you’re not willing to destroy.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on target.
4. Be sure of your target and what’s beyond.

**WARNING** Failure to heed these warnings or follow the operating instructions may result in negligent discharge of a firearm, causing serious injury or death.

Read and understand all owner’s manuals, instructions, and guides prepared by the manufacturer of your firearm prior to use.

Galco holsters are designed to carry specific firearms.

**WARNING** Before use, be sure the holster selected is designed and intended to carry your particular firearm.

If you have any questions about correct fit, contact Galco Customer Service at 800-874-2526 or customerservice@galcogunleather.com. You may also visit GalcoUSA.com and use our online “shop by gun” feature.

**WARNING** Carrying a firearm in an ill-fitting or improper holster can result in serious injury or death. The purchase and use of a Galco holster is at the sole and exclusive risk of the user.

READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS ENTIRE GUIDE PRIOR TO USING THIS PRODUCT

Firearms are inherently dangerous. Improper or careless use of a firearm or firearm and holster may result in serious injury or death. It is the user’s responsibility to possess a thorough knowledge of, and be properly trained in, all aspects of firearm use, including holster use and safety.

**WARNING** Do not place a loaded firearm in a holster without first testing – with a firearm double-checked and verified to be unloaded – for a proper firearm fit.

**CAUTION** Tension units are not pre-set at the factory. If a holster has tension units, it is the user’s responsibility to ensure they are adjusted to suit the firearm.

Carry the firearm in the safe condition recommended by its manufacturer. This information will be contained in the product information manual provided by the firearm manufacturer. If you do not have the manual applicable to the firearm, contact the firearm’s manufacturer.

Always ensure the firearm is fully seated in the holster, and that it activates all automatic or manual retention devices (when provided). Retention devices must be used when provided.

**WARNING** If the firearm is not properly secured by means of friction or the retention device(s), it could become dislodged, causing injury and possibly death to the user and others.

**WARNING** Never holster a firearm in the single-action mode, unless it is a semi-automatic pistol and holster designed and intended for “cocked and locked” or “Condition One” carry.

**WARNING** Always ensure that a single-action pistol carried in “Condition One” has the manual safety engaged when carrying in a holster.

**WARNING** Do not attempt to cock a holstered firearm as this may damage the firearm, the holster, or both, and may contribute to a negligent discharge.

**WARNING** Always protect an exposed magazine release from accidental activation.

**WARNING** When drawing a firearm from the holster, DO NOT place your finger on the trigger, in the trigger guard, or near the trigger. Position your finger along the frame of the firearm, above the trigger guard. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on target.

**WARNING** A significant number of negligent discharges - some resulting in injury or death - occur while holstering a firearm. Most are caused by the user’s index finger pressing the trigger. Some are caused because a foreign object becomes entangled or trapped in the trigger guard/holster and presses the trigger. The safest practice is to “look the firearm into the holster.” This should be done methodically and without rushing. While holstering, be fully cognizant that:
1. All safeties are engaged.
2. Your index finger is straight along the firearm’s frame. DO NOT place your finger on the trigger, in the trigger guard, or near the trigger. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on target.
3. No articles of clothing (shirt tails, jacket drawstrings, etc.) become trapped in the trigger guard, holster, or between the firearm and holster.
4. Your shooting-hand thumb is placed over the hammer or the rear of the slide. This will enable you to feel if the hammer starts to move rearward or the slide begins to come out of battery.
5. You strictly observe Rule of Firearms Safety #2: never let the muzzle cover anything you’re not willing to destroy. If you do not know how to holster your firearm without breaking this rule, you should seek training before holstering your firearm while the holster is worn.

If for any reason you are unable to “look the firearm into the holster” and not muzzle yourself or others, you should remove the holster from your body, then “look the firearm into the holster” (without breaking Rule #2). After the firearm is securely seated in the holster, attach the holster to your body/clothing in the manner in which it was designed.

7. If you holster your firearm while the holster is off and in your hand, insure you DO NOT point the firearm at your support hand. Do not place your support hand (or other body parts) at the bottom of the holster. The holster material is not bullet proof. Neither your support hand, other body parts, nor other people should be muzzled/flagged while holstering.

**WARNING** If a firearm falls out of its holster, it may fire, causing death or serious injury.

Always place your hand on the firearm and holster when running or performing other physically vigorous activities.

It is the user’s responsibility to maintain the holster by regularly inspecting component parts for excessive wear and proper function. This includes, but is not limited to, tension units, snap closures and retention devices.

Checking tension units each time the holster is used is required as part of your regular safety inspection. Applying a small amount of clear nail polish to the threads of the tension units, after proper adjustment, will help minimize screw loosening.

**WARNING** Do not use customized, modified, worn or broken firearms, or those otherwise outside the original manufacturer’s specifications, in a Galco holster.

Do not in any way modify, disassemble, or remove any part from this holster, except as approved and recommended in Galco’s Product Information Guide. Do not rely on any holster being “snatch proof” regardless of the number of retention devices it may feature. Rely only on proper training and situational awareness.

CARRY CONDITION OF THE FIREARM

**WARNING** Some single-action revolvers and some semi-automatic pistols must be carried with the hammer or firing pin resting on an empty chamber.

CARRYING any firearm with a live cartridge in the chamber and immediately in front of the firing pin may cause a negligent discharge. Holsters are NOT designed to prevent firearms discharge if dropped. Information regarding the safe carry condition of your firearm will be contained in the product information manual provided by the firearm’s manufacturer. If you are unsure of the safe carry condition(s) of your firearm, contact the firearm’s manufacturer.

**WARNING** Galco holsters with retention straps intended for single-action pistols (such as the 1911) are designed for “hammer down, empty chamber” carry, unless otherwise specified. Galco holsters without retention straps (open top) are designed to carry single-action pistols in all safe conditions of carry as specified by the firearm manufacturer.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE OF A GALCO PRODUCT! WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS.

SWITCHBACK
STRONGSIDE/CROSSDRAW BELT HOLSTER

A hybrid design that combines the best elements of leather and synthetic, the Switchback™ is fully ambidextrous and can be carried in the strongside or crossdraw positions.

The advantages of strongside carry are well-known. The handgun is behind the hip and thus out of the way in most applications, while still being accessible and offering an easy, fast draw. An advantage of the crossdraw position is its ability to accommodate standing as well as sitting/riding.

The ambidextrous nature of the holster is lefty friendly and favorable to righties as well. If one’s strong hand/arm sustains an injury in the field the holster can be moved to the off side.

An ambidextrous “exoskeleton” made of top grain steerhide allows the belt to be threaded through either side of the holster body in strongside or crossdraw positions, for right or left hand draw. The retention strap has a hammer slot and is reversible for ambidextrous use.

The main body of the Switchback is constructed of layered synthetics, beginning with an outer layer of durable black ballistic nylon. Beneath that is closed cell foam that imparts stiffness and sturdiness to the holster body. Finally, a layer of 420 denier gunmetal-colored packcloth lines the holster.

SAFETY SYMBOL DEFINITIONS

⚠️ DANGER
Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.

⚠️ WARNING
Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.

⚠️ CAUTION
Indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in minor or moderate injury.

NOTICE
Used to address practices unrelated to potential personal injury.

Visit GalcoGunleather.com/videos to view related safety and product use videos.

DO

⚠️ WARNING
Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target!!

NOTICE
Ensure that all screws are tightened snugly. Applying a small amount of clear nail polish to the threads will minimize screw back out.

Top grain leather holsters that come in contact with bodily perspiration, the elements, or become soiled on a regular basis may need to be treated periodically to slow the natural breakdown of the leather fibers. Dry the leather naturally, without any type of artificial heat. Use Galco Leather Lotion, which will replace the natural oils in the leather.

Clean synthetic materials as needed by hand using a soft bristle brush. If additional cleaning is needed, wash by hand with a mild soap and water, allow to air dry naturally.

DON’T

⚠️ WARNING
Do not place a loaded firearm in a holster without first testing – with a firearm double-checked and verified to be unloaded – for proper firearm fit.

NOTICE
Do not store your firearm in a holster if the holster is damp from perspiration or in otherwise moist condition.

Do not use LocTite® or threadlock. Out-gassing from these adhesive compounds will adversely affect plastic, nylon and rubber holster parts.

Do not submerge or saturate your leather product in water or any other liquid or dry your leather product with heat from a dryer, oven, radiator, direct sunlight, etc.

Do not use products such as Neats Foot or Mink oil, as they will damage the leather. Additionally, do not use Galco Leather Lotion on synthetic materials.

Do not leave your Galco product on the dashboard of your car in summer, or leave it otherwise exposed to the elements.

Do not put Galco synthetic material in the washing machine.

SAFETY STRAP RELEASE

Grasp the squared-off end tab of the retention strap with your strong-side hand to release the snap.

SAFETY STRAP RELEASE (continued)

Release the squared-off end tab of the retention strap with your strong-side hand. Push the retention strap clear with your thumb as you assume your firing grip.

Complete video instruction on safe draw and return to holster available on Galco's YouTube channel and at GalcoUSA.com.

AMBIDEXTROUS USE

The Switchback comes set up right-hand draw but is easily converted for left-hand use. Simply remove the retention strap and reverse the direction so that the squared-off end tab of the retention strap is on the outside of the holster.

Left-handed users MUST remove the retention strap and reverse it so the squared-off end tab of the retention strap is accessible to the index finger of your firing grip.

WEARING THE SWITCHBACK AS A CROSSDRAW HOLSTER

Thread your belt through the rear-most slot and out through the forward slot. Fits belts up to 1 ¾” in width.

REPAIRS

Great care was taken to select the finest materials available to craft your Galco product. It was designed in accordance with the highest engineering standards and hand made using traditional leather craft practices that have become Galco hallmarks over five decades. In the unlikely event a repair is necessary to an unaltered Galco product, simply contact our Customer Service department at 800-874-2526 or customerservice@galcogunleather.com. We will issue you a Return Authorization (RA) number to print on the outside of your shipping container and provide you with detailed shipping instructions.

TERMS OF SALE

Because we have no control over the use of our products, all Galco products are sold as is and “with all faults.” The entire risk as to the quality and performance of the product is with the buyer. Should the product prove defective following its purchase, the buyer and not the manufacturer, distributor, or retailer assumes the entire risk of all the necessary servicing or repairs. Under no circumstances shall Galco be liable for incidental or consequential damages, such as loss of use of property, commercial loss and loss of earnings or profits. The implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose and all other warranties, expressed or implied, are excluded from this transaction and shall not apply to the product sold. The determination of the fitness or the suitability of any product for a specific use is the responsibility of the buyer. The illustrations shown herein are typical as to the finish and application. Due to uncontrollable variables in color saturation, the actual product may differ slightly from that shown on our web site. Galco reserves the right to make changes in product built and/or sold by them at any time without incurring any obligation to make same or similar changes on products previously manufactured and/or sold by them. All Galco products are made in the U.S.A. and produced according to rigid specifications. Prices and models are subject to change without notice. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of implied warranties or liability for incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations and exclusions may not apply to you. Galco designs, features, and model names are the exclusive property of Galco International. Any and all persons including, but not limited to, individuals, firms and/or corporations are forbidden from imitating, copying or reproducing them in any way.

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