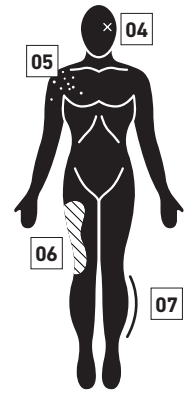
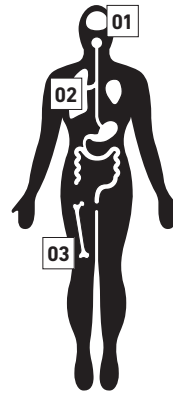


# EFFECTS ON THE BODY

Impact munitions are designed to hit you and cause compliance through pain.

People at greater risk of severe injury or death include the young, the elderly, and anyone with a small frame or fragile bones.

- Internal:**
- 01. Brain injury
  - 02. Damage to organs
  - 03. Broken bones
- External:**
- 04. Eye injury and blindness
  - 05. Skin penetration wounds
  - 06. Bruising
  - 07. Swelling



## KEY DANGERS



Multiple rounds are fired rapidly



Projectiles hit too hard when fired at short range



Projectiles are aimed at the head, neck or chest



Projectiles are inaccurate when fired at long range



A person is hit in the groin or above the waist



Projectiles bounce off the ground and walls

## INTRODUCTION

From Northern Ireland to France, Venezuela to the Occupied Palestinian Territories, police use impact munitions against peaceful protesters.

Today police officers and security forces all around the world use a variety of different types of impact

munitions. These so-called 'less lethal' weapons are marketed as safe and humane. However, they can be fatal, and their use often violates human rights.

Badly designed and poorly made impact munitions are extremely dangerous.

## IMPACT MUNITIONS?

Impact Munitions are a group of 'less lethal' ammunition and projectiles. They are designed to stop people's actions by hitting the body and causing pain.

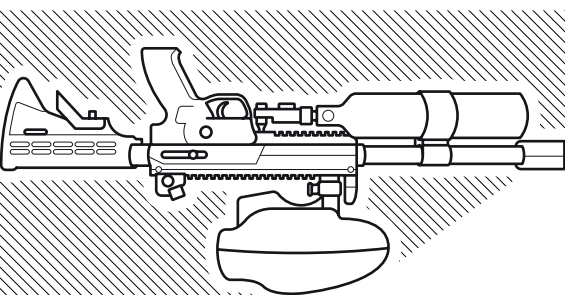
Often the words 'rubber' or 'plastic bullets' are used in the media to refer to all impact munitions. But there are many

kinds of impact munitions that can cause different injuries. They are commonly made of metal, plastic, rubber, bean bags (fabric bags filled with lead shot), foam or wood.

There are currently no agreed rules for how impact munitions should be designed, produced, tested or used.



### STAY SAFE

 <b>WEAPONS CAN EXPLODE OR BE HOT! DANGER!</b>	 <b>CARRYING WEAPONS CAN BE DANGEROUS &amp; MAY BE ILLEGAL</b>
 <b>DOCUMENT ONLY WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO</b>	 <b>SHARE YOUR PHOTOS SAFELY AND SECURELY</b>



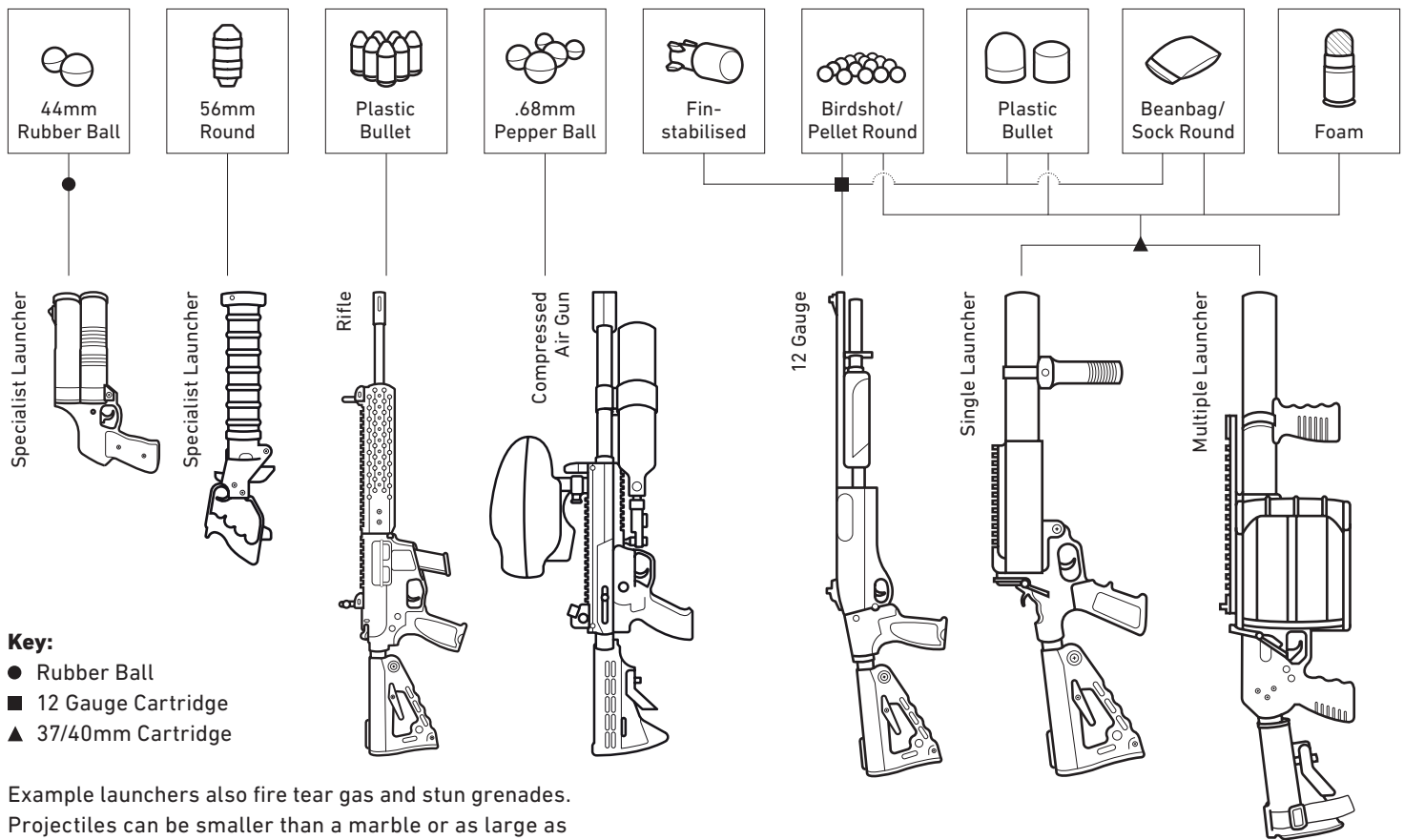
**IMPACT MUNITIONS**

Design by Minute Works

**WWW.RIOTID.COM | #RIOTID @RIOTID**

# PROJECTILE TYPES



Example launchers also fire tear gas and stun grenades. Projectiles can be smaller than a marble or as large as a soda can. Some are shot one at a time. Others are fired in multiples from the cartridges noted in the key above.

Illustrations not to scale. Names vary dependent on company brand.

# TIMELINE

## 1960s — British Crown Colony of Hong Kong

Police in Hong Kong use a teakwood cylinder baton round. It measures 7 1/2 inches long with a weighted metal core. These baton rounds caused serious injury from shattering wood splinters. Wooden impact projectiles are still used in some countries, including the United States.

## 1970s — Northern Ireland

Teak baton rounds are re-designed as 'rubber bullets' for use in Northern Ireland. Plastic baton rounds are later introduced to replace rubber bullets as a 'safer' alternative. Use of rubber and plastic baton rounds results in multiple deaths and serious injuries.

## 1987-1993 — First Intifada in Palestine

Israeli security forces are armed with both rubber and plastic impact munitions, as well as rubber-coated metal bullets. Doctors record extensive injuries and more than 20 deaths, many from brain injuries.

## 1994 — Los Angeles, United States

The LAPD are issued with impact munitions supplied by a company called Defence Technologies in Wyoming. This marks part of a growing spread of police weapons across the country.

## 2000 — Durban, South Africa

One student is killed and many others are injured by rubber bullets fired by police during protests over student tuition fees at the University of Durban, Westville.

## 2004 — Boston, United States

Victoria Snelgrove is killed outside a baseball stadium when police fire a new type of plastic impact projectile. The new air-powered weapons were designed to be more accurate and 'safe'.

## 2011 — Arab Uprisings

Police use unprecedented numbers of impact munitions during protests, causing large-scale civilian injuries and deaths.

## 2015 — Palestine

Israeli soldiers fire rubber-coated metal bullets at protesters. Red Crescent reports 1,857 injuries occurred in the month of October alone.

## 2017 — Kashmir

Hundreds are blinded and many killed by Indian security forces using shotguns to fire birdshot/small metal pellets.

## 2018 — International

The use of impact munitions around the world continues to rise. For instance, huge numbers of impact munitions are currently being used against asylum seekers and refugees.