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THE MAGAZINE

FEBRUARY 2022
VOLUME 39 • ISSUE 02



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SA-35



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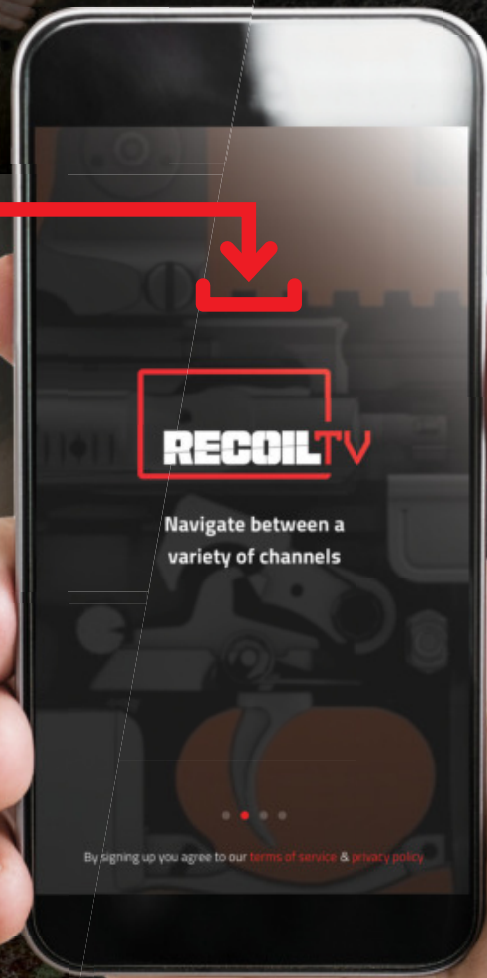


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Gun Digest the Magazine (ISSN 1938-5943) is published monthly by Caribou Media dba Gun Digest Media, LLC. Corporate Headquarters is 5600 W. Grande Market Dr., Suite 100, Appleton, WI 54913. Periodicals postage paid at Appleton, WI 54913 and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Gun Digest the Magazine, P.O. Box 460220, Escondido, CA 92046. Copyright © 2022 Gun Digest Media. GUN DIGEST THE MAGAZINE and its logo are registered trademarks. Other names and logos referred to or displayed in editorial or advertising content may be trademarked or copyrighted. The publisher and advertisers are not liable for typographical errors that may appear in prices or descriptions in advertisements.

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
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TRICKLE-DOWN AMMO-NOMICS

So, John Doe walks into a gun shop in search of 9mm practice rounds. He doesn't care if they have 115- or 124-grainers, and he doesn't care if it comes in an American Eagle, MagTech or Winchester box. All he wants is some practice ammo to run a couple mags through his CCW pistol.

Of John has been making this same trek to the gun store at least once a week for the past year, with his wallet in one hand and crossed fingers on the other, hoping that one day—maybe today—he'll find what he's looking for.

And one of these days, John is going to have perfect timing, and there will be a fresh shipment of 9mm ammo, glowing on the shelf like the Star of Bethlehem itself is marking the momentous occasion. But the bitter taste of having to wait so long lingers fresh on Of John's lips, and rather than grab a single box to get him by, John grabs three boxes because he knows the odds of having such perfect timing might not come around again for a long while.

Can anyone really blame him?

And this, my fellow ammo-craving Americans, is exactly how I predict 2022 to unfold. Ammunition is—very slowly—starting to have a shelf life that's measured

in hours rather than minutes. It's out there more regularly now, and I've seen it with my own eyes, but it's going to take some time before everyone's appetite to restock their own basement shelves is satiated.

Gun availability, especially those that have any resemblance to a CCW poly pistol, will follow the same curve but on a slightly delayed timeframe. Manufacturers will continue to manufacture, consumers will continue to consume ... and I believe a balance is finally on the horizon. It's still a good way out, but it's there, and it's headed this way.

I hope like hell I can look back a full year from now and write, "Well, that really sucked ... and I'm glad it's over." And I sincerely believe that will be the case.

But until then, here's to hoping that your own timing at the gun shop is perfect, that your trigger finger sees regular exercise ... and that the phrase "ammo shortage" can once again go dormant. **GDMT**

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U.S. and Canada: 1 (800) 829-9127

Outside the U.S.: (760) 407-2297

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.30 M-1 CARBINE

Don't kid yourself about the 'terrific power' of the .30 M-1 Carbine cartridge, because it's just not there.

HISTORICAL NOTES

In 1940, the U.S. Ordnance Department concluded that a light carbine might have certain advantages over the .45-caliber semi-auto pistol in many combat situations. Various designs were submitted by a number of private manufacturers, and, in the end, Winchester's offering was selected.

The semi-auto .30 M-1 Carbine was officially adopted in 1941. This cartridge, a modification of the .32 Winchester self-loading round of 1906, was hardly a revolutionary design, but it served the purpose. About the same time, the Germans developed their assault rifle and the 7.92mm Kurz (short) cartridge. The M-1 Carbine isn't an assault rifle, and the military insists it was designed to fulfill a different purpose. A few sporting rifles and handguns have chambered the .30 Carbine.

GENERAL COMMENTS

In mid 1963, the government released .30 M-1 Carbines for sale to civilians through the National Rifle Association at the very moderate price of about \$20. Thousands of these rifles, as a result, have been used for sporting purposes. Federal, Winchester and Remington load soft-point sporting ammunition.

The .30 Carbine cartridge is in the

same class as the .32-20 WCF, but slightly more powerful. It's wholly a small game and varmint round, despite contrary claims by those who love the short, light and handy M-1 Carbine. The modest accuracy of the carbine, combined with the ballistics of this cartridge, limit the effective sporting range to about 150 yards. The original author of *Gun Digest's Cartridges of the World* used an M-1 Carbine to hunt small game and deer as early as 1943, before most people could get their hands on one of these guns, so he had a pretty good idea of the capability of the cartridge.

Remember that the .32 Winchester self-loading round became obsolete in 1920, because it was ineffective and more or less useless for sporting purposes. The .30 Carbine was derived from that round and shares the same shortcomings. However, it can shoot relatively cheaper military ammunition, and this allows use of the gun in many situations not eco-

nomically feasible with the .32 SL.

However, don't kid yourself about the so-called "terrific power" of the .30 Carbine cartridge, because it's just not there. Despite this, it can be a very useful cartridge within its limitations, and its use and popularity have increased considerably over the years.

One final note: Had the military adopted a normal, modern rifle pressure standard, instead of the inexplicably modest 40,000 psi specified, we might have a somewhat different opinion of this cartridge. Loading to normal .30-06 pressures provides about 400 fps more velocity, which seems significant. **GDTM**



.30 CARBINE LOADING DATA AND FACTORY BALLISTICS

BULLET	POWDER	GRAINS	VELOCITY	ENERGY	SOURCE
100 Plinker	2400	15.5	2,170	1,045	Speer
110 SP	IMR4227	15.0	2,010	985	N/A
125 Lead RN	AA1680	15.0	1,756	855	Accurate Arms
110 Ball	ML	ML	1,975	955	Military load, M-1
110 SP	FL	FL	1,990	965	Factory load

1.00" 2.20" 1.50" 2.20"



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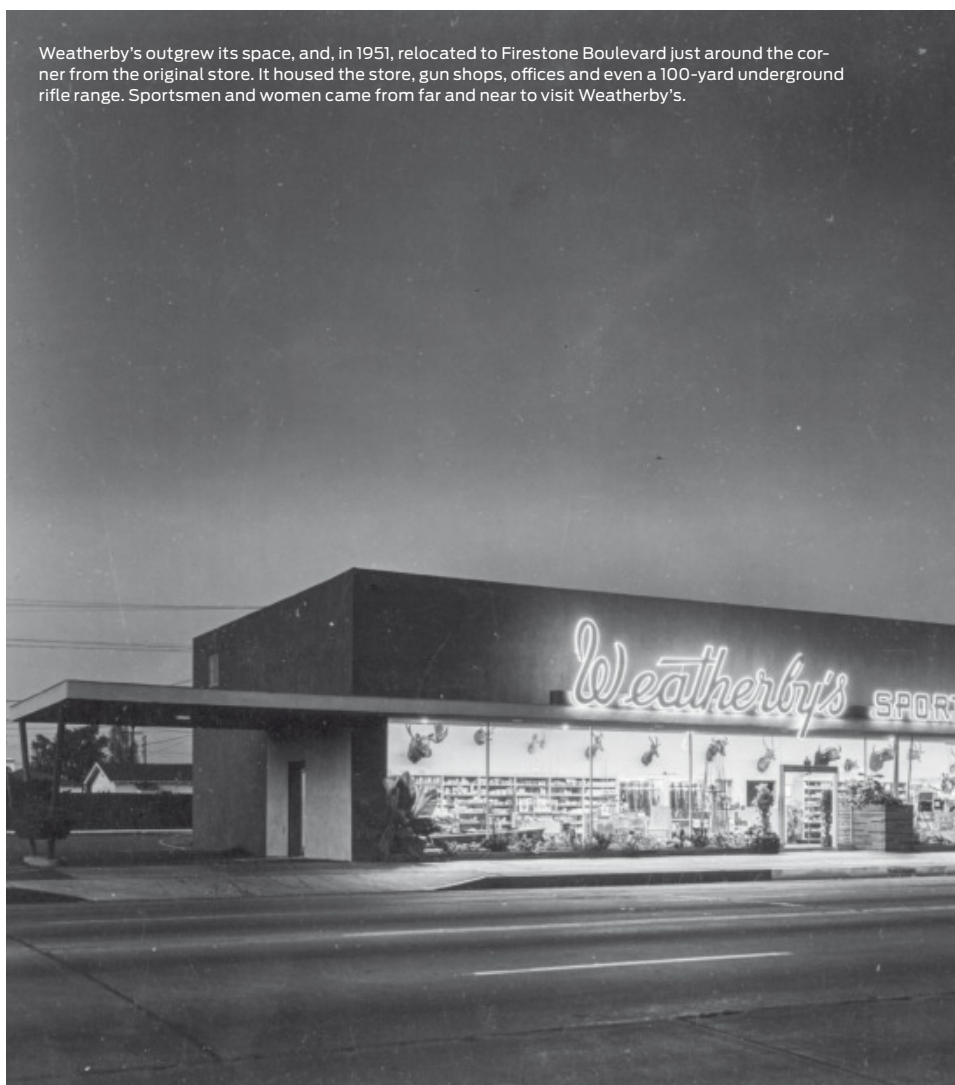
Weatherby's uncompromising commitment to ballistic innovation, top-notch manufacturing and the American dream.

Roy Weatherby started his company's namesake in 1945. Now, three generations of Weatherby leadership later, there are no signs of Roy's vision slowing down—just like the cartridges he designed more than 75 years ago.

Much has been written about the gregarious Roy E. Weatherby, and how one of the most prolific and innovative firearms manufacturers of all time began. Fans and competitors alike know well the story of how Roy started his sporting goods company right after World War II, building one rifle at a time. Some may even know that Roy's inspiration for his need for ballistic speed was a less-than-stellar Utah hunting experience he had early (1942) in his career. He wanted a better cartridge for the hunter to be successful—and the game hunted to suffer less.

So, Roy tinkered. He innovated. He pushed successful cartridges well beyond their comfort zones, and when his wildcat cartridges needed a stronger firearm, he built one with the Mark V action in 1958. As Roy's customer base increased, so did their want and need for firearms. In 1967, Roy added shotguns to his arsenal. In 1970, he added the Vanguard line of

Weatherby's outgrew its space, and, in 1951, relocated to Firestone Boulevard just around the corner from the original store. It housed the store, gun shops, offices and even a 100-yard underground rifle range. Sportsmen and women came from far and near to visit Weatherby's.



rifles to cater to Weatherby fans who wanted his firearms in non-Weatherby cartridges.

WHAT ABOUT TODAY?

Philosophically, not much has changed since 1945, because the Weatherby family has mastered remaining the same while being different.

“As I look at Weatherby today, there are three main things that set us apart,” said Adam Weatherby. “One: ballistic superiority. Two: quality craftsman-

ship. And, three: brand prestige. These three things have largely got us to where we are today.”

And it appears that a thirst for velocity, ballistic innovation and firearm craftsmanship are hereditary. First observed in Roy in 1945, the Weatherby way was evident in his son, Ed, when he took over in 1983, and again in his grandson, Adam, who took the helm of Weatherby in 2017.

“My grandfather started Weatherby Inc. in 1945 as a result of his passion

for ballistic superiority and ultra-high velocity,” Adam said. “His drive to deliver quality craftsmanship and superior service created a multi-generational firearm and ammunition business that I get the pleasure of running today.

“My father taught me the ethics of shooting and hunting from a young age, and I’m very grateful for that,” Adam continued. “I have had the opportunity to share many hunts and experiences with some incredible folks in the industry over the years. Since I

Roy Edward Weatherby founded Weatherby, Inc., in 1945.
(Photo credits: Weatherby)





In 2019, Weatherby officially moved from Paso Robles, California, to Sheridan, Wyoming, creating more than 70 jobs.

LOFTY GOALS OF EXCELLENCE

What exactly should today's Weatherby customer expect under Adam's leadership?

"When a customer chooses a Weatherby, they're getting a firearm from a multi-generational, family owned U.S. business that has provided a premium product for decades," Adam said. "That heritage and history is combined with a drive for innovation, delivering a unique, premium product line within the shooting and hunting space."

Looking forward, Adam focuses on what he wants the Weatherby brand to be to ensure the brand lives on generations from now.

"I hope that Weatherby will always be a premium brand in the outdoor space," said Adam. "The risks involved with relocating the business a few years ago were taken on to ensure the brand's ability to thrive as we look toward the future."

was brought up in the family business, I could rely on industry professionals I've had the pleasure of meeting along the way. Honestly, Bruce Pettet (CEO, Leupold) has been one of those guys for me. Having been a CEO for the last couple of decades, he provides me with insight and advice from an outside perspective that has been very influential."

Still, there's another layer to Adam that few may know, which has helped evolve Adam and the Sheridan, Wyoming, company into what they are today.

"Many people may not know this, but I left the family business for several years as I worked in full-time Christian ministry," Adam said. "I would not go back and trade those years for anything. As I spent that time focusing on peoples' lives and the things that matter the most, it helped prepare me to lead the business I now find myself in. I truly have a passion for firearms and the outdoors, but that doesn't compare to the importance of caring for people and seeing them pursue what is most important."

While Roy Weatherby's cartridge development was driven by speed first and foremost, in the 6.5 RPM Adam Weatherby sought to maximize speed while staying in the smaller, lighter six-lug Mark V action. The result was the fastest 6.5 that could be made to fit, allowing for a hunting rifle weighing just 4.9 pounds.





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One of Adam Weatherby's innovations is the Mark V Backcountry 2.0 Ti. Weighing 4.7 pounds, and 4.9 pounds in magnum chamberings, this is the lightest in the Backcountry 2.0 family.

While well-built firearms and super-fast cartridges are synonymous with all of the Weatherby's, what may stand out as Adam's pivotal business triumph wasn't a ballistic decision—but a geographic one.

"My grandfather and father were able to lay a foundation for a world-renowned firearm and ammunition brand," Adam continued. "I now have the incredible privilege of building on that foundation. Our move to Wyoming in 2019 has helped propel us into the future as we pursue not only innovation, but also vertical integration in what I would consider the most gun-friendly and business-friendly state in the country. We have grown and established an incredible team in Sheridan, Wyoming, that not only love what they do but have the unique opportunity of living at the feet of the Bighorn Mountains."

Adam's Weatherby isn't without its unique challenges, however. The ongoing COVID-19 troubles spared no one—even the firearms industry.

"Whereas some companies are highly affected by the boom/bust of political spikes, those market fluctuations affect our brand less because our product line differs from many of those companies," Adam said. "Without a doubt, the largest external influence this past year has been the supply chain challenges we have faced."

Pandemics aside, Adam and Weatherby have continued to navigate the firearms manufacturing community differently than many. Adam said an example of a different direction for Weatherby is their decision to continue providing a premium product regarding their rifle offerings.

"During the past decade, there was a

race to the bottom to provide the rifles at an incredibly low price," Adam said. "Although some of our competitors were able to do this and increase volumes successfully, it was a strategic decision for us to not go below a certain price point. We used that opportunity to 'feature up' our products to add more value. In the end, it has worked very well for our brand."

What does the future hold for the firearms community and, more specifically, Weatherby?

"As for the firearms industry, I wish

I knew," Adam said. "These past couple years have been some crazy ones, and the answer to this question takes some excellent crystal ball reading skills. As for Weatherby, we will continue to take advantage of our recent brand momentum and look toward the future with innovation and new product launches, while paying attention to the quality and service that our company was founded upon. I sure would love to think that Weatherby's best years are still to come." **GDTM**

Adam Weatherby with the first animal ever taken with his new cartridge, the 6.5 RPM.





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SDS IMPORTS PX-9 GEN 2 & 3

Your shooting diet needs a little more Turkey.

Many shooters probably think the last thing we need is another polymer-framed, high-capacity, striker-fired pistol that emulates the Glock. It seems like, for the past decade or so, that description fits about every new handgun introduced. As unexciting as new Tupperware guns might be, this is how innovation works; evolution allows for the concept to be maximized.

Admittedly, I'm not a plastic pistol kind of guy. I'm not saying there's anything wrong with them—they're just not my thing. Still, when I see any handgun that impresses me, I want to share and that's why the SDS Imports' PX-9 is being presented here.

Let me first say that the PX-9 is less expensive than most other polymer-frame pistols because it's manufactured by Tisas in Turkey ... where labor and operational costs are less, not because it's constructed of sub-standard parts by folks who don't know how to build pistols. The PX-9, or *Zigana* as it's known in Turkey, has passed rigorous military trials and is even used by military units, police departments and private security firms around the world.

It was only about six months ago that I was provided a Gen 2 version of this pistol for testing and evaluation. I was very impressed with the sample because of its reliability, how comfortable it was in-hand and all its features.

Just last month I received a Gen 3 version of the PX-9, and after lots of rounds downrange in both, I felt obligated to give this pistol its due.

ALL THE EXTRAS

First, let's address the elephants in the room. One worry with offshore-made handguns is whether there's a decent selection of holsters. This is a valid concern. What good is a self-defense handgun if you can't comfortably carry it?

With the PX-9, that's not an issue. It'll fit holsters sized for the Springfield Armory XD. Incidentally, though not much to brag about, the Gen 2 comes with a polymer OWB paddle

holster, and the Gen 3 comes with a polymer IWB holster. Another concern is the availability of extra magazines. There's no worry here; PX-9s are designed to work with Sig Sauer P226 magazines.

And finally, as with any out-of-country manufactured firearm, there's the issue of parts and service. After all, you can't just put a broken gun in the mail to Turkey. All Tisas-made firearms brought stateside by SDS Imports can be serviced at SDS Imports in Knoxville, Tennessee, because they have parts and qualified engineers on staff there. These engineers have spent time working with Tisas in Turkey where these guns are manufactured,



SDS Imports PX-9 Gen 2 and Gen 3 pistols are very reliable and very comfortable to shoot.



The Gen 3 version of the PX-9, which is imported by SDS Imports, is available in black, desert tan and OD green



(Above) The Gen 3 PX-9 comes standard with an optics-ready cut and plate. The cut will fit the Trijicon RMR.

(Left) The Gen 3 version of the PX-9 comes standard with a flat trigger. The Gen 2 has a trigger with a curved face.

(Left) PX-9 pistols are shipped with two 18-round Sig Sauer P226 magazines.



so they know what they're doing.

For example, the Gen 3 version of this pistol has a slide cut to accept a reflex sight. When I received the pistol for evaluation, I removed this plate, and when reinstalling it I broke the heads off the screws holding it in place. I called SDS Imports, explained the situation and a new slide was delivered to my door the next day. This is great customer service. I installed the new slide, took the pistol to the range and it ran perfectly.

FEATURES & DESIGN

These are duty-sized pistols that ship with two, 18-round magazines, but they're not heavy. Unloaded weight is just shy of 25 ounces, which is just a few ounces heavier than a Glock 17.

The Gen 3 version is available in black, desert tan or green, and it comes standard with a fiber-optic front sight and a ledge-style rear sight. They're fitted with an external

extractor, have front and rear grasping grooves on the slide, and the frame has a four-slot accessory rail.

The trigger on the Gen 2 is curved, the trigger on the Gen 3 is straight, and both have the common passive trigger safety. Both can also be had with an ambidextrous manual thumb safety, and the magazine release can be positioned for left- or right-side activation. The PX9 also has visible and tactile, cocked-striker and loaded-chamber indicators.

One of the most appealing features is the modular grip. The backstrap and side panels are easily removed and can be replaced to perfectly fit this pistol to your hand. Each PX-9 is supplied with six grip panels and three backstraps.

Additionally, these guns are supplied with an extended and beveled, wide-mouth magazine well. It, too, is easy to install and not only helps with speed reloads, but if you have large hands, it also enhances the feel of the grip as well. Though you'd have to have two different-colored PX-9s like I do, you can swap the grip panels, backstraps and magazine wells of dif-

ferent colors to provide a little multi-color flare.

I found the PX-9 much more comfortable to shoot than a Glock 17; Glocks tend to uncomfortably impress on the first knuckle of the middle finger on my shooting hand. And I'd rate the PX-9 just as—if not more—comfortable to shoot than the Sig Sauer P320. Accuracy and precision were on par with what you'd expect from a duty-sized defensive handgun. With now close to 1,000 combined rounds out of the Gen 2 and Gen 3, I've yet to have a stoppage of any sort ... and that's with a wide range of munitions.

By partnering with Tisas in Turkey, SDS Imports is working to find the ultimate expression of the high-capacity, poly-framed, striker-fired pistol. This is the fifth Turkish-made handgun that's imported by SDS Imports that I've spent a good bit of time with. And while I'm an American-made kind of guy, I'm also one who appreciates good stuff, regardless of where it comes from—especially when the price is right. It's no small thing that you can pick up a brand-new PX-9 for less than \$400! **GDTM**



01

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GET TORQUED

The Smart Torq is a must-have tool for every DIY gunroom bench.

I still remember my late father teaching me about engine work: rebuilding carburetors, the proper sequence of tightening lug nuts or the intricacies of various engine parts.

And the mysterious tool known as a torque wrench.

Firearms threaded fasteners didn't receive such care back in the 1960s. Back then, tight was tight. Now, we know better. There's a proper torque level for screws on your firearms, be they action screws or optics screws. And those numbers aren't arbitrary. They matter.

Real Avid, as we all fully expect, has an answer. Their Smart Torq wrench isn't sturdy enough to reassemble a Ford Windsor 351, but I haven't had to do that since 1983. However, what it offers are useful things to tinkering gunners.

First, it's calibrated in inch-pounds, so you can tighten all the various fasteners on your firearms, and not over-torque them. Trying to coax a foot-pound wrench into delivering 3 pounds (36 inches) can be nerve-wracking. (You know how I know this. And if you don't know, then you don't want to know.)

And the settings are easily adjusted, audible and can be read at a glance. It has its settings in increments of 1 inch-pound, which is another bonus. You don't have to split the difference, or flip a coin, between 5-pound settings, for

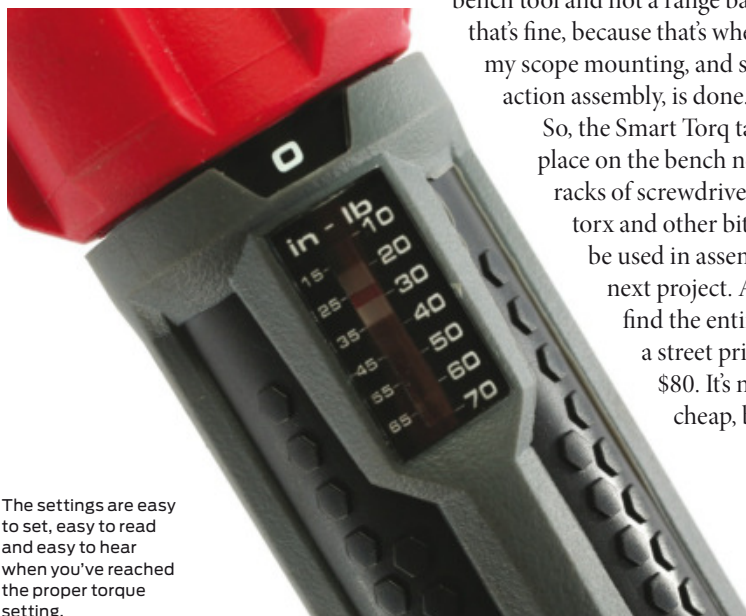
example. The range is from 10 inch-pounds up to 70, which covers pretty much everything on a firearm I've ever had to tighten.

The working end of the Smart Torq is a hex-socket, so you can use whatever bit you need. All sizes, designs and types are yours for the selecting out of an array. And one more detail: There's an included 90-degree handle you can use to push or pull the wrench until it's up to torque, and use your other hand to simply keep the wrench firmly in contact with the screw.

The Real Avid Smart Torq comes in its own zippered storage container, with the 90-degree handle and a starter selection of a dozen driver bits. Since it's a standard hex-socket, the entire big-box hardware store selection of bits is available as you need them.

Speaking of sturdy, if the Smart Torq has one fault, it's that it's not pocketable. It is perhaps a bit big to have in a gear bag at the range, unless your range sessions are like mine: Pack like you're leaving forever (sometimes it feels like that.) For me, the Smart Torq is going to be a bench tool and not a range bag tool. But that's fine, because that's where most of my scope mounting, and stock-to-action assembly, is done.

So, the Smart Torq takes its place on the bench next to the racks of screwdriver, Allen, torx and other bits, ready to be used in assembling the next project. And you'll find the entire kit with a street price of about \$80. It's not super-cheap, but what



The settings are easy to set, easy to read and easy to hear when you've reached the proper torque setting.

you get is certainly worth the money.

Oh, and carburetors? They mixed air with gasoline in the feed system of an internal combustion engine, and when in tune things were great. When not,

performance and mileage sucked. I don't know that there has been an engine made for a U.S. car with a carburetor since 1990. In this case, retro isn't cool.

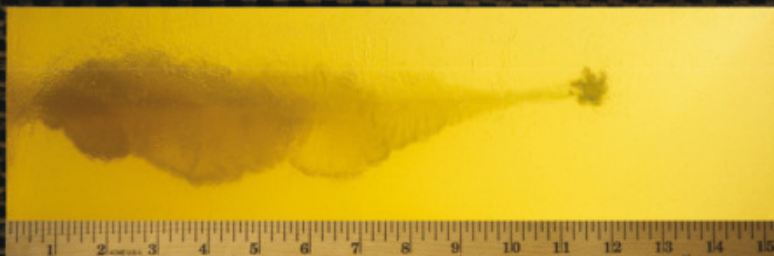
GDTM

The Real Avid Smart Torq is a handy bench tool for making your fasteners properly tight. The Smart Torq features 1-inch increments, from 10 to 70..





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THE PROSECUTION'S PERSPECTIVE

Patterns that prosecutors generally exhibit when prosecuting and trying to gain a conviction against an armed citizen.

I've worked as a court-recognized expert in shooting cases, (murder, manslaughter and aggravated assault cases) for close to 30 years, and in this time, I have observed a pattern that prosecutors generally stick with when prosecuting and trying to gain a conviction.

Let's discuss some of these.

THE UNARMED 'VICTIM'

First, seldom do prosecutors fail to

prosecute if the defendant shot and killed someone and the deceased was unarmed. It doesn't matter to them if a large disparity of force was involved, (like three to four people against one lone defender), or where a person was physically overwhelmed and could only stop the assault by shooting.

I'm reminded of two cases. The first was the famous "Subway Vigilante" case, where a man named Bernhard Goetz shot four muggers in a New York subway. Armed citizens would be

advised to look up the case and study it for its educational value.

More recently, unless you've been in a coma the past dozen years, you've heard of the prosecution of George Zimmerman, a community block watch member who saw a suspicious teenager out casing empty homes. He called 911, reported the activity and then, after 911 dispatch asked him to keep an eye on the teenager, he did just that by leaving the safety of his vehicle and following him on foot.

"It has been my experience in working on cases that juries hate drunks. Same for liars. If you lie when talking to the police after the incident, those lies will be printed on 2x3-foot posters and left in front of the jury to wonder what else you're lying about."

Zimmerman was then physically attacked, and it was only after he found himself lying on his back with his attacker straddling his chest and pounding his head against the sidewalk, did he draw and shoot his attacker. At first, he wasn't prosecuted, but when the case became politically charged, the state's attorney decided to prosecute.

If you shoot someone who's unarmed and claim you were attacked in an attempt to disarm you, you can pretty much assume you'll be arrested and likely prosecuted.

Typically, in a mistake-of-fact shooting (you think the object was a gun but turned out not to be), the prosecutor will go ahead and prosecute because you shot an unarmed man, even though you believed the object was a weapon.

CIRCUMSTANCES THAT REALLY MATTER

Another area where prosecutors routinely prosecute is where the defender shot several times, with at least one of the shots striking the deceased in the back. I've seen several cases like this, and the person is prosecuted because of the shot in the back.

Another area where people find themselves under the thumb of the local judicial process is when they're drunk at the time of the incident. The shooting might have been perfectly justified, but when the cops show up and find the shooter drunk, you can count on an arrest. After all, who is go-

“Seldom do prosecutors fail to prosecute if the defendant shot and killed someone, and the deceased was unarmed.”

ing to believe a drunk? And if it comes out in court that the defendant was drunk, he'll likely find himself being found guilty.

It has been my experience in working on cases that juries hate drunks. Same for liars. If you lie when talking to the police after the incident, those lies will be printed on 2x3-foot posters and left in front of the jury to wonder what else you're lying about.

There's also the problem with leaving the scene of the incident. I just spoke with an attorney who was looking for an expert to work on a case. It turns out that, after the shooting, the defendant fled the scene. If you flee the scene of a shooting, there's no one left to tell the cops your side of the story, and you'll be tracked down and arrested. Criminals flee the scene; non-criminals stay and inform the police as to what happened. I ended up turning the case down.

In that same vein, a few years ago an individual shot and killed an attacker, but because he was drunk, left the scene. The next day he turned himself in, but by then it was too late to do himself much good. He's sitting in pris-

on in Washington state as we speak.

Lastly, one of the most common mistakes armed citizens make after an incident is failing to tell the police what the individual you just shot was doing that made you reasonably believe your life was in danger. When the police arrive on the scene and see a dead body, they'll be looking for evidence of the crime of murder or manslaughter. Even if you stay, your failure to let the cops know why you shot him will result in your going to jail. If the guy had friends who were with him, they'll likely tell the cops lies that make you look guilty. If the individual you just shot is still alive, he'll likely tell the cops lies to make you out to be the criminal.

In the next few columns, we'll discuss cures for these ailments and explore ways that you can improve your likelihood of surviving the legal consequences of a shooting and, of course, commenting on cases that come up in the news. **GDTM**

About the Author

Marty Hayes is president and founder of the Armed Citizens' Legal Defense Network Inc. Possessing a Juris Doctor degree, he has over 30 years of experience teaching the law of self-defense through his own training school, The Firearms Academy of Seattle, and for the world-renown Massad Ayoob Group. He routinely works as an expert witness in self-defense cases.



BUCKLE UP!

The boggle of building with belts.

Holland & Holland brought forth one of the greatest concepts in ammunition development when they released their .400/375 Belted Nitro Express—better known as the .375 Velopex—in 1905. The idea was just this: a cartridge which would offer the positive headspacing of the rimmed cartridges, while feeding easily from a box magazine in the repeating rifle.

While the Velopex is certainly no more than a footnote in the history of cartridge development (I've yet to lay eyes on a rifle chambered for it, or a single cartridge), it's important in that it led directly to the world-famous .375 Holland & Holland Belted Magnum.

The “three-seven-five” was chosen as the parent case for a long line of both commercial and wildcat cartridges, giving

us some of the best-selling choices of the 20th century. And while there's no denying the effectiveness of those magnum cartridges, the belt does pose some issues, in both factory-loaded ammunition and handloaded stuff alike.

COMMON BELT ISSUES

The belted cases with no shoulder—namely the .458 Winchester Magnum and .458 Lott—will absolutely use the belt, and nothing but the belt, for headspacing. But, those cases with a significant shoulder can be worked in order to use that shoulder (and not the belt) for headspacing.

Why would anyone want to do that? Well, there are several reasons. The belt on the H&H family of cases should measure the same as the diameter of the base, at 0.532 inch, but steps down to somewhere

around 0.507 inch for the body, depending on the cartridge and the manufacturer. There are varying degrees of body taper among the myriad of commercially produced belted magnums, as well as varying case lengths and shoulder configurations, but most suffer from the same maladies.

Because the belt is used for headspacing and the chamber is cut accordingly, the belted magnums will show considerable case stretching at the first firing. When a belted magnum case fails (separates), you'll often see a crack just above the belt, as this is where the case will stretch the most. I've seen the 7mm Remington Magnum and .300 Winchester Magnum cases stretch as much as 0.020 inch after the first firing, which is indicative of a chamber larger than normal, or ammunition whose specs are undersized. Either way, the concentricity will suffer

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2

EASY MAINTANANCE

"A really simple trigger cassette. I just blow it out every few thousand rounds and put grease back on the friction surfaces."

"Easy to access maintenance points."

3

DURABILITY

"Well designed and solidly built."

"MPX rifles are hard on hammers. After about 2,000 rounds your hammers are holding up well."

4

EASY INSTALLATION

"Very quick and simple install."

"It installed just as easily as your videos said it would."

"Just bought and installed two RISE triggers. I was blown away."

5

ACCURACY

"Reduced my 100 yard groups by 25%."

"No take up, great reset. Extremely accurate, much more than I am."

"The trigger breaks right where I like it (not too light, just hard enough to keep me honest)."

"A high quality, precision part that will make me a much better shoot."

6

MORE TRIGGER FOR THE MONEY

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in the bottlenecked cartridges, and we all know how a lack of concentricity can negatively affect consistency and precision.

For those who shoot factory ammunition, this cannot be helped, and you're at the mercy of the marriage of factory ammo and chamber dimensions. But for us who handload, we can take a couple of different measures to tighten things up.

HANDLING THE PROBLEM

Obviously, neck sizing is a simple and effective means of obtaining the best concentricity for any type of cartridge. The premise is nearly self-defining: Instead of resizing the cartridge back to the SAAMI specs as a full-length resizing die will do, the neck sizing dies only resize the neck, bringing the diameter down to that dimension, which will give proper tension to hold the bullet in place.

This practice isn't restricted to belted magnum cases, but will definitely help mitigate the amount of case stretching as the technique leaves the shoulder at the dimension of the rifle's chamber after being fired. It can be tricky with those cases that have a short neck—the .300 Winchester Magnum has a neck length of 0.264 inch, so there isn't much to work with—you'll have to take your time and do some experimenting with the neck sizing die to ensure you resize the entire neck without moving the shoulder at all.

The drawback to this technique is the way the ammunition will feed into the chamber; because the body of the case is blown out nearly to the chamber dimension from the initial firing, you'll find that the cartridge will be more difficult to chamber. As a result, neck-sized ammunition is best left for the bolt-action rifles, as they have the most mechanical advantage to put the rifle into battery.



(Far left) The Redding Instant Indicator and Case Comparator can quickly show the variation between SAAMI spec and your fired cases, and the Redding Competition Shellholders can be used to keep your shoulder where the chamber dictates.

(Left) Popular belted cartridges, like the 7mm Remington Magnum, are designed to headspace off the belt, but accuracy can be enhanced when the shoulder is used.

(Below) The .375 H&H case on the right has been fired and resized too many times, and it has separated just above the belt.

REDDING'S SOLUTION

My favorite technique for handling the issues associated with belted bottleneck cartridges is to use the Redding Instant Comparator to measure the amount of shoulder movement in your fired ammunition, as compared to the SAAMI spec dummy provided in the kit, and then using the Redding Competition Shellholders to help adjust the amount of shoulder movement during the full-length resizing process.

The Competition Shellholder set has five different shellholders of different depths, from 0.002 inch to 0.010 inch lower than the standard shellholder, in increments of 0.002 inch. As an example, if your .338 Winchester cases (fired in your rifle) show that they're stretching 0.006 inch longer than the factory specification, you can use your full-length resizing die, along with the shellholder marked 0.006, to leave the shoulder of the case in the same position it was after firing, but reducing the body and neck diameter to allow for ease of feeding. At this point, the cartridge will technically be using the shoulder for headspacing—though the belt might still be playing a joint role—and the concentricity will assuredly be better.

EMBRACE THE BELT

There are those who feel that the belted magnum case is an antiquated design, and

while there might be some merit to that, I can also say that there are so many great rifles and cartridges built around this design that the belt will stay with us.

When the huge wave of belted magnums hit in the 1940s, '50s and '60s, the .375 H&H case was chosen for two reasons: case capacity and availability. It wouldn't be until the latter part of the 20th century that we'd see the lineup of magnums based on the belt-less .404 Jeffery, and while they're sound designs, the belted magnums still maintain their popularity.

Despite the issues associated with the belt, many of my favorite cartridges wear one, and I'm not retiring them anytime soon. **GDTM**





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01 Weatherby Mark V Hunter Bolt Action

As recognizable as the Weatherby name itself, the Mark V action is considered by many among the finest available in bolt-action. Now it can be found on quite a pack, perfectly tailored for your next backcountry hunt. Dubbed the Mark V Hunter, the polymer-stocked rifle not only offers a featherweight option for elk or deer season, but also a wealth of chamberings. In all, the rifle is available in 16 different chamberings, including modern-day favorites such as 6.5 Creedmoor, and standby hot rods like the .257 Weatherby Magnum. Additionally, the lightweight deep-fluted barrel comes with a 1/2x28 thread pattern muzzle, making the addition of a suppressor or brake a snap.

MSRP: \$1,499

02 Nosler Model 21 Rifle

More than an innovator in ammunition, Nosler has proved itself an adept rifle-smith. The Model 21 is a prime example. A feature-rich production bolt-action, it gives the feel and performance of a custom build—but in a package many more shooters can afford. Dressed in a lightweight carbon-fiber McMillan stock, the rifle is ideal for hunts that take you several ridgelines back. And it's designed to stand up to these rugged environments, with a forward-looking design that ensures it cycles and shoots without a hitch. Some of the more notable features in this arena include a flute and nitride-coated bolt in a one-piece action that's virtually jam-free. And, the fully-adjustable TriggerTech switch is capable of being set nearly as light as a competition trigger.

MSRP: \$2,795

03 DRD Tactical MFP-21 Pistol

DRD Tactical has whipped up some interesting offerings over the years, but their latest creation might take the cake. A quick takedown pistol, the MFP-21 not only shrinks down to a more than manageable backpack gun, but it also allows shooters to swap caliber in the blink of an eye. Featuring interchangeable barrels, the pistol seamlessly jumps between 5.56 NATO and .300 BLK, vastly increasing its operational utility. The MFP-21 features a Picatinny rail incorporated on the rear of the receiver. It accepts any Picatinny rail attachment brace and offers improved brace stability. This pistol also includes a new patented gas block, ambidextrous bolt release and custom two-stage trigger, designed by DRD Tactical.

MSRP: \$2,500

04 S&W 10mm M&P 2.0

A 10mm Smith & Wesson pistol? It's been a spell since shooters could utter that. No, the 1006 isn't back in production, but the iconic gunmaker is back in the "Perfect 10" game with the introduction of the caliber in its popular striker-fired line. Yes, the M&P 2.0 is now available in 10mm and gives folks plenty of reasons to look that direction if they have a yen for the snappy caliber. In addition to an excellent 15-round capacity, the pistol also comes with a flat-faced trigger, interchangeable palmswell grips, ridged stainless steel chassis and the choice of a 4- or 4.6-inch barrel. Additionally, Smith & Wesson offers the 10mm M&P in three models, one with a thumb safety, one without and one with a slide cut for mounting an optic.

MSRP: \$654

01 »



02 »



03 »



04 »



05 Mossberg 590S

No stranger to top-notch smoothbores, Mossberg has set out to perhaps top the iconic original 500 with its latest pump gun. Does the 590S do it? With the ability to digest 1¾-, 2¾- or 3-inch shells, it's difficult not to find ammo it won't greedily gobble up. The gun's full-length stocks are paired with an 18.5-inch barrel with bead sight or 20-inch barrel with adjustable ghost-ring sights, the larger model with an M-Lok-compatible forend (about time on a production gun). And it comes with all the features 500-series shooters love, from twin action bars to anti-jam elevator.

MSRP: Starting at \$623

06 CZ 600 Bolt Action Trail

Unique in about every definition of the word, CZ's Trail is an AR/chassis hybrid designed to bring precision to the field. Part of the company's new 600 bolt-action line, the rifle's modular design should appeal to hard-core AR fans looking to add a bolt-action to their rotation ... while the sturdy stocking system should appeal to the precision nuts. Some of the more intriguing features include a telescoping stock, free-floated M-Lok handguard, enclosed receiver and Picatinny optics rail. Though, at present, the gunmaker only offers the 16-inch barreled configuration with its mini action, meaning it's only available in .223 Remington and 7.62x39mm. But the workhorse cartridges are gems out of the lightweight and accurate setup.

MSRP: \$1,155

07 Springfield Armory Ronin EMP

In the sphere of 1911s, few companies make the classic style of semi-auto pistol more accessible than Springfield Armory. The gunmaker also makes them practical. Case in point: the Ronin EMP—a marriage between two of the company's popular 1911 lines that's resulted in an absolute knockout carry option. Mating the newish Ronin series to the EMP (Enhanced Micro Pistol) frame, the pistol boasts a scant 3-inch barrel, yet comes with all the popular features of its full-sized sibling. This includes a dashing two-tone finish. Further setting it apart, Springfield chambers the Ronin EMP in 9mm, making for an incredibly controllable carry piece that hits the mark over and over again.

MSRP: \$849

NEW GUNS FOR 2022!



GRANDE PUISSANCE

Springfield Armory's new SA-35: A high-honored nod to the Browning Hi-Power.

Springfield Armory's rendition of the Browning Hi-Power has recently been the dominant topic on social media. It's indeed big news, especially because a few years ago, Browning ceased distribution of the Belgium-made version of that same pistol. Ironically, that was not big news. It seemed most folks didn't give a damn that an 82-year-old firearm design was being discontinued.

So, what's the big deal with its reintroduction?

WORD ON THE STREET

Springfield Armory says they *reimagined* the Hi-Power and to not call it a "classic." I assume they're afraid "classic" will be misconstrued to mean antiquated. But whether they'll admit it or not, they've revived a classic.

They also say it's made in the USA from a forged steel slide and frame. That's true.





At only 31 ounces and with a 15+1 capacity, the SA-35 makes for an excellent everyday carry self-defense handgun.

What they don't tell you is the frame and slide come—80 percent—from Tisas in Turkey (Springfield Armory wouldn't confirm this but I have it on good authority). However, that's not a bad thing, and given Springfield Armory sources other handguns and parts from outside the U.S., it shouldn't be a surprise. Tisas is a very capable manufacturer that turns out high-quality products, and this is one way Springfield Armory managed to keep the cost of the SA-35 manageable ... and I applaud them for it.

Roy Huntington with *American Handgunner* compared the introduction of this new pistol to an earthquake, claiming, "Right now, John Browning is smiling." Browning died in 1926. He might be metaphorically smiling, but the Hi-Power as we know it was introduced nine years later. Browning's original design looked like something other than a Hi-Power; it was striker-fired and the patent wasn't approved until after his death.

Dieudonné Saive of Fabrique Nationale deserves the lion's share of the credit for the Hi-Power. Most importantly, featuring a pivoting trigger, double-stack magazine, and link-less barrel, it was the foundation for almost every modern semi-automatic handgun since. Had Saive incorporated Browning's striker design, we would've had a steel-framed Glock more than 80 years ago.

Jeremy Stafford of *Guns & Ammo* of-

fered the opinion that the SA-35 would reignite the old battle between Hi-Power and 1911 shooters. I thought this was settled in 1977 when Dave Westerhout and Peter Maunder took first and second in the IPSC World Shoot using Hi-Powers, allowing Rhodesia to edge out the United States and their 1911s for the top spot. That was a tremendous accomplishment considering they were shooting with the minor power factor handicap.

Hammer bite has always been an issue with the Hi-Power design. Springfield Armory's commander-style hammer on their SA-35 does a good job of preventing this for most shooters. Those who use a high grip and have large hands may still get pricked.





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01. The Commander-style hammer on the SA-35 will eliminate hammer bite for most shooters.

02. The manual thumb safety on the SA-35 is sized perfectly and better than previous options offered on Browning factory Hi-Powers.

03. Springfield Armory chose very nice grips for their new SA-35. They should sell these separately because many Hi-Power owners will want them

Funny thing: Since 1977, the 1911 design has undergone substantial revision, but the Hi-Power—even the new SA-35—is pretty much the same as it was then. Maybe those in the know knew it didn't need much work, and all the efforts were directed at tweaking a major power 1911 to outperform it.

James Reeves with *The Firearms Blog* begins his SA-35 review commenting that, unlike the 1911, the Hi-Power remains relevant today. This should place everything else he says as suspect, such as his remark that original Hi-Powers could give some shooters "slide bite." Slide bite has never been a problem with the Hi-Power. What has been, is the tendency for the hammer—when pushed to the rear by the recoiling slide—to pinch the web of the hand between the hammer and the tang of the frame. That's hammer bite, not slide bite.

Springfield Armory addressed this by installing a 1911 Commander-style hammer. It's not a new approach, but it is one that does work for most shooters. If you have large hands and shoot with a very high grip (as you should), you might still get a little pinching with the



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY SA-35

ACTION: Single-action, semi-automatic

CHAMBERING: 9mm Luger

SLIDE AND FRAME: Forged carbon steel

RECOIL SYSTEM: Locked breach, with spring and guide rod

WEIGHT: 31.5 ounces

FINISH: Matte blue

GRIPS: Checkered walnut

LENGTH: 7.8 inches

HEIGHT: 4.8 inches

TRIGGER: Pivoting, 4.75 pounds

BARREL: 4.7-inch, cold hammer forged, with 1:10 twist

SIGHTS: White dot front, tactical ledge rear

MAGAZINE/CAPACITY: One, 15-round

MSRP: \$699



SA-35. I did.

The best fix for this an extension to the tang of the grip frame. This is a custom and expensive solution. It's exactly how Nighthawk crafts their Hi-Powers. However, a much less expensive alteration is the installment of a no-bite hammer from pistol guru Wayne Novak. It will eliminate hammer bite at much less expense. Maybe we'll see either a tang extension or a no-bite hammer on later iterations of the SA-35. I'm sure Springfield Armory has other versions of this pistol on the drawing board.

If not, someone there needs firing.

Almost every review of the SA-35 highlights

WE'RE JUST GETTING WARMED UP



Back in 1922, it was just a fireproof building on the outskirts of Anoka, Minnesota, that 30 paces would get you across. But our founders had the vision to see something more. They knew that, when driven by a constant flow of new ideas and staffed by hardworking American employees, the plant would become a cornerstone of manufacturing might. It was that spirit of innovation, constant push for advancement and tireless dedication to our customers that brought Federal® Ammunition into being, sustained us through the years, and keeps us going strong today—and for our next 100 years.



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the pistol's beveled magazine well. Generally, beveled magazine wells are always a good thing. However, I've been carrying and shooting Hi-Powers for half my life. Shoving a drastically truncated double-stack magazine into a large hole has never been a problem. Those reviewing the SA-35 treat this "modification" as monumental. Does it make the pistol easier to load? Yes, but maybe only immeasurably.

BY WHICH ALL OTHERS ARE MEASURED

All of this might come across as me dissing on the new SA-35. That is far from the point I'm trying to make. Before we get

into more detail on the pistol, let me say I believe this to be maybe the most important handgun introduction since 1982.

Why? Because I also believe the Browning Hi-Power was and remains one of the top three fighting pistols ever created. Present any argument you like, but it's still in military use all over the world and has been used by more militaries than any other handgun. In fact, the Hi-Power has likely killed more people than any other handgun; during World War II, it had the distinction of being used by opposing forces.

Additionally, with its double-stack magazine, pivoting trigger and link-less barrel, the Hi-Power laid the blueprint

for all modern semi-automatic handguns. Hi-Powers are reliable, accurate, slim and not too heavy, easy to carry, and arguably have the most ergonomic grip of any duty-style pistol ever engineered.

I have three Hi-Powers and I liked the SA-35 enough to buy it. Hell, I might even buy two of them. Thousands of other Hi-Power aficionados will do the same. But, maybe more importantly, what Springfield Armory has really done is open the eyes of Gen X, Y and Z, as to what a truly proven and rock-solid fighting pistol really is. Now all of us can get one for less than \$700.

UNDER THE HOOD

Enough pontificating; let's look in detail at the SA-35.

The slide and frame are machined from forged carbon steel. The steel has a matte blued finish and is very well executed. The gun does have a few sharp edges, such as the forward edge of the dust cover, around the slide stop latch, at the end of the slide stop pin, and along the corners of the tang. Beyond that, I rate the look and feel of the gun as nearly exquisite.

The fully checkered walnut grips are much more handsome than any of the grips ever offered by Browning when the pistols were made by FN. In fact, being somewhat of a Hi-Power snob who has looked long and hard for good after-market grips, they're as tasteful and well executed as any I've seen.

The sights are possibly the best upgrade Springfield Armory applied to this pistol. The front sight is a 0.125-inch blade that stands just shy of 0.20-inch above the slide. It has a single white dot positioned at the top center. The rear sight is a ledge-type sight with a 0.14-inch U-notch. I would've liked a slightly wider notch, but those with good eyes should find this front and rear sight combination agreeable and very fast. The rear of the rear sight is serrated and is devoid of any of the ridiculous dots so common on modern defensive handguns. If you don't like these sights, both the rear and front are dovetailed for easy replacement.



(Above) Five-shot, off-hand groups at 10 yards averaged at around the one-inch mark.

(Left) Failure drills conducted at five yards were easy to complete in 3 seconds or less with the SA-35.



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Other features include the already mentioned beveled magazine well and a single 15-round magazine. Original Hi-Power magazines held 13 rounds, and while many are giving Springfield Armory credit for the increasing capacity, 15-round Hi-Power magazines have been available from Mec-Gar for some time. And Mec-Gar appears to be the manufacturer of the magazine included with this pistol. The SA-35 also features an extended and comfortable to operate thumb safety, and as also discussed, the Commander-style hammer.

As for the trigger, Hi-Powers have always had a magazine disconnect that would not allow the gun to fire if the magazine was removed. This system connected to the trigger and was the primary cause for bad triggers on Hi-Powers. Hi-Power owners have removed this linkage for years, and it's not that hard to do. The SA-35 comes without the magazine disconnect and this makes the pull of the SA-35 trigger very nice, with just a bit of take-up and very minimal overtravel. My trigger scale said it broke at 4.75 pounds, but it felt more like 3 pounds. But, good Hi-Powers triggers always tend to feel like they break at less pressure than is measured.

Beyond all that, the SA-35 is just a Browning Hi-Power. I would not say the SA-35 is a reimagined Hi-Power, but I would say it is a damned fine example of one. I fired almost 800 rounds of mixed FMJ and hollow-point ammunition through the test pistol and it functioned flawlessly, just like you'd expect a Hi-Power to.

Slow-fire, off-hand groups at 10 yards were in the 1.25-inch range, and from the holster I could put five shots into a 5-inch circle, at 5 yards, in less than 4 seconds, consistently. Failure drills at 5 yards were easily completed in three seconds or less. For me, hammer-bite was still present, but it was diminished from previous factory Hi-Powers.

WHERE YA BEEN?

The Springfield Armory SA-35 should get the gun of the year award for 2022, and I'll offer it as Springfield Armory's

For those who appreciate steel framed fighting pistols, the Springfield Armory SA-35 is a lightweight, high-capacity, 9mm design, with a long record of reliable service.



best-ever contribution to the world of firearms.

My question to all the other firearms journalists who've been fawning over this new pistol like nude images of Salma Hayek is, "Where were the hell were you just a half-decade ago when you could buy one, though maybe not quite as nice as the SA-35, from Browning?"

The same folks who are now telling you what a wonderful and magnificent pistol the Hi-Power has always been, ignored it until Springfield Armory put their name on it. Had those journalists been doing their job, the SA-35 you should now most certainly be buying, would most likely not be your first Grande Puissance. **GDTM**

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SH*T THAT DON'T MAKE SENSE

Solutions to common accuracy and reliability problems that often seem inexplicable.

I was sitting at the shooting bench with my shiny new (new to me, anyway) Winchester Model 70 and driven to a new level of frustration. I had purchased the best scope and mounts I could afford, and while they might not have been impressive, they were certainly reliable. The rifle was chambered for .375 Holland & Holland Magnum, and though fully capable of taking any game animal on earth, it doesn't crush the shoulder. In other words, the rifle, scope and mounts were capable of fine precision—and is sweet-shooting compared to the bigger bores, where recoil gets serious.

I also acquired the best ammunition I could get and did my best to zero the rifle. Once the gun was printing on the bull's-eye, I settled down to evaluate group size. The rifle would—routinely—print the first shot in the 1-inch bull's-eye, the second shot 2 to 3 inches up and to the right and the third shot within $\frac{3}{4}$

inch of the first. I was convinced it was my shooting that was the culprit, so I asked my dad to send some lead down-range to prove me wrong. He had the same results.

Blaming the ammunition, I quickly ordered some reloading dies and necessary components, and I began to develop and handload for the rifle.

NOTHING CHANGED.

In fact, some of the loads got worse. Change bullets, change primers, change powder, vary the charge, vary the seating depth—nothing.

It took me swallowing my pride and resorting to calling a professional; Hill Country Rifles actually diagnosed the issue over the phone, and it was the rifle's bedding that was the culprit. In fact, the particular era of Model 70 I had was notorious for this problem, but I'd have never known it without consulting a qualified gunsmith. That was certainly





a learning experience, and I've never forgotten it.

Sometimes firearms do things they shouldn't, or at least things that seem inexplicable. The action of my Winchester was moving ever so slightly in the stock between two spots each time it went into recoil, but the bedding job sorted that out, making it a 1-MOA rifle after surgery. Rifles are more than just cookie-cutter components slapped together.

THE PICKY EATER

A friend has a 7mm Remington Magnum for which he purchased a couple different premium brands of ammunition. He called me to discuss what could be wrong with his rifle, as he couldn't keep three shots inside of 5 inches. Action screws were properly tightened, scope and mounts were also, and he had a couple of other rifles at the range that day printing impressive groups, so it—apparently—wasn't the shooter.

He abandoned the rifle that weekend and went back the following weekend

with a well-known but “lesser” brand of ammo. “I don't understand. This thing just printed a 1-inch group!”

Why would a rifle show such a large difference between brands of ammunition, while others seem to digest anything?

I have another Winchester Model 70 of a similar era to the one I described above, but chambered in .300 Holland & Holland Magnum, which shows such a

dislike for the 180-grain bullets I've used for so many years in other .300 H&Hs, that I nearly sent the rifle out for an exorcism. It was a box of Nosler ammunition loaded with their 200-grain AccuBond bullet that turned the rifle from zero to hero, printing under ¾-MOA repeatedly.

The issue with both of these rifles is a matter of barrel harmonics. When you find the proper harmonics for a particular



The author with the Winchester Model 70 .375 H&H that gave fits before being properly bedded.



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A flat-base bullet can offer great performance and doesn't give up much inside of 250 yards.



Sleek boat-tail bullets, like the Hornady ELD-X, shown here may need some time and distance to settle down.



rifle barrel, it'll seem like the rifle can do no wrong. But when the harmonics aren't compatible with the barrel, nothing seems to go right. Accuracy is a simple matter of repeatability, and finding the load that generates the vibrations repeatable in a particular barrel can be a daunting task.

When I started going down the rabbit hole of developing the most accurate handloads possible for my rifles, I found that a variation of 0.2 grain of powder could have a drastic effect on group size. The bearing surface of a particular bullet can definitely play a role, and I've seen rifle barrels like bullets with tons of bearing surface—my .300 H&H is one example—and I've had rifles that like less bearing surface.

My Ruger .308 Winchester shows a definite preference for 150- and 165-grain bullets, while my Winchester 70 Classic Stainless .300 Winchester Magnum will handle just about anything you feed it.

My point? You can't tell what kind of harmonics a barrel will like by looking at it, and sometimes it'll take some experimentation to find the best performance.

In the case of the aforementioned 7mm Remington Magnum, the premium ammunition was by no means at fault. Buying the most expensive ammunition isn't a guarantee of optimal performance. Brand X's stellar performance in a buddy's rifle doesn't mean that you'll see the same in yours, nor does it mean that Brand X is necessarily better than Brand Y. I will state that, generally speaking, the premium ammunition is held to higher standards than standard grades, and you'll find that quite often

the projectiles are more consistent and offer a better level of terminal performance.

I've also noticed that the faster rifle cartridges seem to amplify the variations in harmonics, so keep that in mind as well. I know ammunition supplies are compromised at best, but as things become available again, find that ammo your rifle likes best and stock up on it. By trying something you might not have considered before, you might find that magic combination.

CHOKING HAZARDS

A friend purchased a new autoloading handgun and proudly took it to the range with a couple of boxes that the gunshop salesman recommended. He had, within an hour, proclaimed that his new purchase was a "pile of crap;" it had jammed, failed to feed and completely frustrated him.

It wasn't that the gun was no good, but it was a common problem: the pistol's feed ramp. Loading a cartridge from a magazine into the chamber of a rifle or pistol requires a smooth feed ramp at the proper angle for the cartridge being used—and there are times where a flat-point bullet won't feed properly, but a round-nosed bullet will. In those instances where a gunsmith has taken the time and effort to hand-polish a feed ramp, the improvement is quickly noticed. I've seen a finicky handgun that had issues feeding flat-point bullets feed wadcutter after the feed ramp was



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Your handgun—especially your defensive handgun—needs to feed reliably each and every time. Not all guns are created equal, but with a bit of attention from a pair of competent hands, you can take your handgun to new performance levels.

PROPER HYGIENE

Two days before the deer season opener—when everybody and their brother is sighting in their hunting rifles—I had a buddy stop by my house in a complete panic. His Savage rifle wouldn't chamber a cartridge properly: He couldn't close the bolt and had no idea why.

Taking a quick look, I noticed that the rifle was relatively new and that much of the rust-preventative goo was still visible around the receiver. He admitted he hadn't cleaned the rifle well, and I immediately grabbed the jar of Hoppes No. 9, a cleaning rod and a nylon cleaning brush. A bit of elbow grease and some dirty patches quickly sorted the chamber problem, and I then set to work on the barrel. This got me thinking about how dirty barrels, chambers and actions have been such an issue over the years.

The traditional jacketed bullet is probably the cleanest of the bullet designs yet can deposit enough copper jacket material to affect accuracy. Let it

go too far and you can see a degradation of accuracy, as well as an increase in pressures generated. Lead bullets, while wonderfully affordable and easy to work with, can definitely foul a barrel to the point where things will go awry. And the lead-free monometal bullets can surely deposit enough copper alloy in the bore to cause accuracy and pressure issues.

I'm admittedly guilty of not cleaning my rifles and handguns as much as I should, but I've also seen some guns that were an absolute mess in the bore department. A dirty bore can explain a bunch of mysterious performance issues, and while I'm not going to advocate the ritualistic scrubbing of your barrel each and every time you shoot the gun, I'll advise you not to let it go too far. Many of my African hunting friends like to “shoot the bore clean,” meaning they don't clean at all, but that's a bit much for me.

I've also seen an overly oiled bore cause a bullet to fly 6 inches high. I was on a safari in Zimbabwe after Cape buffalo with my then-new Heym Model 89B double rifle in .470 Nitro Express. I'd spent considerable time developing a handload for the gun, and it was printing a pair of shots (one from each barrel) in a group just under 2 inches at 100 yards.

We checked the rifles on the first morning of the hunt, and I was crushed when I heard my professional hunter tell me the two shots were 5 inches apart and equally high of the bull's-eye. It then dawned on me that I'd cleaned and oiled the barrels and the bore for the trip across the pond. That resulted in higher pressures and erratic accuracy. Once I'd fouled the bore and shot the oil out of it, the next two shots performed just as they had at home.

Cleanliness is important, but there can be too much of a good thing. I like to clean my rifle in the off-season and shoot it just before the hunt, leaving a bit of fouling in the bore for optimum field performance.

JUST CALM DOWN!

Another question I often field is why



This author checking zero on his Heym 89B in .470NE at the bench in Zimbabwe. The oil in the bore caused the shots to print much higher than desired.

A dirty bore or chamber can play a huge role in the degradation of accuracy, and have you wondering what happened to your favorite rifle or handgun. Keep things clean enough, but not overly clean, and you'll be a happy shooter.

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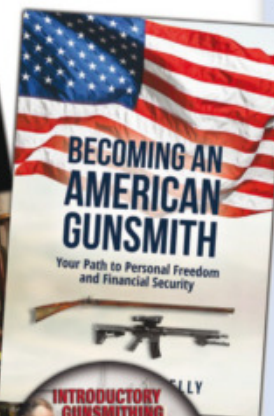
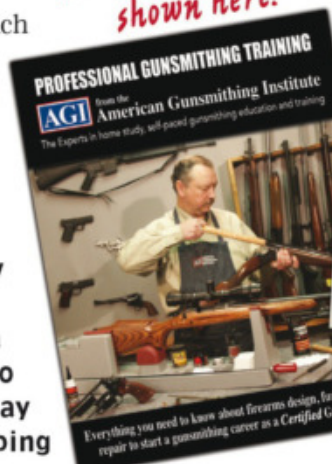
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boat-tail bullets don't give the same level of accuracy as flat-base bullets. This isn't uncommon, especially when comparing groups that were fired at a 100-yard target.

Assuming that the rifle has no other issues, boat-tail bullets will show their advantages outside of 250 or 300 yards, as they'll take longer to "settle down" than a flat-base bullet. Think of it as a spinning top; you start the top spinning and it appears to wobble slightly, then it settles into a near perfectly concentric rotation.

It's not uncommon to see the boat-tail bullets print a tighter group—when measured in minutes of angle—at 300 yards than they do at 100 yards. While this difference might not be enough to ward a hunter off using boat-tail bullets at woods distances, it's true that a boat-tail bullet shows almost no advantage inside of 250 yards. And, as some bullet companies will point out, a flat-base bullet is a perfectly viable choice for common hunting distances.

Should the crown of your rifle's barrel have even the slightest imperfection, you may find the rifle shows a definite preference for flat-base bullets. I have a .22-250 Remington in a Ruger Model 77 that could probably benefit from being re-crowned, as the rifle simply loves the 53-grain Sierra MatchKing flat-base bullet, but it struggles with many of the boat-tail bullets. While I should have the barrel's crown reworked, the gun does everything I want it to with that Sierra bullet. But if you see issues with boat-tail bullets, have your gunsmith take a good look at your rifle's crown.

I've seen many shooters send dozens of bullets downrange in search of zero, constantly making riflescope adjustments as the point of impact shifts up and down, left and right, with little success.

Let's all agree that, while riflescopes are better than they've ever been, not all riflescopes are created equal. The most common adjustments will read "one click ¼-MOA" or "one click ¼ at 100 yards," but when put into practical application, that's anything but true. The adjustment springs of lesser riflescopes might not give ¼-MOA movement, and I've strug-



The author's Ruger 77 .22-250 Remington has a marked affinity for flat-base bullets, like the Sierra 52-grain MatchKing shown here.



A rough feed ramp can pose a problem in some handguns, as certain bullet profiles may not feed. Get the feed ramp polished and you'll see an improvement immediately.



A Leupold VX-6HD specially calibrated for the trajectory of the 6.8 Western cartridge. If this scope didn't have the precise adjustments it possesses, the turret would be useless.

gled with scopes that move closer to ½ MOA ... and others closer to ⅓ MOA.

The financial savings of a cheaper scope with weaker springs can quickly be offset by the cost of the ammunition spent chasing zero, so I've personally made a definite shift to more dependable optics, and that generally means spending more money. Proper, reliable reticle adjustment is paramount for the target shooter who enjoys shooting at longer ranges and for those hunters who prefer

to dial for their elevation adjustments.

The best rifle in the world is useless if the aiming system won't hold zero or take adjustment properly. As with any piece of gear, I recommend you purchase the best riflescope you can afford. Structural stability, clarity of image and confidence in adjustment will not only save ammunition, but it's very comforting to dial for a 2-MOA adjustment and see exactly that movement on the target.

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SHOWDEX

Listings are grouped according to state. Bold headlines show the name of all states in which gun shows have been reported to us. These headlines are arranged according to the full spelling of state names. Under each headline, shows scheduled for a particular state are listed by date, postal abbreviation, city, and site. For more information, see our regular SHOW LISTINGS section.

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Apr 8-10 NV, Sparks. BIG RENO SHOW.
Sparks Nugget Resort Casino, 1100
Nugget Ave.

NORTH DAKOTA

Sep 9-10 ND, West Fargo. Red River
Range Gun Show. Red River Regional
Marksmanship Center, 640 16th St NE.

PENNSYLVANIA

Mar 12-13 PA, Quarryville. SLCFSA Gun Show.
Solanco Fairgrounds, 172 S Lime St.
Aug 20 PA, Greencastle. Franklin Co. Pa
Izaak Walton League Gun & Sportsman's
Show-Greencastle Sportsmans
Assoc. PA. Annual Gun & Sportsman's
Show-Greencastle Sportsman's
Assoc. Greencastle, PA, Greencastle
Sportsman's Assoc. Grounds.

TENNESSEE

Apr 2-3 TN, Crossville. Cumberland
County Gun and Knife Show.
Cumberland County Community
Complex, 1398 Livingston Road.
Aug 6-7 TN, Crossville. Cumberland
County Gun and Knife Show.
Cumberland County Community
Complex, 1398 Livingston Road.

TEXAS

Feb 19-20 TX, Amarillo. The Original
Amarillo Gun Show. Amarillo Civic
Center, 401 S, Buchanan.

UTAH

Mar 11-12 UT, Vernal. Vernal Gun and Knife
Show. Uintah Conference Center, 313
East 200 South.

INDIANA

Feb 12-13 IN, HUNTINGBURG. HOLLAND
KIWANIS ANNUAL GUN & KNIFE SHOW.
HUNTINGBURG EVENT CENTER, 200
E. 14TH ST.
Feb 19-20 IN, Valparaiso . Gun & Knife
Show . Porter County Exp-Center, 215
East Division Road.
Oct 1-2 IN, Valparaiso . Gun & Knife Show
. Porter County Exp-Center, 215 East
Division Road.

MICHIGAN

Jan 29-30 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique
Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace,
46100 Grand River.
Apr 23-24 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique
Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace,
46100 Grand River.
Sep 24-25 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique
Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace,
46100 Grand River.
Nov 26-27 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique
Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace,
46100 Grand River.

JANUARY

Jan 29-30 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace, 46100 Grand River. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7.00. T: 400. F: \$75 member/\$100 nonmember. MAAC. 1657 Heritage Dr., Canton, MI 48188. PH: 313-690-7157. www.michiganantiquearms.com.

FEBRUARY

Feb 12-13 IN, HUNTINGBURG. HOLLAND KIWANIS ANNUAL GUN & KNIFE SHOW. HUNTINGBURG EVENT CENTER, 200 E. 14TH ST. SH: Sat. 9am-4pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$6.00. T: 220. F: \$45. HOLLAND KIWANIS CLUB. 703 N MERIDIAN ST, HOLLAND, IN 47541. PH: 812-536-5252.

Feb 19-20 IN, Valparaiso. Gun & Knife Show. Porter County Exp-Center, 215 East Division Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$6.00 children 12 & under free with Adult. T: 350. F: \$60.00 8ft.@ run of show. Dunes Rifle & Pistol Club L.L.C.. P.O. Box 345, 812 West Old Ridge Road, Hobart, IN 46342. PH: 219-942-4514. <https://valpogunshow.com>.

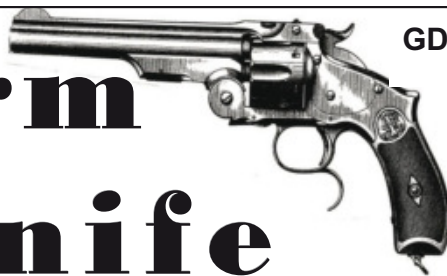
Feb 19-20 TX, Amarillo. The Original Amarillo Gun Show. Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S, Buchanan. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. A: General Admission - \$7 per day - \$10 for both days. Free Admission to Children Under 13. T: 300. F: 50. Pioneer Gun Collectors. PO Box 20806, Amarillo, TX 79114. PH: 806-567-8700. www.pioneergun.com.

MARCH

Mar 11-12 UT, Vernal. Vernal Gun and Knife Show. Uintah Conference Center, 313 East 200 South. SH: Fri. 12pm-7pm, Sat. 9am-5pm. A: \$5.00 Daily. T: 150. F: \$50.00. Friends of Buckskin Hills Shooting Complex. P.O.Box 790028, Vernal, UT 84079. PH: 438-247-2254. vkifeshow@gmail.com.

Mar 12-13 PA, Quarryville. SLCFSA Gun Show. Solanco Fairgrounds, 172 S Lime St. SH: Sat. 8am-4pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$5 per person. T: 150. F: \$30. 742 hollow rd, po box 182, new providence, PA 17560. PH: 717-517-6774. slcfsa.org.

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APRIL

Apr 2-3 TN, Crossville. Cumberland County Gun and Knife Show. Cumberland County Community Complex, 1398 Livingston Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Saturday admission: \$5.00, Sunday admission is FREE. T: 200. F: \$50 with multi table and early pay discounts. Cumberland County. 1398 Livingston Road, Crossville, TN 38571. PH: 931-484-5028. www.gkshow.org.

Apr 8-10 NV, Sparks. BIG RENO SHOW. Sparks Nugget Resort Casino, 1100 Nugget Ave. SH: Fri. 9am-6pm, Sat. 9am-6pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. T: 700. F: \$165 tables \$435 Booths. Lou Fascio INC. 1344 Disc Dr suite 800, Sparks, NV 89436. PH: 775-828-2350. WWW.BIGRENOSHOW.COM.

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SUN 9-3

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DISCOUNTS: www.northeastgunshows.com

Apr 23-24 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace, 46100 Grand River. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7.00. T: 400. F: \$75 member/\$100 nonmember. MAAC. 1657 Heritage Dr., Canton, MI 48188. PH: 313-690-7157. www.michiganantiquearms.com.

JULY

Jul 16-17 MO, Kansas City. M.V.A.C.A. 50th Annual National Summer Arms Show. KCI EXPO Center, 11730 N. Ambassador. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: Day Pass \$12, Weekend Pass \$20; Children under 15: Free with Adult. T: 780. F: \$110 Sales Table / \$25 Display Table. Missouri Valley Arms Collectors Association. PO Box 6013, Leawood, KS 66206. PH: 816-559-7469. <http://www.mvaca.org>.

AUGUST

Aug 6-7 TN, Crossville. Cumberland County Gun and Knife Show. Cumberland County Community Complex, 1398 Livingston Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Saturday admission: \$5.00, Sunday admission is FREE. T: 200. F: \$50 with multi table and early pay discounts. Cumberland County. 1398 Livingston Road, Crossville, TN 38571. PH: 931-484-5028. www.gkshow.org.

Aug 20 PA, Greencastle. Franklin Co. Pa Izaak Walton League Gun & Sportsman's Show-Greencastle Sportsmans Assoc. PA. Annual Gun & Sportsman's Show-Greencastle Sportsman's Assoc. Greencastle, PA, Greencastle Sportsman's Assoc. Grounds, 3260 Sportsmans Road. SH: Sat. 8am-4pm. A: \$5.00 adults (New signing NRA memberships admitted free day of show). T: 125. F: \$15-22.00. Franklin Co. PA Chapter Izaak Walton League of America. 106 Greenleaf Rd, Chambersburg, PA 17202-3134. PH: 717-977-9240. None.

SEPTEMBER

Sep 9-10 ND, West Fargo. Red River Range Gun Show. Red River Regional Marksmanship Center, 640 16th St NE. SH: Fri. 4pm-8pm, Sat. 8am-4pm. A: General: \$5.00; Children 11 & under: Free (with Adult). T: 97. F: \$30. Red River Regional Marksmanship Center. 640 16th St NE, West Fargo, ND 58078. PH: 701-356-0677. rrrmmc.com.

Sep 24-25 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace, 46100 Grand River. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7.00. T: 400. F: \$75 member/\$100 nonmember. MAAC. 1657 Heritage Dr., Canton, MI 48188. PH: 313-690-7157. www.michiganantiquearms.com.

OCTOBER

Oct 1-2 IN, Valparaiso . Gun & Knife Show
 . Porter County Exp-Center, 215 East
 Division Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun.
 9am-3pm. A: \$6.00 children 12 & under
 free with Adult. T: 350. F: \$60.00 8ft.@
 run of show . Dunes Rifle & Pistol Club
 L.L.C.. P.O. Box 345, 812 West Old Ridge
 Road, Hobart, IN 46342. PH: 219-942-
 4514. <https://valpogunshow.com>.

NOVEMBER

Nov 26-27 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique
 Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace,
 46100 Grand River. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm,
 Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7.00. T: 400. F: \$75
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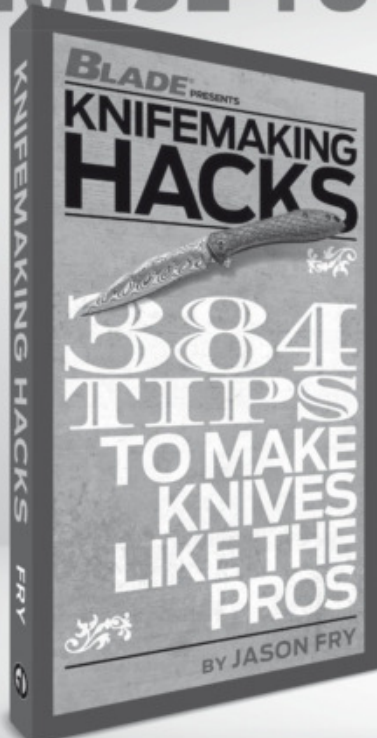
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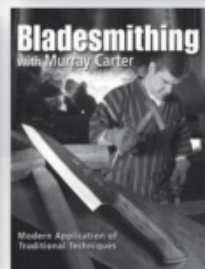
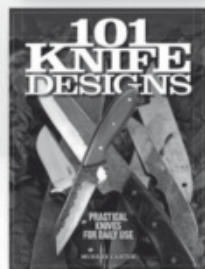
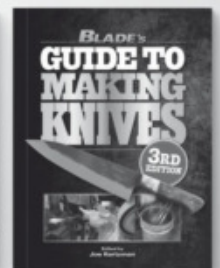
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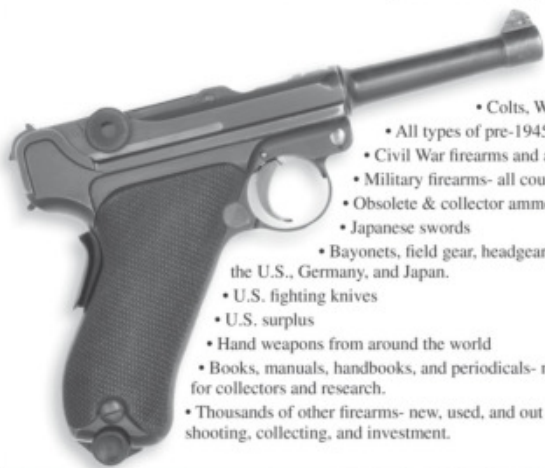
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PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS:

- 1-C Beretta .22 LR "Model 948" Auto Pistol 3 1/4" barrel with excellent bright bore, 95%+ original blue with most loss on backstrap, excellent checkered black plastic logo grips, fixed sights, excellent function, made in 1951 (C&R)\$365
- 2-C Browning 9mm "High Power Argentine Police Contract" Belgian Made Auto Pistol 4 5/8" barrel with excellent bright bore, fixed sights, 98% original bright blue with a couple tiny spots of light pitting on slide, marked "Police Prov. BS. Aires-61" on right side of frame and "Div. Interna Sec." on left side, Belgian commercial proofs and legend of on slide, nice Argentine national crest on top of slide in front of fixed rear sight, all matching numbers including original 13 round magazine marked (1), minty checkered Walnut grips, these pistols were returned to FN for refurbishment and re-sale, this is one of those pistols but looks all original in fit and finish, manufactured 1961, not import marked (C&R)\$1495
- 3-C Colt .22 LR "Huntsman Sport" Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 99 1/2% original blue, fixed sights, mint checkered Walnut grips, Colt marked bottom release magazine, looks unused, collector quality, made in 1963 (C&R)\$725
- 4-C Colt .22 LR Pre War 1st Series Sport Model "The Woodsman" Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue with some thinning at muzzle, light scratch on right side next to trigger roll pin, front and back strap show blue thinning to gray, front fixed sight adjustable rear sight, checkered Walnut grips, bottom magazine release latch with one two tone magazine, excellent function, manufactured 1937 (C&R)\$1200
- 5-C Colt .22 LR "Woodsman Sport" 2nd Series Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 1/8" ramp blade front sight and drift adjustable rear sight, 97% original blue just thinning a bit on barrel, push button magazine release, minty colorful "Coltwood" checkered synthetic grips with Colt logo, backstrap is fitted with a factory "Coltwood" palm swell attachment that has a tiny chipout at its base, excellent function, made in 1950 (C&R)\$895
- 6-C Colt .25 ACP "Model 1908 Vest Pocket Hammerless" Auto Pistol 2" barrel with good but pitted bore, 97% original blue with high edge wear and brown tones, 98% original case colors on trigger, backstrap safety and safety latch, two piece hard rubber checkered grips, fixed sights, comes with very nice two tone magazine and Colt brown cardboard box with side label, box is missing part of side top lid and has tape secured to back, manufactured 1920 (C&R)\$495
- 7-C Colt .25 ACP "Model 1908 Vest Pocket Hammerless" Auto Pistol 2" barrel with good lightly pitted bore, 98% old refinish blue with some peppery pin prick pitting on metal surfaces, Colt hard rubber grips with pocket carry wear, fixed sights, comes with one "Cal 25 / Colt" nickel plated magazine, excellent function, manufactured 1916 (C&R)\$415
- 8-C Colt .380 ACP "Model 1908 Hammerless Pocket" Auto Pistol 3 3/4" barrel with good strong but lightly pitted bore, 95% original blue with some sharp edge silvering and thinning and browning on front and backstraps, excellent Colt logo checkered hard rubber grips, solid blue magazine marked "Cal. 380/Colt" on bottom, excellent function made in 1922 (C&R)\$1095
- 9-C Colt .45 ACP "Government Model" Custom Target Auto Pistol 5" national match marked barrel with excellent bright bore, 98% original blue, "Dinan" bar bushing, "Bo-Mar" extended front sight style target upper rib with micrometer rear sight, stippled front and flat mainspring housing, very good full checkered Walnut grips, full blue WW-II "Risdon" marked magazine, excellent function, made in 1957 (C&R)\$875
- 10-C Colt .22 Magnum "Buntline Scout" Single Action Revolver 9 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, thinning at muzzle tip, light scratches on cylinder, fixed sights, checkered black polymer two piece grips with rampant horse Colt logo, tight lock up, excellent function, manufactured 1968 (C&R)\$525
- 11-C Colt .45 Colt "New Frontier" Single Action Revolver 7 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original bright blue with a couple tiny rub marks on cylinder probably from storage in its box (not present), 98%+ original case color on frame, target style adjustable rear sight and ramp blade front sight, minty smooth Walnut 2 piece grips with gold Colt medallions, excellent function, made in 1978\$1395
- 12-C Colt .357 Magnum "Python" Early Production Revolver 4" vent rib barrel with mint bore, 99% original high polish royal blue, factory target sights, minty checkered Walnut target grips with gold Colt medallions, made in 1965 and shows no actual use (C&R)\$2795
- 13-C CZ .32 ACP "Model 50" Single / Double Action Auto Pistol 3 3/4" barrel with excellent bright bore, fixed sights, 95% original blue with some holster scuffing, hammer drop safety, loaded chamber indicator, excellent serrated black plastic grips, finger rest magazine, excellent function, import marked on frame (C&R)\$375
- 14-C Czech Army 7.62x25mm "Model CZ-52" Clip Feed Auto Pistol 4 5/8" barrel with bright excellent bore, 98% arsenal re-build blue finish, fixed sights, brown polymer grips, top of slide shows "accuracy dots" indicating refurbishing, right side of frame marked with two swords indicating Czech Republic Army, barrel shows matching serial number and letter "T" inside circle (military testing mark), excellent function, all matching serialized numbers, manufactured 1953, comes with one magazine (C&R)\$350
- 15-C Davis Industries .38 Special "Model D-38" Over/Under "Tip Up" Derringer Pistol 2 3/4" raised rib top barrel with mint bores, 98% nickel finish black polymer grips with "DI" logo, fixed sights, push button safety, excellent function, manufactured 1995\$195
- 16-C Erma .22 LR "Model LA-22" 3/4 Scale Luger Style Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, fixed sights, 97% original blue, excellent checkered Walnut grips marked "Made in Germany" on right side of slide along with 1964 proof mark, excellent function (C&R)\$535
- 17-C French .32 ACP "Unique Model 17" Pocket Auto Pistol 3 1/4" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue, fixed sights, mint black serrated grips with "FR" logo, all matching, excellent function, probably WW-II production but not Nazi marked (C&R)\$325

- 18-C Harrington & Richardson .22 LR "Model 949 / Forty Niner" Revolver 5 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue, barrel shows thinning blue with a tinge of brown, spotty pin pricking along barrel and cylinder and right side of rear sight along frame, fixed sights, smooth one piece Walnut grips, 9 shot fluted cylinder, functions properly, manufactured 1967 (C&R)\$275
- 19-C Harrington & Richardson .32 S&W Short Hammerless Top Break "Bicycle" Revolver 2" solid rib barrel with excellent bright bore, 97% original blue with light scratches on frame, fixed sights, excellent target logo checkered black hard rubber grips, excellent function (C&R)\$295
- 20-C Harrington & Richardson .32 S&W Model "Young America" Double Action 1st Model 3rd Variation Revolver 2" octagon barrel with good but lightly pitted bore, 97% original nickel finish showing light scratches, blue triggerguard, strong case colors show on hammer and trigger, pull pin cylinder retainer, 5 shot fluted cylinder, floral design hard rubber grips with matching serialized number etched on inside, manufactured 1898-1904 (C&R)\$135
- 21-C High Standard .22 LR "USA Model H-D" U.S. Property Marked WW-II Training Auto Pistol 4 1/2" heavy barrel with mint bore and lightly marked "property of U.S.A." on top, fixed sights, early blue fire finish has been re-blued with a slight loss of sharpness on frame legend, still nicely marked "Property of U.S." on frame, excellent function, excellent hard rubber grips, original 2 tone magazine shows same refinish blue as gun, made in 1942 (C&R)\$695
- 22-C J.P. Sauer & Sohn 7.65mm (32 ACP) "Model 38H" Nazi Police WW-II Auto Pistol 3 1/4" barrel with bright excellent bore, 98% original blue with some high edge holster wear, fixed sights, safety latch and decocking lever, police "eagle C" proof on left side of triggerguard and "eagle N" nitro proof on right side under serial number, mint two piece hard rubber black checkered grips with "S&S" logo, comes with one magazine marked with "S&S" logo and "cal. 7.65" on base, excellent function, collector quality, manufactured early 1940's (C&R)\$985
- 23-C Keltec .22 Magnum "Model PMR-30" Auto Pistol 4 1/4" barrel with mint bore, 99% black matte finish on slide and barrel, black (Zytel) frame with lower Picatinny rail, green front and red rear "Hi Viz" sights, comes with black polymer lockable case with side label, two 30 round magazines and paperwork, like new\$550
- 24-C Luger 9mm Para "Model P-08" S/42-1938 Code Dated Auto Pistol 4" barrel with very good bore, 95%+ Russian arsenal rebuild blue with force matched numbers and large "X" in front of upper serial number, minty full checkered hard rubber grips, nice quality black plastic bottom reproduction magazine, excellent function (C&R)\$795
- 25-C Mauser .32 ACP "Model 1914" Pocket Auto Pistol 3 1/2" barrel with very good lightly pitted bore, 90%+ original bright blue and 95% fire blue spoiled by some scattered light pitting mostly on slide, fixed sights, all matching numbers, very good+ checkered wrap around original grips, Mauser marked original magazine, excellent function and nice looking (C&R)\$335
- 26-C Mauser .32 ACP "Model 1914" Pocket Auto Pistol 3 1/2" barrel with fair lightly pitted bore, 95%+ original bright blue and 75% fire blue, fixed sights, all matching numbers, very good+ checkered Walnut wrap around grips, original un-marked magazine, excellent function, very nice looking (C&R)\$435
- 27-C Mauser 7.65mm (.32 acp) "Model Hsc Kriegsmarine Navy marked" 4th Variation WW-II Auto Pistol 3 1/4" barrel with bright excellent bore, fixed sights, 98% original blue with light high edge holster wear, two piece checkered Walnut grips, right side of triggerguard is marked "eagle M/6" and left side marked "Eagle N", left side of slide marked "Mauser-Werke AG. Oberndorf a. N. Mod. HSc Kal. 7.65mm" right side professionally marked with name "Roland W Hanscom" in bold "whited in" letters, excellent function, comes with two correct magazines and pigskin holster, marked on inside flap but unreadable, dated 1943, collector quality (C&R)\$1275
- 28-C Norinco .22 LR "Model TT-Olympia" Auto Pistol 4 3/4" barrel with mint bore, 99 1/2% original blue, fixed blade front sight and windage adjustable square notch rear sight, mint coarse checkered wrap around thumbrest grips, as new overall with (2) wood base magazines, barrel weight, cleaning rod and factory box, excellent function\$395
- 29-C Ruger .22 LR/22 Magnum "Old Model Super Single Six" Convertible 3 Screw Single Action Revolver 6 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, adjustable front and rear sights, smooth wood two piece grips with silver logo medallions, comes with two piece black and red original box with paperwork and matching serialized 2nd cylinder, excellent function, manufactured 1972, no safety transfer bar (C&R)\$625
- 30-C Ruger .44 Magnum "Model BHK46" Old Model Flattop Blackhawk 3 Screw Single Action Revolver 6 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, fluted cylinder shows light drag line, ramp blade front and fully adjustable target style (unprotected) rear sight, excellent smooth two piece Walnut grips with black phoenix medallions, collector quality, manufactured 1958 (C&R)\$1095
- 31-C Ruger .44 Magnum "Model BHK46" Old Model Blackhawk 3 Screw Flattop Single Action Revolver 6 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue thinning on barrel, light dragline on cylinder, two piece Walnut grips with black phoenix medallions, front ramp blade sight and fully adjustable target style rear sight, no safety transfer bar, manufactured 1957, collector quality, excellent function, four digit serial number (C&R)\$1295
- 32-C Ruger .357 Magnum "New Model Blackhawk" Single Action Revolver 6 1/2" barrel with mint bore, ramp front blade and fully adjustable rear sights, 98% original blue, white polymer two piece grips with eagle on right side, excellent function, comes with brown cardboard box with correct side label, manufactured 1996\$625

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33-C Russian Government 7.62x54mmR "Model 91/30 Mosin-Nagant" Bolt Rifle 29" barrel with fair bore, 80% arsenal rebuild blue, factory 91/30 style military open sights, mismatch on bolt and small parts, 1936 dated and "Izhvesk arsenal" marked, good original wood with some age cracking and a replacement wiping rod, import marked, excellent function (C&R) \$425

34-C Smith & Wesson .22 LR "Model 22A-1" Target Auto Pistol 5 1/2" barrel with attached weaver style optics base and mint bore, 99% black polished barrel and alloy frame, partridge front sight and adjustable rear sight, serrated trigger, ambidextrous magazine release, ambidextrous green laminated wood target grips with S&W logo, comes with (2) ten round magazines, cable lock, original blue plastic box, manufactured 2004 \$325

35-C Smith & Wesson 9mm "Model 39-2" Double Action Auto Pistol 4" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ bright blue on steel slide and bright black on alloy frame, smooth front strap, checkered backstrap, front serrated ramp and adjustable rear sights, smooth trigger, magazine disconnect, safety/decocking lever, mint two piece checkered Walnut grips with S&W medallions, comes with original "Bangor Punta" two piece box, cleaning kit, swabs and screwdriver along with paperwork, one side of top lid corner is damaged, excellent function, manufactured 1974-75, comes with one original magazine \$750

36-C Smith & Wesson 9mm "Model 59" Auto Pistol 4" barrel with mint bore, serrated front sight, adjustable rear sight, 98% black alloy frame and blue steel on slide, decocking/safety show plum purple in color, serrated front and backstraps, mint black nylon grips with S&W logo, comes with one S&W marked double stack magazine and a blue plastic S&W logo case with no side label, excellent function, manufactured 1976-77 \$525

37-C Smith & Wesson .22 LR K-22 "Model 17 / Target Masterpiece" (5) Screw Revolver 6" pinned barrel with mint bore, 97% original bright blue and slightly faded case color, blue loss is mostly on sides of barrel at muzzle, all matching numbers except for magna style grips which are correct diamond center checkered Walnut with excellent fit, excellent function, made in 1955, sharp looking (C&R) \$895

38-C Smith & Wesson .22LR "Model 17-4" Target Double Action Revolver 8 3/8" pinned barrel with mint bore, 99% original bright blue and vivid case colors on target hammer and target trigger, factory target sights, mint checkered Walnut target grips, S&W silver medallions and speedloader cut, excellent function, looks near new, made in 1978 \$985

39-C Smith & Wesson .38 Special +P "Model 637-2 / Chiefs Special Airweight" Stainless Double Action Revolver 1 7/8" barrel with mint bore, fixed sights, 99%+ frosted alloy frame and frosted stainless finish on barrel, 5 shot fluted cylinder with light dragline, checkered flat face hammer and smooth hollow trigger, revolver features S&W trademark lazer etched on both side, internal lock system and comes with "Crimson Trace" grips, original blue plastic case with papers, and keys, like new overall, manufactured 2002 \$625

40-C Smith & Wesson .38 Special +P "Model 637-2 / Chiefs Special Airweight Stainless" Double Action Revolver 1 7/8" barrel with mint bore, fixed sights, 99%+ frosted alloy frame and frosted stainless finish on barrel, 5 shot fluted cylinder with light dragline, checkered flat face hammer and smooth hollow trigger, revolver features S&W trademark lazer etched on both side, internal lock system and comes with "Crimson Trace" grips, original blue plastic case with papers and keys, like new overall, manufactured 2002 \$625

41-C Smith & Wesson 44 Special "Model 24-3" Double Action Revolver 6 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 99% original bright blue and vivid case colors on target hammer and target trigger, factory target sights, mint smooth Goncalo Alves target grips with silver S&W medallions, excellent function \$895

42-C Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum "Model 28-2 / Highway Patrolman" Double Action Revolver 4" pinned barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original satin blue and vivid case colors, factory target style sights, minty "magna" style original checkered Walnut grips numbered to gun, near new overall in original "Bangor Punta" reinforced corner 2 piece box serial numbered to gun, owners manual and unfilled registration card in box, "S" prefix serial number, made in 1968 (C&R) \$875

43-C Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum "Model 686" 3 Screw "Distinguished Combat" Stainless Double Action Revolver 6" full lug barrel with mint bore, red insert front raised ramp sight, adjustable rear white outline sight, serrated front and backstraps, smooth combat trigger semi target hammer, Goncalo Alves checkered target grips with S&W medallions and speedloader cutouts, comes with original cardboard box, cleaning kit and paperwork, excellent function, as new in box, manufactured 1984 \$895

44-C Star .380 ACP Model "Super SM" Pocket Auto Pistol 4" barrel with mint bore, 98% original bright blue, windage adjustable rear sight, mint smooth dark Walnut original grips, excellent function, would look new except for a couple tiny spots of pitting at front of ejection port, magazine has been modified to be "non snag" but still works fine \$465

45-C Walther .25 ACP "Model No. 2" Vest Pocket Auto Pistol 2" barrel with good but lightly pitted bore, 95% original blue with some peppery pitting on sharp edges of slide, fixed sights, excellent checkered black hard rubber grips with "CW" logo, original magazine, excellent function (C&R) \$495

46-C Walther 9mm Para "Model P-38" AC/45 Code Dated WW-II Nazi Auto Pistol 5" barrel with very good bore, all matching numbers in "B" log frame, 97% original blue over finish that is cruder than most Walther made guns, cog hammer, dark brown ribbed phenolic grips, "JVD" and WaA 706" Waffen marked magazine, excellent function and a very nice late war P-38 (C&R) \$895

47-C Walther 9mm Para "Model P-38" AC/41" Code Dated WW-II Nazi Auto Pistol 5" barrel with lightly pitted good bore, all matching serialized numbers, "Eagle 359", 97%+ blue with light spots on pin pricking, fixed sights, two piece brown polymer original grips, comes with two P-38 magazines (no JVD or WaA markings), brown leather shoulder holster (no markings), excellent function (C&R) \$1195

CENTERFIRE RIFLES:

48-C Belgian F.N. 30/06 "Model 49" Barreled action 23" barrel with mint bore, receiver marked "A.L." (Luxembourg contract), 98% original arsenal finish, included is gas tube, no bayonet lug or other parts (C&R) \$295

49-C BRNO 8mm Mauser "Model VZ-24" Czech Bolt Rifle 23 1/4" barrel with good strong bore, light pitting, 98% arsenal re-blue, barleycorn front sight and tangent rear sight, receiver ring marked "CS. Zavody NA/Vyrobu Zbrani/BRNO", bolt is in the white and is serialized to rifle, Walnut pistol grip stock with matching serial number, top wood shows small hairline crack just forward of the rear sight, sling swivels, cleaning rod and muzzle cover, factory steel buttplate, barrel bands and bayonet lug all show excellent blue with some light pin prick pitting on barrel band, all matching serial numbers, excellent function (C&R) \$595

50-C C.O. Audette .300 Winchester Magnum Custom Target Single Shot Bolt Rifle 28" heavy target barrel with mint bore, A.L. Freeland front globe sight, middle and receiver mounted scope blocks, F.N. "Belgian" receiver with Mauser style bolt release and bolt, 98%+ original blue with bolt in the white, laminated target pistol grip stock with stippled grip, stock has cheek piece, rubber recoil pad, nickel plated hand stop attached to adjustable slide rail on underside of forend, stock has been modified at comb with a 1"x 1/4" notch for bolt removal, excellent function \$575

51-C F.N. 7mm Mauser "Model 1922 Brazilian" Mauser Bolt Carbine 19 1/2" barrel with bright excellent bore, 98% arsenal parkerized finish, barrel bands, triggerguard, floorplate and buttplate are brown in color, receiver ring has a clean crisp Brazilian national crest, front barleycorn sight and tangent rear sight, rifle shows different serial numbers, barrel marked "949-11", bolt "0338", triggerguard has a 5 point star marked "D598" and floorplate with 5 point star marked "A4250", two piece Walnut straight grip stock and top handguard wood shows some early arsenal repair work and handguard has 2 cracks on right side and one at the nose just beyond barrel band, stock has sling swivels, excellent function (C&R) \$395

52-C Harrington & Richardson .45 acp Cal. "Model 60 Reising" Clip Feed Auto Rifle 18 1/4" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, very good+ Walnut pistol grip stock with blued steel buttplate having serrated edges, factory blade front and "peep" style rear sights, factory sling swivels with a period correct green canvas sling, made in 1944 and 1945 as a companion gun to the full auto model 50 Reising (the two look exactly alike) these auto-loader non full auto versions were intended for commercial sales to police and paramilitary outfits, complete with original Reising model 50 marked 12 round magazine, early (3) digit serial number, early guns were blued later models were parkerized, excellent function and near new condition except for lightly dinged and dented stock, less than 4000 made, collector quality (C&R) \$3200

53-C Italian 6.5x52mm Carcano "Model M91/41" Bolt Rifle 27" barrel with bright excellent bore, 97% original blue with scattered pin pricking, fixed front blade sight, tangent 1000 meters marked rear sight, bolt is in the white and is serialized to rifle, straight grip beach wood stock and handguard wood, bayonet lug, cleaning rod, sling swivels and side sling swivels, original curved steel buttplate, all matching serialized numbers, barrel marked crown over FAT, 42 (Terni Arsenal), stock shows faded original cartouche with a export 2nd cartouche, excellent function, 1942 made (C&R) \$475

54-C Italian Government 7.35mm Carcano "Model M1938" SA Marked Finish contract Bolt Rifle 20 3/4" barrel with excellent bore, barley corn front sight, fixed rear sight, (no bayonet fixture, bolt, or magazine), 95% blue with Terni, "SA" and "1939XVIII" markings, Walnut straight grip stock and handguard, stock shows proof markings, stock has crack at wrist(C&R) \$195

55-C Italian Government/Terni 7.35mm Carcano "Finnish Army" Marked "Model 1938" Bolt Rifle 21" barrel with very good bore, 90% original blue fading on receiver "SA" marked barrel, "7.35" stamped on simple open rear sight, Finnish subdued blade front sight, 1939 dated, very good straight grip stock with matching number, circular Terni arsenal cartouche, sling bar, sling swivel and old leather sling, no bayonet but locking fixture is present, excellent function and good looking Finnish contract rifle (C&R) \$695

56-C Iver Johnson .30 Carbine "Model M-1 D /-Day Commemorative" Auto Carbine 18" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, light scattered marks on barrel, wing protected blade front sight, no rear sight, S&K mounted scope base with Tasco 5x32mm, duplex reticule, clean clear optics scope, pistol grip Walnut stock and top wood are excellent, right side of stock is relief engraved with an amphibious assault scene, "D-Day/OMAHA Beach", this carbine features a surplus hammer, trigger housing, rotary safety and barrel band, comes with one 15 round "AI" (Inland) magazine, excellent function, manufactured 1977-1983 \$925

57-C Japanese 6.5mm Japanese "Type 38" Barreled action 31 1/4" barrel with fair pitted bore, receiver marked with Kokura arsenal marking, 80% original blue toning to gray, receiver has trigger assembly, no wood or other small parts (C&R) \$75

58-C Japanese 6.5mm Japanese "Type 38" Bolt Carbine 19" barrel with good bright bore showing light pitting, front protected inverted "V" sight, folding rear leaf sight graduated from 400-2000 meters, all metal surfaces show blue to gray, dust cover and floorplate look to be newer replacements shows 98% blue, royal chrysanthemum on receiver ring has been ground off, left side of receiver marked with "Chigusa Factory of Nagoya Arsenal", barrel band with sling swivel, forged steel buttplate, cleaning rod missing, excellent function, Walnut semi pistol grip stock with full length handguard showing dings and dents (C&R) \$525

59-C Japanese 6.5mm Japanese "Type 38" Bolt Rifle 31 1/4" barrel with good bore showing light pitting, 97% arsenal blue thinning along high edges, bayonet lug and barrel band show blue to brown, no cleaning rod, inverted "V" front sight, folding leaf rear sight graduated from 400-2400 meters, missing dust cover, receiver ring shows royal chrysanthemum and characters signifying "Type 38", left side of receiver marked with "Koishikawa, Tokyo" proof mark, knurled safety with large tang safety indicator, semi pistol grip stock with short handguard, stock shows dings and dents, sling swivels, original leather sling, forged steel buttplate, excellent function (C&R) \$675

60-C Marlin .35 Remington "Model 336-SC" Lever Carbine 20" micro groove barrel with mint bore, 97%+ original blue with some thinning on barrel and receiver, front bead sight (missing hood) open rear sight, Weaver scope mount attached to receiver using factory holes, gold trigger, hammer extension, 2/3 length magazine tube, Walnut pistol grip buttstock with raised comb, Walnut forend wood, white line spacer on grip cap and black polymer Marlin logo buttplate, sling swivel studs on magazine tube and at the bulls eye on toeline, excellent function, manufactured 1958-1959 (C&R) \$475

61-C Mauser 6.5x55mm Swedish "Model 1896" Bolt Rifle 29" barrel with very good bore, threaded at muzzle with screw on thread protector, 95% arsenal original blue, matching bolt, mismatch on small parts, military style tangent rear sight graduated to 2000 meters, very good original Walnut straight grip stock with a few minor age cracks, all original sling swivels and trap style steel buttplate, "Carl Gustafs/1918" marked receiver bridge, brass disc on buttstock, excellent function, wiping rod and bayonet fixture (C&R) \$595

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62-C Mosin Nagant 7.62x54mmR "Model 91/30 / Puluolustuslaitos" (Finnish Defense Dept.) "SA" Marked Bolt Rifle 29" barrel with very good bore, 90%+ arsenal blue, "VKT" and "D" markings on barrel along with "SA" serial number and "1941", matching bolt, good solid straight grip stock with Finnish modification to sling keeper slots to make them compatible to wire style swivels, wiping rod is present but no swivels, open blade style front and arched 91/30 style tangent rear sight with Finnish modified markings, excellent function, import marked barrel, rare defense dept markings and other marks quite visible and clear (C&R)\$1250

63-C Mosin Nagant 7.62x54mmR "Model 91" Finnish "SA" Marked "Izhevsk" Arsenal Made Bolt Rifle 31 1/2" barrel with good bore, "1920" dated receiver with "SA" Finnish Army marking, matching bolt, mismatch on smaller parts, very good original wood with Finnish style sling swivels and old green cloth sling, not import marked, excellent function, standard model 91 front and rear sights (C&R)\$695

64-C Mosin Nagant 7.62x54mmR "Model 1891" Finnish "SA" Marked "Izhevsk" Made Bolt Rifle 31 1/2" barrel with good bore, 95% original blue, standard model 1891 front and rear sights, "1904" dated, Hex receiver, matching bolt, good Finnish modified "finger joint" stock with repairs to wood and brass disk in left butt cheek, not import marked, excellent function (C&R)\$695

65-C P.O. Ackley .17 Ackley Bee Custom "Martini Falling Block Barreled Action" 22" heavy barrel with mint bore, 98% blue, receiver markings worn, no stock or other small parts, excellent function (C&R)\$125

66-C Remington 30/06 "Model 740 / Woodsmaster" Auto Rifle 22" barrel with mint bore, 98% factory blue with high edge wear, few scattered scratches and handling marks, front factory silver bead ramp front sight, factory adjustable open rear sight, receiver factory drilled and tapped for scope mount, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock with fluted forend, factory logo buttplate, factory 4 round detachable box magazine, (C&R)\$395

67-C Spanish Air Force 8mm Mauser Model 43 Bolt Rifle 23 1/2" barrel with excellent bore, 98% arsenal refinish-blue, light wear on barrel bands, front wing protected barleycorn sight and rear tangent sight graduated to 2000 meters, front receiver ring is marked with the Spanish Air Force crest, blued bolt is serialized to rifle along with triggerguard and floorplate, laminate Walnut pistol grip stock with two Spanish proof marks along the toe line, front barrel band with sling swivel and left side sling cut into stock, al matching serial numbers, excellent function (C&R)\$435

68-C Swiss 7.5x55mm Swiss "Model 1911" Straight Pull Bolt Rifle 30 1/2" barrel with excellent bright bore, 97% original bright blue, all matching numbers, military style tangent rear sight graduated to 2000 meters, blade front sight, very good stock with steel buttplate sling swivels and stacking "pin", all original and correct, import marked on receiver, excellent function (C&R)\$485

69-C U.S. Government/ Winchester 30/06 "Model 1917 Enfield" Bolt Rifle 26" Winchester marked barrel dated 9-18 with ordnance proof mark and bright excellent bore, wing protected front post sight, tangent rear sight, 98% original blue, Eddystone bolt and bolt release, sling swivels, stacking swivel/bayonet lug, triggerguard floorplate and buttplate all show blue thinning to gray, Walnut straight grip stock and handguard show light wear, left side of stock shows faded "3-GM-W" cartouche, handguard wood marked "RVS", excellent function (C&R)\$800

70-C U.S. Government/ Eddystone 30/06 "Model 1917 Enfield" Bolt Rifle 26" Remington marked barrel dated 11-18 with ordnance proof mark and bright excellent bore, wing protected front sight, tangent rear sight, 97% arsenal re-blue, Eddystone bolt and bolt release, stacking swivel/bayonet lug, sling swivels, floorplate, triggerguard and buttplate show blue thinning to gray, Walnut straight grip stock and replacement handguard top wood with light color, stock show a faded "P" proof mark on underside of grip and a "3-GM-K" cartouche along with "AA" markings, excellent function (C&R)\$725

71-C Winchester .32 Winchester Special "Model 1894" Saddle Ring Lever Carbine 20" barrel with fair pitted bore, metal surfaces show 90% nice original blue taking on a brown tinge, saddle ring carbine front and rear sights, 1/2 magazine tube, shotgun style "widow's peak" original buttplate with top point of widow's peak broken off, saddle ring has been removed but stud mount remains, very good straight grip Walnut stock and forend wood showing some dings and dents, manufactured 1902 (C&R)\$1700

72-C Winchester 30/30 "Model 94" Lever Carbine 20" barrel with mint bore, hooded ramp bead front sight and open adjustable semi buckhorn rear sight, 98% original blue with high edge wear along receiver and lever, smooth straight grip Walnut stock and forend wood, steel checkered shotgun buttplate, no saddle ring, excellent function, collector quality, manufactured 1949 (C&R)\$950

73-C Winchester 32/20 WCF "Model 65" Lever Rifle 22" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue with a light scratch on left side of receiver, light sharp edge wear on receiver, lever and muzzle, ramp bead front sight (missing hood), factory adjustable semi buckhorn rear sight, 1/2 magazine tube, excellent smooth Walnut pistol grip stock with fluted comb and 98% original finish, smooth Walnut excellent forend wood, checkered steel "widow's peak" buttplate, excellent function, collector quality, made in 1942 (C&R)\$3975

RIMFIRE RIFLES:

74-C Armalite .22 LR "Model AR-7 / Explorer" Takedown Auto Rifle 16" aluminum, simulated ported barrel with mint bore, factory sights, 99% matte black finish, multi color polymer pistol grip stock with a 1 1/2" crack on right side of grip, comes with one 10 round magazine and original cardboard box with matching serial number to rifle, excellent function, marked "Costa Mesa", early manufactured\$495

75-C J.C. Higgins .22 S, L, & LR "Model 31" Tube Feed Auto Rifle 24" barrel with bright excellent bore, 97% original blue with areas of peppery pinprick pitting along barrel, factory original open sporting sights, grooved receiver, two piece Walnut stock with light scratches and wear, working retractable red nylon sling in lower comb of buttstock, factory buttplate and pistol grip, excellent function, made by High Standard for Sears (C&R)\$265

76-C J. Stevens .22 LR "No. 14 1/2 / Little Scout" Rolling Block Single Shot Rifle 18" barrel with good pitted bore, 95% original blue taking on a brown tinge with scattered pin prick pitting, receiver shows some original case colors but mostly toned to silver with brown pin prick pitting, fixed original sights, straight grip Walnut stock and splinter style forend wood, stock shows hairline crack on top and bottom of wrist, original steel buttplate, manufactured 1902-1936 (C&R)\$275

77-C J. Stevens .22 LR "No. 20 / Favorite" Falling Block Single Shot Lever Rifle 24" octagon barrel with a fair pitted bore, all metal surfaces show original blue taking on a brown tone with peppery pin prick pitting, front rocky mountain brass blade sight, open rear sight with elevator, straight grip Walnut stock and splinter style forend wood, original hard rubber buttplate with logo, excellent function (C&R)\$200

78-C Marlin .22 S, L, & LR "Model 39A" Takedown 3rd Model 1st Variation Lever Rifle 24" barrel with "Ballard" style rifling and bright excellent bore, 97% original blue overall with blued receiver top showing small gray wear mark along high edge, barrel shows a little gray at muzzle, fine pin prick pitting along barrel, front raised ramp sight missing hood, open dovetail rear sight, receiver mounted Lyman "56" peep sight, pistol grip Walnut stock and forend wood with dings and dents, missing bulls eye on toe line, hard rubber serrated buttplate, excellent function, manufactured 1946-1950 (C&R)\$795

79-C Mauser .22 LR "Model ES340" Single Shot Bolt Rifle 25 1/2" barrel with excellent bore, 95% original blue taking on a brown tinge, windage adjustable tangent rear sight graduated to 200 meters, ramp bead front sight (missing hood) and grooved receiver, "B.U.G." prewar proofs, very good Walnut pistol grip stock with checkered round knob grip, finger groove forend, Mauser logo checkered hard rubber buttplate Mauser circular cartouche in butt cheek and Mauser banner logo on front receiver bridge, tip of serrated trigger is missing but rifle still functions very well, all matching with original 1" sling swivels and checkered triggerguard (C&R)\$485

80-C Mauser/Voere "Germany" .22 LR "Model 107" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 21 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, hooded front sight, tangent rear sight graduated to 200 meters, grooved receiver, basket weave checkered pistol grip Monte Carlo stock with cheek piece, light wear on stock, black polymer serrated buttplate, sling swivels and one factory magazine, comes with original cardboard box and papers\$495

81-C Mauser/Voere "German" .22 LR "Model 107" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 21 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, hooded front sight, tangent rear sight graduated to 200 meters, grooved receiver, smooth Walnut Monte Carlo pistol grip stock, black polymer serrated buttplate, sling swivels and one 10 round magazine, like new with original cardboard box\$495

82-C Mauser/Voere "German" .22 LR "Model 107" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 21 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, hooded front sight, tangent rear sight graduated to 200 meters, grooved receiver, smooth Walnut Monte Carlo pistol grip stock, black polymer serrated buttplate, sling swivels and one 10 round magazine, like new with original cardboard box\$495

83-C Mossberg .22 LR "Model 151K" Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle 24" barrel with mint bore, original factory open sights, 97% blue thinning to gray, smooth Walnut Monte Carlo pistol grip stock with cheek piece and Schnabel forend, grooved receiver, black polymer buttplate, polymer finger groove triggerguard, manufactured 1950-51 (C&R)\$195

84-C Mossberg/New Haven .22 LR "Model 251C" Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle 18" barrel with mint bore, front dovetail bead sight, open rear with elevator sight, 98% original blue, light scratches on barrel, grooved receiver, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock with light dings and dents, factory buttplate, plastic finger grooved triggerguard, excellent function\$215

85-C Mossberg .22 LR "Model 377 Plinkster" Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle 20" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue, grooved receiver with Mossberg M40 4x scope mounted, scope has plain crosshairs clean optics, some paint chipping and wear on finish, synthetic thumb hole stock with cheekpiece and press checkering at forend, excellent function, manufactured 1977-1979\$250

86-C Ranger/Marlin .22 S, L, & LR "Model 103-8" Single Shot Bolt Rifle 24" barrel with bright excellent bore, 97% original blue thinning to gray with scattered pin prick pitting, front blade sight that has a filed notch in front, rear sight is missing only has dovetail base and screw, bolt is manually operated by cocking knob, polymer triggerguard, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock with Ranger logo serrated buttplate, (C&R)\$100

87-C Remington .22 LR "Model 24" Takedown Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle 21" barrel with mint bore, factory original open sights, 97% original blue, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock and small splinter style forend wood, finish shows some crazing on buttstock, factory buttplate, manufactured in 1931, excellent function, receiver is drilled tapped and plugged for scope base (C&R)\$525

88-C Remington .22 LR "Model 24" Takedown Auto Rifle 19" barrel with good but lightly pitted bore, 98% early re-blue finish, original factory sights, Walnut pistol grip stock and Schnabel forend wood both with high luster finish, steel factory buttplate, manufactured 1923, 2nd year production rifle (C&R)\$345

89-C Remington .22 S, L, & LR "Model 581" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 24" barrel with excellent bright bore, 98% original blue, factory open sights, excellent Walnut pistol grip stock with logo plastic buttplate, missing complete bolt assembly and magazine\$75

90-C Remington .22 S, L, & LR "Model 12" Pump Rifle 22" round barrel with excellent bore, 90%+ original blue getting a little thin and taking on a brown tinge, factory open sights, very good Walnut pistol grip stock and bullet shaped circular grooved forend, "Remington/UMC" marked checkered hard rubber buttplate, excellent function, made in 1929 (C&R)\$675

91-C Remington .22 S, L, & LR "Model 41 Targetmaster" Single Shot Bolt Rifle 27" barrel with minty bore, 95% original dulling blue toning to brown, factory open sights, very good Walnut pistol grip stock with extra varnish and logo hard rubber buttplate (C&R)\$185

92-C Remington .22 S, L, & LR "Model 514" Single Shot Bolt Rifle 24 3/4" barrel with bright excellent bore, 97%+ original blue with light pin prick pitting at muzzle, factory original sights, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock with factory black checkered Remington buttplate, excellent function, made in 1957 (C&R)\$185

93-C Remington .22 S, L, & LR "Model 514" Single Shot Bolt Rifle 24 3/4" barrel with bright excellent bore, open sights, 90%+ blue thinning to brown with pin prick pitting, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock, broken Remington logo buttplate, manufactured 1952, excellent function (C&R)\$125

94-C Savage .22 S, L, & LR "Model 74" Falling Block Single Shot Rifle 22" barrel with mint bore, factory open sights, 98% original blue, smooth Walnut straight grip stock and splinter style forend, black serrated polymer buttplate, excellent function, manufactured 1972-74\$225

95-C Stevens .22 S, L, & LR "Model 87A" Tube Feed Auto Rifle 24" barrel with mint bore, open sights, receiver mounted Mossberg M40 4-power scope with plain crosshairs clean clear optics, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock, alloy triggerguard that has faded to gray, black polymer serrated buttplate, excellent function, manufactured pre 1968 (C&R)\$135

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- 96-C Stevens/Springfield .22 S, L, & LR "Model 15" Single Shot Bolt Rifle 22"** barrel with bright excellent bore, 98% original blue, open sights, barrel and receiver is one piece, manually operated cocking knob at rear of bolt, smooth birch pistol grip stock, excellent function, manufactured 1936-71 (C&R)\$165
- 97-C Voere "Germany" .22 LR "Model 2107" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 21 1/2"** barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, hooded front sight, tangent rear sight graduated to 200 meters, grooved receiver, basket weave checkered pistol grip Monte Carlo stock with cheek piece, light wear on stock, black polymer serrated buttplate, sling swivels and one factory magazine, comes with original cardboard box and papers.....\$495
- 98-C Voere "Germany" .22 LR "Model 2107" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 21 1/2"** barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, hooded front sight, tangent rear sight graduated to 200 meters, grooved receiver, basket weave checkered pistol grip Monte Carlo stock with cheek piece, light wear on stock, black polymer serrated buttplate, sling swivels and one factory magazine, comes with original cardboard box and papers.....\$495
- 99-C Voere "German" .22 LR "Model 2108" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 21 1/2"** barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, hooded front sight, tangent rear sight graduated to 200 meters, grooved receiver, basket weave checkered pistol grip Monte Carlo stock with cheek piece, light wear on stock, black polymer serrated buttplate, sling swivels and one factory magazine, comes with original cardboard box and papers.....\$495
- 100-C Winchester .22 LR "Model 63 / Grooved Receiver" Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle 23"** barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue on barrel/receiver, original factory sporting open sights plus grooved receiver, excellent smooth Walnut pistol grip buttstock and forend, small line of varnish wear on pistol grip, stock shows stain line around base of steel buttplate, small chip in toe of stock, manufactured 1958 (C&R)\$1225
- 101-C Winchester .22 Short "Model 74" Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle 20"** barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue, factory sporting open sights, excellent Walnut smooth pistol grip stock, checkered steel buttplate, excellent function, manufactured 1947 (C&R)\$395
- 102-C Winchester .22 LR "Model 52A" Clip Feed Target Bolt Rifle 28"** barrel with excellent bore, 90% original blue, thinning and taking on a gray tinge, receiver thinning with high edge wear, barrel has scope target blocks added using factory holes, Globe style front sight, rear dovetail receiver "48 WJS" marked sight base only missing sliding aperture, bolt handle is mostly gray, triggerguard/floorplate is gray with spots of brown, Walnut pistol grip stock with scratches and handling wear, original checkered steel buttpad, one original magazine, sling swivels, functions properly, manufactured in 1936 (C&R)\$695
- 103-C Winchester .22 S, L, & LR "Model 69" Clip Feed Bolt Rifle 22"** barrel with mint bore, 90%+ original blue, thinning along barrel with some spot pinpricking, receiver is a gray tone with brown, bolt handle gray, front ramp (no hood) and rear Winchester 96B peep, factory sights, smooth Walnut sporting pistol grip stock, stock shows use, dings and dents, on right side above the factory magazine is a 1 1/2 shallow crack, factory hard rubber Winchester logo buttplate, receiver drilled and tapped on left side (C&R)\$285
- 104-C Winchester .22 LR "Model 75" Clip Feed "Sporter" Bolt Rifle 24"** barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, front raised ramp (missing hood), dovetail blank added to rear sight slot, target scope base mounts added and a Redfield adjustable peep sight is also added to receiver using factory drilled and tapped holes, select checkered Walnut pistol grip sporter stock with pistol grip cap, sling swivels and serrated black buttplate, excellent function, comes with one magazine, pre-war manufactured in 1941 (C&R)\$975
- 105-C Winchester .22 S, L, & LR "Model '06" Tube Feed Takedown Pump Rifle 20"** barrel with bright excellent bore, 97% original blue on barrel, 80% on receiver and magazine tube with spots of blue showing some gray, straight grip stock and small circular grooved forend wood, both show light dents and wear, factory original open field sights, original Winchester hard rubber buttplate, exposed checkered hammer, functions properly, manufactured 1914 (C&R)\$565
- 106-C Winchester .22 S, L, & LR "Model 62A" Tube Feed Takedown Pump Rifle 23"** tapered barrel with bright excellent bore, 75%+ original blue with some spots of "insta-blue" applied, barrel and magazine tube show blue to brown with pin prick pitting, receiver, bolt and triggerguard also show spots of pitting and high edge wear, front factory dovetail bead and sporting open rear sight with elevator, Walnut circular grooved "long" forend wood and straight grip stock, stock shows dings and dents, factory buttplate with logo is broken and top piece is missing, this pre-war 1941 rifle shows its been used but still has life left, excellent function (C&R)\$485

SHOTGUNS:

- 107-C Black Aces 12 Gauge "Pro Series M Tactical" Pump Shotgun 18 1/2"** barrel, 3" chamber with three "Mobil choke" tubes (cylinder, improved modified, full), mint bore, 99% matte black aluminum, grooved receiver, 99% matte black barrel, black polymer pistol grip stock and forend, rubber recoil pad, front post sight, AR style safety, one factory "Saiga style" 10 round magazine, Q.D. sling swivel studs, comes with black hard case with "Black Aces" logo on top lid, inside is instruction manual, Mobil choke hard case with Black Aces logo, like new.....\$225
- 108-C Black Aces 12 Gauge "Pro Series M Tactical" Pump Shotgun 18 1/2"** barrel, 2 3/4-3" chamber with three "Mobil choke" tubes (cylinder, improved modified, full), mint bore, 99% matte black aluminum, grooved receiver, 99% matte black barrel, black polymer pistol grip stock and forend, rubber recoil pad, front post sight, AR style safety, one factory "Saiga style" 10 round magazine, Q.D. sling swivel studs, comes with black hard case with Black Aces logo on top lid, inside is instruction manual, Mobil choke hard case with Black Aces logo, like new.....\$225
- 109-C Charles Daly 12 Gauge "Field" Tactical Pump Shotgun 18 1/2"** barrel 3" chamber, fixed cylinder choke with mint bore, 99%+ matte blue, black synthetic pistol grip stock and forend, black vent rubber buttpad, single front post, excellent function, like new condition, manufactured 2000-2009.....\$250
- 110-C Dickinson 12 Gauge "Model Tac-4" Pump Shotgun 18 1/2"** 3" chamber, fixed modified choke with mint bore, 98% matte black finish, tactical serrated polymer forend with Picatinny rail, rubber pistol grip stock with adjustable comb, front red fiber optic sight and adjustable rear sight, Picatinny rail attached to receiver, comes with original box, like new, import mark on left side of barrel.....\$350
- 111-C Dickinson 12 Gauge "Model Tac-4" Pump Shotgun 18 1/2"** 3" chamber, fixed modified choke with mint bore, 98% matte black finish, tactical serrated polymer forend with Picatinny rail, rubber pistol grip stock with adjustable comb, front red fiber optic sight and adjustable rear sight, Picatinny rail attached to receiver, comes with original box, like new, import mark on left side of barrel.....\$350

- 112-C F.N. Browning 16 Gauge "Model A-5 / Sweet 16" Post War Auto Shotgun 27 1/2"** vent rib barrel with 2 3/4" chamber, fixed modified choke and mint bore, single bead front sight, 98% original bright blue with light pin prick pitting on engraved receiver, cut checkered round knob pistol grip stock and matching un-cracked checkered forend wood, gold trigger, original fancy horn F.N. logo buttplate, excellent function, manufactured 1960, collector quality (C&R)\$1975
- 113-C Harrington & Richardson .410 Gauge "Model 1908 / No. 8" 4th Variation "Standard" Single Shot Shotgun 26"** tapered barrel with 3" chamber, fixed full choke and bright excellent bore, single bead sight, ejector, 97% original blue toning to brown with peppery pin prick pitting, 98%+ original tiger stripe case colored receiver with scattered light pin prick pitting, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock and forend showing some finish discoloration and wear, hard rubber black buttplate with H&R logo, excellent function, manufactured 1931-1942 (C&R)\$215
- 114-C Ithaca 12 Gauge "Model 37 Featherlight" Pump Shotgun 18 1/2"** cut barrel with bright excellent bore, 2 3/4" chamber and cylinder choke, single red fiber optic front sight, 95%+ original blue and matte black finish, roll engraved receiver, smooth pistol grip stock and grooved forend wood, "Redhead" rubber vent recoil pad that is cracked at toe, excellent function, manufactured 1946 (C&R)\$175
- 115-C Ithaca 12 Gauge "Model 37 Featherlight" Super Deluxe Deerslayer Pump Shotgun 26"** barrel with 2 3/4" chamber, fixed improved modified choke and bright excellent bore, 98% original blue, "Williams" aperture receiver mounted rear sight, front interchangeable fluorescent red blade sight, rear sight is filled with a dovetail blank, smooth Walnut finger groove forend and press Fleur-de-Lis checkered pistol grip stock, red rubber Ithaca recoil pad, pistol grip cap and sling swivel studs, excellent function, L.O.P. 14" some pin prick pitting on right side of receiver, manufactured 1965 (C&R)\$475
- 116-C Ithaca 12 Gauge "Model 37" Standard Grade Pump Shotgun 28"** barrel with 2 3/4" chamber, fixed modified choke and bright excellent bore, 80% blue thinning to gray and brown, roll engraved receiver with water fowl scene, receiver shows high edge wear and peppery pin pricking, single brass bead front sight, checkered Walnut pistol grip stock and corn cob style forend wood, stock shows spots of finish wear along with normal handling dings and dents, black polymer grip cap and black serrated buttplate, manufactured 1947 (C&R)\$235
- 117-C Lefever 12 Gauge Model "Long Range & Trap" Boxlock Single Shot Shotgun 30"** barrel with extra full choke, 3" chamber and good bore showing light lead skid marks, 97% original blue on barrel and action, triggerguard is in the white, barrel has pin prick pitting and some thinning to gray around muzzle and action, auto ejector, single bead front sight, hand checkered Walnut pistol grip stock and smooth Walnut forend wood, black serrated buttplate and black fine line checkered pistol grip cap, excellent function, made around 1942 (C&R)\$235
- 118-C Mossberg 16 Gauge "Model 190" Clip Feed Bolt Shotgun 26"** ported barrel with 2 3/4" chamber, "C-lect" factory external adjustable choke device and mint bore, 98% original blue, light thinning on receiver, magazine well, single bead front sight, Walnut pistol grip stock with some light handling marks, polymer finger grooved triggerguard, red jewel is present, green jewel is missing on stock/safety switch, black polymer serrated buttplate, one factory magazine, excellent function (C&R)\$225
- 119-C Mossberg 16 Gauge "Model 190-KB" Clip Feed Bolt Shotgun 26"** ported barrel with 2 3/4" chamber, "C-lect" factory variable external choke and bright excellent bore, fixed open sights, 97% original blue, smooth Walnut Monte Carlo pistol grip stock, red and green jewels still attached for safety indication, black hard rubber buttplate, polymer triggerguard still flush to pistol grip, one 2 round magazine, excellent function, manufactured 1955-1958, L.O.P. 13 3/4" (C&R)\$195
- 120-C Mossberg .410 Gauge "Model 183D-B" Bolt Shotgun 24"** barrel with 3" chamber, factory external screw on full choke tube and bright excellent bore, 97% blue thinning along high edges and some scattered pin prick pitting, single pin front sight, smooth Walnut pistol grip Monte Carlo stock with Schnabel forend, polymer finger groove triggerguard, serrated black buttplate, manufactured 1950-1953 (C&R)\$215
- 121-C Remington 20 Gauge "Model 11" Auto Loading Shotgun 28"** barrel with 2 3/4" chamber fixed modified choke with bright excellent bore, 97% original blue thinning at muzzle and high edge wear on receiver, checkered Walnut pistol grip stock and forend wood, original black hard rubber buttplate with Remington logo, excellent function, manufactured 1930's (C&R)\$525
- 122-C Savage/Stevens .410 Gauge "Model 940E" Break Open Single Shot Shotgun 26"** tapered barrel with 3" chamber, fixed improved modified choke and mint bore, 97% original blue on barrel with light scattered pin prick pitting, 97% original matte black on receiver, side of receiver has barrel release lever, auto ejector, Beech laminate pistol grip stock and forend, serrated black polymer buttplate, excellent function, manufactured 1963 (C&R)\$175
- 123-C Western Arms Co. 12 Gauge "Model Long Range Boxlock" Side by Side Shotgun 28"** solid raised rib barrels, 3" chamber, fixed full and improved modified chokes and bright excellent bores, 98%+ case colors on boxlock receiver engraved with "pointer/dog", double triggers, extractors, tang safety, note tang safety not working properly needs repair, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock and splinter style forend wood, black checkered polymer buttplate, barrel lever is right of center, manufactured 1929-1946 (C&R)\$325
- 124-C Western Arms Co. 12 Gauge "Model Long Range Boxlock" Side by Side Shotgun 28"** solid raised rib barrels, 3" chamber, fixed full and full chokes and excellent bores, 98%+ case colors on "pointer dog" engraved boxlock receiver, re-blue finish on barrels, single bead front sight, tang safety, double triggers, extractors, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock and splinter style forend wood, black checkered polymer buttplate, excellent function, barrel lever is right of center, manufactured 1929-1946 (C&R)\$375
- 125-C Winchester 12 Gauge "Model 12" Takedown Pump Shotgun 28"** plain barrel with 2 3/4" chamber, fixed modified choke and bright excellent bore, single bead front sight, 95% thinning blue toning to gray with high edge wear and handling wear along receiver, smooth Walnut pistol grip stock with grooved forend wood, Winchester logo buttplate that shows wear, stock shows handling wear and cracks on right side at buttplate, manufactured 1931 (C&R)\$225
- 126-C Winchester 12 Gauge "Model 50 Featherweight" Auto Shotgun 30"** barrel with bright excellent bore, fixed full choke, 2 3/4" chamber and 98% original blue, light scratches and high edge wear on aluminum receiver, single bead front sight, checkered Walnut forend and pistol grip stock, black checkered Winchester buttplate, 14 1/4" L.O.P., excellent function, manufactured 1960, shows little or no actual use, collector quality (C&R)\$495

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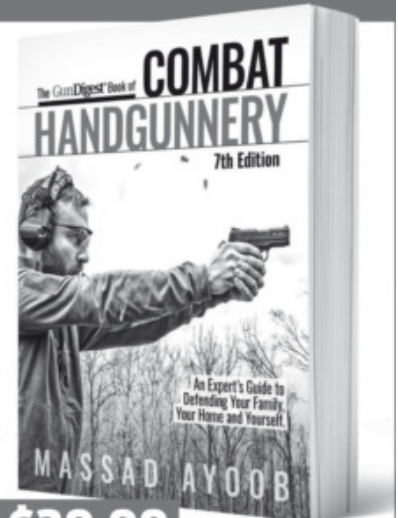
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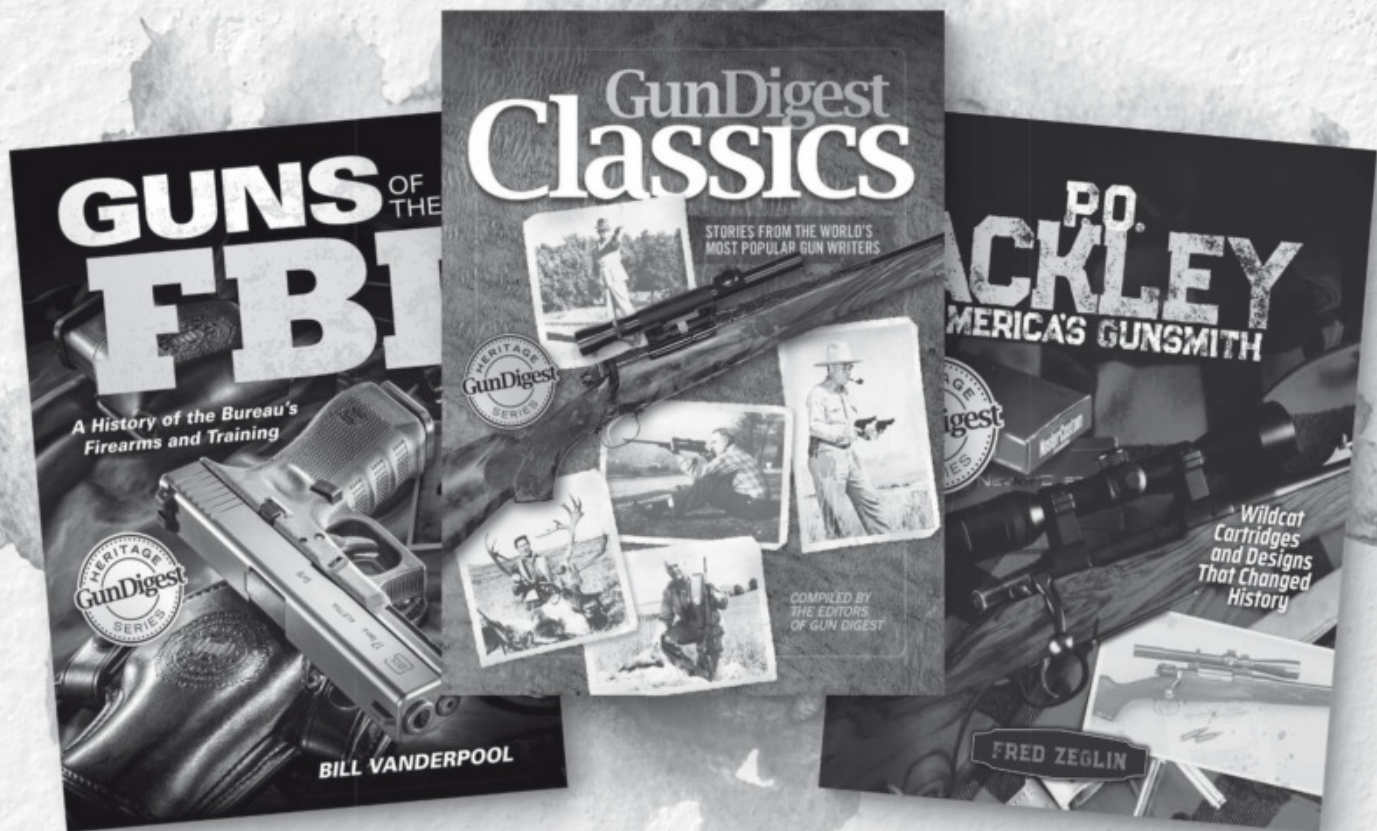
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Springfield 1911 Operator

Looking back, 2020 was rough on all of us, and 2021 wasn't much better, either. However, sales in the industry and the number of guns sold have been higher than ever. The sheer number of guns and ammo being purchased by private parties is almost impossible to fathom, tens of millions of guns and billions of rounds of ammo, with more having been sold than equip most of the world's militaries. The only thing that has been stymied by this otherwise jaw-dropping 2 years of sales has been design and innovation.

It seems like many companies are only releasing a few new items in the first quarter of the year, instead opting for around-the-calendar product drops. In years past, SHOT Show in January was usually the big event where most companies would flex on each other. I think that, to a large extent, this will be the trend much like the decline of movie theaters is to the film industry now that streaming is becoming dominant.

Something that I've noticed this year is that many companies are going the safe route. The last couple years have been something of a revival of classic brands that have suffered under corporate yolks—and I'm happy to see them coming back in full

force. Companies like Colt have been around in one form or another for almost all of modern American history. They've struggled in years past, but are now bringing back their most adored products, such as their "Snake Guns." Likewise, it has been pleasant to see that Ruger has taken over command of one of the country's most trusted and storied brands, Marlin.

In times of social unrest, political exhaustion and deep division, it's great to take comfort in the knowledge that some treasured things aren't reserved for the past. It may be small, but the idea that the good old days can be ahead of us again is a glimmer of hope: a day when we may be less concerned with riots, the latest defense gear and tactical awareness and instead breathe easy with a lever action in the deer woods, a nice pot of chili on the stove and a cold beer waiting at the cabin.



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY**Saint Edge ATC**

This one should turn heads ... and print tiny groups. This unique AR variant makes use of a new forend system—aptly called the Advanced Tactical Chassis that completely free floats the barrel, barrel nut and gas system. Not only should this allow for maximum accuracy, it also will draw some attention at the range. Chambered for .223 Wylde, this 18-inch rifle features a 1:7 twist Ballistic Advantage barrel, an adjustable B5 stock and a variety of accuracy-enhancing parts. The base model in black has an MSRP of \$1,549, while the more striking Elite version in coyote brown comes in at an MSRP of \$1,899. The Elite has additional upgraded parts. I hope to see more of this type of system going forward. This would be a very interesting set of components for something larger in 6.5 Creedmoor.



Springfield Saint Edge ATC

XD-M Elite 3.8-inch Compact OSP in .45 ACP

Keeping up with the rising trend in optics-ready pistols is the new 3.8-inch Compact OSP in .45 ACP. This is one of the smallest and lightest optics-ready .45 ACP pistols currently made. It has a 10-round magazine and a weight of just 26.5 ounces with HEX Dragonfly sight. At an MSRP of \$843 with optic and \$653 without, this is a great deal for .45 ACP power and dot accuracy.

1911 Operator

Known for great, accurate 1911s, including this year's excellent and attractive Emissary, Springfield Armory's New 1911 Operator is a welcome addition to the line. The pistol has an affordable \$1,099 MSRP considering the features involved. It has G10 grips, tritium tactical sights, forward-cocking serrations and more. You get a lot of 1911 for the money here, and I'm happy to see these features out of the box. The railed dustcover is a bonus for carry as well, considering how many great lights and accessories are out these days.

Springfield Elite 3.8-inch Compact OSP .45 ACP

NEW



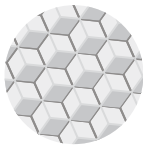
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RUGER

Birdshead Wrangler .22 LR

New for 2022 is the Bird's Head Wrangler. This is a very affordable little sixgun chambered for .22 LR. The new Bird's Head features an amazing \$279 MSRP. The gun is available in either black, silver, or burnt bronze Cerakote with a synthetic grip and 3.75-inch barrel. While obviously not the most powerful gun offered by the company, it'll certainly prove to be one of the most fun to shoot. For a sixgun enthusiast like myself, the MSRP is just so low that I may not be able to pass on it.



Ruger Birdshead Wrangler in .22 LR

Marlin 1895 in .45-70 Government

Ruger's acquisition of Marlin is a bigger deal than many realize. I wasn't the only one who felt there was a large quality disparity between the old J.M. Marlin guns and what was being produced as of late, and as a result I ended



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up staying away from them. I'm extremely pleased that Ruger is taking the reins, and I expect that the quality of their new models will be just as good as the examples from the old days.



Marlin Model 1895 SBL
in .45-70 Government

The first model coming down the pipe is the legendary and very popular 1895 SBL in .45-70. The rifle will feature a polished stainless finish, black and gray laminate stock, 19-inch threaded barrel (1¹/₁₆-inch x 24 thread), a 7-round tubular magazine, a nickel-plated bolt, large lever loop and a forged receiver for added strength.

This product requires a bit of a lon-

ger explanation than the rest of this list, because it's not just a remake, but the return of a culturally significant gun that has been present in hunt camp for more than a century until its previous fall from grace. Ruger has corrected the issues, and there are differences between the new Marlin and past models; all the changes are excellent in my opinion. They are as follows:

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- Slimmed forend looks better and fits better in more hands.
- Crisper checkering area with sharper peaks that provides a better grip.
- Much better finish on the stock and forend, removing all open grain and darkening the checkered areas.
- Trademarked Marlin bull's-eye updated from black and white to red and white.
- The receiver interaction with the stock is much better controlled. All of the recoil force is applied at the flats on the sides of the receiver. Ruger put 50-proof rounds on one rifle with zero cracking or chipping.
- Removed the black pistol grip cap and replaced it with a lasered Horse and Rider. The black grip caps were very often sanded in such a way that they looked lopsided.
- Updated the geometry of the forend inletting for easier disassembly and assembly. Consumers will have a much easier time removing it and putting it back on.

Barrel, Chamber and Breach Bolt

- Improved the chamber by reducing the number and sequence of operations that result in a much more precise chamber.
- Removed the shim that was added between the barrel and the receiver for a better fit.
- Barrels are being hammer forged instead of the older button and broached rifling.
- Replaced the old fluted bolt with updated fluting and nickel-plated the bolt. Old bolts had thin flutes cut, the bolt blued and the OD of the bolt ground to leave black flutes. The grinding caused the bolt to be unprotected.
- Dramatically improved thread timing on the barrel and receiver and improved the barrel torque process to be more precise and results in consistency. This will result in straight front and rear sights every time.



Sig Sauer Custom Works P320 AXG Equinox

Other Noteworthy Touches

The hammer notches where they interact with the sear are cut with a wire EDM machine. It creates a very precise part, which translates into a much better trigger feel and consistency from gun to gun and a trigger weight of 5 to 6 pounds. Old guns used an old broaching machine to cut the notches and it resulted in inconsistent trigger pull, and trigger weights that ran from 5 to 9 pounds.

- Tumbling *all* parts that interact with another part, creating a much smoother action and removing burrs.
- All components are gaged at every step of the machining and assembly process to be sure that they're always within specification.
- Sharp edges on lever, trigger, hammer and loading port have been softened.
- Improved machining provides a better and a cleaner surface prior to polish. This results in much less sanding and polishing of metal to remove machine marks.

- On the stainless guns, they're heat treated prior to machining.
 - All rifles go through a rigorous inspection process prior to packing.
- I'm extremely excited to get my hands on one of these and been informed that there are going to be other models and calibers coming down the line, but perhaps not for some time. I deeply appreciate that Ruger is making an effort to do the Marlin name justice and make a lever action that we've all wanted but never thought we'd get.

COLT

3-inch Python .357 Mag.: Colt's new revolvers are again hugely popular. The return of the legendary Python was a welcome surprise for many when it was reintroduced, and having shot it compared to a vintage model, I can say it's easily just as accurate and smooth-handling. New for 2022 is the 3-inch Python. This is probably the more practical length for this gun



Colt 3-inch Python in .357 Magnum

as a daily carry piece being that it can easily take advantage of the more potent .357 Mag and also enjoy target shooting with light 38 loads. Having fired a great number of the old guns, I've always had an appreciation for the versatility of the shorter length in regard to the chambering.

The revolver is finished in stainless and has some additions, such as 30 percent more steel beneath the adjustable rear sight that add a great deal more strength. It'll ship with a user-interchangeable front sight and walnut stocks. This sixgun is certainly on my list for 2022.

SIG SAUER

Custom Works P320 AXG Equinox: Adding to their ever-expanding P320 line, Sig Custom Works is releasing what could be described as the first "pretty" P320. Up until now the design couldn't necessarily have been called a statement piece, but with the Equinox all that has changed and Sig's hard-use flagship line can now be considered a luxury item. The Equinox features the aluminum AXG grip module, black G10 grip panels, and nickel parts and hardware. The gun will come with Sig's flat, skeletonized trigger and U-notch X-Ray night sights.

NEW PARTS

RemArms 700 Receivers: After a long, long hiatus and complicated business situation, new Model 700 receivers are finally becoming available. At the time of this writing, they're trickling into Brownells in a limited number of configurations. This is great for hobby builders, many of whom have had to resort to custom actions as the supply of older actions began to dry up. Of course, custom actions are great. I own several; however, there's a substantially greater amount of optics bases and aftermarket available for stock actions. I planned a while ago on building out some period military replicas, such as the M40 A5, and I may finally do so now that these are out. **GDTM**

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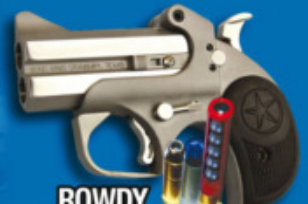
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NEW AMMUNITION FOR 2022

Better loads, better options.

You might find this article amusing—or even foolish—because the thought of new ammunition offerings in a time when you cannot purchase old favorites seems silly. That's understandable because there were some new loads offered from several manufacturers in early 2020 that have still not made it to dealer's shelves. In fact, they've not even been produced. The reason should be obvious. Why would manufacturers devote money, personnel and machinery to develop and produce new offerings when they cannot make enough of the stuff they've been making for years?

APEX Waterfowl
TSS/S³ Steel
Blend shotshells



CCI Blazer lead-free, brass-cased ammo

Nonetheless, here we have a good selection of new ammunition slated for introduction in 2022. Not only do we have new ammunition, but we also have a new self-defense handgun cartridge. I cannot tell you when any of these new loads will find their way to your greedy little hands, but I'm assured that they're coming. Someday, sometime in the future, you should be able to go down to your favorite firearms emporium or visit your favorite online retailer and spend your hard-earned money for this stuff. Maybe not just yet should you start holding your breath while waiting.

APEX AMMUNITION

Apex Ammunition is offering 7.5 TSS shot in its Waterfowl TSS/S3 Steel Blend shotshells. These unique *duplex* loads combine 18.1g/cc 7.5 Tungsten Super Shot with Apex's Zinc-plated steel shot and are available in sizes No. 2, No 4 or BB, in 12-gauge, and in shot size No. 4 in 20-gauge. The Waterfowl Blend is also available with No. 9 TSS.

The Zinc coating on the premium-grade, perfectly uniform Apex steel shot ensures optimum patterning in a steel load and, when combined with ultra-high-density hard-hitting TSS, helps deliver significantly more knock-down power and creates a larger wound channel that should reduce crippling. These blended loads feature clean-burning powder and a durable one-piece, Tungsten-grade wad precisely split to maximize barrel protection and deliver the tightest pattern possible.

CCI

CCI has added a new addition to their affordable Blazer line of ammunition. Traditionally, Blazer loads utilize non-reloadable aluminum cases. This new Blazer ammo is loaded in brass—re-



Federal 30 Super Carry cartridge



Federal 30 Super Carry cartridge, Speer Gold Dot bullet expansion



Federal 30 Super Carry cartridge headstamp



loadable—cases and it also features a lead-free primer and a lead-free bullet. Initially, a 100-grain flat-nose bullet will be offered for the 9mm Luger.

FEDERAL/SPEER

We might as well start with the big news from Federal, and that's a new self-defense pistol cartridge they're calling the 30 Super Carry. There are too many good things about this cartridge to get into in this roundup, so here's a quick summation of what it has to offer.

It's loaded with a bullet that measures 0.312 inch in diameter. It's the same length as a 9mm Luger cartridge

but loaded to a chamber pressure of 45,000 psi as opposed to 35,000 psi. Because of the cartridge's smaller diameter, it'll allow between 10 and 20 percent more magazine capacity. It's essentially a pistol version of the .327 Federal Magnum. Federal will be offering a 100-grain HST load at 1,250 fps, and Speer will have a 115-Gold Dot at 1,150 fps. Federal and Speer will also offer practice/FMJ ammunition with 100- and 115-grain bullets. This product is actually in hand, and you can look for a full report in the Concealed Carry special issue of *Gun Digest* as soon as testing is complete.

Federal is also introducing several new revolver loads for personal protection. The first is a 180-grain load in the Punch line for the .44 Special. The other two new revolver loads are in the HST line and are for the .327 Federal and 357 Magnum. The 327 Federal Magnum load features a 104-grain JHP HST bullet, and the .357 Magnum load features a 154-grain JHP HST bullet. Both are

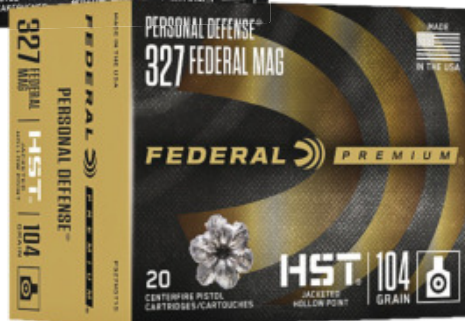


Federal 30 Super Carry cartridge, Speed Gold Dot ammunition



Federal Punch .44 Special ammunition

Federal Personal Defense .327 Federal Magnum HST ammunition



Federal Personal Defense .357 Magnum HST ammunition



Federal Personal Defense Shorty X2 shotgun ammunition



Federal High Over All shotgun ammunition

loaded in nickel cases.

Some more innovation from Federal is the combination of their Force X2 buckshot technology with their Shorty shells. These short shotgun shells measure just 1 ¼ inches but hold a payload of six 00 segmenting buckshot. The segmenting shot is engineered to split, doubling wounding potential. When used with firearms designed to cycle sub-length shotshells, like the Mossberg 590S, the Shorty loads offer much higher magazine capacities.

Another new shotshell offering is the High Over All. These 12-gauge loads are engineered for the most elite trap, skeet and sporting clays shooters. Its hard, high-antimony, lead payload and exclusive one-piece Podium wad produce very consistent patterns, while the solid brass head and tapered one-piece hull make reloading easier than ever. Federal is calling these loads "... the ultimate competition loads for the world's best shooters."

Also new for shotgunners are the Top Gun Paper Wad and Paper Wad Steel loads. They combine the new Paper Wad, cellulose-based filler, and a paper gas-sealing over-powder wad, to maximize patterns while reducing shooter's impact. They're available No. 7.5 and No. 8 size shot and in No. 7.5 shot steel in 2 ¼-inch, 12-gauge shells.

HORNADY

The biggest news from Hornady is probably their new CX bullet. This is a mono-metal bullet that's topped off with the advanced Heat Shield Tip like is also used on ELD bullets. This tip resists aerodynamic heating to help maintain consistent bullet profiles and BCs during flight. Somewhat similar to Hornady's GMX bullet, the copper alloy CX bullet is designed to retain 95 percent of its weight after deformation.

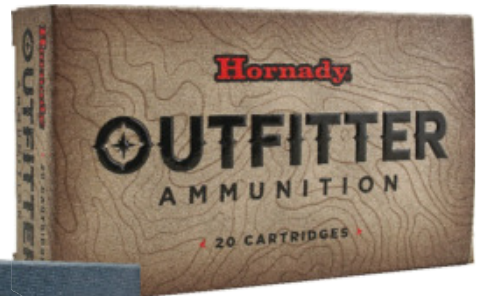
But, to make the bullet more accurate, Hornady has optimized the groove geometry, which is also supposed to reduce fouling. This new bullet is lead free and legal for big-game



Federal Top Gun Paper Wad shotgun loads



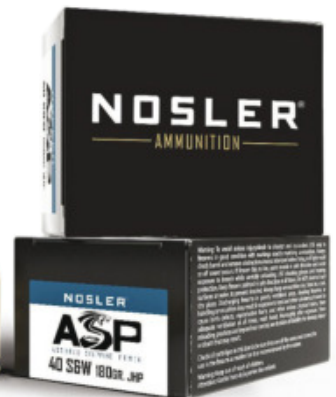
Federal Top Gun Paper Wad Steel shotgun loads



Hornady Outfitter ammunition



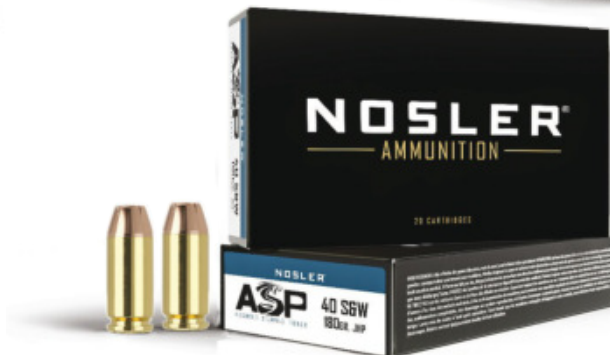
Hornady's new .350 Legend expanding subsonic load



Nosler ASP ammunition



Hornady's new CX rifle bullet



hunting from coast to coast. It'll be available in a wide range of calibers in most common bullet weights.

In addition to offering the new CX bullet as a reloading component, Hornady is loading these bullets in their Outfitter line of ammunition. Offered in most chamberings from .243 Winchester to .375 H&H, this is yet another great line of ammunition for big game hunters who like to use mono-metal bullets because of their enhanced ability to penetrate deep.

Hornady has also extended their subsonic ammunition offerings to include the .350 Legend, which is an

AR-15-compatible cartridge that's growing in popularity, especially in locations requiring straight-wall cartridges for deer hunting. In fact, we're now seeing a good number of bolt-action rifles chambered for the .350 Legend. This new load features a 250-grain Hornady Sub-X—expanding—bullet with a muzzle velocity of 1,050 fps.

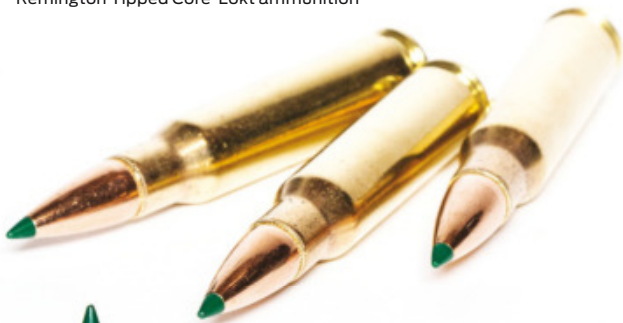
NOSLER

Somewhat surprisingly, Nosler has introduced a line of defensive handgun ammunition called ASP, "Assured Stopping Power." This new line of ammunition will initially be offered for

the 9mm Luger, .40 S&W, 10mm and .45 Auto, with common bullet weights for each. Even more surprisingly, two of these loads—one for the 9mm and one for the .45 Auto—are subsonic offerings.

As you'd expect, this ammo is loaded with the time-honored precision of all Nosler ammunition but features a new bullet design. This jacketed hollow-point bullet has a skived jacket to deliver reliable and controlled expansion over a wide range of impact velocities, with a bullet profile to help ensure reliable feeding. Additionally, Nosler will offer ASP bullets as components for reloaders.

Remington Tipped Core-Lokt ammunition



The Omega, Steinel .500 S&W hard-cast load



Sierra MatchKing Competition ammunition



Remington Tipped Core-Lokt ammo and bullet expansion



REMINGTON

At time of publication there wasn't a lot of information on new ammunition products from Remington. However, Remington will be supporting the new Super Carry cartridge introduced by Federal. They'll offer a 100-grain HTP self-defense load rated at 1,230 fps and a 100-grain FMJ load with a muzzle velocity of 1,250 fps.

Though not truly a new for 2022 offering, Remington has also updated the Core-Lokt bullet by adding a polymer tip. From a terminal performance standpoint, the Tipped version of the Core-Lokt is essentially identical to the Core-Lokt bullets you've trusted for decades.

The big difference is in precision and trajectory. Out of quality rifles manned by a good shooter, expect

near MOA or better precision. As for bullet drop, with the 0.480 BC Tipped version of the 150-grain .308 Winchester Core-Lokt, you'll see about 3 inches less drop at 300 yards, when compared to the original 0.314 BC 150-grain Core-Lokt .308 Winchester load.

SIERRA

Sierra is relatively new to ammunition, but they've been building some of the best match bullets available anywhere for a long, long time. For 2022, Sierra is offering six loads in their MatchKing Competition Ammunition line. They include 69- and 77-grain loads for the .223 Remington, a 107-grain load for the 6mm Creedmoor, a 140-grain load for the 6.5 Creedmoor,

and 168- and 175-grain loads for the .308 Winchester.

STEINEL

Steinel Ammunition has introduced a new load for the .500 Smith & Wesson Magnum. It utilizes a gas-checked, 700-grain, hardcast, LFNGC bullet with a Brinell hardness of 19, and it's loaded in Starline brass with Hodgdon powder. From a 20-inch barrel, this new load is rated at 1,300 fps, and is called The Omega, as it represents the heaviest projectile "commonly" offered for the X-Frame and single shot rifles. It should offer exceptional penetration and energy. It should also recoil with enough force to make you rethink your affinity for the .500 S&W.

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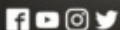
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LESSONS FROM THE CASE OF KYLE RITTENHOUSE

Self-defense involves much, much more than the act of in-the-moment survival.

Kyle Rittenhouse. A name that many Americans—and most in the self-defense world—will recognize, has been the subject of discussions, blog posts, articles, news and videos around the country ... and around the world.

On August 25, 2020, during a Kenosha, Wisconsin, protest over the police shooting of Jacob Blake, Rittenhouse killed two men and wounded a third. Many in the media have called Rittenhouse a vigilante and immediately accused him of setting out to wantonly kill anyone in his path.

This piece will attempt to parse the facts of what happened that night, and perhaps bring some clarity to a confusing situation. Opinions vary ... and this one is mine.

Ultimately, my opinion, and the opinions of scores of writers and columnists, doesn't matter. The final verdict is always determined by a group of citizens called the trier of fact, otherwise known as the jury.

EARLY MOMENTS

Unrest and protests occurred in Kenosha over the police shooting of Blake,

a black man. The officers were white. He was shot seven times by police as a neighbor caught much of the incident on video. Blake survived but is permanently paralyzed. Racially charged protests ensued.

Kyle Rittenhouse, then a 17-year-old, traveled from Illinois to Kenosha, in response to a call from local militia, with the goal of protecting area businesses and residences from looting and destruction during the riotous protests. It was during this riot that Rittenhouse shot and killed two men, Joseph Rosenbaum and Anthony Huber, and wounded a third, Gaige Grosskreutz.

But was Rittenhouse acting as a vigilante as many have claimed, or did he act in self-defense? Many naysayers have been quick to label Rittenhouse a murderer, without fully understanding the law and without the ability to apply it properly.

JURISDICTIONAL DETAILS

In Wisconsin, as in most jurisdictions, you may use deadly force against another when you reasonably believe that other person intends to do great bodily

harm, or cause the death of you or another person. However, you may use only a level of force that's proportionate to the force being used against you.

For example, if someone intends, or is attempting to use, an object against you that could cause your death or great bodily harm, you're authorized, under law, to use any level of force, up to and including deadly force, to stop that threat.

Next, you cannot provoke or incite the attack in order to claim self-defense. In other words, if you're the initial aggressor, or the one who starts the fight, your claim of self-defense will most likely fail. In many jurisdictions, if you're the initial aggressor, you must make every reasonable attempt to avoid using deadly force by attempting to run, escape, avoid the attack or prevent the attack, before resorting to using deadly force, and even announce to the other party that you're done fighting and don't want to fight any more in order to regain your innocence.

Video retrieved from that night shows Rosenbaum chasing Rittenhouse into a used car lot in the midst

of the riotous environment. Authorities say it shows Rosenbaum throwing an object (later determined to be some type of plastic bag) at Rittenhouse, and an attempt was made by Rosenbaum to take Rittenhouse's rifle away from him. Rittenhouse fired his AR-15-style rifle at Rosenbaum, killing him.

When someone, other than law enforcement, attempts to disarm a loaded weapon from your person, can you assume they intend to use it against you? This can be a difficult question to answer, and it depends on several factors that might be in play.

In law enforcement training, when a subject attempts to disarm a police officer of their weapon, deadly force is authorized. It's presumed that the subject's only reason for disarming the officer is to use that weapon against him or her. Can we make the same presumption when a civilian attempts to disarm another civilian? Perhaps.

PERCEPTION MATTERS

However, it may come down to what you reasonably perceived, in the moment, in the totality of the circumstances and whether you're able to articulate the reasonableness of a deadly force threat. Rittenhouse, and others in the self-defense world, contend that Rosenbaum threw the plastic bag at Rittenhouse in an attempt to distract him, with the goal of disarming him.

Following the first shooting, Rittenhouse appears to be running toward police, and away from an angry mob chasing after him, when he trips and falls in the street. The video clearly shows a mob of protesters—I counted at least 8 to 10—chasing him down the street. At one point, a protester appears to kick Rittenhouse in the head when he was down on the ground.

Tripping and falling to the ground, Rittenhouse was in a position of disadvantage, with what appears to be multiple attackers quickly gaining on him. Can Rittenhouse reasonably believe that he is about to be attacked by multiple people? One of them kicked

“If you're the initial aggressor, or the one who starts the fight, your claim of self-defense will most likely fail.”

him in the head; what would the others do? Taking a blow to the head, while in a position of disadvantage, with multiple people about to jump on you, can certainly cause a person to reasonably believe this attack can lead to death or great bodily harm.

At this point, Huber appears to stumble over Rittenhouse as he hits Rittenhouse with the end of a skateboard. Huber is shot as he grabs the barrel of Rittenhouse's gun. A skateboard is a large, solid-wood object, with four hardened wheels, and isn't intended to be used as a deadly weapon. However, using any object as a weapon that can cause death or great bodily harm is considered deadly force.

Was it reasonable for Rittenhouse to believe he would be struck again, or that the ensuing mob would overpower him, with each rioter taking turns raining blows down on him? Rittenhouse has at least four attackers within lunging distance of him and his rifle. Almost immediately, Grosskreutz approaches within about 2 feet of Rittenhouse with what appears to be a handgun. Rittenhouse shoots Grosskreutz, wounding him in the arm.

In the totality of the circumstances, would Rittenhouse's actions stack up to the elements of self-defense?

The five elements of self-defense, which have been identified by Attorney Andrew Branca in his book, *Law of Self Defense*, are imminence, innocence, proportionality, avoidance and reasonableness.

These elements of self-defense can be found, for the State of Wisconsin, in Wisconsin Statute §939.48 (2014),

Self-defense and defense of others.

IT STATES, IN PART:

“A person is privileged to threaten or intentionally use force against another for the purpose of preventing or terminating what the person reasonably (Reasonableness) believes to be an unlawful interference with his or her person by such other person (Avoidance, or no statutory duty to retreat. See State v. Wenger). The actor may intentionally use only such force or threat thereof as the actor reasonably (Reasonableness) believes is necessary (Proportionality) to prevent or terminate the interference. The actor may not intentionally use force which is intended or likely to cause death or great bodily harm unless the actor reasonably (Reasonableness) believes that such force is necessary to prevent imminent (Imminence) death or great bodily harm to himself or herself.”

- Imminence can be defined as, where in time does the threat fall? Imminent means it's happening right now—it isn't happening 5 minutes from now, and 2 minutes ago is too late. The threat must be happening *right now*, in the instant, and requires your immediate action.

- Innocence addresses who started the fight. You can't start a fight, escalate it to the point the other party draws a weapon, and then innocently use deadly force claiming they drew first. It doesn't work that way. Regaining innocence, in many jurisdictions, means you must announce to the adverse party your intention to stop fighting. Furthermore, additional action would be appropriate such as a retreat or moving

“Additionally, be prepared for the government to come after you in ways you never could’ve imagined possible.”

to a position of safety. If, after regaining your innocence, your adversary pursues you, they may be considered the initial aggressor and you may use the appropriate level of force allowed under law.

- Proportionality means you can use only that level of force necessary to stop the force being used against you. Someone grabs your purse; you can generally grab it back. However, if force that can cause death or great bodily harm is used against you, you may use deadly force to stop that threat.

I want to insert a note here: In the Wisconsin statute, the term “unlawful interference” is used. Please don’t take this out of context: An unlawful interference could be unwanted touching. However, this would not be a deadly force threat. Read the next sentence of the statute. “*The actor may intentionally use only such force or threat thereof as the actor reasonably believes is necessary to prevent or terminate the interference.*” So perhaps using only enough force as to remove the hand of the person touching you would be warranted.

- Avoidance is the duty to retreat. In some jurisdictions, you must make an attempt to retreat to a position of safety before deadly force is allowed. Michigan, my home state, is more of a hybrid duty-to-retreat state. In other words, a person does not have to retreat as long as they meet certain elements of the law. However, Michigan has a jury instruction that allows the jury to use the fact an actor did not retreat, when they could have (or should have), in their verdict decision, if they determine the actor was culpable at

some level. Typically, no duty to retreat hinges on two primary factors: the actor is not in the commission of a crime, and he or she is in a place they have the legal right to occupy.

- Reasonableness is simply looking at all elements, in the totality of the circumstances, and applying the standard of the average person, in the same set of circumstances, with similar general knowledge and life experiences, to the facts at-hand. Each element must be present; reasonableness is the umbrella that covers the other four. Keep in mind, in a true case of self-defense, you (your defense team) must prove all five elements to acquit; the government must disprove only one to convict.

THE ACQUITTAL

Before we get into the details of lessons learned, I want to clarify something: I alluded to the Rittenhouse defense team would need to prove their case by a reasonable doubt. Allow me to clarify.

The burden of proof is beyond a reasonable doubt; this burden falls on the prosecutor. They must prove the case by that standard. In a case of affirmative defense of self-defense, however, the defense has the burden of production and should produce some type of evidence, at some level above zero, to show self-defense.

The old standard was the defense must prove self-defense by a preponderance of the evidence. This is no longer the case as the last holdout state, Ohio, changed its statute. This went away March 19, 2019, and is now the standard in all 50 states. You might still see preponderance of the

evidence used in a self-defense immunity hearing. If immunity is not granted, then the case can go to trial. If immunity is granted, case over.

Burden of proof is on the prosecution to prove the charges against the defendant at trial, beyond a reasonable doubt. Beyond a reasonable doubt is a high standard. Although most legal scholars are hesitant to place a threshold number on the standard, many agree it’s somewhere north of 90 percent.

However, the defendant, in any criminal case, may sit mute and not offer any evidence or testimony, relying solely on the lack of ability of the prosecution to prove the charges against them (at least they hope so). Although the defense does not have to offer anything, typically the burden of production falls on the defense. In other words, the defense has the burden to produce some minimal amount of evidence, to the trier of fact, to dispute the prosecution’s charges.

We received plenty of emails and inquiries into the actual trial process of *State of Wisconsin v. Kyle H. Rittenhouse*. Many wanted to know why the defense team wasn’t objecting more often. It’s called trial tactics. I’ve watched plenty of trials where I sit and scream internally, “*Objection!*”

But let’s parse this a little more. If the defense counsel objects to everything they can, it can paint them as abusive, overly interruptive and generally in a negative light to the jury. Juries don’t like that. They want to hear the facts without interruption and make their decision.

However, the defense should object when the prosecution goes awry. Additionally, the defense must object at certain times to get their objection on the record in case they need to appeal; it preserves the issue. So, trial attorneys object when needed, object when required, but many times they won’t object if opposing counsel is making their case for them, as we saw multiple times in Rittenhouse.

WHAT ALL THIS MEANS FOR YOU

The first lesson we learn from this case is to make sound decisions regarding events and situations in which we choose to involve ourselves.

I've been to protests and marches in both Detroit and Chicago. I chose to be there because of the historical aspect of the protest. I have attended these events as an observer, not an active participant.

When Tucker Carlson interviewed Rittenhouse, Rittenhouse stated he had permission to watch one of the auto stores to prevent looting. I've also worked in the armed security industry. Never was there a time I showed up with a team without proper pre-planning that was done a day or so before the security event. To show up to a racially charged protest that has national significance without proper planning, surveillance, experience and training is never a good thing. Stay away from people with a mob mentality.

Next, don't bring a skateboard to a gunfight. I don't say this sarcastically; I say it with all sincerity. Making a conscious decision to involve yourself in a deadly force situation, or really, in any level of force situation, be sure to have the adequate tools to defend yourself. This is one element in the mob mentality that happens when groups of people believe they are invincible and believe they can get their whacks in and then move out of the situation without suffering harm.

Please don't be that person. Be a good witness. Call 911. Run away.

In our concealed carry classes, we should be taught to move to cover and avoid making ourselves a static target. If I see the other person has a gun, I don't purposely move into the fray thinking I'll hit him with my club and get away without being shot. That's stupidity. I realize that, sometimes, we could be placed in a situation where we only have what we can use in our immediate environment to defend ourselves. In those situations, too, we need to be thinking about getting out of harm's way—not running into it.

Third, I've read many comments in the gun forums (and one nationally recognized trainer) saying it's a waste of time, or that it's even silly, to focus on the lessons we can glean from the way the trial played out in Kenosha. I believe what we can learn is an important aspect of the entire event.

Realize that if you're involved in a self-defense incident, you will be scrutinized to no end by family, media, outsiders, organized anti-gun groups, neighbors, etc. Perhaps you won't be scrutinized at the national and international level Rittenhouse was, but you will suffer the damage emotionally, physically and mentally. It's a proven fact in post self-defense incidents.

Many books have been written about how the body reacts to post-traumatic events. Once a person survives an attack and successfully defends themselves against their assailant, only then does the journey through the mire of emotional and physical stress play out. In the Tucker Carlson interview of Rittenhouse, Rittenhouse seemed very succinct in most of his answers. However, his journey has only begun. This is something he will never forget, and the aftermath of stressors will follow him the rest of his life.

Additionally, be prepared for the government to come after you in ways you've never imagined. The role of the prosecution in any criminal case is not to get a conviction; it is to seek justice. Granted, getting a conviction against a serial sex offender may very well be justice. But attempting to try a case because of political motivations or pressure because you don't agree with the defendant's actions is certainly not silly. Expect the government to go after you with the vitriol with which they went after Rittenhouse.

LIFELONG, HARD-LEARNED

Folks, some will miss the point here. I speak with people every day who truly think self-defense is the in-the-moment act of surviving. Imminent survival is only one part of the equa-

tion, although, granted, it is the most important. However, pre-survival is going to the range, training, role-playing, visualization and training in medical skills, to name a few.

Also consider post-survival skills and their role. The pre-survival training in medical skills might come in handy if you're injured and need to apply those skills for yourself or a loved one. Post-survival skills may also be needed months—even years—after the incident. PTSD, emotional, psychological and physical issues may continue for years as well. They not only affect the survivor, but also their spouse, children, friendships and other relationships.

Learn from the Rittenhouse case. Prepare pre- and post-self-defense incident, because the effects of the 3-second self-defense incident will last a lifetime. **GDTM**

About the Author

Art Joslin, J.D., D.M.A. is the director of Legal Services for the Armed Citizen's Legal Defense Network. His background includes law enforcement, court officer, use-of-force expert witness, Level 4 Commando Krav Maga instructor, firearm instructor, and Massad Ayoob Group staff instructor. He holds a law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan.





Washington State Law Enforcement Academy





I'M ALMOST OUT!

Low-round-count training to survive the ammo shortage.

Were in another round of dealing with scarce and expensive ammunition. A combination of new gun owners, political instability and COVID-19 has created our worst ammo shortage at a time when shooting sports and gun ownership are growing at an unprecedented rate. As an instructor, I'm swamped with new gun owners wanting to build their skills while ammo is scarce and expensive.

Shooting skill, like all other skills, requires repetition. New gun owners need to learn the proper fundamentals and repeat them until they become second nature. A new shooter with a lesson in basic safety and marksmanship is at the same level as a driving student after his first experience on the road.

And like driving, repetition develops unconscious competence and allows adjusting strategy while performing at a high level. Meaning, even experienced shooters need to pull the trigger regularly to keep the skills sharp.

To be an effective shooter, as with an effective driver, skills must be developed through repetition. As a driver,

you're constantly situationally aware. If there's an indication of danger, the experienced driver thinks only of the best tactic to avoid the danger without conscious thought of how he's going to accomplish it using the controls of the vehicle.

Real skill with a firearm requires the same level of competence.

ONE SHOT, TWO SIGHT PICTURES

Since repetition is the mother of skill, this drill renders the maximum amount for skill-building reps with a minimum expenditure of ammunition.

For accurate shooting within the constraints of time, the presentation of the gun must be safe, consistent and fast. The sight picture should be acquired during presentation, and there when presentation is complete. At the time of full acquisition of the sight picture, the trigger finger should be on the pressure wall of the trigger; if the sight picture is there, the trigger pressure should be increased until the gun fires. With practice, this should be accomplished within about 2 seconds from concealment and 1.5 seconds from a belt holster. Once

the trigger breaks, the shooter should re-acquire the pressure wall during recoil, resume the sight picture and assess whether another shot is required.

The biggest impediment to accuracy with a pistol, either in shooting slowly or rapidly, is trigger management. Everyone I train can see the sights and hold the gun well enough for reasonable accuracy. Poor accuracy is almost always due to poor trigger management due to anticipation or flinch. Flinch is an involuntary response and as such can't be avoided if the affected shooter knows the exact instance the gun will fire. The answer to accuracy is the surprise break. If the sight picture is there, the shooter increases pressure until the gun fires. Anticipation can't occur because the exact time of the shot can't be predicted.

Many of my clients are new shooters, and anticipation is a huge problem. When I explain the surprise break, I see skepticism because they can't imagine shooting fast and not knowing the exact instance the gun will fire, but the surprise break can be compressed with repetition until multiple shots can be fired from the pressure wall with a fast but smoothly



increased pressure to the trigger. Accuracy has to come first, and speed can then be acquired through repetition.

SWEET 16 QUALIFICATION

Using a full-sized silhouette, USPSA or half-scale silhouette at half distance, this drill develops an awareness of time versus accuracy, covering almost all aspects of action or defensive shooting. If desired, two targets can be used to include transitioning to another target.

The object is to strive for accuracy while developing awareness of needing more time to get accurate shot placement. I use the BLEA-1-R half-scale target with a 2x3-inch 10-ring. If full-sized targets are used, double the distance.

DISTANCE	DRILL	PAR TIME
2 yards	2 shots, strong hand	3 seconds
2 yards	2 shots, strong to support hand	5 seconds
3 yards	2 shots, both hands	3 seconds
3 yards	1 shot, reload, 1 shot	8 seconds
5 yards	4 shots	6 seconds
7 yards	2 shots	6 seconds
10 yards	2 shots	8 seconds





(Above) If you can find it and afford it, shooting until you're standing knee deep in brass works.



(Above left) Training from a stationary location is valuable, but the ability to move and shoot increases your chances in a deadly force event.

(Left) It truly is about the fundamentals, but once the fundamentals are learned, it's about repetition.

This drill emphasizes the management of time/distance. To achieve a similar level of accuracy, longer shots require more time. While practice drills build skills through repetition, they also educate the shooter as to his skill level. People who don't shoot structured practices normally greatly overestimate their skills and in a deadly force event, this could have disastrous consequences.

While the use of the support hand in a defensive encounter is relatively low, this part of the drill generally surprises shooters when they shoot almost as fast and—sometimes—more accurately with their support hand.

When I wrote the *Gun Digest Guide to Concealed Carry Handguns* book, I searched the web for instances where defensive shooters had to accomplish a magazine change. I never found one. Still, gear manipulation is important and changing magazines builds skill in that area. An interesting addition would be to add a surprise dummy round in the magazine to reinforce the tap/rack mindset.

The 5-yard stage where four shots are fired enforces proper grip and recoil management. If you must adjust your grip after a few shots, you need work in that area.

The Sweet 16 Qualification requires speed in the close stages and accuracy in the longer stages. Hitting a 2x3-inch 10-ring at 2 to 5 yards is pretty simple, but under time constraints even above-average shooters drop points at 7 and 10 yards because they fail to slow down to match the accuracy requirements of the longer distances.

I'LL BE BACK

No, this drill doesn't involve driving a car into a police station like in the *Terminator*. It does, however, reinforce getting to cover whenever possible. Having watched many videos with citizens involved in defensive encounters, I'm amazed at how people simply stand out in the open when cover is readily available.

The drill starts at 5 yards with the

gun holstered or placed on a table at 10 yards. Two USPSA targets are spaced 6 feet apart and cover at 10, 7 and 5 yards. On the timer's beep, run back to cover behind the table and fire one shot at each target from right and left of the 10-yard cover. Then, move up to the 7-yard barrel for one shot left and right and repeat at the 5-yard cover. Another party loads his magazine with one dummy round at a random point.

The idea is to reinforce the need to use cover if available. I allow shooters to shoot on the way to cover if they're moving. But the second shot should be from behind cover. Having a dummy round pop up at some point in the high-intensity drill instills the conditioned reaction to tap/rack the gun as soon as they get a click/nothing as opposed to a shot.

While many shooters simply cycle the slide when nothing happens, this isn't the best option. Concealed-carry guns are carried close to the body, and the magazine release is compressed to the body, sometimes getting pressure from ordinary movements. Most concealed-carry guns will hold the magazine in place when it's dropped slightly. If the magazine has dropped below engagement level, racking the slide gets nothing and consumes considerable time because the gun must be re-grasped and another sight picture acquired. Tapping the magazine before racking adds much less time.

These three drills consume very small amounts of ammunition while providing a very high value in acquiring skills. They're valuable to new shooters as well as those who have extended shooting skills. They're easy enough to not intimidate a new shooter yet challenging to higher skilled shooters when trying to beat previous times.

The adage is to shoot until you're standing in a pile of brass. Unfortunately, this is currently both difficult to accomplish and expensive. There's no substitution for repetition, but every session should be concentrated on exceeding previous performance. That's how real skills are acquired. **GDTM**



SAME BUT DIFFERENT

Testing Colt Single Action
Army revolvers against clones,
replicas and look-alikes.

The Colt Single Action Army is arguably the most culturally significant firearm in the American story.

The gun was, surprisingly, not made in what we could call significant numbers. It's estimated that Colt's production of the gun stands today at about a half-million (for reference, Glock has passed 20 million), certainly not a number that should allow it such deep meaning in the great American story considering just how many competitions it had in its time.

Even today, it has competition in the form of clones and copies, arguably more of those have been made than by the Colt company. Since real Colts are often not shot or are considered collector's items, it's prudent to examine two new guns and see how they stack up to the competition—and older SAAs from Colt itself.

DOES A COLT SHOOT BETTER THAN THE REST?

I'll cut right to the chase when it comes to my personal experience with the SAA. I've shot no small number of every clone and replica out there. The bulk are very fine guns in their own right, some are exceptional shooters and others are exceptional just lying there not being fired. I've yet to find a single replica out there that, in terms of materials and accuracy, is the equal of a real Colt SAA.

In my direct experience—thousands of rounds and ranges exceeding 200 yards—have shown me that Colt SAAs are, on average, substantially more accurate than any replica. My average accuracy loads for the .45 Colt have changed a bit over the years, but I've recently been using Rim Rock Bullets for my cast loads. These bullets are



exceptionally accurate, and I've taken a shine to the 255-grain SWC sized at .452 inch. This gets me just shy of 900 fps in a 5.5-inch Colt. My lifetime bench accuracy with Colts is about 2.5 inches at 25 meters, replicas are 4 to 5 inches across the board in group shooting. I never expect a replica to group well on paper as a result or shoot to point of aim, which is a large issue.

I load my ammo with seating and crimping as two separate operations—some people just use the seating die to crimp. When loading revolver rounds, I like the Lee Factory Crimp Die to manually set the case mouth into the crimp grooves on my bullets. Some people will strongly disagree with me on this, but in my time with cast bullets, I've found this uniform the cartridge far better, and I've seen groups tighten.

Many people out there will slug their barrels to determine the best bullet diameter (I know some of my guns shoot much better with .454-inch bullets than they do .452 inch), but there's a certain economy of scale where I prefer all my guns to shoot well with one or two loads than to have each gun shoot a bit better with a specific load. Again, this is personal preference and I've had some that'll group tighter than a modern match pistol, but I'll take a 2.5-inch average if I only have to keep one bullet in stock and plan accordingly.



If you're going to carry a Colt, you need to do it in style. Mernickle Hollywood rigs like this are the best available and will have you practicing your draw in style. A good rig like this makes it so that carrying two guns and ammo feels like nothing; I've never worn a more comfortable holster in my life.



Colt firing pins are slightly tapered and have a square face. You'll see a great deal of variance in the hammers on import guns; many have a small safety lever and some even have Ruger-style transfer bars.



POINT AIM VS. POINT OF IMPACT

This is the most important issue I've seen in my time with these guns. The SAA has no adjustable sights. Adjusting your point of impact is no easy feat, and it's really best left to a gunsmith because you're going to have to remove metal on the sight for elevation, or have a smith adjust your barrel in a vice to manually turn it to move windage.

Virtually all Colts I've shot shoot point of aim at 25 meters, and if they don't, they are damn close. Most replicas aren't so lucky. The only one I've had shoot point of aim at this distance was the Standard Manufacturing Single Action Revolver, though it wasn't as accurate on paper by a noticeable margin. I've had three replicas from one manufacturer shoot to three different zip codes with the same ammo. With my Colts, I've been able to easily tailor loads to shoot to point of aim. Sometimes I have to sacrifice bullet weight or adjust speed, but I've never had a Colt that I've failed to reliably hit an IDPA silhouette with at 300 yards.

I read Elmer Keith as a kid. I thought it was normal to try to hit plates at long range with a revolver after I spent my time reading *Sixguns* and *Sixgun Cartridges and Loads*. It's the definition of fun: waiting for that



THE MYSTERY OF CUSTER'S COLTS

There's heavy debate surrounding what guns Custer carried when he fell in battle. Some accounts have him with a standard issue 7½-inch Colt, but still others say that he had one—or even two—British Webley RIC revolvers. The historical and archaeological record of the battlefield site doesn't support Custer having the Webley, though I have been in several active discussions in producing this article that have even claimed that the guns exist and are in private hands this day.

What's known is that Custer was a gun guy and had a large personal collection. At a certain point we just will not know, and that's hard for amateur historians like myself to accept, so we keep talking about it ad nauseam. I believe that, after years of researching Custer, he had a Colt SAA at The Little Big Horn.

Care must be taken when making ammo for an SAA. These guns are very minimalist and, at least in 45 caliber, have very thin chamber walls. How thin? That may surprise you. The wall thickness at the bolt catch is sometimes as thin as .09 inch!





The Standard Manufacturing Single Action Revolver (top) versus the Colt. Both of these are 4¾-inch barrels in .45 Colt. They're externally similar, but vary enough that they can't be considered a 1:1 copy.

steel to ring after what seems like an hour of flight time.

The thing that disappoints me on the replicas is that many are what I'd call "cosmetic clones," in that the functional elements of accuracy are all over the map—or ignored entirely. Sight blade height is a main culprit, as are varied dimensions in barrel alignment and cylinder gap. If you want to be an SAA shooter, whether originals or clones, you need to be a hand-loader. There's just no way around it; you need the ability to tailor your ammo and even bullet diameters.

THE MODERN MODEL P

While I have lots of experience with older Colts, I wanted to make sure my assertions were correct for the ones made today. There's a good deal of frowning from Colt collectors when it comes to anything "Gen 3" or beyond, but I don't think it's warranted.

Colt sent me two brand-new SAAs, one a 4¾-inch and the other a 5.5-inch. Both are chambered in .45 Colt. I decided not to slug the guns and instead opted for using my accuracy loads that Keith recommended in his

old works. Some of the advice I take loading this ammo is almost a century old, and it works well even now. Sure enough, I took the new Colts out with my trusted handloads and both printed 2 inches high at 25 meters, the 5.5-inch grouping slightly better at 2 inches.

What separates the Colt SAA revolvers from the replica competition is more what the Colts don't have. These guns are raw from the factory, no modifications or the like. The trigger pull is crisp, but surprisingly heavy. Cocking the hammer isn't a chore, however it's much stiffer than many of the tuned replicas.

An old mentor of mine once told me that, when I got my first Colt, that I needed to leave it alone. In his words, "The only 'tune' should be four clicks spelling out C-O-L-T." I see no reason to modify my new Colts anyway; they're impressively accurate.

Rim Rock Bullets makes a wide variety of bullets suitable for single actions. This is the author's new favorite, the 255-grain SWC. It isn't a true Keith bullet, but it's just as accurate and great for crossover use for range and field. Note the saddle blanket material sewn into the Mernickle Hollywood rig.

If you go this route with getting a new Colt, you won't be disappointed. The thing is you need to go out and shoot it. The benefit of Colt guns, especially the revolvers, is that the little pony stamped on the side essentially guarantees your value will never depreciate. People pay good money for Colt guns. Even after shooting them, they're still valuable. I hear guys get a Colt as a cherry on top of their collection and that the replicas are their "shooters." I disagree with this. Buy silver and gold if you're just going to leave in the safe.





The Standard Manufacturing gun is beautiful, an excellent example of modern craftsmanship. It is, however, not going to appreciate in value like a genuine Colt despite having a higher retail MSRP. A silver lining is that you'll have no trouble ordering this fine piece; they're produced regularly.

Note the difference in firing pin geometry on the Standard Manufacturing as compared to a Colt. It's little things like this to be aware of when ordering replacement parts or seeking to make upgrades.



NOTES ON GREAT REPLICAS

There are some absolutely extraordinary guns out there that rival the Colt, many of which can share parts with it.

The general bulk of SAA production today occurs in Italy. I'll wager there have been more Italian copies made than Colt originally produced, and most of these are fine guns. The best-quality replicas are by Taylor's & Co. I've found over testing and time that the Taylor's guns are made to an impeccable standard, and their tuning service is second to none. Some of their guns climb in price as you go up in features, but they're still a savings compared to a Colt.

In complete honesty, the only thing I've seen on Taylor's guns I don't like has been point of impact. All Taylor's guns I've shot shoot straight for windage and average 3 to 4 inches at 25 meters out of the box with factory loads. I love that. However, most shoot low. You can file the sight blade, but you need to be absolutely sure on the load you settle on first before you make that change. Overall, for the cost, I'd strongly recommend Taylor's if you want to modify your gun or shoot in specific disciplines that favor high-speed features.

Another brand I really like is Stan-

dard Manufacturing. They made a very beautiful SAA copy that boasts the finest in modern materials and machining. I'm very impressed with the attention to detail and parts fit. It's slightly different in a couple places as compared to a Colt, especially in the hammer and firing pin geometry. The action isn't advertised as "tuned," but it's far more akin to a custom competition action than a direct replica. You have to listen for the four clicks, but they're there.

This gun shoots point of aim at 25 meters and is able to print 3-inch groups at that distance easily. Overall, it's a wonderful, well-made gun that should last a lifetime. It is, of interest, more expensive than a Colt at MSRP for the base model.

Lastly, I need to talk about the Ruger New Vaquero. This isn't a Colt copy in any way, except in cosmetics. It is, however, a modern gun in internal design and allows for some added safety features and reduced overall cost. Most guns of this model shoot high as far as I've seen, and I don't like that very much for close distance. I really do love the New Vaquero at 100 yards on plates; it's almost like Ruger zeros them for a 250-grain bullet at that range. **GDTM**



TO SLUG OR NOT TO SLUG?

Several SAA experts I know are very much into making ammo to fit their individual gun. I've seen how accurate they can make these guns; however, one begs to ask if it's at all necessary. I'm in the camp that says 2.5 inches at 25 meters is simply good enough. Because of how these relatively slow bullets interact with their environment in flight, they aren't always as accurate at longer ranges—a gun shooting 2.5 inches at 25 meters might not group well at 50 or 100, especially if you're under 800 fps. Some people load slower for accuracy; I do not.

Slugging is the practice of manually measuring a bore by pounding a lead slug through it and then measuring the diameter of the slug. In theory, it'll allow a perfect bullet fit if you cast your own or order at a specific diameter.

Personally, I don't do this. I shoot many 45 Colt revolvers, and I like .452 inch as a diameter, considering most modern revolvers are made for it. Colts have, in my experience, been great with .454 bullets, as older ones tend to run a bit larger in the bore, but Rugers and replicas do better with .452. I generally don't use .451 bullets meant for .45 ACP, but they can work in a pinch for plinking. A .452-cast Keith or SWC bullet with a decent crimp will typically produce great performance.



If you want to carry your SAA without drawing the attention of a full rig, Mernickle also makes standard belt holsters for your sixgun. It positions the gun higher on the hip but still allows for a very fast draw.

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MULTI-FUNCTIONAL FRANKENBUILDING

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We took the idea of Frankenbuilding to the next level for this build, as there are scant few matching manufacturers among the parts and pieces used. Ultimately what we ended up with was a rifle that looks a little unusual—a 13.7-inch barrel is rarely paired with a precision stock like the B5. But fear not! There's a method to this madness.

3rd Gen Tactical has been selling precision-machined receiver sets for some time now, and the upper you see here was originally part of a matched Humboldt set. We liked the stylization and subtle lightening cuts on the Humboldt upper and thought it would be fun to match with a different lower. SilencerCo SCO-15 lowers are about more than just the lasered brand name; the ma-

ior standout is its right-side bolt lock/release. Simply press up on the lever with your trigger finger while racking to lock the bolt and simply press down to release. In addition to modern controls, the SilencerCo lower also has a nice magwell flare, integral trigger guard, and two integral QD cups for slings.

It's been said that the heart and soul of any build is the combination of the bolt carrier group and barrel. The truth of that idiom is certainly up for debate, but we went with high quality anyway. The BCG is from White Label Armory, the retail end of DRG manufacturing, and is paired with a stainless, 1/7 twist, 13.7-

inch Noveske barrel. Since this won't be a legally registered short-barreled rifle, extra care was taken with the muzzle device.

The Sons of Liberty Gun Works NOX device was specifically designed to accommodate the Dead Air silencers' mounting system and also bring a 13.7-inch barrel up to legal length.

We used a KeyMo adapter for the Witt Machine Mod-1 QD Ultra Compact Suppressor, but feel the OEM

mount is superior for this silencer. The Mod-1 works better than a silencer of this size deserves to, and it's especially nice on longer barrels. Here, with its stubby length, it's a perfect fit.

The heavier B5 stock on the rear balances the rifle to be more tail-heavy, helping to prevent overswing during target transitions and centering the balance when a silencer hangs from the end.

And we paired it with a Wide Open Trigger. Yes, the hard reset go-faster trigger subject to much controversy. The precision stock says formal, but the WOT says party.

We used leftover Ascend Armory parts for the castle nut, selector, and endplate. Their endplate has a set screw

pile more of your mitts on it, and it's quickly becoming a favorite among staff.

Covering the barrel assembly is a Troy BattleRail. Slimline and M-Lok, this Troy rail uses a standard barrel nut. A Crimson Trace CMR-301 light/laser combination is on the end of the rail. The laser is powerful and can be picked up in the bright Arizona sun, but the remote switch should be tossed in the bin. Stick to rear-button activation here.

Strike Industries Sidewinder II sights serve as backups, though we're starting to question exactly how many sighting systems a rifle needs. These are ambidextrous with a considerably small profile; they're offset and out of the way until they're needed.



The short Witt Machine Mod-1 QD strikes a great balance of size and performance, especially on a 13.7-inch barrel.

for extra mounting strength and also provides an additional sling QD cup. The short-throw selector has the ability to swap lever lengths and sizes; we kept the right side slick to avoid scraping skin off trigger fingers during manipulation.

The enlarged magazine release is from Battle Arms Development, and those with small fingers will really come to appreciate it. The grip? A surplus A2 with the nubbin shaved off.

The charging handle is a Radian Raptor, arguably the most popular aftermarket charging handle in a decade. Durable, not too large, and actually fully ambidextrous. An Emissary Development Handbrake serves as the forward grip—you can use it like a handstop or

This is the new Holosun AEMS we reviewed in our last issue. It's compact and light at under 4 ounces, with a generous window and crisp 65-MOA circle dot reticle (in red or green) that you can easily use for hosing as well as ranging at distance. Battery life is rated at 50,000 hours, supplemented by a solar panel and shake-awake to save power. Given its circle dot reticle, we felt a compulsion to pair it with an EOTech G45 5x side flip magnifier, allowing it to stretch out its legs a bit.

Precision parts mixed with some flash, along with some svelte and short parts, plus a brand-new optic from Holosun—this rifle is fun as hell to shoot.

GDTM

The AEMS is chock full of features, and, in particular, we love the crispness of the reticle.



PARTS LIST	MSRP
CMR-301: Crimson Trace crimsontrace.com	\$340
Sidewinder II sights: Strike Industries strikeindustries.com	\$187
BattleRail 13-inch: Troy troyind.com	\$188
13.7-inch Infidel 5.56 w/gas block: Noveske noveske.com	\$430
Precision Stock: B5 b5systems.com	\$230
Short-Throw Selector, Castle Nut, Endplate: Ascend Armory	n/a
Raptor Charging Handle, Clear Anodized: Radian radianweapons.com	\$100
SCO-15: SilencerCo silencerco.com	\$249
Humboldt Upper Receiver: 3rd Gen Tactical 3rdgentactical.com	\$249
Mod-1 QD Ultra Compact Silencer/Witt Machine wittmachine.net	\$499
HandBrake M-Lok: Emissary Development memissarydevelopment.com	\$35
NOX 5.56 Muzzle Device: Sons of Liberty Gun Works sonsoflibertygw.com	\$109
KeyMo Muzzle Adapter: Dead Air Silencers deadairsilencers.com	\$249
G45 Magnifier: EOTech eotechinc.com	\$699
WOT Hard Reset Trigger: Wide Open Triggers wideopentriggers.com	\$350
AEMS Red: Holosun holosun.com	\$471
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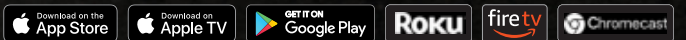
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LEUPOLD'S PATROL 6HD 1-6X24 RIFLESCOPE

A new LPVO
standout.

Leupold's latest rifle scope, the Patrol 6HD 1-6x24mm, aims to be a versatile force multiplier that can give you the edge while defending your home both inside and out.

When it comes to setting up a defensive rifle, selecting the right optic can be difficult. Red-dot sights, red-dot/magnifier combos and variable power scopes all have their advantages, but features that are a benefit in one environment can often be a hindrance in another.

As a long-standing American company, Leupold is known for extremely high-quality optics, and the company's latest scope is here to provide the best of both worlds for defensive rifle setups. The new Patrol 6HD 1-6x24mm rifle scope is lightweight, low profile and capable of both rapid

target acquisition at close range and accurate engagements at distance. Initially launching with two models available, the Patrol 6HD 1-6x24mm is here to do whatever you need it to.

Both models of Patrol 6HD 1-6x24mm are Rear Focal Plane scopes with 30mm tubes and have Leupold's Professional-Grade Optical System, which promotes light transmission and improves resolution while preventing glare. The scopes are equally durable, having both passed Leupold's Punisher Test well enough to be labeled as waterproof and fog-proof. The scopes' lenses are further protected by a scratch-resistant coating and included flip-up lens covers.

Where these scopes differ is in their dial systems and reticles. The 6HD 1-6x24mm CDS-ZL2 is the more traditional option as far as

LPVO scopes go, featuring an illuminated CM-R2 reticle and greater freedom of adjustment in the lockable dial system.

The standard Patrol 6HD 1-6x24mm scope has an illuminated FireDot Duplex reticle and a simpler dial system, making it better suited for close-range engagements than the CDS-ZL2 model. The FireDot reticle has eight brightness settings and can be activated either through a button or using Motion Sensor Technology that illuminates when picked up.

Both models also include an in-scope electronic reticle level, a removable throw-lever and Leupold's Lifetime Guarantee. Whatever your needs may be, one of these versatile new Patrol 6HD 1-6x24mm rifle scopes should be able to suit them well. **GDTM**



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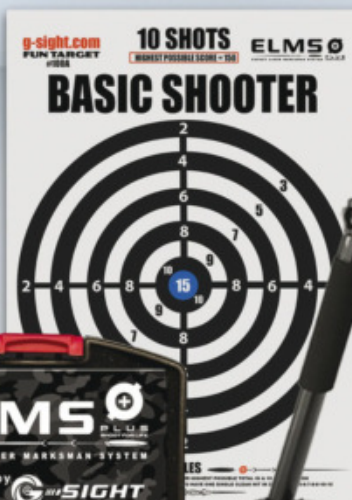
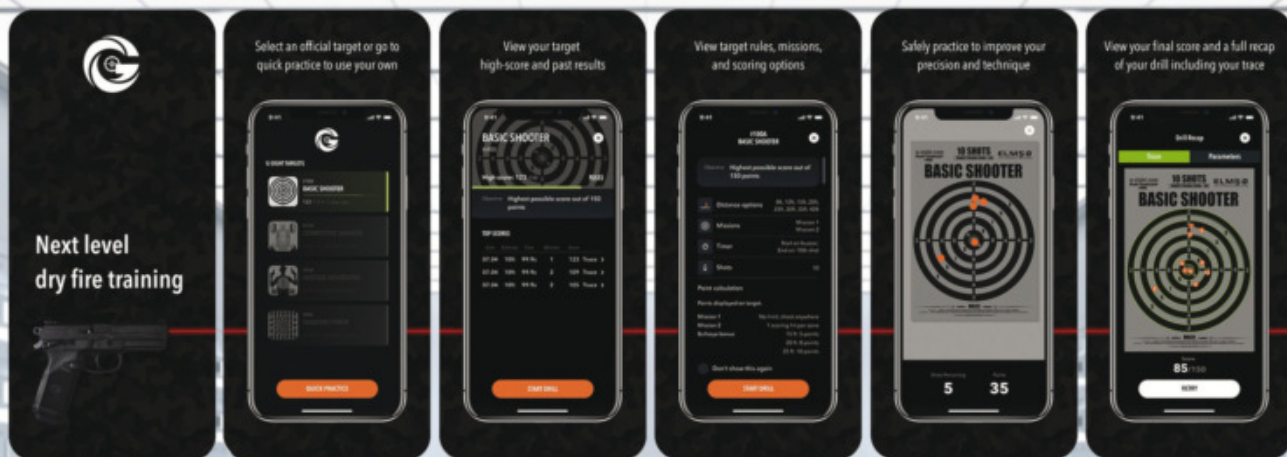
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