If for some reason, you no longer wish to receive these e-mails please accept our apologies and respond to this message with REMOVE in the subject line and we will remove your name from the mailing list.
Citizens Association for Responsible Gun Ownership = CARGO
www.cargogunclub.org
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Hello Fellow CARGO Members,

The next meeting will be held at Napoli's on Thursday, January 17th.

We will meet at Napoli's in Wylie.
Napoli's
701 N Highway 78 # A
Wylie, TX 75098

For the dinner portion of the meeting, we will be in the meeting room between 5:45 and 7:00 for food and fellowship. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM and run until about 9:00.

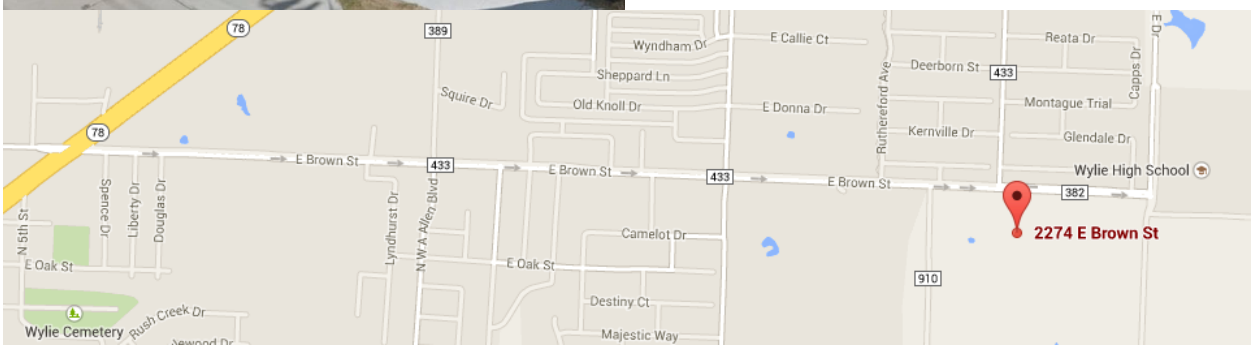
Under the new Texas Open Carry Law, you could be committing an offense if you remove your pistol from its holster while open carrying. While at Napoli's DO NOT remove your pistol from its holster unless it is an emergency.

Member Don Bridges has volunteered his shop for the meeting. There are a very limited number of chairs at the shop, so please bring a camp chair for the meeting. We will meet there from 7:00 (ish) until 9:00 (ish)

The address is:
2274 EAST Brown Street in Wylie

While heading east on Brown Street, it is 1/2-mile past stop sign that's at the intersection of Brown Street and Kreymer Lane on the right-hand side.

The shop is behind a small white house with a picket fence around the front yard.



Gun topics for this month:

It is Christmas time and we want to you to bring something that you got for an Christmas gift this year or something that you got as a Christmas gift in the past.

This is wide open, firearms, optics, targets, ammo, magazines, holsters, reloading equipment, knives, tactical gear, clothing, survival gear, you name it.

If you have any suggestions for future speakers or topics please send your feedback to CARGO@att.net.
When was the last time you visited our web site? Please take some time to go to the CARGO website at www.cargogunclub.org

https://americangg.net/rtt-trump-administration-redefines-bump-stocks-as-machine-guns-under-new-federal-law/

Trump Administration Redefines Bump Stocks As Machine Guns Under New Federal Law

In October of this year President Trump announced “we’re knocking out bump stocks, bump stocks are gone,” during a press conference on the first anniversary of the Las Vegas Massacre. See the full press conference below.

The novelty firearm accessory, which simulates automatic fire, fell in the public spotlight after several weapons with bump stocks were found by the body of the Las Vegas gunman.

True to the President’s word, bump stocks have been redefined as “machine guns” and will be treated as such under a new federal law.

On Tuesday the Justice Department announced that bump stocks will be outlawed. The latest regulation was signed by acting Attorney General Matthew Whitaker and will become effective 90 days after it has been published in the Federal Register this Friday.

Existing bump stock owners have 90 days to either destroy these devices or deliver them to the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

A spokesperson from the Justice Department has said they are confident the department will successfully defend the new law against any challenges posed by the National Rifle Association, gun owners, or bump stock manufacturers.

The president had first ordered a bump stock ban in March, 2018. The Justice Department suggested this federal rule change to reclassify bump stocks as “machine guns” under the National Firearms Act.

Trump Administration Redefines Bump Stocks As Machine Guns Under New Federal Law

https://www.firearmspolicy.org/lawsuit-challenging-trump-bump-stock-ban

BREAKING: Federal Lawsuit Filed Challenging Trump Bump-Stock Ban; Injunction Sought

WASHINGTON, D.C. (December 18, 2018) — Today, attorneys for an owner of a "bump-stock" device and three constitutional rights advocacy organizations filed a federal lawsuit against the Trump Administration's new confiscatory ban on firearm parts, additionally challenging Matthew Whitaker's legal authority to serve as Acting Attorney General and issue rules without being nominated to the role and confirmed by the Senate or by operation of law. A copy of the court filings can be viewed at www.bumpstockcase.com.

The plaintiffs also filed a motion seeking a temporary injunction to prevent the Trump Administration from implementing and enforcing the new regulation. The lawsuit, captioned as *Guedes, et al. v. BATFE, et al.*, is backed by Firearms Policy Coalition (FPC), Firearms Policy Foundation (FPF), and Madison Society Foundation (MSF), also institutional plaintiffs in the case.

"Bump-stocks" were legal under federal law and prior determinations of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives until the agency issued a new final rulemaking today. Under the new rule, owners of the devices have just 90 days to surrender or destroy their property, after which they could face federal 'machinegun' charges that carry up to 10 years in prison and $250,000 in fines for each violation.

The plaintiffs are represented by attorneys Joshua Prince and Adam Kraut of Firearms Industry Consulting Group, a division of Civil Rights Defense Firm, P.C. Prince and Kraut previously filed a nearly 1,000-page formal opposition to the proposed regulation, which included a video exhibit showing the actual operation of a "bump-stock" device on an AR-15 type firearm. That opposition and its 35 exhibits can be viewed at www.bit.ly/fpc-bumpstock-reg-opposition.

"The ATF has misled the public about bump-stock devices," Prince said. "Worse, they are actively attempting to make felons out of people who relied on their legal opinions to lawfully acquire and possess devices the government unilaterally, unconstitutionally, and improperly decided to reclassify as 'machineguns'. We are optimistic that the court will act swiftly to protect the rights and property of Americans who own these devices, and once the matter has been fully briefed and considered by the court, that the regulation will be struck down permanently."

Make a Tax-Deductible Donation to SUPPORT this Important Lawsuit!

In a January statement, Firearms Policy Coalition said that the federal "DOJ and BATFE clearly lack the statutory authority to re-define the targeted devices as 'machineguns.'" Following that, in February, FPC also commented that as they "opposed the lawless manner in which President Obama often ruled by 'pen-and-a-phone' executive fiat," they objected to and would fight "President Trump's outrageous lawlessness here."

"In its rulemaking, the Trump Administration is attempting to abuse the system, ignore the statutes passed by the Congress, and thumb its nose at the Constitution without regard to the liberty and property rights of Americans. That is unacceptable and dangerous," explained Adam Kraut, an attorney for the plaintiffs. "It is beyond comprehension that the government would seek establish a precedent that it can arbitrarily redefine terms and subject thousands of people to serious criminal liability and the loss of property."

Anyone who owns a "bump-stock" device and who would like to consider participating in the case should contact the FPC/FPF Legal Action Hotline at https://www.firearmspolicy.org/hotline or (855) 252-4510 (available 24/7/365) as soon as possible.

Firearms Policy Coalition (www.firearmspolicy.org) is a 501(c)4 grassroots nonprofit organization. FPC's mission is to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, especially the fundamental, individual Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

Firearms Policy Foundation (www.firearmsfoundation.org) is a 501(c)3 grassroots nonprofit organization. FPF's mission is to defend the Constitution of the United States and the People's rights, privileges and immunities deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition, especially the inalienable, fundamental, and individual right to keep and bear arms.

Madison Society Foundation (www.madison-society.org) is a 501(c)(3) grassroots nonprofit based in California. It promotes and preserves the purposes of the Constitution of the United States, in particular the right to keep and bear arms. MSF provides the general public and its members with education and training on this important right.

https://modernrifleman.net/2018/08/08/atf-decides-a-50-bmg-ar-15-upper-is-a-firearm/

Another BATFE ruling that causes lots of confusion and concern:

ATF Decides a .50 BMG AR-15 Upper is a… Firearm?

Modern Rifleman August 8, 2018

Thanks to the arrival of our second child and all the hoopla over 3D printed guns that has dominated airwaves the past week or so, I'm a bit behind in covering this topic. Because of that, I'd recommend readers (who haven't already done so) to check out *The Firearm Blog's* article on the issue as well as this one I am sharing here.

In short, a foreign manufacturer of unknown identity recently submitted a bolt-action, .50 BMG AR-15 upper assembly to the ATF for import approval. After examining the upper, the ATF decided that it should be classified as a firearm receiver, subject to all the additional regulations that involves (FFLs, background checks, etc.). The move, which is a departure from the ATF's standard practice of treating assembled AR-15 uppers as mere parts, led the agency to write other manufacturers informing them of the change and instructing them to treat their products accordingly. Safety Harbor Firearms is a manufacturer of similar .50 BMG upper receiver assemblies and was the first to notify TFB of the ATF's letter. Since then, other companies have confirmed that they too received the notice.

U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

Martinsburg, WV 25405

www.atf.gov

JUL 17 2018

907010:DLH
3311/309129

Safety Harbor Firearms
P.O. Box 563
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Dear Safety Harbor Firearms:

This correspondence is to inform you of a recent classification made by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Firearms Technology Industry Services Branch (FTISB), which likely affects similar products marketed by your company.

FTISB received and evaluated a ".50 BMG upper assembly" for determination of importability. During the evaluation, FTISB determined that ".50 BMG upper assemblies" incorporate a firearm "**receiver**;" and therefore are classified as "**firearms**" in and of themselves. As such, these ".50 BMG upper assemblies" must be marked in accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 923(i), and follow all prescribed statutes and regulations regarding firearms.

As background, the amended Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(3), defines the term "**firearm**" to include, in relevant part: "*...any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive...[and]...the frame or receiver of any such weapon...*"

Additionally, Title 27 CFR §478.11 defines the term "**firearm frame or receiver**" as: "*that part of a firearm which provides housing for the hammer, bolt or breechblock, and firing mechanism, and which is usually threaded at its forward position to receive the barrel.*"

ATF has determined that the receiver of a bolt-action rifle is the part of the firearm to which the barrel attaches that provides housing for the bolt and, in most cases, the trigger. In most bolt-action firearms, the stock is also generally attached to the receiver. The receiver must be marked in accordance with the GCA and Federal regulations.

ATF letter to Safety Harbor Firearms. Image credit: The Firearm Blog

Safety Harbor Firearms

With respect to markings, the GCA, 18 U.S.C. § 923(i), states:

"*...Licensed importers and licensed manufacturers shall identify by means of a serial number engraved or cast on the receiver or frame of the weapon, in such a manner as the Attorney General shall by regulations prescribe, each firearm imported or manufactured by such importer or manufacturer...*"

Further, please note that 27 CFR § 478.92 states the following:

"*...each licensed manufacturer or licensed importer of any firearm manufactured or imported shall legibly identify each such firearm by engraving, casting, stamping (impressing), or otherwise conspicuously placing or causing to be engraved, cast, stamped (impressed) or placed on the frame or receiver thereof in a manner not susceptible of being readily obliterated, altered, or removed, an individual serial number not duplicating any serial number placed by the manufacturer or importer on any other firearm, and by engraving, casting, stamping (impressing), or otherwise conspicuously placing or causing to be engraved, cast, stamped (impressed), or placed on the frame or receiver, or barrel thereof in a manner of not susceptible of being readily obliterated, altered or removed, the model, if such designation has been made; the caliber or gauge; the name (or recognized abbreviation of same) of the manufacturer and also, when applicable, of the importer; in the case of a domestically made firearm, the city and State (or recognized abbreviation thereof) wherein the licensed manufacturer maintains its place of business; and in the case of an imported firearm, the name of the country in which manufactured and the city and State (or recognized abbreviation thereof) of the importer.*"

Please also note that a bolt-action upper assembly on an AR-type receiver does not change the characteristics of the bolt-action upper assembly such that it is no longer a "**receiver**." The bolt-action upper assembly differs drastically from a standard AR-type upper assembly, including the necessity of manual operation. Further, ATF has previously determined that non-standard AR-type upper assemblies, when attached to an AR-type receiver, does not preclude the upper assembly from being classified as a firearm "**receiver**." ATF has determined that when two receivers are assembled together into a firearm, this redesigned firearm contains two firearm receivers.

If you wish to receive an official evaluation of your product, please submit the sample to:

Chief, FTISB
244 Needy Rd., Suite 1600
Martinsburg, WV 25405

ATF Letter to Safety Harbor Firearms. Image credit: The Firearm Blog

This change understandably has some gun owners worried that the ATF may choose to treat *all* AR uppers as firearm receivers. Though the fear isn't totally unfounded, there's a lot to unpack here before we jump to hasty conclusions.

In the Safety Harbor letter shared above, the ATF makes a somewhat cloudy distinction between bolt-action firearms (and uppers) and their semi-automatic counterparts. According to the agency, it has traditionally been held that the portion of a *bolt-action* firearm to which the barrel attaches and which houses the bolt constitutes *the* receiver for legal purposes.

The Safety Harbor SHTF 50 upper assembly

What the agency does not describe is their rationale for treating a semi-automatic upper receiver differently. This means that in order to gauge the impact of this new ruling, some assumptions must be made. Please be aware that this is not a defense of the ATF's decision. It's simply an attempt to understand where they're coming from and how far this conclusion could reach.

Looking at bolt-action uppers, and .50 BMG models more specifically, there are a few operational details that set them apart from their semi-auto brothers. First, they're breach loaded, which renders the lower's magazine well vestigial. The second notable difference is that the bolt is manually locked into the barrel/barrel extension. Ergonomic difficulties aside, a bolt-action upper could theoretically be safely used without a lower receiver. The buffer assembly isn't needed and more importantly, the bolt won't fly out the back of the upper receiver after a round is discharged. Therefore, in the case of .50 caliber upper assemblies, the AR-15 lower receiver is little more than a trigger pack.

In contrast, a semi-automatic AR-15 relies far more heavily on the function of the lower receiver. The lower houses the magazine well that's responsible for ammunition feeding, the trigger assembly for firing, and the buffer assembly for reliable and safe bolt/carrier operation. If you try to use a standard AR-15 upper as a

standalone firearm, you'll be limited to single-shot operation. And if you do manage to touch-off a chambered round, you'll also have to dodge the bolt carrier as it launches out the back of the receiver. In short, the upper is useless without a proper lower receiver.

The move's effect on other types of upper receiver groups is not clear. Will pump-action and other bolt-action receivers be given the same treatment? We can't say. However, the end of the letter notes that "ATF has previously determined that non-standard AR-type upper assemblies, when attached to an AR-type receiver, does not preclude the upper assembly from being classified as a firearm 'receiver'."

BRP's XMG upper also received the "firearm receiver" treatment from the ATF. Image credit: BRP Corp

The precedent that TFB seems to have missed is likely BRP Corp's XMG upper. The XMG is an MG-34 lookalike upper assembly that is intended to mate with an AR-15 lower. It is exclusively belt fed and sports its own buffer assembly. Its classification as a firearm receiver means that most XMG owners are forbidden from (legally) using them on registered full-auto lowers. In contrast, Fightlite's also-belt-fed MCR upper assembly uses the original AR-15 buffer tube and can still be fed through the original magazine well if desired. It is not considered a firearm receiver. At the same time, the AR57 upper feeds from a top-mounted FN P90 magazine yet it is not considered a firearm receiver by the ATF, likely due to the preservation of the buffer assembly that attaches to the lower receiver.

The Fightlite MCR upper assembly is NOT considered a firearm receiver. Image credit: Fightlite Industries

Based on this precedent and the decision regarding .50 BMG uppers, it seems that upper assemblies that render both the lower's magazine well and buffer assembly unnecessary might find themselves classified as firearm receivers. Again, this is an assumption that is grounded in limited evidence, but the ATF does appear to have established somewhat of a trend here. Most importantly, it does *not* appear that the agency has any plans to treat standard AR-15 upper assemblies as firearm receivers any time soon.

https://www.thetruthaboutguns.com/2018/12/luis-valdes/white-house-school-safety-commission-recommends-gun-confiscation/

White House School Safety Commission Recommends Gun Confiscation

BY LUIS VALDES |
DEC 19, 2018

And the hits just keep on coming from the Trump administration. Yesterday, the White House released the end results of its School Safety Commission findings. As

"The Commission endorses Extreme Risk Protection Order laws, which give authorities a temporary way to keep those who threaten society from possessing or purchasing firearms."

Back in March, Kansas Secretary of State Kris Kobach (R) had this to say about so-called red flag laws . . .

"Anti-gun interest groups and politicians have used the Parkland shooting to launch what, until recently, they regarded as a distant dream — a wave of state legislation authorizing the confiscation of firearms."

It appears that the head of the Republican Party, President Trump, is now on board with red flag laws. A number of states have now enacted the legislation that strips the law abiding of their due process rights until after their guns have been grabbed.

A rash of bills have been introduced in various state legislatures such as Oregon's SB 719, Florida's SB 7026, Vermont's S 221, and Road Island's H7688. They all have passed — to thunderous applause — and more like them are apparently on their way and the President's apparent approval will only speed the process.

The 2016 election result had so much hope for the law-abiding gun owning public. President Trump formed a Second Amendment Coalition, ostensibly to help guide his firearms policy decision-making. TTAG's John Boch was named as a member. He even told the American public that the eight year assault on the Second Amendment was over.

But the Second Amendment support has fallen through and the assault continues, gaining ground due to his conspicuous bipartisan cooperation with enemies of civilian gun rights like like Dianne Feinstein.

https://2ndamendmentactivist.com/two-gun-controls-democrats-can-pass-in-2019-and-how-to-stop-them/

Two Gun Controls Democrats Can Pass in 2019 and How to Stop Them!

POSTED ON DECEMBER 12, 2018 BY GREG PRUETT

The new Congress is fast approaching and the next two years promise to be one of the hardest battles gun owners will have to fight. **It may be an even tougher fight than when President Obama was in office.**

Soon-to-be Speaker Nancy Pelosi and company are promising to bring a slew of gun control bills forward. They know that many of the bills they want to push won't stand a chance of passing but they will push them anyway to create pressure on Republicans in 2020. Bills that ban so-called "assault weapons," limit magazine size, impose waiting periods, and others don't really have much of a chance at passing and God help us if they do. Keep an eye on them though and oppose them with everything you have!

I already established in a previous article that faith in the Republican Senate, and even President Trump, to stop gun control isn't well founded. Republicans already failed gun owners the last two years by not passing pro-gun bills. They instead pushed the NICS FIX gun control and supported President Trump's bump stock ban. The reality is that Republicans may feel they have to support gun control to win in 2020, a move that would prove devasting to them.

Republicans must fight hard against any and all gun control measures in the next two years. They must give gun owners a reason to show up at the polls because they failed to do so in the 2018 mid-terms. They stabbed gun owners in the back and they may do it again.

With two years before the Presidential election, what are the gun control measures that gun owners should be most concerned about?

First, let me say that any meaningful pro-gun measure is NOT going to pass in the next two years. Republicans had the chance to do that and they failed. They failed despite gun owners giving massive amounts of money to defeat Hillary Clinton. Republicans failed to listen to gun groups like Gun Owners of America who pushed hard to pass pro-gun measures and block gun control.

Now we will find ourselves in a defensive fight once again, and a very determined enemy that we have to defeat.

The first measure that gun owners should be concerned about is Universal Background Checks.

Gun grabbers want to expand the already unconstitutional background check system to include any and all private sales or transfers. Want to sell or give your firearm to your spouse, children, neighbor, lifetime friend, co-worker, and anyone else you choose? You must first get government permission from the government to do so!

These invasive checks will do NOTHING to stop crime and will only impact law-abiding citizens. Several states have Universal Background Checks and there is no noticeable impact on crime rates after their passage, as shown in anti-gun California.

The reality is that Universal Background Checks are a back door to gun registration. Gun grabbers know it won't slow down or stop crime. That isn't their goal. Their goal is to have a system running whereby they can track every firearm changing hands between law-abiding gun owners. Why would they want to track each and every firearm? Good question and our second measure to watch is exactly why.

The second measure that Democrats want to push is Gun Confiscation (Red Flag) Orders.

While over a dozen states currently have these unconstitutional and deadly laws, Pelosi and other gun grabbers want it at a national level. Gun Confiscation Orders are the most unconstitutional gun grabbing law we may have ever seen in this country. The severity of these laws can't be overstated.

I wrote a lengthy article about Gun Confiscation Orders and why every gun owner, and really every American, should absolutely oppose them!

In short, Gun Confiscation Orders "allow" the courts and police to come to your home and take your guns if someone "feels" you are a threat to yourself or others. No crime has been committed. You aren't even charged with a crime. You certainly aren't convicted. You aren't part of the "process." They take your guns, and possibly your life if you don't give them up.

By passing both Universal Background Checks and Gun Confiscation Orders, gun grabbers can them deem anyone who opposes them as a "danger" to themselves or others. By having a tracking system in place, they will know how many and what types of guns you have. This is the end game.

The reason I feel these two issues are the best chance Democrats have at gun control is that there are too many uninformed or misguided gun owners and Republican politicians who are falling for these traps.

Even here in Idaho, many gun owners don't know what Red Flag laws are as I quickly found out at a gun show in Pocatello. Additionally, one of our Congressmen (Mike Simpson) supports Universal Background Checks. If we are having these problems in one of the most gun friendly states in the country, what chance do the rest of you have?

I hope I'm wrong. I hope gun grabbers will be unsuccessful in their efforts to pass these atrocities against our Constitution. A large part of what happens is on you and me. If you start right now and let your Congressional delegation know that you oppose these measures, then you are ahead of the game.

If you sit back and wait for these measures to hit the floor before you start your activism for the 2nd Amendment then it will be too late. **When you see petitions, articles, and videos that oppose Gun Confiscation Orders and Universal Background Checks, be sure to share them with your family and friends!**

We have to get more gun owners educated on these less known, but very dangerous issues before it's too late.

Be sure to Subscribe to our YouTube channel and follow us on Facebook! I keep you up to date on all the important and critical 2nd Amendment issues happening right now. Please be sure to share this article with every gun owner that you know!

https://2ndamendmentactivist.com/only-activism-will-protect-2a/

Only Activism Will Protect the 2nd Amendment!

POSTED ON MAY 17, 2018 BY GREG PRUETT

When I started the Idaho Second Amendment Alliance back in August of 2012, I told myself that our organization would not be a Facebook group that complained and whined that not enough was being done to protect our gun rights.

Far too many gun owners simply want to be "keyboard warriors" online and have no desire to get actively involved in the political process. They certainly don't want to leave the comfort of their homes.

However, if you want to make a difference politically, you must be actively engaged in the process. You must be willing to donate time and money to the defense of your freedoms.

Simply saying, "I have the 2nd Amendment and I don't need to donate to groups to protect my rights" is both foolish and dangerous. The only reason that gun grabbers have not completely destroyed the 2nd Amendment is because of pro-gun groups preventing further infringements.

The Idaho Second Amendment Alliance in Idaho is the perfect example of a group that goes above and beyond what most political groups do. In addition to the rallies and other events that we hold, we also spend countless hours fighting at the Boise capitol during the legislative session. Add we spend countless hours during election time exposing gun grabbers to their constituents.

You must join groups like this and be a part of their efforts. Attend rallies and other events sure, but you must also be calling and emailing your legislators to make it known what your desires are as their constituent.

With the 2nd Amendment under attack once again, it's time for gun owners to stand together and push back against any new forms of gun control. Join local (ISAA in Idaho) or national groups (Gun Owners of America) who will NOT compromise on your gun rights.

Freedom is under attack, join the fight today!

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/p365-sigs-wonder-weapon-review/

P365 – SIG's New Wonder Weapon

by CLAY MARTIN *on* MARCH 17, 2018

Paradigm Shift *noun* UK /ˈpær.ə.daɪm ˌʃɪft/ US /ˈper.ə.daɪm ˌʃɪft/ formal – a time when the usual and accepted way of doing or thinking about something changes completely – Cambridge Dictionary

I need to start this review off by saying, I am no SIG fanboy. But facts are facts, and I always give credit when it is due. The new P365 is a game changer for concealed carry guns, and there are no two ways about that. I have seen and shot a lot of CCW guns in my day, and this one sets a new bar for excellence.

The new SIG Sauer P365 is a game changer for concealed carry guns.

As I write this, I am having trouble figuring out exactly why. On paper, the gun looks impressive, but not that far beyond its peers. It holds 10+1. Big deal. Other guns in this category hold 9+1, which isn't that far off. It's tiny. Well, so is a Glock 42. It has legitimate sights. That may be unusual, but it isn't unique. The trigger breaks at 5.5 pounds, again not that far from the pack, if any. The difference is, the SIG P365 shoots like Wyatt Earp's ghost is running the trigger, and I can't tell you with certainty how that is possible. From just looking at the specs of the gun, it makes no sense. But this thing runs like a prairie fire fueled by a tornado. For the moment, let's just attribute that to magic, which is as plausible an explanation as anything else.

The P365 is tiny. Here you can see what it looks like in the author's hands.

Features

When I first saw this gun at SHOT Show, I liked what was on offer. At first glance, I would have called it a G-42 double stack, which would still be a pretty neat gun. The secret to SIG having a tiny profile, but managing to cram 10 rounds in the magazine, comes from its tapered design. The magazine is actually a pyramid, with a long taper up to the round that feeds out of the top. SIG could have gotten more capacity by going with a wider body, but they hit the sweet spot of grip size and bullets and stopped. Bravo. The result is that the SIG is 3mm wider than a Glock in the grip, and fits 4 more rounds.

The SIG, for me at least, also hits the grip circumference size where it is extremely comfortable to shoot. At the slide, the SIG is 1mm wider than the Glock, which also makes it nice to tuck in your pants.

The sights on the P365 are big enough to use.

The sights on the P365 are big enough to use, with a nice wide rear notch. The front features an oversized bright green ring, which is perfect for daylight use. They are actually hard to miss, at least if you are looking for them. When the lights go out, 3 tritium dots take over, and they are sufficiently bright for any night use as well. The rear sights have a shelf for one-handed manipulation, should the need arise.

The controls are very well laid out, and sized with thought put into them. I like oversized magazine releases on race guns, but not on ones I stick in my pants. The P365 has a magazine release that is almost recessed, you

won’t drop a mag without trying. This makes reloads a little more difficult, but it does prevent accidental magazine release in the holster. I have had that happen with carry guns, and it would really suck to start a firefight with just the round in the chamber. Very nice design, I count the SIG work here as a positive. The slide release is exactly the balance needed of big enough to hit, but small enough not to inadvertently lock the slide.

The magazine release is designed for concealed carry. It’s recessed so that it’s not accidentally depressed on holstering, drawing, or during daily activities.

The trigger is the biggest mystery of the pistol. My trigger gauge says it breaks a 5.5 pounds. My finger says it is actually better than my P320X5, which before today was the gold standard in striker fired triggers. That doesn’t make sense, but it reflects in shooting as well. There is a small bit of takeup, then a clean break. The trigger geometry must include unicorn horns, or the SIG Engineers filled it with voodoo. I have no idea why, but the trigger feels a lot lighter than that when you shoot it. I was actually going to call them out for putting a 3 pound trigger in a carry gun before I gauged it. Whatever the reason, it makes the P365 run both extremely fast, and group very accurate.

Shooting the P365

Reliability wise, the P365 has that in spades too. I ran 500 rounds through the gun with no hiccups. And for most of that, I was also running my thumb on the side of the slide. It ate hollow points and ball, as fast as I could shoot them. I heard some rumors about reliability, so I actually took the P365 further than I needed to. I also fed it a box of Tula steel case, the worst ammo I have ever seen outside of the third world. The bangs might not have all sounded the same, but every round went off and ejected.

Recoil is extremely manageable in this gun as well. Using full power 9mm, I can barely tell the difference between the P365 and a full sized gun. That is also without explanation. If you watch my video, you will see the gun stays very flat throughout shooting. The grip has enough texture to help, but not enough to explain this alone. The recoil system is a dual spring design, but the slide feels no harder to manually rack than any other CCW gun. The bore axis is low, but not the lowest in class. That has the side benefit of not giving you slide bite as well.

Conclusion

I have long advocated using a CCW gun that is big enough to hang onto, and at first glance, this would not have fit the bill. But somehow, in use, it does. The gun points well, like an extension of your arm. The only odd part for me now is the draw, as I am looking for a tiny grip to lock up on. With training time, that will go away too. I

never thought I would say this, but the P365 isn't just a good carry gun. It is a good do anything gun. With the capacity on board and a potential of 12+1 with extended mags, there is no reason it can't. This gun is literally good enough to run 6 plate racks or compete in IDPA, and still be your gas station carry piece. I have never seen a pistol more worthy of fitting the EVERYTHING GUN description.

Specs

- CALIBER: 9mm Luger
- ACTION TYPE: Semi-Auto
- FRAME SIZE: Micro-Compact
- GRIP TYPE: Polymer
- FRAME FINISH: Nitron
- FRAME MATERIAL: Stainless Steel
- SLIDE FINISH: Nitron
- SLIDE MATERIAL: Stainless Steel
- ACCESSORY RAIL: SIG Rail
- TRIGGER: Striker
- TRIGGER TYPE: Standard
- BARREL LENGTH: 3.1 in (78 mm)
- OVERALL LENGTH: 5.8 in (147 mm)
- OVERALL WIDTH: 1.0 in (26 mm)
- HEIGHT: 4.3 in (109 mm)
- WEIGHT: 17.8 oz (500 g)
- MSRP: $599

Learn more about the SIG Sauer P365 by clicking here.

Holster Option For The P365

8 Mile

Let us not forget, a CCW gun is part of a system. The other parts of that system are holsters, magazines, and other daily carry items. Holsters can be a bear to find for a new gun, and we are always looking for the next great thing. With the P365 coming up, I made a discovery of excellent holsters that I can highly recommend. I

put in a call to Detroit Holster, and I was very happy with the results. I opted to order two models, the 8 Mile, and the Dix.
The Detroit Holster 8 mile is an IWB holster, kydex, with a belt clip. The cant is optional for 15 degrees forward, 30 degrees forward, or straight up and down.

The Dix is a minimalist holster, that covers pretty much just the trigger guard. A loop of 550 secures the holster to your belt, and a simple pull frees your weapon.

Both showed attention to detail that is way above par, such as kydex wings to cover the mag release, keeping it from dropping free in your pants. It is apparent from examination and use, Detroit Holster is run by people that carry guns. Thought has gone into every detail, and the holsters are amazingly comfortable.

8 Mile and Dex.

The fit is perfect for the gun, a sign of excellent craftsmen. I am very surprised I haven't heard of Detroit Holster before, and I thought about keeping this to myself to keep my wait times down. Whatever your carry gun, this shop is one you want to check out.

The holster partially covers the mag release to help prevent the mag from getting dropped during carry.

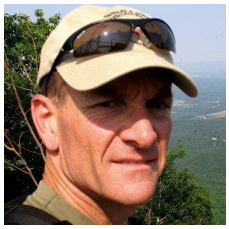
The front sight features an oversized bright green ring, which is perfect for daylight use.

The rear sights have a shelf for one-handed manipulation, should the need arise.

http://thefederalist.com/2018/12/12/top-10-reasons-ar-15/

Top 10 Reasons You Should Own An AR-15

Second to the muskets used in our revolutionary and civil wars, the AR-15 may be the most important firearm in American political history.



By Mark Overstreet
DECEMBER 12, 2018

In a recent item for The Federalist, David Harsanyi considered the M16 rifle one of the five most innovative firearms in American firearm development history. Yet something equally significant can be said about the semi-automatic AR-15 derived from the M16. Second to the muskets used in our revolutionary and civil wars, the AR-15 may be the most important firearm in American political history.

All told, more Americans have fired more rounds from more AR-15s for personal defense, defensive firearm training, marksmanship competitions, individual practice, and hunting than from any other rifle. For that reason, the AR-15 is the primary firearm upon which Americans would rely if they had to fight for freedom today.

Here are 10 reasons to own at least one AR-15 and to become skilled in its use.

1. Being armed is your right and may be your civic duty.

On the one hand, for defense against common criminals, handguns can have advantages over the other two basic types of firearms: rifles and shotguns. Within and away from the home, a handgun carried in a holster is always within reach. Also, a handgun is more easily wielded with one hand, while the other hand dials 911; opens or closes a door; pulls, pushes, or carries someone to safety; or is injured.

In the 42 states that have fair procedures for issuing permits to carry firearms away from home or that don't require a permit to do so, handguns are easier to carry because they are lighter and more compact, therefore more easily concealed. In addition, in some states, handguns are the only type of firearm a permit authorizes a person to carry.

On the other hand, common criminals are not the only threat, nor even the primary threat, because of which the Second Amendment prohibits government from infringing the right of

the people to keep and bear arms. The late civil rights lawyer Don B. Kates, in "The Second Amendment and the Ideology of Self-Protection" (1992), explained why:

> In the tradition from which the second amendment derives it was not only the unquestioned right, but a crucial element in the moral character of every free man that he be armed and willing to defend his family and the community against crime. . . . Moreover, arms were deemed to protect against every species of criminal usurpation, including 'political crime,' a phrase the Founders would have understood in its most literal sense. Whether murder, rape, and theft be committed by gangs of assassins, tyrannous officials and judges or pillaging soldiery was a mere detail; the criminality of [what Thomas Paine termed] the 'invader and plunderer' lay in his violation of natural law and rights, regardless of the guise in which he violated them.

2. The AR-15 is the most useful firearm with which to defend against 'every species of criminal usurpation' because, first and foremost, it is a rifle.

One day, new technologies in "arms"—"weapons of offense, or armour of defence," according to a popular Founding-era dictionary—will be introduced, and we should object to the rationale the Supreme Court has established for upholding laws that would prohibit people from owning them. However, for the present, rifles are the type of firearm most useful for the entire range of defensive applications, which, in addition to defense against common criminals, includes the three historic purposes of the militia: repelling invasions, suppressing insurrections, and defeating tyranny, the latter the threat the Framers had in mind when they adopted the Second Amendment.

Most of us don't have to worry about seaborne invasions today, because would-be invaders could not cross the Atlantic or Pacific oceans past our Navy, Coast Guard, and Air Force, and illegal entries into the United States via land routes are being handled by our Border Patrol; state, county, and local law enforcement officers; and National Guard (the militia's organized component, unless federalized), with support from our military.

Most of us don't have to worry about insurrections, either, except perhaps in Portland, Oregon, where police officers recently obeyed their Democrat mayor's order—like German police did during Kristallnacht—to stand down while a leftist rabble attacked some people, threatened others, and destroyed property.

By process of elimination, that leaves being prepared to defeat tyranny as the most relevant of the militia's purposes today, as James Madison and Alexander Hamilton envisioned in The Federalist Nos. 46, 28, and 29. That is to say, not to merely "resist" tyranny, as the late Justice Antonin Scalia, mischaracterizing Justice Joseph Story's "Commentaries on the Constitution,"

pretended in *District of Columbia v. Heller (2008, pp. 24-25)*, and certainly not to do so unsuccessfully (*Heller*, pp. 55-56).
Being prepared to defeat tyranny is relevant for another reason. When the left achieves absolute power in a country, it murders its political opponents.

The best way to deny the left absolute power in America is by defeating its candidates in every election, from president to dog catcher. As the Chinese military theoretician Sun Tzu wrote in "The Art of War" 2,500 years ago, "to win without fighting is the acme of skill." But as a precaution, we might be wise to remember the French and Indian War's Maj. Robert Rogers' "Rules of Ranging," the second of which is, "Have your musket [yesteryear's M16 or AR-15] clean as a whistle [and] be ready to march at a minute's warning."

In any event, rifles are the type of firearm most useful for the entire range of defensive applications because they are inherently more accurate than handguns and shotguns, are easier to shoot accurately, are more powerful across the greater distances at which they are effective, and can hold more rounds of ammunition. When armed with a rifle, a handgun's primary purpose is to be ready in the holster in case the rifle runs out of ammunition or malfunctions.

3. The AR-15 is a *semi-automatic* rifle.

Having failed to get handguns banned in the 1970s, disarmament activists, Democrat politicians, and their supporters in the news media began vilifying semi-automatic rifles, a category of firearms introduced in the late 19th century. In the 1980s, The New York Times, Newsweek, and an anti-gun activist linked to domestic handgun prohibition and international disarmament groups claimed that semi-automatic rifles were popular with "private societies" of Christians and Jews, "paramilitary extremists," "survivalists," and other "fanatics of the far right."

When such claims didn't convince anyone other than fanatics of the far left, the anti-gunners began complaining instead that the rifles have pistol grips (like every handgun invented over the last few hundred years) and that some have adjustable-length stocks (like rifles used in Olympic and other precision-oriented marksmanship sports).

Ergonomic grips and stocks that are adjustable to the user's physique and clothing can be advantages when firing a rifle. However, as explained by Maj. Gen. Julian S. Hatcher, former commanding general of the U.S. Army Ordnance Training Center and chief of Ordnance

Training Service, in his 1947 book, "Hatcher's Notebook," the primary benefit of a semi-automatic rifle, as compared to a rifle requiring manual operation of its loading mechanism between shots, is that you can continue holding a semi-automatic rifle normally, keeping sight of your target, while it reloads itself, and be ready to aim your next shot once the rifle stops recoiling from the previous shot. This is particularly easy with the vast majority of AR-15s, in part because they use relatively lightly recoiling ammunition.

4. The AR-15 is one of the most validated rifles in history.

The Model 1898 Mauser, Lee-Enfield, Moisin-Nagant, and AK-47 probably win on this count, but the AR-15, introduced in 1963, isn't very far behind. Americans privately own several million more AR-15 rifles and carbines than the number of M16s and carbine-variant M4s in military inventory, and they buy about 1 million new AR-15s every year.

Over the last 55 years, the AR-15 has been improved more often and in more ways than the M16 and M4, and today it is the most versatile semi-automatic rifle in history. It is more accurate and, properly maintained, more reliable than the supposedly ultra-reliable AK-47 and the legendary M1 "Garand," which, during World War II, Gen. George S. Patton called "the greatest battle implement ever devised." Furthermore, some AR-15s exceed military specifications for the M16 and M4 in terms of accuracy and quality controls related to durability and reliability.

5. The AR-15 is the most modular rifle in history.

AR-15s can be configured for the two practical purposes of firearms—fighting and hunting—or for competitions or informal practice. There are versions with rifle length, carbine length, and shorter barrels, some of which are designed to emphasize accuracy, some to emphasize durability. They can be had with fixed-length stocks or with the adjustable-length stocks Democrats don't want you to have.

Slings designed for the AR-15 allow you to support the rifle across your front to be ready for use, stabilize the rifle when aiming, switch quickly between right-handed and left-handed shooting, quickly secure the rifle to your side when transitioning to your handgun, and secure the rifle across your back when you need both hands free to perform some other task.

AR-15s have the best iron sights ever invented for a fighting rifle, they're commonly equipped with red dot and telescopic sights, and they can use night vision and thermal sights. They're

also commonly equipped with handguards that accommodate flashlights, visible lasers, infrared illuminators, and infrared lasers for use in low-light conditions.

All AR-15s—except for those manufactured during the 10 years the federal "ban" on so-called "assault weapons" was in effect, those manufactured in disfigured form to comply with the laws of several states dominated by Democrats, and a few others—have attachments that mitigate recoil, dissipate the puff of smoke and flash of light associated with firing a rifle, or both. Additionally, some of those attachments accommodate devices that reduce the loudness of gunshots, to protect your hearing and to make it easier to hear safety-related instructions when training or practicing on a supervised range.

6. In most cases, you can fix your AR-15 yourself.

If Never Trumpers, self-styled conservative purists, and "independents" don't vote Republican in November 2020, and the following year a Democrat president and Congress ban AR-15s (for real, this time), you will be able to keep your previously acquired AR-15s running with a handful of relatively inexpensive, previously acquired parts that you can install yourself, without the services of a gunsmith. No other firearm, with the exception of the Glock pistol, is so easy to maintain.

Because the Democrats' gun ban would include a ban on magazines holding more than 10 rounds and would cause a run on ammunition, you might be wise to also stock up on a dozen or more standard-equipment, 30-round magazines, several 20-round magazines, and a case or two of M193, M855, Mk 262, or Mk 318 ammunition, the primers and case necks of which are crimped and sealed for increased reliability.

One other thing: remember to watch out for the nuclear bombs that Democrat presidential hopeful Rep. Eric Swalwell wants the military to drop on you for refusing to hand your AR-15s over to the government.

7. The AR-15 is the rifle most commonly used for defensive firearm training.

Some people believe they are skilled with a gun because they own one. Fortunately, most never find themselves in situations in which that assumption costs them their lives. Anyone who is serious about being capable of using firearms proficiently for defensive purposes should take classes with instructors who specialize in defensive skills training. When you attend such classes, almost all of your instructors and fellow students will be using AR-15s.

8. The AR-15 is the rifle most commonly used for marksmanship competitions.

Some gun hobbyists think competitions are important for their own sake. However, from a defense-related perspective, competitions have value to the extent that they support training objectives and provide a venue for testing and validating product improvements.

As they are currently conducted, competitions have next to zero value in terms of offensive or defensive tactics training, but you can nevertheless benefit from participating in the action-oriented variety of them because they include target-shooting scenarios that will show you some of the skills in which you are weakest, thus upon which you need to work.

9. If you are skilled with your AR-15, you can help prepare young Americans for military service.

Want to "support our troops" in a tangible way? Get trained and share your knowledge with tomorrow's uniformed warriors before they sign up for duty. The manual of arms for the AR-15 is identical to that of the M16s and M4s that are issued in the military. Recruits have to qualify with their rifles during basic training, and those who already have experience with the AR-15 will be ahead of the game in their knowledge of safety procedures, marksmanship, loading and unloading procedures, and malfunction clearing procedures.

10. The more Americans who own AR-15s, the more likely the Supreme Court will consider them "in common use."

As I explained in an essay for The Federalist earlier this year, in *Heller* the Supreme Court incorrectly said that the Constitution protects the right of the people to keep and bear only such arms as are "in common use." One of the many problems with that idea is that no matter how many AR-15s there are and how many Americans own them, judges and justices who don't want you to have them can claim that they aren't common enough to be considered "common." However, until that portion of *Heller* is corrected, the more Americans who own AR-15s, the ever so slightly harder it will be for those judges and justices to do that with a straight face.

Mark Overstreet is a firearm instructor and author in central Texas. He retired in 2016 as the senior research coordinator of the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action, after 25 years with the organization. He is also retired from the Army Reserve, after 23 years

including duty as a combat cameraman in Iraq. His views do not necessarily reflect those of the NRA or the Department of Defense. He can be reached at Mark@PanoplyTactical.com.

Photo Mark Overstreet / The Federalist

http://thefederalist.com/2018/10/17/the-five-most-important-guns-in-american-history/

The Five Most Important Guns In American History

From the Long rifle to the AR-15, the story of firearm innovation is inextricably tied to the story of the United States.

By David Harsanyi
OCTOBER 17, 2018

This piece is adapted from David Harsanyi's new book, "*First Freedom: A Ride Through America's Enduring History with the Gun*" (Threshold Editions).

1. Kentucky Rifle

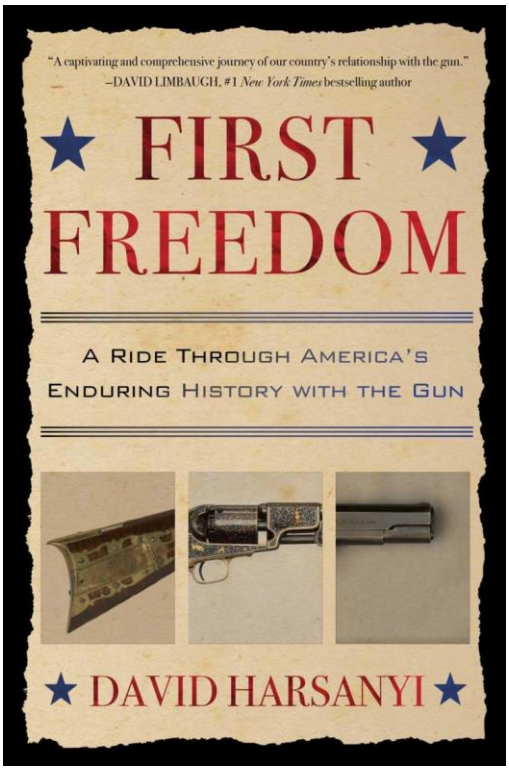
Martin Meylin has been credited with being the first great American gunmaker and inventor of the Pennsylvania long rifle—which was to become known as the Kentucky long rifle ("Kentucky," in those days, being anything in the wilderness west of Pennsylvania). Meylin's small cobblestone workshop still stands off a two-lane road in Lancaster. Local schools are named after him. Plaques have been erected in his honor. State politicians have even written legislation commemorating his contribution to American life.

Well, while we know that Meylin left his home in Zurich, Switzerland, around 1710, and ended up in the German-speaking area of Lancaster County—a place that would become the center of American gun innovation for more than a century—we don't know much else. And while it is tidy to give a single inventor credit for the gun, it's probably the case that numerous inventors and blacksmiths engineered the Kentucky rifle over a period of decades.

The invention created by these German-speaking immigrants and their children changed the way Americans hunted, fought, and explored. Captain John Dillin, author of a popular book about the Kentucky rifle in the 1920s, would claim that the gun "changed the whole course of world history; made possible the settlement of a continent; and ultimately freed our country of foreign domination. Light in weight; graceful in line; economical in consumption of powder and lead; fatally precise; distinctly American; it sprang into immediate popularity; and for a hundred years was a model often slightly varied but never radically changed."

The rifle—the word derived from the German *riffeln*, meaning to cut grooves—was first developed in Europe as a sporting weapon for noblemen to hunt with more precision. The invention of gun barrels with spiral grooves on the interior was likely to have originated among a number of blacksmiths in southern Germany and Switzerland. The physics of spinning propulsion as a means of improving aim was known to weapons makers for thousands of years—ever since feathers were placed on arrows to make them spin. Muskets of early America were smoothbore weapons, and ammunition was fired at relatively low velocity. Moreover, the musket ball, which fit loosely when loaded down the muzzle, would bounce off the inside of the barrel when fired, making the final landing place unpredictable. The rifle Meylin and other gunsmiths made, on the other hand, immediately offered shooters decent accuracy at 150 or more yards—or a hundred more than an average musket.

The first German gunsmiths of Pennsylvania produced traditional Jäger rifles. Expensive and often ornate, they were short, easy-to carry, large-ammunition flintlock guns built to be quickly reloaded so that the carrier could hunt big game in dense German forests. The Kentucky rifle would feature a more elegant and elongated design. The longer barrel would increase the distance between the rear and front sights, giving the shooter a better bead on his target. A gun typically weighed only around nine to ten pounds: much lighter than a musket and therefore much easier to carry. The bore size, or "caliber"—which represents the diameter of the barrel—was reduced to save on powder and lead. The .45-caliber long rifle could deliver three times the number of shots from the same amount of powder that was used in the typically .75-caliber musket. These improvements made hunting for game—the most important use of the gun at the time—much more successful.



There were downsides to the weapon, of course, as the American revolutionaries would soon learn. For starters, rifles could be incredibly difficult to load. Fitting a projectile into a bore tightly enough to engage the rifling sometimes required hammering it all the way down the barrel. This was fine for a frontiersman who was hunting deer, but it created a perilous situation for a soldier. Another disadvantage of rifled weapons was that the black powder burned dirty and the grooves gunked up with residue after a few shots. This fouling often made loading impossible until the barrel was cleaned with a damp swab.

Yet, the imagination and techniques mastered by Meylin and others like him offered the thousands of incoming settlers and explorers the opportunity to continue to push into the wilderness of the Cumberland Mountains and surrounding areas. It was a gun that involved reengineering and reimagining Old World technology and was adapted to the rigors and uniqueness of frontier life, playing a large part in the Western mythos and becoming a standard tool of the American woodsman.

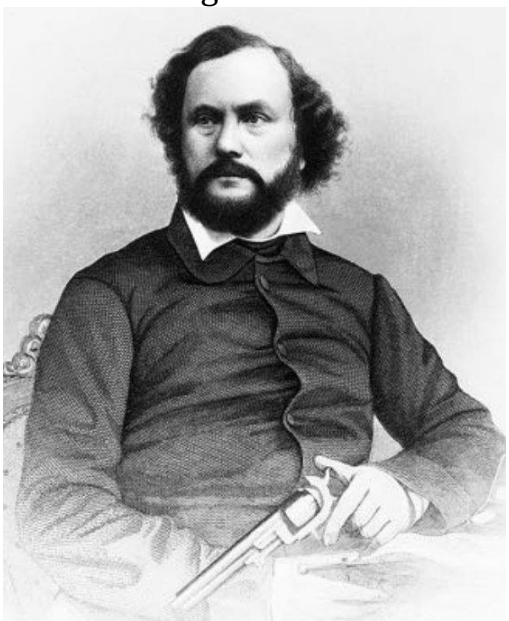
2. Colt's "Peacemaker"

Like the Kentucky rifle, the revolver was a distinctly American invention. Unlike the Kentucky rifle, however, the revolver's development, production, and initial popularity can be largely attributed to one man, Samuel Colt. The Connecticut native was not merely a mechanical virtuoso but a promotional and manufacturing mastermind who would become a template of

the nineteenth-century American industrialist, epitomizing the exuberance and possibilities of the populist era of mid-1800s American life.

A self-made man, Colt was prodigious, a tireless self-promoter, innovator, autodidact, and mythmaker. His nose for opportunity made him one of the wealthiest men of his day. With this success came a leap forward in firearm technology. Colt invented the first hands-on, workable, mass-produced revolving firearm. And with his gun, he became one of the first industrialists to take advantage of mass marketing, celebrity endorsements, and corporate mythology to sell his product—a success that laid the groundwork for twentieth-century businessmen, including Henry Ford. In practical terms, his gun was more deadly, more accessible, more dynamic, and more useful than any that had ever been designed before it. It would play a part in carving out the West, revolutionizing war, and transforming the role of the gun in modern American life.

Although he certainly perfected the idea, multi-chambered guns already existed when Colt came up with his first revolver. Pepperbox pistols, for instance, were widely owned and used by the time Colt was first carving out his wooden model for the revolver. Named after the pepper grinders they resembled, these handguns had to be manually rotated, and were notoriously unreliable and difficult to aim because of the front-loaded weight of the multiple barrels. In 1814, the year Colt was born, the Boston inventor Elisha Collier had taken out a patent on a five-shot flintlock model pistol. Collier's development was to invent a gun that was "self-priming": in other words, when the hammer of the weapon was cocked, a compartment automatically released a measured amount of gunpowder into the pan for another charge.



Sam Colt

At the age of twenty-one, though, Colt decided to patent the idea he'd been toying with for years: the repeating revolver, It made a singular technical advance—what may seem obvious to us now: rather than relying on five barrels, Colt's invention had a rotating cylinder that came into alignment with a single barrel. When cocked for firing, the next chamber revolved automatically to bring the next shot into line with the barrel. The gun included a locking pawl to keep the cylinder in line with the barrel, and a percussion cap that made it more reliable than any other gun available dominant mechanism of American weapons. The patent protected Colt's fundamental ideas until 1857, by which time he was enormously wealthy and world-famous.

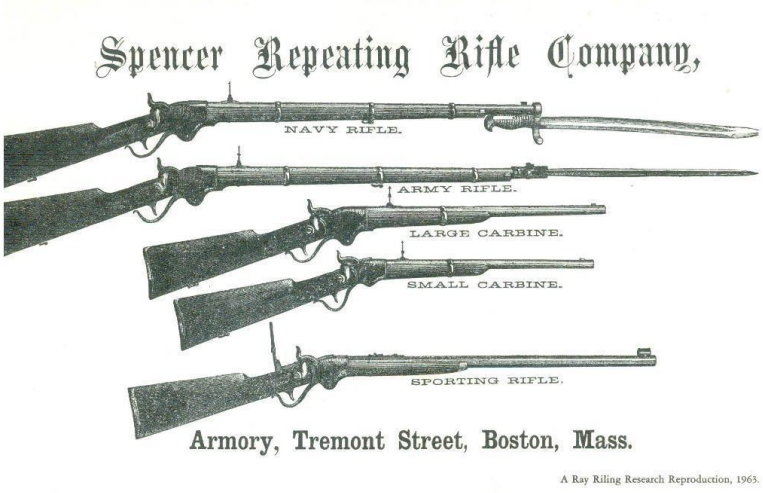
Colt would sell the Walker, Dragoon, and the Navy models. But it was the Single Action Army—more famously known as the "Peacemaker"—that would embody his legacy. An elegant gun with a practical and streamlined design, it took on near-mythological status not merely because of its easy use but because of the legendary men who claimed to shoot it. The first model gun had a solid frame that weighed around three pounds, a .45-caliber with a 7.5-inch barrel, blued steel, and an oil-stained walnut grip. It was soon one of the most popular guns ever made. In 1872, the Army's Ordnance Board would adopt it for service.
It was likely Colt himself who came up with the moniker "Peacemaker" for his gun. It was not merely a stab at irony or an adman's clever copy. Colt often, and vigorously, argued that this gun could empower the average American. The average man could order one through the mail for the somewhat affordable price of $17 and have a light but powerful weapon within weeks. And selling his guns to civilians—every civilian, if possible—would be Colt's principal goal.

The weapon could be brandished for self-protection, of course, but it was a firearm so formidable that war was to become too destructive to be worth engaging in, Colt argued. The gun was, to him, an imperative tool in fulfilling the American dream on both a personal and providential scale. A Colt made one man six. "Place a revolver in the hands of a dwarf . . . and he is equal to a giant," he said.

3. Spencer's repeating rifle

On August 18, 1863, the inventor Christopher Spencer arrived at the White House to meet President Abraham Lincoln, who was fascinated by the mechanics of new guns, with his rifle in hand. The president would later refer to the inventor as "a quiet little Yankee who sold himself in relentless slavery to his idea for six weary years before it was perfect."

The two men, surrounded by cabinet members and a smattering of other government officials, strolled to a spot not too far from where the Lincoln Monument now stands to have a shooting contest. “The target was a board about six inches wide and three feet high, with a black spot on each end, about forty yards away,” Spencer recalled. “The rifle contained seven cartridges. Mr. Lincoln’s first shot was about five inches low, but the next shot hit the bull’s-eye and the other five were close around it.”



“‘Now,’ said Mr. Lincoln,” according to Spencer, “ ‘we will see the inventor try it.’ The board was reversed and I fired at the other bull’s-eye, beating the president a little. ‘Well,’ said he, ‘you are younger than I am and have a better eye and a steadier nerve.’ ” It was in this moment that Lincoln finally decided these repeating rifle would be the gun of the Union.

While that last bit is almost surely mythology, the Spencer repeating rifle that Lincoln shot that day would take less nerve to use than any of the muzzle-loaded rifles being fired by the soldiers battling in the Civil War. Even in the best of conditions, the bravest and most competent soldier could fire a single-shot, muzzle-loaded gun—the dominant gun of the Civil War—perhaps three times in a minute. The Spencer rifle offered the soldier a spring-loaded, seven-shot tubular magazine in the butt of the gun. Its lever action ejected a spent cartridge and chambered a fresh one. A man could empty his entire magazine well within a minute and already be reloaded.

When an Army captain tested the Spencer rifle for the Union, he fired it more than eighty times without a single misfire. He then let the gun sit outside in the rain and sun. No problem. It still fired perfectly. Dyer buried the weapon in the sand, yet there was still no clogging of the mechanisms—even without cleaning. When he put the breech mechanism in salt water for twenty-four hours, it still worked.

General Ulysses S. Grant called Spencer's rifles "the best breech-loading arms available."

Like many later historians, Robert V. Bruce argued in his book *Lincoln and the Tools of War* that if the Union had adopted the repeating rifle earlier, "Gettysburg would certainly have ended the war. More likely, Chancellorsville or even Fredericksburg would have done it, and history would record no Gettysburg Address, no President Grant, perhaps no carpetbag reconstruction or Solid South."

Bruce laid the blame for this calamity on the close-minded ordnance general James Wolfe Ripley. As a brigadier general in the Union Army during the Civil War, the rigid Ripley instituted a number of successful upgrades, including modernizing supply chains and artillery ordnance. Yet it was Ripley's dislike of breech-loading repeating rifles—he called one a "newfangled gimcracker"—for which he is best remembered. Ripley had been witness to numerous allegedly game-changing inventions that failed during his time in American armory in Springfield, which made him skeptical of new loading techniques. Specifically, he believed breech-loading guns promoted waste and undermined discipline in battle.

But this, too, was likely revisionism. Though repeating rifles would dominate gun making in the coming decades and change the way Americans thought about shooting, even if the North had been able to ramp up production to arm enough troops to make a difference, it is unlikely the military would have been able to instill the principles and training necessary to make guns like the Spencer repeating rifle the dominant gun of the war.

Moreover, Lincoln had *already* directed Ripley to order Spencer repeating rifles by the time he fired the gun: more than 10,000 of them would be delivered to the Army and Navy by 1862, and another 37,000 had already been ordered. The gun, in fact, had already seen action by the time the Spencer and Lincoln were shooting at their targets. Union troops commanded by Colonel John T. Wilder's "Lightning Brigade" had defeated the notably larger Confederate forces at the Battle of Chickamauga using some of the new repeating guns. One dazed Southern prisoner reportedly asked a Union officer, "What kind of *Hell-fire* guns have your men got?"

4. The Browning 1911

On June 28, 1914, Gavrilo Princip, a Bosnian Serb, pulled a Browning pistol from his coat and shot twice, killing Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria and his wife, Sophie, the Duchess of Hohenberg. Before the nineteen-year-old was able to turn the gun on himself, a group of bystanders standing nearby on the Sarajevo street tackled him and grabbed the gun. The

scene was mayhem. Franz Ferdinand's bloody undershirt and Princip's gun would end up in the hands of a Jesuit priest named Anton Puntigam, a close friend, who had performed the blood-soaked last rites on the archduke and his wife.

The repercussions of this event, well-known and massive, would embroil millions and change the world forever. Yet we would be remiss not to point out that even a bumbling assassin with a half-baked plan needed only two shots from a Browning Model 1910 to plunge the world into conflict. The Browning pistol, after all, was one of the most reliable and sturdy handguns ever produced. What makes the gun even more amazing is that it was one of about a dozen game-changing inventions concocted by its inventor, John Browning.


In one way or another, Browning's ideas played a part in nearly every conflict in the twentieth century as he invented and conceptualized the modern gun. The rest would merely be tinkering and streamlining his foundational ideas. Browning brought his creations to a host of gun manufacturers around the world, and those gunmakers who didn't work with him would copy him. By the end of his career, the man from Utah had a say in virtually every category of firearms in existence: rifles, pistols, shotguns, machine guns, and cannons.

One of his most lasting guns would be the 1911.

Browning's patents evolved into the Model 1900, the Model 1903, the Model 1910, and finally the Colt Model 1911, which would possess numerous components that are still widely used in semiautomatic pistols—including, most recognizably, the detachable magazines that could be loaded in the butts of the guns. When the U.S. Army put the gun to its standard 6,000-shot test (allowing cooling every 100 rounds and cleaning every 1,000), it accomplished the task without a single failure of any kind.

During World War I its reputation was further buttressed by stories of American bravery. Most famous was the case of Alvin Cullum York, better known as Sergeant York, one of the most decorated American soldiers of the conflict. York famously received a Medal of Honor for leading an attack on a German machine-gun nest, killing at least 25 enemy soldiers and capturing 132. York, a Tennessean whose blacksmith father still hunted with a flintlock rifle, was also pacifist who had petitioned for conscientious objector status. "Don't Want to Fight" was his stated reason. He was denied.

In October 1918, York found himself in command of his unit after an ambush killed two of his commanding officers. He helped fight off more than a hundred Germans. After his Springfield rifle was exhausted of ammunition, York claimed to have repelled a German bayonet charge of six soldiers with nothing more than his 1911 pistol. An investigator would later find twenty-three .45 rounds fired from a Colt 1911 handgun on the site.

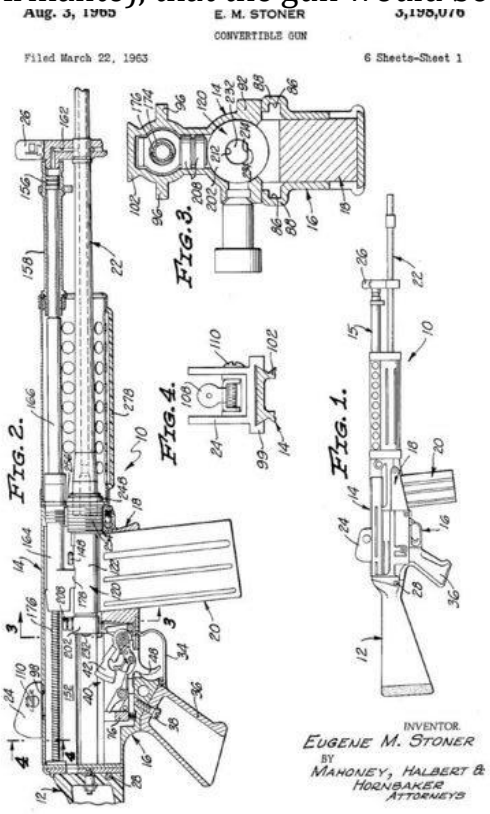
The gun York used would be the standard-issue sidearm of the United States armed forces from 1911 to 1986; in other words, American soldiers holstered the gun from before World War I nearly to the end of the Cold War. It would be widely embraced by American law enforcement and become a bestseller in the civilian marketplace. Colt produced more than 2.6 million military pistols based on the 1911 design and another 400,000 for civilians. All told, nearly 5 million were manufactured by various gunmakers.

5. Stoner's AR-15/M-16

Eugene Stoner was nothing more than a gun hobbyist shooting off rounds of his strange homemade rifle on a local Southern California range during the summer, when executives for the struggling Los Angeles firm ArmaLite spotted the young man. Stoner, who was something of an aviation technology expert when the men first approached him in 1945, would become the chief engineer of the small gun manufacturer, embracing the kind of jet-age idealism that allowed it to break free of the constraints of traditional gun design.

ArmaLite had shown early interest in hybridizing technological advances of World War II airplane design, of plastics and alloys, with their small arms. Although it took a long time for Stoner to get it right, and an even longer time to convince military leaders it could work, his creation dominates the rifle market to this day. In 1955, when Stoner completed the first version of his AR-10—a light, seven-pound selective-fire rifle—the company began receiving some notice. But it wasn't until the summer of 1960, when controversial Air Force general Curtis LeMay—the creator of the strategic bombing campaign in the Pacific theater during

World War II and reportedly the model for General Buck Turgidson in Stanley Kubrick's *Dr. Strangelove*—attended an Independence Day picnic sponsored by Colt (which had bought Armalite), that the gun would become a military concern.



Stoner patent, 1965

As the tale goes, General LeMay was handed an AR-15 by Colt reps (the "AR" stands for Armalite, not "assault weapon"), who placed three watermelons at distances of 50, 100, and 150 yards. The general shot two of them and handed back the gun. When asked if he wanted to shoot the third, LeMay replied, "Hell, no, let's eat it." So impressed was LeMay after only two squeezes of the trigger, it seems, that he ordered 80,000 rifles on the spot.

Like the Lincoln-Spencer moment, this moment is probably less than the entire truth. Whatever the case, after initial mechanical and maintenance problem had been rectified, the AR's military iteration, the M16, would be adopted by the United States Army .
In 1997, Stoner died in his garage while tinkering with guns at the age of seventy-four, a wealthy and content man. The gun he invented would not bear his name, nor would most Americans even know who he was. His AR-15 would be manufactured by dozens of American companies, including major Bushmaster, Remington Arms, and Smith & Wesson, becoming the most popular rifle in America. The civilian AR-15, which had a military appearance if not military power, would become increasingly controversial because mass murderers would

often use them. Stoner's family would claim that the inventor never intended for his famous gun to fall into civilian hands. This seems unlikely, considering that both ArmaLite and Colt sold the gun directly to the civilian marketplace before they ever agreed on large military contracts. Never once during the many years the gun was sold to Americans is there any evidence that Stoner was troubled by the civilian sales—or his profession, for that matter.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/bushnell-xrs-ii-2/

Bushnell Elite Tactical XRS II Tracking Test and Full Review

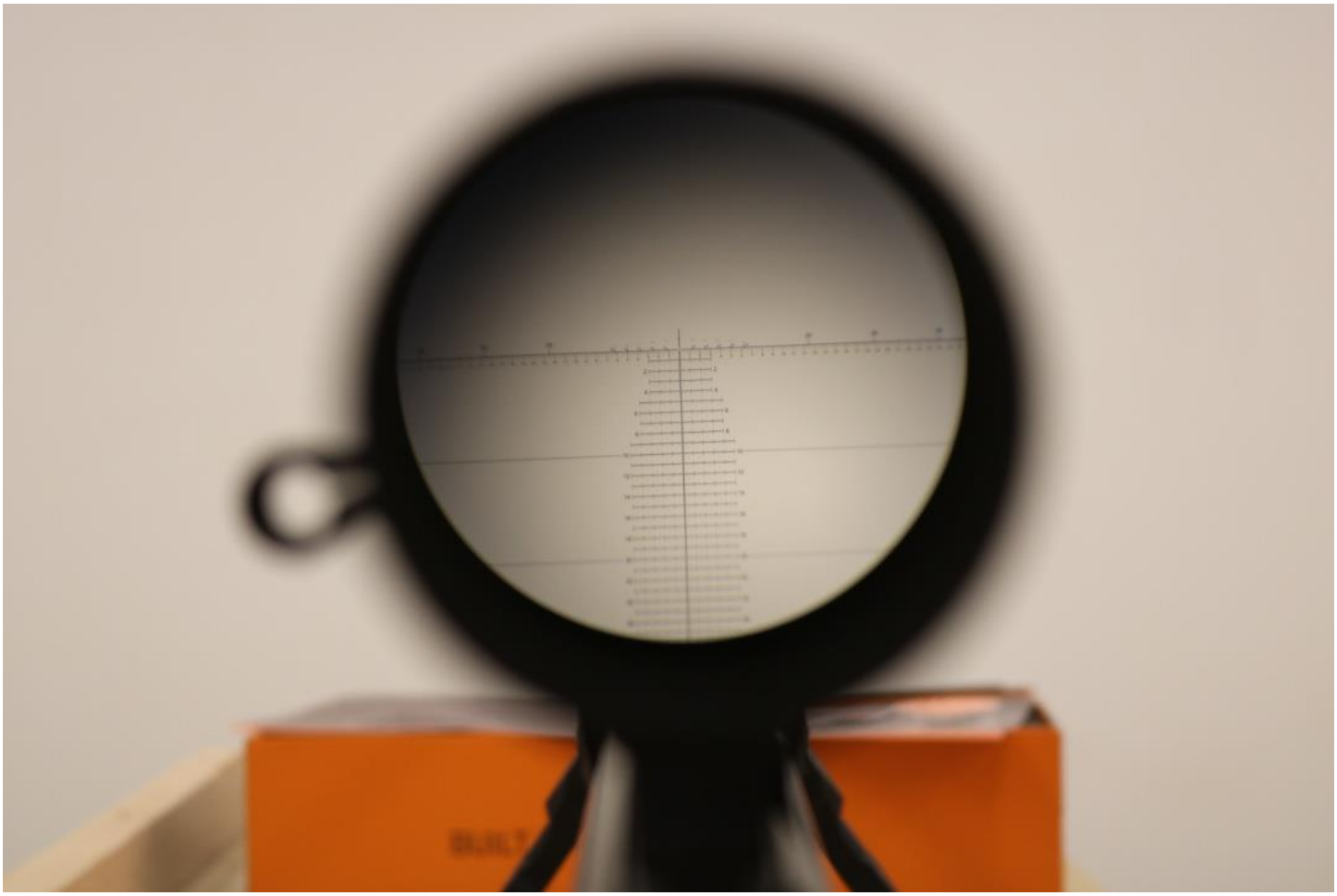
by CLAY MARTIN *on* SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

We introduced the XRS II from Bushnell back in March, and finally now in August I am prepared to give an in-depth review. As the flagship of the Bushnell Elite Tactical line, my expectations are high. In fact, I feel morally obligated to beat up my Bushnells more than any other brand in reviews. As a scope I have often recommended, I have to ensure I'm not letting my personal feelings get in the way of objectivity. And happily, the XRS II delivered in a manner I have grown to expect.

The first test for any scope billed as long-range capable is a tracking test. That may or may not be something you are familiar with, because we haven't known we needed to do it that long. Not that many years ago, we largely lacked the bullets and guns that were accurate enough for it to matter anyway.

As ballistics and metallurgy have progressed, however, things have changed. A decade ago a 1000 yard shot was still considered a long way. Now it is a chip shot, barely worth talking about with a 6.5 Creedmore. As our ranges pushed further and further, we collectively started questioning other links in the firing chain. And it turns out that a lot of older scopes we liked were actually not up to snuff.

A fair bit of this also has to do with the introduction of ballistic computers. If we can put a rover on Mars, we can calculate the flight path of a chunk of lead and copper in a given atmosphere. In the day when a databook was king, we didn't question our scopes. It was a given that guns shot differently, and voodoo and black magic, so your data for 700 yards might be different than my data for 700 yards. Computers changed the game. A bullet, of a given shape and weight, at the same twist and muzzle velocity, flies the same path. It doesn't care if it came from your serial numbered rifle or mine. So if in the real-world we start to have deviations, something else is wrong.



Scope tracking is the number one reason people don't trust ballistic solvers. If you are using a very good program, like Applied Ballistics, and you input your data right, the computer is never wrong. At least not inside of the supersonic flight window. Over and over again people have told me the computer is wrong, and without fail something else is to blame. They never checked tracking and now the mystery is solved.

So where does tracking matter? Well, it actually depends on how bad the error is. If you always shoot inside of 800 yards, does a .1 mil tracking error really matter? No. But a .5 error does and I have seen that. And if you are shooting way out there at a mile and further, every little bit adds up. At the very least, knowing where or if an error exists will help you to mitigate it.

With the XRS II, tracking was extremely important. It has a 30x top end magnification, along with a monstrous 33 mils of internal travel. Bushnell is playing for all the marbles with this one.

With a tracking test, some people will use just a visual test. That is, line up the crosshairs on the target with the scope in a vise. Starting at the bottom, they click up by full mils, and the crosshair should stop on each mil line of the calibrated target. It probably works the same, but I have always liked to do a shooting test. To me, it is a more complete verification that the scope does what it looks like it does. This is not an easy thing to do since most people don't have mountains for backstops. Fortunately, I have those in spades, so I live fire mine.

And the XRS II passed with flying colors. I had one little shenanigan at the 9 mil mark, which another shot proved to be human error. 20 perfect shots in a row is a tall order, and I pulled one. Other than that, I was blown away. This Bushnell tracks like a much more expensive scope, matching the top end Night Force I tested last

year. At about half the price. Then it returns to zero like a dog fetching a ball. A good dog, not one of my savages.

So tracking completed, how is everything else? Wins across the board it turns out. The controls are solid, with a locking windage knob. As stated, the 33 mils of elevation travel is absolutely bananas. For reasons I can't imagine, they decided to go ahead and match that with 33 mils of windage travel. These boys are serious.

The zero stop, named the RevLimiter ™, is one of the easiest I have encountered to set. Back in the Army, with our scopes, setting the zero was one of the biggest pains in the business. It was often a 2-man, 4-hand affair to hold all the widgets in place while tightening screws, etc., followed by checking the zero again to find you were off by .2 mils. In short, it sucked. The RevLimiter ™ is simple and easy, and I had no trouble setting it myself. In big, bold directions when you open the box is a "STOP READ THIS" sheet. It is something you need to read, but the process is child's play. The set screws and mechanical devices seem robust and sturdy, which is also a nice change.

The parallax is well thought out in this scope, and it packs plenty of adjustments. After setting the focus properly, I was able to adjust for any range, including close up 50-meter shooting. This is a very nice feature. Often in scopes of this price range, it is impossible to get a clear picture at even 100 meters for zeroing. The XRS II excelled here.

Clarity is kind of the last metric to judge with a scope, and also the most arbitrary. It has also been a very smoke-filled summer in Idaho, our native natural disaster being forest fires. What I am saying here is that I don't have the tools to judge the clarity on a scientific basis; I can only give my opinion. I do have mutant level 20/10 vision, even on a bad day, so my opinion may also be different than yours. In clarity, I felt like the Bushnell did well for its price. Most of the glass is very good, but you would notice a difference here if something like a NightForce was side by side with it. There was a tiny bit of fuzz at the very edges of the glass, but nothing I would complain about. Unless you go to the $4,000 price range of scopes, you aren't going to beat it.

All in all, this is an excellent buy. If you want to play serious long-range ball, the XRS II will get the job done. Combined with a well-deserved reputation for durability, this would be my choice in the $2,000-$3,000 scope arena.

Specs

- Finish: BlackPower x
- Obj.Lens: 4.5-30X50mm
- Reticle: Horus H59
- Lens Coating: Fully Multi-coated
- RainGuard HD: Yes
- Tube Diameter: 34mm
- Parallax Adjustment: 75 yards to infinity
- Field of View: ft@100yds/m@100m24@4.5x/3.6@30x / 7.31@4.5x/1.09@30x

- Weight: oz/gr37.8/1070
- Length: in/mm370/14.5
- Eye Relief: in/mm3.74/95
- Exit Pupil: mm9.3/1.6
- Click Value: in.@100yds/mm@100m0.1MIL/Click
- Adj Range: in.@100yds/mm@100m15/9
- Mounting Length: in/mm163/6.4
- Focal Plane: First Focal Plane

Visit Bushnell to learn more about Bushnell XRS IIby clicking HERE.

http://www.handgunsmag.com/editorial/federal-syntech-action-pistol/329413

Federal Syntech Action Pistol

J. Scott Rupp - December 07, 2018

Two years ago, Federal introduced its Syntech ammunition. I wrote a review of it in our June/July 2016 issue, and I was impressed by what it had to offer: a polymer-coated bullet that delivers less fouling, less friction (and therefore less barrel-killing heat) and less splash-back when firing at steel targets. And with its Total Synthetic Jacket and lead-free Catalyst primer, the ammunition meets lead-free restrictions in force at some ranges.

I was impressed, but after the much-ballyhooed introduction, nothing happened. To be honest, I thought the trail had gone cold, that shooters hadn't responded to this innovative new ammo. Not so.

The lack of attention was due to market factors: Federal was so busy churning out standard ammo to meet demand that the Syntech project was basically shunted aside as the Anoka, Minnesota,

manufacturing plant—the largest ammo-making facility on the globe—focused on catching up with other orders.

But in the meantime, one of the company's project managers, Justin Johnson, was competing in local U.S. Practical Shooting Association matches in Minnesota and realized nobody was shooting factory ammo. The light bulb went off in his head: What if we were to offer something of value to people who wanted to compete but didn't want to reload?

The Action Pistol version of Syntech (r.) compared to the standard load. The Action Pistol's flat nose hits steel harder and tears better holes in cardboard targets.

Enter Syntech Action Pistol. Right from the factory it meets USPSA Power Factor. If you're not familiar with Power Factor, it's a formula—bullet weight in grains times velocity in feet per second, divided by 1,000—that determines whether your scoring in a USPSA match will be Major (165 PF) or Minor (125 PF) and what division you can compete in. For instance, all competitors entering Production division—basically stock, off-the-shelf guns—shoot Minor, and almost all 9mms fall into the Minor category as well.

Without diving too deeply into this, Power Factor is set up so shooters can't "cheat" by using low-power ammo, which would give them an advantage because they can make hits faster due to lower recoil and less muzzle rise.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, you don't want to exceed a given Power Factor by more than is necessary, and most standard ammo is a lot snappier than you want or need. That's why most active shooters reload, building ammo that comfortably makes Power Factor (you want a fudge factor to account for temperature differences and chronograph variations) but no more.

Federal estimates only about 20 percent of action shooters use factory ammo, and this is where the company saw an opportunity to create a round that would meet the USPSA's Power Factors but not require shooters to reload. And with its sanction as the official ammunition of USPSA, shooters can bypass the chronograph test required at most matches because their ammo is guaranteed to make Power Factor.

If you look at this ammo you'll see the grain weights are not traditional. For example, the 9mm weighs 150 grains. This is not some arbitrary weight. It is the end result of a lot of experimentation to find a soft-shooting load that makes Power Factor.

This weight might seem counterintuitive. A heavy bullet recoils more than a light bullet, right? Yes and no. If a heavy bullet is loaded to full SAAMI specs, yes. But because Power Factor is based on both bullet weight and velocity, a heavy bullet at slow speeds makes Power Factor and will be softer shooting than a lighter bullet that must be pushed much faster to make the threshold.

You'll also notice the Action Pistol version of the Syntech bullet has a different meplat. It's flat instead of rounded like you'd find on a typical full metal jacket.

The flat nose accomplishes two things. One, it delivers more energy on steel targets, knocking them down faster and also making it more likely an edge hit will do the trick.

It also tears larger, cleaner holes in cardboard targets. This is important because if a bullet hole touches the perforation of a higher scoring ring, the shooter gets credit for the higher-value hit.

BALLISTICS | FEDERAL SYNTECH ACTION PISTOL

9mm Luger	Bullet Weight (gr.)	Muzzle Velocity (fps)	Standard Deviation (fps)	Avg. Group (in.)	Power Factor
Walther PPQ	150	894	6	3.1	134
Springfield XD Tactical	150	934	5	2.6	140

Notes: Walther PPQ has a four-inch barrel; Springfield XD Tactical has a five-inch barrel. Accuracy results are averages of four five-shot groups at 25 yards from an MTM pistol rest. Velocities are averages of 20 shots recorded on a Pro Chrono chronograph placed 10 feet from the muzzle. Elevation, 4,900 feet. Temperature, 63 degrees.

I've burned through close to 1,000 rounds of Syntech Action Pistol—one practice day and USPSA match with a borrowed Glock 17 and a Steel Challenge match with my Springfield XD Tactical, plus the accompanying chronograph test through the XD and my Walther PPQ. The latter was used because Federal based its load calculations on a four-inch barrel, likely the shortest you'd find at a USPSA match.

It's hard for me to draw any conclusions from the Glock experience because I don't shoot a Glock, but the ammo ran flawlessly. However, I can definitely vouch for how soft-shooting the round is out of my XD.

Steel Challenge doesn't have a Power Factor to contend with, but it's all about speed, and reducing muzzle rise is key. Since I shot Production, where compensators and other recoil-reducing modifications are not permitted, soft-shooting ammo is definitely the way to go.

And when Federal says Syntech reduces fouling—thanks to clean-burning powder and the cutting-edge Catalyst primer—it's not kidding. After the Steel Challenge match, I stripped down my Springfield, and it hardly looked like it had been fired at all, much less have a couple hundred rounds put through it. That's not only convenient post-match, but less fouling also means less chance your pistol will choke during a match.

Competitions like USPSA are great for building skills and are a lot of fun besides. But it can be intimidating for newbies. With Syntech Action Pistol, Federal has eliminated one of the barriers to entry because ammo is now one less thing you have to worry about.

Syntech Action Pistol is available in the 9mm load described here as well as .40 S&W (205 grains) and .45 ACP (220 grains).

https://www.nationalreview.com/2018/12/canadas-impending-gun-ban-three-lessons-for-the-u-s/

Canada's Impending Gun Ban: Three Lessons for the U.S.

By VINCENT HARINAM & GARY MAUSER
December 17, 2018 1:13 PM

A woman fires a .22 caliber rifle on the range at DVC Indoor Shooting Centre in Port Coquitlam, British Columbia March 22, 2013. *(Andy Clark/Reuters)*

Hasty, emotion-driven gun legislation too often backfires.

Following senseless shootings in Toronto and Fredericton this past summer, talk of a national ban on handguns and “assault weapons” has reached a fever pitch in Canada. Under orders from Prime Minister Trudeau, Canadian border-security minister Bill Blair has chaired a series of closed-door consultations to determine the feasibility of such a law.

In fact, 48 percent of Canadians are in favor of the ban, with politicians in Montreal and Toronto leading the charge. The possibility seems more likely than not.

Though Americans are rarely interested in Canadian politics, American politicians often uphold Canadian firearms legislation as a model to be emulated, thanks to the fact that Canada has (and has long had) a far lower murder rate than America. But on closer inspection, the results of Canadian gun control offer a baleful vision of the future if Americans ever tire of the battle to uphold the Second Amendment.

The Canadian gun-ban debate may prove instructive for Americans looking to avoid the consequences of hasty, emotion-driven gun legislation. Three lessons can be gleaned, with each highlighting the pitfalls of a distorted national conversation and the ineffective legislation it breeds.

Lesson 1: A failure to recognize past failures dictates calls for more restrictive legislation.

For most, the failures of past Canadian firearms legislation have been forgotten. But for others, these missteps reflect an unwillingness to go further.

In truth, Canada has a long history of gun control. Perhaps the most contentious firearm legislation is the long-gun registry. In 1995, the Canadian government passed Bill C-68, requiring Canadians to obtain a license to keep (or purchase) their firearms and then register each gun with the government.

It took the Canadian government six years to implement the 1995 legislation with fewer than 2 million gun owners signing up for licenses as of 2001. Worse yet, the RCMP later reported error rates of 43 to 90 percent in firearm applications and registry information. One man successfully registered a staple gun. In fact, an Access to Information request revealed that 4,438 stolen firearms were successfully reregistered without alerting authorities. Despite the promises of Allan Rock, then the justice minister, that the firearms program would cost only C$2 million, the cumulative total had ballooned to more than C$2.7 billion by 2012 — the year the registry was discontinued.

Also in 1995, Canada banned over one-half of all legally registered handguns through a reclassification process. Predictably, these initiatives proved ineffective: By 2017, the overall Canadian homicide rate had fallen, as had homicide committed with long guns — but handgun homicide had *increased*. Embarrassingly, the overall homicide rate dropped even more in the U.S. than in Canada, without the benefit of Canada’s maze of firearms restrictions.

Undeterred, proponents of the new ban remain steadfast, claiming that a blanket ban on handguns will succeed where owner licensing and functional prohibitions have failed. But as is often noted, those who fail to learn from the past are doomed to repeat it.

Lesson 2: Politicians prefer grand gestures over measured policies.

Canadian lawmakers have failed to address the primary driver of gun violence: gangs. Demands for gun control routinely displace calls for measured policies that target this problem.

In Canada, gang violence has steadily risen since the 1990s. Importantly, a 20 percent increase in Canadian homicides between 2013 and 2016 was driven by an astonishing 68 percent increase in gang-related homicides over that period. In 2016, 54 percent of all firearm-related homicides were gang-related. Unfortunately, the problem may still be worsening, as gang-related homicides increased by 15 percent in 2017.

As in the U.S., gang violence in Canada is concentrated in certain urban hubs. From 2013 to 2016, gang-related homicides doubled in census metropolitan areas, including Toronto, Edmonton, Ottawa, and Moncton. In Regina, the rate of firearm-related violence is up 113 percent (26 per 100,000 in 2013 to 59 per 100,000 in 2016).

A large proportion of violent crime also occurs on First Nations Reserves, which predominate in rural Canada. Similar to minority youth in American inner cities, Canada's Aboriginal population, a historically disadvantaged group, possesses a homicide rate (8.76 per 100,000) six times higher than that of non-Aboriginals. Part of this is due to increases in illicit drug markets that are driving gangs into indigenous communities.

Ignoring the dangers of gang violence, the demand for a national gun ban is matched only by the push for lowering judicial sanctions for violent crimes. Still, the gun ban's popularity remains high as political half-measures are designed to placate voters rather than protect them.

Lesson 3: Long term and secondary consequences are rarely considered.

There is a tendency among policymakers to see only the immediate effects of a policy. Secondary consequences are rarely considered. This is no different for politicians and journalists who now call for a gun ban in Canada.

Some have speculated that 50 percent of the firearms used in crimes are from domestic sources, but this claim is not supported by hard facts. In fact, an Access to Information request revealed that only 9 percent (148) of the firearms seized by Toronto police were legally acquired in Canada. This weakens the argument that "straw" purchases play a large role in gun violence.

Still, let's assume for a moment that a gun ban successfully reduced the number of domestically sourced illegal firearms in Canada. Gun bans are never effective. Not in Chicago. Not in England. Not in Jamaica. Public mass shootings often occur in "gun free" zones. But let's assume for a moment that a gun ban successfully reduced the number of domestically-sourced illegal firearms in Canada. What happens next?

A gun ban treats the symptom, not the disease. Given the lucrative nature of the illegal drug trade, drug gangs would continue to operate. In 2005, the U.N. estimated annual drug revenues in the Americas to be $150 billion USD.

If a gun ban reduced the availability of domestically sourced weapons, it would stimulate gangs to broaden current supply channels. Guns and drugs go hand in hand because the competitive nature of the drug trade demands violence for purposes personal protection and eliminating rivals. In fact, one study found strong ties between drug and gun trafficking networks operating inside Canada.

More drugs equate to more drug deals. And more drug deals yield additional gang violence. It is quite likely that gun violence in Canada would increase if handguns were banned.

Then there's the issue of corruption. In addition to cases of state corruption in Quebec and British Columbia, reports from 2007 and 2012 revealed hundreds of cases of corruption among Canadian police and federal officials. For the Canadian government, corruption is the elephant in the room.

The expansion of illicit international supply lines is likely to create further opportunities for clandestine profit. Corruption would most likely increase among governmental officials, whether police or customs officials, and international drug and gun supply lines, already established, would expand. These are secondary consequences of which Canadians are seemingly unaware.

The American and Canadian guns debates are intertwined. For Americans, the foibles of Canadian gun control should serve as a cautionary tale. The preservation of American lives and liberties begins with an honest conversation tempered by knowledge of past policies, current causes, and future externalities.

— Vincent Harinam is a research associate at the Independence Institute and a Ph.D. researcher at the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge University. Gary Mauser is a professor emeritus at Simon Fraser University.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/all-i-want-for-christmas-2/

Clay Martin – All I want for Christmas is a Ruger RPR in 338 Lapua and More…

by CLAY MARTIN *on* NOVEMBER 24, 2018

It is once again that time of year, Christmas season. While most of your list may be easy to find at the local mall, odds are slim that is going to work for your resident gun guy or gal. Fear not, dear readers, we have that covered. We are making a list, checking it twice, and all you need to do is surreptitiously get it in the hands of your gift buyers. And do it quick, before you end up with an ugly sweater and an in name contribution to Ocasio-Cortez 2020.

Now obviously things can get pricey in the gun realm, as we all know. So my list is going to cover multiple price range options, from " we just hit the Powerball" to " kids got gas station toys this year."

Ruger Precision Rifle in 338 Lapua

Ruger RPR in 338 Lapua

Friends, this is one of the coolest releases of the year. I have already had my hands on it for a full review, and I came away impressed. Even if you are not a fan boy of the RPR series, this one is going to blow your socks off. I have seen nothing that can beat the RPR in this caliber, for anything close to the price. While it is also available in 300 Win Mag, my recommendation is the 338, since they weigh the same. Everyone deserves a rifle capable of killing a dinosaur, and this one is hard to beat.

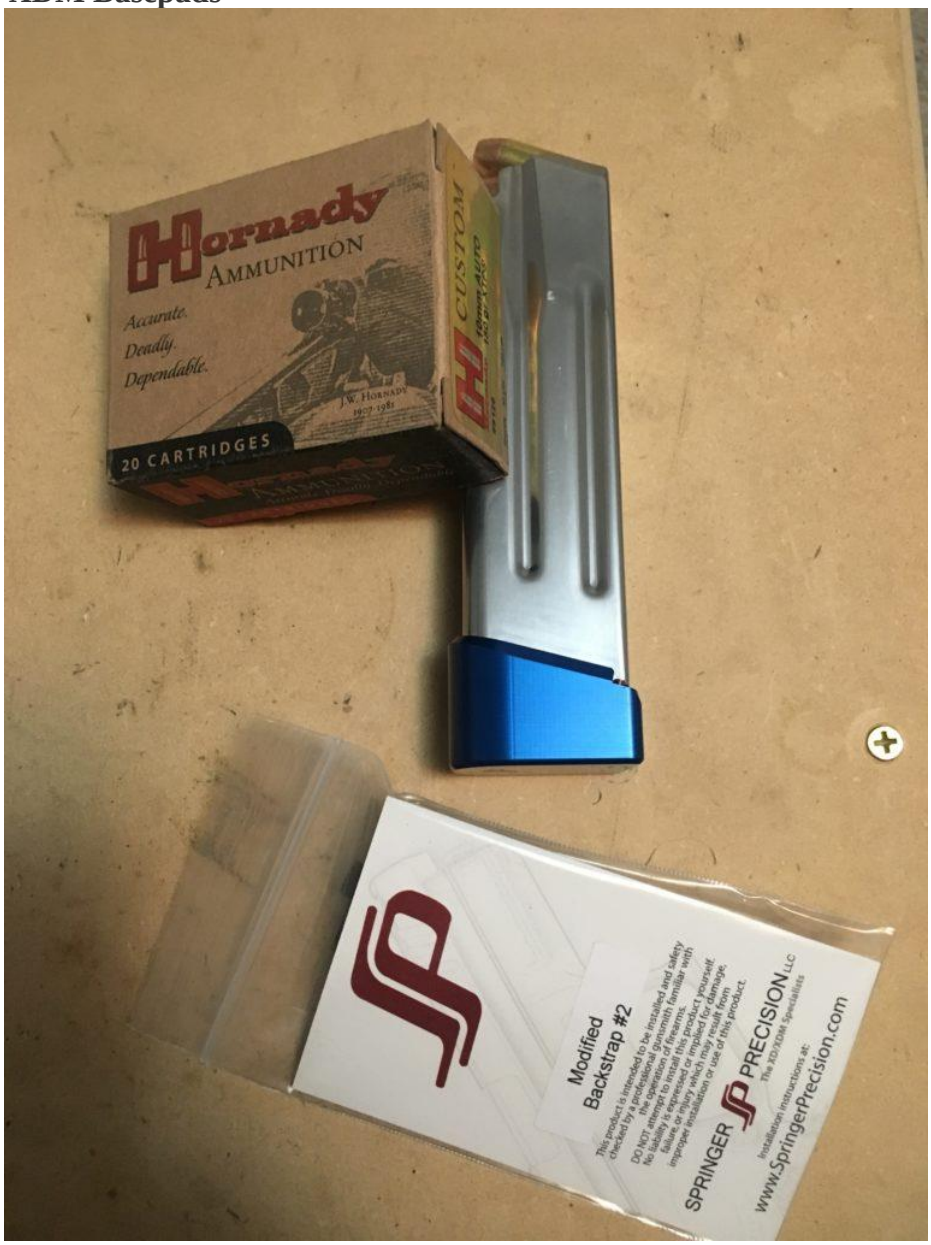
MSRP $ 2099

Mossberg 590M

590 M, with all magazine options

I am normally in the Remington camp, not the Mossberg camp when it comes to pump shotguns. But the 590M absolutely blew my socks off. I applaud all the mag fed pump shotguns that came out this year, but the 590M is my choice as the champion. It is fun, reliable, and those double stacks hold some serious shells. Equally useful for home defense or critter control, this one should be on your radar. Mossberg has also doubled down on the initial success, introducing a ShockWave version earlier this month. For the shotgun fan that has it all, the bar has now been raised. With magazines of 5, 10, 15, and 20 round capacity, this one is a winner.

Springer Precision XDM Basepads



XDM 10mm with Springer Precision basepads

I was super stoked when Springfield Armory released the XDM 10mm this year, it is the one I have been waiting for. But even such an anticipated gun needs aftermarket magic. Fortunately for us, most things that fit an XDM 45, also fit an XDM 10mm. Springer Precision has been the leader in all things XDM for years, and are a brand I recommend highly. Assuming your loved one already bought the XDM 10mm, the first thing I recommend is new basepads. The Springer Precision models go up to 140mm, giving a new capacity of 19 rounds. That is a huge amount of 10mm to have in your hot little hands.
MSRP $ 35, or $47 with Grams follower kit.

Spyderco Endura 4 with Emerson Opener

Endura 4 (Courtesy Spyderco)

Not everything is guns, some things are also razor sharp steel. I have long been a fan of Spyderco, as they have proven to be incredibly durable, especially for the price. The Endura series is light, carries well in the pocket, and is big enough for defense. With the Emerson option, it also opens quicker than greased lightning. This product is perfect for everyone from your nephew in the Marines to your daughter heading back to college. Nothing says not interested like lead and copper at 1000 feet per second, but some VG-10 in the ribs is a close second.
MSRP $134 (street price $75)

Foam Action Sports Foam Rest

Front and rear Foam Action Blocks

I caught a ration of it for even reviewing this product, but I stand by my statements. This is an amazing product for the money, and it does everything it advertises. For non-bipod guns, this is a must for zero and grouping

exercises. It weighs around infinity less than a sandbag, is incredibly durable, and is also quite adaptable for a variety of jobs. For new shooters especially, I recommend this one highly. If you shoot 5 rounds a year to confirm zero, this probably isn't for you. But if you are constantly out fiddling with loads and or training, this should be in your tool box. And at $14.99, you haven't lost much by giving it a try.
MSRP $14.99 single, $26.99 two pack.

https://modernrifleman.net/2018/05/22/silencer-shop-authority-cmmg-mkgs-9mm-banshee-review/

Silencer Shop Authority: CMMG MkGs 9mm Banshee Review

Modern Rifleman May 22, 2018

Pistol caliber ARs are a dime a dozen these days. Though we've come a long way since the early-1980s Colt 9mm SMG, the basic design of the typical 9mm AR really hasn't changed a whole lot. For the most part, current 9mm offerings still employ the simple, but bulky straight blowback system and Colt, Uzi, or Sten stick magazines. In short, most of the "modernization" that has graced these sub-caliber slingers has been limited to quality-of-life improvements like optics and furniture.

The folks at CMMG march to a slightly different beat. Once known as a manufacturer of high-quality, but relatively "vanilla" AR-15 rifles, CMMG's recent offerings have been a bit more unique. It all started with the company's efforts to perfect the .22 LR AR-15, but kicked into gear with the introduction of the CMMG Mk47 Mutant – an AR-15/AR-10 hybrid made to take AK magazines and ammo – back in 2014. Last year, the company again expanded its lineup with the 9mm and 45 ACP Guard series of carbines and pistols that use an intriguing, but not totally new Rotary Delayed Blowback system to increase lock up time and reduce bolt velocity.

The rotary system has an interesting history. Originally designed by Ferdinand von Mannlicher in the late 1800s, it was conceived as a means to turn what was otherwise a standard bolt-action rifle into a semi-automatic carbine. This places the design as one of oldest delayed blowback systems in existence. However, early teething issues and the popularity of firearms based on other designs – particularly Volgrimmer's roller delayed approach – left the rotary system mostly in the past. CMMG's Guard picked up this old torch, dusted it off, converted it to propane, and carried it into the modern era.

With this background, let me introduce the CMMG Banshee MkGs 9mm short-barreled rifle (SBR). CMMG has taken the Guard and pushed it a little further, adding new furniture, a shorter barrel, and more ambidextrous controls. They've also made it a Silencer Shop exclusive. Thanks to Modern Rifleman's partnership with Silencer Shop, I was recently able to spend some time with this new blaster.

Say hello to the CMMG MkGs Banshee

The Build

In terms of outward appearance, there really isn't much about the Banshee that significantly departs from other pistol caliber ARs. It features a 7075 hardcoat anodized billet receiver set, that has been mated to CMMG's 4" RML M-LOK free-float handguard. The RML is very lightweight and slim enough that the included Magpul MVG is greatly appreciated. The Banshee's pistol grip is a standard Magpul MOE.

One of the most significant changes from the aforementioned Guard is the new RipStock low-profile collapsible stock. This thing is a solid piece. Its all-aluminum construction hearkens back to the old CAR stocks, but the RipStock supports three positions instead of the legacy stock's two. The aluminum helps to make the RipStock

very rigid, but the stock does wobble slightly on the receiver extension. While It's not enough to seriously affect stability, the unit has an annoying rattle when shaken.

The new CMMG RipStock is entirely aluminum and very low profile.

Just forward of the stock, the Banshee features an ambidextrous, extended charging handle. There's no question that the handle's extended arms make it very easy to actuate, though I found that it had a tendency to catch on clothing and gear from time-to-time under use. I'd probably prefer a slightly lower profile handle here. Other ambidextrous additions include a new selector lever and sling loops on both sides of the receiver end plate.

I'd be okay with a slightly smaller charging handle

The Banshee's 5" barrel is its most noteworthy upgrade (in my opinion) over the Guard. Even in pistol format, CMMG's incumbent comes with an 8" barrel at its shortest. Shaving another 3" from the barrel length makes the Banshee extremely compact and ideal for a suppressor like CMMG's new DefCan 9. With a barrel this short, there's less incentive to search out the absolute most compact suppressor as just about any of the reputable options out there will keep the overall length of the barrel-plus-silencer under 16".

The Banshee's 5" barrel sits under a short, 4" RML handguard.

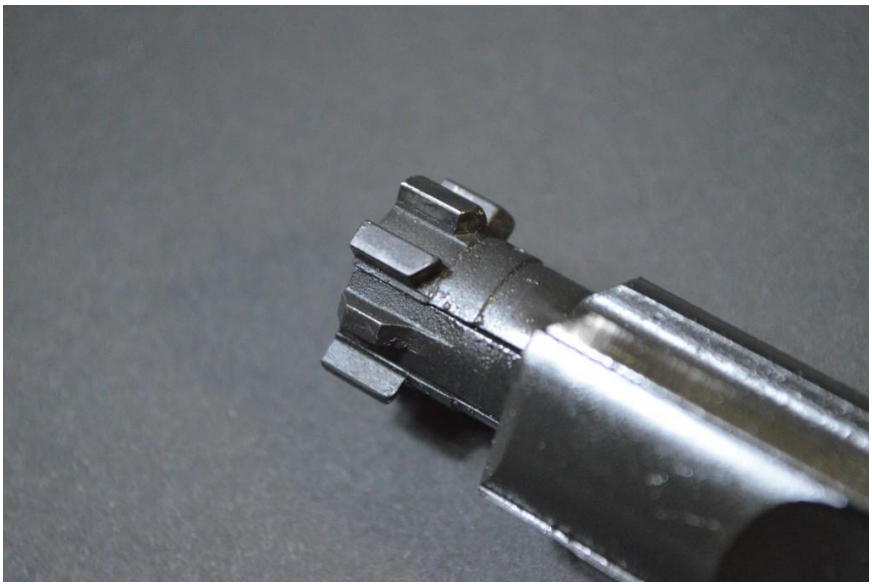
There are two noteworthy omissions with the Banshee that I feel a firearm of this price should include – sights and a muzzle device. Neither are *really* a big deal, but including something like one of CMMG's Bi-Lock mounts straight out of the box (the one pictured here was included with the DefCan 9) would add value without substantially increasing CMMG's cost. The same goes for sights. Magpul's polymer MOE "irons" are ultra-affordable and perfectly usable. Like I said, these aren't deal breakers. I'm just part of that group who thinks a high-end product should come with an experience to match.

The magazine release, while not ambidextrous, is very easy to reach and actuate.

The Banshee, like the Guard, uses CMMG's fantastic Radial Delayed Blowback system. Since some readers might not be fully aware of the significance of this system, let me provide some context. Most subguns and the like use straight blowback systems. Since straight blowback guns lack any sort of locking mechanism to prevent the chamber from opening under the high pressure behind each shot, heavy bolts are often used. This increases the energy needed to open the action and sufficiently slows the firearm's operation to maintain safe and reliable performance.

A look at the MkG Banshee's .45 ACP bolt head. The 9mm version's is essentially the same.

The Radial Delayed Blowback system is a substantial improvement upon this traditional operation. Rather than opting for an unusually heavy bolt/carrier, CMMG took elements from the AR-15's direct impingement bolt head and adapted them to gasless operation. Preserved are the AR's seven bolt lugs, but gone is the hollowed gas key. For the most part, the Banshee's bolt and carrier look a lot like standard AR-15 parts, but the rear of each bolt lug is an angled, or chamfered. With the firearm in battery, the Banshee's bolt "locks" into the barrel extension much like any normal AR. However, when the round is fired, the pressure behind the bullet presses those chamfered faces against the barrel extension, forcing the spring-loaded bolt to rotate and unlock for cycling. This rotation delays the action enough to allow chamber pressure to drop to safe levels.



The backs of the bolt head's lugs are angled to facilitate rotation.

Did you really think I was going to move on without answering the most important question on every readers' mind? Since you're already wondering (and probably have also figured out), the answer is yes, the Banshee does accept 9mm Glock magazines. I truly think I might have been the only person in the world who couldn't have cared less about this feature prior to reviewing this SBR, but I've been converted. It's no secret that I own a Zenith Firearms Z-5RS and that I love MP5 magazines for their ease of loading and durability. The included 33-round Glock magazine comes very close to matching most of the MP5 magazine's best features and additional magazines are cheaper and more plentiful to boot.

Yep, that's a Glock magazine

Range Report

Prior to hitting the range with the Banshee, I had absolutely no experience with CMMG's Radial Delayed Blowback guns. While I had seen the Guard series at SHOT and elsewhere, it wasn't until recently that I even

realized there was anything special about the guns. To me, they were just more pistol caliber ARs with a little added flair. I should have known better.

The first thing to note about the Banshee is that it is just a joy to shoot – far better than most other 9mm ARs. It has long been known that roller-delayed MP5s are superior shooters to straight blowback ARs. With respect to felt recoil and muzzle flip, the Banshee compares VERY favorably to the MP5 and totally demolishes simpler designs. The action isn't *quite* as buttery smooth as the MP5, but it cycles faster (than my full-size Z-5RS) and the gun has much, much better ergonomics. If you're looking for a viable, modern alternative to the German juggernaut, the Banshee is worth a look.

Since the Banshee unfortunately comes without sights, I decided to swap my Primary Arms Advanced 30mm Red Dot over from my Mk18 build-in-progress. The red dot performed well (unsurprisingly) as did the Banshee. I had no trouble managing half-dollar sized 25-yard groups with the rifle simply rested on its magazine. An ideal shooting platform? No, but workable nonetheless.

The Primary Arms Advanced 30mm Red Dot worked well with the Banshee

The interesting accuracy related data point came when I mounted CMMG's DefCan 9 suppressor to the rifle's pre-installed Bi-Lock mount. I noted this in my review of the silencer, but for some reason, mounting the can to the gun shifted the point of impact by nearly 8 MOA (2" at the tested 25 yards). My best efforts couldn't uncover a reason for this. The baffles and end cap of the suppressor looked pristine and I could only guess that the long DefCan had some sort of effect on the harmonics of a firearm that was otherwise configured with a very short barrel.

While we're talking about suppressors, it's worth noting that the Banshee is a phenomenal host rifle. The added lock time provided by the Radial Blowback system makes all the difference here. Minimal port pop contributes

to a fantastic at-ear experience for shooters the likes of which can (again) only be rivaled by the MP5 and perhaps SIG's MPX. Even compared to the integrally-suppressed Spike's Tactical Brown Recluse that I reviewed previously, the Banshee MkGs is a clear winner.

A good look at the DefCan 9 on the end of CMMG's Banshee MkGs

Conclusion

If it sounds like the Banshee MkGs won me over, it's because the rifle did just that. I took delivery of the gun knowing relatively little about it and by the time I sent it back, was completely sold.

The efficacy of the Radial Delayed Blowback system cannot be overstated. It shoots like an MP5, but is a simpler design that requires no welds and has no need for feeler gauges to periodically check bolt gap. Combine that with the Banshee's light weight and superior ergonomics and I'm having a difficult time finding reasons not to like the MkGs.

That said, it isn't *totally* perfect. I noted odd accuracy behavior when the Banshee was paired with CMMG's DefCan 9 suppressor (I tend to blame this on the silencer). I also found that the rifle's lack of included sights was a disappointment for a gun at this price point. Still, I feel the Banshee's upside substantially outweighs these weaknesses.

If you're looking to pick up one of the best 9mm carbines on the market, Silencer Shop is the exclusive distributor of the Banshee MkGs SBR. You can find it there for $1,449 sans tax stamp.

SILENCER SHOP

This has been a review of products provided by and sold at Silencer Shop. All opinions are my own.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/ruger-precision-rifle-338-review/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20181203_BlogDigest_306&utm_campaign=/digest/ruger-precision-rifle-338-review/

Ruger Precision Rifle Gets a Big Block: Hands-on the RPR 338 Lapua

by CLAY MARTIN *on* NOVEMBER 30, 2018

The author with new RPR Compact

Of all the weapons that have made an impact over the last five years, at least among civilians, the Ruger Precision Rifle has arguably done the most. That is a bold statement, but you would be hard pressed to find a rifle that has carried more water. If nothing else, look at the competitors it has spawned: Ruger led the charge into affordable chassis, now followed by Remington, Tikka, Savage, and a dozen others. The Ruger Precision Rifle, or RPR, you could say has taken the precision market by Sturm.

It wasn't that long ago that what we would term precision rifles had an entry price of around $4,000, and it went up steeply the second you asked for leather seats. If you wanted to compete playing long range, you needed either a trust fund or a sponsorship from Uncle Sugar, which might include a steep price tag if you weren't in the AMU. Ruger took a look at the problem and decided to flip the tables.

You can almost see the conversation happening, and I would argue this is right after the entire design team for previous projects was purged.

Engineer 1: "What if, we made a rifle that would compete with the best in class?"

Executive/Bean Counter: "Only if it is priced below $2,000."

Engineer 2: "I guess we will be done by lunch, what else you got?"

Executive/Bean Counter: “It needs to have a folding stock and feed from a commonly available magazine. I don’t know what those things mean, but focus groups say people want them.”

Engineer 1: “Hold my beer. Yo, Beancounter. Side bet: we get this done, loser scrubs the toilets in the others’ department for a year.”

And they did. The RPR was an instant hit, available in short action for 308, 6.5 Creedmoor, and 6mm Creedmoor. It can hang at a PRS match and is fantastic as a tactical rifle. Several people I know have turned the RPR into a one gun, all-purpose hunting and competition hybrid. The rifle has proven very accurate, durable, and popular.

Getting ready to warm some barrels up.

It should come as no surprise then, that after Ruger took everyone’s lunch money in short actions, they would look further afield. And today, that dream is a reality for those holding out for a magnum. I think we all saw a 300 Win Mag coming. The surprise move was jumping in at 338 Lapua to boot. And that is what showed up at my FFL last week.

Bushnell XRS II in Accu-Tac rings

I actually thought my editor was kidding when he said 338. Going from Creedmoor to super magnum is a crazy step. I also had no idea what to expect, as I had only been told “Ruger, 338 Lapua.” When the box opened and I was staring at an overgrown RPR, I didn’t actually quite know what to think.

And the 338 is exactly that. It looks like someone stuck a normal sized gun in a machine and stretched its dimensions 30%. The absolutely monstrous muzzle brake is the only give away…and a noticeable increase in weight when you pick it up to record the serial number.

Very subtle, Ruger.

So, a quick rundown of the features that stay the same as the short action RPR is in order, then we can get to the changes for the caliber. The trigger is the same—called the Ruger Marksman. It is an excellent trigger, user-adjustable from 5 pounds to 2.25. No disassembly is required, an included Allen key slips through hole in the action to do the job. The Allen key is actually stashed in the bolt shroud, which is pretty cool. The trigger has a center blade, which I did not find at all a problem in use.

Trigger and 45-degree safety

The folding buttstock is the same as the RPR, and a definite bonus at this price level, for either size of gun. While said buttstock will not win any beauty contests, it is extremely functional, and I can find no reason to dislike it. Considering all the whiz-bang stuff it does, you would be lucky to replicate it on a rifle costing twice as much. Length of pull and comb height are adjustable without tools, and some minor Allen key work also lets you adjust the cant of the butt pad. The bottom of the buttstock has a length of Picatinny rail for accessories and a QD sling cup. If you don't like it, it can be replaced with an AR-style stock. Good luck finding a better solution.

Maybe not a beauty, but the stock is a war horse.

Tool-less adjustments

The bolt is a 3 lug design, with a 70-degree throw. It runs remarkably smooth, which actually kind of surprised me. At this price, I expect some grit. I have seen smoother, but you would have to have them side by side to notice. Without getting too far into performance, something else needs to be addressed. I have shot a lot of cheap 338 and 50 caliber rifles and they have a common problem. (Don't get your panties in a bunch, I'm not calling the RPR cheap. But it is inexpensive.) Most of them, after you fire, take some muscle to unlock. Not being an action design expert, I assume that is due to the insane pressure put on the bolt when you fire. The RPR exhibited none of that. Running the bolt with hot Lapua brass in the chamber was just as easy as running it for dry fire. I was actually shocked by that, and it also means you can run this gun FAST. Maybe not a good idea at the ammo price, but you can.

Three lug design

With two Lapua rounds for size reference

The handguard for the magnums is also different. To start, it is 18 inches long instead of 15 inches long. Not only does this make the rifle look less like it has high waters on, it offers some real benefits. First, it makes a longer pivot point for a bipod. Second, it changes the center of gravity for the rifle, on that same bipod. Basically, that means it is easier to track a target, in my opinion, and easier to load the bipod for shooting. Several 338 rifles I've toyed with saved money by having a very short fore end, and I'm not a fan. Using the RPR, I felt it was perfectly balanced in handguard length and barrel length.

Flat base on the handguard

The magnums also feature a target style flat base to the handguard, a minor departure from the short actions. If you are ever unfortunate enough to need to shoot your 338 from an improvised supported position, this will make a lot of sense. Not only is that flat base going to offer improved stability, but it is also going to offer increased friction due to a larger surface area in contact. Under recoil, that is your friend.

Balanced look to handguard/barrel length

The barrel length is different for the magnums, which I think we all kind of expected. The short actions feature either 20 or 24-inch barrels, while the new 300 and 338 feature 26 inches. One thing I am not sure of, sitting here in my basement, is how much thicker the 338 barrel is. I don't actually own an RPR (yet); I've always shot my friends' short actions. The RPR has never had exactly a light profile, but I would call it medium. Even accounting for the larger caliber, the 338 barrel is monstrous. It actually reminds me of an M2 50 caliber barrel. They were not messing around on this one, and for caliber, I can't fault the choice. Despite the barrel weight, the gun does balance well.

Thick profile on the barrel

The weight has increased as well for the new models, up from 9.8-10.8 pounds in the short action (caliber dependent) to 15.2 pounds for the 338. That sounds like a lot, but once again, under recoil, you won't be mad about it. Despite the heft, I maintain this gun balances extremely well, and that counts.

Brake top view

The last two changes are obvious the moment you look at them. First, is the gigantic muzzle brake. You can see if from outer space, and at first I was prepared not to like it. Then I shot a couple of rounds, and I was really glad I had it. Second is the magazine. The short actions run off double stack SR-25 magazines, which obviously doesn't work for magnum calibers. So doing the consumer a solid, the new 338 runs off of AI-style magazines, and two are included.

Brake side view

Performance wise, I was blown away by this rifle. First of all, it doesn't beat you up to shoot it. I have about 200 rounds through my test model this week, which I know means I have a terrible job. But I am none the worse for wear, with nary a bruise to be found. That is actually very abnormal for 338 or 300 Win Mag. Not only does the brake work, but the aforementioned ugly buttstock is actually amazing in use.

Aluminum M-Lok Picatinny section included

I was extremely limited on ammo, which in this caliber is hard to come by for anyone. At $5 to $8 dollars per round, they don't exactly pass out match grade like candy, doesn't matter what you've done for them lately. So I started the week with 20 rounds of Gold Medal Match, 6 rounds of Hornady ELD match, and a metric ton of American Eagle soft point.

American Eagle .75 MOA group

Being fair to Ruger, I grouped all three. And this gun hated the 300 grain Gold Medal. No hit on Federal—sometimes guns just don't agree with a load. The AE 250 grains did better, averaging .75 MOA. That is respectable, but still not up to the reputation of the RPR name. Deciding to use my only 6 ELD rounds on paper, I split them into two, three round groups. Both of which were under ½ inches, more in line with what the gun is capable of.

Hornady 285 Grain, 2x 3 round groups

Now low on match grade or not, I'm not just shooting paper at 100 and calling it good. Definitely not my style. So I opted to take the AE soft points out to 1200, just to see. This isn't really fair to the bullet or the rifle, but hear me out.

The AE soft point costs a third of what match grade does, for starters. And soft points are more like a hunting bullet than a "let's shoot over the horizon" type of bullet. The AE 6.5 Creedmoor open tip is near match grade, but this was a different animal completely.

At 1200 meters, 338 Lapua should be a chip shot. As it stood, I had a little trouble getting on target. Weight and velocity aside, that was just too far for a soft point to fly well. The RPR did amazingly putting lead on steel, but it wasn't exactly a group you put up on your trophy wall.

Stock	Folding, Adjustable Length of Pull and Comb Height
Finish	Type III Hard Coat Anodized
Barrel Length	26"
Barrel	Cold Hammer-Forged, 5R Rifling

Thread Pattern	3/4"-24
Twist	1:9.375" RH
Grooves	5
Weight	15.2 lb.
Capacity	5
Height	7.50"

Overall Length	49" - 52.50"
Length of Pull	12.70" - 16.20"
Folded Length	40.35"
Width	3.50"
Suggested Retail	$2099.00

Spec sheet

But I did learn a lot, and my respect for the RPR in 338 is high. If it will shoot ½ MOA at 100, there is no reason to think it won't at any range a match bullet will fly. Or that you can call the wind at. Despite the uber-manly caliber, the gun was fun to shoot. The muzzle brake and weight do a great job of taming recoil, I would calculate this one at similar to birdshot in a pump shotgun. Which is saying a lot. For a 338 Lapua caliber rifle, I can't think of a single better option below $5,000. If you have been waiting to step into the big boy rounds, this is a golden opportunity.

Folding buttstock hinge

Bolt release button

Accu-Tac rings, with level built-in

Included sling mount M-Lok

Visit Ruger to learn more about the Ruger Precision Rifle by clicking HERE.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/remington-pcr-review/

Testing Remington's New Affordable Chassis Rifle – The R700 PCR

by CLAY MARTIN *on* APRIL 26, 2018

Remington Model 700 PCR in 6.5 Creedmoor

Big Green has finally stepped into the chassis rifle arena with the Remington Model 700 PCR in 6.5 Creedmoor and this week we got our hands on it for a full review. By the way, PCR stands for Precision Chassis Rifle. It is late to the party, no doubt about that. But the big question on everyone's mind, did Remington continue the winning streak started by the 870 DM and recent 1911 models? And the answer to that is, kind of.

Before we get into a deep dive on the PCR, lets clear the air a little. Though I have been accused of the opposite, I am actually a Remington fan. Every bolt action sniper rifle I ever carried in two services was a Remington, and I have seen the high end of what they can do. That type of thing tends to leave an impression. The new PCR isn't everything I was hoping for, but it does have some nice features. And the price is a factor in this one.

The PCR is the first affordable chassis gun from Remington. It is not the first chassis gun period, at least not if you count Remington Defense. Remington had entries in the SOCOM Precision Rifle program, as well as several other recent chassis programs. But they tip the scales at north of $10,000. Does the PCR have every feature I would want? No. Would I have made some different decisions? Yes, no question.

It is worth noting that MSRP is $1199. That is $400 cheaper than the Ruger RPR, and $600 cheaper than the Tikka T3 TAC A1. Not an insignificant amount of money. First, let's take a look at the positive points.

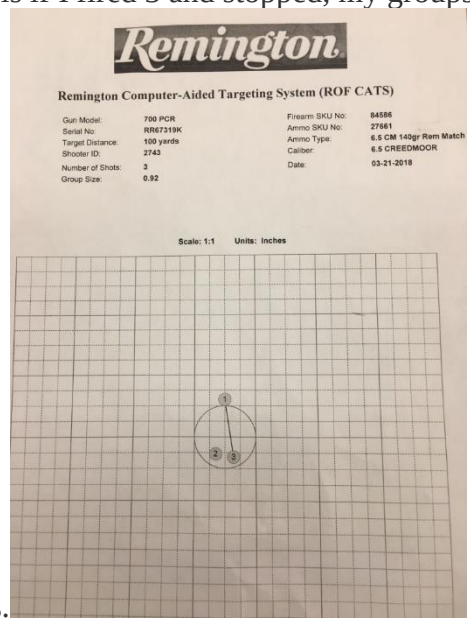
The Good

To start with, the price. Even at a full retail $1199, you aren't getting a chassis gun any cheaper. The street price is likely to be sub $1000, which is even better. Time will tell how real-world prices stack up against the competition, but a safe bet would keep the PCR $300 below the next closest rifle.

A group from just over 700 meters. Very respectable.

Accuracy was completely acceptable. Every PCR ships with a test target, and Remington guarantees MOA or better on a 3 shot string. The "Remington Computer-Aided Targeting System" target with my gun said .92 inches at 100 yards. Not off the charts accurate, but at under $1000, that is still not bad. My five shot strings back up the sub MOA claim. Using Barnes Precision Match 140 grain ammo, I fired several 5 shots groups just under an inch. The interesting thing though, any one of my 3 shot groups would blow the doors off my PCR's

computer target provided by Remington. That is if I fired 3 and stopped, my groups would be around .75 inches.



Well below the Remington claim of .92 inches.
Also, keep in mind that I only tried one brand and bullet weight of ammunition. To do that and have it shoot under MOA five shot groups with the first ammo tried is fantastic. If I'd spent more time to try different match ammo or handloads that the gun liked, accuracy would have no doubt improved. Also, I did no barrel break-in or cleaning and typically rifles shoot better groups once they've had a few more rounds fired through them and then have received a good cleaning.

The bolt was smooth with no binding, not a real shock on a 700. The bolt knob is threaded on, so you can remove it and replace it with a custom bolt knob. Nothing wrong with the one it ships with, but it is easy to go to the oversized competition special as soon as you are ready. This is a new direction for Remington, usually, you had to have the bolt handle threaded by a gunsmith after the fact and that could cost up to $150 really easy.
The stock is a Magpul Gen 3 PRS, an excellent choice for rifles like this. The stock is fully adjustable for length of pull and has an adjustable cheekpiece. Plus it's Magpul! I think Remington made a good move by saving money here, while shipping the PCR with a very functional stock that will serve you well.

The fore end is key mod compatible, and fully removable. All things being equal, I like key mod better than Mlok. Though I have broken both, I call this a positive. At least I would if it was actual key mod. Instead, the PCR opts for tear drop shaped holes known as SquareDrop. I had no idea what SquareDrop was, and I do this for a living. I had to look it up, so I will now share my gained knowledge with you. SquareDrop was invented by AAC, and it offers the advantage of being SquareDrop or key mod compatible. As far as I know, it is a

standard used only by AAC. I was able to slap on a Keymod rail section to the handguard, but I had to work for it. I would have liked to see Remington pick either Keymod or Mlok for this, and leave the SquareDrop in the junkyard of broken dreams. But it does work and somebody that wants the advantages of key mod but a different look might love
this.

The barrel is a medium contour, which doesn’t add a lot of weight, and it takes a while to heat up. This is the right choice for most people, so no complaints there. It is also threaded for suppressors or muzzle brakes and

comes with a thread protector. A nice bonus and an added value.

Finally, in the positives column, is the caliber choice. 308, 260 Remington, and 6.5 Creedmoor. That pretty much covers what a short action needs, and we can expect more calibers if the gun proves successful. Our test model was in 6.5 CM, which is my current favorite in the caliber wars. But kudos for making the 260 available as well, it is also a winner.

The Not So Great

On to the not so great. Nothing catastrophic here, but some things I would personally have done differently were I in charge at Remington.

First, the trigger. It is supposed to be adjustable, and mine didn't adjust. Clearly, there was something wrong with it. I did back out the adjustment screw anyway, which created a second problem. Because of the placement, there is then a screw jabbing you in the trigger finger. As I adjusted it out it actually got heavier. I'm sure that both of those things will get cleared up. We'll get the trigger figured out and do an update to this article. Fortunately, aftermarket triggers are plentiful for this gun, and that takes care of the issue judiciously.

Second, what I see as the only complete failure on this gun. If you look at the space between the pistol grip and the stock, you will see that it is quite small. It's the area that the web of your hand fits into. It actually makes

the rifle uncomfortable to hold in my opinion, and I cannot fathom the reason it was built that way. It is almost like a human hand never held the rifle before it was approved. You can correct this by going with a straight up and down pistol grip, using a different stock, or using your old pal Dremel tool to take some meat off. But if this was my gun, I would do one or the other quickly. This isn't just a problem for overgrown hands, the angle created by the stock and pistol grip is actually tight. It is the strangest geometry I have ever seen applied to a rifle.

I had a few small issues with the Magpul mag. It likely needs to be tuned. Could even be a defective magazine. It happens sometimes. The good news is that the PCR uses the AICS mag footprint and there are lots of aftermarket mag options.

MODEL 700 PRECISION CHASSIS RIFLE FEATURES

- Remington Chassis
- 24" barrel with 5R rifling
- Threaded muzzle with protector
- Tactical bolt knob, for swift, positive cycling
- X-Mark Pro externally adjustable trigger
- Aluminum handguard with SquareDrop
- Picatinny rail
- 5-round Magpul detachable magazine
- Adjustable Magpul® PRS Gen 3 stock
- Magpul pistol grip
- 3-shot sub-MOA assurance

Conclusion

I'm not going to call this my favorite of all time, but for the price, it isn't bad. And it does have one other feature many rifles don't. It says Remington on the side. The model 700 is by far the most prolific bolt action rifle in the United States and has more aftermarket support than you can shake a stick at. Any single thing about this rifle you don't like, you can swap out over time. So it is entirely conceivable to enter the market with the PCR as the cheapest possible option and build it to the "baddest" thing in the country.

Visit Remington and learn more about the PCR by clicking, Here.

Shop GunsAmerica for your next Remington 700 rifle.


BARNES
PRECISION
MATCH

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/remington-backs-700-3-shot-sub-moa-guarantee/

Remington Backs new Model 700 PCR with 3-Shot Sub-MOA Guarantee

by MAX SLOWIK *on* JANUARY 18, 2018

Big Green put a lot of great features in their new PCR. *(Photo: Remington)*

Remington is announcing a new Model 700 bolt-action rifle with a custom-style modular precision chassis chambered for .260 Remington, 6.5mm Creedmoor and .308 Winchester. Each rifle is tested using Remington's military-proven Computer Aided Targeting System, or CATS, to ensure a 3-shot sub-MOA guarantee.

Remington Defense developed the CATS program as part of their mission to supply accuracy-proven rifles to military and police snipers around the world. Paired with some of the best components on the commercial market, Remington is pleased to introduce the Model 700 PCR, or Precision Chassis Rifle.
"This is the same system used to confirm the accuracy of Remington Defense sniper rifles currently serving in theatres worldwide," said Remington in their announcement. "By removing the human element, this process delivers unwaveringly precise and repeatable results. A printed copy of each Model 700 PCR's CATS accuracy test is included in the box before it leaves our engineers' hands."

Remington's not the first company to develop a custom-style production rifle for commercial and police markets. But it's clear they paid attention to their competition developing the PCR. The gun is priced right for target shooting, hunting, competition, and duty.

Old-school meets next-gen with this black bolt gun. *(Photo: Remington)*

If it wasn't in the name it would be hard to recognize this as a Model 700 rifle. The PCR is paired with an advanced, modular aluminum chassis and free-floating handguard. The handguard features SquareDrop slots, a KeyMod variant, for use with a huge range of accessories like bipods, sling points, lights and pointers.

The chassis is weather-proof hard-anodized aluminum with a matte black Teflon finish for added protection. It incorporates AR-pattern components and comes with a Magpul Gen 3 PRS stock. The stock is fully-adjustable for cheek and buttpad height and length of pull. Additionally, the PCR uses AR pistol grips and Magpul magazines.

In all three chamberings, the PCR sports a 24-inch barrel that's threaded for use with muzzle brakes and suppressors. Every barrel has 5R threads to reduce bullet deformation and to promote accuracy. Other solid features include an oversized, down-turned bolt handle and X-Mark Pro externally-adjustable trigger.

With all of these components standard, the PCR has a $1,199 MSRP. With real-world prices less than that, the PCR is sure to take a bite out of the fast-growing practical-tactical bolt-action market.

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/first-look-remington-870-dm/

First Look: Remington 870 DM (Detachable Magazine)— Full Review

by CLAY MARTIN *on* DECEMBER 4, 2017

It's a banner day for pump shotguns.

We have waited a long time for this. Today, I am happy to report about the greatest leap forward in pump shotguns I have seen in my lifetime. This miracle of engineering is named the Remington 870 DM (Detachable Magazine). This has been a long time coming, and I am beyond excited to see it come from Big Green.

As an American, we tend to fall into one of two camps with pump guns. Either you are a Remington 870 fan, or a Mossberg 500 fan, which usually comes down to where you like the safety. I have been in the Remington camp since an early age. I don't hate Mossbergs. I just like Remington better. And God knows Remington needed a win. There have been more than a few debacles over the last few years, some of which I have reviewed for GunsAmerica. Because of my longstanding love of the 870, I expect a lot from Big Green. And today, it looks like they delivered.

New Age for the Remington 870

Full disclosure, this gun has my full faith not because I pulled it out of the box and shot a couple rounds. Let's be honest, such a radical departure for a pump gun requires more in-depth testing than a few days. I can say without question this shotgun will run because I did some of the Beta testings with it months ago. Given my reputation for speaking the truth, I told Remington from day one I would be beating the absolute living shit out of this gun if they wanted my stamp of approval.

As fast as I could shoot them, I burned up 600 rounds of mixed shells. Remington must've taken my previous review personally because over half of it was high brass pheasant loads. I did all kinds of terrible things to that

gun. I tried to melt the plastic magazine follower. I pumped it by dropping it on the ground from eye level. I tossed it into a pond to cool it off so I could keep going. And it didn't hiccup on me once.

Time will tell, but I think Remington has batted one out of the park here.

870 DM Tactical/Predator

Article Continues Below

I will refrain from describing a Remington 870 here. If you haven't seen one, welcome to the United States. We also have grocery stores, air conditioning, and horse-less carriages you might want to check out.

SPECS — 870 DM

- **Type:** Magazine-fed pump shotgun
- **Capacity:** 6-Round Detachable Magazine
- **Features:** Tactical Corn-cob forend
- **Barrel:** 18.5 in. /w extended ported tactical choke
- **Sights:** XS Steel (front); Ghost Ring (rear)
- **MSRP:** $529

870 DM Magpul

- **Type:** Magazine-fed pump shotgun
- **Capacity:** 6-Round Detachable Magazine
- **Features:** Magpul MOE M-LOK forend
- **Barrel:** 18.5 in. /w extended ported tactical choke
- **Sights:** XS Steel (front); Ghost Ring (rear)
- **MSRP:** $799

870 DM Tactical/Predator

- **Type:** Magazine-fed pump shotgun
- **Capacity:** 3 & 6-Round Detachable Magazine
- **Features:** Overmolded SurShot Thumbhole Stock w/ SuperCell Recoil Pad
- **Barrel:** 18.5 in. /w two Trulock Extended Chokes (Boar Blaster & Turkey/Predator)
- **Sights:** XS Steel (front); Ghost Ring (rear)
- **Finish:** Kryptek Highlander Camo
- **MSRP:** $799

870 DM TAC-14

- **Type:** Magazine-fed pump shotgun
- **Capacity:** 6-Round Detachable Magazine
- **Features:** Shockwave Grip & Magpul Forend
- **Barrel:** 14 in.
- **Sights:** Bead sight
- **MSRP:** $559

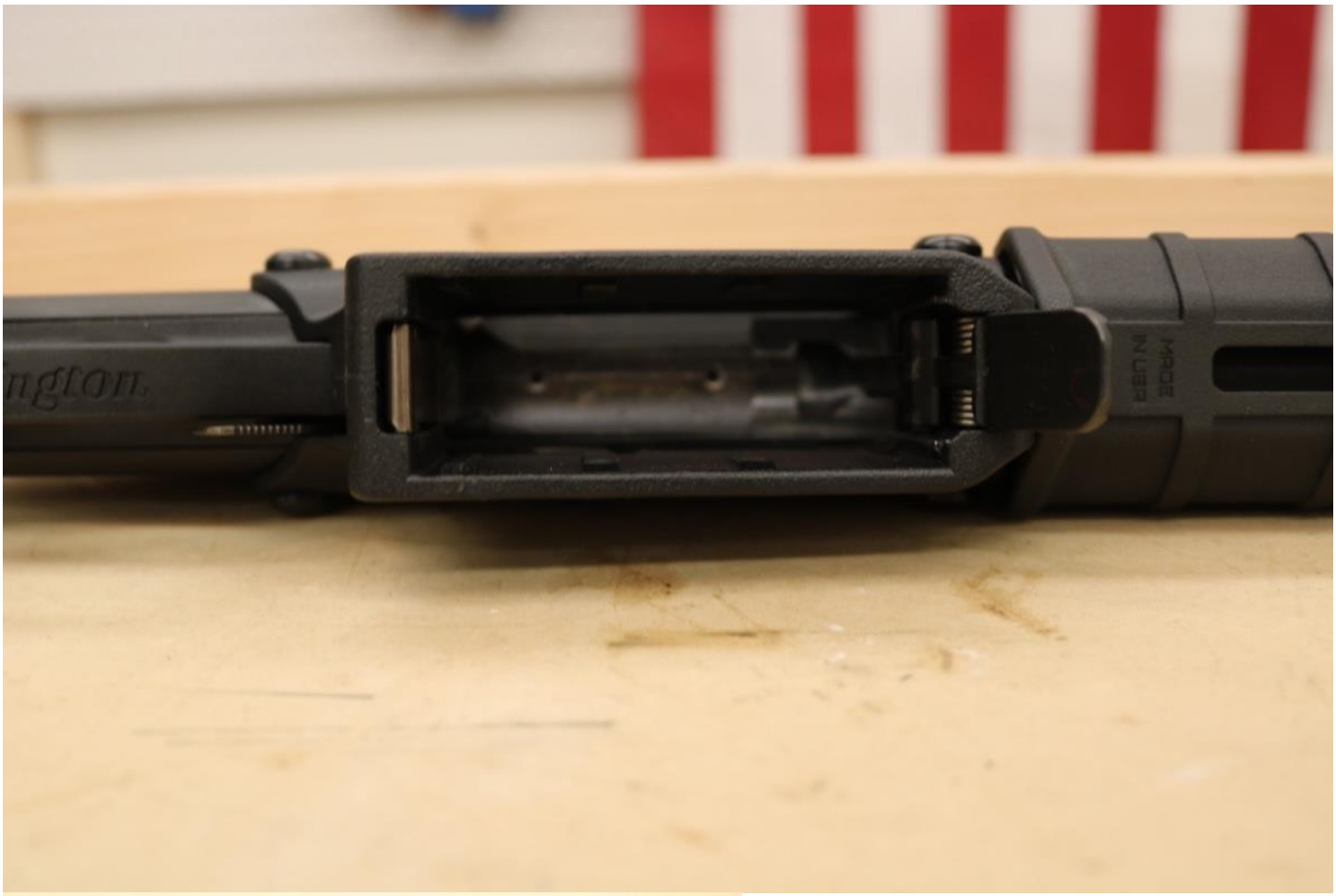
There are going to be many configurations available for the new 870DM, in the future probably as many as there are now for 870 regulars. We received a single test model, and I can't find a single fault in the choices made for the tactical version. The furniture is Magpul, a fantastic choice.

A few years back, the Magpul 870 dress up kit made some serious waves. The stock is a perfect length out of the box for me and uses spacers to change the length of pull. Drop two spacers, and you are set up for shooting while wearing armor. The stock is ambidextrous, with sling attachment points on both sides. The angle of the grip is ergonomically improved, and in my opinion is better than a true pistol grip. The fore end feels great in the hand, has a hand stop at either end for rapid manipulation, and is M-LOK compatible for accessories.

Tactical Versions

The tactical version features an 18.5-inch barrel, to keep us on the legal side. This is obviously the best choice if you don’t want to deal with a Short Barrel Shotgun NFA ordeal, and I don’t. Neither do most people. Preinstalled is a tactical breacher choke in cylinder bore. This choke not only makes it easier to plant the barrel for blasting doorknobs, it is ported to help with recoil. A nice feature in a dedicated tactical gun. Instead of the usual bead front with a prayer for a rear, Remington installed XS ghost ring sights.

Maybe not ideal for flying birds, but they worked great for slugs and steel target engagements. If you have ever needed to take a rifle type shot with a shotgun, you know what a necessity a full set of sights are. Excellent choice Remington. I am impressed. Also in the positive category, this model comes with a Picatinny rail mounted on top of the receiver. The iron sights are nice, but most of us prefer a red dot. The 870DM is ready to accept your favorite holographic out of the box.



Magazines

Obviously, the big question is, “ How do the magazines work?”. Because this is a pump action, the traditional tube under the barrel remains. The pump has to have something to slide on, so why change this? The difference is, it’s no longer a magazine tube. Over the top of the old bottom load port is what looks like an overgrown magazine well. This is bolted on through the receiver, taking the place of what was previously one of the trigger pins.

The magazine fits in here, with the magazine retaining parts covering the old tube entrance. So basically, the magazine takes the place of the lifter and feeds shells directly to the bolt when you pump the gun. Overall, it adds a little bit of weight, but also distributes it in a different way. A fully loaded gun is no longer front heavy, at the cost of a few ounces of metal added to the middle. Because the magazine well would have almost covered the old action release lever, a new oversized lever takes its place. The same spot, so if you are an 870 shooter, the controls are familiar. In front of the magazine is a huge magazine release button. Exactly the opposite of an AK-47 magazine release as far as positioning goes. It works well but does require a bit of practice due to its location.

The magazines themselves are also well thought out. The strength of any weapon is the magazine that feeds it. There is a reason so many other weapons use Glock or AR-15 magazines, and it isn't just popularity. Those designs have proven to be extremely reliable and durable, ask anyone with a pre-assault weapons ban stack. I have magazines that old I still use, and so do many others. Magazine design is extremely important, especially in a platform that has never been done. The 870 DM magazine is like nothing else, which tells us Big Green thought this through. The mag is all steel, and not some thin sheet hunk of garbage. There is some heft to it, and in this case, I see that as a good thing. The bottom half of the magazine has a thick overlay of plastic, both to increase grip ability and insulate the internals from shock when dropped. The spring is resilient, it takes some force to load to capacity. From what I see so far, I give Remington an A+ on magazine design for this one.

Why is this design so novel?

So why exactly am I so hot and bothered by this new 870 DM? Aren't I the same guy that said less than 2 years ago I prefer rifles for home defense and tactical use? Yes, I am. And generally speaking, if you have a choice, I

stand by that. But there are many reasons to like this new gun.

For starters, I said I like rifles better than shotguns, but many people are still going to prefer a shotgun. You're a grown assed man or woman, that is your choice. I prefer light coffee too, we are all entitled to our opinion. But this gun being magazine fed pretty much negates my reloading argument. You can reload this shotgun just as fast as you can your AR, or close enough to make the difference moot. Magazine fed also means you can change the type of shells in the gun without some 17 step tactical ninja move that only works on the range, and only at the best of times then. Pretty handy for police officers, that might need to go from riot rounds to lethal ones quickly. Or for tactical work, from buckshot to slugs quickly. The hardest part of any tactical shotgun course prior to this was keeping your beast fed. That is no longer an issue.

Saftey First Another Reason to Love the 870 DM

The other benefits are more specialized, but they do matter. When I was teaching CQB, the hardest part of the shotgun instruction was manual of arms. Soldiers pretty much only use shotguns for breaching doors. (By the way, those guns were Remington 870's too.) This is probably hysterical to the cops and duck hunters in our audience, but most SF soldiers have never shot a shotgun when they show up to CQB school. Hell, the first gun I ever bought was an 870, and I was far from an expert by the time I started kicking doors. The point is, if you really think about it, using a pump shotgun requires a lot of steps.

SOP where I taught, and most units I know of, was to run a shotgun with a dry husk in the chamber. That is cruiser ready for you LE guys. Tube loaded, chamber empty, trigger pulled on the empty, safety off. That way when you need to use it, all you do is rack the pump, shoot, and off you go. If you accidentally chamber a live round, safety goes on, stow the gun, and get it back to dry husk when you have time. Obviously, a lot can go

wrong. I saw more negligent discharges with shotguns than any other three weapons put together. The magazine fed version will make this much easier on everyone. Drop magazine. Set up gun. Insert magazine. Now you are good to go. And clearing the weapon is now extremely similar to clearing an M-4.

Current Offerings

Magazines are currently a 6 round capacity, but I bet we see 10 and 3 very soon. This is another huge benefit to the soldier. Our breaching guns were extremely short, the tubes held 3. Looking at the new magazine, 3 would almost be a flush fit on the mag well, which is awesome. I, and many of my brethren have been to “block parties” in the GWOT that lasted all night. I preferred to call that trick or treating, but block party won the naming convention. Mountains of doors blown, and reloading the breach gun gets old quick. It would be awesome to have the 3 capacity for normal days, and go to 10 for the nights that get crazy. The 870 DM ships with 1 magazine, availability of extras not known at this time.

This also has a benefit for the young guy that needs an all-purpose gun. Current retail on the 870 DM is about $700, but that is still cheaper than a good rifle. Combine that with the fact that many states prohibit rifles for hunting, and you see why those light on cash might only have a 12 gauge. It does triple duty for deer, ducks, and home defense. The new 870 DM being magazine fed makes it a much better choice for the defensive role and propels it to a viable combat weapon. Not my first choice, but it would get the job done better than it's predecessors.

Lasting Impressions

This is a great day for 870 fans, and I am happy to find myself applauding Remington. This gun works great, the magazine system is great, and shooting this thing is guaranteed to make you smile. The DM model is like a boyhood dream come true. This looks like a turning point for Big Green, and I recommend you get one of these quick. No way they are going to be able to keep up with the demand the 870DM creates.

http://www.gunsandammo.com/editorial/review-aimpoint-acro/329540

Review: Aimpoint Acro

Eric R. Poole - December 12, 2018

A closed-emitter red dot that's purpose-built for pistols ' and great for everything else.

Photos by Mark Fingar

Announced from Aimpoint's factory in Malmö, Sweden, "ACRO" stands for "Advanced Combat Reflex Optic." Though it will likely be referred to solely by its acronym, the ACRO also possesses the suffix "P-1," which indicates that it was developed specifically for use on pistols. However, when fitted with an optional Picatinny rail adapter plate, it could be just as effectively used on carbines, shotguns or in tandem with magnified scopes.

The ACRO P-1 is a small, nonmagnifying sight design. Given a suggested retail price of $660, the ACRO will battle directly at the counter with the Leupold DeltaPoint Pro ($520) and the Trijicon RMR with an adjustable LED ($700).

When compared to an open-emitter red dot sight such as the Trijicon RMR (middle), the ACRO (left) has a similar footprint, and is only slightly heavier. The ACRO weighs 2.1 ounces, while the RMR weighs 1.2 ounces and the Micro T-2 (right) weighs 3.7 ounces without an adapter plate.

The big difference between the ACRO and other mini red dots is that most are open-emitter sights. The ACRO is a closed-emitter system, which means the LED projecting the red dot being reflected on the lens is not exposed to the environment. The ACRO's system is encapsulated within a rugged housing in the same way that Aimpoint's other red dot systems have been.

Interest in the use of mini red dots on pistols remains on the rise as they improve a shooter's precision and speed of engagement. This especially benefits those of us with aging eyes. However, with any release of new technology, camps are already being formed in a debate pitting closed-emitter sights against open-emitters. We'll explore the points of that debate later.

First, those interested in trying a red dot sight on a pistol require a method for mounting it. Red dots, albeit much larger models, have been mounted on revolvers and pistols since Aimpoint's ground-breaking introduction of the Electronic in 1975. By the early 1980s, to win a serious open-class action pistol championship, you had to have one.

Tactically, some law enforcement officers have since sought the services of machine shops to mill out the rear of a pistol's slide to properly position a red dot sight. As back-up to the red dot or as a

point of reference to find the dot when aiming, a set of suppressor-height sights are often sourced and installed.

With interest and acceptance of red dots on pistols spiking, manufacturers are offering pistols specifically designed for mounting them. These include the FN 509 Tactical, Glock MOS models, several SIG Sauer P320 pistols — and others.

Though many shooters have equipped their pistols with an Aimpoint Micro H-1 or T-1, pistol manufacturers are not making pistols to accept those sights. It was smart for Aimpoint to develop a red dot that would compete on the same footprint as the most popular open-emitter sights including the DeltaPoint Pro and RMR.

Open-emitter sights utilize an LED that projects a dot against a glass or plastic window through an exposed environment. This allows the sight's overall weight to be reduced, but it also leaves the lens unprotected against weather and collecting debris and dust. With little maintenance, an unprotected lens can reduce the visual quality and compromise sight picture when needed.

Additionally, there's always a chance for an object to interrupt the path of the projected LED with an open-emitter-type red dot sight.

Closed-emitter sights such as the Aimpoint Micro H-1 and T-1 have been an alternative that many have turned to. However, new technology has afforded Aimpoint to scale down its closed-emitter sight, giving us the new ACRO P-1.

The ACRO addresses the consumer's need for a small, enclosed red dot sight that mounts on a handgun. With a smaller footprint than the Micros, the ACRO P-1 protects the emitter between an enclosed aluminum case and sealed, flat panes of glass at both ends. This translates to increased durability when compared to open-emitter sights, which was found when the ACRO was tested for the unusual shock and vibration that a pistol uniquely subjects an electronic sight. A pistol's short-duration energy transfer is brutal torture on red dot sights and mounts. The ACRO P-1 was tested beyond 20,000 rounds on a .40-caliber pistol slide without failure. This included environmental stress conditions that ranged from -49 F to 160 F. During the process, Aimpoint observed that the ACRO P-1 is submersible to 25 meters and offers continuous operation in position six for more than 1 year on a single, 3-volt, lithium CR1225 battery.

The CR1225 battery is accessed from under a cap on the right side of the unit. It can power the dot on level six for 1 year.

Of note, the battery in the ACRO is accessed on the right side of the housing. Aimpoint provides a combination tool, but many straight or cross-edged objects could be used to unscrew the battery cover that's sealed by a protective silicone O-ring.

The red dot can be adjusted for one of 10 intensity settings by pressing the up/plus or down/minus arrows on the left side of the housing. For those equipped with night-vision devices (NVD), the ACRO P-1 is compatible. Dot intensity settings number one through four are used with NVDs and settings five to 10 are for use in daylight. It's not only quick and intuitive, but it's arguably the best integration of an adjustment pad that we've seen on any mini red dot sight. The dot can be quickly tuned to zero by using a T10 Torx wrench (also provided as part of the included combination tools).

Aimpoint red dot sights are designed to support the two-eyes-open aiming method, which affords us improved situational awareness. The optical design means that the red dot follows the movement of the shooter's eye while remaining fixed on target, thus eliminating any need for centering.

The Aimpoint ACRO P-1 features a 3½ minute-of-angle (MOA) dot, low-mount position for direct integration on pistol slides. The ACRO P-1 may also be used as a back-up sight for variable-power scopes where close-range sighting capability is required. Though developed for rugged use on a pistol, the ACRO P-1 could also support a personal-defense-weapon (PDW), rifle and shotgun platforms equally well. The compact design ensures that excessive weight and profile is not a negative factor when configuring a firearm for use in tight environments.

G&A received one of the first two ACRO P-1 sights in country, as well as an adapter plate for mounting on a Glock MOS pistol. Attaching the ACRO P-1 to a G17 MOS Gen4 took only a few minutes and was extremely easy. However, we recommend changing the factory-installed sights for taller, suppressor-height sights so that the dot cowitnesses with the pistol's backup irons. With standard sights, the alignment is out of view and below the red dot's visibility.

Two screws are used to mount the adapter plate to the pistol, and a single crossbolt Torx-head screw attaches the adapted ACRO P-1 to the slide plate. Aimpoint provides the necessary tool with a Torx T20 bit in a red, plastic T-wrench.

Perhaps the most underrated feature of the ACRO P-1 is that the profile fits squarely with the profile of the G17 slide. The intensity adjustments are flush to the unit and won't get unintentionally pushed as we've experienced while using other make's and model's buttons that are raised above the surface profile.

The ACRO offers a great sense of confidence as a rugged sight. The electronics are completely insulated against hard use, which should give everyone peace of mind about its durability.

Lastly, the overall length of the slide is compact at 1.9 inches. We anticipate that a pistol mounted with an ACRO P-1 will still insert in most holsters designed to accommodate the same pistol mounted with an open-emitter red dot. (Awesome.)

We are really excited about the introduction of the Aimpoint ACRO P-1. Currently, it stands alone as the smallest, fully enclosed mini red dot sight. It offers many possibilities.

Aimpoint ACRO P-1

Magnification: 1X

Parallax: 0

Length: 1.9 in. (sight only)

Width: 1.2 in.

Height: 1.2 in.

Weight: 2.1 oz.

Material: Aluminum

Finish: Anodized, matte black

Adj. Range: .6 in. at 100 yds. (1 click)

MSRP: $660

Manufacturer: Aimpoint,

703-263-9795, aimpoint.com

https://www.gunsamerica.com/digest/drd-tactical-takedown-kivaari-semi-auto-338-lapua-magnum/

DRD Tactical Takedown Kivaari Semi-Auto .338 Lapua Magnum

by DAVE BAHDE *on* JULY 21, 2016

The DRD Tactical Kivaari is a fully capable semi-auto .388 Lapua Magnum that also is a takedown model.

For more information, visit http://drdtactical.com/

To buy a DRD Tactical product on GunsAmerica.com, click this link:
https://www.gunsamerica.com/Search.aspx?T=DRD

The Kivaari can be broken down quickly and fit into its custom carry case.

If you are looking for long-range accuracy in a hard-hitting round with manageable recoil, the .338 Lapua Magnum is probably on your short list. In and out of favor over my career, it is still the go-to round for many agencies, militaries and contractors seeking energy on target without going to a full .50 BMG-based firearm. The .338 is not an anti-material round like the .50 BMG, but it runs circles around the .30 calibers. Europe has all but abandoned the 7.62x51mm for their soft-target sniper rifles. Delivering usable energy to 1,500 yards (and beyond), the .338 Lapua remains manageable yet extremely powerful. Unlike .50 BMG-based rifles, the Lapua is only slightly larger (and heavier) than long action bolt rifles chambered in 300 Win. Mag. or similar. Accuracy is excellent, and given the right ammunition it can be very impressive.

In most cases the typical military progression of once a new caliber has proven itself in a bolt gun is to ask for a semi-automatic version. Real world applications are generally less about shooting tiny groups and more about getting hits on threats rapidly while under duress. Accuracy remains critical, but a rifle that can deliver rapid fire while maintaining sub moa performance is preferred by many currently performing the task. The result in the past has been precision accurate semi-autos in both 5.56mm and 7.62x51mm; pushing for a similar platform in .338 LM was only a matter of time.

Once assembled, the Kivaari is ready to take on targets out to extreme distances.

These have been around for a few years, but early models from manufacturers could be a bit crude and unreliable. It's not as simple as building a 7.62x51mm AR. Initial testing was spotty, with reliability being an issue. That is changing rather rapidly as many Special Mission Units (SMU) ask for ones that work and builders and manufacturers continue to answer the call. Over the last few years I have tested most, all if you exclude those that never seem to materialize in the real world. One of the latest, and an excellent example, is the DRD Tactical Kivaari .338. And, this one has a very unique characteristic: It is a takedown model.

The rugged receiver of the .338 Kivaari is sized to accept the large, proprietary magazines.

SPECS

- **Chambering**: .338 Lapua Magnum
- **Barrel**: 24 inches
- **OA Length**: 47 inches (assembled)
- **Weight**: 13.6 pounds
- **Sights**: Continuous top rail
- **Stock**: Magpul PRS stock/MOE grip
- **Action**: Direct Impingement/semi-automatic
- **Finish**: Boron carbide, “battle worn”
- **Capacity**: 10
- **MSRP**: $7,200

DRD TACTICAL KIVAARI

DRD Tactical starts with custom-designed, CNC-machined billet receivers. Upper receivers are designed to use a proprietary barrel attachment method. DRD’s patented QD barrel is easily removed and installed using the supplied wrench. The barrel is 24 inches long, coated, using a 1:10 twist rate and threaded ¾x24 TPI. Silencerco’s Harvester Big Bore .338 Muzzle Brake tops off the muzzle and tames recoil while accepting their Harvester Big Bore Suppressor. DRD Tactical’s custom designed quick detach hand guard uses Magpul’s M-LOK rail and accessory attachments. At 17 inches long it can accommodate most night vision or laser devices with rail space to spare. Locking into place on the upper receiver, it provides a perfectly aligned continuous top rail and machined-in rail for a bi-pod. The DI (direct impingement) gas system includes a gas block, hardened bolt carrier group, and non-reciprocating left side charging handle. Folded forward, the charging handle is out of the way. Hinged, it folds out to run the bolt, automatically snapping forward when going into battery.

The Kivaari should be familiar to anyone who has used a standard AR. One area where it differs is in its left-side charging handle.

The custom-designed lower receiver includes a flared magwell and extended trigger guard, and uses many standard AR parts. The trigger with this rifle was a Wilson Combat TTU that was crisp at about 4 pounds. Magazines are purpose built for this rifle, and do not lock the action open. Holding 10 rounds, they are metal, built solidly and capable of tear down for cleaning. Magpul's PRS stock is attached providing easy adjustment for length of pull and cheek height. An extra recoil pad has been attached. Coated in a Boron Carbide using a battle-worn black and gray pattern, the result of the finish on the rifle is a nice and rugged look. Gray is a great base color, especially for an urban environment (blending well even at night).

DRD is a custom shop with superb customer service. Talking to the owner Skip Patel on a Friday, this rifle was shipped out three days later. Skip keeps parts on hand to build these as needed and delivers quickly, unlike others. Orders are processed immediately and built shortly thereafter. Some of the .338 semi autos require payment in full for a rifle that (if you are lucky) arrive six months later. Skip refuses to work that way. The only thing he did not have for the review gun were black magazines, but customers' guns will match and you will get them quickly.

The Kivaari features a low-profile gas block and employs a traditional direct gas impingement system of operation.

The threaded muzzle is topped off with a SilencerCo Harvester Big Bore .338 muzzle brake.

Everything was shipped in a medium-sized hard case using laser-cut hard foam to cradle each part. There is enough room to add your scope and a suppressor if needed. In most cases depending on how you mount the glass it will fit while attached to the receiver. If not, as in the case of the Nightforce used for the testing, it was removed using a QD mount. Two magazines are included along with a wrench for tightening the barrel nut. It is also available with a Tactical Tailor backpack if you intend to take the Kivarri on the move or in the backcountry.

The author equipped the Kivaari with a Nightforce ATACR 5-25x56mm F1 first-focal-place scope.

One of my favorite Nightforce scopes is their ATACR 5-25 x 56mm F1 (First Focal Plane). When dialing is in order, these scopes are great. Knobs are large and tactile, with white numbers that even my 57-year-old eyes can easily read. My scope uses mils for both wind and elevation and contains a MIL-R lighted reticle. It is about perfect for comps, long range or anything requiring an uncluttered reticle. There is even a small 2 mil box graduated in .10 of a mil for precise measurements. I have used that box effectively for quick ranging using Applied Ballistics 12-inch rule, making this scope incredibly versatile. Mounted it in a Larue Tactical single-

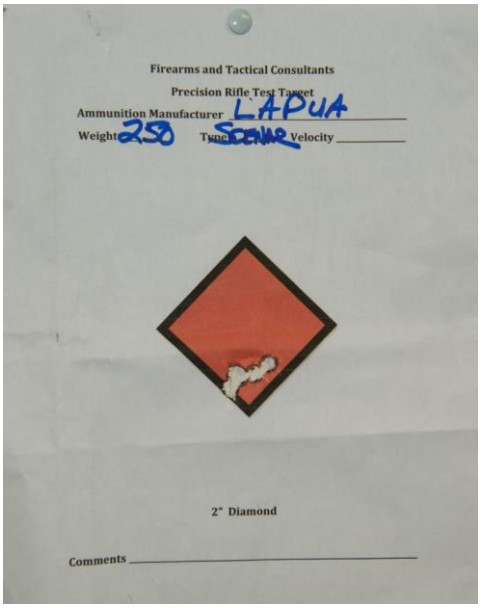
piece mount allows me to remove as needed while keeping my zero pretty close. Few if any mounts in my experience will return to an “absolute” zero, and the Larue remains one of the best out there. This mount has seen use over several years and multiple scopes without a single issue.

The Kivaari features an AR-style safety that is ambidextrous.

The DRD Tactical .338 can accept standard AR-style pistol grips of the user’s choosing.

Recommended ammunition is limited to Lapua, in this case 250-grain Scenars. Talking to Skip, he has experienced a few issues with some of the commercial .338 LM ammunition. It is not just DRD either, as the other manufacturers of .338 LM semi’s expressed the same concern to me. Commercial brass can be softer and more susceptible to case head separation. The rear of the case separates from the body leaving it in the chamber. The next round is forced into the casing, causing a malfunction. Apply enough force and a floating firing pin may just ignite the round leading to serious injury. It is common amongst many semi-automatic rifles when soft brass is used. None of the companies making these rifles has an issue when Lapua ammunition is used, so they tend to stick to it. Lapua assisted DRD when they began development so it is well matched to the rifle. Honoring Skip’s request, only Lapua was used for the test.

Range Time



The author started out at 100 yards and got this sub-MOA group before he began pushing out to extended ranges.

Accuracy was about as precise as it gets in a semi-automatic in this caliber. With tons of moving parts, it's not easy keeping things consistent, making tiny groups less likely. Early testing on similar weapons proved marginal. DRD guarantees 1-MOA with Lapua ammunition, and my results were similar. My best group at 100 yards measured .70 inches. Recoil is soft by comparison to most, and the Silencerco Brake seems to keep things steady making for better consistency.

Moving to steel at 500 yards three rounds were loaded up, elevation dialed, and it resulted in a cluster dead center of the steel. At only 12 inches the target moves a ton with this round so not sure on the group but it was all dead center on impact. Moving out to 1,000 yards yielded similar results. Once dialed in for wind, hits were center but this caliber still rings steel hard at that range. Even waiting several seconds between shots it was still moving, but the accuracy was pretty impressive.

Rapid fire is not something normally equated with this caliber outside military applications. It's not that you cannot run a .338 LM hard and fast, it's just not an inexpensive proposition; but the DRD is more than capable of it. Recoil is minimal and a solid position keeps the rifle on target even as close as 400 yards. Lining up on the steel 8-10 rounds strings were pretty fast, certainly faster than a bolt rifle. Even managed the recoil is going to move the rifle, but not much. Lots of time on a 6.5mm of late meant it took me a bit to get dialed in, but this rifle is a joy to shoot fast. My best eight-round string at 400 yards measured in the sub 6-inch range pressing the trigger as fast as the crosshairs could be lined up. Being able to hold 6 inches at 400 yards rapid fire with a 250-grain bullet making close to 2,900 feet per second is impressive, and would be devastating in the real world. It's easy to see why SMU want this kind of rifle, given our current theatres of operation it would be very useful.

From the bench, the author was able to get some impressive groups at very long ranges.

Other Considerations

Assembly and take down is simple and quite fast. With practice I could go from case to ready in around a minute. There is a ton of design work in the rifle to make it simple and effective, starting with the precision machined chamber and gas tube protector. While in place it protects the threads on the barrel nut, keeps dirt and debris out of the chamber, and prevents gas tube damage. Insert the barrel, hand tighten the large knurled nut followed by use of the supplied wrench. It does not take much, but with the .338 LM it must be tight. Slide the hand guard over, push the pin and close the lever; done. Attach the scope if it's not already on the receiver, your bi-pod, sling if necessary and insert a magazine—ready to rock. Take down is as simple and it really facilitates cleaning. Very slick and very well thought out with excellent attention to detail.

TAKEDOWN STEPS:

TAKEDOWN STEP 1: Loosen the barrel nut and remove the gas tube and chamber protector.

TAKEDOWN STEP 2: Line up the gas tube and the barrel and then lock into place.

TAKEDOWN STEP 3: Tighten the barrel nut by hand first making sure not to cross thread.

TAKEDOWN STEP 4: Use the supplied wrench to make certain the nut is tight, but do not overtighen.

TAKEDOWN STEP 5: Install then line up the handguard to the receiver using the V-notch. It should sit flush.

TAKEDOWN STEP 6: Push the pin in by hand. It should lock in place with thumb pressure.

It fit perfectly in the back of my Dodge and should settle into a trunk nicely. Assembled, it fit in my Eagle Industries HSRC drag bag. Adding a suppressor would preclude that, but it does on most .338 Lapua rifles. DRD also makes a pack designed specifically for this rifle. My Eberlestock G4 operator carried it pretty easily while assembled. Take it down and it fit with no protrusion either at the top or bottom and was very comfortable.

The magazine well of the Kivaari is flared and for quickly feeding in magazines. Note the charging handle.

Machining is excellent with fit and finish commensurate with a custom rifle. Magazines are nicely done and function well. Recoil is minimal, accuracy excellent with solid reliability. Semi-automatics in .338 Lapua are becoming more desirable. It's still new in the precision rifle world with a pretty limited market, but it is growing. Many are close to 10K, this DRD retails for $7,200.00 with the battle worn finish ($6,900 for it in black or FDE). Custom bolt rifles in this caliber can cost more, quite a bit in fact making this a good buy. Reload your ammo if you can cause once you start playing with the Kivaari it's really difficult to stop.

If you are in the market for a semi-automatic .338 LM you have a few choices, but the DRD would be one of my first. It is reliable, accurate and quite a bit lighter than some. It is also very simple with many parts being AR-compatible. And, it is a takedown. Triggers, safeties, and the DI system is well proven. If you are in that market be certain the DRD is on the list, it might be exactly what you need.

Thank you,
Paul Curtis
President - CARGO
www.cargogunclub.org
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