

Naval Gunnery Target Balloons Information and Instructions



Killer Lemon™ Naval Gunnery Target balloon

Killer Lemon™ is a new small adrift target designed to blow and tumble across the wave surface, primarily for small guns target practice or air-to-surface gunnery practice.

It is air inflated, bright **YELLOW**, 1.5 meter³ (5x5x5 feet) in size. Target is intended to have some water put inside to weigh down the target and slow its tumble. Amount of water depends on how slow you want it to blow and tumble; this also varies with sea state. Made with 12 mil PVC, with a stainless steel metal “D-ring” for tie down, handling, minor towing, floating trip line for recovery purposes, or for use as a surface anchor holding a line for a helium filled air target (see *Bogie Blimp™*).

This target is NOT Radar reflecting and is intended for visual use only. Intended to be used in multiples, a bunch, together at the same time.

Target balloons individually packaged in a cardboard shipping tube.

Accessories (not included):

- Leaf blower to inflate (such as *Black & Decker* shown, figure 1)
- 15' tie down lines with quick connector clips to secure inflated balloon until deployment.
- *Bogie Blimp™* helium filled air target.



Leaf blower can be used to quickly inflate target balloon (not included)

Figure 1

General Instructions:

1. Select deck with an area about 10 foot square where there are no sharp objects and where the target can be tied down after inflation.
2. Remove the target from its shipping tube. Unroll to flat with inflation tube on top. Fasten handling line to D-ring on side opposite inflation tube. Tie far end of handling line to something secure.
3. Insert blower, exhaust hose or whatever air source is to be used for inflation, into the inflation tube. Hold inflation tube tight against sides of blower or hose. Begin inflation.
4. As target balloon inflates, have additional personnel hold it against blowing away. Do not over inflate. Balloon should be full, but not bulging.
5. Disconnect air source, hand twist inflation tube to temporarily hold shut. Pour sufficient water into target via inflation tube to provide desired ballast during use. Experiment to determine amount of water to use. Without any water ballast, target will roll and blow away very fast.
6. Reconnect air source, top-off target balloon, correctly filled *Killer Lemon™* target is about 5.5ft high.
7. Fold over end of inflation tube and tightly roll-up tube except for the last few inches, then “stuff” rolled up tube into itself and into the body of the target (like when inflating an air mattress). Untie handling line. Have personnel pick up target to launch over side. See additional instructions for special uses.

Warning: Over inflation will damage the target balloon.

Additional instructions

To launch a group, bunch or “gang” of *Killer Lemon™* target balloons simultaneously, inflate and launch each target individually over the side, but with an additional separate line looped through the D-ring. String this line through each additional target’s D-ring until all targets are together in the water, all on this single looped line. When ready to turn them all loose, just let go one end of the looped line and pull in the other end.

Line on D-ring should be used for moving or towing target at up to only 4 knots maximum.

To use a *Killer Lemon™* target to anchor a helium filled air target, add additional ballast water to ensure target stays on water surface in use. Prepare *Killer Lemon™* first, then air target. When both are ready, launch the *Killer Lemon™* into the water, then launch the air target into the air.

To recover an inflated target balloon, slowly pull a line attached to the D-ring until you can access the inflation tube, open the tube and rotate the target to dump out water ballast, **the weight of water ballast can damage the balloon.**



Figure 2

Hold the fill tube by hand during full operation.



Figure 3

Target is intended to be filled with **SOME** water to act a ballast to slow roll and tumble action in the waves.



Figure 4

Fold and Roll-up inflation tube except for the last few inches, then “stuff” rolled tube into itself and into target.



Figure 5

D-ring may be used to fasten a line for handling, recovery or a helium air target.



Figure 6

When inflated and ready to use, pickup and launch over the side.