

# M79

■ TYPE: STAND-ALONE GRENADE LAUNCHER



Model illustrated: M79, United States

## Technical Information

### Calibre

40 x 46 mm

### Length

M79: 737 mm

### Weight (unloaded)

M79: 1.5 kg  
Milkor M79: 1.3 kg

### Barrel length

M79: 356 mm

### Sighting systems

M79: fore: blade; rear: folding leaf, adjustable  
Milkor M79: reflex sight in quadrant

### Operating system

Single shot

### Muzzle velocity

76 m/s

The United States first deployed the M79 grenade launcher in early 1961. The weapon is easily recognizable due to its upward-curving wooden stock, smooth barrel, and large folding leaf sight that resembles a ladder. The only differing variant of this weapon is the South African Milkor M79, which has a more modern appearance due to the use of composite (rather than wooden) furniture and a side-folding stock (essentially an inverted stock from an R4/R5 assault rifle). Apart from these differences, the weapon operates identically to the original M79.

## PROBABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Region	State forces	Non-state/illicit
Western Europe	○	○
Eastern Europe	○	○
Middle East & North Africa	◐	◐
Sub-Saharan Africa	●	◐
Central Asia	○	○
South Asia	◐	○
East Asia	●	◐
Pacific	●	◐
North America	●	○
Central America	●	◐
South America	◐	○

● Expect regular use ◐ Expect occasional use ○ Do not expect use

## Variants and their distinguishing features

### VARIANTS (Model/manufacturer)

- M79, United States
- KM79, South Korea
- Milkor M79, South Africa

The South Korean KM79 is identical to the original US-manufactured M79. Consult manufacturer's markings applied to the left-hand side of the weapon for precise identification.

### Points to include when recording information about the weapon:

1. Serial number, including all prefix and suffix characters
2. Characters adjacent to fire selector
3. Any other engraved/stamped information on weapon

## DESIGN FEATURES

Long, ladder-style leaf sights (deployed)



- ▶ M79 (shown)
- ▶ KM79

## STOCK DESIGN

### Wooden



- ▶ M79 (shown)
- ▶ KM79

### Metal, folding skeletal



- ▶ Milkor M79