

11/14/2008

## P.38 Post-War and Reproduction Grips

Source	<b>Czech Republic</b>
Part Number	Not Known
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	Yes
Uses Standard Screw?	Yes

These grips are made of a hard plastic, modeled after early Walther grips. Internal markings are present and clear. Color is black. When installed they look very close to original grips. These were purchased on e-Bay for \$28 in December 2006.

Seller's User ID is [vit-zemanek](#).



A set of [vit-zemanek's](#) brown grips →

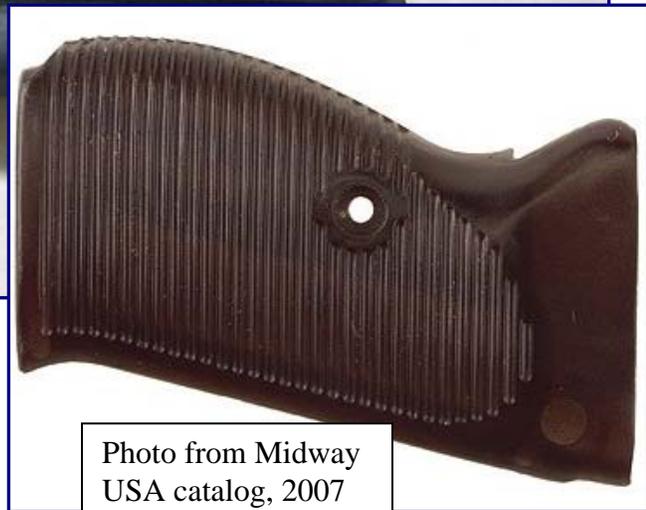
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Source	<b>Midway USA</b>
Part Number	214169
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	No
Uses Standard Screw?	Unknown

These grips are made of a hard plastic, modeled after early Walther grips. Internal markings are present. Exterior surface has a porous appearance. The hole in the right grip is too large to use a standard escutcheon.

These were purchased for \$22.49 in March 2006. Midway USA's code is W11. This part number now has a different appearance.

Update 15 June 2008: These grips were apparently made by Vintage Gun Grips, although Midway USA did not list a manufacturer. VGG's part number is ao-W11; their price is \$28.60. A photo from their site is below.



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Source	<b>N.C. Ordnance</b>
Part Number	G154
Fit	Poor
Escutcheons?	No
Uses Standard Screw?	Unknown

These grips are made of a hard plastic, modeled after Spreewerk grips. Internal markings are present. Factory filing in the area of the pistol lanyard loop slot was still not enough to allow the left grip to seat against the frame. Numerous pits and voids on the interior surfaces. Filing and/or grinding evident in several areas – poorly done in area of lanyard loop slot. Shiny spots (see arrows) appear to be poorly mixed resin.

These were purchased from North Carolina Ordnance for \$35 in November, 2006. Part number G153 replicates zero series grips.



←Lanyard loop hole will need some filing for the grip to seat on the frame.

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Source	<b>Franzite</b>
Part Number	Not Known
Fit to Frame	Poor
Escutcheons?	Yes
Uses Standard Screw?	Yes

These grips are made of a somewhat softer plastic, and are patterned externally on the early (zero series) Walther grips. Internal markings are not representative of authentic grips. Also manufactured in white. Franzite is no longer in business.

Fit to frame is listed as poor as the grips do not sit flush with the front grip strap, and there is a large (1/8") gap where the grips come together on the rear grip strap.



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Source	Walther
Part Number	Varies by Source
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	Yes
Uses Standard Screw?	Yes

These are post-war Walther P-1 grips, currently available from many sources. If you don't care about an authentic look, these are probably your best bet as they fit well, are readily available, are of good quality, and inexpensive.



← A variant of the Walther grip with some reinforcing ribbing absent. This style seems to be in the minority.

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Source	<b>Numrich</b>
Part Number	882010
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	Yes
Uses Standard Screw?	No

Walnut grips sold by Numrich Gun Parts Corporation. Thicker than standard grips, though fit is excellent. Nonstandard grip screw and escutcheons (included).

Purchased January 2007 for \$31.45. A checkered pattern is also available, part number 541100.



← Photo from Numrich's site showing a slightly different groove pattern (part number remains the same; price is now \$33.05 as of 15 June 2008)

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Source	<b>East Germany</b>
Part Number	Not Known
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	Yes
Uses Standard Screw?	Yes

These grips were produced by East Germany. They will be found on some East German P.38 reworks as well as the estimated 120 "N" series P.38s produced in the early 1950s.



East German "N" series P.38 produced in 1953 →



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Source	<b>Soviet Union</b>
Part Number	Not Known
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	Yes
Uses Standard Screw?	Varies

Produced for the Soviet Union's P.38 rebuild program. A notable characteristic is that the horizontal lines are raised, not grooved as on other grips. Occasionally found on Soviet reworks, presumably due to a shortage of German wartime grips. The grips shown below use a standard grip screw.



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### Soviet Union (continued)

These reddish-brown Soviet grips below differ from the black grips in that the installation of the grip screw is reversed from the norm. There is also no escutcheon on the right grip. These grips also do not use a standard (German) grip screw (unlike the black ones pictured above). *Thanks to Doug Slygh for providing the picture below.*



← Another variation of the Soviet grip with a different style escutcheon.

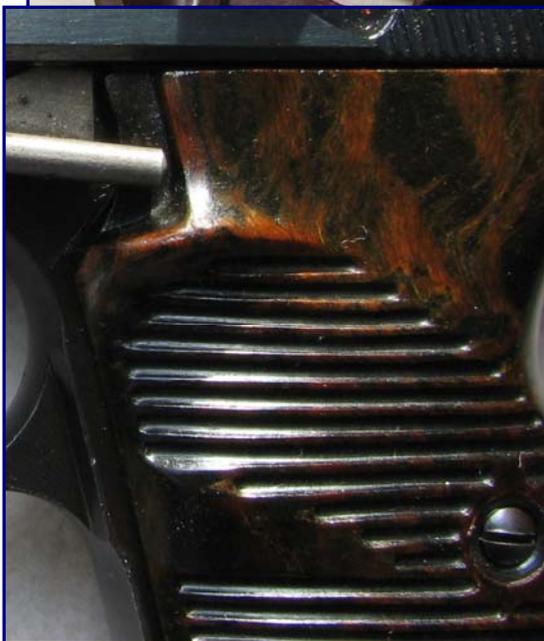
“Non-standard” grip screw. *Thanks to Doug Slygh for the picture.* →



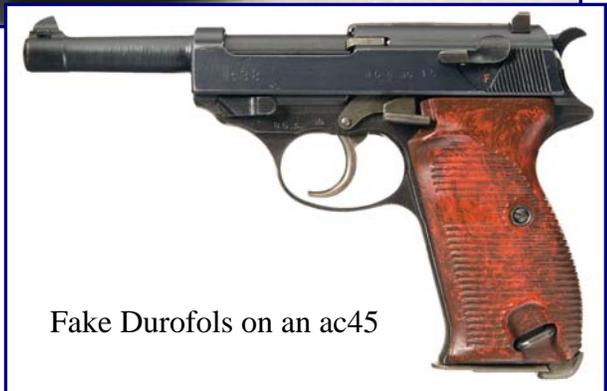
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Source	<b>Not Known</b>
Part Number	Not Known
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	Yes
Uses Standard Screw?	Yes

This set of reproduction grips were found on a matching 'c' block ac45. They are presumably representations of Durofol grips.



← Authentic Durofol grips



Fake Durofols on an ac45

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Source	<b>HistoryArms</b>
Part Number	Not Known
Fit to Frame	Very Good
Escutcheons?	No
Uses Standard Screw?	Yes

These sets of grips were purchased on e-Bay; seller ID historyarms. While the fit is very good, the grips do not include escutcheons, although they appear to. The grip mold was apparently cast from a complete grip (with escutcheons). On these grips, the plastic material is tapped for a standard grip screw. Offered in various colors, the composition seems to vary

from batch to batch.

Below are seen two sets, color "red". The first was purchased in October of 2007, the second in April 2008. The earlier set is shinier, and seems to be made of a different material than the later set.



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### HistoryArms (continued)

This later set has a less glossy appearance, although examination of the contours of the grips would seem to indicate both sets came from the same mold.



Note the threaded plastic “escutcheons,” are actually an integral part of the grip →



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Source	<b>Walther</b>
Part Number	Varies by Source
Fit to Frame	Excellent
Escutcheons?	Yes*
Uses Standard Screw?	Yes

These grips are identical to the black post-war Walther grips above, with the exception of the color which is off-white. Escutcheons were included with these grips, but were not installed. They are the standard Walther escutcheons and use the same screw as other Walther grips.

As of 02 July 2008 these grips were available from Numrich (item 981340) for \$24.95 (plus \$10.45 for the escutcheon set and \$2.75 for the grip screw), from Earl's Repair Service for \$295.00, and on e-Bay from various vendors (below are from seller [nietodelindiano](#)).



\* Included but not installed

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Source	<b>France</b>
Part Number	Not Known
Fit to Frame	Good
Escutcheons?	N/A
Uses Standard Screw?	No

These grips are occasionally found on svw45 and svw46 pistols manufactured under French occupation after the war. They are made entirely of stamped steel. Color varies widely, from a standard blue, gray, or a copper color as seen below.

These grips use a different screw than the standard Walther screw, and there is no need for escutcheons as the grips are steel. The threaded end of the screw engages a steel stamping tack-welded to the interior of the right grip. When installing, careful alignment is required because the grips can shift slightly, allowing the rear of one grip to slide under the other.

