

# FN MINIMI



FN Herstal, a global leader in small arms manufacturing, has launched a new tactical buttstock for its combat proven FN MINIMI® 5.56 light machine gun. The Tactical SF (Special Forces) buttstock is adjustable in length to 5 positions and for cheek rest height to 6 positions, and features a convex butt plate. Lighter than the Tactical buttstock already in service, the Tactical SF can be better adjusted for shoulder firing, making it perfectly suited to special forces missions.

FN MINIMI 5.56 Mk3 SF, featuring buttstock adjustable in length and height

The Minimi uses a gas-actuated long-stroke piston system. The barrel is locked with a rotary bolt, equipped with two massive locking lugs, forced into battery by a helical camming guide in the bolt carrier. Upon firing, the piston is forced to the rear by expanding propellant gases bled through a port in the barrel near the muzzle end.

The piston rod acts against the bolt carrier, which begins its rearward motion guided on two rails welded to the receiver walls, while the bolt itself remains locked.

This sequence provides a slight delay that ensures chamber pressure has dropped to a safe level by the time a cam in the bolt carrier rotates and unlocks the bolt, increasing extraction reliability as the empty cartridge casing has had the time to cool down and contract, exerting less friction against the chamber walls.