

Scopes and Mounts

Decent description, Mitch! Many folks don't understand that grease consists of a thickener (lithium soap or Hectorite clay) and a base stock (oil).

To address atelier's concerns, separation with lithium soap-based grease is common, and it's exasperated by higher temps.

In bearings that are frequently used, the agitation re-mixes the base stock and the thickener; however, better-quality greases resist separation better.

Note that SGLI/API classifies grease in 3 categories, dependent on additives: "Unclassified", suitable for light-duty applications; "EP", suitable for straight-cut and straight roller- and ball-bearings subjected to heavy loading, and "HD", formulated for helical-cut gears and tapered roller bearings.

However, the easy solution is not to worry about certifications, and just replace all your astro-greases with [Super Lube General-purpose grease](#), available at Harbor Freight for about \$5/3.5 oz. tube.

I'm a recovering lube engineer, and it's what I use, and have used for over 10 years.

Lithium soap-based grease have their applications (I use them widely), but not on my scopes and mounts.