

# Strategies for Tactical Training

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Okay, so you've finally committed, you've bought the guns and ammunition, everything needed for the defense of your home. You've stockpiled, stored, hidden away and concealed in strategic locations throughout your property the weapons that will keep the family safe and secure no matter the threat that dares to descend upon you.

Each member of the family has been taught how to load, shoot and secure each weapon in the arsenal. That's good. You've done well. But now it's time to ask yourself "How will they fair during a real combat situation? How will you?" Now, is the time to find out, before it all goes wrong. This is where your training begins.

## What is Tactical Training?



Everyone has their own ideas for what tactical training is. Each prepper has their own regiment they adhere to, their own philosophy to follow. But what is tactical training in a so-called nutshell? It is how you learn to react effectively during combat situations. This is where you practice under stress until your skills become second nature. This is where you train for whatever will go wrong at the worst possible time for things to go wrong.

### Goals of Training

There are as many training philosophies as there are people out there teaching them. But there are universal skills, knowledge and know-how you need to efficiently protect your family, yourself and your property.

- Learn the OODA Loop; observe the surroundings, Orient yourself to the situation, decide what to do and Act.
- Learn to focus amidst chaotic conditions.
- Defend from various positions.
- Learn to fight and defend within the confined spaces of a room or house.
- Effectively react to and remedy weapon malfunctions (gun jams).
- Rotate practice until skills are as close to second nature as possible.
- Learn to work as a team and to maintain the safety of that team.
- Maintain good physical conditioning as a real combat situation will tax you, mind and body, requiring the stamina to out last your opponent.

- Accept the real thing will not take place in ideal conditions and learn to adapt to unexpected situations.
- Learn when it is time to retreat and regroup.

## **Finding the Right Instructor**

As preppers, we want to do it all ourselves. It's the drive towards self-reliance that set us on the path to begin with, right? But how did we first figure out how to even begin preparing for the worst? How did we know how to pack a reliable bug-out bag or how to preserve and store stockpiles of food? We went out and found the information, read articles on the subject, learned from someone else, someone who knew more than we did, Right?



Reading an article on how to can food or filter water is a fine way to learn but when it comes to training for combat, reading an article or two will not cut it. Tactical training is complex, incorporating a multitude of skills and pulling them all together into a cohesive set of knowledge and practice. You need an instructor, but not just any instructor. The prepper movement has spawned a legion of people offering tactical operations training of all sorts and just as the internet has its fair share of questionable sources, so does the vast pool of weekend, tactical instruction schools.

These, of course, can be expensive and few of us can actually take a week off of work to attend intensive training but there are alternatives. Online videos provide a more affordable option. When it comes to choosing the right training course, be it in person or online, consider the following before parting with your hard earned money;

- What is the instructor(s)' background? Are they former military, police, SWAT? How many years? What did they do in the military or law enforcement? Does their actual background match the training they offer? Was their time in the military spent in the motor pool or in combat?
- Are they willing to provide training or occupational references?
- Do they hold any instructor certifications or have additional qualifications?
- When was their last certification? Last year or 10 years ago?
- What is their (or the course/school's) safety record?
- What is the instructor(s)' mentality?
- Do you feel comfortable around the instructor or with their teaching style?
- Is the instructor there to teach or simply collect a paycheck? Do they listen to the students and are they open to your learning needs?
- Do instructor(s) take part in their own continued education?
- What do past students have to say about their experiences?

Research the instructor, the school itself and their past. Educate yourself about tactical training and all it entails. Set your own goals and locate a school or instructor who will help you achieve and exceed them.

Remember this is the training on which you will rely to defend your family, your life and your home. Make it count.

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