

No badge they wore, nor uniform bright,
Just grit and guns in fading light.
Austin's men, a watchful band,
Protecting dreams in Texas land.
Against the raid, the arrow's flight,
They stood their ground, with all their might.
A frontier's hope, a colony's plea,
The Rangers born, for Texas free.

## **Unofficial Beginnings (1823)**

### Early Days - 1

Stephen F. Austin, considered the "Father of Texas," first employed a small group of men to protect his colony from Native American raids and other threats. These men were the precursors to the modern Rangers.

Shooter needs: 10 Rifle, 10 Pistol, As Needed Shotgun.

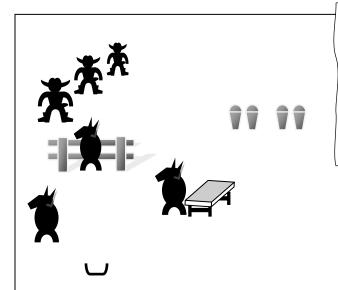
**Shooter starts:** Standing behind the barrel with one hand on the saddle horn and holding the rifle with the other hand level with the ground. Shotgun is staged on a table. Pistols are holstered.

Shooter says: "They stood their ground, with all their might."

**Rifle** – Triple-tap the outside Bandits, then double-tap the inside bandits. Make rifle safe on the table.

**Shotgun** – From the table engage fallers until down.

**Pistols** – Move to an arm's reach of the fault line and re-engage the Bandits with same instructions as rifle.



No flag they flew, no charter bold,
Just rawboned strength, a story told.
Texas' fight, a desperate stand,
For freedom's cause, in this wild land.
From Goliad's cry to Alamo's fall,
The Rangers answered, heeding the call.
Against the foe, they bravely fought,
Texas' freedom, dearly bought.

### Formal Establishment (1835)

### Early Days - 2

The Texas Rangers were officially established by the Texas provisional government during the Texas Revolution. Their primary role was to patrol the frontier and defend against Native American attacks.

Shooter needs: 10 Rifle, 10 Pistol, As Needed Shotgun.

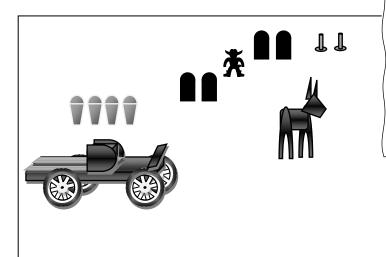
**Shooter starts:** Standing rifle box with rifle in hand. Shotgun is staged on a table. Pistols are holstered.

Shooter says: "Against the foe, they bravely fought."

**Rifle:** – Move to up range horse and engage cowboys from left side of horse with three sweeps for nine and placing the tenth round on any cowboy at any time. Move to table and make rifle safe.

Shotgun: Engage all poppers until down.

**Pistols: -** From anywhere between table and fence, engage cowboys with same instructions as rifle.



No walls of stone, no fort secure,
Just open plains, and dangers sure.
The settlers' plight, a constant fear,
The Ranger's ride, drawing near.
Comanche's cry, the rustler's greed,
The Ranger's aim, a planted seed.
Protecting hearth, and field, and home,
On Texas' soil, they bravely roam.

#### **Frontier Defense**

### Republic of Texas and Early Statehood -1

The Rangers played a crucial role in protecting settlers and fighting Native American tribes during the Republic of Texas era and after Texas joined the United States. They were known for their toughness, resourcefulness, and skill in combat.

Shooter needs: 10 Rifle, 10 Pistol, As Needed Shotgun.

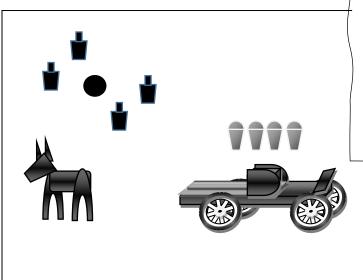
**Shooter starts:** Standing in the Rifle box with rifle in hand. Shotgun staged on wagon. Pistols holstered.

Shooter says: "On Texas' soil, they bravely roam."

**Rifle** – Engage (2) tombstones with two each, then one on the cowboy, then two each on the other two tombstones, then one on the cowboy. Make rifle safe on the wagon.

**Shotgun** – From wagon knock down the poppers, then from horse knock down the pipes. Make shotgun safe on horse.

**Pistols** – From horse, engage targets with same instructions as Rifle.



No line defined, no border clear,
Just shifting sands, and constant fear.
The Rio Grande, a ribbon's flow,
Where outlaws crept, and shadows grow.
From bandit's raid to stolen steer,
The Ranger's chase, both far and near.
Protecting land, and honor's name,
On Texas' edge, they played the game.

## **Border Security**

#### Republic of Texas and Early Statehood -2

The Rangers also patrolled the border with Mexico, dealing with bandits, cattle rustlers, and other outlaws.

Shooter needs: 10 Rifle, 10 Pistol, As Needed Shotgun.

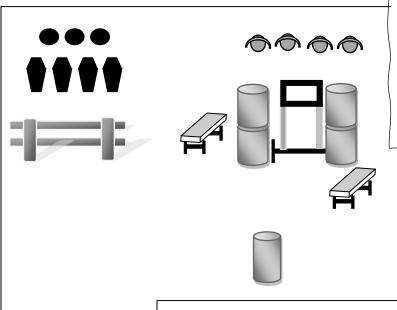
**Shooter starts:** Standing in rifle box with rifle in hand. Shotgun staged on wagon.

Shooter says: "No line defined, no border clear..."

**Rifle** – Engage the bandits and circle as follows: Tripple-tap the circle, then single-tap the bandits, then triple-tap the circle. Make rifle safe on horse.

**Pistols** – From horse, engage targets with same instructions as rifle.

**Shotgun** – Move to wagon and engage the (4) fallers until down. **Semi-auto** pistols and **DA** revolvers loaded with six must be downed open and empty on wagon.



No longer just a frontier's call,
But towns now rise, and shadows fall.
From dusty plains to city's hum,
The Ranger's duty, yet to come.
No Indian raid, no rustler's band,
But crimes concealed, across the land.
To track the guilty, seek the truth,
In Texas' name, they prove their worth.

#### Law and Order

#### Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries - 1

As Texas became more settled, the Rangers' focus shifted towards general law enforcement. They tracked down criminals, investigated crimes, and maintained order in a vast and often lawless territory.

Shooter needs: 10 Rifle, 10 Pistol, As Needed Shotgun.

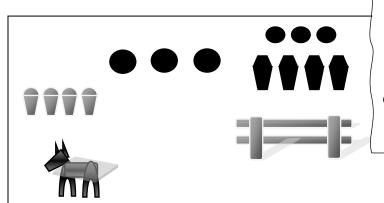
**Shooter starts:** Standing at the up-range barrel with hands hovering over Rifle staged on top of barrel. Shotgun staged on table and pistols holstered.

Shooter says: "In Texas' name, they prove their worth."

**Rifle** – From barrel, engage the circles and coffins as follows: Sweep the circles, then sweep the coffins, then sweep the circles. Make rifle safe on table.

**Shotgun** – From window, engage the (4) snakes until off of their plate. Make shotgun safe.

**Pistols** – From fence re-engage the targets with the same instructions as Rifle.



No simple tale, no hero's crown,
But shades of gray, in every town.
The Ranger's badge, a symbol bright,
Yet whispers rise, in fading light.
Accusations hurled, and stories told,
Of justice blind, and hearts grown cold.
A complex past, a tarnished name,
The Ranger's story, not all acclaim.

#### Controversies

### Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries - 2

The Rangers' history is not without controversy. They were sometimes accused of excessive force and involvement in questionable actions, particularly against Mexican Americans.

Shooter needs: 10 Rifle, 10 Pistol, As Needed Shotgun.

**Shooter starts:** Standing one foot in Rifle box. Shotgun staged on horse and pistols holstered.

Shooter says: "No simple tale, no hero's crown..."

**Rifle** – Shooter's choice of small circles or large. Engage with a double-tap Nevada Sweep. Make safe on horse.

**Pistols** – If rifle engaged small circles, then engage large circles from horse with a double-tap Nevada Sweep. If rifle engaged large circles, move to fence and engage small circles with same instructions.

**Shotgun** - Engage (4) fallers from horse until down. Make safe on table if pistols are last.

(Pistol/Shotgun order dependent on the order of rifle target engagement.)