



Explain: The reason they call it a "semi automatic" is because it loads the cartridge into the chamber, extracts the empty casing and then reloads a fresh round into the chamber automatically with each pull of the trigger.

Explain: Many people refer to it as an "automatic". This is not the proper terminology. If it was an "automatic", as long as the trigger was depressed and held to the rear, it would go through its cycle (fire, extract, load) continuously and the gun would continue to fire until it ran out of ammunition or malfunctioned.

Explain: With a "semi automatic", the firearm will only fire a single round with each pull of the trigger.

Click: Animation . . .
(Firing a round, and ejection of casing.)

Explain: When you pull the trigger, the firing pin will be released forward, striking the primer of the cartridge. The primer ignites the gunpowder, the gunpowder burns and the pressure from the expanding gases push the bullet out of the case and down the barrel of the gun. Because you have energy pushing the bullet out of the barrel, you also have energy pushing back on the slide. The energy pushing back on the slide will draw the empty casing out of the chamber, and it will be ejected out of the ejection port. Also, the rearward moving slide, will push back on the hammer spur, leaving the hammer cocked to a "single action" position.

Click: Animation . . .
(Slide stripping a round from the magazine and chambering a new round.)

Explain: The compressed recoil spring, will then drive the slide forward stripping a new round of ammunition out of the magazine and into the chamber. The firearm is now ready to fire, with a single pull of the trigger.

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