The key to killing most of the mutants in the game is the flamethrower. Fire slows mutants down. If he's getting too close to you, pull out the flamethrower and give him a thorough dousing. The laser rifle is also handy, since it also burns whatever it hits. The PIC is good to use as an opener if you have ammo for it, since it does a lot of damage in one shot and has no travel time, but do not wait for the reload. Instead, switch to a different weapon after your first shot.