~~What is claimed is:~~Claims

1. An ammunition magazine comprising:
a. a casing having a mostly rectangular cross-section with fore and aft sides and two longer lateral sides and first and second open ends;
b. a follower residing within the casing, said follower further comprising:
i. a follower platform with two opposite tines at fore and aft positions and extending generally perpendicularly and distally therefrom;
ii. the aft tine being shorter than the fore tine;
c. a floor plate capable of interfacing the casing at the second end and having an orifice;
d. a lock plate proximate the floor plate and residing generally within the second end of the casing and further comprising:
i. a tab projecting towards an exterior of the casing; and
ii. a pillar extending into an interior of the casing along the aft side of the casing; and
e. a follower spring residing between the follower and lock plate;
wherein spring pressure interfaces the lock plate and the floor plate together by forcing the tab into the orifice and, when the spring is compressed to a maximum designed limit, the pillar and aft tine abut each other to prevent further spring compression.

2. The ammunition magazine of claim 1, the lock plate further comprising a cradle, extending into the interior of the casing along the fore side of the casing, such that, when the spring is compressed to the maximum designed limit, the fore tine of the follower will nest within the cradle.

3. The ammunition magazine of claim 2, the pillar and aft tine having a combined length comparable to the length of the fore tine.

4. The ammunition magazine of claim 2, further comprising a pair of spines located in the interior of the casing along the aft side and extending toward

the first open end, said pair of spinestines flanked by two channels and defining a trench along the aft side of the casing.

5. The ammunition magazine of claim 4, the spines stopping at a point in the casing where exterior geometry of the casing changes to a more straight profile.

6. The ammunition magazine of claim 2, the casing further comprising at least one matrix of divots in an exterior surface of the casing.

7. The ammunition magazine of claim 2, the casing further comprising an over-insertion stop extending outward from an exterior of the casing.

8. The ammunition magazine of claim 1, the pillar and aft tine having a combined length comparable to the length of the fore tine.

9. The ammunition magazine of claim 1, further comprising a pair of spines located in the interior of the casing along the aft side and extending toward the first open end, said pair of spinestines flanked by two channels and defining a trench along the aft side of the casing.

10. The ammunition magazine of claim 9, the spines stopping at a point in the casing where exterior geometry of the casing changes to a more straight profile.

11. The ammunition magazine of claim 1, the casing further comprising an over-insertion stop extending outward from an exterior of the casing.

12. The ammunition magazine of claim 1, the casing further comprising at least one matrix of divots in an exterior surface of the casing.

13. An ammunition magazine comprising:

a. a casing having a mostly rectangular cross-section with fore and aft sides and two longer lateral sides and first and second open ends, the casing further comprising two notches, one located on each of the fore and aft sides and proximate the second open end;

b. a follower residing within the casing, said follower further comprising:

i. a follower platform with two opposite tines at fore and aft positions and extending generally perpendicularly and distally therefrom;

ii. the aft tine being shorter than the fore tine;

c. a floor plate capable of interfacing the casing at the second end and further comprising;

i. a pillar extending into an interior of the casing along the aft side of the casing and presenting a tooth toward the aft side; and

ii. a cradle, extending into the interior of the casing along the fore side of the casing and presenting a tooth toward the fore side; and

d. a follower spring residing between the follower and ~~lock~~the floor plate;

wherein the teeth on the pillar and cradle interface with the notches on the fore and aft sides of the casing and when the spring is compressed to a maximum designed limit, the pillar and aft tine abut each other to prevent further spring compression and the fore tine of the follower will nest within the cradle.

14. The ammunition magazine of claim 13, the pillar and aft tine having a combined length comparable to the length of the fore tine.

15. The ammunition magazine of claim 13, further comprising a pair of spines located in the interior of the casing along the aft side and extending toward the first open end, said ~~tines~~pair of spines flanked by two channels and defining a trench along the aft side of the casing, wherein the pair of spines is arranged to guide movement of the follower and the trench is used as an internal follower stop.

16. The ammunition magazine of claim 15, the spines stopping at a point in the casing where exterior geometry of the casing changes to a more straight profile.

17. The ammunition magazine of claim 13, the casing further comprising an over-insertion stop extending outward from an exterior of the casing.

18. The ammunition magazine of claim 13, the casing further comprising at least one matrix of divots in an exterior surface of the casing.

19. An ammunition magazine casing comprising:
a. a casing body with with fore and aft sides and two longer lateral sides and first and second open ends;
b. a follower residing within the casing,
~~b~~c. a pair of spines located on an interior of the aft side of the body, towards the second open end, the spines defining a trench that extends at least partly toward the first open end; and
~~c~~d. a pair of channels, one on either side of ~~a~~the pair of spines~~,~~ wherein the pair of spines is arranged to guide movement of the follower and the trench is used as an internal follower stop.

20. The ammunition magazine casing of claim 19, the spines stopping at a point in the casing where exterior geometry of the casing changes to a more straight profile.