

Warfighter: World War II Pacific New Recruit Manual



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Table of Contents

1. Important Information.....	3
1.0 An Overview of this Manual.....	3
1.1 About WWII Base Boxes.....	3
1.2 Contents of The Box.....	3
1.2.1 Cards.....	4
1.2.2 Counters.....	8
1.2.3 Board.....	9
1.2.4 Campaign Components.....	10
2. Preparing a Mission and Gearing Up.....	11
2.1 Setting Up The Mission.....	11
2.1.1 Mission Types.....	11
2.1.2 Objective Types.....	12
2.2 Gearing Up.....	13
2.2.1 Soldiers.....	13
2.2.2 Weapons.....	14
2.2.3 Equipment.....	15
2.2.4 Skills.....	15
3. Playing the Mission.....	16
3.1 The Important Things.....	17
3.1.1 Keywords.....	17
3.1.2 Hostile Effectiveness.....	17
3.1.3 Range.....	17
3.1.4 Dickey Matters.....	18
3.2 Soldier Turn.....	18
3.2.1 Environment.....	18
3.2.2 Actions.....	18
3.2.2.1 Remove 1 Suppress (Action).....	18
3.2.2.2 Discard and Draw (Action).....	18
3.2.2.3 Play an Action Card (Free*).....	19
3.2.2.4 Move (Action).....	19
3.2.2.5 Attack (Action).....	20
3.2.2.6 Reload (Action).....	21
3.2.2.7 Play a Location Card (Free*).....	21
3.2.2.8 Activate the Objective (Free).....	22
3.2.2.9 Pay Retain Costs (Free*).....	22
3.2.2.10 Lighten the Load (Free).....	22
3.2.2.11 Trade Between Soldiers (Free).....	23
3.2.2.12 Engage in Hand to Hand.....	23
3.2.2.13 Deploy Bipod (Action).....	23
3.2.2.14 Mid-Mission Healing (Action).....	23
3.3 Hostile Turn.....	24
3.3.1 Reinforcement Draw.....	24
3.3.2 Attack.....	25
3.3.2.1 Soldier Down.....	25
3.3.3 Close Range.....	26
3.3.4 Remove Suppress Counters.....	26
3.3.5 Advance Mission Timer.....	26
4. Quick Reference Sheets.....	27

1. Important Information

1.0 An Overview of this Manual

This Warfighter: World War II Pacific manual has been made in the interest of introducing new players to the game. While it is a somewhat complex game, it's made leagues more difficult to learn by the Warfighter Universal Rulebook, which is a good *reference* but bad *learning material*.

This book is not meant to *replace* the Universal Rulebook, but *supplement* it. Hopefully, by the time you have digested this manual, you will be able to use the Universal Rulebook to look up rules questions instead of this manual. If the Universal Rulebook has a rule that this manual gets wrong or does not have, the Universal Rulebook is king.

With that said, the purpose of this manual is to help new players learn how to play the game of Warfighter from start to finish. If you have any questions or suggestions for improving the manual, I'm always available on the DVG Discord under the name BlueMaxima.

Gameplay tip: Every now and again I'll pop in to tell you a nugget of wisdom learned from playing the game, to hopefully make your learning experience much smoother. Feel free to ignore my advice and just dive right in, though!

1.1 About WWII Base Boxes

As of the writing of this manual, Warfighter has four World War II boxes: European, Pacific, Mediterranean and North Africa, each of which contains different contents in their base boxes. The purpose of this manual is to serve as a first time guide for the Pacific box; as a result, we may be covering content in this manual that may or may not be present in the other boxes.

1.2 Contents of The Box

Your box should come with a fair few things:

- The Warfighter Universal Rulebook and Keywords Reference
- 280 cards of varying types (390 in first-print copies)
- Several sheets of punch-out counters
- Three ten sided dice and one six sided die
- The fold-out game board
- Nine campaign sheets & a squad sheet

We'll explain each component in depth in the next few sections of the manual. I'd also recommend a tray for sorting the counters for ease of play, and an opaque bag or cup you can draw from without looking inside.

Note that this manual does not cover expansion content, we are focusing entirely on the contents of the base box, with one or two exceptions.

1.2.1 Cards

The most important part of Warfighter are the cards, that determine your soldiers, what they're fighting with, who they're fighting and where they're fighting. This section will give you a quick overview of each card type and go more in-depth later on, so that you can hopefully get an idea of what's going on as you read through the manual.



Player Soldier

Non-Player Soldier

Squad Soldier

Soldier Cards represent your men sent on their dangerous mission.

- **Player Soldiers** are the most flexible, being able to take any weapons, equipment and skills, and are usually the strongest as a result, but this comes at a higher cost than most other Soldiers. They are also the only Soldier that can draw Action Cards, making them vital to winning the mission, as you need to find Locations to progress via drawing them from the Action deck, and Action Cards themselves are useful battle tricks that can turn the tide in bad situations.
- **Non-Player Soldiers** are, to put it in a basic way, pre-equipped Soldiers. They usually come with weaponry and equipment that can't be changed, but cost less overall as a result. So if you need to fill a role relatively cheaply, see if there's a Non-Player Soldier that can help you.
- **Squad Soldiers** are, to also put it in a basic way, the background soldier in a war movie that sometimes gets a lucky shot off. If you have a few points to spare and want to shore up your offensive capabilities, or need a certain skill that a Squad has handy, they aren't bad to bring along.

Gameplay tip: My personal advice is that you want to bring along at least 2 Player Soldiers in every mission, if your budget allows for it.



Weapon



Equipment



Skill

Your Soldiers need to be equipped with **Weapons, Equipment and Skills**.

- **Weapons** go pew pew and shoot Hostiles, and it really doesn't get much simpler than that. The base box comes with plenty of guns for the job, from all-rounders like the M1 Rifle, M1 SMGs for close range combat, an M1919 for heavy suppressing fire, the M1903A4 for long-range kills, and even a rocket launcher, flamethrower and pistol.
- **Equipment** is just as important, as it gives you the ability to heal yourself, hide with camouflage, breach a Structure to make it easier to get into, or simply draw more Action cards.

Note: Warfighter refers to Weapons and Equipment in tandem as "Gear".

- **Skills** are passive buffs that are very handy to have around: the example above just makes you more accurate in general, which is a real plus. But they can give you more tricks to play with. You have 27 Skill cards to play with in the Pacific box – a good combination can make or break a Mission.



Action Cards

Action Cards are cards that are drawn by Player Soldiers, and they are really, really useful. The most important is the Location Marker, as this lets you find **Locations** that allow you to travel from your insertion point to the objective you're trying to accomplish.

The others are important too, as they can let you pull tricks to get out of a really sticky situation. Being able to redirect Hostile attacks, improve your own attacks, or throw out a mortar strike can completely change the state of the mission.



Locations

Locations are drawn when you gain Location Markers from the Action Deck, and they're the trail of places you visit on your way through the war-torn locales of Japan. Choosing where to go and when is a big part of your operations. You'll notice a few things on them I'll point out now:

- The Hostiles table in the bottom-right signifies how heavily patrolled these regions are. The Swamp is lightly guarded while the Mission Station is packed to the brim.
- The Entrance Costs in the top right determine how hard it is to get into a Location: The Swamp is hard to penetrate but the Stream and Mission Station are easier relatively.
- The Rein field determines what reinforcement types will show up. The Mission Station will reinforce plenty of strong Hostiles, while the Moist Jungle won't reinforce at all.

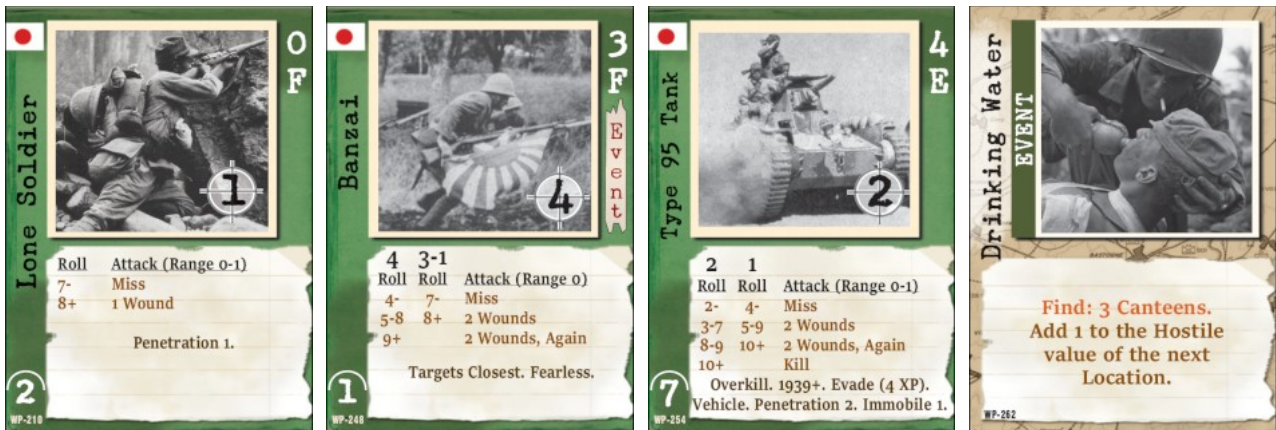


Missions

Objectives

The **Mission** and **Objective** cards define the game and change how you need to loadout your Soldiers. The Mission determines how much resources you have to spend, how long the Mission is in both Locations to play and the number of turns you have to pull it off, and how much of a penalty your Soldiers have to what they can carry, while the Objective is what you actually need to accomplish to win. If you finish the Objective, you instantly win, no fuss.

One of the best parts of Warfighter is how combining a Mission and an Objective can change the game. Try putting together two of the above Missions and Objectives in different combinations and try to figure out how the game changes.



Hostiles

Event










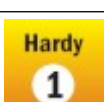
Hostiles are the bad guys you'll be facing, which in this case is the Japanese army. They range in hostility from simple Lone Soldiers to dangerous Banzai charges right up to a tank. Their behavior is in the middle-bottom text box, while their value (both while being deployed and when they are killed) is in the top right, and their Cover is in the bottom left. Their reticles – which all need to be killed to eliminate the Hostile – is in the bottom right of the picture on the card. The more reticles are covered, the less effective the Hostile is; for example, EKIAing or Suppressing one Hostile on the Banzai will cause them to hit less hard.




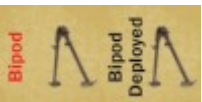

Two Hostile decks are included in the base box; Frontline and Elite. Elite is the harder deck to deal with. You may pick either to play against during the Mission, or shuffle both decks together.

Some cards, like the Banzai above, will also draw an Event from the Event deck, which can change the game up, both in and out of your favor.

1.2.2 Counters

The box comes with a lot of counters that are used throughout the game. Akin to the previous section I'll just provide a quick outline here; more details will be given when these counters are more appropriate. Once you've sorted out those counters, you'll notice you have a lot of counters left over. I won't go over them in this manual because they're for content not included in the base box; I'd recommend just keeping them somewhere out of the way just to keep the game as easy as possible to learn.

	<p>These Soldier Identification counters come in pairs; one to determine what Soldier is what number, and the other to keep track of where he is on the board.</p>
	<p>Action counters determine how many Actions your Soldiers can take during a Soldier Turn.</p>
	<p>The Inactive counter keeps track of the Objective and whether it has been reached and activated yet.</p>
	<p>The Timer counter keeps track of how many turns the Mission has left.</p>
	<p>Ammo counters show how much ammo you have left for your firearms, and whether or not the firearm is empty and needs to be reloaded.</p>
	<p>These counters all represent weapons or equipment that are <i>expended</i> – i.e. thrown away after a single use, and are used on their particular cards or as instructed throughout the game.</p>
	<p>These Wound counters are taken by Soldiers if Hostiles attack them. They are flipped to their other side if they are treated, but not completely, and removed if they are treated completely.</p>
	<p>These XP tokens keep track of a Soldier's total XP count from mission prep or killing Hostiles. They have multiple uses throughout the Mission.</p>
	<p>These Target counters are drawn from a cup and placed on Hostiles when they're drawn from the Hostile deck; they'll hunt down the Soldier with the matching Soldier Identification counter.</p>
	<p>Hardy counters are used for tracking how well your Soldiers hold up to the intense conditions of the jungle.</p>

	You use these counters to keep track of Objective Hostiles that need to die for the mission to be accomplished.
	These are double-sided Suppress and EKIA counters for having suppressed a Hostile reticle or a Soldier, and having killed a Hostile reticle respectively.
	These counters are used for tracking hand-to-hand attacks.
	The Bipod is included for the M1918A2 Machine Gun, which allows it to get more kills once deployed.
	These counters are used for marking spaces during Campaigns.

1.2.3 Board

Here's the board as it looks unfolded. The important parts have been highlighted.



The green area to the left is where all the shuffled decks will be placed. The red area is the Time Track, which will slowly tick down to the end of the Mission.

The white row is where the game will be played; the Mission, Objective, and Locations between them will all end up here, along with your Soldier Identification counters. You can see numbers in the bottom right corner of each slot; this is the Location number (often referred to by the game as Location # or Loc #). Hostile cards will be played above this row, above the Locations they occupy. Hostiles may extend off the top of the board.

The rest of the board contains room for Hostile cards to be played, and references for gameplay. We'll try to remain as close to these references as possible so that you can easily reference them in this manual.

2. Preparing a Mission and Gearing Up

2.1 Setting Up The Mission

To begin even thinking about a Mission in Warfighter, you need to get it ready first.

Part of this is selecting which *region* you're going to play – expansion packs to Warfighter add more places which come with their own Missions, Objectives and Hostiles. We'll work off the idea that you're playing just the base box though, so start by shuffling the Action cards, Hostile cards, Event cards and Location cards, placing them in their respective deck spaces. Know that you can't mix Hostiles, Missions and Objectives from different expansions together; you have to play them all in set.

Next will be to pick your Mission and Objective. You may pick any combination of the four, although note that some of them bar the others. Feel free to also shuffle the two decks and get a completely random mission, too.

Once you've picked your Mission and Objective, place the Mission in the Mission Card slot on the board, and the Objective in the specified Location on the Mission card. Place the Timer counter on the listed space on the Time Track. Place the Inactive counter on the Objective.

At this point, you're ready to start loading out your Soldiers (2.2).

2.1.1 Mission Types

There's multiple types of Missions available to you, so we're going to go over them now. Some have "Special Setup" instructions which you should perform now. Some will have "Special Play" instructions in Chapter 3, that change the way the Mission plays out.

Gameplay tip: Stick to Regular Missions for a while, if you're new to the game.

Regular Mission: As basic as they come, regular Missions are missions that aren't any of the below. The concept is simple: start on the Mission, get to the Objective, achieve the Objective, you win. Easy!

Escape Mission: Escape Missions are a tiny bit different from Regular Missions in that you start in the Objective, and make your way to the Mission, instead of the other way round. Escape Missions are on the Objective card, instead of being on a Mission card like a regular Mission. As soon as all Soldiers are on the Mission card, the Mission is a success.

Raid Mission: A Raid Mission combines the two above types of Missions. First, you perform a regular Mission, then you perform an Escape Mission back to your original Mission card. (You can't select an Escape Mission Objective card as your Raid Mission Objective.)

Hold the Line Mission: A Hold the Line Mission is a purely defensive Mission, where the Objective is to have no Hostiles in play at the end of each Soldier Turn until time's up. If any Hostiles are alive at the end of a Soldier Turn, it counts as a failure.

- **Special Setup Instructions:** A Hold the Line Mission is in two halves: a Left Flank Mission and Right Flank Objective. Place the Left Flank on the Mission, the Right Flank on the Objective, and place random Locations in each Location slot between, drawing no Hostiles, and replacing any Locations with Rein "None". You may place your Soldier Identification counters in any Location to start, including the Mission and Objective, instead of placing them all in the Mission card. Do not place an Inactive counter.
- **Special Rules:** Any cards that would *add* Time to the Mission instead *reduce* it.

Holding Action Mission: A Holding Action Mission is similar to a Hold the Line mission, but all the Hostiles will attempt to invade the Objective card; you fail if the Objective is occupied by a Hostile at the end of a Soldier Turn.

- **Special Setup Instructions:** A Holding Action Mission is in two halves: a The Front Mission and Fallback Position Objective. Place The Front on the Mission and Fallback Position on the Objective. All Soldiers start on the Objective, not the Mission. Draw and place a random Location for each Location between the Mission and Objective. Do not place an Inactive counter.
- **Special Rules:** Any cards that would *add* Time to the Mission instead *reduce* it.

2.1.2 Objective Types

For the sake of helping you learn the game, I'll quickly go over the objectives included in the base box as well.

Eliminate Hostiles: When you Activate this Objective (3.2.2.8), place an Objective Hostile counter on each Hostile that's drawn. When all Hostile cards that have an Objective Hostile counter have been discarded, and the Objective has no Hostiles, the Mission is a success at the end of the Soldier Turn. This does mean that Hostiles can move away from the Objective towards a Soldier they're targeting.

Keep Clear: Once you Activate this Objective, at the end of every Soldier Turn, if there are no Hostiles on the Objective, this counts as a Keep Clear. If you get consecutive Keep Clears equal to the number listed on the Objective, the Mission is a success.

Destroy the XXX / Clear the XXX: Objectives may have an amount of Hits listed on the card specifically. You may Attack the Objective directly in this case, following any stats and instructions listed on the card. If you deal the amount of Hits listed through Attacks, the Mission is a success.

Eliminate Present XXX: Place that listed Hostile card above the Objective as a Hostile, but it does not become active until the Objective is Activated. If the listed Hostile is defeated, the Mission is a Success. Note that "Elite" means the matching card from the Elite Hostile deck.

2.2 Gearing Up

With your Mission now available to you, you can start thinking about your loadouts.

The amount of Resource Points you have available to spend is equal to the Resources listed on the Mission card. You do not need to spend all the Resource Points given to you, but you cannot exceed the total available Points. The amount of Resource Points you spend will determine how many Hostiles you will face during the mission; the more you spend, the more resistance you will encounter. The Resource Points cost of every card is shown in the top right corner of each Soldier, Weapon, Equipment and Skill. You may buy any Weapon, Equipment or Skill multiple times, even if you only have one copy – use a proxy or some other way of maintaining who has what. (I use face-down cards aligned vertically.)

2.2.1 Soldiers

When you buy any Soldier, that Soldier receives everything listed on their card as a freebie for buying them. Let's have a look at Williams, a Non-Player Soldier, right, for example.

The table at the top of the box shows that he has 2 Health to start, and this gives him 2 Actions. The beige text signifies Weapons and Equipment; in this case, he receives an M1903A4 and 1 Mk2 Grenade (both Weapons) and the Camouflage equipment. In the case of the Grenades, give the MK2 Grenade card one Grenade counter. The underlined text signifies Skills; in this case, he receives the Rifleman skill. Finally, he starts with 1 XP counter, and he has a +HtH bonus of 0.



You can see the Soldier's Cover in the bottom left (surrounded by the semi-circle), which shows his ability to take a shot and not be wounded/suppressed, his default Movement Value below the upwards arrow, which gives him a bonus during Movement, and his Nationality, which determines what Weapons/Equipment/Skills he can equip.

When you buy a Player Soldier, you may buy any Weapon, Equipment or Skill for them, but Non-Player and Squad Soldiers cannot change their included loadouts, with some minor exceptions that are noted on cards (see the His Number Was Up Skill for an example).



Player Soldiers may equip anything belonging to their Nation (top left corner of every card) and any non-Nation card they want from the Weapons, Equipment and Skills available, but they cannot exceed their Loadout value, at the left-bottom of the Soldier card. Loadout cost is determined by the cost of a Weapon or Equipment, so a cost of 2 means a Loadout cost of 2.

However, some can have separate Loadout costs, like the M1903A4 Scoped Rifle to the left.

Weapons and Equipment also given as a freebie for buying a Player Soldier counts towards Loadout. Skills do not count towards Loadout and are purely a Resource Point drain.

All Player Soldiers have two Actions available to them; Non-Player/Squad Soldiers are the same unless specified like Williams, who has 2 Actions until he is wounded once. Give each Soldier Action counters as noted; place them on their non-Used side.

2.2.2 Weapons

This is my rifle. There are many like it, but this one is mine.

The first table refers to the Weapon's ability to shoot. Lower numbers are better, so in this case, the M1 Rifle will Kill on a roll of 7 and up at Range 0, while at Range 1 it takes a 8 and up. It Reloads on 2 and lower, so a 20% chance every Attack Die roll.

The second table refers to the Fire Modes, which is how many Attack Dice can be rolled at a time with this gun. This gun can only roll 1 Attack Die at a time as it is a Semi(-Auto) during an Attack, but the M1918A2 Machine Gun can roll 1 or 3 dice during an Attack. The Mk2 Grenade rolls Explosion dice specifically; this is an Explosion attack.

The box in the bottom right refers to how much Ammo the gun starts with. In this example, you get 5 Ammo counters. One of the ammo counters starts "loaded" – placed face up on the ammo box. Keep the rest nearby.

You may buy an extra set of ammo for a Weapon by paying an extra 1 Resource Point and Loadout Point; in this case, you would get 5 extra ammo counters. Weapons that are "Expended" must be bought one by one, instead of in batches.

Cards also have an attack type, which determines what Action Cards can be used on it. As an example, the M1 Rifle above is a Ranged attack, but the Mk2 Grenade is a Thrown attack.



The M1918A2 also has a Bipod, which uses the Bipod counter. As an Action, a Soldier may deploy it, gaining the benefit listed on the card. If the Soldier Moves, the Bipod is undeployed and it must be deployed again for the benefit.

The final set of words on the right is the Weapons' attributes, which are generally Keywords. For the sake of easy learning, I'll list out the most common Weapon keywords here (but please, be sure to reference the Keywords Reference):

- Penetration: Improves your Defeat Cover roll, making it easier to get Kills.
- Spray: Get more than 1 Kill per Attack. (M1918A2, M1919)
- Expended: Remove the counter from play after using the Weapon. (Grenades)
- Bolt Action: Can only be fired once per Soldier Turn. Must discard an Action Card to fire again. (Single Shot is the same without the Action Card discard option, but gets a free Reload every end of Soldier Turn.)
- Self-Defense: If you're Attacked by a Range 0 Hostile, you can cancel the Attack by flipping a loaded Ammo counter to Empty. (M1911)

2.2.3 Equipment

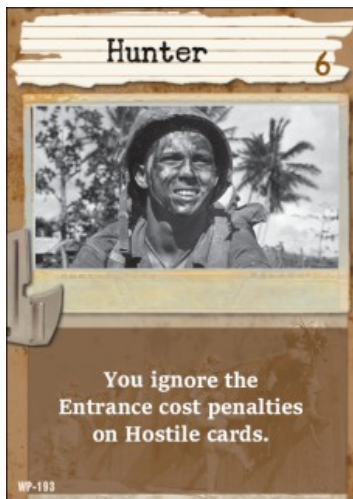


Equipment works pretty much the same way as Weapons when it comes to purchasing them; the Resource Points and Loadout Points work the same way. However, Equipment gives a passive bonus or active ability to the Soldiers that have them in some form or another.

In the case of cards that have a box akin to the Ammo box on a Weapon, place the matching counters on that Equipment with the listed number; in the case of the First Aid Kit, you get four Bandages, but with a Breaching Charge, you only get one. If you expend all your counters, discard the card; you may no longer use the Equipment.

All Equipment states when it can be used and what effect it has.

2.2.4 Skills



Skills are the easiest to understand by far; they simply cost the points listed on the card, have no Loadout cost, and give you a passive buff that's constant or provides a benefit at a set point. If you have a few left-over Resource Points, you should always buy a Skill or two.

Gameplay tip: While I do mention later that Hand-to-Hand attacks are relatively useless, the bayonets and knives cards included in the base box are almost always worth taking if you have a single point spare, as the equipped Soldier starts with 2 XP, a relatively rare resource.

Gameplay tip 2: When I say you don't have to spend the entirety of the Resource Points afforded to you, I mean it. High RP missions are nightmares if you spend that much, as you have to fight off massive waves of dudes. Be careful with your point spending and see if you can realistically sneak under a tier.

Gameplay tip 3: Always take two Player Soldiers if you can afford them. Having two separate hands of Action Cards is always a benefit you'll never want to go without.

Gameplay tip 4: Need to blow something up? Always take 100% more explosives than you need. Dice are unkind when you need them all to hit.

3. Playing the Mission

Once your Mission is set up and your Soldiers are equipped, you may begin playing the mission. Give all Soldiers one of the 8 pairs of Soldier Identification counters - one on the Soldier card itself, the other one on the Mission card (unless you're playing an Escape Mission Objective card, in which case they start on the Objective instead). Then take the Target counters matching each Soldier Identification pair being used and put them in an opaque cup. This is the Target cup. Draw a hand of Action cards for each Player Soldier equal to their Health, and start from the beginning of the Soldier Turn.

Missions plays out like this:

- Your Soldiers start out on the Mission card.
- Player Soldier(s) will draw Location cards to play in the empty slots between the Mission and Objective.
- Soldiers will move between these Locations to get to the Objective.
- Once they reach the Objective, they must Activate the Objective to Move onto it and complete it by fulfilling the requirements on the Objective card.
- When the Objective is completed, the game immediately ends in victory.

And you lose if all your Soldiers are Downed, the Objective is failed, or you run out of Time.

3.1 The Important Things

In this section of the manual, I'll explain some concepts in Warfighter that don't fit in any other section, but are otherwise very important.

3.1.1 Keywords

Many cards have Keywords, which determine some or all the behaviors of a card. When you see a word by itself that doesn't seem to have any definition, refer to the Keywords Reference that's included in the box. You will need to reference this practically all the time, so keep it close by.

Note that keywords are updated constantly, so if you're relatively new to the series or your copy is somewhat old, check BGG or the DVG website for an updated set of keywords.

3.1.2 Hostile Effectiveness

Hostiles become less effective as EKIA or Suppressed reticles are added to them. While just one Suppressed reticle is enough to keep an enemy from moving, they will still attack you if they aren't fully Suppressed.

An attack's effectiveness is determined by the table – the numbers at the top of the table say how many uncovered reticles are needed to use this column of the table. In this case, Suppressing or EKIAing two of these reticles is enough to stop the Machine Gun Team Hostile performing “2 Wounds, Again” when Attacking.

This can also apply to other text on the card; see the “Entrance Cost”

Keyword has two numbers, separated by a slash? These follow the same rules as the columns; if you have uncovered reticles equal to the numbers in the left column, use the left number, and so on. In this case, Suppressing two reticles is enough to remove the Entrance Cost penalty completely.

Hostiles also have Keywords; most Keywords are active at all times; *unless* all reticles are Suppressed or EKIA'd. Refer to the Keywords Reference for what Keywords do not work this way.



3.1.3 Range



Most cards in the game refer to a “Range”. In Warfighter, Range 0 is considered to be “this Location”, i.e. where your Soldier or the Hostile is at that moment. Range 1, Range 2 and so on are that many locations away horizontally from said Location.

Example: In the image, left, Soldier #1 is Range 2 from the Lone Soldier Hostile, Soldier #2 is Range 1, and Soldier #3 is Range 0. Soldier #2 and #3 are in Range of Attacks from the Lone Soldier, #1 is not.

3.1.4 Dickey Matters

“0”s on a ten-sided die are counted as a result of 10.

3.2 Soldier Turn

The Soldier Turn is where you perform actions with your Soldiers in an attempt to complete the mission. You may perform as many actions as you have the resources to perform, and you may end the Soldier Turn at any time, proceeding to the Hostile Turn.

Holding Action Special Rules: If any Hostile cards are in the Objective at the end of the Soldier Turn, the Mission is a failure.



At the beginning of the Soldier Turn, refresh all Soldier Actions by flipping them off the “Used” side, if they aren’t off that side already.

3.2.1 Environment

For each Soldier that is on a Location with an Environ: keyword, roll a ten-sided die. If your Soldier does not meet or exceed the number listed, you choose whether they gain a Suppress or a Wound. Otherwise, nothing happens, carry on.

Some Equipment / Skills give you Hardy: XXX counters, where XXX is the name of a keyword. If you fail your Environ roll and the Hardy counter matches the keyword, you may discard one Hardy in order to ignore the results of the roll.

Gameplay tip: Sometimes, you want to take the Wound so that a Soldier has a spare action available to them. This could mean the difference between failing and succeeding.

Holding Action Special Rules: Draw a single Hostile card for each Location. All Hostiles do not execute “Timer”, “Place” or “Maintain” rules.

3.2.2 Actions

In this step, you may perform Actions in any order with any Soldier available to you. In most cases, these Actions will cost one of your Soldier’s Action counters. We’ll mention this by having an (Action) in the Action title. If you use one of these Actions, flip the counter over to its *Used* side; it cannot be used for another action until the next Soldier Turn. In this manual, we’ll list actions in the order you should consider taking them (for the most part – it’s important to remain flexible!)

3.2.2.1 Remove 1 Suppress (Action)

While a Soldier is suppressed, they are incapable of performing any other actions until they are unsuppressed. Spending 1 Action will remove a suppress from the Soldier and allow them to perform Actions if they are unsuppressed as a result.

Gameplay tip: You may want to consider Discarding and Drawing before removing Suppresses, as there is an Action card that can remove a Suppress without spending an Action.

3.2.2.2 Discard and Draw (Action)

A Player Soldier may discard as many Action cards from their hand as they wish, then draw Action cards to their hand up to their current Health. Discard any Location Markers that are drawn, and draw a card from the Location deck to replace them.

Gameplay tip: If you don't have any Locations in your opening hand, it's usually a good idea to discard your entire hand in order to dig through the deck for them. You aren't going anywhere without a Location or two.

3.2.2.3 Play an Action Card (Free*)



Most Action Cards are free to use and are discarded after using them, but some cost an Action to use, in which case simply flip the Action counter as normal. Most Action Cards can be used during the Soldier Turn, but not in the middle of another Action (you can't have a free Move in the middle of an Attack, for example). You may use multiple Action cards at a time.

Some cards, such as the card to the left, require an extra cost to use. The number in the top right is the amount of *other* Action cards you discard from the Player Soldier's hand to use this card.

Some text in Action Cards is surrounded (by brackets). This means the card can be *upgunned* by spending 1 XP from any Soldier's XP pool, at which point you perform the all of the bracketed text instead of the regular card text.

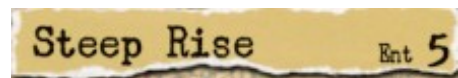
Some Action Cards have a Retain cost, listed in the effect text as "Retain:" followed by a cost. These cards stay in play for an entire Soldier Turn and have an ongoing effect, but if their cost is not paid during the Soldier Turn (see 3.2.2.10) they are discarded at the end of the Soldier Turn.

3.2.2.4 Move (Action)

Soldiers take this Action to move between adjacent Locations. If there are no adjacent Locations to move to, a Soldier cannot Move. Soldiers may only ever Move once per Soldier Turn.

To Move, a Soldier must meet the Entrance Cost of a Location.

The Entrance cost of a Location is stated in the top right corner of the Location. There may also be an extra penalty to the Entrance Cost, whether that be on the Location itself or on a Hostile occupying that Location. You must meet or exceed the total of ALL of these numbers.



To meet this cost, a Soldier has a basic Movement Value. Soldiers may also discard Action cards to add to their movement. Player Soldiers must discard Action cards from their own hand and nowhere else. Non-Player and Squad Soldiers may discard Action cards from the hands of any Player Soldier. Every card discarded this way adds 1 to the Soldier's Movement Value for the Move.

Gameplay tip: There's a common Action card called Advance that adds 3 to your Movement Value for a single Move. Consider holding one or two for those hard to reach places.

When a Soldier has met or exceeded the total Entrance Cost, they may move their Soldier Identification counter to the Location.

3.2.2.5 Attack (Action)

You Attack with a Soldier in order to remove Hostiles from your path to the Objective.

Attacking takes place in multiple steps that should be followed in order. The board has a reminder as to the order, if you need a reminder.

Declare Attack

To Declare an Attack, pick a Hostile that is within range of one of your Weapon cards that has an Ammo counter that isn't Empty, or a weapon with the Expended keyword that has counters remaining. This is your Targeted Hostile and chosen Weapon for the Attack. You cannot attack a Hostile that is not within range of any of your Weapons. This is the time that you play Action Cards that modify your Attack in some way.

For Squad Soldiers, this is slightly different; refer to the table on their card, check how much Health they have left, check the Range of the Hostile, and that will tell you your Kill number.

Declare Fire Mode

Pick a Fire Mode as listed on your chosen Weapon for the attack. This determines how many dice you roll. (This does not happen for Squad Soldiers.)

Gameplay tip: More dice means more chances to land that killing blow, but you stand a higher chance of needing to reload.

Roll Dice

Roll as many ten-sided dice as your Fire Mode states, and one six-sided die. The ten-sided dice are your Attack Rolls, and the six-sided dice is the Defeat Cover roll. You only ever roll one Attack Roll in a Squad Soldier Attack.

Check for Reload

If any of the ten-sided dice are equal to or lower than the Reload number on your Weapon, flip the currently loaded Ammo to the Empty side of the counter. This weapon cannot be used again until you perform a Reload action. Perform the rest of the Attack. (This does not happen for Squad Soldiers.)

Optional rule: If you feel like punishing yourself a bit more, you may play with the optional Jam rule, which requires two Actions to Reload a Weapon instead of one. See the back of the Universal Rulebook for more info.

Apply Modifiers

Any modifiers from the Equipment applied to Weapons, Skills, and played Action Cards are now added to the rolls.

*Note: This does mean that modifiers do ***not*** count for checking Reloads.*

Check to Defeat Cover

Note the number on the bottom left of the Targeted Hostile card; if your Defeat Cover roll equals or exceeds this number, you have defeated the Hostile's cover.

Resolve Attack

Look at your final Attack Rolls.

If all of your Attack Rolls have lower than the listed Kill number on the Weapon used for this Attack, and you did *not* defeat the Hostile's Cover, you have missed the shot.

If one or more of your Attack Rolls have higher than the listed Kill number, but you did *not* defeat the Hostile's Cover, or if you *did* defeat the Hostile's cover but none of your Attack Rolls were higher than the Kill number, the shot leaves a Suppress on the Hostile. Place a Suppress on one of the Hostile's reticles.

If both an Attack Roll was higher than the Kill number *and* the Hostile's cover was defeated, you have scored an EKIA. Place a EKIA counter on one of the Hostile's reticles. If this results in EKIA counters being equal to the reticle number on the Hostile, discard the Hostile, and gain its value as XP on the Soldier that performed this Attack.

There are some things to note about Attacks, see below:

- Each reticle on a Hostile can only have one Suppress or EKIA on it at a time. If all reticles on a Hostile are already suppressed and you gain another Suppress, nothing happens. However, if you get an EKIA and all reticles are Suppressed, you flip one of those Suppress counters to EKIA.
- You only ever add 1 Kill to a Hostile during an Attack Roll, *unless* the Weapon used for the Attack has the Spray keyword (the M1918A2 in the base box), or the Fire Mode of the Weapon is Explosion (Grenades in the base box). In either case, you add EKIA counters to the Hostile equal to the amount of Attack Dice that equal or exceed the Kill number.

3.2.2.6 Reload (Action)

If an Attack resulted in a Reload result, causing an Ammo counter to be flipped to the Empty side, you can Reload as an Action to discard said Empty counter to the box, replacing it with any of the other Ammo counters available to the Weapon as placed there before the mission, Empty-side face down.

3.2.2.7 Play a Location Card (Free*)

If you have a Location card in a Player Soldier's hand, you may play it to the next empty Location slot. If you have a Location adjacent to the Objective, you may not play a Location. You may only play one Location per Soldier Turn. You may play a Location from any Soldier's hand of Action cards, but at least one Soldier needs to be in the right-most placed Location.

Location cards have a cost, which is written on the card itself. "Free to play" costs nothing, it can simply be played. "1 Action", "3 Actions from Any Soldier" and "1XP to play" are all self-explanatory.

When a Location is played, refer to your total Resource Points generated before the mission, and look at the Hostiles table in the bottom-right of the Location card. For your level of total Resource Points, draw Hostiles from the Hostile deck and place them in the same column as this Location. Every time you draw a Hostile, refer to the Hostile Value in the top right, and add it to an ongoing

total. When the total Hostile Value of Hostiles drawn this way equals or exceeds the number on the Location, stop drawing Hostiles.

Give each placed Hostile a random counter from the Target cup; this is now their Targeted Soldier.

If you need to draw Hostiles but the deck is empty, shuffle the discards and place them as a new Hostile draw deck, and continue drawing Hostiles as needed.

When you place Hostiles, be sure to check for Keywords that may affect how the Hostile enters play. As a result of that, if a Hostile is to be placed behind the Mission, place them on the Mission. If a Hostile would be placed beyond the Objective, place them on the Objective.

If a Hostile is drawn that has the Event marker on the right side of the card, draw an Event card from the Event Deck immediately before drawing more Hostiles, and place it in the same Location as the Hostile. Some may activate immediately, some may leave a persistent effect on the Location.

Special Instruction for Escape Missions: If a Hostile has the keyword “front-most” or “rear-most”, reverse their usual Location positioning, so that “front-most” Hostiles are closer to the Mission card, and “rear-most” Hostiles are closer to the Objective card.

Special Instruction for Holding Action / Hold the Line Missions: All Hostiles do not execute “Timer”, “Place” or “Maintain” keywords.

Locations may have Keywords on them; reference them now, just to be sure you do not need to place any more Hostiles or other side effects.

3.2.2.8 Activate the Objective (Free)

The Objective starts out Inactive in a game of Warfighter, and it cannot be moved into or interacted with by Soldiers. When a Soldier is Adjacent to the Objective, they may Activate the Objective by removing the Inactive counter from it, and drawing Hostiles in the same way you would for a Location. The Objective may now be interacted with. Be sure to check for Keywords on the Objective itself, as they go off now.

Gameplay tip: If you have time left in the mission, take the time to get all your Soldiers onto the previous Location, and attack it in one big swing...unless that's not your tactic. Be flexible.

3.2.2.9 Pay Retain Costs (Free*)

For Action Cards you have played that have a Retain cost, you need to pay the cost to retain them. This can be done at any time during the Soldier Turn. If the cost is paid, you keep the card past the end of the Soldier Turn, into the next Soldier Turn.

3.2.2.10 Lighten the Load (Free)

You may freely discard Gear from Player Soldiers (not NPS or Squad) in order to recalculate your total Resource Points. Use the new total Resource Points generated this way for the rest of the Mission when playing Location cards and activating the Objective. You must discard at least one point worth of Gear to do this unless a Soldier is Downed (3.3.2.1).

*Gameplay tip: If things go *really* badly and you lose a couple of Soldiers, you should always Lighten the Load so that you can drop a tier of Hostile value and make the rest of the mission easier.*

3.2.2.11 Trade Between Soldiers (Free)

Player Soldiers may freely hand Weapons, Equipment and Ammo back and forth between each other, assuming they do not exceed their Loadout value. Non-Player Soldiers may receive Ammo equivalent to their Weapon's calibre from a Soldier with the same calibre weapon, but they must never exceed the amount of Ammo the Weapon has listed. Player Soldiers may also drop Weapons and Equipment on a space for another Player Soldier to acquire later.

Note that if a Weapon or Equipment has been used this Soldier Turn, it cannot be traded or dropped this Soldier Turn.

3.2.2.12 Engage in Hand to Hand

Gameplay tip: Hand-to-Hand attacks are really, really not that useful in Warfighter due to the amount of actions required and general inefficiency compared to using guns. There is also a ton of changes coming to hand-to-hand at the time of writing this manual. As a result, we won't be covering how they work in this manual; you're better off sticking with shooting. They are currently covered in page 42 of the Warfighter Universal Rulebook as of March 2021's edition, but this may change with updated revisions.

3.2.2.13 Deploy Bipod (Action)

As mentioned above in the Weapons section, you can spend an Action to deploy a Bipod, gaining any listed benefits on the Weapon card. If you Move, the Bipod is undeployed, and must be deployed again.

3.2.2.14 Mid-Mission Healing (Action)

If a Soldier has a First-Aid Kit Equipment, they may perform an Action to roll a ten-sided die to heal any Soldier in their Location, provided they have a Bandages counter.

Declare the Wound to be healed, then roll the die. If you heal equal to, or more, points compared to the Wound counter, discard the Wound counter.

If you roll less, calculate how many points are left on the Wound by subtracting the Wound total from the roll's total, and replace the current Wound counter with a new Wound counter, equal to the total, then flip the new counter to the bandaged side; you cannot attempt to heal this Wound for the remainder of the Mission.

Example: A Soldier with the Corpsman Skill card tries to heal another Soldier in their Location of a 3 Wound counter. They roll the die and get a 7; the Corpsman base bonus brings this up to a 9. This heals the 3 Wound counter by 2; they discard the 3 Wound counter, take a 1 Wound counter, flip it to the bandaged side and give it to the Soldier. If the Corpsman Soldier used the upgun bonus on the Corpsman card, the total roll would have been 11, discarding the Wound counter entirely.

3.3 Hostile Turn

The Hostile Turn is an entirely AI and dice-driven turn in which Hostiles will spawn, move, attack, and the rest of the game's systems are handled. You'll follow this turn to the letter as you play (and the board has a good reminder for you in what order to do this in). Once this set of procedures is over, you'll go to your Soldier Turn, until the time on the mission runs out.

3.3.1 Reinforcement Draw

For each Location that has a Soldier on it, and each Location that has "Always draw for Rein." written on it, follow these steps. If the Location has "Rein: None", do not follow these steps.



Draw the top card of the Hostile deck and compare it to the Rein: value in the top left corner of the Location. If the Hostile Value matches any of the range, the Hostile is added to the Location and given a random Target from the Target cup, otherwise it is discarded.

Holding Action Special Rules: All Hostiles do not execute "Timer", "Place" or "Maintain" rules.

Hold The Line Special Rules: All Locations always Reinforce, even if there are no Soldiers. All Hostiles do not execute "Timer", "Place" or "Maintain" rules.

3.3.2 Attack

Hostiles that have at least one Unsuppressed reticle attack whatever Soldier they are Targeting if they are in Range. Hostile Attacks work in a relatively similar way to your Attack action, however, they reference a table on the card itself to determine what Attack they perform.

Roll a ten-sided (Attack) die and six-sided (Defeat Cover) die. Check how many *uncovered* reticles the Hostile has, and reference the roll on the Attack Die to the column of the Hostile attack chart equal to the uncovered reticles. Compare the Cover value of the targeted Soldier and the Defeat Cover die.

If the ten-sided roll is a Miss on the Hostile attack chart and the Cover roll did not defeat the target Soldier's Cover, nothing happens and the Attack ends. If the Attack roll is not a Miss but Cover was not defeated or vice-versa, the Soldier is Suppressed – place a Suppress counter on the Soldier. If the Attack roll is not a Miss and Cover was defeated, reference the table for the effect to be applied – it may be a Keyword.

Note: You do not need to discard Action Cards as a Player Soldier if you are wounded; you simply draw up to your Health during a Discard and Draw.

Example: This Flankers, with one Suppressed counter, attacks a Soldier that has Cover 2, and rolls a 6 on the Attack Die and 3 on the Defeat Cover Die. The Attack Die references the middle column, as there are 2 uncovered reticles. The Attack would result in 1 Wound, given to the targeted Soldier.

If the Flankers had one more Suppressed / EKIA reticle, it would instead refer to the 1 column, and this attack would only cause a Suppress, as the Defeat Cover die was still successful.

If the Flankers had no reticles covered, the Attack would result in 2 Wounds, as it would be referencing the 3 column.



If a Soldier is Wounded as a result, give them a *new* Wound counter equal to the Wounds dealt. Every Hostile Attack that causes a Wound causes a new Wound counter, equal to the value listed.

3.3.2.1 Soldier Down

If a Soldier has 0 Health or less remaining after a Hostile Attack, they are Downed – removed from the game, basically. Remove their counter from the board, discard any Action Cards they were holding (if any), all of their Weapons, Equipment and Ammo are dropped in the Location they were downed (and can be picked up by any Player Soldier), return all of their Skills to the box, and you immediately perform a Lighten the Load calculation (3.2.2.10). Remove the downed Soldier's target counters from the Target cup and board; all Hostiles targeting this Soldier receive new Targets from the Target cup.

3.3.3 Close Range

For each Hostile with no Suppress counters that is not within Range of its Target, move that Hostile one Location closer, or further away, from the Target so that it can either get within Range or get closer to being in Range.

If a Hostile is within Range of a Soldier, but it cannot Attack its Target due to the game state (i.e. a keyword), move the Hostile closer to the Target.

Hostiles can move into “empty Locations” (i.e. Location slots without an actual played Location card), unlike Soldiers.

Holding Action Special Rules: Roll a 10-sided die for each Hostile. If the number on the die is at least 2 higher than the Entrance cost of the Location to their right, they enter that Location. (This does not occur if the Hostile is Suppressed.)

Gameplay tip: Keep Hostiles that are a real threat Suppressed! One Suppress is enough to leave most Hostiles in the dust, and bigger threats are less threatening the more Suppressed they are.

3.3.4 Remove Suppress Counters

Remove one Suppress counter from each Hostile card.

Gameplay tip: Have a huge Hostile that you're extremely worried about? Suppress the hell out of it. Dakka dakka dakka. It'll take multiple turns to get back to full strength.

3.3.5 Advance Mission Timer

Move the Time counter on the Time Track one space downwards. If the Time counter would move lower than the 1 space at this point, the mission ends in failure.

Escape Mission Special Rules: If this is the end of the first Hostile Turn, draw and add Hostiles to the Objective as if it was just Activated.

Hold the Line Special Rules: If any Hostile cards are in play, the Mission ends in failure.

Gameplay tip: You have a little bit of time to fool around in most cases, but more than two or three Soldier Turns spent fiddling in the same spot will leave you really strapped for time when it comes to finishing the objective.

4. Quick Reference Sheets

The next few sections are quick references to help you play through the game faster.

4.1 Quick Setup Checklist

- Choose a matching set of Missions, Objectives, Locations, Events and Hostiles.
- Shuffle Action cards, Hostile cards, Event cards and Location cards, placing them in their respective deck spaces.
- Select a Mission and Objective, put them on the board. Find any Present cards, if necessary.
- Outfit your Soldiers as you see fit. Give them Action counters and Soldier Identification counter pairs – one on the Soldier, one on the Mission card.
- Take all matching Target counters and put them in the Target cup.
- Put Timer and Inactive counters on the Time Track and Objective.
- Draw a hand of Action cards for each Player Soldier.
- You're good to go!

4.2 Player Turn Quick Reference

At beginning of Player Turn: Environment Step – for each Soldier on a Location with Environ: text, roll ten-sided die, for every failure, discard a Hardy counter of that type, take a Suppress, or take a Wound.

Available actions (unless stated, costs 1 Action from Soldier performing Action):

Remove 1 Suppress	Must be done if Soldier is Suppressed before any other Action. Remove 1 Suppress token from this Soldier.
Discard and Draw	Soldier discards as many Action cards they want, then draw up to their Health.
Play an Action Card	Use an Action card from your hand for the listed cost. Discard 1 XP to use bracketed text. Usually free, may cost other resources.
Move	Use Soldier's Movement value + discard Action cards to move to adjacent Location. Once per Soldier per Soldier Turn.
Attack	Use a Weapon to attack a Hostile within range.
Reload	Discard Ammo counter from Weapon and replace with another.
Play a Location Card	Play a Location card from hand and draw Hostiles. Costs whatever is listed on the card. Soldier must be in right-most Location to perform.
Activate the Objective	When Soldier is adjacent to Objective, remove Inactive token and draw Hostiles. Objective may now be entered/completed. Free to perform.
Lighten the Load	Discard Equipment and recalculate Resource cost. Free to perform.
Trade Between Soldiers	Player Soldiers may trade unused Weapons/Equipment to other Player Soldiers and ammo to Non-Player Soldiers. Free to perform.
Deploy Bipod	Flip the bipod counter to allow Bipod bonus for Weapons.
Engage in Hand to Hand	See Warfighter Universal Rulebook.
Pay Retain Costs	Pay retain costs on any deployed Action Cards.
Mid-Mission Healing	Expend Bandage, roll dice, heal Wound.

4.3 Hostile Turn Quick Reference

- **Reinforcement Draw:** For each Location with a Soldier or Always draw for Rein, draw a Hostile. If Hostile doesn't match Rein Range, discard Hostile, otherwise add to Location.
- **Attack:** All Hostiles Attack Targets. Roll ten-sided and six-sided die, compare ten-sided die to Hostile chart and uncovered Reticles, six-sided die to Soldier Cover.
- **Close Range:** All Unsuppressed Hostiles move closer or further from their Targets in order to be in Range and able to Attack their Target.
- **Remove Suppress Counters:** All Hostiles lose 1 Suppress.
- **Advance Mission Timer:** Move timer 1 space down.