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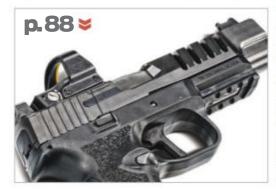














Gun Digest the Magazine (ISSN 1938-5943) is published monthly by Caribou Media dba Gun Digest Media, LLC. Corporate Headquarters is 5600 W. Grande Market Dr., Suite 100, Appleton, WI 54913. Periodicals postage paid at Appleton, WI 54913 and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Gun Digest the Magazine, P.O. Box 460220, Escondido, CA 92046. Copyright © 2021 Gun Digest Media. GUN DIGEST THE MAGAZINE and its logo are registered trademarks. Other names and logos referred to or displayed in editorial or advertising content may be trademarked or copyrighted. The publisher and advertisers are not liable for typographical errors that may appear in prices or descriptions in advertisements.

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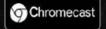
















he phrase, "American made" or "Made in the USA," isn't always as easy to define as the shorelines and borders that make up the land under the purview of Old Glory.

From a manufacturing perspective, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) mandates that "all" or "virtually all" significant parts—and processes—be made and assembled in the United States. Those parameters are pretty definitive, right? If you want to fly the "Made in the USA" flag on your product, then you need to toe the line.

The United States government, however, has a relaxed set or parameters courtesy of President Hoover nearly a century ago. The Buy American Act requires the U.S. Government to buy only American-made goods "whenever possible," but under the Act, any product assembled in the U.S. with more than 50 percent American-made parts qualifies, regardless of the FTC's official definition. Go figure.

So, is it sacrilege to paste a Made in the USA sticker on a Glock? Well, I know that your brain is screaming AUSTRI-AN! as you read this, but also know that Glock has produced more than 2 million pistols in their Smyrna, Georgia, facility since 2012. Surprised?

Roll up the Eastern Seaboard to New Hampshire, and you'll find Sig Sauer producing guns in one of the most impressive manufacturing facilities in the

country—about 6.5 million guns, in fact. And that's just the tip of the spear of legacy, European brands building guns on American soil.

And what about American history? Colt and Henry—among a few others, of course—are two iconic American gun brands intrinsic to defining "American made" history for more than 200 years across nearly every square mile of this country. American-made guns shaping American history. America!

In case it's not obvious at this point, the entire issue in your hands right now gives the nod to brands, guns and gear qualified to wear the Made in the USA tag. Some articles, like "The History of Henry," are extremely interesting ... yet Henry's tenure shouldn't surprise you. But some of the brands making the list in "Guns with Green Cards" might just surprise you. And then there's the Kel-Tec P50 review: If there's a company that produces products that scream AMERICA!, well ... that's certainly Kel-Tec.

Regardless of whether you're into classic guns, ARs, CCW poly pistols or high-end American-made custom boltactions—or all of the above—the benefits of buying close to home have never been more obvious.

Here's to the red, white and blue ...

GDTM

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338 It can do almost anything. WINCHESTER MAGNILLA

HISTORICAL NOTES

Announced in 1958, the .338 Winchester Magnum is another in the series based on the .458 Winchester necked down. Initially available only in the Winchester Model 70 Alaskan bolt-action rifle, Remington adopted it for the 700 Series bolt-action. Some of the European rifle makers also chamber it, as does Ruger for the Model 77 and No. 1 rifles, as well as many custom and semi-custom rifles. Browning's autoloader, lever- and pumpaction rifles also chamber it.

GENERAL COMMENTS

With proper bullets, the .338 Winchester Magnum shoots almost as flat across 500 yards as similar loads in the various 30-caliber magnums—the difference amounts to only a few inches more drop. Designed to handle the heaviest North

done well in Africa on the larger varieties of plains game.

Although slightly less powerful than

Although slightly less powerful than the .375 H&H Magnum, the .338 is better suited for North American hunting conditions and game. It's a well-balanced cartridge for anything from elk through moose and grizzly bear, under almost any situation. It could also serve very well for deer or antelope, even though it's overly powerful for this class.

American big game, the .338 has also

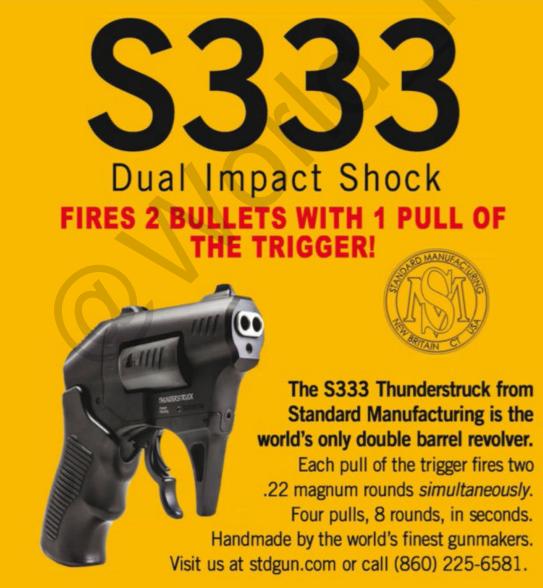
Like the .300 Winchester Magnum, the .338 Winchester Magnum would make an excellent one-gun cartridge for the worldwide hunter who has to travel light, though the .338 is automatically barred in some African countries in which the .375 is the minimum caliber.

Lately, the .338 has enjoyed a renewed and well-deserved popularity: Winchester, Remington and Federal all load this ammunition. **GDTM**

LOADING DATA AND FACTORY BALLISTICS

BULLET	POWDER	GRAINS	VELOCITY	ENERGY	SOURCE
175 SP	IMR 4895	67.5	3,200	3,980	Barnes
180 Nosler BT	H4350	74.5	3,157	3,980	Hodgdon
200 SP	IMR 4350	71.5	2,900	4,048	Speer, Hornady
210 SP	IMR 4350	73	2,900	3,923	Nosler
225 Hornady SP	RL-19	75.3	2,865	4,100	Hodgdon
250 SP	IMR 4831	71	2,700	4,048	Speer, Sierra
250 SP	IMR 4350	70	2,700	4,048	Sierra
275 SP	IMR 4831	68	2,500	3,817	Speer
275 SP	IMR 4064	58	2,400	3,518	Speer
300 SP	IMR 7828	70	2,500	4,164	Barnes
200 SP	FL	-	2,960	3,890	Factory load
225 SP	FL	-	2,780	3,860	Factory load
250 SP	FL	-	2,660	3,921	Factory load







AVITAL PIECEOFTHE EQUATION

If you think all scope rings and bases are created equal, then you're asking for trouble.

y father and I were on a Cape buffalo hunt in Tanzania's fabled Selous Reserve, having a great time watching the trackers work their magic as we followed a group of dugga boys across the hard, stony ground. Mesmerized by the fact that they saw the spoor so clearly, and I could recognize nothing at all, I kept hearing a soft, metallic "click" behind me.

I turned around to see my father's face—reddening with frustration. The rear ring of the Winchester Model 70 .458 Winchester Magnum had come dreadfully loose. Not wanting to speak too loudly and spook the bulls, I helped him remove the scope so he could at least use the iron sights in a pinch.

From that day forward, I vowed to use the best bases and rings money could buy, in order to prevent mishaps like that from ruining a hunt.

As a youngster, I'd seen Talleys on custom rifles and on a good many dangerous game guns, and I'd appreciated their clean lines; it'd be some time before I'd learn how utterly reliable they were, and how their tight tolerances would let the riflescope "go to sleep"

and maintain a proper zero. Today, all of my dangerous game guns equipped with a scope wear Talley rings and bases, and there are more rifles in my safe with Talley equipment than all the others combined.



THE TALLEY TALE

The Talley story reads much like the typical American success story: a dedicated, hard-working craftsman pours their heart and soul into making the best product possible, and passionately introduces that product to the world. In this case, the initial "him" is David Talley, a South Carolina gunsmith who decided he could build the better proverbial mousetrap when it came to mounting a telescopic sight to a rifle.

Born in Greenville, South Carolina, in 1936, Talley turned his gunsmithing talents into a business that'd allow him to make his mark on the shooting industry. His ring and base combinations were designed to be precisely handfitted to each particular rifle, to not

only perform flawlessly, but to give a level of concentricity, allowing the scope itself to perform best by staying within the middle of its adjustment range. In 1984, the first set of Talley mounts was released, and Talley worked hard to see that the product and the brand would build momentum.

Like any business struggling to get off the ground, family is often leaned upon. Having spent the majority of my life either working for or owning a family business, I can attest to the fact that tempers can flare and relationships can be strained. Anytime you see a successful family business, it's a wonderful thing, and Talley is no exception to the rule.

Enter the second "him" of the Tal-

ley story: stepson Gary Turner. Born and raised in South Carolina, Turner's mother married Talley in the early 1980s, and Gary would be drawn into the family business shortly after the family moved to Glenrock, Wyoming. As a teenager, Turner learned the ropes by working part time in the factory through his high school years. He finally joined his stepdad full time in 1990, as he learned to run the machines and to properly fit the mounts to the various rifles.

The two would go on to form Talley Manufacturing in 1997, developing a well-earned reputation for precision mounts for all sorts of shooting disciplines. Though Glenrock, Wyoming, was bit of a hotbed of gun-building

(Below) This Tikka T3X Lite uses the Talley Lightweight Alloy Scope Mounts to hold the Leupold VX-3i 2.5-10x scope.

(Right) Talley detachable rings designed for use with a Picatinny rail make a very flexible system.









The author uses the Talley vertical split steel ring to mount the Leupold VX-5HD 2-10x scope on his Winchester Model 70 .300 H&H Magnum.

activity, both Talley and Turner felt the desire to return home to the East Coast, and in 2004, Talley Manufacturing returned to South Carolina. To this day, Talley Manufacturing calls Santee, South Carolina, home, with a workforce of 25 employees, several of which have been with the company for 15 years or more.

DIALING IN THE DETAILS

While the Talley products speak for themselves—and I've yet to find a rifleman who doesn't appreciate the design of Talley rings and bases—I've come to call Turner a friend, having met him some six or seven years ago and finding we have a lot in common.

Here's some insight into the mind of the man who takes such pride in making one small part of the shooting equation.

Phil Massaro: Gary, you've been at the helm of Talley Manufacturing since I've known you. When did you take over the business from Dave Talley?

Gary Turner: I've been running the company for the last 25 years, and I obtained all the interest in the company a decade ago.

PM: Tell me about Talley Manufac-

turing today. It's obvious that it's much more than just a small custom maker of scope mounts.

GT: We're operating in a 12,000-square-foot facility in South Carolina, with a workforce of 25 dedicated people. I've got a very loyal team who take pride in their work, and I'm happy to have a team I can count on.

PM: Having dealt with the customer service departments of a good number of companies producing firearms, ammunition and related products, your team ranks among the best. Your folks know the products inside and out, can answer any questions and recommend the best product to solve the problem.

GT: My team goes the extra mile to make sure we can give the customer the best advice. With the everincreasing number of scope/rifle combinations, we do our absolute best to recommend one or more choices to meet the customer's needs. My guys are part of a family; I've several employees who've been with Talley for 15 years or more.

PM: I've relied on your detachable rings for a number of years. They always return to zero, and my rifles have traveled around the world without having an issue. Where did that

A Bansner & Co. .404 Jeffery rifle topped with a Leupold VX-5HD 1-5x24mm in Talley detachable rings.





concept come from?

GT: The detachable is a modification of the original Talley vertical split-ring design and has become a staple on dangerous game rifles. Our tolerances are very tight, which is a major factor in the consistency of our products.

PM: Having used a significant number of your rings both on my rifles and on those I test for reviews, I've noticed that your stuff definitely centers the scope more than other brands. Simply put, once the scope is properly mounted, it takes less adjustment to zero than it does with others.

GT: That's what we aim for; it also helps with target rifles to give the scopes the most amount of adjustment possible.

PM: You make rings and bases in all sorts of configurations for an astounding number of different rifle models. What is your best-selling product?

GT: Our Lightweight Alloy Scope Mount ring and base combination is our bestseller, and I'm really proud of that design.

PM: Aha! I have those on my Tikka T3X Lite rifle, and they're fantastic. They're rigid, and at that light weight they take nothing away from the balance of a mountain rifle.

(Author's note: The Talley Lightweight Alloy Scope Mounts are an intriguing design; they have an integral base and ring lower, with only the top of the ring screwing into the bottom. This eliminates any chance of ring/base misalignment, as well as alleviating the possibility of the ring coming loose in the base—because it is the base. They're a wonderful choice for any gun, but especially for a mountain rifle.)

PM: I know how much the "Made in USA" label means to you. Tell me a bit about that.

GT: For the past few decades, manufacturing in this country has been forced offshore. I take great pride in running a business that can be successful in manufacturing in this country. To me, that's the American entrepreneurial spirit. We have one of

the most extensive lists of scope/bases and rings, and they're all made in our South Carolina facility, and that's not going to change anytime soon.

A RING FOR ALL

From the versatility of the one-screw and two-screw Talley steel rings—both detachable and fixed—to the rings designed for ARs and tactical rifles, to the

The author and Gary Turner at the Dallas Safari Club convention. Lightweight Alloy Scope Mounts, Talley has something for nearly any rifle.

But, more importantly, Turner is the kind of guy you'd like to hang out with. He's pushed the boundaries of his company, equally paying homage to the original design that Dave Talley produced and developing new, intriguing models fill the needs of the modern shooter. **GDTM**



(Below) Dave Talley at work on a custom rifle stock.

(Bottom) Talley working on the action of a custom rifle.





TIMNEY FIXES THE GLOCK

An American-made drop-in trigger for the Austrian Gen 3 and Gen 4s.



The Timney Glock drop-in trigger is essentially three parts that include a receiver module, spring (not shown) and trigger assembly.

want to preface this information by saying: I'm not a Glock guy. This doesn't mean the Glock pistol isn't a good handgun, and it also doesn't mean that I know nothing about Glocks.

During my 13-year tenure in law enforcement, I carried a variety of Glocks on and off duty. I was a Glock armorer, I trusted them and even used them to compete in Glock-sanctioned pistol matches ... and won. Glocks are just not my handgun of choice. Some consider this as damnation for the plastic pistol, but that's not the case.

I also don't like Ford automobiles it's called "personal preference."

One of the reasons I'm not particularly fond of Glock pistols is their trigger. I don't like the way it feels when I pull it, and I'm not sold on this passive safety concept where—as

a measure of safety—you must put your finger on the trigger to make the gun go bang. That's pretty much been the modus operandi for making handguns go bang since the first handgun was invented. If you want to put a safety on a handgun, fit it with a thumb safety; John Browning figured this out a long time ago.

TIMNEY DOES TRIGGERS

So there, now that we have all of that out of the way, let me acknowledge that a Glock pistol—all Glock pistols—are reliable and affordable self-defense handguns that are far better tools than a lot of other plastic pistol options. I own one, and it goes bang every time I pull that trigger ... that I don't like to pull.

Something I do like are the triggers that Timney manufactures. I own a lot of rifles, and most of them are fit-

ted with Timney triggers. I've also known the owner of Timney Triggers a long time and consider him a friend. We've hunted together, shot together and shared some good times around a campfire. Not only is John Vehr—owner and president of Timney Triggers—a good guy, he's also a mastermind at business and manufacturing. This is, of course, why Timney Triggers is the world's preeminent source for aftermarket triggers.

However, what Timney has been missing is a trigger for a handgun. Years ago, I suggested to John that the company offer an aftermarket trigger for the 1911. Even though John has taken some of my suggestions in the past, he ignored that one.

So, I was a bit surprised to learn that, for 2021, Timney introduced a drop-in trigger for the Gen 3 and Gen 4 Glock pistol. I was more surprised than excited because, well, I'm not a Glock guy. On the other hand, Glock shooters should be excited, because it has been my experience that Timney doesn't make junk.

THE TOUGHEST TEST

I requested one of the Timney Glock triggers for testing, but instead of conducting most of the evaluation myself, I reached out to a friend, Will Mc-Guire, who is a patrol/SWAT officer and asked him to conduct the initial evaluation. I needed a serious Glock guy to provide some serious input. Will installed the Timney trigger in his Glock G34 that he carries on duty when working the street or when in his turn-out gear. He reported back to me that the trigger was the real deal and was far better than a stock Glock trigger. He also said that he'd been running an Agency Arms trigger in his Glock and he liked the Timney unit better.

Not surprised, I asked Will to drop by and give me an installation demonstration, and I ordered another Timney trigger for my Glock 17. Like all Timney drop-in triggers, installation was straightforward and easy. That being said, if you're not comfortable disassembling your Glock "past the pins," as Will likes to call it, you'd probably be best advised in seeking the assistance of a Glock armorer. If you're familiar with fully field-stripping a Glock, you can install the Timney trigger in about 5 minutes.

Timney rates their Glock trigger as having a 3-pound pull. On my Timney trigger pull scale, the pull weight measured just a tick over 3 pounds. It feels much improved over the standard factory trigger, even though it still retains the centrally placed passive safety lever. The take-up is smooth, and once you hit the wall, the break is crisp with minimal overtravel. I will say that the reset feels a bit soft when compared to the factory trigger and any other aftermarket Glock trigger I've tried. However, the

The Timney Glock drop-in trigger comes with all the parts and tools you need to install it. If you're Glock savvy, the install take about 5 minutes.

ALPHA GLOCK 3-4

GLOCK ALPHA COMPETITION SERIES

J IB PULL

ALPHA GLOCK 3-4

J IB PULL

reset is very audible, and though soft, it didn't impact my ability to shoot the pistol at all.

I should also mention that, when the second trigger arrived, my son wanted to install it in his Glock 19 (a graduation gift from a friend). However, his pistol is fitted with a Ghost Incorporated trigger connector, and we discovered that the Timney Glock trigger won't work with that aftermarket piece. It would appear that in order for the Timney Glock trigger to work, you need to start with a Glock that has the original Glock fire control system.

Timney for sure has a winner with their new Glock Gen 3-4 trigger, which has a suggested retail price of \$149.99, and they're also now offering a drop-in trigger for Gen 5 Glocks at the same price. My SWAT friend is now running the Timney is his duty gun, and I find it hard for there to exist a better endorsement; he may very likely have to shoot his G34 to save his, mine or someone else's life. The Timney trigger hasn't turned me into a Glock guy, but I damn sure wish I'd had one when I was armed with a Glock and a badge. **GDTM**

HILLBILLY WISDOM Sam Colt was right: The handgun is the great equalizer. But using a handgun is like applying math ... without skill at arms, you'll never be able to solve the equation. Get trained!

REASONABLE PERSON'S DOCTRINE

Are you a reasonable person? Would a court of law agree?

ome on, man. Be reasonable!" How many times have we heard those words? Everyone likes to think they're being reasonable, but in the world of the courtroom, being reasonable means something very specific.

"What would a reasonable and prudent person, knowing what you knew at the time, have done under the same circumstances?"

The above sentence is an explanation

of the reasonable person doctrine, and while different states will change the wording slightly, they basically will all fall within this statement.

When a person is arrested and prosecuted for a crime following an act of self-defense, it'll be up to you and your defense team to attempt to convince the jury that your actions were reasonable under the circumstances.

Now, there are all types of legal points (stand your ground, affirmative defense, burden of proof, etc.), and these legal

points will be important to the judge and attorneys, but the bottom line is that the jurors, when deciding your fate, will ask themselves if they would have done the same thing if they had been in your shoes.

DEFENDING YOUR DEFENSE

There are a couple of necessary points to consider before getting into the weeds. First, did the defendant start the fight? If, through words or actions the defendant would be viewed as the initial aggressor,

"It's reasonable for someone carrying a gun in public for self-defense to have taken a course (or multiple courses) in gun safety and marksmanship. Many times, that course is combined with learning the rules of the road regarding the legalities of use of force."

"What would a reasonable and prudent person, knowing what you knew at the time, have done under the same circumstances?"

they will not legally be allowed to put on a self-defense argument. The second point is the defendant must not have been committing a crime, with that crime resulting in the need to use force in self-defense.

With those points understood, what can the normal armed citizen do to tip the scales of justice in their favor?

First, they need to get documented training in the use of deadly force. After all, isn't it reasonable for a person who chooses to carry a deadly weapon in public to be educated as to when it is appropriate and when it is not appropriate to use deadly force in self-defense?

Mere study and understanding of this topic is better than nothing, but it's the documenting of this knowledge that will allow the defense team to introduce the training in court. This means a human being who was certified to teach the law of deadly force, and that human being should be prepared to go to court and testify as to what they taught you and why.

It's also reasonable for someone carrying a gun in public for self-defense to have taken a course (or multiple courses) in gun safety and marksmanship. Many times, that course is combined with learning the rules of the road regarding the legalities of use of force. But even if it's not, and even if you know

the material in the course, wouldn't it be nice to be able to show that you wanted to make sure you were up to speed regarding gun safety and marksmanship? Sounds reasonable, doesn't it?

Additionally, when you choose the type of gun you're going to carry, would it be reasonable to choose a gun that a jury member would probably *not* consider to be overkill? This issue is much less of a problem these days, but it could surface, and if it does, can you articulate why you chose that blaster ... and make it sound reasonable to the jury?

ADDITIONAL LEARNING

Additional training courses involving "tactical application" of use of force would also be reasonable, especially if that training was documentable and derived from standard police officer training with former or current police instructors, but with curriculum changed to fit into civilian use of force parameters.

This subject area includes shooting from cover, shooting one handed and practicing taking criminal suspects at gunpoint. Knowing that these subject areas are likely to be useful in self-defense situations, isn't it reasonable to train in these areas? And, of course, your instructor should be willing to testify in court as to what they taught you and why.

Lastly, training in "force on force," where classmates are stripped of all operable weapons, given inert weapons and then placed into carefully designed scenarios that'll teach decision-making concepts, would be reasonable, would it not?

ARMED WITH KNOWLEDGE

Outlined above is a road map to not only teach the armed citizen the "rules of the road" and "tactical application of use of force," but also to allow you and your defense team to educate the jury in your self-defense trail, showing them that your actions and preparation to use deadly force were those of a reasonable person simply preparing to use force in self-defense, if necessary.

In all jurisdictions, in a self-defense case, the jury is entitled to hear your thought process as you decided you needed to use force in self-defense. And, because of this, you're entitled to tell the jury about the training you received, which was instrumental in helping you form the thoughts that resulted in your use of force.

But here's the kicker: Training course curriculum and your trainers aren't likely going to be allowed in court unless that training is documented. And the best news is that if you have taken the steps to get trained (as any reasonable armed citizen would do), it's doubtful that you'll be prosecuted. **GDTM**

About the Author

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

O1 Winchester M70 Long Range

Still cherished among the all-time best rifle designs, Winchester recently aimed the classic Model 70 at precision shooters. As the Long-Range model suggests, the rifle is decked out to maximize its range. To that end, it all begins with Bell and Carlson composite stock. Boasting an internal aluminum bedding block, the stock has an air-tight mate-up with the receiver and has a few little enhancements to milk the most out of the system—including lower vents to aid barrel cooling and a wide, flat fore to stabilize on a rest. While precision is the Model 70's focus, the rifle is still fieldready—coming in at less than 8 pounds, making it ideal for long-range hunts. Available in eight calibers, the revamped 70 hits the mark.

MSRP: Starting at \$1,550

02 Mystery RanchHands-Free Rifle Sling

Refining its innovative design, Mystery Ranch has built a better mousetrap when it comes to hunting convenience. The Hands-Free Rifle Sling does what it says, giving hunters use of both hands in rugged backcountry terrain. But, through a handy system, gives up a long gun at a moment's notice. The secret, a magnetic locking system that holds fast when on the move, but easily disengages when a target of opportunity presents itself. Also nice, it's quiet as a mountain breeze. Comes with the sling and sternum strap proper, stock dock. Compatible with most pack systems.

MSRP: \$99

03 N8 Tactical Pro-Lock Holster

Extremely comfortable and arguably more efficient—at least on the draw—outside the waistband carry is well worth consideration. If it fits your lifestyle, N8 Tactical has the rig for you. Known as its Pro-Lock holster, the system provides enhanced passive retention not found in a typical Level I retention holster. N8 calls it their "Secure Twist Release" system, quite simply it's a slight modification to the polycarbonate shell's trigger pocket that requires a slight twist to release the gun. Clever. Also, comfortable. An all-leather backing keeps your iron off your side and helps your body breathe, at the same protecting your gun from body moisture.

MSRP: \$49.95

04 Sig Sauer M400 Tread Predator AR

When it comes to entry-level ARs, few hold a candle to Sig's TREAD line. Now, hunters have a reason to look in Sig's direction, with the introduction of the M400 TREAD Predator. Chambered 5.56 NATO, the rifle sticks to the line formula for success but offers a few upgrades that make it a perfect addition. In particular, the carbine boasts a fully adjustable stock, allowing users to tailor the cheek rise and length of pull at a mere twist of knobs. Additionally, the handguard—Sig's Predator model—not only offers plenty of M-Lok real estate, but also a wide flat bottom, perfect for drawing a steady rest on a fence post or other support. Outfitted with a snappy single-stage trigger, the TREAD Predator is just the ticket to get coyotes howling.

MSRP: \$1,100



05 CCI Clean-22 Realtree Ammo

Less fouling, more stealthy ... what's not to love about CCI's Clean-22 Realtree. The rimfire ammo has been around for a while, utilizing Federal/CCI's polymer jacketing to keep lead from clogging up a rifle's bore. But partnering with Realtree, the ammomaker has upped its game in the batches you can buy. The plastic jug ships with 400 rounds of clean ammo, which should keep even the most ambitious shooters busy for a couple of hours. As to its performance, it kicks a 40-grain bullet 1,235 fps at the muzzle; that's enough for any brushy or cottontail that crosses your path.

MSRP: \$43.99, jug of 400

04 >

06 Federal Premium 10mm Punch Ammo

Federal's first line specifically developed for civilian defensive use, PUNCH ammunition fills a unique niche in the ammo giant's catalog. And it's grown to fit more shooters in recent times.

Federal unveiled a new 200-grain 10mm load in the PUNCH line, certain to give armed citizens an edge in life-and-death situations. Engineered to meet or exceed FBI penetration standards, leaving the muzzle at 1,100 fps, the hollow-point loads deliver the peace of mind it can get the job done. This isn't exclusive to the terminal end of things. Utilizing nickel-plated brass and sealed primers, shooters can expect flawless function in any handgun in which it's run.

MSRP: \$30.99, box of 20

07 M&P Shield Plus 9mm

Little double, the M&P Shield is among the most popular concealed-carry pistols to come down the pike. Easy to keep under wraps, intuitive in control and chambered to stop threats, there were few knocks on the pistol, outside of capacity. Now, that's a thing of the past. Upping the capacity of the demure heater, the Shield Plus brings the pistol in line with other micro-compacts currently on the market. With 13+1 on board, the 9mm has more than enough firepower to handle most lethal-force encounter—outside a full-fledged Hunnic invasion. The best part, Smith & Wesson didn't compromise the pistol's very manageable size to squeeze in the extra round, with the gun measuring 6.1 inches in length, 1.1 inches in width and 20 ounces in weight.

MSRP: \$553

MADE NISA





08 OSS RAD 9 and RAD 45 Suppressors

A significant advancement in pistol suppressors, the OSS RAD 9 and RAD 45 bring flexibility and improved shooting experience to the table. The heart of the suppressor is what OSS calls its Flow-Baffle technology, which essentially eliminates any blow-back. The secret sauce: radial baffles that route the expanding gases to the perimeter of the device, and then out the front. Modular, the suppressor also adapts to the situation with two configurations. The RAD 9 goes from 7.7 inches at full length down to 5.15 inches, while the RAD 45 is modifiable from 8.6 to 6.4 inches. In any setup, the cans make for long and very enjoyable shooting sessions.

MSRP: RAD 9 \$849; RAD 45 \$999

09 Hornady Bore Driver FTX

Hunt with sabot rounds during muzzleloader season and you know their drawback. Yeah, they're lights-out accurate, but, boy howdy, are they a pain to wrangle down a bore. If there was only a better system. Known as the Bore Driver FTX, the system is designed for sabot-like performance, but not loading. The key here is Hornady opting for a polymer base, which provides the same sealing properties as a sabot but doesn't require throwing your back out to ram home. Sitting atop the base is Hornady's legendary FlexTip (FTX) bullet, which serves up class-best ballistic coefficients and downrange performance. Translated, that means the .50-calibers shoot to your muzzleloader's limits.

MSRP: \$29.99 box of 20

10 Galco Classic Lite 2.0 Speedloader Carrier

Reloading a revolver ... it's a hurdle armed citizens are well aware of. Less considered is how to keep those reloads on-hand and under wraps until they're needed. Galco has the answer in its speedloader carrier tailored to its shoulder holster rigs. Keeping two speedloaders at hand under the support-hand armpit in a horizontal position, the system allows for fast and efficient reloads conducive to the most popular techniques taught today. And the ambidextrous system is tough as cut nails. Constructed of 100-percent premium center-cut steerhide and rugged steel snaps, the carrier is made for years of use and with any caliber.

MSRP: \$39

11 Luth-AR MBA-5 AR Upgrade Stock

Stocks usually pull up the tail end of an AR upgrade, but few enhancements outside a snappy new trigger-do more to improve a rifle's comfort and performance. Luth-AR is a master at tweaking this particular part of a build. Outfitted with the company's Anti-Rattle set screw found in the MBA-3 and MBA-4, the MBA-5 stock eliminates that annoying shimmy common on lesser options. Additionally, Luth-AR includes a wide, flared cheek rest for an intuitive and comfortable weld, a convenient paddle-style adjustment lever for rapid positioning (six positions). To finish it all up, the parts maker integrates a Picatinny rail on the lower rear of the stock, perfect if you're a precision shooter who has to have a monopod to steady everything up. Complete with QD attachment points and righty and lefty

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O8 NOTICE LEGACIV. DEPENDABLE

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12 Ruger MAX-9

Ruger is no stranger to carry-ready handguns, though traditionally they stuck to more non-traditional niches. Now, it's set to tackle the fastestgrowing segment of self-defense arms—the micro-compact—with the MAX-9. As to how the pistol measures out, it's 6 inches long, 1 inch in width, boasts a 3.2-inch barrel and weighs in at 18.4 ounces unloaded. Along with its overall demure size, it offers spot-on capacity, feeding on both a 10-round flush-fit magazine and a 12-round extended capacity. Finally, it's optic ready—yes, you heard that right. Compatible with a wide swath of red-dot optics, there are few other pistols in its class that compete with what the MAX-9 brought to the table at its price.

13 Wilson Combat X-TAC Supergrade

MSRP: \$4,795

Arkansas is the heart of American custom gunmaking, and it's also the home of Wilson Combat. Renowned for its custom creations, the popular purveyor of top-shelf 1911s might have outdone itself in the enhancement of one of its popular lines. The X-TAC Supergrade isn't brand-new, but its release is still worth mention, given it takes Wilson's "one gun at a time" ethos to its maximum. The company's most experienced gunsmiths build these John Browning classics, meaning only a few are turned out each month. Exclusivity is an asset, given the carbon-steel beast's fit and finish are unparalleled ... as is its performance. Some of the fine points include bidirectional, X-TAC frontstrap and slide treatment for enhanced grip, rear battle sight and front fiber optic, bull barrel and choice of 9mm, .38 Super and .45 ACP chamberings.

14 Colt Anaconda

Few things are quite as American as the .44 Magnum and Colt "Snake Guns." Thankfully, this potent combination returns to the iconic gunmaker's catalog in 2021 with the release of the highly anticipated Colt Anaconda. The six-round .44 Mag. isn't a one-on-one clone of the original, instead sharing more with the recently rebooted Python. But the super-sized snake has everything to squeeze every lick of power from the cartridge, including the choice of 8- and 6-inch barrel, redesigned non-stacking double-action trigger, fully adjustable rear sight, Hogue over-molded grips and target-crowned barrel. A brilliant semi-bright finish pulls the whole stainless steel revolver together and makes the Anaconda as appealing as ever.

MSRP: \$1,499

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hese days, rifles like the AR-15 have seduced the younger generation of gun owners, causing them to overlook the lever-action rifles versatility, simplicity and reliability. Lever actions aren't just for old guys living out their John Wayne fantasies; they're still very usable rifles in a practical sense, as well as being extremely fun to shoot.

Few rifle designs have been as impactful on American history as the 1860 Henry rifle. Seeing as it was the basis for the rifle that won the West, the Winchester 1873, Benjamin Tyler Henry had more of an impact on the United States expiation westward than he could have dreamed of. I doubt that when Henry watched the

first 1860 Henry rifles leave the factory, he suspected that, 160 years later, his name would grace nearly 300,000 firearms a year.

That isn't a result of the rifle's initial success, but rather the impact the design had on Anthony Imperato, who partnered with his father, Louis, to bring the Henry name back to the firearm world in 1996. Since the first Henry H001 Classic Lever Action .22 LR rolled off the production line, over a million have made their way into the hands of nostalgic Americans. Sure, there isn't a direct connection to Benjamin Tyler Henry, but you have to appreciate Henry Repeating Arms' role in keeping the timeless leveraction design alive and well.

Without Henry, younger generations

of shooters wouldn't know anything other than AR-15s and the like. Attainable, American-made lever-action rifles ensure that today's gun-loving youth won't overlook the lever-action rifles versatility, simplicity and reliability. Nothing else seems to replicate the magic of a well-built lever-action.

THE FIRST HENRY RIFLE

You can't talk about Henry Repeating Arms without talking about the 1860 Henry Rifle; it did become the basis for virtually every rifle Winchester produced following it. The design actually dates back to 1848, when Walter Hunt built a couple prototypes of his revolutionary lever-operated rifle, but there were still some design issues that



needed to be worked out.

Several other men tried their hand at improving the action, and it was finally produced in some volume by the Volcanic Repeating Arms company. Production at Volcanic lasted only a year with an unknown number of rifles built, when Oliver Winchester took over the company and reorganized as New Haven Arms Company, where Benjamin Tyler Henry put the final touches on what we think of the classic Henry rifle while working as plant superintendent.

Just because the Henry didn't see the large-scale adoption the Spencer rifle saw shouldn't fool you; Henry's rifle makes appearances in some notable events in American history. Even President Abraham Lincoln was given a beautifully engraved gold-plated rifle, as was the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy. The obvious goal was mass adoption of the Henry rifle, but New Haven fell short of their goal, with only 1,731 of the rifles being delivered to the U.S. Government.

With such a small purchase, the Henry was never formally adopted, but more than 6,000 of the rifles ended up in the

hands of Union troops who purchased them out of their own pocket rather than use the issued Spencer rifle. The Henry's 15-round capacity made it particularly attractive to raiding parties, scouts and those assigned with flank guard duty.

When Confederate Colonel John Mosby referred to the Henry as "that damned Yankee rifle that can be loaded on Sunday and fired all week," it was clear that Henry's rifle had an impact. That all ended in 1866, when production of the Henry rifle ceased, and New Haven Arms



was restructured again as Winchester Repeating Arms. The rifle would go on to be developed into the Winchester 1866, which saw a long, 33-year production run and wide-scale adoption with foreign armies and those seeking fame and fortune in the West.

THE HENRY NAME IS RESURRECTED

Once production of the 1860 Henry ended, the Henry name faded into obscurity until Anthony Imperato trademarked the name in 1996. Anthony and his father, Louis, set up a manufacturing facility in Brooklyn, New York, to produce the Henry H001 .22 rimfire lever-action 131 years after the last rifle to bear the Henry name came off the assembly line.

Since there isn't any affiliation with Benjamin Tyler Henry or New Haven Arms Company, the company started by the Imperatos wasn't really bringing a defunct company back, but rather the birth of a brand-new one that paid homage to an influential design.

With a blank canvas, Henry Repeating Arms has grown to a size that Benjamin Tyler Henry would've never even



The 71st Illinois Infantry Regiment color guard pose with their 1860 Henry rifles.

dreamed of in the mid 1800s, with no signs of slowing down. Today, Henry employs nearly 500 people and has over a quarter-million square feet of manufacturing space between their headquarters in Bayonne, New Jersey, and Henry's second facility in Rice Lake, Wisconsin.

When the slogan "Made in America Or Not Made at All" was chosen, they weren't playing around. Every Henry is born in the United States; there are no exceptions ... ever.

A MODEL FOR EVERY NEED

With two facilities that you could pack over five football fields into, it shouldn't be a surprise that their product lineup



THE ORIGINAL HENRY RIFLE TIMELINE

1848: Walter Hunt invents Volition Repeating Rifle

1849: Jennings Magazine Rifle patent improves on Hunt's design

1851: Smith-Jennings Rifle patent further improves the design

1854: Smith & Wesson Company introduces the Smith & Wesson Lever Pistol

1855: Smith & Wesson Company becomes Volcanic Repeating Arms Company

1856: Oliver Winchester takes Volcanic over after company becomes insolvent

1857: Volcanic Repeating Arms becomes New Haven Arms Company

1857: Benjamin Tyler Henry hired as New Haven's plant superintendent

1860: Benjamin Tyler Henry patents the Henry repeating rifle

1860: Henry Rifle produced by New Haven <u>Arms</u>

1862: President Abraham Lincoln presented with serial number 6

1862-1865: U.S. Ordnance Department takes delivery of 1,731 rifles

1866: Production of the 1860 Henry ends at New Haven Arms at roughly 14,000 rifles

1866: Benjamin Tyler Henry, unhappy with compensation, seeks ownership of New Haven

1866: Oliver Winchester reorganized the company as Winchester Repeating Arms Company

1866: Winchester releases Model 1866 rifle, an improvement on the Henry design

1976: Navy Arms resurrects the 1860 Henry rifle. Less than 3,000 produced by Navy Arms

1979: Italian company A. Uberti Firearms offers reproduction of 1860 Henry rifle

1996: Henry Repeating Arms founded by Louis and Anthony Imperato

2014: Henry Repeating Arms starts New Original Henry Rifle production

is pretty dang expansive. Boiling it down to the basic models without taking into account variations in barrels, finish and caliber, Henry has something like 12



models to choose from. That number jumps to 253 when you start adding in caliber, finish and other variations.

Even if you only have a cursory interest in owning a lever-action, there's likely something in the Henry catalog that you'll appreciate in their trademark brass finish, polished silver, black or my personal favorite option, case colored.

THE CLASSIC HENRY H001.22 RIFLE

If you're looking to scratch the Old West itch, there are few better choices than a Henry H001. Over a million have made it to the market as of 2017. Currently, the H001 isn't offered in a side gate variant, and no plans to offer one have been announced. It isn't hard to understand why when you take into consideration that the palatable \$349 MSRP would increase quite a lot to offset the increased complexity of a side gate H001. That isn't to say that it wouldn't be awesome, because it would.

The rifle is chambered in .22 LR, but it'll also shoot .22 Long and .22 Short ...

offering more versatility than a 10/22. The overall feel of the rifle is very retro, with adjustable buckhorn sights and American walnut furniture. Loading is done just like all Henry rifles, by removing a removable plunger tube from the magazine, sliding the rounds in and then replacing the plunger tube.

Variants ranging from the standard H001 to customized special editions are available; there's no shortage of choices.

THE MARE'S LEG PISTOL

One of the more unique firearms in the Henry lineup is their Mare's Leg, a lever-action pistol modeled after Steve McQueen's character on the late '50s TV show *Wanted: Dead or Alive.* The pistol is available in .22 Long Rifle, .22 Magnum, .357 Magnum, .44 Magnum and even .45 Colt. Unfortunately, the Mare's Leg isn't offered with Henry's new side gate, but that's bound to happen sooner or later.

HENRY BIG BOY RIFLES

Like the first lever-actions, the Henry Big Boy rifles are chambered in what ends up being an intermediate cartridge.



Offered in .357 Magnum, .44 Magnum and .45 Colt, the Big Boy might be an ideal option if you're looking for a rifle that shares the same cartridge as your revolver.

While you might think you need a .30-30 Winchester or even the Long Ranger to take medium game, the Big Boy will do it in a handier package with less recoil. The .357 Magnum case color is a personal favorite, with a 125-grain out of a 20-inch barrel performing very similar to a 7.62x39mm or .300 Blackout in a carbine.

A Big Boy might even be a great choice for a defensive rifle should you live in a restrictive area, or if you feel more comfortable with a lever gun than a semi-auto.

LARGE-CALIBER LEVER-ACTIONS

Henry's large-caliber lever actions are very similar to the Big Boy rifles—they're just chambered in .30-30, .45-70 Government, .38-55 Winchester and .35 Remington.

The large-caliber rifles were the first to be updated with the new side gate and maintain the removable plunger, should you prefer to use the tube to load rather than the side gate. The ability to remove the magazine tube plunger means that downloading your rifle after a hunt won't put unneeded wear on your ammunition. Options aren't a bad thing sometimes.

PUMP-ACTION RIMFIRE, THE LONG RANGER & SHOTGUNS

If your particular brand of nostalgia is reliving those times at the fair with a pump-action .22, the Pump Action Octagon might be what you need. Sadly, there aren't any other pump-action rifles in the Henry product line.

How about something for hunting longer ranges than a .30-30 Win. is capable of? The Long Ranger is aptly named—it's chambered in .308 Winchester or 6.5 Creedmoor. Since the ammunition wouldn't work so well in a tube magazine, Henry fitted this rifle with a detachable box magazine, and the rifle's mechanism is significantly different than the rest of their line because it relies on a rotating bolt. As weird as it sounds, the idea of a 6.5 Creedmoor lever action can be appealing due to its uniqueness.

The lineup gets a bit weird when we look at their shotguns: Not only does Henry offer 12- and 20-gauge single-shot break actions, but they also offer a lever-action .410 shotgun based off the large-caliber lever-action rifle, as well as the Lever Action Axe. The Axe is a non-NFA firearm and, like all their lever-action .410 shotguns, it features a side gate loading port.

NEW ORIGINAL HENRY RIFLES

The most coveted of Henry rifles is, without a doubt, the New Original

Henry Rifles. Carrying an MSRP of \$2,590, it might seem like they're priced crazy high when compared to the rest of the Henry line, but that changes the second you realize a New Haven produced 1860 Henry rifle will set you back about the same money as a brand-new Porsche 911.

If you want an 1860 Henry you can actually enjoy on the range, the Henry New Original Henry is the ticket.

MODERNIZED X MODELS

In an effort to bring the lever action into the 21st century, Henry introduced the X Model with the features that a younger-generation shooter might look for, such as M-Lok slots and a rail to mount a bipod or flashlight. The biggest benefit is the fiberoptic sights and the threaded barrel. With suppressed hunting legal in many states, the ability to add a can is a welcome option.

Integrated sling mounting points, a side gate loading port and synthetic furniture make the X Model a workhorse that's sure to serve someone for decades.

What does the future hold for Henry Repeating Arms? Well, those secrets are kept locked up pretty tight, but hopefully a wood-stocked variant of the X Model is on the books. Whatever the case, the Henry brand is here to stay for generations to come. **GDTM**



AFEW GOOD MEN

The U.S.-Mexico border, the guns that shaped American history ... and the men who carried them.

irearms have been carried out of necessity along our southwest border with Old Mexico long before the Rio Grande River and the (once imaginary) surveyed line that runs west from it, all the way to the Pacific Ocean, even existed. In 1519, Alvar Nunez Cabeza de Vaca waltzed into Texas, armor clanging, near present day Presidio, so the first records of gun bearers to the region dawn with expeditions by the Spanish Conquistadores who armed themselves with early muskets, lances and swords in the 1500s and 1600s. It stands to reason that the existence of firearms grew as European colonization increased over time.

Many years ago, an old mountain lion hunter I know was running his hounds along the rugged Sierra Vieja Rim southwest of Valentine, Texas, when he saw what he thought was an old piece of metal pipe sticking out of some rocks. This got his curiosity up, so he dug around and eventually found it was actually the remnants of a 1700s French Trade Gun, along with the remains of its owner, buried under a rock overhang. The rifle barrel was badly bent, and the assumption is that the man's comrades buried him with his belongings and made the rifle inoperable so anyone finding it couldn't use it.

Fast-forwarding to the 1800s, when "The River" (as West Texans refer to the Rio Grande) became an international boundary, the region saw the contin-

ued and growing need for guns as tools for survival. Early settlers needed their weaponry not only to provide wild meat for their family's hungry bellies, but for protection from Mexican bandits and marauding, and hostile natives—who were a constant threat to the livelihood and safety of those pioneers who dared to venture into the great Southwestern United States.

The first folks to cross the briny Pecos River and forge a living in the harsh Trans-Pecos region and Big Bend country of far West Texas had to be stout, or they wouldn't last long. The remote, arid region breeds tough, resolute people. These determined souls, many whose relatives still live and ranch here, brought with them whatever firearms they had at the time, and bought or traded for the best as soon as they could.

Old blackpowder muzzleloaders were replaced by cartridge-firing rifles, preferably Winchester repeaters. Cap-and-ball six-shooters were stowed in grandma's cedar chest, replaced by Colt's Single Action Army, Remington's 1875 and the Smith & Wesson revolvers. Old photographs show an array of Winchester lever actions representing popular long arms of the times. The Colt SAA wasn't the only sixgun carried by any means, but it was the most prolific.

THE NATIVES

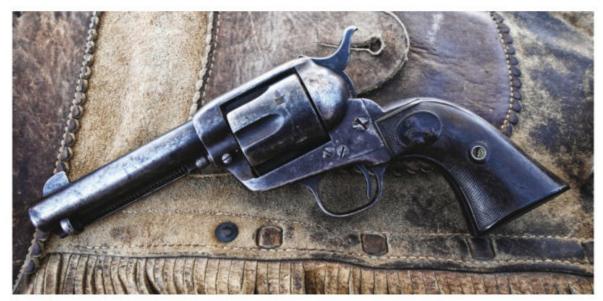
Native peoples have lived in this region

for thousands of years. To the trained eye, their ancient cooking middens are found at cave mouths and along canyon rims and dry arroyos that obviously once ran with cool, life-giving water. The more "modern" tribes, whose names we recognize as Apache and Comanche, came along long after these prehistoric groups. As soon as the Spaniards brought steel into the scene, the natives began using it for the tips of their arrows.

It's a safe assumption that they incorporated the firearm with equal enthusiasm, beginning with the front-stuffers and continuing into the cartridge-firing weapons as soon as they became available. As time progressed, the native tribes accumulated, by various means, the same guns as the settlers, ofttimes adding unique design in the form of stock carvings, brass tacks and other unique decorations.

THE MEXICANS, THE REVOLU-TIONARIES AND THE BANDITS

The hard-fought Mexican Revolution from 1910 to 1920 saw the use of any gun that could be gleaned by the determined fighters. Everything from muzzleloaders to machine guns were used in those bloody battles. Period photos depict a wide representation of rifles, such as Remington rolling blocks, Mauser bolt actions, lever guns from Savage and Winchester, and anything else the fighters could get their hands on. Handguns





(Above) A classic Colt SAA revolver. (Photo: Courtesy of Museum of the Big Bend)

(Left) Not all revolvers along the border were Colts. Here is an 1875 Remington in .44 caliber ... although it has seen better days! (Photo: Courtesy of Museum of the Big Bend)

followed the same unscripted assortment from Colt, Remington, and Smith & Wesson.

SMUGGLING ON THE BORDER

There's a certain type of criminal who capitalizes on our border with Mexico to practice their evil trade: the smuggler. What's outlawed or restricted in one country is trafficked into the other. History shows this has been everything from merchandise and candelilla wax, to livestock, liquor, weapons, illegal drugs and humanity. While conducting their smuggling business, these *contrabandistas* run back and forth to the assumed, even though unfounded, security of the country from which they reside.

When the United States enacted the 18th Amendment—prohibiting alcohol manufacturing, distribution and sales in 1919—the Southern region saw continued violence along the border. Many of the Mexican liquor smugglers (*tequile-ros*) were former soldiers of the Mexican Revolution. They were a salty lot that didn't hesitate to fill the air with hot lead when confronted by our equally dangerous U.S. lawmen.

My grandpa knew Tom Heard, a Texas Ranger who worked the South Texas brush country during that era. When Ranger Heard periodically visited the ranch where my granddad and his father cowboyed, he would tell him tales of gunfights along the river. An old photograph shows Ranger Heard with a Winchester Model 94 Trapper Carbine in his hands and a Colt SAA on his hip.

THE CAVALRY

The mounted cavalry troops stationed along the border to keep the bandits at bay in that era were armed with the Springfield 1903 bolt-action in 30-06. The Colt 1911 .45 ACP was the sidearm carried by many of those who wore handguns, although I've also seen photographs of soldiers wearing revolvers, including one of Captain Leonard Matlack with what appears to be a Colt SAA in his gun belt.

COWBOYS AND LAWMEN: COLTS, WINCHESTERS, A WHITNEY AND A FEW STORIES

I am intrigued by old guns with stories.

There's just something different about holding a blue-worn, wood-chipped rifle, or an old single-action with stocks worn slick from constant use in your hand and knowing where it came from, who owned it ... and the history that goes with it. Some of these tales are written—some are not—but they're all special in their own way.

Winchester 1866

Winchester's first lever-action rifle, the Model 1866, was tremendously popular. Firing the .44 Henry Rimfire, called the "Yellow Boy" because of the brass receiver, was even ordered by foreign governments to arm their soldiers. The one I examined came out of Mexico long ago. Too bad these old guns can't talk.

Winchester 1873

Texas Ranger James B. Gillette's M73 carbine was carried by him during his time in the Texas Rangers. He purchased it in 1875, and it's estimated that he traveled 10,000 miles on horseback during his six years as a Ranger (1875 to 1881). He used the carbine to kill a train-load of game for sustenance on patrol, and in every engagement with Native Americans and "desperados."

Winchester 1876

After Gillette's successful law enforcement career, he turned to raising cattle in the high-desert country west of Marfa, Texas. At some point, he acquired a Winchester 1876 King Improvement model in .45-60 Winchester with a 28-inch barrel. From the looks of it, this rifle was well used.

Winchester 1886

Texas Ranger James Putman closed the Murder Steer Case in the Glass Mountains north of Marathon, Texas, with his Winchester '86 in .45-70 when he head-shot Fine Gilliland after a rancher had been killed and a deputy sheriff wounded by Gilliland.

Winchester 1892

The M92 is probably one of the most recognizable to the general public, due



This Winchester Model 1876 Kings Improvement in .45-60 Winchester with a 28inch barrel belonged to Texas Ranger Jim Gillette, who, later in his life, ranched west of Marfa, Texas, on the Barrel Springs Ranch. (Photo: Courtesy of Museum of the Big Bend)



Whitney Arms Company's .44-caliber lever-action that found its way into west Texas.
(Photo: Courtesy of Museum of the Big Bend)



A Sharps "Old Reliable" .45-caliber rifle. (Photo: Courtesy of Museum of the Big Bend)



Two 30-06s:top, 1917 P14 Eddystone Enfield; bottom, a Remington 1903 both popular with the U.S. Military along the border. (Photo: Courtesy of Colby Brandon)



Top, a Winchester "Yellow Boy" model 1866 in 44 Henry Rimfire from Ojinaga, Chihuahua, Mexico, and an 1894 Short Rifle in 30 WCF from far west Texas. (Photo: Courtesy of Colby Brandon)

to its use in Western movies. A Model '92 carbine is still one of the slickest long guns around and a great defensive weapon. I have mildly customized Browning 1892 designated as my go-to defense rifle.

Winchester 1895

Winchester's solid '95 was very popular during the Bandit Wars along the border. Chambered in .30-06, these rifles were favorites among the old-time Texas Rangers. The one I examined in .30-03 Government was developed to replace the .30-40 Krag and was the predecessor of the .30-06.

Winchester Model 1894

The Model 94 in .30 WCF (.30-30 Winchester) is a classic lever-action. This is another rifle favored by lawmen, outlaws, cowboys and hunters. It's still a viable candidate for hunting and personal defense.

Savage Model's 1895 and 1899

The Savage M95 and M99 were also popular rifles of the day. One of the rarer lever-actions I was able to photograph was the Whitney Arms Model 1886 in .44 caliber. Its history is unknown, only that it found its way to West Texas and into the museum on the Sul Ross campus.

COLT SINGLE-ACTION ARMY

Colt's ASS is a perfect handgun in my eye, and old photographs show I'm not alone in that assessment. The SAA was a popular sidearm along the border by those who violated and those who enforced the law, as well as cowboys and ranchers.

Brewster County Sheriff Ronny Dodson owns a unique old Colt SAA 45 with a 4¾-inch barrel that was shipped to Del Rio, Texas, around 1918. It was purchased by a rancher south of Dryden who bought it for protection against bandits ... and to protect his livestock from the thieves as well as predators. The Colt was his sole firearm, and the honest wear shows he carried it often. Remnants of a Spanish wall canon that found its way to Lajitas, Texas, on the Rio Grande. These guns were mounted on fort walls for defense ... and even used as punt guns for shooting ducks. It's believed this gun could've come from the Alamo. (Photo: Courtesy of Museum of the Big Bend)



MODERN-DAY GUNS OF THE MEXICAN BORDER

These days, the revolver and lever-action have mostly been abandoned by law enforcement—but not entirely. Jeff Davis County Sheriff Bill Kitts keeps a stainless Marlin 1895SBL in .45-70 handy in his work truck and wears a SIG P220 Elite in 10mm on his hip.

Brewster County Sheriff Ronny Dodson usually wears a Kimber 1911 in .45 ACP and keeps a couple Winchester Model 94s, in .30-30 Winchester and .357 Magnum handy for long gun situations

Today, the battle-proven 1911 can still be found holstered in leather on the gun belts of deputy sheriffs and Texas Rangers who work tirelessly along the border.

It hasn't been all that long ago that gun writer Jim Wilson used a slick, short-barreled Browning 1892 in .44 Remington Magnum as his long arm during his tenure as a West Texas Sheriff, all the while with an engraved Colt .45 Government Model stuffed in the waistband of his starched Wranglers.

Texas Ranger Joaquin Jackson carried his handy, brushed-chrome-finish



Model '94 Winchester in .30-30 most of his long career, usually accompanied by a Colt Light Weight Commander in .45 ACP with engraved silver and gold grips, or a good Smith & Wesson





Three classic Winchesters, top to bottom: 1895 30 Govt. '03, 1894 Saddle Ring Carbine made in 1898, and a model 1892 Saddle Ring Carbine in .44 WCF, a gun with West Texas lineage. The cartridge belt came out of Old Mexico. (Photo: Courtesy of Colby

Brandon)

uniformed carry. Texas Parks and Wildlife Game Wardens have been wearing Glocks for many years and now issue the Model 17. Texas Department of Public Safety Troopers are issued the SIG Sauer P320. All of these pistols are chambered in 9mm. Various AR platform rifles are very popular and are carried by most law enforcement and chambered in 223 Remington.

Even though some of the guns found along the southwest border have changed dramatically in design and composition in recent decades, one basic fact remains the same: You still need one! **GDTM**

A special thanks to Museum of the Big Bend's Curator of Collections, Matt Walter, for his assistance in gathering information on guns from the museum archives and for allowing me to photograph them. And to the Archives of the Big Bend, located in the Bryan Wildenthal Memorial Library at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Texas, for allowing me to copy a few photographs from their treasure trove of history. And to my amigo, Colby Brandon, who not only makes topshelf 1911s, but who owns some of the neatest old lever-actions in Big Bend country. -Shane Jahn

revolver. Jackson also wore a Colt SAA at times as well.

Another old border patrol inspector I once knew patrolled The River below Sanderson, Texas, decades ago with his custom Winchester '92 in .357 Magnum. I don't know if he ever used it on bandits, but I'm confident a decent amount of javelina fell to the little carbine.

The U.S. Border Patrol recently tran-

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Shane Jahn is a full-time lawman of the Mexican border and part-time freelance writer. He enjoys writing about good firearms, old guns with a storied history, and fair-chase hunting.

BEYOND BLUEDSTEEL AND WALNUT

Kel-Tec redefines what 'Made in America' looks like with the P50.

've always been impressed by the ingenuity and engineering of the people at Kel-Tec and the products they offer. They've always been pushing boundaries, testing limits and making firearms that are more than (or where desired, like weight, less than) other designs.

And the looks? If you're into "modern industrial," Kel-Tec is where you go. Now, I grew up in an era when "made in America" was a given, imports were rare, expensive and oftentimes an ergonomic hot mess, and blued steel and walnut were the baseline assumption of "looking good."

As much as I still respond favorably to blued steel and walnut, there are times when a clearly industrial-look approach is just the ticket.

SWEDISH ROOTS, AMERICAN SOIL

Thus, we have Kel-Tec. Founded by George Kellgren (a Swede, but the U.S.



has a lot of Swedes and those whose parents and grandparents came from Sweden) in 1991, the idea wasn't to make firearms like everyone else. After all, if you're a small company—a brandnew upstart—do you really want to be making rifles just like Ruger, Winchester and Remington? (OK, Rem-

ington would be a special case, but in 1991, not so much an outlier.) Do you want to go head-to-head with handgun makers like Ruger, Glock, Sig, etc.? Not if you want to stay in business.

And since you're doing it all right here in the good-old US of A, you've got to be cleverer and you have to have a distinct look. It doesn't hurt to go after specific segments of the market that have heretofore been underserved.

The first Kel-Tec firearm was the P-11, a compact 9mm pistol that held 10 rounds in a flush magazine, but it also cleverly accepted magazines from the S&W 59 series. Magazines are a

specialized subset of design and manufacture, and the cleverness of a brandnew company, with a new design, using an existing magazine as the feed mechanism cannot be overstated.

Another, later in the line of 9mm pistols, is the PF-9. We're now accustomed to super-compact EDC 9mm pistols, but back in 2006, when the PF-9 came out, this wasn't so much the case. So, from Kel-Tec we have the lightest and flattest 9mm, it being a single-stack DAO pistol, one that's so light that it can be actual work to shoot with hot defensive ammo.

That very lightness makes it valuable as a sidearm in certain uses. As an ultracompact backup for those of us who insist on packing heavy, it's *da* bomb. If you have a PF-9, you have 12 ounces of made-in-the-USA insurance. I have knives that weigh more than that, and they aren't as long as the reach of a PF-9.

Made properly ... and here? Of course. The slide and barrel are both heat-treated 4140 steel. The chassis is machined from a billet of 7075 aluminum. The frame is high-strength polymer and all the making happens in the Kel-Tec plant in Cocoa, Florida.

Why the emphasis on "Made in the USA?" If the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us one thing, it's that long supply chains can be a problem.

Not long ago, a super cargo container ship was freed after being aground in the Suez Canal. It was so big that it literally wedged across the channel, blocking the canal. Over 300 ships were stuck until it got freed. With ships now commonly transporting 14,000 containers or more, each, that's more than a half-million containers stuck in traffic. Billions of dollars worth of goods, waiting in the hot sun of the



Mideast. Don't tell me that American made doesn't matter.

Back to Kel-Tec. One very cool pistol they make (the P11 is no longer in the lineup) is the PMR30. It's a pistol in .22 Magnum that holds 30 rounds in the magazine. For someone looking for a home-defense pistol that doesn't have a lot of recoil, there's your solution. People might sneer at a .22 Magnum round, but 30 of them—and 30 more after a fast reload—is a real emergency-solving handful.

So, making things here in the USA sounds a whole lot better, and it

doesn't rely on the now-constrained (there's a shortage, apparently) supply of shipping containers. And true to the 21st century, Kel-Tec now does their design and dimensional standards work on computers. That info can be fed directly to CNC-machining centers, and a modified firearm, or an entirely new prototype, can be created right away. Then, once extensive testing shows need, an updated one can be produced that afternoon and fed right into the testing process. Computers are great; you just have to know how to use them, and Kel-Tec sure does.

THEY HAVE LONG GUNS, TOO

The design efforts of Kel-Tec are also bent toward rifles and shotguns. And it isn't enough that they give free rein to the industrial-look polymer and steel design imperative, they also offer practical and usable bullpups. The rifles, the RFB and the RDB, use common-capacity (20 rounds or more) magazines, but provide carbine-length barrels in firearms that are as compact as a rifle can be. The trigger on the RFB they sent me was so good that I simply told them they weren't getting the gun back.







The shotguns, the KS7 and the KSG, are even more trick. The KS7 looks like it came right off of the set of *Aliens*, and the KSG, while the same size, has nearly double the capacity. Kel-Tec doesn't consider the traditional design, look or mechanism when building any of these firearms. And that's the usual Kel-Tec method.

KEL-TEC'S P50

A case in point, and the current Kel-Tec "gotta have it" firearm is the P50.



The P50 uses the 5.7x28mm cartridge, developed by FN back in the late 1990s for a NATO requirement. Now, I love the FN line of firearms, and they're a first-rate crew, but they also don't seem interested in responding to price competition. If you want to shoot something made by FN, using 5.7 ammunition, you're in for spending no less than \$1,200. The quality is there, but so is the price.

The Kel-Tec P50 has an MSRP of \$995. Some might say that \$200 isn't much of a price difference, but even with today's inflated ammo prices, that gets you a bunch of ammo. And as far as ammunition capacity goes, the P50 uses the same magazines as the FN PS90, so you have 50 rounds on tap once you've loaded up.

The design of the P50 is ... not traditional. As in, telling the designers after their first attempt: "We don't make firearms that look like other people's firearms. Go back, chug a few Red Bulls and try again."

There's the customary Kel-Tec dependence on strong and well-proportioned polymer moldings. There's the usual (and properly engineered) assembly of sheet-steel stampings and machined aluminum. And there's a charging handle on the back end that works just like the one on an AR-15, so you know how to get it ready to rock. And true to the Kel-Tec process, it looks like it was designed tomorrow—as a tool that Corporal Hicks would've clipped to his body armor—and it was designed and made here in the USA.

The action hinges open at the front, the PS90 magazine rides horizontally inside the action and there's a thumb safety for your use, convenient to your firing hand. What's really different is that the top half of the receiver set has a full-length rail, and there's enough room there to park more accessories, by weight, than the P50 itself weighs.

Underneath the location of the magazine, on the lower receiver half, there's a rail section long enough to let you mount a light, laser or whatever is the en vogue item of the tacti-cool set. Just ahead of the trigger guard is a sculpted hand-hold, one that allows you to get a second hand on the P50, just under the balance point. On the back end is a QD sling socket, so you can use a short sling, à la SAS style, to keep the P50 steady while shooting.

Now, being nontraditional can have some drawbacks. Reloading the P50 is a two-handed affair. You've got to unlatch the upper, then swing it open and pluck out the old magazine. Insert the new magazine not into the space in the lower where it looks like it'll go, but press it into the upper receiver, and then swing the lower up to the upper. Work the charging handle, and you're good to go.

To shoot, press the safety to Fire (forward until it is vertical), push the P50 out in front of you to either line up the iron sights (nestled in the gutter of the top rail) or get the red-dot on target and press the trigger. Repeat as necessary. It takes a bit of time, but you've got 50 rounds at the ready once you do.

'Merica! You get choices, so take advantage of them. **GDTM**



ow ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen Paree'?"

This popular song is illustrative of the huge demographic changes resulting from World War I. So many of

the world" that something had to happen.

The concept spilled over into hunting rifles as well. Those guys fought and won a war with bolt-action rifles. How would they be content with anything less for hunting?

Remington answered with its Model 30 rifle, introduced in 1921. Using leftover Enfield parts and chambered in

Model 30 Express replaced it. It was a lighter rifle that cocked on opening and was offered in many variations and in a multitude of cartridges. It showed American hunters the future of sporting rifles.

World War II killed off this rifle, as it did so many great firearms. Following that war, Remington introduced the Model 721 bolt-action rifle in 1948. It



was a gun meant for the times. Using different manufacturing techniques and the engineering genius of Mike Walker, who was an avid benchrest shooter, the rifle was inexpensive and outstandingly functional. By using a cylinder-type action, manufacturing costs were reduced and accuracy improved. The 721 and the later short-action 722 rifles were just what the returning GIs needed: affordable performance.

The only flaw, if it might be called that, was the guns were rather plain. As the country prospered in the postwar boom, shooters' tastes evolved and they began looking for form as well as function. Remington was losing market share to the prettier Winchester Model 70. In 1962, Remington addressed that problem with the introduction of the Model 700 rifle, along with a hot new cartridge, the 7mm Remington Mag-

num. The duo helped launch the magnum mania that followed.

LUCKY SEVENS

The 700 retained the basic design of the 721, but with improvements and in a slicker, better-looking package. As they say, the rest is history. With more than 5 million sold, the Remington Model 700 rifle is arguably the best-selling, bolt-action sporting rifle in history. The

models and variations that followed in the next 58 years are mind boggling, but they all have a common theme: the Model 700 action.

When it comes to rifles, everything is round. The cartridge is round, the bullets are round, the barrels are round, the bore is round, the bolts are round—and so it stands to reason that the action should be round. If we're able to keep all these round things to a common center, accuracy is ensured. That, in a nutshell, is the success of the Remington 700 action. Because it's round, it's also less expensive to manufacture with far less machining needed than with other action designs. It's much easier to hold precision, which is one key factor in the Model 700's legendary accuracy.

The Model 700 comes in two lengths, short and long. One or the other will fit any cartridge from .17 Fireball through .375 RUM. The Model 700 bolt maintains the two-forward-lugs lockup style popularized with the Mauser action. This is a very strong action, and, again, it's easier to maintain accuracy. Two lugs are easier to machine precisely than

Philip P. Massarc

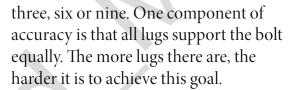
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The author built this custom .300 Winchester precision rifle on a Remington action. It's extremely accurate and capable of shooting very ling range.

(Right, middle) The author built this custom .6mm Creedmoor precision rifle on a Remington action. It is capable of extraordinary accuracy.

(Right, bottom) This .308 was built on a Remington Model 700 action by the author using "spare" parts that had collected in his shop. It shoots well under 0.5 MOA.



The 700 bolt has a recessed bolt face that fits into another recess in the barrel and, when you add the action, this creates the legendary "three rings of steel" surrounding the cartridge. This is considered to be much safer in the event of a cartridge failure, as it helps isolate the gases and particles from the shooter. There is some merit to the theory that this recessed bolt face helps keep the cartridge aligned in the chamber to enhance accuracy. Again, the more centered everything is, the better the accuracy. The recessed bolt supports the rear of the cartridge and helps keep it centered with the bore.

The Model 700 has a very fast lock time, which is the time from when the trigger releases until the firing pin strikes the primer. The theory is that the faster this happens, the less chance of the gun moving and having a negative effect on accuracy. While this does not mechanically improve accuracy, in

the real world it makes it easier for the shooter to access the inherent accuracy in the rifle.

The Model 700 uses a separate recoil lug, which fits like a washer between the barrel and the receiver. Again, this keeps costs down as it's much less expensive to make than to machine the recoil lug integral to the action, as seen with some other rifle designs.



There are two complaints we often hear from rifle nerds about the Remington Model 700. First is that it's a push-feed rifle. That means that once the cartridge is free from the magazine it's not mechanically supported as it's pushed by the bolt for the short remaining distance into the chamber. In contrast, a controlled-round-feed (CRF) rifle captures the cartridge behind the extractor as it exits the magazine and holds it against the bolt face while it is fed into the chamber.

One downside of using a CRF rifle is that most cannot be fed single cartridges. If the rifle is dry and things are









happening fast, the option of tossing a cartridge into the loading port and slamming the bolt shut is comforting. Most push-feed designs allow this, while most CRF rifles do not.

The other side of the argument is that the push-feed design seems to be a bit more accurate. The tension of the extractor on the cartridge in a controlled-round feed can influence the cartridge position in the chamber in a negative way. Most precision rifles are push-feed design because, when accuracy is measured in tenths of an inch, the push-feed seems to have the advantage.

The other common complaint about the Remington Model 700 design is the extractor. Every armchair expert out there will tell you "It's no damn good!" The dangerous-game hunting guys and the tactical guys all claim it's a huge problem that will get you killed in the "real" world.

I'll be honest: It's a fragile-looking little thing that looks like it should be a problem. But it's not. I should note that this extractor style has been used by Remington going back to at least 1948



The author shot this Cape buffalo with a .416 UMT rifle built on a Remington Model 700 action while hunting the Selous Reserve in Tanzania.

(Below, left) A
Remington Model 700
XCR in .375 RUM on
a Cape buffalo hunt
in Tanzania in 2005.
Note that this Remington XCR rifle has a
synthetic stock. The
stability of synthetics
is important in this
high-humidity area.



with the 721 and 722 model rifles. There are almost 7 million rifles out there with the "horrible" extractors, and yet there are virtually no reports of them failing during a critical time and getting somebody killed.

I've been a fan of Remington rifles all my life. I bought the first one, a Model 788, in 1968. Over the years, I have had a lot of Model 700 rifles and its relatives that use the same extractor system, such as the Model 788, Model Seven, Model 721 and Model 722, pass through my gun vault. I've used a few hundred different rifles with the Remington-style extractor, in a lot of cartridges and in a lot of places—and I have never had an extractor problem.

If we followed up on most of the reports of extractor failures, we likely would find that an overpressure handload was stuck in the chamber and somebody beat the hell out of the bolt to remove it. The truth is, I did that myself, back before I knew better, and still never had an extractor fail. I have seen the bolt handle break off when a guy was beating on it with a chunk of firewood to extract a stuck handload, but the extractor held.

I'm sure the extractors wear out like any other piece of machinery and that they break now and then, but I just can't find any evidence that the Remington extractor is a true problem.

However, if you're concerned, it's

easy enough to have a gunsmith replace the Remington extractor with a Sako or M16-style extractor. This is a common "upgrade" to the Model 700 rifle. I've installed both style extractors on custom rifles I've built, and I've left the original factory extractor in other custom rifles I've built. The number of problems with any of the extractors so far is zero. A couple of the rifles have been used for long-range target shooting and for a lot of ammo testing for magazine articles, so the round count is getting seriously high.

CONSIDERING A CUSTOM

Speaking of custom rifles, the Model 700 action is a long-time favorite of custom-gun builders, both professional and hobbyists. It's one of the few production rifle actions available on the current market as the action only. It also has a huge number of aftermarket parts and accessories available. When it comes to building bolt-action rifles, nothing matches the Model 700 in terms of the gadgets and goodies made to fit. It's the "kit" rifle of bolt actions.

The Remington 700 is extremely

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easy for hobby and professional gunsmiths to work with, and it can produce outstanding results. Before I had a lathe, I customized several rifles using only hand tools. I would lap bolt lugs for even contact, true the bolt face and then fit a short-chambered barrel. A short-chambered barrel comes with 90 percent of the work done. The threads are cut and the chamber is left .010-inch short so that once it's on the action you can finish cutting the chamber to the correct headspace. This provides a viable option for a hobby gunsmith with only hand tools. By cutting the last of the chamber by hand, you can make the perfect minimum spec chamber.

How well does that work? I have a .308 Winchester I built that way that will shoot 0.5 MOA all day long. This is a great way to get started building your own rifles without spending your kid's college fund on expensive power tools.

The boom in custom rifles has inspired an entire industry of custom actions, most of those actions use the Model 700 basic design. So why do a lot of builders, particularly hobby guys, use the Model 700 action? These custom actions are outstanding, but they're expensive. The average high-

end action costs about 2.8 times as much as a new Remington Model 700 action from Brownells. It's often even cheaper to prowl local gun shops to find old beater Model 700 rifles that you can buy for less than the price of a new action.

With custom-rifle builders today, the choice is simple: Time is money. Back in the day, gunsmiths had to work with the rifle actions that were available. Often that meant a donor rifle that was cannibalized to get the action or, at best, buying an action, usually a Remington Model 700, Winchester Model 70 or a surplus Mauser. Today, things have changed and there are a lot of very good shovel-ready rifle actions on the market.

AND THEN THERE'S ACCURACY

But, in terms of accuracy, a skilled gunsmith will produce a rifle that's every bit as accurate by blueprinting a factory Model 700 action. "Blueprinting" is nothing more than a fancy term for trueing everything to the common center. That means trueing the threads, bolt lugs, bolt face and the receiver face to the center line of the action. Finally, the bolt lugs will be lapped for a perfect mate to the action lugs.

I enjoy building guns, and it's a hobby

thing for me. So, if it takes me a bit longer to complete a project because I have to blueprint the action, I see that as more time with concrete under my feet and contentment in my heart. Most of my builds are for my own use or are for friends and family, so we try to keep the cost reasonable. That means, more often than not, a Remington 700 action.

Results? I have a precision rifle in 6mm Creedmoor rifle I built on a Remington 700 short action that I would put up against any similar rifle on any action. I have lots of five-shot groups that are 0.2 inch or a bit smaller. I think the limiting factor is my shooting ability, not the rifle.

On the other end of the spectrum, I built myself a 9.3x62 for hunting. It is capable of 0.5 MOA with factory loads, and it runs as fast and smooth as any rifle I own. I've used it on elk and whitetail deer with great results. I would not hesitate to use it on dangerous game.

The Remington Model 700 rifle design is almost six decades old and it's still an industry leader. In that time, Remington has changed almost nothing in the basic design. That says a lot about the enduring legacy of the world's most popular bolt-action, sporting rifle. **GDTM**





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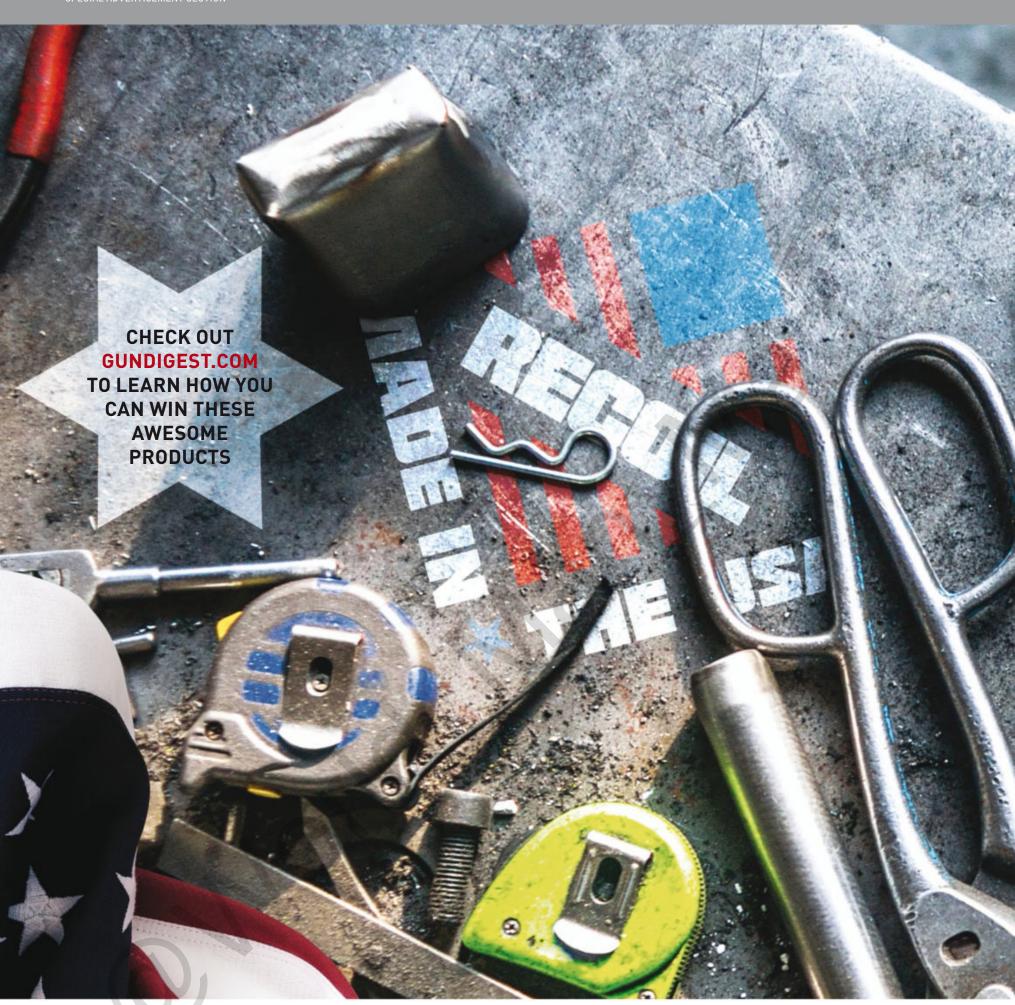
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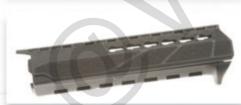


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- Receiver Machined from Aluminum Forgings 7075-T6, Hardcoat Anodized (per MIL-A-8625F, Type III, Class 2)
- Low Shelf for RDIAS Installation Installation of a registered drop-in auto sear allows weapon to fire on full automatic
- Low Shelf for Accuwedge use
- Fire Controls Marked SAFE and SEMI
- BCM® Mil-Spec 7075-T6 Receiver Extension
- Staked M4 Lock Nut
- USGI H Buffer (1 USGI Tungsten, 2 Steel)
- BCM® BARREL
- Independently Certified Mil-Spec 11595E Barrel Steel, Manganese Phosphate Barrel Finish on Entire **Barrel**
- ▶ 16-Inch Standard Government Profile Barrel 1/7 Twist, M4 Feed Ramp Extension
- JUSGI 5.56mm NATO Chrome Lined **Bore and Chamber**
- HPT/MPI (High Pressure Test) (Magnetic Particle Inspected), per Mil-Spec



#195, VEILED PARTNER™

The #195, Veiled Partner™, is an OWB precision molded Kydex® holster. The exacting curvature allows for maximum concealment and fits like a second skin. It can be configured easily for both height and cant using the ½- or ½-inch loop openings. It has adjustable tension and is optics compatible. It's available in both right- and left-hand variants in black Kydex®. MSRP is \$59.99. It's available for the following firearms to start:

- GLOCK 43, 43X, 43X MOS WITH OR WITHOUT RED-DOT SIGHT
- ▶ SPRINGFIELD HELLCAT, HELLCAT OSP WITH OR WITHOUT MANUAL SAFETY
- SIG SAUER P365, P365 XL, P365 SAS, P365 XL WITH ROMEO ZERO
- GLOCK 17, 19, 17, GEN 5, 19 GEN 5, 19X, 45, 22, 23, 31, 32 WITH OR WITHOUT REFLEX SIGHTS
- SIG P320C/P250C WITH OR WITHOUT ROMEO1 REFLEX SIGHTS
 - TAURUS G3C/G2C/G2S
 - **▶** S&W M&P SHIELD 9/40, M&P M2.0 9/40
 - S&W M&P 9 SHIELD EZ, M&P COMPACT .22, PERFORMANCE CENTER M&P 9 SHIELD EZ

desantisholster.com









OWN the BUILD







100-percent American-made premium rifle build kit from DRG Manufacturing for the enthusiast who enjoys the process. For builders who demand excellence, our in-house machined AR-15 lower receiver starts from a solid billet of 7075-T6 aluminum and is precisely machined in a single operation to ensure that it's perfectly in spec. All DRG components are quality checked in-house and begin with meticulously combing over our lower from deburring to tumbling. Our hard coat anodized finish results in a piece that will last you a lifetime.



Marked with White Label Armory, Model WLA15A. Our precision-made lower receiver fits perfectly with our complete premium upper receiver already assembled and test fired that includes our precision made 16-inch 5.56 NATO 4150CMV barrel with a 1:7 twist

and stress relieved with a mid-length gas system in a smooth black nitride finish. Also included is our own premium 15-inch free float M-LOK handguard that securely covers the barrel, while our billet 7050-T6 upper receiver is hard coat anodized and showcases our signature bolt carrier group with a 9310 bolt, billet extractor, and a smooth black nitride finish.

To reduce muzzle flash, the kit has an extended A2-style flash hider, also beautifully nitride finished. The rigid billet charging handle with an extended latch is also a practical enhancement for both competitors and combatminded shooters, allowing shooters to run the weapon faster. Included in the package is our 5-star rated lower parts kit and buffer tube kit. We are including 100 rounds of American-made ammo to celebrate after you completed your build as well as our branded DRG trucker's hat and sweatshirt to enjoy. All products are made from the highest quality, USA-produced components, made with pride in Lake Zurich, IIlinois, and guaranteed to surpass all expectations time and time again.

Valued around \$1,350 plus ammo.



DRG www.drgmanufacturing.com WHITE LABEL whitelabelarmory.com



MI-CRS-SET

MI COMBAT RIFLE FRONT SIGHT

- Low-profile 0.437 inch when folded down, flips up to Mil-spec sight height
- Uses standard A2 front sight post
- Dual-locking detent springs for added reliability and crisp positioning
- Constructed of ordnance-grade phosphate finished steel
- Hard-coated 6061 aluminum base
- ▶ 1.5 MOA per click adjustments
- Weight: 1.4 oz.

MI COMBAT RIFLE REAR SIGHT

- Super low profile 0.388-inch centerline when folded down
- Flips up to Mil-spec height
- Intermediate aperture for long-range precision and close-range rapid engagement
- Dual-locking detent springs for added reliability and crisp positioning
 - Constructed of phosphate finished ordnance-grade steel
 - Hard-coated 6061 aluminum base
 - Rifle 0.5 MOA / Carbine 0.65 MOA click adjustments
 - Weight: 1.2 oz.

MI A2 FRONT SIGHT TOOL

- Precision machined from stress-proof steel
- Square notches that engage the sight with a precise fit to give the operator precise sight adjustment
- ▶ A knurled non-slip handle with a lanyard hole for a lifetime of convenient operation

100-PERCENT MADE IN THE USA

MI LIFETIME WARRANTY



MI-G4M15

- ▶ 4140 heat-treated barrel nut
- Barrel nut and wrench included
- Features patented 4140 heat treated torque plate
- ▶ 15 inches overall length
- 11.5 oz. installed weight
- ▶ 6061 aluminum type 3 hard coat anodized
- Continuous MIL-STD 1913 Picatinny top rail
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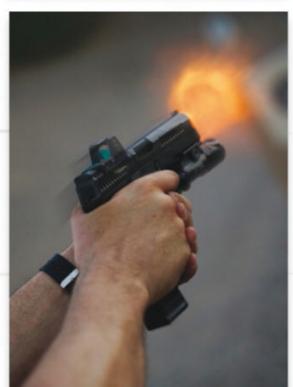












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important to us. When we set out to improve the performance of CZ's flagship striker-fired polymer frame P-10 pistol, we quickly realized we'd have to approach the project from a different perspective. To improve the trigger on many strikerfired, polymer frame handguns often requires a combination of minute adjustments to trigger bars, connectors, and springs, but this wasn't entirely the case of the P-10.

To achieve the desired performance without compromising any factory safety features from the P-10, we found an improved striker to be the best solution. Accomplishing this meant using Swiss-style CNC machining from 416 stainless steel to ensure the tightest tolerances and NP3® treating for corrosion resistance and self-lubrication. Coupled with our proven TAC trigger shoe design, the CZ TAC Trigger System delivers safe and reliable pre-travel reduction in the P-10 series pistols, and it's backed by our lifetime warranty.

www.overwatchprecision.com





RISE BLITZ TRIGGER

RISE Armament's Blitz single-stage drop-in AR trigger packs top-of-the-line performance for under \$200. It boasts incredible speed, performance, and reliability for AR platforms ranging from PCCs to AR-15s and AR-10s. It has an ultra-fast Quik-Klik™ reset you can feel and hear for rapid follow-up shots and has virtually no creep to help you stay on target. It breaks like an icicle and has a light 3- to 3.5-pound pull.

The Blitz's interior parts are S7 tool steel with heavy-hit hardening and a black nitride finish for enhanced strength and corrosion resistance.

mer reduces weight while packing a powerful punch.
The anodized trigger housing is machined from a solid block of 6061

aluminum, which is more

The trigger's LiteMite™ ham-

durable and longer lasting than punchtin housings to help the trigger perform flawlessly under a variety of conditions.

RISE manufactures all its trigger models in Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. Like all RISE triggers, the Blitz is precision machined with handcrafted tuning and then individually inspected. Confident in its quality, RISE backs all its products, including the Blitz trigger, with a hassle-free lifetime warranty and RISE's More-Bang-for-Your-Buck Performance Guarantee.

Incredibly easy to install, the Blitz trigger includes free anti-walk pins. MSRP: \$199.

For more information, visit RiseTriggers.com.

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5.06 in.
6.01 in.
1.0 in.
15.5 oz.
Quadlock
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1:16 right-hand
5.5 lbs.
10+1
H&M Black Nitride

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RTG (RUGGED TACTICAL GRIP)

The Rugged Tactical Grip (RTG) is designed for fast-paced, rigorous use and features a 19.5-degree grip angle and aggressive laser texture. The RTG provides intense tactile feedback, promoting responsive weapon movements and improved agility.

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CCS (COMBAT COMPETITION STOCK)

The Combat Competition Stock (CCS) was developed for both combat or competition, or those seeking a compact, lightweight, and feature-rich stock. The sleek design incorporates a number of functional features without adding unwanted bulk or sacrificing durability or performance.

PMX AR MAG

The PMX AR Mag features THRiL's polymer-matrix (PMX) construction, designed for high-performance and extreme durability. The PMX technology combines impact-resistant polymer and an elastomeric strike plate to ensure maximum performance in all situations. MSRP: \$13.49





The new Alpha Competition Series of triggers is Timney's latest overnight success

- 75 years in the making.

First in the Alpha Series lineup is a replacement trigger for the Glock Generation 3, 4, and 5 pistols. With a factory pull weight of 3 pounds, the Timney Alpha Competition trigger answers the long call for a trigger that has the same feel and performance that matches the reliability of the Glock system by providing an improved trigger design that does not sacrifice any part of the Glock reliability.

TIMNEY ALPHA COMPETITION SERIES FOR GLOCK GEN3/4 SPECS:

- 3-pound pull weight
- Crisp trigger break
- Teflon nickel (NP3) trigger bar and sear
- Straight aluminum trigger with safety blade (anodized)
- Uses all stock Glock parts and springs
- East to install, no gunsmith needed
- Fits GEN3: G17, G17L, G19, G22, G24, G23, G34, G35
- Fits GEN4: G17, G19, G22, G23, G34, G35
- Shoe Options: Curved
- Color: Black with red shoe
- MSRP: \$164.99

TIMNEY ALPHA COMPETITION SERIES FOR GLOCK GEN5 SPECS:

- **3**-pound pull weight
- Crisp trigger break
- Teflon nickel (NP3) trigger bar and sear
- Straight aluminum trigger with safety blade (anodized)
- Uses all stock Glock parts and springs
- East to install, no gunsmith needed
- Fits GEN5: G17, G19, G34
- Shoe Options: Curved
- Color: Black with red shoe
- MSRP: \$164.99

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TRAVELING TO THE SHOW.

SHOVDEX

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

KANSAS

Oct 9-10 KS, park city. Chisholm Trail Antique Gun Assoc. Gun Show. Hartman Arena, 8151 N Hartman Arena Dr, Park City, KS.

Oct 9-10 KS, park city. Chisholm Trail Antique Gun Assoc. Gun Show. Hartman Arena, 8151 N Hartman Arena Dr, Park City, KS.

KENTUCKY

Oct 9-10 KY, Louisville. National Gun Day . KY Fair & Expo Center, 937 Phillips Ln.

LOUISIANA

Jun 12-13 LA, Bossier City. Bossier Gun Show. Bossier City Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd.

Jul 10-11 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave.

Sep 4-5 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave.

Nov 20-21 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave.

MICHIGAN

Sep 25-26 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique

Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace, 46100 Grand River.

Nov 27-28 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace, 46100 Grand River.

MISSISSIPPI

Aug 21-22 MS, Biloxi. Biloxi Gun Show. Mississippi Coast Coliseum , 2350 Beach Blvd.

NORTH DAKOTA

Sep 10-11 ND, West Fargo. Red River Range Gun Show. Red River Regional Marksmanship Center, 640 16th St NE.

TENNESSEE

Jun 12-13 TN, Kingsport. Jericho Shriners Gun Shows. Jericho Shriners, 1100 Jericho Drive.

Jul 17-18 TN, Knoxville. Knoxville TN : Smoky Mountain Gun Collectors Association Gun Show. Kerbela Shrine Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave.

Aug 7-8 TN, Crossville. Cumberland County Gun and Knife Show. Community Complex, 1398 Livingston Road.

Sep 4-5 TN, Kingsport. Jericho Shriners Gun Shows. Jericho Shriners, 1100 Jericho Drive.

TEXAS

Jul 17-18 TX, Longview. Longview Gun Show. Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd.

Aug 28-29 TX, Longview. Longview Gun Show. Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd.

Oct 16-17 TX, Amarillo. The Original Amarillo Gun Show. Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S, Buchanan.

Nov 6-7 TX, Longview. Longview Gun Show. Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd.

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

WYOMING

May 29-30 WY, Riverton. Wyoming Weapons Collectors 32nd Annual Memorial Weekend Gun Show. Fremont County Fairgrounds, 1010 Fairgrounds Road.

MAY

May 29-30 WY, Riverton. Wyoming Weapons Collectors 32nd Annual

Memorial Weekend Gun Show. Fremont County Fairgrounds, 1010 Fairgrounds Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$6.00, children 12 and under free with an adult. T: 200. F: \$50.00 members, \$65.00 non-members. Wyoming Weapons Collectors. P.O. Box 1784, Laramie, WY 82073. PH: 307-742-4630.

JUNE

Jun 12-13 LA, Bossier City. Bossier Gun Show. Bossier City Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$9. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www. capgunshows.com.

Jun 12-13 TN, Kingsport. Jericho Shriners Gun Shows. Jericho Shriners, 1100 Jericho Drive. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8. F: \$45 per table until May 28th, \$50 per table after. . 1100 Jericho drive, Kingsport, TN 37663. PH: 423-484-9650. http://jerichoshrine.com/gunshow.html.

JULY

Jul 10-11 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Jul 17-18 TN, Knoxville. Knoxville TN: Smoky Mountain Gun Collectors
Association Gun Show. Kerbela Shrine
Temple, 315 Mimosa Ave. SH: Sat.
9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$8.00 each
day. T: 120. F: \$50.00. Smoky Mountain
Gun Collectors Association, Inc. . P.O.Box
9251, Knoxville, TN 37940. PH: 865-3334970. www.smokymountainguncollectorsassociation.org.

Jul 17-18 TX, Longview. Longview Gun Show. Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$9. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

AUGUST

Aug 7-8 TN, Crossville. Cumberland County Gun and Knife Show. Community Complex, 1398 Livingston Road. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm. A: Saturday admission: \$5.00, Sunday admission is FREE. T: 200. F: \$40. Cumberland County. 1398 Livingdston Road, Crossville, TN 38571. PH: 931-484-5028. www.gkshow.org.

Aug 21-22 MS, Biloxi. Biloxi Gun Show. Mississippi Coast Coliseum, 2350 Beach Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Aug 28-29 TX, Longview. Longview Gun Show. Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$9. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

SEPTEMBER

Sep 4-5 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10. F; . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Sep 4-5 TN, Kingsport. Jericho Shriners Gun Shows. Jericho Shriners, 1100 Jericho Drive. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$8. F: \$45 per table until Aug 20th, \$50 per table after. . 1100 Jericho drive, Kingsport, TN 37663. PH: 423-484-9650. http://jerichoshrine.com/gunshow.html.

Sep 10-11 ND, West Fargo. Red River Range Gun Show. Red River Regional Marksmanship Center, 640 16th St NE. SH: Fri. 4pm-8pm, Sat. 8am-4pm. A: \$5 per day age 12 and older. T: 98. F: \$30. Red River Regional Marksmanship Center. 640 16th St NE, West Fargo, ND 58078. PH: 701-356-0677. rrrmc.com.

Sep 25-26 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace, 46100 Grand River. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7.00. T: 400. F: \$75 member/\$100 nonmember. MAAC. 1657 Heritage Dr., Canton, MI 48188. PH: 313-690-7157. www.michiganantiquearms.com.

OCTOBER

Oct 9-10 KS, park city. Chisholm Trail Antique Gun Assoc. Gun Show. Hartman Arena, 8151 N Hartman Arena Dr, Park City, KS. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$10 both days. F: 60. PO Box 837, Derby, KS 67037. PH: 888-851-0888. www.ctaga.net.

Oct 9-10 KS, park city. Chisholm Trail Antique Gun Assoc. Gun Show. Hartman Arena, 8151 N Hartman Arena Dr, Park City, KS. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. 9am-4pm. A: \$10 both days. F: 60. PO Box 837, Derby, KS 67037. PH: 888-851-0888. www.ctaga.net.

Oct 9-10 KY, Louisville. National Gun Day . KY Fair & Expo Center, 937 Phillips Ln. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$12, \$2 children under 12. T: 1650. National Gun Day; Ron Dickson . PO Box 741,



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Oxford, OH 45056. PH: 513-523-3574. www.nationalgunday.com.

Oct 16-17 TX, Amarillo. The Original Amarillo Gun Show. Amarillo Civic Center, 401 S, Buchanan. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-5pm. A: General Admission – \$7 per day – \$10 for both days. Free Admission to Children Under 13. T: 300. F: 50. Pioneer Gun Collectors. PO Box 20806, Amarillo, TX 79114. PH: 806-567-8700. www.pioneergun.com.

NOVEMBER

Nov 6-7 TX, Longview. Longview Gun Show. Maude Cobb Convention Center, 100 Grand Blvd. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$9. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Nov 20-21 LA, Gonzales. Gonzales Gun Show. Lamar-Dixon Expo Center, 9039 S. St. Landry Ave. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm. A: \$10. F: . Classic Arms Productions. 427 N. Theard St Suite 357, Covington, LA 70433. PH: 985-624-8577. www.capgunshows.com.

Nov 27-28 MI, Novi. Michigan Antique Arms Collectors. Suburban Showplace, 46100 Grand River. SH: Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm. A: \$7.00. T: 400. F: \$75 member/\$100 nonmember. MAAC. 1657 Heritage Dr., Canton, MI 48188. PH: 313-690-7157. www.michiganantiquearms.com.

FEBRUARY 2022

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

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PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS:

- 1-U American Derringer Corp 9mm Model M1 Over/ Under Top Break Derringer 3" barrels with mint bores, high polish stainless steel finish, mother of pearl bird head grips, hammer block safety, automatic barrel selection, fixed sights, excellent function, looks new,
- 2-U Autauga Arms Inc. .32 ACP MK II Double Action Only Hammerless Auto Pistol 2" barrel with mint bore, stainless steel, black polymer grips, fixed sights, comes with two six shot stainless magazines, original white cardboard box, like new.
- 3-U British 38/200 "No. 2 MK I" Double Action Top Break Revolver 5" ribbed flat sided barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, fixed sights, excellent checkered Walnut "broad arrow" marked grips, lanyard ring at butt, all matching numbers, made in 1931, broad arrow marked small parts, excellent function both single and double action, collector quality (C&R...
- 4-U Browning Belgian .22 LR Challenger Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, 99%+ gold trigger, factory target style sights, checkered one piece Walnut grips, grips show little holster wear on bottom edge, functions properly, comes with one factory magazine, manufactured 1970 (C&R).
- 5-U Browning .22 LR "Medalist" Model Target Auto Pistol 6 34" heavy target vent rib barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, target sights, target checkered Walnut grips with thumbrest, Walnut forend wood, gold plated trigger, dry fire mechanism, shell deflector, one factory magazine, comes with original black case with red cloth interior, inside the case are 3 counter weights, weight support, screwdriver tool, and two keys along with black polymer cartridge holder, manufactured in 1969, collector quality (C&R).
- 6-U Browning .22 LR "Nomad" Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 99% original bright blue, fully adjustable rear and ramp blade front sights, minty checkered Walnut target style grips probably from a "Challenger" model Browning, excellent function, Belgian made in 1968, super looker (C&R)
- 7-U Colt .22 LR "General Meade / Pennsylvania Campaign" Frontier Scout Single Action Revolver 4 3/4" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, gold plated hammer, trigger,
- 8-U Colt .22 Magnum "Buntline Scout" Single Action Revolver 9 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, thinning at muzzle tip, light scratches on cylinder, fixed sights, checkered black polymer two piece grips with rampant horse Colt logo, tight lock up, excellent function, manufactured 1968 (C&R)
- 9-U Colt .38 Special "Cobra" First Issue Revolver 2" barrel with mint bore, fixed sights, lightweight alloy frame, 99 ½% original bright blue, mint checkered Walnut silver medallion grips, excellent function, made in 1968 and comes in a Colt 2 piece wood grain box with end label and incorrect serial number on bottom of box (C&R)
- 10-U Colt .22 LR "Officers Model" Target 3rd Issue Revolver 6" barrel with mint bore, 98% original bright blue with a small spot of pitting at the lower edge of sideplate and frame, factory adjustable front and rear target sights, oversize target spur on hammer, excellent service style checkered Walnut grips with silver Colt medallions, excellent function, super tight lockup and perfect timing, made in 1943 (C&R)
- 11-U Colt .38 Special "Officers Model Match" 5th Issue Target Revolver 6" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue with a little thinning on cylinder and bottom of barrel, fully adjustable "accro" target rear and ramp blade target front sights, wide spur target hammer, excellent checkered Walnut target grips with silver Colt medallions, excellent smooth function, made in 1961 the last of the really good officers models (C&R)
- 12-U Colt .22 LR "Match Target" 3rd Series Target Auto Pistol 6" barrel with mint bore, 99% original blue, factory original target sights, minty checkered Walnut thumbrest target grips, bottom release original magazine, this model correctly not marked "Woodsman", excellent function, made in 1961, collector quality, appears unfired (C&R)\$1195 13-U Colt .22 LR "Targetsman" Auto Pistol 6" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue,
- front blade and rear adjustable target sights, mint checkered factory Walnut grips with left side thumbrest, one factory magazine, comes with factory two piece brown cardboard box, wax paper, warranty card and tool, collector quality, manufactured 1968 (C&R) ...
- 14-U Colt .22 LR "Targetsman" Auto Pistol 6" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, light wear at muzzle, fixed front blade and adjustable rear sights, checkered Walnut grips with thumbrest on left side, comes with one magazine, grips show small wear on base edge, functions properly, manufactured in 1968 (C&R)
- 15-U Colt .22 LR "Woodsman Target" 1st Series Auto Pistol 6 5/8" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ factory blue, front adjustable sight, rear adjustable sight, "Colt wood" synthetic grips are similar to those found on the "Colt bulls eye match targets" of this era, grips are highly desirable
- and are period correct to this pistol, factory correct magazine, manufactured 1942 (C&R)\$795
 16-U Colt .22 LR "Woodsman Sport" Model 2nd Series Auto Pistol 4 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue with a couple small spots of thinning on right side, ramp blade front sight and factory "drift" adjustable rear sight (fully adjustable rear sights were not introduced until 1953), made in 1950, side button magazine release, mint original checkered variegated brown plastic "Coltwood" grips, excellent function, collector quality (C&R)
- 17-U Colt .25 ACP Model 1908 Hammerless Vest Pocket Auto Pistol 2" barrel with mint bore, 96% original blue, and case colored trigger, safety and grip safety, excellent Colt original hard rubber grips, two tone original magazine, standard sights, manufactured 1922 (C&R)
- 18-U Colt .45 ACP "Gold Cup National Match" Series 80 MK IV Target Auto Pistol 5" barrel with mint bore and marked "Colt .45 Auto N.M.", 98% original blue, factory 'Elliason" target sights, factory skeleton adjustable trigger, serrated flat mainspring housing, mint "Pachmayr" signature wrap round rubber grips, Colt marked magazine, excellent func tion, made in 1984.

- 19-U Dan Wesson .44 Magnum Model 44VH Double Action "Monson, MA" Made Revolver 8" heavy vent rib bull barrel with mint bore, 99% original bright blue, minty smooth Walnut grips with "DW" medallions, red ramp front and fully adjustable target style rear sights, shows little actual use, comes in its original sleeved Styrofoam box with a factory gap gauge, bushing tool and long brass brush cleaning rod, end label reads "Dan Wesson Arms Revolver 44 VH" over "44 Mag Ctg. interchangeable barrel" over "bright blue finish bull barrel/vent rib" collector quality.
- 20-U F.N. Browning .25 ACP "Baby Browning" Vest Pocket Auto Pistol 2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, fixed sights, black polymer checkered grips, one "F.N." marked original magazine, comes with black "Browning" marked soft pouch with red liner, manufactured 1968 (C&R)
- 21-U F.N. Browning .25 ACP "Baby Browning" Vest Pocket Auto Pistol 2" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original blue, fixed sights, black polymer checkered grips, one "F.N." marked magazine, functions properly, French "St. Etienne" house proof mark on front of slide at muzzle and on barrel, manufactured by "M.A.B." (Manufacture D'Armes de Bayonne) 1979-82..... \$525
- 22-U Harrington & Richardson .22 LR Model 949 "Forty Niner" Revolver 5 1/2" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue, barrel shows thinning blue with a tinge of brown, spotty pin pricking along barrel and cylinder and right side of rear sight along frame, fixed sights, smooth one piece Walnut grips, 9 shot fluted cylinder, functions properly, manufactured 1967 (C&R)\$275

 23-U Harrington & Richardson .22 LR Model 949 "Forty Niner" Western Style 9 Shot Double Action Revolver 5 ½" barrel with mint bore, 99% original blue, fixed sights,
- mint smooth Walnut grips, as new in original box with instruction sheet, excellent function,
- Revolver 2" ribbed barrel with fair pitted bore, fixed sights, 98% original bright nickel, blue on triggerguard is gone and case colors faded, minty target logo hard rubber grips, works fine in double action but fails to hold cock in single action, all matching, sharp looking (C&R) \$225
- 25-U Harrington & Richardson .32 S&W Hammerless Double Action Top-Break **Revolver** 3 1/4" ribbed barrel with excellent bright bore, fixed sights, 97% original bright blue, mint checkered black hard rubber target logo grips, excellent function (C&R)
- 26-U Harrington & Richardson .32 S&W Short Top Break Hammer Revolver 3" ribbed barrel with very good bright bore, fixed sights, 95%+ original nickel, blue and faded case color with nickel going a bit "milky", mint "target logo" hard rubber grips, excellent function both single and double action (C&R)
- 27-U Harrington & Richardson .32 S&W Long Hammer Top-Break Double Action Revolver 3 1/4" ribbed barrel with good strong but pitted bore, 90%+ original nickel with some brown spotting on frame, fixed sights, all correct but (1) number off at butt serial number (factory error), minty "target logo" checkered black hard rubber grips, excellent function both single and double action (C&R)
- 28-U Harrington & Richardson .32 Rimfire Model 1905 Double Action Solid Frame Revolver 2 ½" octagon barrel with very good bright but lightly pitted bore, fixed sights, 98% original nickel, blue and case color, mint target logo hard rubber grips, excellent function both single and double action, collector quality (C&R) ...
- 29-U Harrington & Richardson .38 S&W Large Frame Hammerless Top-Break Revolver 3 1/4" ribbed barrel with very good lightly pitted bore, fixed sights, 97% original bright nickel, blue and case color, minty "target logo" checkered black hard rubber grips,
- 30-U Herbert Schmidt .22 LR "Frontier" Model Single Action Western Style Revolver 4 34" barrel with mint bore, 90% thinning blue on barrel taking on a brown tinge, frame, extractor, triggerguard are all painted black alloy that show gray with its paint chipping on triggerguard, two piece mother of pearl original Colt grips have been added, grips are marked "J.S." on inside, 6 shot cylinder is 90% original blue showing high edge wear and scattered pinprick pitting.
- 31-U High Standard .22 LR Model "M-101 Dura-Matic" Auto Pistol 6 1/2" screw takedown" barrel with mint bore, 90%+ original blue with frame and top of slide being matte blue and barrel is gloss blue, blue thinning along top of slide and muzzle, frame and slide show high edge wear, safety, cocking indicator on rear of slide, excellent reddish brown
- factory grips, manufactured 1959, one factory magazine (C&R)\$295 **32-U High Standard .22 LR "Sport King" Auto Pistol** 4 ½" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue with most loss at muzzle, factory dull blue frame shows a little silvering on sharp edges, original checkered black plastic grips with High Standard logo silver medallions,
- barrel with excellent bright bore, 97% original blue with rear slide showing light blue to gray from handling, high edge wear along frame, fixed front sight and "Davis" adjustable rear sight, this is a 1950's early pistol with trigger stop, grooved front and rear strap surrounded by very nice period correct special ordered original Walnut checkered grips with thumb rest for right hand shooting, curved magazine for .22 short is original and excellent, manufactured 1950, collector quality (C&R)
- **34-U Luger 9mm Para Model P-08 "Mauser Banner Police Marked" Auto Pistol** 4" barrel with excellent bright bore, barrel is correctly not serialized but does have bore diameter marking (common on these police pistols), all matching numbers except correct style and type aluminum bottom magazine, "Eagle L" police marked in correct "X" suffix range with about 6,000 procured in 1941, fixed sights, very good matching and Waffen proofed full checkered Walnut grips with a few crushed diamond, 96% original bright blue with a tiny amount of peppery pitting where metal touched leather holster, holster with pistol is a correct style, type and age for the pistol but unmarked, an excellent Luger police outfit with excellent function (C&R) ...

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- 35-U Magnum Research .380 ACP "Micro Desert Eagle" Auto Pistol 2 ¼" barrel with mint bore, stainless steel, black polymer checkered grips, fixed sights, comes with black polymer case, two magazines, cleaning brush, CD, lock, papers and test round shell casing, looks new\$375
 36-U North American Arms .380 ACP Double Action Only Hammerless "Guardian" Auto Pistol 2 ½" barrel with mint bore, fixed sights, stainless steel slide and matte gray frame, oversized laminate wood grips, one factory 6 shot magazine with fingerest, comes with black polymer case and papers\$295

- **39-U Ruger .45 ACP Model "SR1911" Auto Pistol** 5" barrel with mint bore, all stainless construction showing little or no use, (3) white dot Novak combat style sights, extended safety, full beavertail grip safety, skeleton adjustable trigger, mint checkered large diamond "Cocobolo" grips with Ruger black eagle medallions, factory stainless 7 shot magazine, excellent function\$735

- **45-U Smith & Wesson .40 S&W Model "M&P40" Double Action Auto Pistol** 4 ¼" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original black finish, (3) white dot low profile combat sights, excellent function, 10 shot magazine, comes with extra backstrap fillers, shows little actual use\$365
- **46-U Smith & Wesson .40 S&W Model "M&P40" Auto Pistol** 4 ¼" barrel with mint bore, 99% original black finish, (3) white dot combat sights plus a high end viridian "C5L" green laser sight and tactical light mounted on frame Picatinny rail, excellent function, as new in original blue plastic case with (2) 10 shot magazines, extra backstrap inserts and owners manual, also included a viridian "Tacloc" plastic holster that provides instant "on" for laser when pistol is removed from holster, pistol, laser and holster all look new overall \$435

- **50-U Smith & Wesson .22 LR Model 34-1 "Kit Gun" Revolver** 4" pinned barrel with mint bore, 99% original bright blue and dark case colors, factory fully adjustable target rear sight and "Baughman" blade front sight, mint but non- matching "magna" style checkered Walnut square butt grips, excellent function showing little actual use, made in 1971\$725
- **51-U Smith & Wesson .44 Magnum Model 29-2 Cased Double Action Revolver** 6 ½" pinned barrel with mint bore, 98% original bright blue with a couple small spots of graying from case storage, 98% case color on target hammer and target trigger, red ramp/white outline target style sights, minty dark Goncalo Alves checkered target style grips, excellent function, comes in an S&W mahogany flip top case with cleaning tools, shows little or no actual use\$985

- **54-U Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum "Model 686-6" Revolver** 5" barrel with mint bore, stainless finish, case hardened trigger and hammer turning to gray patina, aftermarket smooth Walnut finger groove grips, front red glow "Hi Viz" sight, adjustable rear sight, S&W trigger/hammer lock on left side of frame "no key", 7 round cylinder, functions well\$695

CENTERFIRE RIFLES:

- **60-U French .308 Winchester / 7.62 NATO Model MAS 1936 Bolt Rifle** 22 ½" barrel with excellent bore, 98% arsenal rebuild parkerized finish, all matching numbers, original "peep" rear and hooded front sight, very good+ original stock, excellent function (C&R)\$695

- **63-U Marlin .17 HMR Model XT-17V Clip Feed Bolt Rifle** 22" heavy varmint barrel with mint bore, 99% original blue, grooved receiver with factory front and rear scope bases, "Profire" adjustable trigger, red cocking indicator, Q.D. swivel studs, Monte Carlo laminated hardwood pistol grip stock, factory buttplate and one factory magazine, like new\$245

- **68-U Mauser 8mm Mauser Model "M48A" Yugoslavian Bolt Rifle** 22 ½" barrel with excellent bore, 98% original arsenal blue, matching numbers, flat bottom bolt handle, Yugoslavian crest on receiver bridge, 2000 meter graduated tangent rear sight, hooded inverted "V" front sight, excellent matching Walnut stock with side sling bars and "cup" style steel buttplate, missing its wiping rod, excellent function, super looker (C&R)\$465
- **69-U Mosin-Nagant 7.62x54R "Finnish Army Type 39" WW-II Bolt Rifle** 27" barrel with excellent bright bore, 98% original "VKT" arsenal blue (VKT is Valmet), matching numbers on barrel, receiver and bolt, re-numbered magazine bottom, tangent military style rear sight graduated to 2000 meters "wing" protected blade front windage adjustable sight, 1944 dated, excellent "finger joint" stock, import marked but collector quality (C&R)\$1195

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- **72-U Ruger 22-250 Rem. "Model HW77R Hawkeye" Bolt Rifle** 22" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original satin blue finish on receiver, barrel and floorplate, no sights, Ruger integrated scope mount base on receiver, rotating Mauser type controlled round extractor, slimmer profile, checkered Walnut pistol grip stock with factory red recoil pad, cut checkering on pistol grip and wrap around checkering on forend, sling swivel studs, no scope rings\$595
- **73-U Russian Government 7.62x54R "Model 91/30 Mosin-Nagant" Bolt Rifle** 29" barrel with fair bore, 80% arsenal rebuild blue, factory 91/30 style military open sights, mismatch on bolt and small parts, 1936 dated and Izhevsk arsenal marked, good original wood with some age cracking and a replacement wiping rod, import marked, excellent function (C&R)\$425
- 74-U Springfield 30/06 Model 1903 Pre WW-I Bolt Rifle 24" barrel with excellent bright bore and marked "SA/11-42", 95% original blue, swept back bolt handle, no "Hatcher hole", WW-I style ladder rear sight, fancy script style numbers on serial number in the 139,000 range, all milled early style parts, beautiful tiger stripe dark Walnut straight grip stock with smooth "trap" style buttplate, all correct swivels and circle "P" firing proof, really nice looking early style 1903 with an arsenal rebuild barrel and bolt, not for high pressure loads\$795

- 77-U Winchester 30/06 Model 70 "Transition" Post War Bolt Rifle 24" barrel with mint bore, 98%+ original bright blue on barrel and floorplate/triggerguard, 99% on matte blue receiver, integral ramp front sight base with bead front sight but missing its hood, rear sight dovetail has a neatly installed slot blank, rear sight is an excellent Lyman 48 WJS receiver sight, rear top of receiver is factory drilled, tapped and plugged for scope base and is the transitional style flat, non grooved style and showing no wavy lines, standard Walnut pistol grip stock is excellent with cut checkering, factory swivels, blued steel checkered "widows peak" buttplate and detachable button release floorplate, bolt is correct but no engraved serial number, all correct and original for a 1948 made model 70 in the 62,000 serial range, collector quality, excellent function (C&R)
- **78-U** Winchester .243 Winchester Model 70 "Feather Weight Pre '64" Bolt Rifle 22" barrel with mint bore, 98% original blue, factory original ramp bead front and folding open rear sights, very good+ Walnut pistol grip stock with cut checkering, Monte Carlo, checkered plastic buttplate, factory swivels and push button hinged aluminum floorplate, wood shows some nicks, dings, and finish loss from closet storage but function is excellent, shows little actual use, made in 1960 (C&AR)\$1055

RIMFIRE RIFLES:

- **86-U Remington .22 Short "Model 24" Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle** 19" barrel with excellent bright bore, 98% original blue just starting to fade a bit towards muzzle, factory open sights, very good lightly figured buttstock with a couple hairline age cracks on left side emanating from triggerguard/receiver, near excellent original forend, takedown action is nice and tight, blued smooth steel buttplate with "Rem / UMC" logo, excellent function, made in 1931 (C&R)\$895

- **89-U Remington .22 S, L, & LR "Model 521-T" Junior Target Shooters Clip Feed Bolt Rifle** 25" barrel with excellent bright bore, factory Lyman target rear and blade front sights, 92% original blue with fading on barrel, very good "marksman" style Walnut pistol grip stock with swivels and serrated black plastic buttplate, comes with one high quality 5 shot reproduction magazine, made in 1956, stock shows finish loss and many small nicks and dings (C&R)\$255
- **90-U Remington .22 S, L, & LR "Model 12A" Pump Rifle** 22" barrel with mint bore, 98% barrel blue, 40% receiver blue thinning and graying, hooded bead front and sporting open rear sights, good solid Walnut pistol grip stock with steel crescent butt with 2 cracks at wrist behind receiver, lots of field use dings, dents and scratches good "ring" style bullet shaped pump handle, excellent function, barrel looks like a factory replacement (C&R)\$265
- **91-U Remington .22 S, L, & LR Model 41 "Targetmaster" Single Shot Bolt Rifle** 27" barrel with minty bore, 95% original dulling blue toning to brown, factory open sights, very good Walnut pistol grip stock with extra varnish and logo hard rubber buttplate (C&R)\$185

- 94-U Weatherby .22 LR "Model XXII" Clip Feed Autoloader Rifle 24" barrel with mint bore, 97% original bright blue with two small spots of cleaned light pitting on right rear of barrel around "Made in Italy" marking, original ramp bead front (missing hood) and (3) aperture express style folding leaf rear sights plus a Weatherby XXII "4x50" scope mounted using grooved receiver, excellent figured Walnut pistol grip stock with skipline cut checkering, Rosewood grip cap with white diamond inlay, Rosewood forend tip, original sling swivels and logo solid rubber buttpad, excellent function, an early XXII made by Beretta, 10 shot original magazine (C&R)\$865

- **99-U Winchester .22 Short "Model 74" Butt Tube Feed Auto Rifle** 20" barrel with mint bore, 97% original blue, factory sporting open sights, excellent Walnut smooth pistol grip stock, checkered steel buttplate, excellent function, manufactured 1947 (C&R)\$395

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SHOTGUNS:

- 111-U Browning 12 Gauge Lightweight Double Auto Shotgun 29 ½" matted top barrel with mint bore, 2 ¾" chamber and fixed full choke, 98% original "Autumn Brown" Hiduminium lightweight alloy receiver and 98% barrel blue, receiver has a gold toned engraved "zig zag" border along with gold toned scroll engraving, very good+ Walnut pistol grip round knob buttstock with cut checkering and an original "double auto" Browning profile fancy horn buttplate, excellent forend, "autumn brown" is one the rarer receiver colors, excellent function, collector quality\$1395

- 115-U Charles Daly 20 Gauge Model "Field Hunter" Auto Shotgun 24" vent rib barrel with 3" chamber, screw in choke tubes (cylinder, improved cylinder and full) and mint bore, single brass bead front sight, synthetic polymer stock and forend have press checkering and 100% "advantage timber" camouflage finish, comes with matching spare "youth model" vented rubber buttpad synthetic buttstock, manufactured 2002-2008, new in box\$395

- 118-U Ithaca 12 Gauge Model 37 Pump Shotgun 26" plain barrel with added polychoke, bright excellent bore, 2 ¾" chamber and a streak of gray from polychoke all the way to receiver (probably from some type of cleaner), 75% original blue thinning to gray and showing added cold blue, receiver shows engraved water fowl/partridge on sides, also pinprick pitting covers right side of receiver, Walnut pistol grip stock and round pump handle with cut checkering both have added high gloss varnish finish, original pistol grip cap and plastic buttplate, excellent function(C&R)\$165
- **119-U Ithaca 16 Gauge Model 37 Pump Shotgun** 28" vent rib barrel with bright excellent bore, 2 ¾' chamber and fixed modified choke, 97%+ original blue, light scratches and high edge wear on engraved game scene receiver, impress Fleur-de-Lis Walnut beavertail forend wood and pistol grip stock, Ithaca red rubber vent recoil pad and pistol grip cap that has sling swivel installed, wood stock shows scrapes and scratches along toeline, L.O.P. 14 ¼", excellent function\$395
- **121-U J.C.** Higgins / High Standard **12** Gauge Model **583-110** Tube Feed Bolt Shotgun 28" plain barrel with 2 ¾" chamber, excellent bright bore and fixed full choke, 98% original dulling blue, excellent lightly figured Walnut pistol grip stock with serrated black plastic J.C. Higgins logo buttplate, excellent function (High Standard model 514) as sold by Sears (C&R)\$145

- **126-U Remington 20 Gauge Model 1100 LT-20 Magnum Auto Shotgun** 28" vent rib barrel with mint bore, 3" chamber, full choke tube installed, front white bead and silver mid bead sights, 98%+ original blue, light scratches on receiver, checkered Walnut forend wood and pistol grip stock, Remington pistol grip cap and rubber recoil pad, receiver drilled and tapped, comes with original box and papers, two Rem choke tubes in improved cylinder and modified\$795
- 128-U Remington 12 Gauge Premier Model STS Competition Over / Under Boxlock Shotgun 32" (10mm wide target) vent rib barrels with mint bores, 3" chamber, skeet and skeet choke tubes installed, 98%+ original blue, laser engraved titanium receiver with P.V.D. finish (physical vapor deposition), front white bead mid silver bead sights, ejectors, gold single selective trigger, barrel selector on tang safety, satin finish deluxe Walnut checkered Schnabel forend wood and pistol grip stock with adjustable comb and rubber recoil pad marked "Kick-Eez", functions properly, looks new, comes with Remington green hard case that is lockable, inside is comb spaces for stock, papers and a hard case with five screw in choke tubes, LT modified, modified, improved, improved cylinder and full lead shot only, manufactured in Italy \$1495
- **130-U Wards Westernfield 16 Gauge Model 60-SB620-A Pump Shotgun** 27" barrel with bright excellent bore showing light lead skid marks, 2 ¾" chamber improved cylinder choke, shotgun shows poor re-blue scattered along all metal but otherwise gray, single brass front bead sight, checkered Walnut forend wood and pistol grip stock, stock has a chip at toe, wood shows scratches, dings and dents, plastic buttplate that has been filed at toe, excellent function\$115
- **131-U** Westernfield / Montgomery Ward & Co 12 Gauge Model 30 Pump Shotgun 30" full choke solid rib barrel with mint bore, 80% original blue, thinning on left side of barrel to gray, receiver shows pinpricking, scratches and high edge wear, 2 ¾" chamber, single brass bead sight, 14" magazine tube is gray with spots of brown, top screw on left side looks to be replaced with a brass screw, safety lever in trigger well, checkered Walnut forend wood and pistol grip stock have been refinished and now shows high gloss shine, ding and dents, red rubber "Ranger" recoil pad with black line spacer, L.O.P. 14 ½", excellent function (C&R)\$125
- **132-U** Winchester 12 Gauge Model 59 Autoloader Shotgun 26" "Win Lite" barrel with excellent bright bore, 2 34" chamber and improved cylinder factory screw in "Versalite' choke tube, 95% original blue/black finish, roll engraved receiver, very good Walnut pistol grip stock with cut checkering, logo checkered plastic buttplate, excellent function, shows lots of field use wear on both metal and wood but a nice versatile lightweight shotgun, made in 1965 (C&R)\$385

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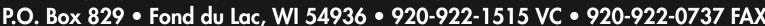
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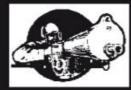
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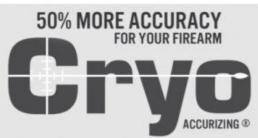
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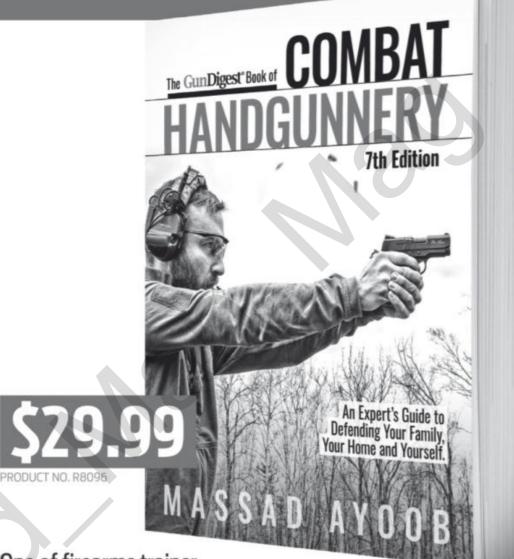
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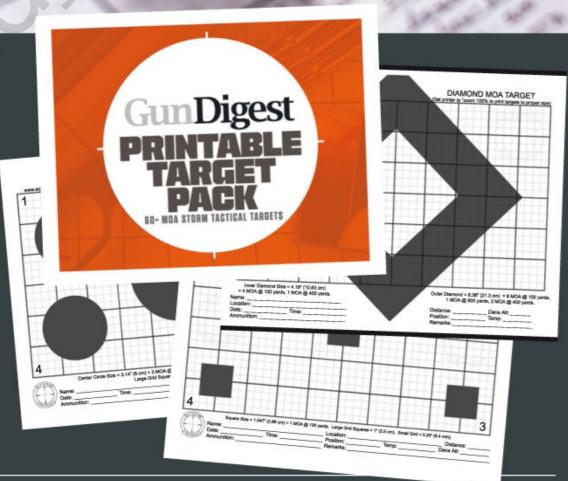
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olitical correctness has never been my strong suit. My editors have gotten used to it; they just replace potentially offensive comments with smoother language. I'm OK with that; that's their job, and it makes them feel like they're doing something good for humanity.

However, while this article isn't intended to offend anyone, it's all about American made. There are a lot of sub-par products in the gun world, but there's also a lot of good stuff, too. This article is about stuff for shooters that's

made in America—and works. I know, because I've used them.

You might already know about some of these companies but might not know about some of the cool stuff they make. If you believe in supporting American manufacturing but also demand high quality ... well, here you go.

HUNTERS HD GOLD

Most shooting glasses are less than great, but you can't say that about the glasses from Hunter's HD Gold.

They're ballistic rated—but more importantly, they're photochromatic and treated to eliminate harmful rays. The gold-colored lenses also enhance contrast and help you see better when shooting, hunting, driving or ... well, doing just about anything.

Several styles are available, but unlike most of the overseas junk, you can have Hunter's HD Gold lenses cut to your prescription and fitted to you own frames! I don't shoot or hunt without them. Prices start at \$375.

HuntersHDgold.com

The Wyoming Sight Drifter is an ingenious tool that'll make installing or removing dovetail sights easier than you can imagine. (Photo: Sabastian Mann) Wyoming Sight Drifte 05257102CuSP Lehigh Defense Controlled Chaos bullets are precision machined from copper. They're extremely accurate and deadly. 102gr Controlled Chaos Copper Count: 100 1.500-4,200fps Lot: 20217 WO# 10005

LEHIGH DEFENSE

There are several great American bullet companies, but none have embraced the leadless projectile like Lehigh Defense. They create some incredibly magnificent bullets for special applications and special operations. Black Hills and Buffalo Bore are now using Lehigh bullets.

One of their most creative projectiles is the Controlled Chaos. This is a solid copper bullet with a front end that turns to shrapnel during penetration, creating massive tissue damage. But like with the Nosler Partition, the base of the bullet continues to penetrate. They're

offered in a variety of calibers and bullet weights. My son killed his Africa buffalo with a single Lehigh Defense Controlled Chaos bullet. Enough said!

LehighDefense.com

WYOMING SIGHT DRIFTER

Installing and adjusting iron sights on rifles and handguns has traditionally been done by pounding on a brass rod with a hammer. If you've done this, you've no doubt wondered how it's possible to hit a brass rod so hard and not move the sight. You've also probably missed the brass rod and hit your gun or your finger, all the while

thinking, *There has to be a better way.* Well, there is, and it's called the Wyoming Sight Drifter.

This is an incredibly simple device, consisting of a brass punch on one end and a spring-loaded hammer on the other. It's only about 5 inches long and weighs less than 3 ounces. You place the brass end against the sight, pull on the spring-loaded end ... and let it go. The spring-loaded hammer impacts the brass end, and inertia causes the sight to move. I've used mine hundreds of times and have yet to find a sight it won't install. It costs only \$35.

WyomingSightDrifter.com



SKINNER SIGHTS

Montana-based Skinner sights is known for their rugged aperturestyle peep sights, and they're used by several firearms manufacturers. However, what you probably don't know is that Skinner Sights has recently gotten into gun cases. They offer a variety of cases to include a very unique garment bag rifle case that'll hang in your closet.

But their coolest new case is one made for take-down rifles. I picked up

one (\$59) for my Dove Custom Marlin 336 lever-scout in 35 Remington, and it's amazing how compact this case makes for carrying this gun and a full box of ammo. While you're ordering, take some time and enjoy the Skinner Sights website, you'll find all kinds of goodies there.

SkinnerSights.com

EDC CLP

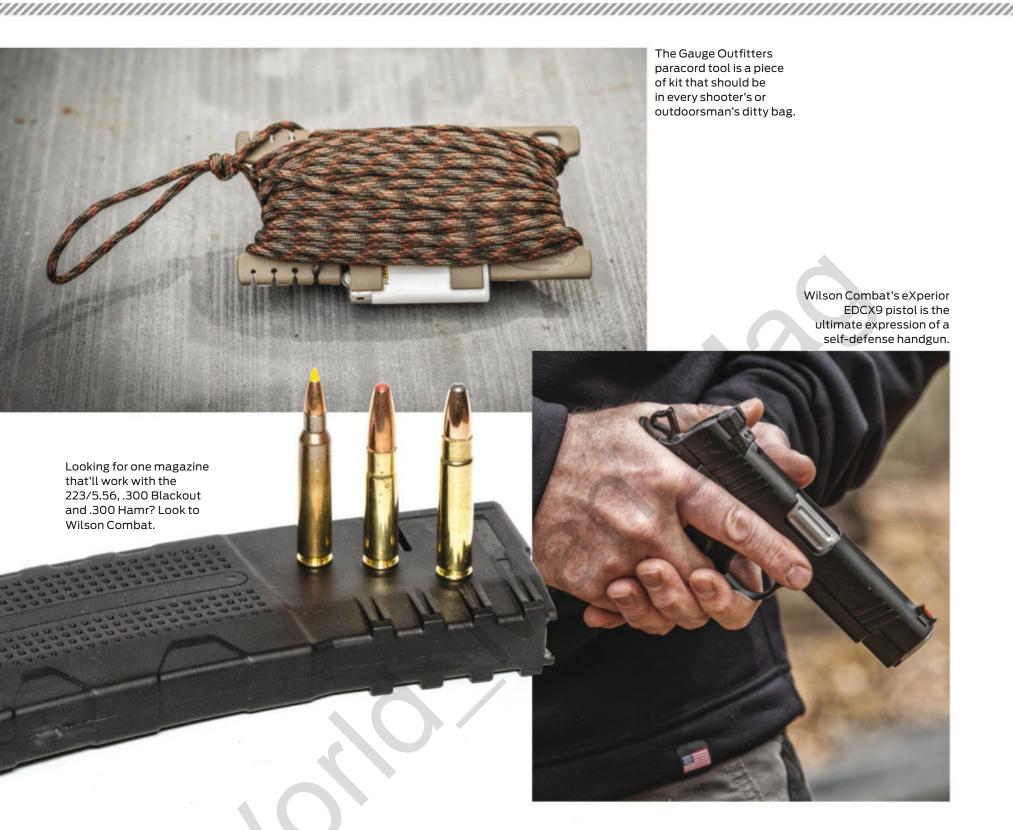
I'll keep this one short and sweet. If you like for your guns to run *and* you

like for them to last, you should use a high-quality cleaner, lubricant and protector. EDC CLP's detergent properties penetrate deep into the crevasses of moving parts to prevent carbon buildup, and it's designed to function in high heat.

It not only increases the firearm's lubricity, but it also cleans while you're shooting. It's patented, it's made in America and it works. A 2-ounce bottle retails for \$14.99

EDCclp.com





GAUGE OUTFITTERS

I stumbled on this company by accident, and what I found was a fantastic range bag and a very unique tool to manage paracord. Their Heritage Gun Range Bag is 100-percent American made out of durable 1000D Cordura. It measures 16 by 12 by 9 inches and comes with two dividing inserts, has a removable hard bottom and one of its neatest features is a built-in, roll-out gun mat that can be used for cleaning or just as a clean place to lay out your gear. At \$150, it's not cheap, but it's without question the best range bag I've seen.

As for the paracord tool, essentially, it's a spool to store paracord on. In

reality, it's much more. It has a built-in blade to cut the paracord and a built-in socket to store a lighter to burn the ends of the cord after it's been cut. Retail price is only \$16.49, but if you use a lot of paracord, this tool is worth three times that much.

GaugeOutfitters.com

WILSON COMBAT

If you're a gun person and haven't heard of Wilson Combat, we probably can't be friends. Wilson Combat builds the best-quality ARs and 1911-styled pistols, but what many might not know is that Wilson Combat is now offering a 30-round, multi-caliber AR-15 magazine that'll work with the .223 Reming-

ton/5.56 NATO, .300 Blackout and the .300 HAMR. It retails for \$18.95. The .300 HAMR was specifically designed for the AR-15 by Wilson Combat and is probably the best dual-purpose hunting/tactical cartridge available in that platform. It duplicates the ballistics of the .30-30 Winchester and is now SAAMI approved.

You can convert your .223/5.56 AR to .300 HAMR with nothing but a new barrel and the aforementioned magazine. Wilson Combat has all the ammo you need, and while you're there ordering, *do not* check out their Experior Commander Double-Stack pistol unless there's a lot of space on your credit card.

WilsonCombat.com

ANDY'S LEATHER

There's lots of custom leather crafters out there that make holsters, straps and other gun accessories. Andy's Leather, however, specializes in shooting slings—not carry straps—that help stabilize your shooting position.

Andy at Andy's leather is Gunsite Academy trained and is the go-to source for Ching slings and Rhodesian-style shooting slings. Prices range from about \$40 to \$65, and he also offers a variety of other quality leather goods.

AndysLeather.com



Andy's Leather crafts some of the best leather shooting slings available anywhere, at any price.



WICKED GRIPS

Humans have been fascinated by weaponry since some caveman used a rock to kill something. Like a hammer, a firearm is just a tool, but to humans these tools have a special meaning. And, just like a caveman probably decorated his favorite rock, soldiers, shooters and hunters have been decorating their weaponry for centuries.

With handguns, the best way to do this is with custom grips, and you won't find any cooler than those from Wicked Grips. Ed Strange with Wicked Grips told me, "I manufacture all my stuff here. If it's not made from raw materials in my facility, it's made in a vendor/partner facility here in the USA. The aluminum panels we use are bare machined parts my buddy Chris at Alumagrips machines for us, to our specifications. Everything else we make. There are 1,200 products when all variations are counted. Nothing foreign!"

WickedGrips.com

KITANICA

Kitanica's new Nightwatch pullover has become one of my favorite outer garments. It reminds me of the commando-type wool sweaters of World War II, but it's made of Power Stretch Pro Polartec. And comfortable and warm



it is. It also makes a fine-looking outer garment with enough length to cover an IWB holster. It's \$150 and you'll look good in it; maybe not as good as I do, but good enough.

Kitanica's RSP pants might be even better. I tried them three years ago and have been hooked ever since. They have more pockets than you can use, and the pocket placement, belt loops and closures are all well thought out. However, their most important attribute is durability. They'll outlast most relationships, they're American made, retail for \$175 and are worth every single penny.

Kitanica.Net

VERSACARRY

Versacarry is a well-known manufacturer of well-made-but-affordable handgun holsters. What many don't know is that they make the best gadget for carrying extra ammunition on your rifle. Lace-up leather butt-cuffs have always been popular, especially on

lever guns, but the Versacarry Ammo Caddy is lighter, easier to install and looks and works better. It even comes with a belt pad that allows you to switch its location or carry an extra Ammo Caddy.

I've written about the Ammo Caddy multiple times in these pages, and I'm astonished it's not one of Versacarry's best-selling items at \$59.99. Pay attention, because there's no better way to carry ammunition on your rifle. Period!

VersaCarry.com GDTM



don't think anyone really knows who exactly the first gunsmith was to set up shop in America. Scandinavians were arguably the first to make steel swords and other weapons in the New World, and they thrived in what is now Canada and the northeastern United States for centuries before Columbus made his famous voyage.

Sometime in the years following that fateful journey, a gun was made from

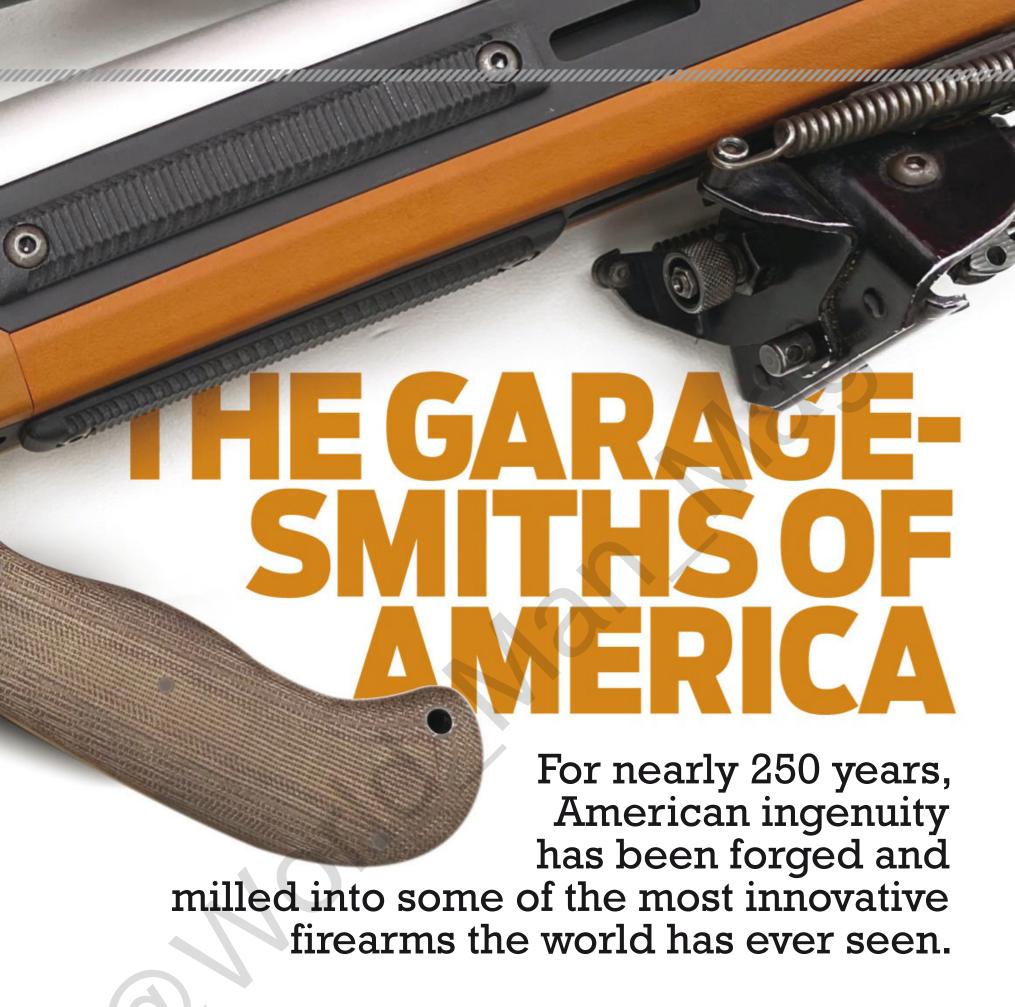
start to finish in the Americas. This amazing tradition has carried on, and while the custom rifles from today's small-shop gun builders are far from archaic, they're still made with the same tradition of rugged individualism as those made 500 years ago by equally gritty individuals.

THE GUN INDUSTRY BEFORE THERE WAS INDUSTRY

The gun industry as we know it today is in many ways the same as it was five

People in centuries past were much the same, and it was very common for people living in the New World to own more than one firearm, especially land owners and sport shooters. The most storied and fearsomely independent individuals, such as mountain men—think Jeremiah Johnson—were also likely to have more than one firearm.

These were guns of various bores,



some smooth for fowl and others rifled for precision. Movies and film have given us the impression these men carried just one gun, but it was far more likely that they had several spread across pack animals that'd travel with them. The fur trade saw the golden age of this culture, and it was formative to the American identity; however, it was rarely just one man and one rifle.

These expeditions would certainly employ gunsmiths, but gunsmithing at the time was a generalized trade and

often part of the work of blacksmiths and locksmiths, the former moving and forming large amounts of metal and the latter fitting mechanical parts. These trades were crucial to the realization of our modern gun industry, and in the earliest years it was watchmakers and farriers who paved the way for cottage gun making out of necessity.

BIRTH OF THE COTTAGE GUNSMITH

The heyday of the cottage gunmaker

wasn't until the mid 1700s. In my estimation, the cottage maker, a trade professional who produced guns from scratch in one shop, lasted from about 1700 to 1840; its end marked by the fall of the Alamo and the invention of the Colt revolver. It was in the 1840s and into the 1850s that the first real mass production of guns with interchangeable parts began. This, in my opinion, was the end of the cottage gunsmith, in that mass production now delivered function without artistry.



which the American dollars were originally based.

According to records available for skilled trades, a mason made about a dollar a day in 1776. A rifle at the time would've been about the equivalent of a month's work, plus you'd likely have to pay the gunsmith's living expenses while he worked, making for a relatively expensive product. The cost of a custom flintlock today is quite close in terms of relative cost to what it would've been in 1776. Art comes at a price, and high-quality guns of the era were extremely valuable.

Basic guns made for trade and ex-

ports typically came from state or corporate armories, and they were rudimentary but functional. These would go for what amounts to \$500 to \$1,500 today, or roughly the same general cost of a mid-tier AR-15, which, unlike a custom bolt-action, can hardly be considered a work of art. Times change, but valuable custom work does not.

When we think of art, most people shrug it off as the sport of intellectuals who pay millions for a painting of a soup can. Others see it as a dead medium now used for political expression or to simply point out the ironies of our society. These days, a talentless DJ with a digital synthesizer can make money as a "musical artist." The value of art in our era is subjective; of what value is an item that can be simply run off an assembly line or 3D printer? All have value and the art, once lost to mass production, is being redefined with new means for what's really the

same ends as guns made centuries ago.

The simple fact is we live in an age of mechanical reproduction that allows us, on an individual level, to create items in our home that previously would've been the territory of professional engineers. You can, in fact, 3D print guns with a common laptop and printer kit available off just about any corner of the internet (watch the laws on that endeavor). The technology of our times has started a new cottage industry, and the one-man gunsmith is born anew.

A cottage gunsmith who runs a facility that's arguably as technologically advanced as even the largest factories is rare to find, but they, of course, do exist. These one-man shops require a massive commitment and personal passion to run correctly, as the mastery is more than just that of a lathe or mill. Modern cottage industry is capable of producing products that exceed the wildest dreams of military snipers, expert long-range shooters and demanding hunters, just like the cottage maker of old who was on the razor edge of





(Below) The Q Brake is actually a two-piece affair: Underneath the Bottle Rocket brake is another—you guessed it—brake. The Cherry Bomb brake inside is also a suppressor mount for Q suppressors.

(Above) While the rifle is mostly American in manufacture, a Spuhr mount from Sweden was used for maximum precision. Spuhr mounts are some of the best for bolt actions and mount the scope at an appropriate height for modern chassis guns.



rifled firearm technology at the time.

Here's a look at one company—or rather, one man—who's carrying on the cottage tradition and making exceptionally accurate actions and rifles today.

SWEET POTATO

One of my children made the astute

connection that the custom-dyed Magpul stock on the finished Tuebor Precision rifle looked to be the exact same color as the sweet potato purée he loves to eat. While it was my intention to make the finished product appear close to something like Russian Bakelite, the rifle has henceforth been called "Sweet Potato," and while the

When I took the rifle out to do the initial accuracy assessment and get it zeroed, I thought I was having problems with accuracy at 100 meters, only to find that I may have incidentally—and without a witness—shot a world-record-level group of five rounds into

nomenclature is nontraditional, the ac-

curacy is nothing to laugh at.

(Left) The bolt is spiral fluted for beauty ... and to help keep debris out of the action. The bolt throw is slick and incredibly smooth.



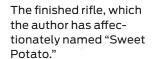
(Below) The US Optics Foundation 5-25x is a large scope with lots of adjustment. This model is designed and made in America, and the quality is amazing. It's a perfect optical match to a gun as precise as this custom build.

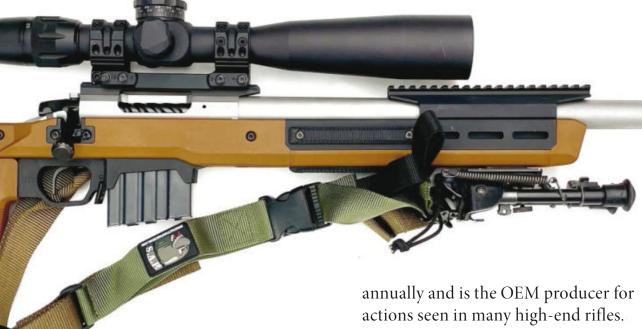


a single 6.5mm hole.

The initial groups with Sig Sauer 140-grain Match were so tight that I had to back out to 200 meters to get the bullets to cluster in a legible group. At that range, it was putting five shots into a half inch, or less than .25 MOA. This incredible performance came from a rifle that was gunsmithed only a stone's throw from where I live, hearkening back to the village makers of our foundation.

The build itself is testament to what can be accomplished by American ingenuity and drive, with a little Swedish thrown in there in the form of the Spuhr mount. The rifle features a small-run US Optics 5-25x scope, made and engineered in the USA. Likewise, it has a Magpul chassis I custom dyed, again an American product that originated from a small-time idea that later created one of the most rec-





ognizable brands in the industry.

The magazines are from a small-time maker, Alpha Mags, and they've worked for me for more than 10 years. Additionally, the M24 contour barrel is from Brownells from their limited Premium Barrels line. Capping the barrel off is a brake and suppressor mount from Q LLC, located in New Hampshire. An American-made Timney trigger fires the rifle. The sling is another custom item, again made by a small shop called Short Action Precision. Overall, this rifle is the result of many cottage enterprises, or at least companies that started out as such.

The action from Tuebor Precision is the heart and soul of the rifle, and it's the result of one man's efforts to produce the finest, most precise actions available. The amazing part of Tuebor Precision is that the millions of dollars of equipment aren't run by a floor full of workers; everything from cutting the steel bars to the incredibly expensive and complicated wire EDM cutting of the action is done by owner Matt Van Ens.

Matt's got an impressive résumé. Among his accolades are his service as a USMC KC-130J Crew Chief (2005-10), and graduate—and later instructor—at the Colorado School of Trades (2012-15). He opened Tuebor Precision in 2014 and later released his current actions, the Raider in 2017 and the Legion in early 2020.

Matt produces hundreds of actions

annually and is the OEM producer for actions seen in many high-end rifles. His production ability exceeds the output per worker in virtually every shop I've seen. Many companies of similar output are staffed by as many as 30 individuals.

The cottage aspect of his business is incredible in that he wears variations of all the same hats worn by the cottage maker of 1776, such as the designer, engineer and metallurgist, while also being a programmer and machinist. The amount of individual skill needed to bring forth a top-shelf custom action on a production basis as one person wouldn't have been possible even 20 years ago without having to outsource significant amounts of labor and materials.

Matt's actions are so far above board that some of the industry's leading ballistic engineers and scientists go to him for their gunsmithing work. The names of the individuals and businesses using his materials is long, but suffice to say his customers are the people literally writing the book on extreme long range and developing the programs behind advanced ballistic software. And all this from the mind of one man with skill and passion.

The rifle is the most accurate rifle I've ever fired. When I set about building this rifle, I didn't have the expectation it'd exceed all the rest so soundly. I knew when I put it together it'd shoot, but the question was how well? The results I got were with factory ammo, and I'm sure I'll do even better with handloads—if such performance could be dreamed of.

THE LASTING TRADITION

The rifles used in 1776 were of the finest quality, quite literally the best arms on Earth for accuracy at distance at that time. While there's certainly the desire and necessity for affordable arms, they are seldom capable of what can be delivered by hand-spun passion. Rifles like "Sweet Potato" are representative of what can be achieved by today's modern cottage maker.

It's truly inspiring that, in a day of mass production, one man with one idea can reinvent the cottage gunsmith trade and return it to its original prestige. Matt Van Ens is one of them, and there are many, many sprinkled throughout America. The cottage gunmaker represented precision manufacture in the days of coal forges and hand files. Today, we have that again, but this time with EDM cutters and advanced CNC lathes. **GDTM**

Sources for economic material: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin and University of Michigan Department of Economics. Inflation conversions to purchasing power courtesy of research from Oregon State University.



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European brands producing guns right here in the States.

ith manufacturing becoming more global every year, it can be hard to know what's made in the USA and what's imported, especially since some of the manufacturers you might associate with Austria, Germany, Belgium and the Czech Republic have either moved production to the U.S. ... or are in the process of doing so.

There are several reasons that a manufacturer might move production to the United States, but if they win a U.S. Government contract and the maze of laws surrounding the import and export process. With more red tape being added every year by lawmakers, it makes more sense than ever to establish manufacturing in the States.

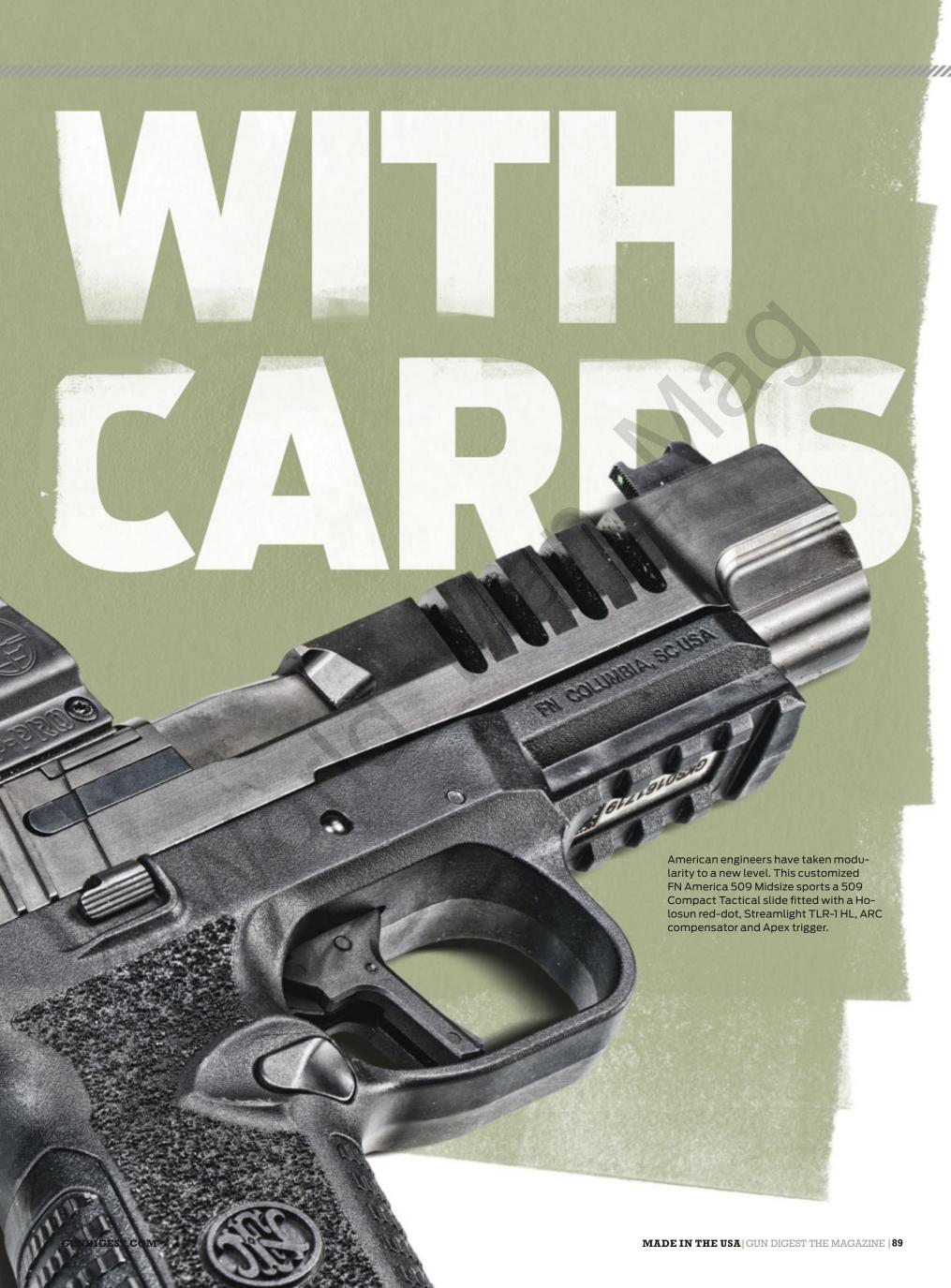
Over the last decade, BATFE reports indicate that the six manufacturers chosen for this article produced

13.8 million firearms in the U.S. To give you an idea how many that is in comparison to the Remington 870, there were only 11 million of those produced for the entirety of the 70-year production run.

But does the nationality of the company ownership matter to you if you're set on an American-made gun? That's a question you're going to have to answer yourself, but I'm all for anything that expands firearm production in America. Not only does it keep Americans working and trains them how to make guns, but it also makes further legislation affecting firearms harder for politicians.

Just imagine if Kalashnikov Concern had a sister factory here in the States building Saiga rifles. The executive order issued by President Obama in 2014 would've had nearly no effect on the availability of Saiga-based AKs domestically!







SIG SAUER:

6.5 MILLION U.S. PRODUCED

The very first Sig Sauer P220 was imported into the United States in 1977 as the Browning BDA. Since then, Sig has become one of the largest gun manufacturers in the U.S., with 6.5 million made domestically in the past decade.

While the U.S.-based Sig Sauer Inc. is relatively young, the company can trace its roots to the oldest German gunmaker on record, J.P. Sauer & Sohn. Dating back 270 years, the Sauer name has been on countless firearms. It wasn't until the Swiss company, Sig, purchased J.P. Sauer & Sohn in 1976 that Sig Sauer as we know it was a thing.

Unfortunately, 1984 brought a bittersweet moment in company history with the loss of the U.S. Military's Today, Sig Sauer Inc. is the current supplier of the M17 and M18 pistols to the U.S. Military, as well as proudly producing the P320 for countless police contracts in New Hampshire. Virtually the entire line of Sig Sauer firearms carries a U.S. birth certificate these days, which is a huge win for

American gun buyers as well as guntoting professionals.

Since firearms are such a large part of American culture, Sig has been free to innovate at a rate rarely seen in the industry. Between innovative approaches to government contracts, their impressively accurate ammunition line and world-class optics, Sig Sauer isn't likely to be dethroned anytime in the foreseeable future.

FN AMERICA:

2.8 MILLION U.S. PRODUCED

When most people hear the brand "FN," the first thing they think of is the Belgium-based FN Herstal, which isn't technically incorrect because FN

America is a subsidiary of the Herstal Group.

That said, FN America's roots go back to 1978 when FN Manufacturing was established to build firearms for the U.S. Military, which our troops have been carrying into combat for the past four decades; but that's only a small part of what the Herstal Group manufacturers in the United States.

The Herstal Group acquired Browning firearms in 1977 after a longtime partnership, dating back to 1899 when they started producing the FN Browning M1900, the first handgun to use a slide designed by John Moses Browning. Today, U.S.-made Brownings are built in Salt Lake City, Utah, a mere 40-mile drive from the company's birthplace.

Today, FN America builds the FN SCAR, M16 and M4 rifles, as well as the M249, M240, MK46 and MK48



BERETTA:

line of firearms.

2.2 MILLION U.S. PRODUCED

Carolina, facility alongside the civilian

Like Sig Sauer, Beretta's lineage goes back hundreds of years with Beretta-produced weapons being present in every major European war since 1650. Beretta holds the distinction of being the oldest weapon maker in the world—their first product being arquebus barrels made in 1526.

The bulk of the Berettas produced

here in the United States are a result of their narrow M9 contract win in 1985, which propelled the Beretta 92 series from obscurity to a nationally recognized shape. In fact, the 92 series It isn't just the Beretta 92 series that's made in the new 160,000-square-foot Gallatin, Tennessee, factory; nearly every model of Beretta pistol offered in the United States since the '80s had at least one variant of it produced domestically. Small-bore pistols like the U22 Neos and the 21A are almost a given, due to the point system a pistol must comply with in order to get the BATFE's thumbs up, as is the case with subcompact variants.

Beretta can thank that M9 pistol contract for giving them reason to set up shop here in the States. Without that requirement, Beretta might not be as popular on the U.S. market as it is today.

GLOCK USA:

2.1 MILLION U.S. PRODUCED

You might've noticed in 2012, USA roll-marked Glocks started appearing on gun dealer's shelves. This wasn't a result of the great gun panic of 2012; Glock actually received approval from the Smyrna, Georgia, city council in 2010 to build four buildings on 18 acres, which was completed in 2012.

So, what spurred the massive expansion? Probably export laws.

Even though most believe those 2012 USA-made Glocks were the first



of the Austrian-designed pistols to have an American birth certificate, BATFE reports say otherwise. Between 2005 and 2011, before American consumers saw them on dealer shelves, over a quartermillion Glocks were produced between 2005 and 2011.

If you're wondering if a Glock made in the United States is better or worse than one made at the Austrian facility, the answer is "neither." Glock Austria ensures that the quality their customers expect are upheld by making sure that the processes Glock USA uses are identical to the ones used in Austria. Heck, even the raw materials for the slide, frame and barrel are shipped in from Austria to be turned into guns by CNC machines also shipped in from Austria—and programmed by the same people who programmed the

machines in Austria.

After building more than 2 million Glocks in the United States, it's safe to say that the Austrian plastic fantastic has dual citizenship.

CZ-USA:

125,000 U.S. PRODUCED

The bulk of the guns CZ-USA has built in the United States during the past decade haven't carried the CZ name at all, but rather been under their Dan Wesson brand acquired by CZ-USA in 2005. The Norwich, New York, factory is just a small part of CZ's master plan: Keep an eye on what the company does over the next five years; your mind will likely be blown.

While CZ-USA hasn't produced near as many guns domestically as Sig Sauer,

FN or Glock, they've committed to construct a factory in Little Rock, Arkansas, to expand their American manufacturing capabilities. CZ's purchase of the legendary Colt has delayed the construction of the Little Rock factory for up to five years, which is unfortunate but understandable. A delay in the factory's construction is preferable to the Colt brand dying.



guns made right here in the USA already, with more models to follow as soon as the Little Rock facility is completed. Currently, some models of the Czech gunmaker's new striker-fired P10 series of guns are made in their Kansas City, Kansas, facility. Once the new factory is finished, the number of CZ pistols made in the United States is sure to increase.

HECKLER & KOCH USA: 76,000 U.S. PRODUCED

It might come as a surprise that Heckler Koch's U.S. arm, HKUSA, produces the fewest guns out of the bunch, but those paying attention to H&K over the past decade or two won't be surprised. You see, H&K is a shadow of its former self for several reasons, the largest being the German government's export restrictions.

In recent years, Heckler & Koch has stated they have "withdrawn from cri-

U.S. consumer market is where they've looked to make up those sales.

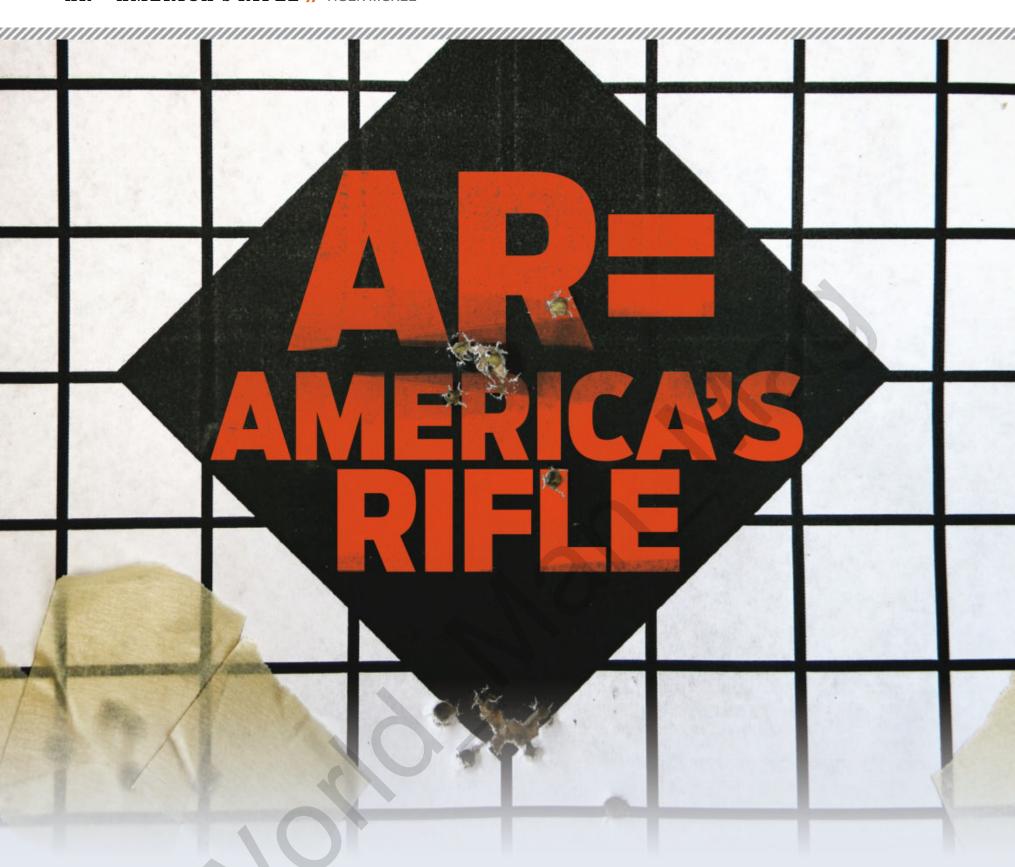
The announcement in 2017 that HKUSA was expanding to a 50,000-square-foot facility in Columbus, Georgia, may signify a turnaround for the company, but don't get excited too quickly. Unfortunately, the company's bestselling gun, the VP9, is still made overseas and subject to German export restrictions as well as American import laws, as is most of their product line.

While 50,000 square feet might sound like a big operation, keep in mind that the average Walmart Superstore is large enough to set up nearly four of HKUSA's factories inside. While the space isn't as large as you might expect from a gun company with H&K's reputation, they do produce HK45 pistols, as well as their MR556 and MR762 rifles, in the Columbus facility.

DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED IMPORTS

The next time you're looking at picking up a new firearm, take a look at where it was made; you'll likely be surprised. In an age where gun manufacturers viewed as American companies sell more foreign-made guns with cleverly concealed import marks than they make domestically—and companies that are viewed as foreign produce more guns than you could've imagined—you rarely can guess where a gun was born.

Buying models made in the United States not only supports domestic manufacturing, but it also convinces manufacturers that they need to continue to expand firearm production in the U.S. The bigger the industry gets, the harder time politicians have screwing with gun laws ... and that's a win for everyone. **GDTM**



Understanding POA and POI for your AR.

eroing" the AR means adjusting the sights so your point of impact—where the bullet strikes the target—is the same as your point of aim—where you are holding the sights. There is a variety of methods or formulas for zeroing the AR. Instead of trying to use different-size targets at various distances and flipping back and forth between one aperture and the other on the rear sight—as required by some methods—I prefer to use the simple technique

described below. In my opinion, to get a "hard" zero with the AR you have to actually shoot it at the distance you've chosen for your zero, rather than simulate distance by using smaller targets.

Once you've zeroed the AR, it's time to fire it various distances to discover what the difference will be between your point of aim (POA) and the point of impact (POI). This will vary according to barrel length and twist rate, and the type ammo, such as bullet weight and the design or shape of the round. Changing ammo, switching

between one type ammo and another—even when they are the same weight or design but different brands—will usually change the trajectory of the round, sometimes dramatically.

When it comes to choosing the distance for your zero, there are several factors to consider. First is the offset between the sights and the barrel; the sights are higher than the barrel. This offset comes into play especially at close distances, where the POI will be lower than the POA. You have to aim or hold high for your round to

hit where you need it to go. You also have to consider the trajectory of the round. For example, with a 55-grain bullet firing with a 100-yard zero the POI will be approximately 2 inches low at 200 yards.

Before beginning the zero process, you need to pick the distance for your zero. I use a 100-yard zero. The sights are adjusted so that at 100 yards the bullet strikes the exact point the sights are holding. A 75-yard zero gives you the least deviation between your POA and POI between 25 and 100 yards. At 25 yards, the POI will be roughly 1½ inches lower than your POA. The POI at 100 yards will be 1½ inches higher than your POA, which will give you a POI of about an inch or so low at 200 yards.

For zeroing, it's important to use the ammunition that you anticipate shooting when using your AR. If you're trying to zero using different types of ammo, it's going to be a frustrating process because each one will have a different POI.

Pick one type of ammo and use it to zero. Later, after getting a zero and learning the fundamentals, you can experiment with different rounds to determine which one provides the best accuracy. Also keep in mind that distance will be a big factor. For example, ammo "A" may produce a tighter group at 100 yards, but at 200 yards ammo "B"

is more accurate. A lot of research and then actual field testing is necessary to determine what round will produce the best results for your application.

For the A2 sights, which have a rear sight that's adjustable for elevation, you want to have the rear sight bottomed out, for example on the 6/3 or 8/3 setting. With the A1 sight, there is no elevation adjustment on the rear sight. You should be using the large aperture on the rear sight—unless from previous experience you know the small aperture works better for you. (Remember, if you flip between the large and small aperture you'll be changing the bullet's POI.) To adjust the actual elevation while zeroing use the front sight, move it up or down as needed. Moving it down, turning it clockwise, will raise your POI. Turning it counter-clockwise raises the front sight, which will lower the bullet's POI. To turn or adjust the front sight, you have to depress the detent that holds the sight in place. A sight tool will make adjustments easy, or you can use the tip of a bullet. The front sight will have either four or five slots for the detent; the sight tool must have the same number of prongs to match the front sight.

Windage, moving the bullet right or left, is adjusted with the rear sight. The A1 rear sight requires the use of a sight tool or the tip of a bullet for adjustment. The A2 rear sight has a drum that you turn with your fingers; no tool required.

Take your time during the zeroing process. This isn't something you can do quickly. For the best results, work from a bench, with rests or bags for



Different ammo will change your point-of-impact according to the weight of the bullet and its velocity. Plus, your barrel length and twist rate will affect accuracy.

New versions of the AR have rear sights with elevation adjustments. When zeroing, make sure to start with the drum on its lowest setting, 6/3 or 8/3.



POINT OF AIM VS. POINT OF IMPACT

	RANGE			
	25 YARDS	50 YARDS	75 YARDS	100 YARDS
25-YARD ZERO	0	2½-IN HIGH	4½"-IN HIGH	4½"-IN HIGH
50-YARD ZERO	1-IN LOW	0	1½-IN HIGH	2-IN HIGH
75-YARD ZERO	1½-IN LOW	1⁄4-IN LOW	0	1½-IN HIGH
100-YARD ZERO	21/2-IN LOW	1-IN LOW	1/2-IN LOW	0

At distances less than 25 yards, regardless of zero, the point of impact will be approximately 2.5 inches low.

Actual figures will vary according to barrel length, twist rate, and bullet weight and design.



(Left) When zeroing, work in the most stable position you can, using rests or support to create stability.

(Below) When using a red-dot sight, you want to adjust it so the shots are hitting in the center of the dot. Center of the dot is always the same, regardless of the distance.



support. Make sure the handguard is supported, as opposed to the actual barrel touching or resting on the bags. If the barrel is making contact with your rest, it will throw the shots off. For example, when the bottom of the barrel is touching the rest it will throw the shots high. Your goal is to create a solid, stable position—consistency—and apply the fundamentals of marksmanship for every shot.

Start the zeroing process at 25 yards. Make sure you have a steady position, using a rest in order to take out as much of the human element as possible. Normally I'll fire five or six shots, enough to satisfy myself that I've got a good group established. By firing several rounds, even if you have one or two shots that weren't good, you're still going to have a solid group to work with.

After establishing a good group, you're ready to adjust the sights, but first unload the AR. Do not get into the habit of adjusting or doing any work on your firearm while it's loaded. Unload, check and check again to confirm it's clear, and then remember the safety rules are still in effect. After making adjustments, you load and start again. The additional benefit of all this is that you're getting in practice on your manipulations.

As mentioned earlier, at 25 yards your bullets should be hitting lower than where you are aiming. This low POI is necessary because of the offset between the sights and barrel. (Don't get too worried about exact measurements here; you're just looking to get it close, and will fine tune the sights as you move back, creating more distance.)

Once you have a rough zero at 25, again with the bullets striking about 2 inches below your point of aim, move back to 50 yards. Fire a good group, and adjust as necessary. At this distance your point of impact will be closer to the center of the target where you're aiming. As you increase the distance the POI will move upward toward your POA. For example, if you've decided to work with a 100-yard zero, at 50 yards the bullets should be hitting about an inch below where you are aiming.

Fire a good group, and then adjust the sights as needed. Normally I will only adjust one direction at a time. For example, I'll adjust the elevation with the front sight until getting that right, then adjust windage to get it in the right spot. Trying to adjust both the elevation and windage at the same time can sometimes get a little complicated, for example as you adjust the windage it can change the elevation slightly. You may find that after adjusting the front sight and then the rear sight for windage that you have to go back to the front sight for final adjustments.

After getting close at 50 yards, move back to 75 and repeat the process. If

you want a 75-yard zero, your bullets should be hitting where you're aiming. Point of aim and point of impact are the same. For a 100-yard zero, you'll need to move back to that distance and repeat the process one last time, adjusting until your POI is spot on for where you are aiming.

When you have the opportunity, shoot your AR at longer distances to find out how much the bullet will drop. (This will vary, sometimes greatly, according to barrel length, twist and bullet design and weight.) For general-purpose use, you're holding high, aiming above the point you want the shot to go so when the bullet drops it's hitting the target. The other end of the spectrum is High Power competition, where you're adjusting the rear sight to compensate for extended distances so you're always aiming at the center of the target.

You'll also need to shoot it at distances closer than your zero, again to find out the difference between your point of aim and the point of impact. Remember, the sights are offset, higher than the barrel, so as you move closer than your zero the point of impact will begin to drop. At distances closer than 25 yards, you'll be aiming about 2½ inches high to compensate for this offset. (XS Sights have a modified rear sight that has a notch on top of the peep sight that you use for aim-

ing at close distances that compensates for the offset.)

For zeroing a red-dot sight or a more traditional optic with magnification, I use the same process. I start at 25, get a rough zero with the point of impact 2 to 2½ inches lower than the point of aim. Don't' worry about an exact measurement, you'll have to be making more adjustments as you increase the distance.

With red-dot sights, work on getting the shots where they are hitting in the center of the dot, as opposed to somewhere in the dot.

Remember the dot's "size" will vary according to distance. A 2-minute dot covers up 2 inches at 100 yards. At 200 yards, the 2-minute dot covers up 4 inches of target, and at 300 the dot is covering 6 inches of the target. If you zero with the shots hitting at the top of the dot, this means your point of impact is going to vary according the

distance you're shooting. Regardless of distance and the "size" of the dot, center is always center. Adjust until your hits are in the center of the dot for the distance you've chosen to zero.

There are a lot of optics available that have graduated reticles, varied points for aiming that compensate for distance and trajectory. These are good, but the only way to confirm these "holds" is to actually fire the AR at the distances indicated. As mentioned previously, barrel length and twist and the type round you're firing will all affect the bullet's trajectory. The only way to know where your AR is going to shoot is by firing it at those distances.

Another factor to deal with is the actual adjustment of the optic. One click on the elevation knob is supposed to adjust the POI one quarter of an inch, or one-quarter minute of angle, at 100 yards. But, again, the length of the barrel and its rate of twist and

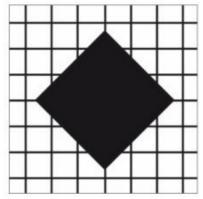
type ammunition you're shooting may mean that one click is greater or less than a quarter inch of movement in the bullet's point of impact.

Any time you change anything on your AR, it will be necessary to recheck your zero. The AR is a surgical instrument and modifying anything is going to change what happens when the shot is fired. Something like changing the stock can affect where the bullet hits. Changing ammo is definitely a reason to check your zero. There might not be much difference, and then again there may be a drastic shift in the bullet's point of impact.

Zeroing the AR requires application of the fundamentals of marksmanship. Your goal is to be as machine-like as possible, trying to repeat the process the same way for every shot. If your eyes get tired then stop, take a rest and start again. The same thing goes for your body. Anytime the body gets tired or stressed it's going to affect your ability to hold steady. Remember to control your breathing. You need to shoot accurately, produce consistent results—a good tight group—then you can move that group wherever it needs to be by adjusting the sights. **GDTM**



Start zeroing at close distance —25 yards—aiming at the center of the target and adjusting impact so it's about 2 inches lower than your point of aim.



As you move back to get a final zero, you might need a bigger target. Make sure that, on your final zero, shots are going into the exact center of the target.





ALL ABOUT AMERICA'S RIFLE

This article is an excerpt from *Tactical Gun Digest*, a gear and skills resource for the serious shooter. Grab yourself a copy at **GunDigestStore.com** by searching "Tactical GD."

Federal's .22 LR Punch: Rimfire ammo made for self-defense.

assions run high discussing the merits of the little .22 LR for self-defense. One side contends the rimfire is too small and too weak to reliably neutralize the threat. While the other claims, despite its shortcomings, that the caliber is one any person can master to deliver accuracy and deadly fire. While it certainly won't end the debate, one of the nation's largest ammunition manufacturers is siding with the latter group, introducing a .22 LR load specially tailored for defensive use.

Federal Premium recently unveiled .22 LR Punch ammunition, a round that the company calls the first viable self-defense option in the caliber.

"Self-defense isn't one size fits all. So, whether shooters want to carry a .22 LR handgun as a backup gun, do not feel comfortable with centerfire pistols or simply want to get more versatility from a rimfire handgun," said Federal's Rimfire Product Manager, Dan Compton. "Punch makes the .22 LR cartridge a viable defensive choice for the first time ever."

Most ammo geeks are familiar with the Federal's Punch line. Released in 2020, the defensive handgun ammunition was specifically designed for the commercial market, a break from the past. Previously, all of Federal's defensive ammo was developed with law enforcement in mind. The difference? Other lines are engineered to pass FBI barrier tests, while Punch was optimized for the FBI bare gel and covered gel penetration tests. Two factors spurred this move: cost per round and likely scenarios faced by average armed citizens. The thought is that everyday CCW holders don't often shoot through car doors.

ARTRIDGES/CARTOUCHES

Among the main changes found in Punch ammo is the use of a softer lead core that didn't need to hold together through plywood, windshields and sheet metal. Though it's not downloaded. Velocities are what you'd expect for defensive ammo. Only, it has gone through rigorous laboratory testing required for law enforcement fodder.

As to the .22 LR Punch, it's pretty unique ... particularly it's projectile. It utilizes a 29-grain nickel-plated lead-core bullet, with a flat nose and a heavy jacket. Essentially, the bullet is designed to hang together and minimally expand, thus increasing penetration depth. As to ensuring the bullet bores an appropriate distance, Federal soups up .22 LR Punch, with the ammo listed at 1,070 fps from a 2-inch barrel. Even for those who don't subscribe to the rimfire as an appropriate self-defense option, the offering is intriguing nonetheless.

As to what it cost, Federal lists the full retail price of .22 LR Punch at \$9.99 for a box of 50. That's pretty cheap to upgrade a rimfire for a self-defense role.

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MHIP

Monolithic Hollow Point

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- Plated case for more positive feeding and extraction
- Recommended for everything from pistol caliber carbines to subcompact pistols

Now it's up to you.