



DEFENCE UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE WEBSITE ORDNANCE INFORMATION SHEET

**ALL UXO MAY BE HAZARDOUS IF DISTURBED
DO NOT TOUCH – TAKE A PHOTO – MARK THE LOCATION – CALL THE POLICE**

GRENADE - NO. 36M

Description

- The No. 36M Grenade was a hand-thrown or rifle-projected grenade that was used extensively by Australian forces during and after WWII. The 36M's origins date back to WWI when the original Mill's Bomb (No. 5) was developed. The No. 5 was modified to the No. 23 which could take a rifle rod enabling it to also be fired from a rifle. The No. 23 was further modified in 1917, as No. 36, to be capable of being fired from the Rifle Discharger 2 inch. The No. 36M emerged from the No. 36 when the filling Baratol and a new waterproofing (shellac) were first used for grenades in Mesopotamia (hence the 'M' in the designation).
- The No. 36M grenade (along with some earlier models such as the No. 5) was manufactured throughout Australia and widely used by infantry units as well as many other units of the Army, Navy and Air Force.
- The 36M (and other hand grenades) is one of the most common UXO found in Australia with many being found by the public each year. Unexploded items of this type may be found in numerous areas throughout Australia – typically on or just below the ground surface.

Technical Data

Despite many earlier variations of the 36M grenade, they were all very similar in appearance and composition as described below.

- Mmunition length : approx. 95 mm
- Diameter : maximum diameter 60-61mm
- Total weight : 680-770 grams
- Fuse/Burster : Contains a simple time fuse
- Filling : approx 65-75 g high explosive (Baratol, Amatol, Trotyl/TNT or Ammonal)
- Identification :
 - The body of the munition is usually made of cast iron and serrated to assist fragmentation.
 - The body of the High Explosive variant is usually dark brown, black in colour or varnished. Red, pink and/or green marks may be around top of body.
 - Practice and inert (drill) variants were usually painted white, gray-white, blue or bronze but may also be unpainted.
 - Other colours may have been used or colours may have faded over time. **Treat all found munitions as dangerous.**
 - Many other types of grenades were used in Australia – treat all objects that look like grenades or other suspicious objects as if they were live munitions.

Images

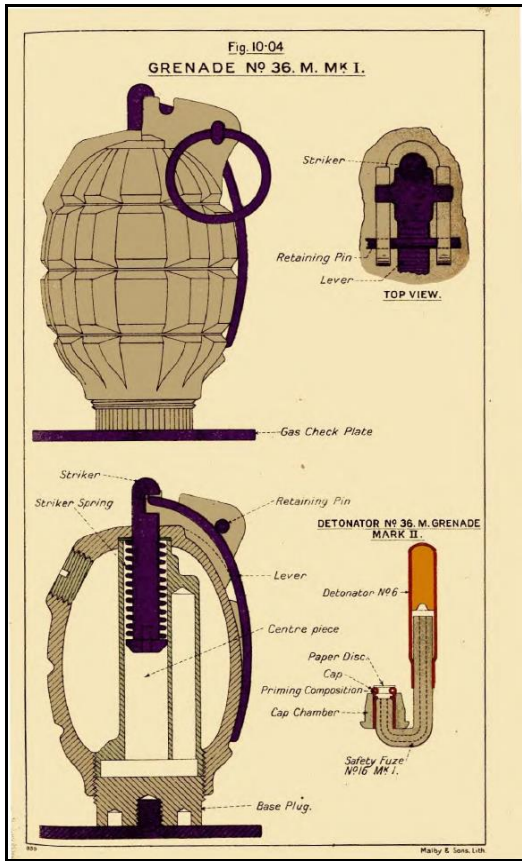


Figure 1 - 36M Grenade design



Figure 2 - 36M grenades in good condition. Note the gas-check plate on the middle grenade.



Figure 3 - Unexploded 36M grenades found at Clear Mountain, SE Qld



Figure 4 - An Australian soldier throwing a 36M grenade during training - Randwick, NSW - 1936 (AWM ID number P00989.013)



Figure 5 - Shallow-buried 36M grenade found at Canungra, Qld