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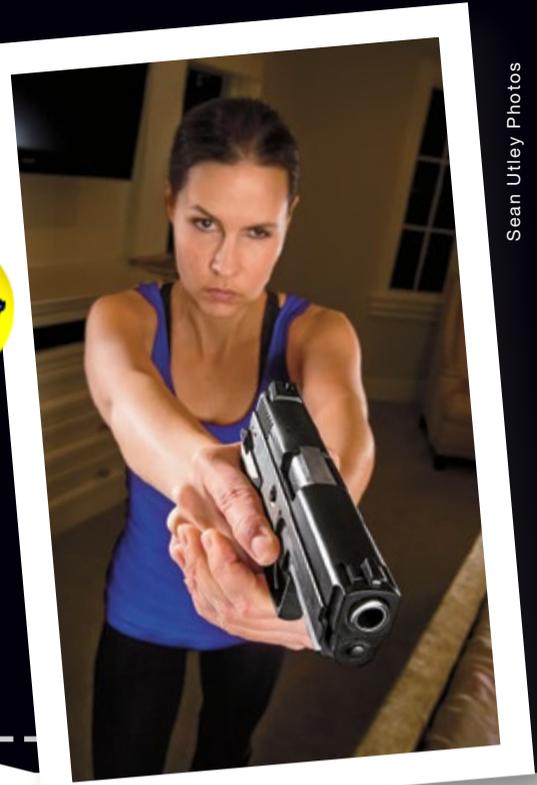


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MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE



Sean Utley Photos

Selecting the right guns and gear for your carry needs.

BY MICHAEL O. HUMPHRIES

ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT

aspects of self-defense is selecting your gear. Now, a proper mindset and training are absolute musts as well, but they won't do you much good without a firearm to defend yourself. So what makes the "perfect" self-defense carry system? Were you looking for a single, easy answer to that question? Sorry, can't help you with that. The truth is, there is no single, one-size-fits-all answer for everyone. However, if you are looking to be informed on the multitude of choices out there so you can make the right decision for yourself, then you have come to the right place.

So, which gun is right for you? The simple and robust revolver, your ever-ready and reliable partner? How about a next-gen autopistol with impressive ammo capacity and highly refined sights and controls? Is a micro pocket pistol the best choice for you, one that can be hidden in just about any deep-cover carry mode? Or is a full-sized gun with its impressive power and performance the right choice for you? And how will you carry it? Inside the waistband? Outside? On your ankle or slung under your shoulder? What ammo will you use? These are just some of the choices you will be faced with when making this decision.

But thanks to *Concealed Carry Handguns* magazine, you have a handy and informative guide to use on your journey down this path. From in-depth feature

article reviews of some of the newest and greatest handgun offerings on the market today to considerations of the best modes of carry for a variety of types of handguns, this magazine is the source for your

needs. With pieces on topics ranging from tips to tactics to top gear, this magazine is packed with the information you need to take the next step. We are glad you decided to take it with us. 🔫



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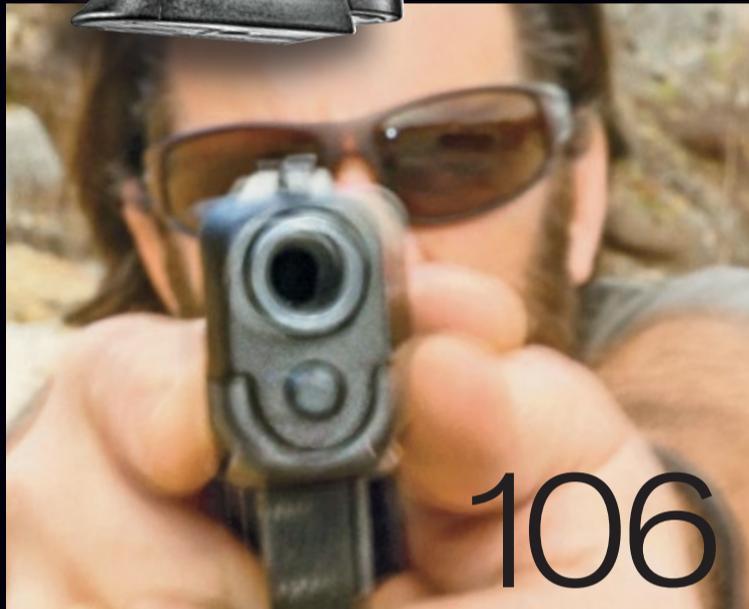


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DEEP CONCEALMENT TRENDS



Stealthy carry styles to keep you armed and ready anywhere. BY DAVE NORMAN

THERE IS NO PERFECT all-purpose holster, but there are a lot of holsters perfect for specific applications. In any given week I'll use each of my three favorites from a collection of more than a dozen holsters. Deep-concealment holsters offer the best concealment, and work with the widest range of clothing types. To help you find your perfect one—or three—here's a guide to the latest trends, along with some classics that still hold up.

Appendix Carry

The hottest trend in deep concealment right now is appendix carry, with a host of purpose-built (and many general inside-the-waistband) holsters to help you conceal a handgun. Think of appendix carry as "in front of your strong-side hip" carry. A holster here, at roughly the one-thirty position, can actually tuck a concealable handgun along the curve of your thigh, under your belly (whether you have a big one or not), when you're sitting or stand-

ing. This method exploits a little-noticed triangle of space that exists between your thigh, hip and stomach.

Some folks are terrified of putting the muzzle of a loaded handgun that close to their genitals, which is understandable. Others overcome that fear by holstering their gun with their holster off of their body, then positioning the gun—holster

day, you may want to similarly remove the holster and handgun as one unit, then replace them in your pants again next time as one unit.

This is likely the safest way to don and doff an appendix holster, and a great many of the holster options for appendix carry feature clips instead of belt loops to make this process easy every time.

“With the right positioning, you can still draw an appendix-carried handgun while seated...”

and all, at the same time—on their body so that the holster completely covers the triggerguard during the entire process (and so that the handgun doesn't move within the holster during the process, either). When going to the bathroom, changing clothes or just at the end of the

The appendix-carry position is surprisingly comfortable when seated in a chair or the driver's seat of a vehicle. With the right positioning, you can still draw an appendix-carried handgun while seated, which is not always the case with other holster and carry positions.



Bianchi Model 145 Subdue



CrossBreed Freedom Carry



Galco Open-Top Ankle Glove



Galco Ankle Glove

For retention at contact range, appendix carry is a little safer than carry positions that are accessible to those who might attack unexpectedly from the rear. It's hard to draw from a small-of-back or four o'clock strong-side holster while being choked or otherwise attacked from behind, but you can still draw from an appendix holster in those situations.

Inside The Waistband

The standard in deep concealment, there is a bewildering variety of holsters that are designed to tuck into your pants, thus concealing pretty much everything forward of the ejection port. IWB holsters come in two varieties: tuckable (meaning that you can tuck a shirt in between your pants and gun) and those that aren't.

Non-tuckable IWB holsters, however, still require a shirt, jacket or other cover garment to conceal their presence. This gets tricky when you reach overhead, bend over or otherwise raise the hem on your cover garment. If this is a minimal concern, then this style generally offers models that involve the least material, least bulk and least cost.

Tuckable IWB holsters are the new standard in concealment, and generally achieve their defining utility by utilizing J-shaped clips that connect the holster to your belt or pants. The channel thus formed by the clip is shallow but ready to receive your tucked-in shirt, so that you can doff your blazer and wander about in just your shirt with people generally none the wiser. This does add a level of impediment to drawing your handgun, as you need to dramatically untuck and raise that cover garment to get at your handgun, but that is generally seen to be offset by the extreme stealth of the tuckable IWB approach.

On The Ankle

A favorite backup carry position for law enforcement officers, ankle holsters offer discreet protection that requires unique

draw motions. You'll need to bend down, or acrobatically lift your knee and raise your pants leg with your support hand without falling over, to access your pistol. But if you're on the ground grappling already that maneuver can become easier. Since these are the worst-case situations where an officer might need a pistol other than an inaccessible duty gun, they typically like ankle holsters.

A benefit to ankle holsters for citizens is how low-profile they generally are—there are no telltale clips, no bulges in places that busybodies and criminals learn to look for bulges—and you can engage in a full range of motions without printing or accidentally exposing a part

stroke that sweeps the muzzle across one entire stretch of the firing line.

If you can't practice with something, you probably shouldn't make it an integral part of your kit. Nevertheless, there are situations where a shoulder holster makes great sense: while driving, while seated at a desk and while engaging in physical activity where a waistline-carried gun would bang into things.

Pocket Backup

For the tiniest handguns there are some particularly well-adapted holsters. These holsters by and large use leather rectangular body panels for the outboard side, while on the inboard side they provide a

“A favorite backup carry position for law enforcement officers, ankle holsters offer discreet protection that requires unique draw motions.”

of your gun (except, perhaps, running). It's especially relevant to those who work desk jobs, who can drop a hand to their side and be inches from their gun. When you're walking with a shoulder holster, though, it's a long way from your hand, and it can throw off your gate until you get familiar with the extra weight on one leg.

Shoulder Rigs

A shoulder holster is absolutely indispensable if you are a 1980s-era television detective. They've fallen from favor for modern self-defense, however. This is partly because they require an open-front concealment garment (or some tricky acrobatics from under a shirt), partly because they involve much more material to don and doff and because most ranges won't let you practice with them, ever, because both orientations (muzzle down and muzzle rearward) necessitate a draw-

cutaway holster that accepts pocket-sized pistols. Slip your pistol into these holsters, then slip the entire holster in your pocket. Sit down, raise your leg or pull your pants tight against your thigh and it prints beautifully—in the size and shape of a wallet. No one is scared of that and few suspect a thing, even if they count the wallet bulges on your body and wonder why you have two.

Today's pocket holsters generally have anti-slip texturing, coarse-side-out leather or other design features (sometimes even a sculpted hook) that will help the holster remain in your pocket as you draw the gun from within it. The downside to these holsters is that you typically have to fish your fingers carefully between the leather outer panel of the holster and the grip of your gun—you can't just ham-fist the first thing you touch—which takes a certain getting used to.



Galco UnderWraps Belly Band



Galco Bebe Holster Handbag



Galco Hidden Agenda

Specialized Gear

One of the more intriguing specialized holsters is the belly band style, which utilizes a wide elastic band with an integral holster or pocket. The band wraps around your torso, and it does not require a belt, pants or any other garment to hold it in place. Marketed for joggers and those who need an extremely discreet carry solution, their strength is that they are clothing independent. Their weakness is that you wind up with a large constricting band across your chest, which can decrease physical performance, and which generally requires a little more complicated of a maneuver to extract the gun.

There are also holsters that clip to a bra, which hide diminutive carry pistols under a woman's breasts. These aren't the easiest to access, but they offer additional options for those who might be stretched to find other suitable methods.

Off-Body Concealment

One of the more controversial concepts in holsters is the idea of using off-body concealment, in dedicated planners, purses, sling-style bags, etc. Anything not strapped to your body can be forgotten, lost, stolen or ripped away.

In their favor, there are some purpose-built handbags and day planners and the

like that can conceal any size handgun, often with a spare magazine or speed-loader, suggesting that the gun you can carry off-body could be larger or more powerful than one you could carry on-body. Especially for females whose more form-fitting clothing make concealment difficult, these may be your best options.

The most intriguing option might be a sling-style bag with fast-access (usually Velcro-secured) rear pockets for the handgun. It's an established practice to carry purses, laptop cases and other bags with the strap across your body, instead of just over one shoulder, to make snatch-and-run attacks less likely to succeed. 🔫

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LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION



Built for concealment, the new EMP 4" Lightweight Champion lives up to its name with several ergonomic enhancements like an ambidextrous safety, an extended beavertail that prevents "slide bite" and a skillfully-checked frame.

SPECIFICATIONS

SPRINGFIELD ARMOY 4" LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION

Caliber	9mm
Barrel	4 inches
OA Length	7.5 inches
Weight	31 ounces (empty)
Grips	Cocobolo
Sights	Fiber-optic front, white dot rear
Action	SA
Finish	Stainless, matte black
Capacity	10+1
MSRP	N/A

CHAMPION



Springfield Armory's 4-inch EMP is a natural for 1911-style concealed carry.



BY DAVID BAHDE

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY'S EMP PISTOLS HAVE BECOME FAVORITES FOR MANY CONCEALED CARRIERS. A GOOD

friend of mine carries his 9mm EMP constantly. It's lightweight, accurate and "always works." I have used the EMP in both 9mm and .40 S&W, but I'm just not a huge fan of 3-inch-barreled pistols for primary carry. Although it's not uncommon for me to carry a full-sized 1911 or the latest high-capacity polymer pistol, I've found 4-inch-barreled pistols are about perfect for me and remain reliable, easy to conceal and lightweight.

Many of my carry pistols are chambered in .45 ACP or even .50 GI, but the 9mm chambering has been catching my eye of late. I appreciate the lower recoil

and find that the reliability of modern 9mm ammo is improving. It has been used in 1911s for years, though not with great frequency. Designed for the .45 ACP case length, it requires different magazines, and they can be finicky. Slide speed with light bullets can also be problematic. Since the EMP was designed from the ground up to run the 9mm, it seemed the perfect candidate for a longer barrel, and the Springfield Armory EMP 4" Lightweight Champion is the end result.

Enhanced Micro

Recognizing the value of a small 1911 pistol chambered in 9mm, Springfield Armory built the EMP in 2007. The

chamber system was shortened and the gun's remaining dimensions balanced to fit. Standard EMP actions are 0.125 inches shorter than typical 1911s. On the original EMP, an aluminum frame kept the gun light while maintaining a 9+1 capacity. Low-profile, tritium combat sights are used along with a match-grade, bull barrel. The new EMP 4" Lightweight Champion starts there and adds a few improvements with some differences.

The frame remains aluminum and includes frontstrap dimpling. It's not overly aggressive, but it does ensure a solid hold. The grip length has also been increased, allowing for a new 10-round magazine. These mags are stainless steel with a steel follower and coated

"Several hundred rounds of rapid-fire drills using all types of ammunition did not cause an issue."



During testing, the new EMP was light on recoil thanks to its 9mm chambering, hand-filling grips and 4-inch barrel.

in black satin. The grip is cut moderately high and holds an extended grip safety. Slightly rounding the bottom of the checkered mainspring housing also lessens the chance of printing during concealment, while flaring the mag well assists with magazine changes.

The gun's ambidextrous safety is slim to enhance concealed carry. Grooves on the slide stop and magazine release keep things working in adverse conditions. An aluminum trigger offers a crisp reset, limited take-up and no overtravel. All in all, sharp edges are kept to a minimum on this EMP.

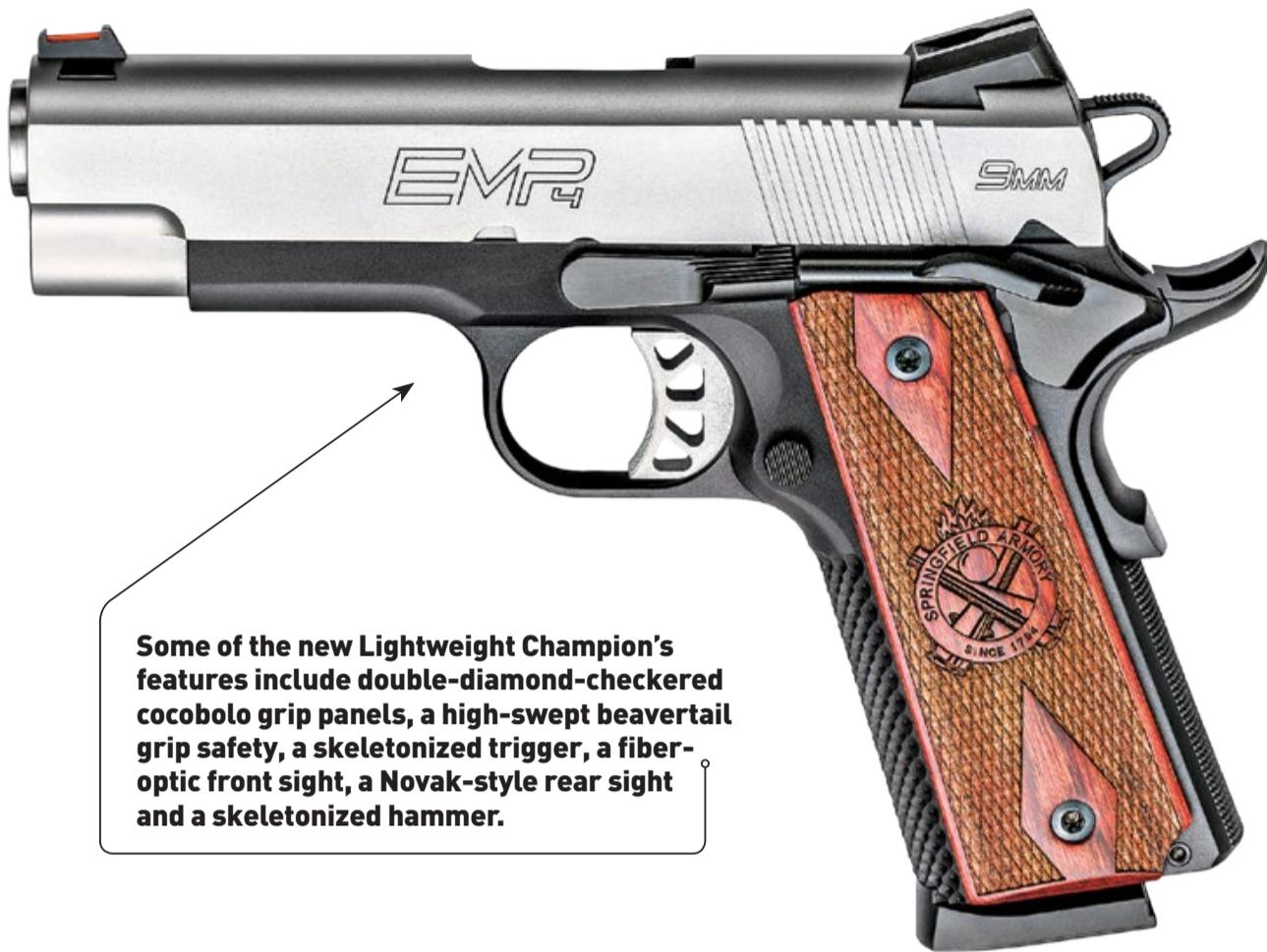
A forged stainless steel slide includes rear cocking serrations and a satin finish. It houses a 4-inch, stainless steel, match-grade fully supported and ramped barrel. The full-length guide rod uses a flat spring and reverse plug typical of bull barrels. The EMP features a fiber-optic front sight with a low profile rear with white dots. Its grips are made from cocobolo and include the Springfield Armory logo. The gun shipped in a hard case with three 10-round magazines, a holster, a magazine pouch, some extra fiber-optic rods and a takedown tool for the guide rod.

Gearing Up

Recent training with a .45 ACP pistol brought to my attention a need for a 9mm pistol with a 4-inch barrel. Both my 9mm 1911 pistols are all steel and full size, so something designed for everyday carry was preferred. The EMP uses a 4-inch barrel, making it shorter than a standard Commander (4.25 inches), and its overall length remains shorter than other 4-inch-barreled 1911s by 0.20 inches. It handles and points like any other 1911. It also fits into all my non-railed 1911 holsters without issue.

Most of my testing was completed using my Milt Sparks Nexus IWB holster and Alessi Bodyguard shoulder rig. When my back is doing well, the Nexus is my primary carry holster. It has held a dozen different 1911 pistols over the last couple years. When mated to a good belt, it is as comfortable as IWB carry gets. For travel, or when my back is acting up, the Alessi steps in. Moving the weight to my shoulders is comfortable for me, and a good shoulder rig is excellent when driving. I've used this rig for years to carry a number of full-sized 1911 pistols.

Initial testing consisted of just enough range time to ensure proper operation with some Barnes 115-grain TAC-XP ammunition. After 100 rounds, it never



Some of the new Lightweight Champion's features include double-diamond-checked cocobolo grip panels, a high-swept beavertail grip safety, a skeletonized trigger, a fiber-optic front sight, a Novak-style rear sight and a skeletonized hammer.

missed a beat and was POA/POI at 15 yards, which is about perfect. It carried great in most any 1911 holster I used, though my magazine pouches are a different story. Some of my old and worn leather magazine pouches were pretty loose, though my newer ones worked fine. After moving to Kydex magazine pouches, I found it to be about the same. For duty or strenuous operations, you will want to ensure a tighter fit. There are plenty of purpose-built magazine carriers for the EMP, so you should consider those to be your best choice. Until you round them up, a well-built leather pouch or adjustable Kydex 1911 pouch will work. The added length of the 10-round magazine meant they fit perfectly in the Alessi Bodyguard.

Carried over several days in both rigs, the EMP performed as expected, which is to say very well. It fits snug to the body in the IWB holster and was all but unnoticed in the shoulder rig. At 31 ounces, it is heavier than the standard EMP and about the same as an aluminum-framed 1911 of similar size. It's about as comfortable to carry as a 1911 gets.

Range Time

Given my travel schedule, most of it in my truck, I decided to get some vehicle training in. When not on the range or in the office, I am traveling between them. Traveling to media and training events comprises the rest of my time, so much is spent behind the wheel of my truck.

Working from both sides of the vehicle, the EMP was brought to bear on steel and cardboard placed at various points around the truck. Using the Nexus holster, it was pretty easy to get on target while shooting through the window, it just requires you take the time to work out the seatbelt placement. It's also a good idea to practice with gloves, hats, jackets or anything you may wear given the climate. Take things slow, working out how best to not cover yourself or anyone else in the truck. Make certain you start buckled up and work out how best to get that belt off and on target.

The EMP was easy to maneuver and operated without incident shooting around the mirror with the door open. My training positions were less than pristine, but there was no issue when operating the gun with a less than perfect grip. When using both off- and strong-hand grips on the gun, it worked perfectly. I experienced the same reliability during one-handed shooting. The EMP ejected brass confidently, with no strays bouncing off my head.

Using my shoulder rig with the EMP required a bit more thought. Shoulder holsters are comfortable for sure, just not always conducive to the safest gun handling. Especially within the confines of a vehicle you need to be careful not to cover your side, thigh or other body part. On the other hand, they are easy to get to. The EMP fit nicely in the holster and released properly and quickly. Magazine

PERFORMANCE

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY 4" LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION 9mm

LOAD	VELOCITY	ACCURACY
Barnes 115 TAC-XPB	1,123	1.25
Black Hills 115 +P	1,339	1.60
Speer 124 Gold Dot	1,138	1.55

BULLET WEIGHT MEASURED IN GRAINS, VELOCITY IN FPS BY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY IN INCHES FOR BE FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 25 YARDS.



changes are not fast by any means but can be worked out. Make sure you can reach them with your off hand for standard reloads. It's also a good idea to practice off-hand reloads using your strong hand to access the magazines (if they are on the right side). All testing using the shoulder rig was uneventful, with no malfunctions.

Accuracy with the EMP 4" was excellent, with my best group at 25 yards measuring just over 1.25 inches using the Barnes 115-grain TAC-XPB. Barnes' TAC-XPB is soft shooting and proves accurate in most anything I use it in. It's my go-to round for compacts, while the DoubleTap load that uses the same bullet goes in my larger 9mm pistols. While the EMP Lightweight Champion is a "compact" pistol by description, it is basically a Commander-sized pistol with the same barrel length as many duty guns. When shooting at 10 yards and in, it cut one ever-larger hole. It is easy to control, locks in the hand and is as accurate as any pistol not purposely designed for target work.

Springfield Armory's EMP 4" Lightweight Champion is ready out of the

box for concealed carry, off-duty use or even plainclothes operations. Any changes would be personal. My large hands prefer normal grips, which is an easy change. Fiber-optic sights are popular, just not my preferred setup, but the EMP uses Novak sight cuts, so swapping them out is easy. I ordered a Trijicon HD front and Heinie rear for this pistol just in case it sticks around.

Final Shots

My test pistol never missed a beat. There were no malfunctions, and since it may stay with me, it was run pretty hard. Several hundred rounds of rapid-fire drills using all types of ammunition did not cause an issue. It's accurate and lightweight with a nicely checkered frontstrap. The trigger is crisp and predictable, and having 10+ rounds of 9mm is a nice bonus. This gun really is about perfect for concealed carry if you're using a 1911-style pistol. If you are in the market for a 4- or 4.25-inch-barreled 1911 in 9mm, make sure you give the EMP Lightweight Champion a very close look. For more, visit springfield-armory.com or call 800-680-6866. 🔫

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REACH FOR



THE SCOPE

The compact CPX-2 is primed to deliver 10+1 rounds of 9mm day or night!



BY RICHARD JOHNSON

Protecting yourself is an extremely important undertaking. Doing it effectively on a tight budget can be very hard. Obtaining a firearm, holster, ammunition and training can all be expensive. However, there are some good gun and gear options on the market that can fit even modest budgets. One of the guns worth considering is the SCCY CPX-2.

A double-action-only (DAO) pistol chambered in 9mm, the gun retails for a little over \$300 and has an exceptional warranty. Due to the gun's popularity, there are a number of accessories available for it that make it an even more interesting choice for self-defense on a budget. With this in mind, I wanted take an honest look at the gun's suitability for self-defense and some of the accessories that can be paired with it. Is it possible to get a handgun, holster and even a laser for less than \$500 in today's market? As a matter of fact, yes.



The 9mm CPX-2 can fit a wide variety of hand sizes.

“I rapidly fired 100 FMJ rounds without a single problem. I then worked through 11 other loads, and the gun functioned perfectly.”



SCCY designed its compact CPX-2 pistol with several recoil-absorbing features, including a polymer frame with finger grooves and an innovative Re-Coil Cushion along the backstrap.

Handgun, Holster, Laser

Based in Daytona Beach, Florida, SCCY Industries manufactures a pair of compact 9mm handguns: the CPX-1 and CPX-2. The guns are nearly identical, with the sole exception being the CPX-1 has a manual safety mounted on the outside of the pistol. The CPX pistols are hammer-fired, double-action-only handguns with a long trigger pull that makes the safety lever superfluous.

SCCY builds the CPX-2 with a polymer frame. The rear of the frame has what SCCY calls a "Re-Coil Cushion." This section of the frame has oblong cuts into the polymer that presumably allow the rearmost portion of the grip to collapse

and absorb rearward force under recoil, somewhat like a crush zone on today's modern automobiles.

The CPX-2 has a 3.1-inch barrel and weighs only 15 ounces unloaded. While the width of the gun is a bit much for pocket carry, it does allow the magazines to hold 10 rounds each. Assuming you carry the second included magazine as a spare, that gives you a well of 21 rounds of your favorite hollow point from which to draw if faced with a deadly threat.

If you are planning on carrying the gun, the Alien Gear Cloak Tuck 3.0 is a very comfortable holster that you might want to take a look at. Affordably priced, I've found the inside-the-waistband rig is

SPECIFICATIONS

SCCY CPX-2

Caliber	9mm
Barrel	3.1 inches
OA Length	5.7 inches
Weight	15 ounces (empty)
Grips	Polymer
Sights	Three-dot
Action	DAO
Finish	Matte black slide, red frame
Capacity	10+1
MSRP	\$334



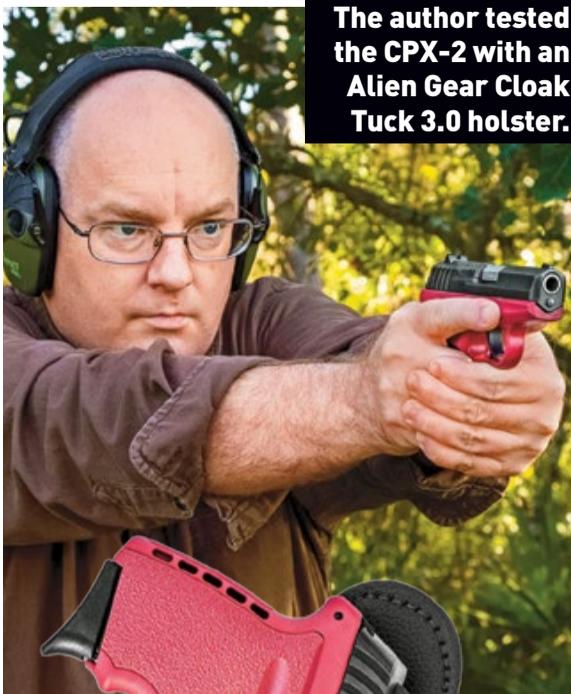
PERFORMANCE

SCCY CPX-2 9mm

LOAD	VELOCITY	ACCURACY
CCI Blazer Brass 115 FMJ	996	3.25
Winchester PDX1 Defender 124 +P JHP	1,030	2.37
Winchester Train & Defend 147 JHP	809	3.00

BULLET WEIGHT MEASURED IN GRAINS, VELOCITY IN FPS BY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY IN INCHES FOR BEST FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 7 YARDS.

equal to many carry holsters that cost significantly more money. The holster has a synthetic backer with a soft cushion that rides between the gun and body. It serves to drastically improve comfort and prevent body sweat from reaching the pistol. The belt clips can be adjusted to provide different ride heights and cants. Additionally, the synthetic shell can be adjusted to provide you with the exact amount of friction retention you desire. For less than \$45, you get the holster with a 30-day test drive



The author tested the CPX-2 with an Alien Gear Cloak Tuck 3.0 holster.



and a “forever warranty.”

As it ships, the CPX-2 comes with three-dot sights. The sights are large enough to see easily. If you are interested in attaching a laser to your CPX-2, the ArmaLaser TR10 pairs nicely with the gun for less than \$120 retail. The TR10 is a red or green aiming laser that attaches

“Assuming you carry the second included magazine as a spare, that gives you... 21 rounds of your favorite hollow point...”

to the triggerguard of the CPX-2. It has a pair of gold-plated contacts that activate the laser when the gun is grasped, eliminating the need for a mechanical switch. Windage and elevation adjustments can be easily made, and the ArmaLaser TR10 unit has both a pulsating mode and a master switch to prevent the unit from turning on when so desired.

Range Time

I wound up shooting two different CPX-2 pistols in this review. The first was returned after a systematic series of failures on the range. The second ran perfectly. I contacted SCCY about the problems with the first CPX-2. The company promptly sent me a shipping label and form that allowed me to detail the problems for the warranty department. Within a week of shipping the gun, I had a replacement pistol delivered.

I immediately took the gun back to the range. I rapidly fired 100 FMJ rounds without experiencing a single problem. I then worked through 11 other loads, and the gun functioned perfectly. I never found out what the diagnosis for the original gun was, but I know that the replacement was delivered promptly and worked exactly as it should.

I measured the trigger pull weight on the SCCY to be 8.75 pounds on an average of 10 pulls with my Lyman digital gauge. However, the pull seemed significantly heavier. The SCCY CPX-2 fills my medium-sized hands well, but the trigger reach is much too long for me. Only the tip of my trigger finger was able to properly address the trigger face, which may have contributed to the heavier feel of the trigger.

Additionally, the texture and edges on the trigger face are comparatively sharper than what might be found on other similar pistols. A slight rounding of the edges would go a long way to improve the feel of the trigger. I spoke with a local gun shop owner who sells many SCCY pistols. He told me that many of his customers like the guns, but complain about

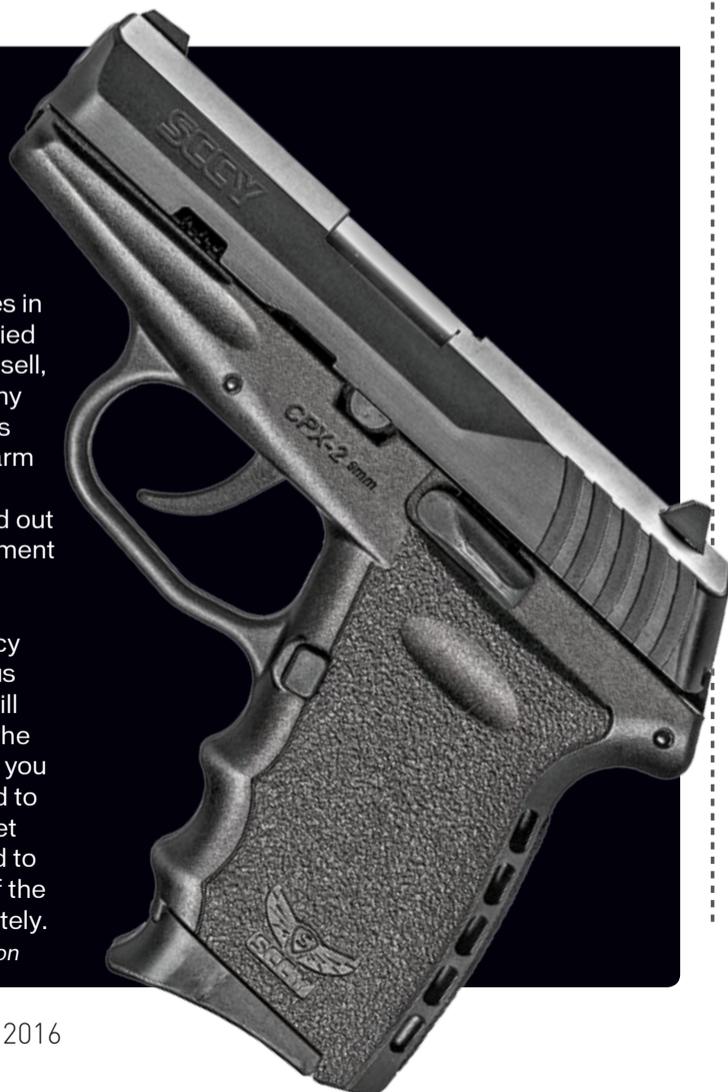
WARRANTY

SCCY-HIGH SERVICE

SCCY offers one of the best warranties in the industry today. Guns are warrantied for the lifetime of the firearm. Should you sell, trade or give the gun as a gift, the company will continue to stand behind the pistol. As such, you do not need to register the firearm and owner with the company.

What really makes the company stand out from the others is it will provide a replacement gun in the event yours is stolen or seized as evidence in a legitimate self-defense shooting. When a law enforcement agency investigates a shooting—even a righteous defensive use of a firearm—its officers will necessarily seize evidence for review by the prosecutor’s office. This includes the gun you used. SCCY recognizes that you still need to protect yourself and will make sure you get a new gun to do so. Should you ever need to avail yourself of this service, get a copy of the police report and contact SCCY immediately.

—Richard Johnson



The CPX-2 comes in a foam-lined case with a lock and an extra mag.



The Takeaway

Getting a gun and the needed accessories is only part of the self-defense equation. Getting good training is the second, and most important, aspect of personal protection. I strongly recommend that everyone seek out good training from a reputable instructor prior to ever carrying a firearm for self-defense. That said, you will still need a quality handgun. Does the CPX-2 fit the bill?

Like nearly everything else that you will buy in life, only you know if a particular gun will work for your needs. Although I had problems with the first gun I received, the second gun was perfect. Based on the feedback I have gotten from other SCCY owners, I daresay these guns have a good reputation for both reliability and service when things do go wrong. I believe that the CPX-2 provides an excellent value for self-defense. 🔫

the sharper edges on the trigger and the weight of the pull.

While the recoil was perfectly manageable, the gun does kick a bit as one might expect with a 15-ounce handgun. I was unable to tell if the Re-Coil Cushion provided any measurable benefit, though

my impression is that it does not. For my money, I'd rather the company eliminate this feature to provide a shorter trigger reach distance. That would improve my shooting experience substantially. People with long fingers may very well have a different view on the subject.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Charter Arms has been producing revolvers since 1964. One of the company's newer models is the Pitbull, and the 9mm version (shown) doesn't need moon clips to fire the autoloader ammo properly.



WHEELGUN SENTRIES

Sean Utley Photo



Charter Arms has been around since 1964. The very first Charter Arms product was a five-shot, double-action, snub-nose revolver in .38 Special called the Undercover. It was conceived by American engineers who wanted a new and different handgun design while keeping with the traditions established in New England's "Gun Valley." At the time, this revolver was very different from the wheelguns produced by Colt and Smith & Wesson.

For starters, the frame was a solid piece of steel, which provided added strength. Unlike conventional revolvers, there was no sideplate; access to the action was through the bottom of the frame. All internal parts were attached by screws or pins, plus all the springs were coil springs. The grip frame/trigger-guard was a one-piece unit made of aluminum alloy, which kept the weight of the gun down to 16 ounces and which permitted Charter Arms to advertise it as the lightest steel-framed revolver on the market. By comparison, the S&W Chief's Special weighed 19 ounces and was roughly the same size.

Better Backup

Colt and S&W centerfire revolvers at the time had their firing pins riveted in the hammer nose. Charter Arms, however, fitted the firing pin of the Undercover in the frame. It was spring-loaded and made of tough beryllium copper, making it almost unbreakable. The action itself had fewer major moving parts than its competitors, plus it had a shorter hammer throw, making the lock time faster.

Both the trigger and the hammer spur were wider for easier user manipulation.

The Undercover also used a hammer-block, transfer-bar safety system invented by Charter that only allowed the gun to fire when the trigger was fully to the rear. The cylinder locked in three different places instead of just two—at the breech face and on both sides of the frame using the ejector rod collar. It was also the only American revolver that didn't have a cylinder stop in the frame to hold the cylinder in place when it was open for loading. Finally, the machined barrel had eight-groove rifling instead of six-groove, which improved the bullet seal and resulted in higher velocities and better accuracy potential.

Initially, the Undercover was sold with a polished blue finish and smooth walnut grips that held a silver Charter Arms medallion. The Undercover was also made available with a nickel finish and a 3-inch barrel as time went on. In the 1965 edition of *Gun Digest*, S&W's Chief Special was listed at \$65, a Colt Detective Special was \$69.50 and the Charter Arms Undercover was quoted as \$55. Fifty years ago, a \$10 savings could make a big difference. Quality-wise, the Charter was right up there with other American handgun makers.

I had an Undercover that I bought in the mid-1970s, and as I recall the fit and finish was on par with a square-butt Chief that I also owned at the time. I used this Undercover as a backup gun. Stoked with 110-grain JHP .38 Special loads, it rode in an ankle holster on my left leg. Back in the day, some police

Charter Arms' ultra-reliable revolvers blend classic style with modern enhancements.

BY WILLIAM BELL



Charter Arms .38 Special Undercover



Charter Arms .44 Special Boomer



Charter Arms .38 Special Goldfinger



Charter Arms .44 Special Bulldog

departments issued female officers revolvers chambered for the milder-shooting .32 S&W Long cartridge. To capture some of that market, Charter Arms introduced the Undercoverette. This was basically the same gun as the Undercover, but it had a six-shot cylinder bored to take the .32 S&W Long and .32 S&W cartridges.

One of Charter Arms' most well known revolvers is the Bulldog in .44 Special. This wheelgun, introduced in 1973, was designed to be a big-bore concealment piece, and it quickly became very popular. It looked much like the Undercover on steroids and had a 3-inch, tapered barrel, a five-shot cylinder and oversized, checkered walnut grips. Finish options on the Bulldog were polished blue or nickel. The .44 Bulldog came along about the same time as the *Dirty Harry* movie craze, and as a result lots of cops that could were carrying .44 Mag revolvers like the Charter .44 Bulldog as backup and off-duty guns.

The decade of the 1970s also saw Charter Arms introduce the Pathfinder revolver. Like the Undercover, it was based on a small frame and had a six-shot cylinder chambered for the .22 LR cartridge. Initially, it had a 3-inch, tapered barrel, but unlike the aforementioned Charter revolvers, it had a fully adjustable rear sight. It could be had with standard walnut service grips or oversized grips, and eventually a 6-inch-barreled version was offered. Later, it was chambered for .22 WMR, and for a time a .22 LR conversion cylinder was also available.

Snubbie Upgrades

Today there are 13 models of Charter Arms revolvers, including the Undercover, Undercover Lite, Undercoverette, Bulldog, Pathfinder, Chic Lady, Southpaw, Pitbull, Mag Pug, Police Undercover, Police Bulldog, On Duty and Off Duty. Within these lines there are some 75 versions or variations.

All but a few of Charter Arms' designs now have barrels with a shrouded ejector rod housing. This protects the ejector rod and adds just a little weight out front to improve balance. The barrels also have a rib on top with an integral front ramp sight. With a couple of exceptions, the Charter revolvers also now have oversized rubber combat grips. They are black neoprene with finger grooves and checkered panels on the sides. The concealed-hammer Off Duty has slightly smaller black rubber grips. All



Several Charter Arms revolvers are available with Crimson Trace Lasergrips as well as adjustable sights for enhanced precision.

Ichiro Nagata Photo

“...the Pitbull...is chambered for either 9mm, .40 S&W or .45 ACP—the same rounds used in...autoloading pistols.”

the Charter revolvers have a universal grip frame and all factory-made grips are interchangeable. Another option is to have a factory-fitted Crimson Trace Lasergrip installed, though they can also be ordered separately.

One big revolution in the Charter Arms lineup came about in 2007 with the introduction of the Pink Lady revolver. Charter perfected a method to color-anodize its aluminum alloy frames, and since then the company's Lite-framed revolvers have come out in a number of colors, including red, shamrock green, Santa Fe turquoise, lavender, gold, Tiffany blue, black and green tiger stripe, leopard spots and even an Old Glory American flag finish. Another option is stainless steel.

Some models have stainless frames, barrels and cylinders, while the Lite versions may have stainless barrels, cranes and cylinders only. While some Charter snubbies have bobbed hammer spurs and DAO actions, others, like the On

Duty, have a partially shrouded hammer. The Off Duty revolver, meanwhile, offers a fully concealed hammer for a truly snag-free design.

24/7 Reliability

The standard configuration for Charter Arms' revolvers is a 2-inch barrel and fixed sights. Larger Bulldog-frame models will often have a 2.2-inch barrel or even a 2.5-inch barrel. There's a fixed-sight Police Bulldog variant with a 4.2-inch barrel and a Target variant of the Pathfinder and Bulldog .44 that has a 4.2-inch barrel and a fully adjustable rear sight. One of the most unique Charter models is the Pitbull, which was designed primarily as a law enforcement backup or off-duty gun. It is chambered for either 9mm, .40 S&W or .45 ACP—the same rounds used in the autoloading pistols carried by most of today's LEOs.

Revolvers using rimless or semi-rimmed cartridges are not really new, but most have had to use clips that at-



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Charter Arms offers many revolvers with various sights, grips and frame styles.



Ichiro Nagata Photo

“Charter...produces quality firearms that are accurate...and affordable.”

tach to the cartridge base to allow proper extraction/ejection; the Pitbull does not. Its patented design has a dual coil spring in the extractor, which allows easy insertion and ejection of individual cartridges. As it can be loaded with loose rounds, cartridges can be removed from a magazine and chambered in the cylinder of the Pitbull in the event the primary handgun is lost or no longer functions.

An exclusive offering by Charter Arms is a variation called the Southpaw. This is the world's first reverse-engineered revolver made especially for left-handed shooters. It is based on the standard DA/SA Lite (12 ounces) in .38 Special and is identical to the Undercover Lite with the exception that the cylinder-release latch is on the right side of the frame and, when pressed forward, the cylinder rotates out to the right on its crane. This makes loading cartridges and the extraction/ejection of empty cases more natural for that 10 percent of the population who use their left hand.

The Southpaw model has been adapted to the shooter rather than the other way around, streamlining the shooter's response in a high-stress self-defense situation. There are only two versions available at this time, one with a blue finish and a Pink Lady with a pink-anodized frame and satin-nickel-finished steel parts.

There are a number of interesting variations that haven't been mentioned as yet, but deserve a sentence or two.

Although the Pathfinder originally had a 3-inch barrel and adjustable sights, most of the versions today have a 2-inch barrel and fixed sights. The guns are either chambered for .22 LR or .22 Mag, and only the Target models have adjustable sights and 4.2-inch barrels.

There are also interesting variations of the .44 Bulldog, including a Bulldog Classic that looks like the original model first made in 1973. There's a specially engraved and finished 50th Anniversary edition of the Bulldog Classic and even a "Heller Commemorative" version with a satin stainless finish and special laser etching that celebrates the landmark Supreme Court decision in *Heller vs. District of Columbia*, a clear victory for our Second Amendment rights.

There's also a shrouded-hammer On Duty variation and a Target model with adjustable sights and a 4.2-inch barrel. The five-shot Mag Pug is built on the Bulldog frame and is chambered for the .357 Mag cartridge. With police and security use in mind, Charter makes two six-shot .38 Special models based on the stainless steel Bulldog frame. The Police Bulldog has a 4.2-inch barrel, while the Police Undercover has a 2.2-inch barrel. Both have fixed sights.

Of course, there are more revolvers chambered for the .38 Special cartridge than any other caliber in the Charter Arms lineup. While early chamberings in the line included the .22 LR, .22 Mag and .44 Special, today's lineup includes .32

H&R Mag, .357 Mag, 9mm, .40 S&W and .45 ACP chamberings.

EDC Gear

Charter Arms also offers speedloaders for its revolvers. The website shows 5-Star brand speedloaders in .357 Mag, .44 Special and .38 Special. These aluminum speedloaders are generally made in "natural" and black anodized colors, however the .38 Special speedloaders can be had in many of the same colors as the Undercover Lite, such as pink, red or green. HKS-brand speedloaders can also be ordered and come in various common calibers, including .22 LR, .38 Special/.357 Magnum and .44 Special.

Charter Arms' online store offers a selection of revolver grips like oversized rubber combat grips, compact rubber grips as well as smooth walnut service-size and oversized walnut grips. If you want to dress up your revolver, there are white and pink "pearlite" grips or rubber combat grips in pink or purple. The store also has black and white synthetic "hip grips" that hold your revolver in your waistband without a holster.

Speaking of holsters, Charter also offers a respectable selection of leather, Kydex and nylon concealment-type rigs. There are belt holsters, paddle-back styles, inside-the-waistband and even pocket holsters available. The company also offers durable locking handgun cases in three different styles.

Charter Arms produces quality firearms that are accurate, reliable and affordable. One of my favorite concealment handguns is the .44 Bulldog Classic. It has a tapered, 3-inch barrel and an exposed ejector rod that can be pulled forward to unlatch the cylinder if for some reason you can't use the cylinder latch. Its 20-ounce weight, oversized, checkered walnut grips and blued finish represent to me what a classic revolver should really be.

In a recent phone call with Charter Arms Customer Service Manager Dee Ecker, I was told that in 2016, Charter Arms will be introducing a nitride finish on a number of its revolvers. This finish looks like a high-polished blue, yet it is scratch resistant and acts to preserve the rifling in the bore. Another new addition will be the Boomer, a short-barrel, vented .44 Bulldog meant as a belly-gun for close-quarters work. I can't wait to get my hands on these new guns for testing in the near future. For more information, visit charterarms.com or call 877-769-4867. 🔫



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2016 Carry Options

Bigfoot Gun Belts are available in 14- or 18-ounce leather with a spring-steel core for maximum support.



Whether you want a cutting-edge Kydex rig, a classic leather holster or something in between, there's something here for everyone. **BY** ROBERT A. SADOWSKI

Choosing a reliable holster that fits your needs and body type is one of the most important decisions you can make regarding everyday carry. From injection-molded Kydex to classic leather and everything in between, the 2016 holster market has a wide variety of choices to help keep you armed and ready to defend yourself at all times. Read on to see how you can enhance your everyday carry today!

Alien Gear Cloak Tuck 3.0

This inside-the-waistband holster was designed for comfort and concealment as it features a lightweight, soft neoprene fabric, ballistic nylon and a stainless spring-steel core. This spring-steel core delivers more retention and durability to the holster base, allowing for years of hard use without breakage. This, coupled with a new layer of ballistic nylon, pro-

vides more strength and support to the Cloak Tuck 3.0. The company has also evolved its surface material into an engineered thermo-elastomer "Alien Skin" texture, which enhances holster retention, drag and durability. (208-215-2046; aliengearholsters.com)

Bigfoot Gun Belt

Available in brown or black, and in 14- and 18-ounce double English bridle leather, these belts are available with a spring-steel core to deliver the maximum support needed for all-day concealed carry. The premium roller buckle is nickel plated, allowing for buckling without scratching the belt. All Bigfoot Gun Belts accommodate standard 1.5-inch belt loops (gunbelts.com; 208-209-7321)

BlackHawk Tech-Grip

The Tech-Grip is an IWB holster con-

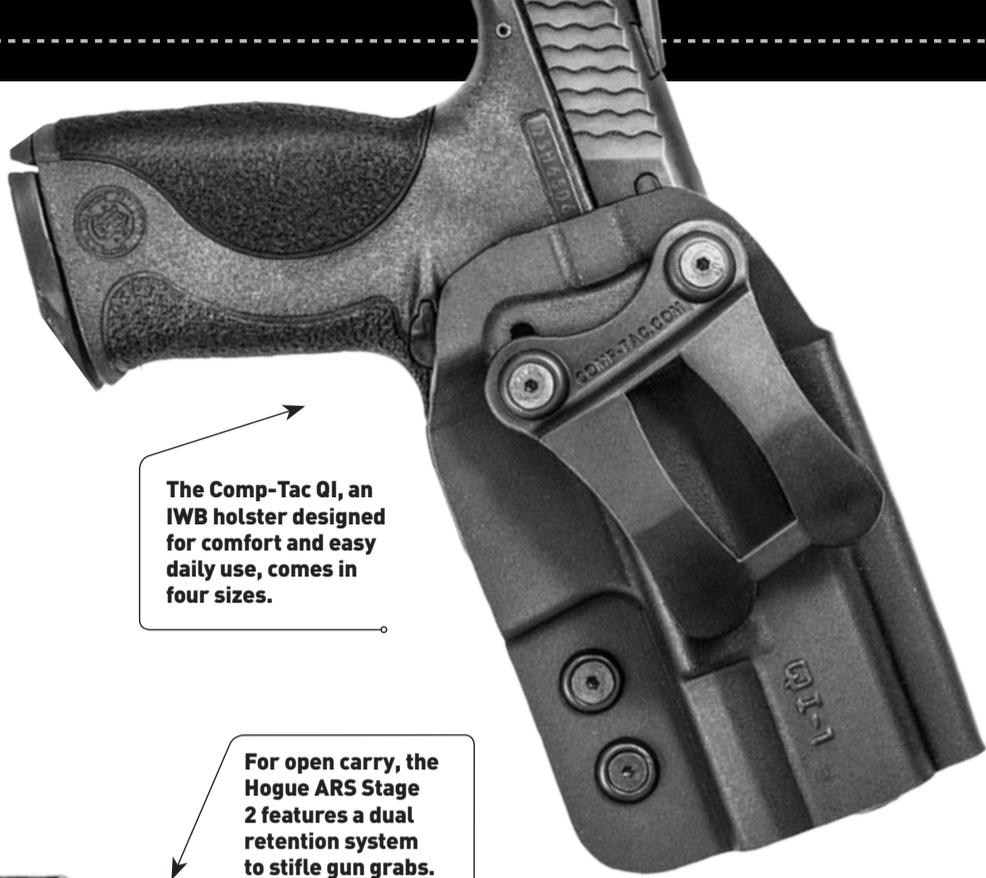
structed with an outer shell that will hold fast to most materials so there is no need for belt loops or clips. The holster's interior offers a fast and smooth draw. A layer of closed-cell foam between the external surface material and internal lining protects your firearm from sweat and moisture. There are no retention straps to undo during your draw, and the outside is as smooth as possible for maximum comfort against your skin. Numerous sizes to fit subcompact, compact and full-sized pistols are available. (blackhawk.com; 800-379-1732)

BlackHawk GripBreak

The GripBreak is an OWB holster with a built-in locking retention system. Made to fit 1.5-inch belt loops, the holster offers security through a fast and quick thumb release that allows users to maintain a normal grip and draw. Constructed of in-



The CrossBreed DropSlide keeps your firearm tight against your body with optional configurations to accommodate reflex sights.



The Comp-Tac Q1, an IWB holster designed for comfort and easy daily use, comes in four sizes.



For open carry, the Hogue ARS Stage 2 features a dual retention system to stifle gun grabs.



High Threat Concealment's EVO is a modular Boltaron holster capable of

Constructed from a flexible polymer, the BlackHawk A.R.C. is designed for all-day appendix carry.



jection-molded polymer and a 1,000-denier Cordura nylon shell, the GripBreak is compatible with Smith & Wesson M&P and Glock pistols. (blackhawk.com; 800-379-1732)

BlackHawk Leather Tuckable Pancake Holster

Constructed with an injection-molded polymer shell and a premium leather backing, the Leather Tuckable Pancake holster allows a user to wear the holster in IWB or OWB configurations. This holster combines the benefits of three holsters in one, giving you the choice between inside-the-waistband, tuck-

able or belt-mounted wear. No matter how you choose to wear it, each design will contour to your body for exceptional comfort and concealment. (blackhawk.com; 800-379-1732)

BlackHawk A.R.C.

The A.R.C. (Appendix Reversible Carry) holster is an inside-the-waistband holster designed for appendix carry. Able to accommodate pistols with rear-mounted red-dot sights, the A.R.C. is constructed of a soft, durable, injection-molded polymer, making it comfortable for all-day carry. The design is also ambidextrous, so it will accommodate left- and right-

handed users. Each A.R.C. includes two cant and ride height adjustment belt clips for 1.5- and 1.75-inch belts. (blackhawk.com; 800-379-1732)

BlackHawk Instructor's Belt

The 1.5-inch-wide Instructor's Belt from BlackHawk is built with a polyethylene spine to help bear the weight of belt holsters and other gear. It is made of nylon webbing that has a tensile strength of 5,000 pounds and features a black or MultiCam finish. Whether you wear it with jeans or khakis, for casual or duty carry, this belt is designed to offer extreme support. (blackhawk.com; 800-379-1732)



The High Threat Concealment EVO can be used in several positions.



Gatco BlakGuard



High Threat Concealment EVO



DeSantic Quick-Chek Scabbard

Blade-Tech Signature OWB

Blade-Tech uses a proprietary blend of super tough polymers to construct the Signature OWB holster. The holster allows for a fast draw and smooth reholstering and uses Blade-Tech's locking triggerguard. The Signature OWB also offers users three-position cant adjustment, and it is made to accommodate many firearms designs, including those from Beretta, Glock, Springfield Armory as well as 1911s. (blade-tech.com; 877-331-5793)

Comp-Tac QH

The QH is a modular hybrid holster that comes in four sizes to accommodate most pistol models. These holsters are available for right-side carry only and are made with a funneled Kydex shell for a smooth draw and a leather backing for extended comfort. Polymer mounting clips allow for ride height and cant adjustment. (comp-tac.com; 866-441-9157)

Comp-Tac QI

The all-Kydex QI is an IWB holster designed for comfort and easy daily use. It comes in four sizes to fit multiple pistol makes, including Glocks and 1911s. The QI covers the pistol during carry and has smooth edges to maximize comfort. The holster's Sight Enabled design accommodates up to 0.5-inch-tall night sights, suppressor

sights and rear-mounted optics. (comp-tac.com; 866-441-9157)

Clinger Holsters Atom

Made from durable carbon-fiber Kydex, the Atom holster has a small footprint but delivers big results with its adjustable belt loop to customize ride height, its tuckability for deep concealment and its ambidextrous configuration. Clinger Holsters also offers a lifetime warranty for the holster should it ever need repair or replacement. (clingerholsters.com; 479-650-0379)

Clinger Holsters Stingray

The IWB Stingray holster is made from Kydex and designed for either behind-the-hip or appendix carry with a 0-, 15-, 30-degree or flush-fit cant. It features a full sweat shield and rust-free hardware to ensure a long service life for both the holster and your firearm's finish. Right- and left-handed configurations of the Stingray are available for many gun models, including those from Colt, Glock, Kahr, Kimber, HK, Ruger, Smith & Wesson and Sig Sauer. (479-650-0379; clingerholsters.com)

CrossBreed Modular Belly Band

CrossBreed partnered with Rob Pincus, the owner of I.C.E. Firearm Training Services, to design the second-generation Belly Band. This new system uses an additional length of elastic band that extends over the Modular Holster to provide better support for smaller pistols as well as wider and heavier pistols. In addition to improved support, the Belly Band now incorporates a sewn magazine or flashlight pouch and an enclosed, horizontal accessory pouch for carrying a cell phone, a wallet or similar items. An optional

Modular Magazine Carrier is available to add to the band. (crossbreedholsters.com; 888-732-5011)

CrossBreed DropSlide

The CrossBreed DropSlide combines features of the company's popular SnapSlide and SuperSlide designs. It is designed to keep your firearm tight against your body, and the leather backer has been reconfigured to allow for a lower riding holster. With optional configurations that can accommodate slide-mounted electronic sights, the DropSlide comes standard with 1.75-inch belt slots that work with 1.25- and 1.5-inch belts. (crossbreedholsters.com; 888-732-5011)

DeSantis Slim-Tuk

The Slim-Tuk is a new ambidextrous IWB holster fashioned from Kydex. One of the most unique features about this IWB holster is that it uses the tuckable 360 C-Clip, which affords the wearer unlimited mounting options. The hardware can easily be reversed to change from right to left. The Slim-Tuk is precision molded from a sturdy Kydex sheet and features a rugged nylon clip. (desantisholster.com; 800-424-1236)

DeSantis Quick-Chek

Made from premium saddle leather and rugged polymer, the patented Quick-Chek Scabbard is a self-locking concealment holster. For enhanced security, the holster features both inboard and outboard Redi-Lok technology that must be used simultaneously, which is rapidly accomplished in one fluid motion during the user's draw. (desantisholster.com; 800-424-1236)

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The Clinger Atom is made from carbon-fiber Kydex with adjustable belt loops.

carry, the SafeCarry Ranger uses a two-part, non-mechanical Kydex retention system on the triggerguard and one on the rear of the gun. The shooter presses the thumb retention/release towards their body to draw the pistol. With a little practice, the thumb-release movement and the gun draw are done in tandem and become very natural. **(512-516-1477; doubleclickholsters.com)**

FAB Defense Scorpis Level 1 & Level 2

The injection-molded Scorpis holster is now available for 1911-platform pistols in Level 1 and Level 2 variants. Level 1 holsters feature a two-point, spring-based retention system for a fast draw yet secure carry. Level 2 uses a spring-and-pressure-based retention system for secure carry and protection against a potential weapon grab. **(themakogroup.com; 631-843-0490)**

Front Line Defense Molded Polymer

Available in either paddle or IWB style, the budget-friendly Molded Polymer holsters from Front Line Defense offer comfortable, high-strength and flexible holsters for a variety of popular pistol models. Secure retention is achieved by the adjustable tension of the molded polymer. Belt loops are black leather and can be snapped to or removed from the belt without removing the belt from the pants. **(idfholsters.com; 631-843-0630)**

Galco BlakGuard

The new BlakGuard combines premium steerhide and injection-molded plastic into one ultra-reliable holster. Features include twin adjustable tension units

that allow quick adjustment for ease of draw, while a neutral cant offers the most natural wrist-locked draw. A “trench” style sight rail easily accommodates most suppressor sights, and this generously beveled sight rail also allows an easy and efficient return to the holster. Secured by Velcro, a tunnel-style belt loop opens and closes to allow for swift on/off. **(galcogunleather.com; 800-874-2526)**

Hogue ARS Stage 2

Now available for Sig Sauer P226 pistols, the ARS (Auto Retention System) Stage 2 holster features a unique rotating hood that gives the pistol greater protection while automatically retracting upon draw. The holster can also easily convert from a belt slide to paddle configuration. The ARS is made of injection-molded polymer for durability and weather resistance. **(hogueinc.com; 800-438-4747)**

High Threat Concealment EVO

The new EVO holster from High Threat Concealment is a modular holster capable of being used for OWB, IWB and appendix carry. The EVO is made of Boltaron, a high-impact thermoplastic resistant to extreme temperatures and abuse. Available for Glock and Sig pistols, each holster comes with a Foldover Belt Clip for IWB carry and a set of closed belt loops for OWB carry. Combine the Foldover Belt Clip with one of the closed loops to switch to appendix carry. **(highthreatconcealment.com; 757-750-0300)**

Kaos Concealment Fusion

The Kydex Fusion holster from Kaos Concealment is specifically designed to carry a pistol in the

appendix position. It is comfortable in the 3-, 4-, and 5-o'clock positions and is completely ambidextrous with high guards to protect bare skin. Available for Glock, Springfield Armory and Smith & Wesson M&P pistols, the holster's loop struts are adjustable for ride height and belt size. **(661-496-3707; kaosconcealment.com)**

Miss Concealed Hidden Heat Lace

The Hidden Heat Lace belly band features a handgun pocket that allows for a wide variety of handgun sizes, from subcompact to full-sized pistols, plus a cell phone pocket and two magazine pockets. It is comfortable thanks to its feminine elastic lace that has an ample stretch, allowing a gun to be carried in any position on the body. Additional padding and polyurethane laminate (PUL) create a moisture-proof barrier between your gun and your body. **(missconcealed.com)**

Nexbelt Tactical

The Tactical series by Nexbelt features one-size-fit-all belts in either nylon or leather. The belts are cut to size and will fit up to a 52-inch pants size. Each belt adjusts in 0.25-inch increments versus the 1-inch increments of traditional belts. The belt backing is made of water-resistant nylon for enhanced wear and sweat protection. **(nexbelt.com; 909-758-0079)**

Packin' Neat “The Boss”

“The Boss” is an organizer that turns any purse, bag or briefcase into a concealed-carry bag. This insert features a holster and five integrated pockets that correctly position a pistol for fast access. The Boss is made from durable nylon to keep your firearm in position for a clean draw when seconds count! **(packinneat.com; 239-887-8004)**

Ragsdale Compression Holster

Ragsdale holsters are constructed on a wide platform in order to distribute the weight of the gun over more of the belt, which helps prevent belt sag. Their





The Ulticlip is 10 times stronger than your holster's standard clip.

holsters are handcrafted, hand dyed and then sealed with a natural wax to insure a lifetime of use. Their leather Compression holster is available in black or saddle brown. (352-895-2534; ragsdaleholsters.com)

Raven Concealment Eidolon

At the core of the Eidolon system is the holster shell. The shell is precisely fitted to the weapon on the inside and is designed to be smooth on the outside and work with the body, belt and clothing in any carry position to maximize comfort and concealment. At the same time, the shell provides attachment points for a host of accessories to allow the user to tailor the system for their specific carry needs. The holster shells feature an innovative adjustable retention feature that isolates the tension on only the front of the triggerguard. This provides for an extremely clean feel when drawing and holstering with minimal adjustment. (rcsgear.com)

Sneaky Pete Camouflage Nylon Holster

Sneaky Pete's line of holsters offers the ability to hide in plain sight as its rigs attach easily to the user's belt and resemble a cell phone pouch. If the basic black leather or nylon holsters are too buttoned down for you, the company has unveiled a new camouflage pattern version that is made of high-quality ballistic nylon that evokes a very different fashion sense. (sneakypeteholsters.com)

Tagua 4 In 1

The new 4 In 1 Inside The Pant holster from Tagua Gunleather offers four carry positions—inside the waistband, belt, small of back and crossdraw—making it versatile and comfortable to wear. With features like line stitching, ultra-premium leather and a new reinforced clip,

the 4 In 1 adapts to your carry method and gives you the versatility you need to carry concealed 24/7. (taguagunleather.com; 866-638-2482)

Techna Clip

The minimalist Techna Clip is now available for Smith & Wesson Shield pistols. This simple spring-steel clip installs quickly to the pistol with no modifications and allows a user to discreetly and securely carry a pistol in a boot, pocket, waistband or small-of-the-back position. Just clip it and go! (technaclip.com; 801-2216-4790)

Ulticlip

The Ulticlip is designed to deliver over 10 times the retention of traditional holster clips while increasing your gun's concealability. Simply replace the retention clip on your holster clip with Ulticlip, clip the Ulticlip to the waistband of your pants and a belt will completely hide the Ulticlip and the fact that you are carrying a concealed firearm. (ulticlip.com; 239-400-2547)

UnderTech UnderCover Concealment Leggings

UnderTech UnderCover Concealment Leggings feature two holsters, one in the front in a traditional appendix position and one in the back for a traditional kidney position. This means you can wear leggings with whatever and for whatever activity you are doing and stay armed against a deadly attack. They are currently available in mid-calf lengths only. (undertechundercover.com; 800-601-8273)

Urban Carry Holster

The Urban Carry holster offers quick access to your firearm. Simply pull the flap and the handle of your firearm is easily exposed. With only the magnetic



The Raven Concealment System Eidolon is smooth on the outside for comfort.

flap exposed the only people who will know that you are carrying in an urban environment are the other people with an Urban Carry. The holster rides about an inch below the waistline which puts your firearm parallel to your leg. Available in black or brown. (844-446-5783; ubrancarryholsters.com)

Vega Codura Holsters

Vega Codura holsters are made of Cordura that is thermally molded to the shape of the pistol and designed to be worn inside the pants. A large polymer-coated steel belt clip keeps the holster secure. A Quick Release model features a thumb break for added retention safety. (vegaholster.com)

Versacarry Quick Slide Micro

Versacarry's new Quick Slide Micro Series of OWB holsters combines a holster and a spare magazine pouch. Constructed of heavy-duty English bridle leather, these holsters are finely stitched and handcrafted in Texas. They are also specifically designed to clear the magazine-release button to ensure no accidental magazine dumps occur. Available in black or brown, these holsters weigh an impressively light 0.15 pounds. (versacarry.com; 855-278-9678)

MICRO

TO THE

MAX



Remington's rugged, ultra-slim RM380 pushes the limits for pocket firepower.



BY JORGE AMSELLE
PHOTOS BY
ALEX LANDEEN

Remington is many things. It is the oldest firearms company to still be operating in America, and it is the biggest producer of rifles and shotguns in America. It is not traditionally known as a handgun company. This is a bit ironic as handgun manufacturing is not an alien concept to Remington, which made derringers and revolvers used during and after the Civil War, including the New Model Army cap-and-ball revolver. Remington also made the semi-automatic Model 51 in the years between World War I and World War II.

In recent years, Remington made a conscious decision to re-enter the handgun market in full force, starting with the 1911 R1. Its latest handgun, however, goes in the opposite direction. Instead of a full-sized .45 ACP, Remington has introduced the RM380, a semi-automatic pocket pistol chambered in .380 ACP with a 6+1 capacity. Although it's designed to compete with other pocket pistols in this same chambering, the Remington RM380 offers so much more.

SPECIFICATIONS	
REMINGTON RM380	
Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.9 inches
OA Length	5.27 inches
Weight	12.2 ounces (empty)
Grip	Glass-filled nylon
Sights	Fixed
Action	DAO
Finish	Matte black
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$436

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark blue button-down shirt, is sitting in the driver's seat of a car. She is holding a silver handgun in her right hand, which is placed inside a white leather handbag. Her left hand is resting on her lap, wearing a gold ring and a gold bracelet. The car's interior, including the steering wheel and rearview mirror, is visible in the background.

**“The Remington RM380
is not the smallest
or the lightest... .380 ACP
pocket pistol you can buy,
but it is the most durable
and exceptionally well made.”**

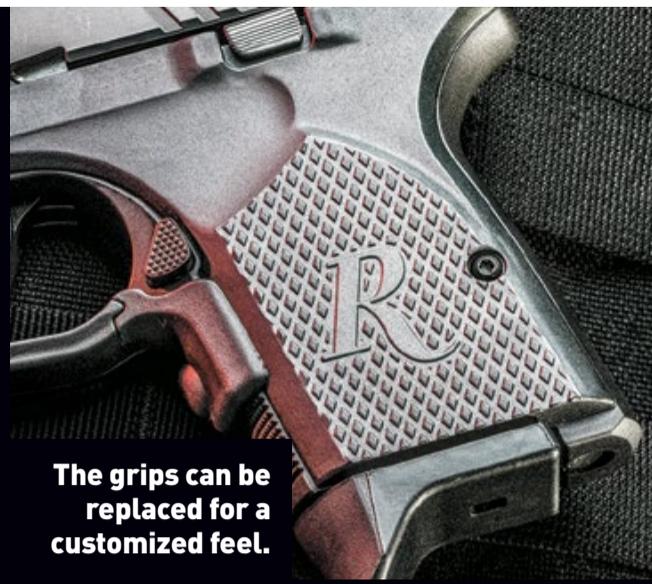
With its 6+1 capacity and snag-free design the RM380 is ideal for deep-cover carry. Shown with a Crimson Trace Laserguard.

MICRO TO THE MAX

The all-metal RM380 offers exceptional durability.



The grips can be replaced for a customized feel.



Note the RM380's ambidextrous magazine release.



The 2.9-inch barrel features an enlarged cone design.



Deep-Cover .380

This double-action-only, hammer-fired pistol features tilt-barrel, locked-breech operation and all-metal construction. There's no polymer here except for the grip panels, which can be removed and replaced. Remington was also very careful not to roll this pistol out until it had been thoroughly vetted. Indeed, the company's own extensive testing found that the RM380 has a useful, no-repair-needed lifespan that is thousands of rounds past any of its competitors. Every pistol is fired with a full magazine before it leaves the factory and random production guns are put through extensive torture testing.

I shot an early prototype of this pistol,



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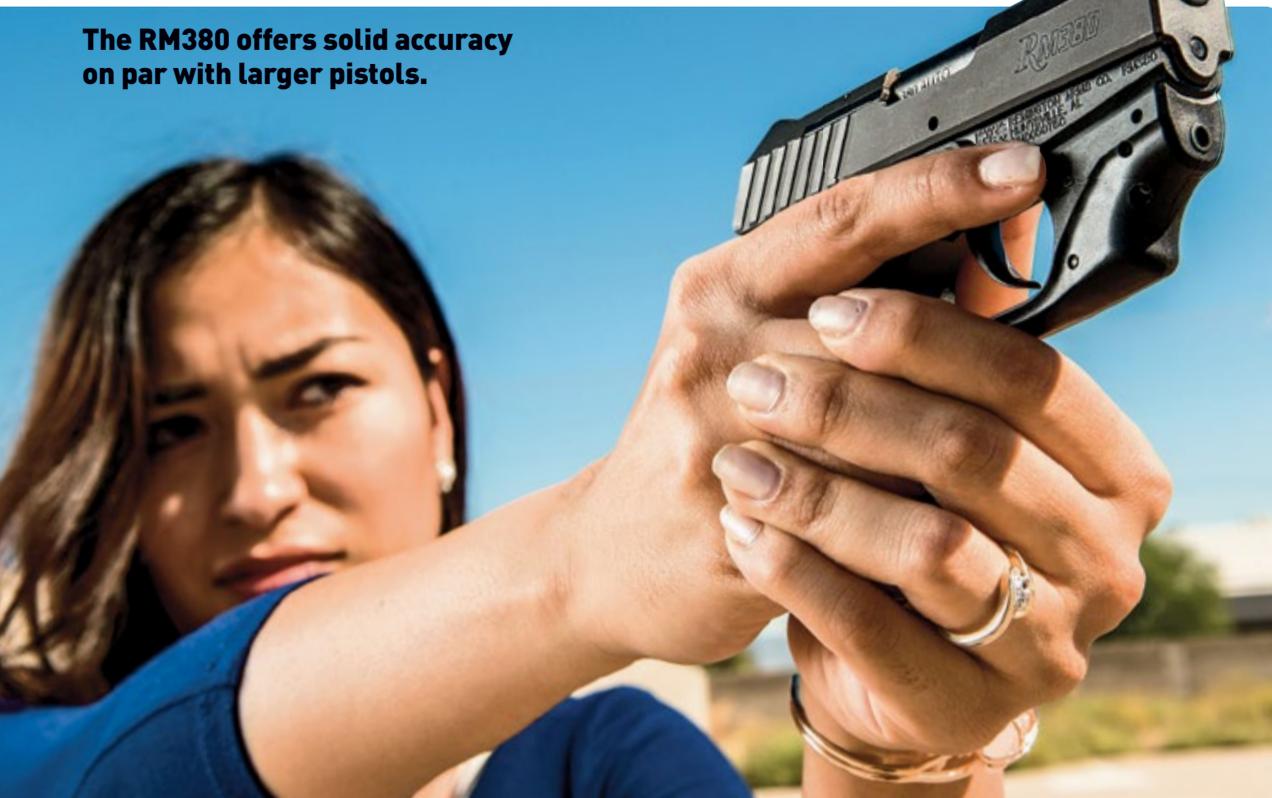
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The RM380 offers solid accuracy on par with larger pistols.



“This small pistol does an excellent job of absorbing recoil...”

firing over 100 rounds on a gun that many others were also shooting. It was reliable and accurate with one problem: The right side grip panel had loosened with use, and this was causing a trigger linkage blockage, preventing the gun from firing. Remington has addressed this issue in its final production guns by adding a third grip screw, and I tested the production gun again, with hundreds of rounds fired by myself and others, without any further issues whatsoever.

The steel slide features actual sights machined into it. These will not come loose and are very low profile and snag-free. The downside is that replacing the sights will require machining the slide. I would add a dab of white paint to the front sight for improved visibility, but that is just my preference. The slide features an external extractor and wide serrations for easy manipulations even in inclement conditions. The 2.9-inch, 410 stainless steel barrel is blackened like the slide and features an enlarged cone design for a tight lockup between barrel and slide, improving accuracy.

The frame is made from 7075 aluminum, which keeps the pistol very lightweight but also helps extend the gun's durability and longevity. The frontstrap of the frame features aggressive checkering for a very firm hold, although I would have added checkering to the backstrap as well. The triggerguard is undercut to allow for a higher grip, providing better

control of the pistol. The higher grip also brings the bore more in line with the hand, helping to reduce perceived recoil and muzzle flip.

Remington has also optimized the grip angle for improved comfort and a more natural point of aim. The small but distinct beavertail at the back helps prevent “slide bite” and allows for a more instinctive grip. The polymer grip panels are also checkered for an improved grip, and customizable aftermarket grips will also be available.

Another pleasing feature is the slide stop on the left side of the frame. This securely locks the slide to the rear on an empty magazine or manually. It is rather small and difficult to use as a slide release, but not impossible if so desired. Sure to please southpaws, however, will be the fully ambidextrous, push-button, frame-mounted magazine release. The small, triangle-shaped release sits below the thickness of the grip panels so there is no danger of the magazine being inadvertently released, say, during pocket carry. The magazine release is also aggressively checkered, easy to use and allows the steel magazines to drop free.

The steel hammer is bobbed flat with the rear of the slide for a very smooth and snag-free draw. It should be noted that there are no external safeties on the RM380 and there is no internal drop safety either, except for a passive block within the slide. However, according to

LOCKED ON TARGET



The problem with extremely small pocket pistols has typically been small sights, or even the absence of them completely. The new Remington RM380 does have sights, and on a clear day with blue skies they work great. Sadly, bad things have a tendency to happen in the gloom of night and often by surprise. This is where lasers really shine.

Remington worked closely with manufacturers like Crimson Trace and holster makers like Recluse to ensure that valuable accessories would be available when the RM380 began shipping to stores and consumers. The Crimson Trace LG-479 Laserguard is a red laser designed to fit underneath the dust cover of the Remington RM380. The Instinctive Activation switch is located right at the front of the grip, so when the pistol is grasped to draw it the laser comes on.

The laser is fully adjustable for windage and elevation but comes factory set for point of aim. The one on my test pistol needed no adjustment. The laser is extremely small and adds virtually no bulk to the pistol at all. You will need a holster designed to accommodate the pistol with the laser however.

LASER FOCUS: In my experience, shooting with red lasers in daylight conditions, they are most effective within 20 feet. In low-light conditions, the red laser shines like a beacon on your target at much further distances. In fact, at 50 feet, the laser produces a half-inch-wide dot. This helps immensely in low-light conditions, especially under stress. The fact that the activation is instinctive also helps in high-anxiety situations, when you might forget to engage a manually activated unit.

The unit's battery life is four hours of constant use, so unless you live in a very sketchy neighborhood, this should last for a long time. Crimson Trace also provides a full three-year warranty for the LG-479. (crimsontrace.com; 800-442-2406)

— Jorge Amselle



Remington, the RM380 has been tested using SAAMI Jar-Off, Drop and Rotation test criteria and passed, so it is safe to carry with a live round in the chamber.

There is also a loaded-chamber indicator at the top rear of the barrel that can be seen from the ejection port. That said, this is a double-action-only pistol and the steel trigger has a long pull that measured nearly 10 pounds on my trigger gauge. It also requires a full release to reset, so fire it like you would a revolver. The hammer-fired system also allows for a second-strike capability in case of a recalcitrant primer.

Modern Upgrades

Internally, the RM380 features a dual recoil spring system around a steel recoil guide rod. This system works very well and helps to tame recoil while also making the slide easy to operate, something those with weaker hands will appreciate. The clever dual spring design also extends the need for replacement to 2,500 rounds. Another welcome feature not always seen with pocket pistols is that Remington includes a spare magazine with the gun, and this spare features a good-sized finger extension that allows almost a full grip on the gun.

People who know their guns will notice more than a passing similarity between the RM380 and the Rohrbaugh R9. That is not a coincidence. Remington bought the rights to this pistol and based the RM380 on its design. However, the similarities end there.

Remington made significant changes, most notably the chambering in .380 ACP instead of 9mm. If you look at the top of the RM380 magazines you can see a spacer as these are, or were, 9mm magazines in the original design. Remington moved the magazine release from the heel of the grip to the back of the trigger-guard, added the slide lock and changed the recoil system to make it much more durable. Best of all, Remington can produce this pistol for less than half the cost of a Rohrbaugh.

On The Range

On the range, the RM380 I received for testing performed just as well as the production samples I had previously shot. I did have a slight hiccup at the start with the flush-fit magazine. When fully loaded with six rounds, the slide would lock open after the fifth round fired with another round still in the magazine. This odd malfunction occurred with the first three full magazines I fired but never again

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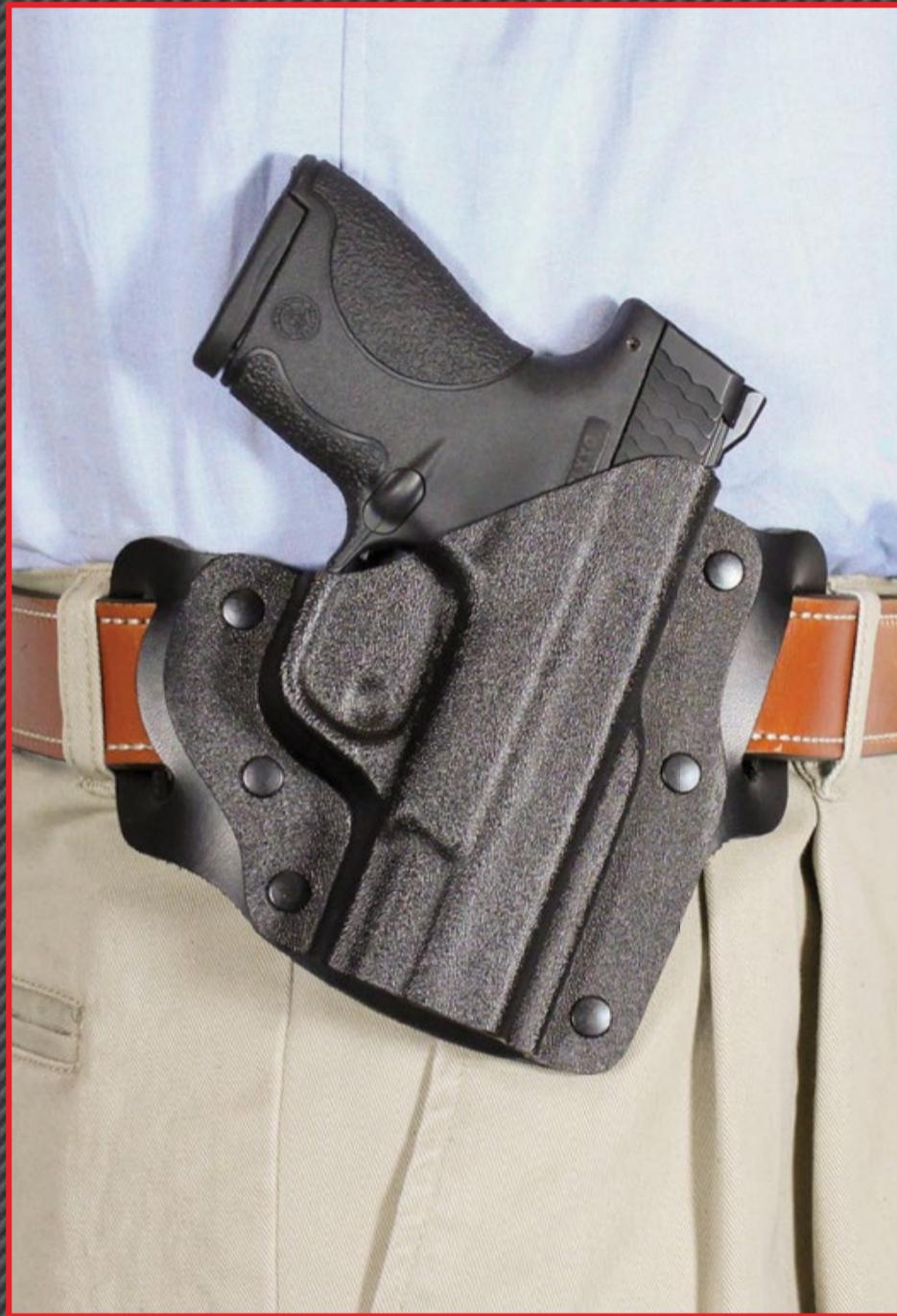
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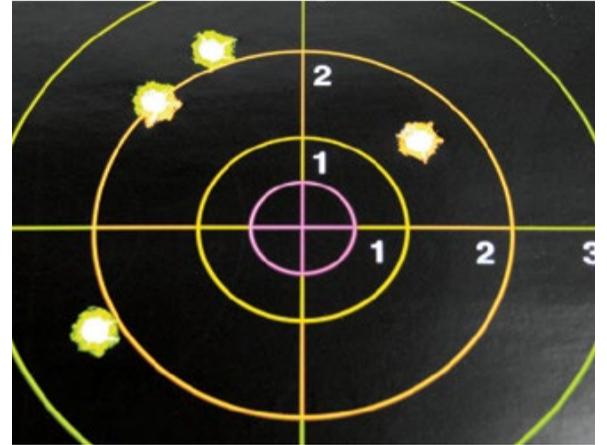
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PERFORMANCE

REMINGTON RM380 .380 ACP

LOAD	VELOCITY	ACCURACY
Barnes 80 TAC-XPD	947	2.86
Hornady 90 FTX	917	1.98
Sig Sauer 90 JHP	927	3.44

BULLET WEIGHT MEASURED IN GRAINS, VELOCITY IN FPS BY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY IN INCHES FOR BEST FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 7 YARDS.



after that, and it did not occur at all with the spare finger-extension magazine. I chalk it up to a slight break-in period, but if there is any doubt in your magazine's reliability, make sure to replace it.

This small pistol does an excellent job of absorbing recoil and only just starts to get slightly uncomfortable after 100 rounds or so.

It should also be noted that Remington specifically warns against using any +P or +P+ ammunition. The long trigger pull takes a bit of getting used to for those of us now accustomed to striker-fired guns, but it is smooth and consistent with a clean break.

For accuracy testing, I fired off hand at 7 yards. Better accuracy results could certainly have been achieved firing from a stable benchrest, but that is not how this pistol is meant to be used. It is a defensive pistol, and I tested it as such.

Group sizes across three different types of hollow-point defensive ammunition averaged about 3.5 inches at that distance, which is certainly good enough for any defensive use.

The Remington RM380 is not the smallest or the lightest or the cheapest .380 ACP pocket pistol you can buy, but it is the most durable and exceptionally well made. Remington planned the roll out of this gun well indeed, and already a Crimson Trace red laser unit is available as well as several holster offerings, including those from CrossBreed and Recluse, among others. For more information, visit remington.com or call 800-243-9700. 🔫



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Sig Sauer's Custom Shop created the P229C SAS for deep-cover carry.

CUSTOM 357 KNOCKOUT

Sig Sauer's Custom Shop unleashes the refined, smooth-shooting P229C.

BY WILLIAM BELL

The Sig Sauer P229 has been one of Sig's most popular models for a number of years, and not only does it have a big following in law enforcement, but also with legally armed citizens who are looking for "top drawer" ordnance for self-defense use. Now the Sig Sauer Custom Shop has taken the P229 and shortened the barrel length from 3.9 to 3.5 inches, resulting in a pistol with an overall length of 6.7 inches, which translates into a pistol that's more compact and easier to draw from a holster.

The basic P229 frame has been retained in the variant, which allows the use of standard P229 magazines, so there is no reduction in cartridge capacity. This new P229C SAS is available in .357 SIG and .40 S&W calibers. Soon an X-Change system will allow it to be converted to 9mm. With a standard magazine, you get 12+1 rounds of firepower in two very effective chamberings.

Custom Upgrades

A very noticeable feature of the P229C SAS is the lack of an accessory rail on the dust cover, a concession to concealability. Note also that the pistol has been given Sig's Anti-Snag treatment, meaning all the sharp edges have been rounded to help prevent the pistol catching on one's



The P229C SAS proved easy to carry and draw.

holster or clothing.

The pistol's G10 grips, with their "alligator skin" checkered panels, are combined with a checkered frontstrap to provide a good gripping surface, dry or wet.

The width of the gun has also been reduced from 1.5 to 1.3 inches due to the thinner grip panels. The whole package has a non-reflective matte-black finish; the slide has been treated with durable Nitron. It comes standard with fixed, low-profile SIGLITE night sights.

A look at the left side of the P229C SAS indicates that it is a traditional double-action/single-action design (DA/SA), which means the first shot is fired

SPECIFICATIONS

SIG SAUER P229C SAS

Caliber	.357 SIG
Barrel	3.5 inches
OA Length	6.7 inches
Weight	31 ounces (empty)
Grips	G10
Sights	SIGLITE night
Action	DA/SA
Finish	Nitron
Capacity	12+1
MSRP	\$1,142

DA and the cycling of the slide causes subsequent shots to be fired in SA mode. This hammer-fired pistol has an exposed spur for cocking and a lever situated between the slide release catch and the disassembly latch, which is used to safely lower the cocked hammer. The DA pull I'll have to guesstimate at about 15 pounds and stacks towards the end of the trigger's travel. SA pull is 6.5 pounds on average with around 0.25 inches of take-up for safety, plus there's a touch of creep and overtravel. Another standard Custom Shop feature is the Short Reset Trigger (SRT), which reduces the trigger reset travel by 60 percent.

There are no manual or magazine

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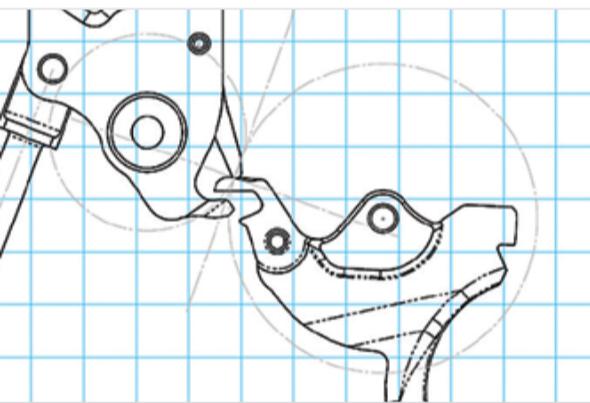


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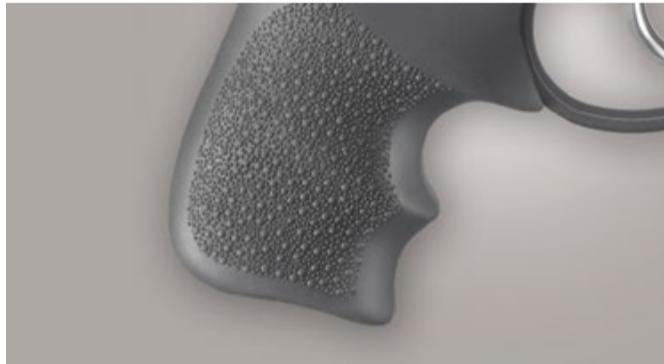


High-Strength Stainless Steel Cylinder

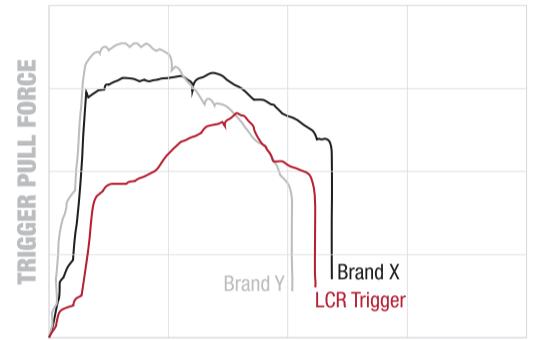
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Trigger Pull Comparison

- 22 LR
- 22 WMR
- 38 SPL +P
- 9MM LUGER
- 327 FED MAG
- 357 MAG



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The P229C SAS handled very well at the range.



“I found the P229C SAS was easy to control in rapid fire...due to the excellent ergonomics of the grip frame, the G10 grips and the frontstrap checkering.”

safeties on the P229C SAS; it has the usual Sig internal safeties that prevent the gun from being fired unless the trigger is intentionally pulled. The magazine catch is checkered, located to the rear of the triggerguard and easily operated by the user's thumb. Another difference between the standard P229 and this version is the lack of a "hook" on the front-portion of the triggerguard. The steel

magazine is matte finished with witness holes for five, 10 and 12 cartridges. The follower is black polymer, with an easily removal floorplate that fits flush with the bottom of the grip frame.

Slight extensions on the G10 grips are beveled in the area of the magazine well to assist in faster insertion. Basic disassembly for cleaning is simple and enumerated in the owner's manual. Fit

and finish on my test gun was up to the usual top-drawer level one expects on Sig Sauer pistols. Each pistol comes in a black plastic case, with a compartmented foam liner, an extra magazine, a safety padlock, a manual and a sample of Lucas Oil Extreme Duty gun lubricant.

On Target

The SIG P229C SAS I requested to test is chambered for the .357 SIG cartridge. This powerful round almost duplicates .357 Mag performance in loadings with similar bullet weights, and in this model it gives you 13 rounds instead of the typical six or eight in a revolver. For my evaluation, I selected .357 SIG ammunition from CorBon with a 115-grain JHP bullet, a Federal Premium load with a 125-grain JHP and a Hornady Custom load with a 147-grain XTP HP bullet. All of these bullets are traditional hollow points with serrated jackets extending to the tip of the hollow nose.

I set up bullseye targets at a distance of 15 yards and fired three 5-shot groups with each brand of the test ammunition. At 31 ounces loaded, the compact pistol had noticeable recoil and muzzle flip, but the sights were easy to see and I was pleased with the accuracy level. My best

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group measured 1.08 inches with the Federal cartridges. Second place went to the CorBon load with a 1.89-inch cluster. The overall average for all three of the .357 SIG loads out of the P229C SAS was just 2.39 inches and point of aim/point of impact were well regulated.

This being a new version of the P229, there was no specific holster I could locate for it (yet), so I chose my Uncle Mike's Super Belt Slide. This comfortable and versatile rig has an adjustable thumb-break safety strap that can be lengthened or shortened in the protective Strap Traps using a factory-furnished

"pancake" design and triple belt-slots, it will adapt to fit almost any medium-sized autoloader I've tried in it. I paired the holster with an open-top Fobus single magazine carrier that is fashioned from sturdy Kydex and has a paddle back for easy on/off applications.

Tactical Test

With holster and magazine carrier affixed onto my belt, I loaded my Sig P229C SAS magazines with a mix of the .357 SIG test cartridges, six rounds in each. Why six rounds you ask? I decided that for the SIG P229C SAS practical shooting evaluation

but realized that not everyone could attend a "personal instruction" defensive shooting course. As a certified NRA firearms instructor with a military background, Jay Wurts wanted to find a way to teach CNS (central nervous system) defensive targeting to enable the fabled "one-shot stop" (OSS).

Wurt's CNS-OSS instruction kit comes with three realistic threat targets and three CNS targets. The threat target is mated with the CNS target; one atop the other so that after the shooting drill the user can see if his/her shots directed at the threat target actually hit inside the three CNS zones for incapacitation.

For my SIG P229C SAS practical evaluation, I chose the "Knife Threat Target" and performed a modified version of Drill 1. This simulates a knife-armed attacker approaching head-on in a stealthy manner. I had the Threat target and CNS target stapled one atop the other and I placed it 3 yards downrange. I made some verbal commands to my "bad guy," then drew my SIG pistol and fired six rounds—two were fired at the face/neck (Zone 1) and the rest to the thoracic area (Zones 2 and 3). I then moved to 6 yards and fired six more rounds in the same manner.

Returning to the 3 yard line, I drew

"...the Sig Sauer Custom Shop has shortened the barrel length from 3.9 to 3.5 inches, which translates into a pistol that's more compact and easier to draw..."

tool. The holster is made of black Kodra nylon or Mirage nylon (like mine) that looks like fine leather but is more durable. The extra-thin laminate conforms with body contours, providing a flattened profile for superb concealment. With its

I was going to use a new target system I'd been introduced to recently called the CNS-OSS Target Kit. It was developed by Circle the Wagons Training in Scottsdale, Arizona. Owner and Director Jay Wurts runs this self-protection training school,

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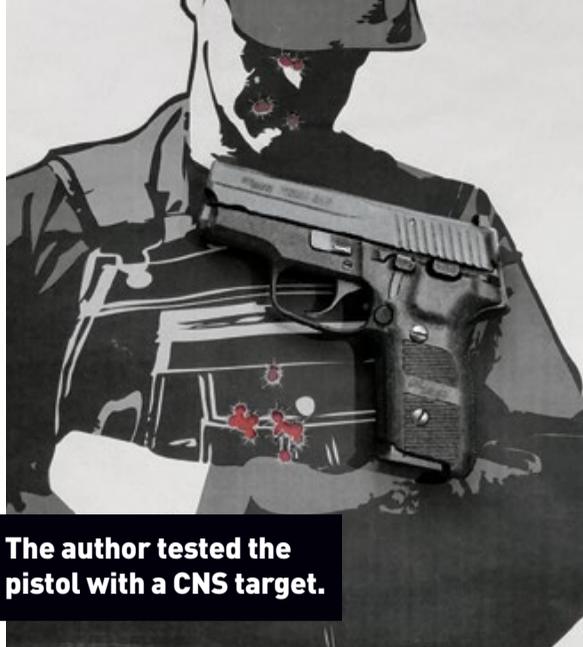
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The author tested the pistol with a CNS target.

▶ **PERFORMANCE**

SIG SAUER P229C SAS .357 SIG

LOAD	VELOCITY	ACCURACY
CorBon 115 JHP	1,445	1.89
Federal Premium 125 JHP	1,367	1.08
Hornady Custom 147 XTP HP	1,157	2.64

BULLET WEIGHT MEASURED IN GRAINS, VELOCITY IN FPS BY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY IN INCHES FOR BEST FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 7 YARDS.

and fired a series of three double-taps, starting each string from the holster. The instructions have the shooter firing at the CNS target uncovered at times, but I shot the entire 18 rounds with the Threat target covering the CNS target. I ended up with four of six shots in Zone 1 and just five of 12 in Zone 3. So half my shots were inside incapacitating zones.

Final Shots

I found the P229C SAS was easy to control in rapid fire. This was primarily due to the excellent ergonomics of the grip frame, the G10 grips and the frontstrap checking. I had zero malfunctions all day and did not experience the DA-to-SA transition problem some shooters gripe about. The gun's magazines dropped free when ejected and the white "dot" surrounding the tritium capsule in the SIGLITE sights made sight acquisition a snap.

The only thing I had to consciously watch was holstering before I lowered the hammer. This does take some practice to build habit and muscle memory. That's one good reason for a bit of a stiff trigger pull, to help prevent the user shooting his/her leg while inadvertently holstering a cocked pistol. I encountered no difficulty in drawing the pistol from or replacing it in the Uncle Mike's holster. On the whole, I found the performance level of the Sig Sauer P229C SAS outstanding. For more information, visit sigsauer.com or call 866-345-6744.

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21

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BY ROBERT A. SADOWSKI

A much as semi-automatics are popular, old-school revolvers, especially snub-nose revolvers, are proven defense tools that have lasted the test of time. Shortening the barrel of full-sized revolvers to make them more compact and carry friendly has been happening in gunsmith shops since revolvers were first produced. By the 1950s, Colt and Smith & Wesson were specifically designing revolvers for law enforcement and civilian self-defense. These revolvers, which featured barrels as short 1.5 and 2 inches, smaller grips and fixed sights, soon became known as “snub-nose” revolvers.

While many misinformed shooters out there would have us believe that the revolver is an antiquated weapon, today revolver manufacturers are pushing the limits on snub-nose revolver designs, components and mechanisms to make them lighter, more accurate, safer and more user friendly. Here are 21 snub-nose revolvers currently on the market to consider for everyday carry.

The snub-nose revolver has evolved to include better ergonomics, weight-saving materials, and smooth, snag-free designs meant specifically for concealed carry. The new Kimber K6s (shown) holds six .357 Mag rounds.



Photos Courtesy Manufacturers



CHARTER ARMS BOOMER

Chambered in powerful .44 Special, the aptly named Boomer has been stripped down to the basics for deep concealed carry. The 2-inch barrel has been ported to reduce felt recoil. When fired, the ports are designed to limit muzzle flip. The gun also comes without sights, just a simple grooved topstrap. With no sights or hammer spur to snag on clothing, the Boomer can be drawn from under clothing without fear of snagging. (charterfirearms.com; 877-769-4867)

Specifications

Caliber ▶ .44 Special
Barrel ▶ 2 inches
OA Length ▶ 6.75 inches
Weight ▶ 18 ounces (empty)
Grip ▶ Rubber
Sights ▶ Grooved topstrap
Action ▶ DAO
Finish ▶ Matte stainless
Capacity ▶ 5
MSRP ▶ \$422



CHARTER ARMS CHIC LADY

The Chic Lady is built on the Charter Arms Undercover Lite platform, and it sport a distinctive pink anodized finish on the frame and a high-polish on its barrel and cylinder. It weighs only 12 ounces and has a five-round capacity in .38 Special. This revolver may look glammed up, but it is a serious self-defense tool with real stopping power. (charterfirearms.com; 877-769-4867)

Specifications

Caliber ▶ .38 Special
Barrel ▶ 2 inches
OA Length ▶ 6.75 inches
Weight ▶ 12 ounces (empty)
Grip ▶ Rubber
Sights ▶ Fixed
Action ▶ DA/SA
Finish ▶ Anodized pink/high polish
Capacity ▶ 5
MSRP ▶ \$473



CHARTER ARMS OFF DUTY

At 12 ounces unloaded, the Off Duty is one of the lightest five-shot revolvers available. It features a compact rubber boot grip that provides better control when unleashing .38 Special +P loads. The frame is constructed of aluminum while the barrel and cylinder are stainless steel. The matte black frame and high-polish stainless steel barrel and cylinder make this Off Duty model a handsome EDC snubbie. (charterfirearms.com; 877-769-4867)

Specifications

Caliber ▶ .38 Special +P
Barrel ▶ 2 inches
OA Length ▶ 6.4 inches
Weight ▶ 12 ounces (empty)
Grip ▶ Rubber
Sights ▶ Fixed
Action ▶ DAO
Finish ▶ Matte black, stainless
Capacity ▶ 5
MSRP ▶ \$404



CHARTER ARMS BULLDOG

The Charter Arms Bulldog is known for its compact size and powerful .44 Special chambering. The five-shot Bulldog weighs 21 ounces and uses a one-piece frame for strength. Even though the .44 Special is a potent cartridge, the felt recoil it generates is tolerable, especially with the gun's rubber grips, and it is accurate for defense work. The front ramp sight and notched groove in the topstrap offer a good sight picture. (203-922-1652; charterfirearms.com)

Specifications

Caliber ▶ .44 Special
Barrel ▶ 2.5 inches
OA Length ▶ 7.4 inches
Weight ▶ 21 ounces (empty)
Grip ▶ Rubber
Sights ▶ Fixed
Action ▶ DA/SA
Finish ▶ Matte stainless
Capacity ▶ 5
MSRP ▶ \$422



CHARTER ARMS PITBULL

Charter Arms chambers the Pitbull in .45 ACP. The design uses a dual coil spring assembly located in the extractor, which allows for the insertion and retention of a .45 ACP rimless cartridge in each chamber without the use of moon clips. This patented retention system allows the shooter to eject spent cartridges and immediately reload. (charterfirearms.com; 203-922-1652)

Specifications

Caliber ▶ .45 ACP
Barrel ▶ 2.5 inches
OA Length ▶ 7.4 inches
Weight ▶ 22 ounces (empty)
Grip ▶ Rubber
Sights ▶ Fixed
Action ▶ DA/SA
Finish ▶ Matte stainless
Capacity ▶ 5
MSRP ▶ \$489



CHIAPPA RHINO 200DS

The Rhino 200DS offers great concealability because of its unusual profile. The flat cylinder allows for maximum concealed comfort since the revolver is so thin. The Rhino is also unique due to the position of its barrel, which is lower than on a traditional revolver design. The repositioned barrel allows the Rhino to produce less felt recoil because its bore axis is closer to the shooter's grip. (chiappafirearms.com)

Specifications

Caliber ▶ .38 Special/.357 Magnum
Barrel ▶ 2 inches
OA Length ▶ 6.5 inches
Weight ▶ 24 ounces (empty)
Grip ▶ Rubber
Sights ▶ Fixed
Action ▶ DA/SA
Finish ▶ Matte black
Capacity ▶ 6
MSRP ▶ \$1,069



EAA WINDICATOR

Made in Germany, the Windicator is a rugged and dependable revolver chambered in .357 Magnum. Offering a six-round capacity, it is built on an alloy steel frame and features a 2-inch, vent-rib barrel. The full rubber grip helps take the bite out of shooting hot .357 Magnum loads, enhancing user comfort during long range sessions. (eaacorp.com; 321-639-4842)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special/.357 Magnum
- Barrel ▶ 2 inches
- OA Length ▶ 7 inches
- Weight ▶ 30.4 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DA/SA
- Finish ▶ Matte black
- Capacity ▶ 6
- MSRP ▶ \$343



KIMBER K6s

New for 2016, the K6s is a six-shot, double-action-only snubbie chambered in .357 Magnum. According to Kimber, the K6s has the smallest-diameter cylinder of any six-shot revolver. This means the revolver is thin and more easily carried in an IWB holster. It is also the lightest six-shot .357 Magnum revolver according to Kimber. Constructed of stainless steel with a smooth satin finish, the K6s revolver features a replaceable front sight, an ergonomic rubber grip and 9.5- to 10.5-pound trigger pull. (kimberamerica.com; 888-243-4522)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special/.357 Magnum
- Barrel ▶ 2 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.62 inches
- Weight ▶ 23 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DAO
- Finish ▶ Stainless
- Capacity ▶ 6
- MSRP ▶ \$899



ROSSI MODEL R46202

Rossi builds its medium-frame .357 Magnum revolvers with a forged steel frame for enhanced strength and durability. With a 2-inch barrel, this snub nose is very concealable and offers a six-round capacity of .357 Magnum. The full rubber grips have finger grooves and a pebbled finish for a positive grip in any environment. (rossiusa.com; 800-948-8029)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special/.357 Magnum
- Barrel ▶ 2 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.5 inches
- Weight ▶ 26 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DA/SA
- Finish ▶ Stainless
- Capacity ▶ 6
- MSRP ▶ \$349



RUGER SP101

The SP101 is Ruger's traditional snub nose built on a one-piece stainless frame. It is a no-nonsense revolver with a bobbed hammer and a DAO trigger. The bobbed hammer better ensures a snag-free draw. Cushioned rubber grips cover the entire grip frame so felt recoil—even with hot .357 Magnum loads—is less, making the revolver comfortable to shoot over long periods of time on the range for training. (ruger.com)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .357 Magnum
- Barrel ▶ 2.25 inches
- OA Length ▶ 7.2 inches
- Weight ▶ 26 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DAO
- Finish ▶ Satin stainless
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$719



RUGER SUPER REDHAWK ALASKAN

Personal protection takes on a different meaning when you live deep in the backcountry. Rural living can mean bears, and a small-caliber revolver might be nothing more than an irritant to 800 pounds of claws, teeth and fur. The Super Redhawk Alaskan is a massive snub nose made to be easily carried and used when a big gun is called for. The powerful .454 Casull model has enough juice to tackle a bear, and during target practice it can be loaded with milder .45 Long Colt cartridges. (ruger.com)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .454 Casull
- Barrel ▶ 2.5 inches
- OA Length ▶ 7.62 inches
- Weight ▶ 44 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Hogue Tamer Monogrip
- Sights ▶ Adjustable
- Action ▶ DA/SA
- Finish ▶ Satin stainless
- Capacity ▶ 6
- MSRP ▶ \$1,189



RUGER LCR

The LCR completely changed what shooters thought they knew about snub-nose revolvers. Constructed from polymers, alloys and steel, the LCR is lightweight yet chambered in cartridges ranging from the .22 LR to .357 Magnum. The latest LCR is chambered in .327 Federal Magnum, a round that bested the old-school H&R Magnum and approaches energy that rivals the .357 Magnum. And the .327 Federal Magnum LCR holds six shots, while a .357 Magnum variant of the same size only holds five. (ruger.com)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .327 Federal Magnum
- Barrel ▶ 1.87 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.5 inches
- Weight ▶ 17 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Hogue Tamer Monogrip
- Sights ▶ Front ramp, rear notch
- Action ▶ DAO
- Finish ▶ Matte black
- Capacity ▶ 6
- MSRP ▶ \$669

“A much as semi-automatics are popular, old-school revolvers, especially snub-nose revolvers, are proven defense tools that have lasted the test of time.”



SMITH & WESSON MODEL 36 CHIEF'S SPECIAL

The Model 36 Chief's Special is Smith & Wesson's classic snub-nose revolver design. The original was introduced in 1950, and S&W has brought it back as part of its Classics series. The Model 36 features a deep blued finish on the carbon steel frame and cylinder as well as checkered wooden grips. These revolvers are still in use with many law enforcement officers due to their reliability and concealability. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)

Specifications

Caliber ▶ .38 Special +P
Barrel ▶ 1.875 inches
OA Length ▶ 6.94 inches
Weight ▶ 19.5 ounces (empty)
Grip ▶ Wood
Sights ▶ Fixed
Action ▶ DA/SA
Finish ▶ Blued
Capacity ▶ 5
MSRP ▶ \$749

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SMITH & WESSON M&P BODYGUARD 38

S&W seamlessly combined a grip-activated laser and a J-Frame revolver in the M&P Bodyguard 38. Built with a one-piece aluminum alloy frame, the Bodyguard features a Crimson Trace laser as well as iron sights. This revolver is well suited for left- or right-handed shooters since the cylinder release is ambidextrous. The barrel and cylinder are made of stainless steel. The revolver's ergonomic grip and smooth trigger pull make for more positive control. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special +P
- Barrel ▶ 1.9 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.6 inches
- Weight ▶ 14.36 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Synthetic
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DAO
- Finish ▶ Matte black
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$539

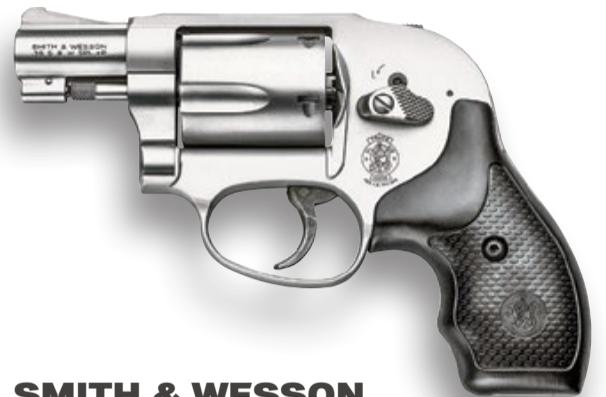


SMITH & WESSON M&P340 CT

At 13.3 ounces, the M&P340 CT is lightweight due to its scandium alloy frame, but it packs a fierce .357 Magnum punch. The M&P340 CT also features a Crimson Trace Lasergrasp, which allows users to aim the weapon using the laser or via the revolver's fixed sights. Either way, this tiny beast packs concealable stopping power. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .357 Magnum/.38 Special +P
- Barrel ▶ 1.875 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.31 inches
- Weight ▶ 13.3 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Synthetic
- Sights ▶ Crimson Trace, XS tritium front
- Action ▶ DAO
- Finish ▶ Matte black
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$1,129



SMITH & WESSON MODEL 638

Built on S&W's classic J-Frame, the 638 Airweight offers the snag-free concealability of a hammerless design while still allowing the user to cock the gun for single-action use. A small burr allows a shooter to cock the revolver. This element adds versatility to a compact revolver that weighs less than a pound and offers a five-round capacity of .38 Special +P ammo. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special +P
- Barrel ▶ 1.875 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.31 inches
- Weight ▶ 15.1 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Synthetic
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DAO
- Finish ▶ Stainless
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$469



SMITH & WESSON MODEL 686 PLUS

This S&W snub nose offers a seven-round capacity in a medium-frame revolver. The 686 Plus is built on S&W's L-frame, which is renowned for its strength and durability when used in conjunction with magnum ammunition. The fully adjustable sights offer an excellent sight picture, especially the red ramp front sight blade. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .357 Magnum/.38 Special +P
- Barrel ▶ 3 inches
- OA Length ▶ 8.18 inches
- Weight ▶ 36.8 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Synthetic
- Sights ▶ Front ramp, adjustable rear
- Action ▶ DA/SA
- Finish ▶ Stainless
- Capacity ▶ 7
- MSRP ▶ \$849



TAURUS MODEL 905

Taurus' Model 905 revolver chambers 9mm ammunition in a small, lightweight frame that offers a five-round capacity. Offering DA/SA operation, the Model 905 gives the user the ability to pair the revolver up with a pistol and only have to purchase one type of ammo. While you'll need moon clips to load the revolver's 9mm ammo, the ability to cross carry using the same ammunition for your semi-auto offers great convenience. (taurususa.com; 800-327-3776)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ 9mm
- Barrel ▶ 2 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.5 inches
- Weight ▶ 21 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DA/SA
- Finish ▶ Stainless, matte black
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$481-528



TAURUS MODEL 850 CIA

In Taurus' vernacular, "CIA" stands for "Carry It Anywhere," as this was designed for simplicity, ease of use and reliable concealed carry or backup. The 850 CIA is a hammerless revolver, meaning the hammer is fully enclosed in the frame. This means there's no hammer spur to snag on clothing. This revolver is DAO with an average trigger pull weight of about 9 pounds. (taurususa.com; 800-327-3776)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special +P, .357 Magnum
- Barrel ▶ 2 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.5 inches
- Weight ▶ 24 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DAO
- Finish ▶ Stainless, matte black
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$513



TAURUS MODEL 85C

For this design, Taurus took its legendary Model 85 revolver and added a convertible hammer, allowing users to switch from an exposed hammer to a hammerless revolver with a simple twist and no tools. This five-shot snub nose comes chambered in .38 Special +P and features a 2-inch barrel, a matte stainless finish and a textured rubber grip. (taurususa.com; 800-327-3776)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special +P
- Barrel ▶ 2 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.5 inches
- Weight ▶ 22.2 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed
- Action ▶ DA/SA
- Finish ▶ Stainless
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$371



TAURUS MODEL 605 PLY

The Model 605 PLY features a polymer frame, a steel barrel and a steel cylinder. It pushes the envelope of revolver design by using material normally used in semi-automatic pistols. Chambered in .357 Magnum, the 605 PLY has plenty of fire-power but is comfortable to carry. At 20 ounces unloaded, it is lightweight. This snub nose also features a fiber-optic front sight for fast target acquisition. The hammer is partially exposed, offering a good tradeoff on concealability and the ability to fire the weapon in DA and SA modes. (taurususa.com; 800-327-3776)

Specifications

- Caliber ▶ .38 Special, .357 Magnum
- Barrel ▶ 2 inches
- OA Length ▶ 6.7 inches
- Weight ▶ 20 ounces (empty)
- Grip ▶ Rubber
- Sights ▶ Fixed, fiber-optic front
- Action ▶ DA/SA
- Finish ▶ Matte black
- Capacity ▶ 5
- MSRP ▶ \$371

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AUG A3 M1 Rifle

The new multi-configurable AUG A3 M1 variant of the Steyr's venerable bullpup platform marks the introduction of MUD and the return of OD Green to its stock color options and adds new features like a front Quick-Disconnect Sling Swivel to classic characteristics like the quick-detach 16-inch barrel and battle-proven short-stroke gas-piston operation. It is available in Short-Rail, High-Rail and Integrated Optic versions with either a 1.5X or 3X scope. At 28.15 inches, Y SBR?



L-9-A1 Pistol

Featuring a full-length slide, 4.5-inch cold-hammer-forged barrel and 17-round magazine capacity for its 9x19mm Luger chambering and 12 rounds for .40 S&W, the new L-9-A1 service pistol was designed for the serious shooter to serve the dual role of a duty and sporting handgun. With its comfortable ergonomics, a remarkably low bore axis, a crisp short-reset trigger, extreme reliability and amazing accuracy, the L-9-A1 is the perfect partner on the range and off.

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FULL-SIZE CARRY



**Practical and effective ways
to carry a large handgun.**

BY DAVID BAHDE

Alfredo Rice Photo



Before you give up firepower and effectiveness by packing a subcompact pistol, consider carrying a full-sized fighter. It might seem impossible, but the right gear will help you.

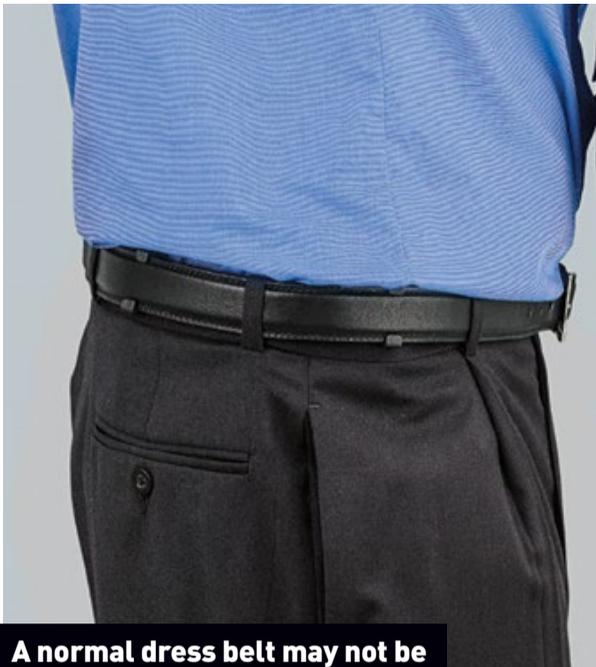
Enter into a conversation with anyone about concealed carry and the first issue will be what size pistol you should carry. My first recollection of that discussion was in 1983 with a police officer and Master Class IPSC shooter. At the time, semi-automatics were not approved firearms yet they were often carried "off-duty." For many, policy violations were secondary to being properly armed. In this case, the other officer carried a lightly customized, full-sized 1911 in 45 ACP. Given that the issued weapon was a six-shot revolver, two extra rounds and a spare magazine were a huge advantage. To be honest, the "wonder

nines" were not all that wonderful back then and 9mm ammunition was not what it is today. The huge number of compact and subcompact pistols that exist today were not even a consideration at the time. So for semi-autos, 1911s were still the choice of many professionals, and more often than not, full-sized versions were carried. Almost universally, the reasons were similar. They were 100-percent reliable, provided better ballistics and were no more difficult to conceal than smaller pistols. This truly set the tone for me as a concealed carry professional, a tone that still exists to this day.

When it came to revolvers, the same

was often true. My first real duty revolver was a 4-inch Colt Python. That revolver served me through the academy and my entire time as a reserve with the sheriff's office. That did not change until my employment our department switched to the Smith & Wesson Model 686 by policy. Off-duty weapons were authorized, but only one: the five-shot Chief's Special.

The same argument arose and the big revolver won the day. Sure, the five-shot was smaller and easier to conceal, but that is not the only issue. The move down to .38 Special, the loss of one round, and the ballistics of a 2-inch barrel made it a problem. If that pistol was necessary off-



A normal dress belt may not be strong enough to hold a pistol.



Your tucked-in shirt should cover every part of the gun.



Galco's V-Hawk comes with both belt loops and C-hooks.

Photo Courtesy Galco

duty, it was probably for a really bad situation and every advantage was required. Lastly, there is the cost. As a rule, if an agency does not issue a second pistol for off-duty carry, an officer will carry their issue pistol. In 1989, my \$15,000 a year salary all but precluded such a purchase, and the situation is the same today. Most officers simply do not have the money to buy a second pistol. It is no different for most concealed carry holders—most have the money for one pistol. The bottom line was simple: You had to find a way to comfortably carry and conceal your primary weapon, which was typically either a full-sized pistol or revolver.

Balancing Act

From a purely practical point of view, as pistols get smaller you are making a compromise. To this day, the most effective

“Any pistol carried in a poorly designed holster...may be downright dangerous.”

self-defense pistols utilize 4-inch or longer barrels. The laws of physics are not altered by a need for comfort. For well over 10 years, this was evident on the range as a rangemaster for the police department. As convenient as our issued subcompact 9mm was, many officers suffered malfunctions, and what ability they had to hit the target was flushed right down the toilet. Sure, some were fine, but many had issues. It has a short sight radius, and like all small automatics, they are more prone to a less-than-

firm grip. That is not the gun's fault—it's just a matter of physics.

Almost without fail, that small pistol was sold to someone else and the move was made back to the full-sized pistol. That was true of all of them. A recent “off-duty” shoot made this even clearer. A solid 60 percent of the little guns simply did not run through the whole qualification, and many simply could not hit the side of a barn. It was almost funny to see those with five-shot revolvers trying to make it through a 20-round course of fire with speedloaders that never leave the range bag except to qualify. Not to mention the officer or two who had his pistol fall out of the \$5 inside-the-pants holster he “regularly used.”

What you are willing to give up for comfort's sake? It is no different for any concealed carry holder. Do you carry

what is comfortable or what will win the fight? What are you willing to compromise in order to strike a balance? In truth, with a little bit of effort, you may not need to compromise.

Holsters & Belts

So how do you carry a large pistol? It is all in the accessories. The first and foremost is the holster. Having carried a 4-inch or longer 1911 or revolver for well over 25 years now, that may be the most important purchase other than the

pistol. It always makes me cringe when I see someone spend well over a grand on a pistol only to get the cheapest possible holster they can find on the market. Any pistol carried in a poorly designed holster will be uncomfortable and may be downright dangerous.

The holster industry makes many fantastic holsters that carry your full-sized pistol firmly against the body, support its weight and allow for comfortable carry all day long. Done correctly, Kydex is an excellent holster material, but they are not all created equally. Having recently run some belt slide holsters from JM Custom Kydex, they feel as good as my inside-the-pants holsters and are of the highest possible quality. The use of this material and some custom work allow the holster to wrap around the waist a bit, making for fantastic comfort and concealment. BlackHawk, Blade-Tech and Comp-Tac are all excellent holster makers, and there are several others. You just need to make sure the holster holds the gun firmly, close to the body, and rides at a height that allows the muzzle to be covered with the proper clothing.

When it comes to leather, you really need to step up and get good quality. Galco makes some of the best holsters available on the market. My Smith & Wesson .44 Mag with a 2-inch barrel rides in one all the time. It places it high on the belt, holds it firmly and has been carried for days on end on trips, especially to those places where semi-automatics are considered evil. My Mitch Rosen IWB holster has held dozens of 1911 pistols over the last 10 years and still works perfectly.

A full-sized pistol can be carried in a quality holster comfortably, especially with the correct belt. Put a full-sized

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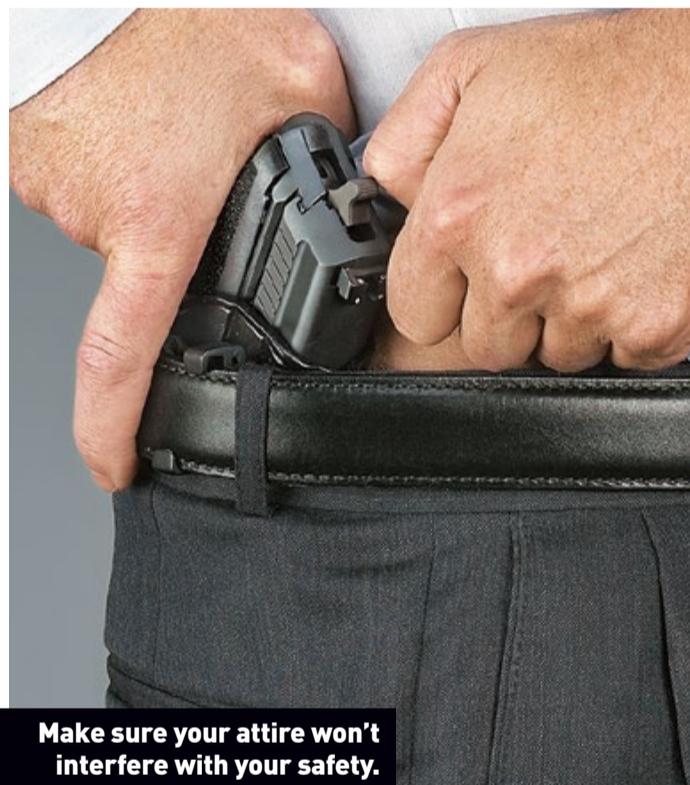
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Kydex is strong yet lightweight, making it a great option for full-sized pistols.

“Do you carry what is comfortable or what will win the fight?”

Photo Courtesy JM Custom



Make sure your attire won't interfere with your safety.



Holsters like the Galco SkyOps are great for IWB carry.

Photos Courtesy Galco

covering it up and still being able to get at it. Summer is the hardest season in which to achieve proper concealment.

Today, the choices are endless. BlackHawk yielded the best to date for me. Its 1700 shirt is perfect. Walking in the door with the shirt on, my wife commented on how nice my new dress shirt was—now that is concealment. She had no idea it was made for concealed carry. It gives you a collared shirt to wear no matter the climate, and it looks nothing like a concealed carry shirt. Yet, the 1700 is comfortable, breathes and conceals my full-sized pistols every day. One of these has been covering up a S&W 9mm Pro for several weeks now. Other companies offer similar products these days, and many of them work fantastically for concealing a full-sized pistol.

Dressed For Success

Just about everything in life requires some compromise. Carrying a concealed weapon is no different. For many, the need to stay fashionable is more important than the pistol they carry. For others, it is about the ease of concealment, as opposed to the effort made to conceal. There are also those who are about bringing the best gun to the fight, and a bit of compromise to fashion or ease is not an issue.

It's just important to realize that among all the attention on smaller and smaller pistols for concealed carry, the full-sized pistol is still viable and may be the best choice. All it takes is some thought, some effort and an understanding that you may have to spend a bit up front to save a ton later. Given that your carry weapon is a lifesaving tool, carrying a full-sized pistol just may be the best decision you ever make. 🔫

pistol in a great holster and slide it on the belt you got at the big box store and you are in for disaster. Get a real pistol belt made to hold a pistol. That should be the case regardless of the pistol's size. Manufacturers have really stepped up to the plate. Both BlackHawk and Galco make pistol belts that rival the biggest fashion names for craftsmanship, and they look just like any other belt. There are many others, and all are designed to carry a pistol comfortably and not look like a pistol belt.

Concealment

So how do you cover up the iron? Well, it takes some thought, and maybe a bit of compromise to the fashion idols, but it can be done. Long before carrying a

pistol on a plane was such an ordeal, I carried full-sized 1911 pistol for three weeks for training in Hawaii. When not training, the entire trip consisted of shorts, sandals and Hawaiian shirts. All that was needed was an undershirt to protect against the IWB holster and a large outer shirt. Luckily, that was the fashion out there, so no one had any idea. I was just another tourist—not an off-duty cop at training.

Later, as big T-shirts became the craze, I used the same techniques. The hardware was concealed with a breathable undershirt and an oversized T-shirt. This allowed comfortable carry in even the 100-degree summers in Utah. Winter is easy (if you have one), as coats make the process simple. Then it is more about



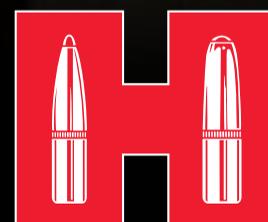
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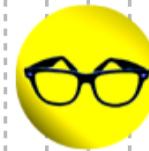
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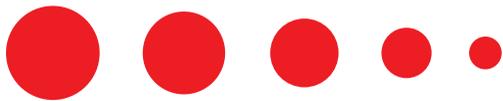
Ruger's LCP Custom delivers an upgraded pocket pistol!

BY DENNIS ADLER



A CLOSER LOOK AT THE LCP CUSTOM:

1. Taller, drift-adjustable rear sight
2. New photoluminescent front sight
3. Locked-breech, hammer-fired design
4. Polished, through-hardened slide
5. Red anodized aluminum, skeletonized trigger
6. Lightweight composite frame
7. Checkered grip panels
8. Checkered frontstrap



The Ruger LCP has been my go-to gun for concealed-carry use ever since it was introduced in 2008. In fact, it was the very first pocket pistol that I ever actually carried in my front pocket. I have always liked the LCP, but there were a couple of features that never quite set well with me, mostly the poor sights, heavy trigger pull and a dull, matte-finished slide. This is really nitpicking, however, when you consider all the advantages the LCP offers in size, weight and overall capacity.

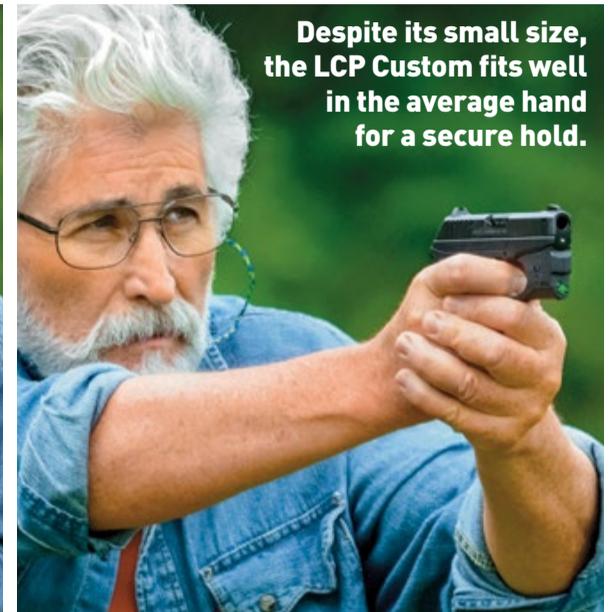
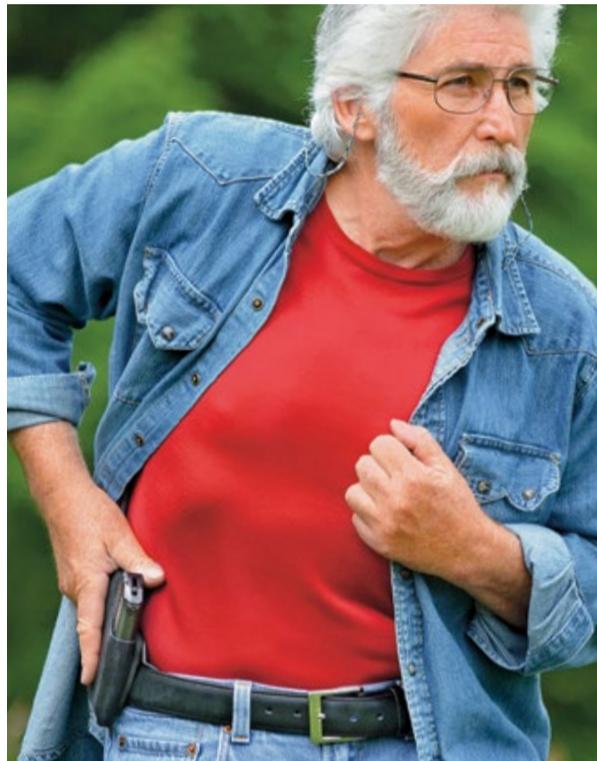
I thought maybe I was being overly critical until Galloway Precision introduced a series of upgrades for the LCP, which included a new skeletonized trigger, a stainless steel guide rod and several internal improvements. I bought in and had my LCP upgraded. It became an even better gun, though it still had poor sights, and there was nothing that even Galloway could do about that.

Last year Ruger solved its own problem and unveiled the LCP Custom, a new .380 version that offers an improved, red, anodized aluminum trigger with an angle that reduces perceived trigger-pull weight (but not the actual trigger pull, since the LCP's internal trigger pivot cannot be changed), a stainless steel guide rod and a brightly polished slide. What's more, that slide features a drift-adjustable rear sight and photoluminescent front sight. Everything else about the LCP remains the same, and aside from the slide still not locking back after the last round, this is a significant factory upgrade.

Enhanced CCW

With its lightweight composite frame, aluminum grip frame, through-hardened steel slide and blued steel barrel, the LCP Custom is ideal for unobtrusive carry in a trouser pocket while providing a standard 6+1 capacity. Over the years since the little double-action-only pistol was introduced, the .380 cartridge has become the most popular self-defense round in America, helping make the LCP one of the true success stories in contemporary small-caliber self-defense firearms. Its popularity actually led to a proliferation of new .380s and to ammunition makers producing better, higher-velocity .380 ACP rounds with greater penetration and stopping power.

Are there pocket-sized .380s with slides that lock back after the last round, even better white-dot or tritium



Despite its small size, the LCP Custom fits well in the average hand for a secure hold.



“...the LCP Custom can't be touched for its durability, ease of carry or its price.”

night sights and heavier construction (alloy and steel)? Absolutely, but the LCP Custom can't be touched for its durability, ease of carry or its price. Interestingly, even if the LCP were more expensive, it wouldn't be any better than it is at \$269.

In most circumstances where the LCP Custom would be brought into use by someone with a CCW permit, stress and adrenaline levels will be high, and the simplicity of the LCP Custom's design provides an advantage. There are no manual safeties to remember and the DAO trigger has a short 0.5-inch length of travel balanced by a solid 6.5-pound average trigger pull. But, as previously noted, the angle and design of the Custom's new alloy trigger makes it feel considerably lighter than it actually is. And a certain degree of resistance when using a DAO trigger as the only safety measure is good.

Another plus is that the LCP does not use a magazine disconnect, so it will

fire a chambered round if the magazine is removed or if one gets caught up in the middle of a tactical reload. The improved sights are also taller, and that means some holsters for the standard LCP might not fit as well, but I ran the gun through all of my existing LCP rigs (about half a dozen different brands and styles) and found no appreciable difference drawing the gun, particularly with leather rigs from DeSantis and Galco that have sight channels.

In terms of familiarization, the LCP is a hammer-fired, locked-breech, recoil-operated semi-auto with an internal hammer. It is recessed in the back of the slide and can only be seen in the ready-to-fire, semi-cocked position. If the slide has not been cycled, the hammer is not visible; that is one quick check of the gun's condition. And there is a loaded-chamber view port at the breech that exposes the rim of a chambered cartridge as a second check.

While it is unusual for a pistol as

CUSTOM CONFIDENCE

SPECIFICATIONS

RUGER LCP CUSTOM

Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.16 inches
Weight	9.7 ounces (empty)
Grip	Glass-filled nylon
Sights	Photoluminescent front, adjustable rear
Action	DAO
Finish	Blued
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$269

small as the LCP to use a locked-breech design, as opposed to the blowback operation common with many .380s, Ruger opted for the sturdier build generally used for larger-caliber semi-autos. It is a rugged gun that can handle whatever ammo you put through it.

Sight Upgrade

What made the LCP popular was the simplicity of its design, ease of use and natural balance in the hand, but that came at a cost. With the very low, rounded sights integrated into the matte-finished steel slide, the LCP lacked any capability for upgrading to white-dot sights outside of costly custom modifications. With its new slide, dovetailed rear sight and improved front sight, the LCP Custom is faster to get on target and, like previous LCP models, can also be equipped with a Crimson Trace Laserguard (available from Ruger) or with the latest Viridian Reactor 5 green laser, which is compatible with several currently available instant-on holsters for pocket or belt carry.

The Viridian does not use a pressure pad on the frontstrap to activate the laser; it turns on automatically when drawn from any compatible instant-on holster. The Reactor 5 comes with a pocket holster, and Galco makes an



While unusual for a small .380, the LCP uses a locked-breech design rather than traditional blowback operation.

“It is a rugged gun that can handle whatever ammo you put through it.”

excellent, lightweight paddle holster for the LCP and Viridian combination, as well as for the LCP and Crimson Trace pairing. The Viridian green laser adds a mere 0.78 ounces to the weight and provides superior daylight targeting capability. The Viridian green laser also has a master on/off switch located on the left side for use with conventional LCP Laserguard holsters.

Range Time

The latest LCP deserves the latest .380 ammunition, and for the range test I selected two Sig Sauer loads (Elite Performance V-Crown 90-grain JHP and Elite Performance 100-grain FMJ) along with Federal's latest 99-grain HST JHP. The LCP shot just above point of aim with the new sights, making this gun significantly faster to get on target.



The Ruger LCP Custom's pocket-friendly 2.75-inch barrel and 0.8-inch width make it ideal for concealment.



With the LCP Custom, Ruger has added a polished, through-hardened slide and new, larger sights that are easier to see.

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PERFORMANCE

**RUGER LCP
CUSTOM .380 ACP**

LOAD	VELOCITY	ACCURACY
Federal 99 HST JHP	886	2.00
Sig Sauer Elite Performance 100 FMJ	825	1.92
Sig Sauer Elite Performance V-Crown 90 JHP	882	1.37

BULLET WEIGHT MEASURED IN GRAINS, VELOCITY IN FPS
BY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY IN INCHES FOR BEST
FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 7 YARDS.

The heavy trigger keeps your grip firm. The recoil with all three loads was fairly snappy, which is not unexpected with a 9.75-ounce handgun.

All three brands of ammunition clocked in at well over 800 fps with Federal's new HSTs clearing the traps at an average of 886 fps, Sig Sauer's JHPs just a hair behind at 882 fps and the Elite Performance FMJs traveling at an average of 825 fps.

Shooting from a distance of 7 yards, the tightest five-round group was shot with Sig Sauer's JHP, which delivered a spread of 1.37 inches. Sig's FMJ distributed five rounds at 1.92 inches, with a pair overlapping, and Federal HST landed five at 2 inches with a pair overlapping, and the best three covering only 0.68 inches. Overall accuracy with the LCP Custom was consistently good with average groups from all three brands of ammo under 2.5 inches.

Takeaway

With the new polished steel slide, drift-adjustable rear notch and photoluminescent dot front sight, the LCP Custom is a big step up. The grip contour still places the mass of the frame within the web of an average-sized hand, with the thumb falling into a groove in either the left or right side of the frame, making the general grasp ambidextrous, although the magazine release is on the left side only.

Despite its diminutive size and weight, the Ruger LCP Custom feels solid in the hand; the backstrap has a checkered panel for a more secure grasp and the second and third fingers firmly wrap around the checkered grips, the serrated frontstrap and the magazine's floorplate extension. The groundbreaking LCP remains one of the best options today in a concealed-carry semi-auto, and as a price-driven competitor in the marketplace at \$269, this platform has never been better. For more information, visit ruger.com.

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MINI 1911s



MICRO CDP (LG)

The Kimber Custom Shop equips the Micro CDP (LG) with a host of refined features like three-dot tritium night sights, an ambidextrous thumb safety, a Carry Melt treatment and Crimson Trace Lasergrips so the Micro CDP (LG) is easier to aim in low-light situations after the draw. The CDP (LG) also features fine checkering on the front- and rear gripstrap for a more positive grip. A high-cut triggerguard also reduces muzzle flip. Of course, a model without the laser is also available.

Kimber's Micros deliver big results in .380 ACP and 9mm.

BY ROBERT A. SADOWSKI

Size does matter, and Kimber's Micro series of handguns offers a compact design chambered in potent calibers. These mighty Micros, chambered in .380 ACP and now 9mm, are easy to conceal for everyday carry, no matter what body type you currently have.

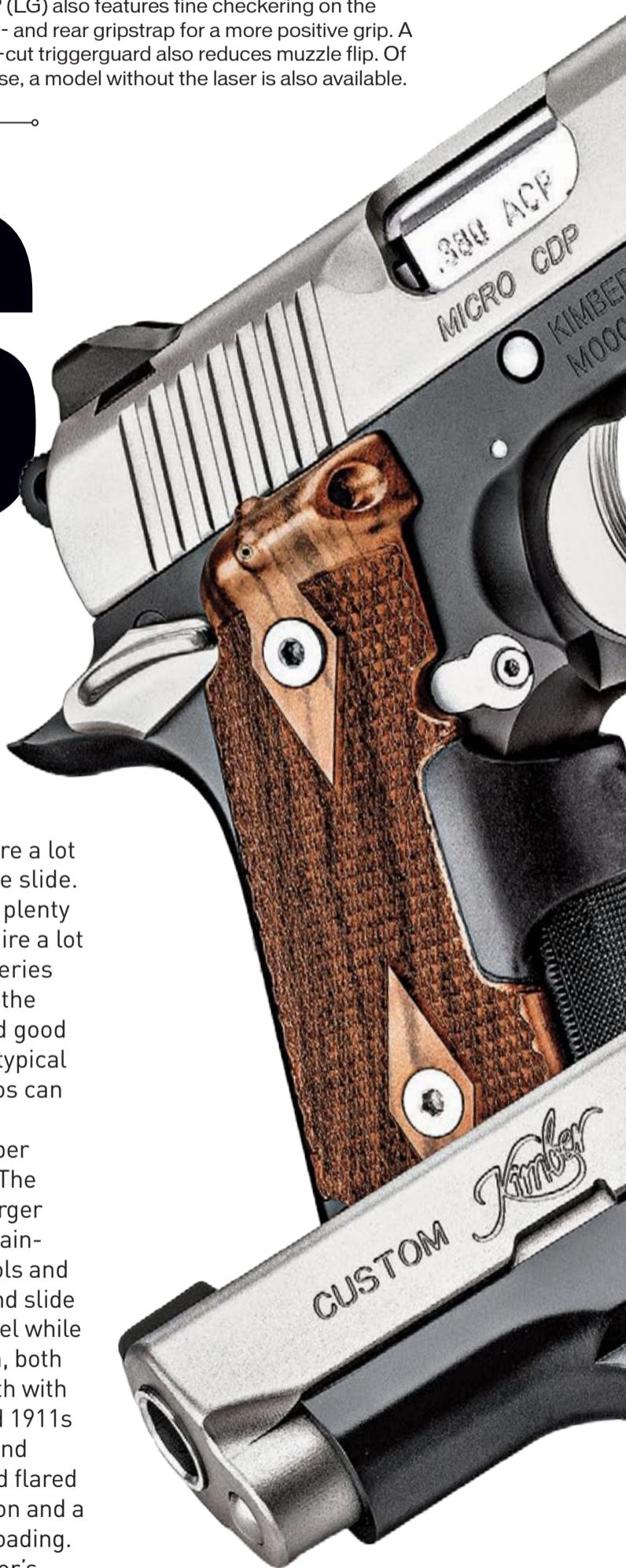
The Micro is set up like a 1911, and as the name implies, the series is micro sized. If you are familiar with the 1911 platform, then the transition to a Kimber Micro will be a smooth one since the controls and ergonomics are very similar to a 1911. The thumb safety, slide release and magazine release are just like those in the 1911 design. What's more, the single-action trigger on each Micro pistol is crisp and easy to master.

What made the Micro series stand out from other .380 ACP pistols upon its original release in 2012 was that its pistols were constructed entirely of metal and featured a single-action trigger system. They also were equipped with full-sized steel sights so aiming the Micros was more user friendly. Another important feature was their ease of operation. The recoil spring is typically very stiff on a .380 ACP pistol, so stiff in

fact that some small pistols require a lot of hand strength to manipulate the slide. The Micro series, however, offers plenty of grasping area and doesn't require a lot of muscle to operate. The Micro series also offered mild recoil even with the hottest .380 ACP factory loads and good accuracy for a compact pistol. At typical confrontation distances, the Micros can be real tack drivers.

In 2015, Kimber upped the caliber ante with its 9mm Micro 9 Series. The new Micro 9 is about 10 percent larger than the .380 ACP models while maintaining the same 1911-style controls and functionality. The Micro 9 barrel and slide are constructed from stainless steel while the frame is made from aluminum, both of which offer integrity and strength with less weight. Just like the full-sized 1911s Kimber manufactures, the Micro and Micro 9 guns feature a lowered and flared ejection port for better case ejection and a beveled magazine well for faster loading.

Here are 10 examples of Kimber's ultra-compact Micro and Micro 9 pistols, which are made for concealed carry. For more information, visit kimberamerica.com or call 888-243-4522.





MICRO 9 STAINLESS

The Micro 9 Stainless wears a non-reflective anodized finish on the aluminum frame and a matte stainless finish on the stainless steel slide to resist the elements and the user's body sweat. Sporting checkered rosewood grips and a checkered mainspring housing, the Micro 9 Stainless offers users a well-textured grip to better enable fast follow-up shots. The solid aluminum, match-grade trigger is set by the factor to break at approximately 7 pounds.



SPECIFICATIONS	
MICRO CDP (LG)	
Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.6 inches
Weight	13.4 ounces (empty)
Grips	CTC Lasergrips
Sights	Tritium three-dot night
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$1,210

SPECIFICATIONS	
MICRO 9 STAINLESS	
Caliber	9mm
Barrel	3.15 inches
OA Length	6.1 inches
Weight	15.6 ounces (empty)
Grips	Checkered rosewood
Sights	Fixed
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$654



Photos Courtesy Kimber

“What made the Micro series stand out upon its original release in 2012 was that its pistols were constructed entirely of metal and featured a single-action trigger system.”



MICRO RCP

The Micro RCP model from Kimber is designed with a smooth, snag-free exterior so it will not hang up on your clothing during the draw. The Micro RCP features a trench-cut sighting system, which is basically a groove milled into the top of the slide that replaces traditional front and rear iron sights. It also comes equipped with an ambidextrous thumb safety, vertical serrations on the mainspring housing and attractive checkered rosewood grips that offer plenty of control.

MICRO 9 TWO-TONE

Taking a cue in terms of its finish from Kimber’s full-sized 1911s, the Micro 9 Two-Tone features a matte black slide and a matte stainless frame, giving the gun one of Kimber’s trademark 1911 treatments. The Micro 9 is also chambered in the more powerful 9mm and comes equipped with attractive checkered rosewood grip panels like other variants in the series. The pistol weighs less than a pound unloaded but offers properly proportioned sights for quick target acquisitions at close range.

MICRO CARRY ADVOCATE

An extended magazine is standard on the Micro Carry Advocate. This offers the user a slightly longer grip when shooting and adds an extra round to the gun’s overall capacity. The checkered G10 grips, available in either brown or purple, also aid in overall accuracy by allowing the shooter a positive grip in any environment. The Carry Advocate comes equipped with tritium three-dot night sights and features Kimber’s highly durable KimPro II finish.

SPECIFICATIONS	
MICRO RCP	
Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.6 inches
Weight	13.4 ounces (empty)
Grips	Checkered rosewood
Sights	Trench
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$775

SPECIFICATIONS	
MICRO 9 TWO-TONE	
Caliber	9mm
Barrel	3.15 inches
OA Length	6.1 inches
Weight	15.6 ounces (empty)
Grips	Checkered rosewood
Sights	Fixed
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$654

SPECIFICATIONS	
MICRO CARRY ADVOCATE	
Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.6 inches
Weight	13.4 ounces (empty)
Grips	Purple or brown G10
Sights	Tritium three-dot night
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	7+1
MSRP	\$796



MICRO 9 CRIMSON CARRY

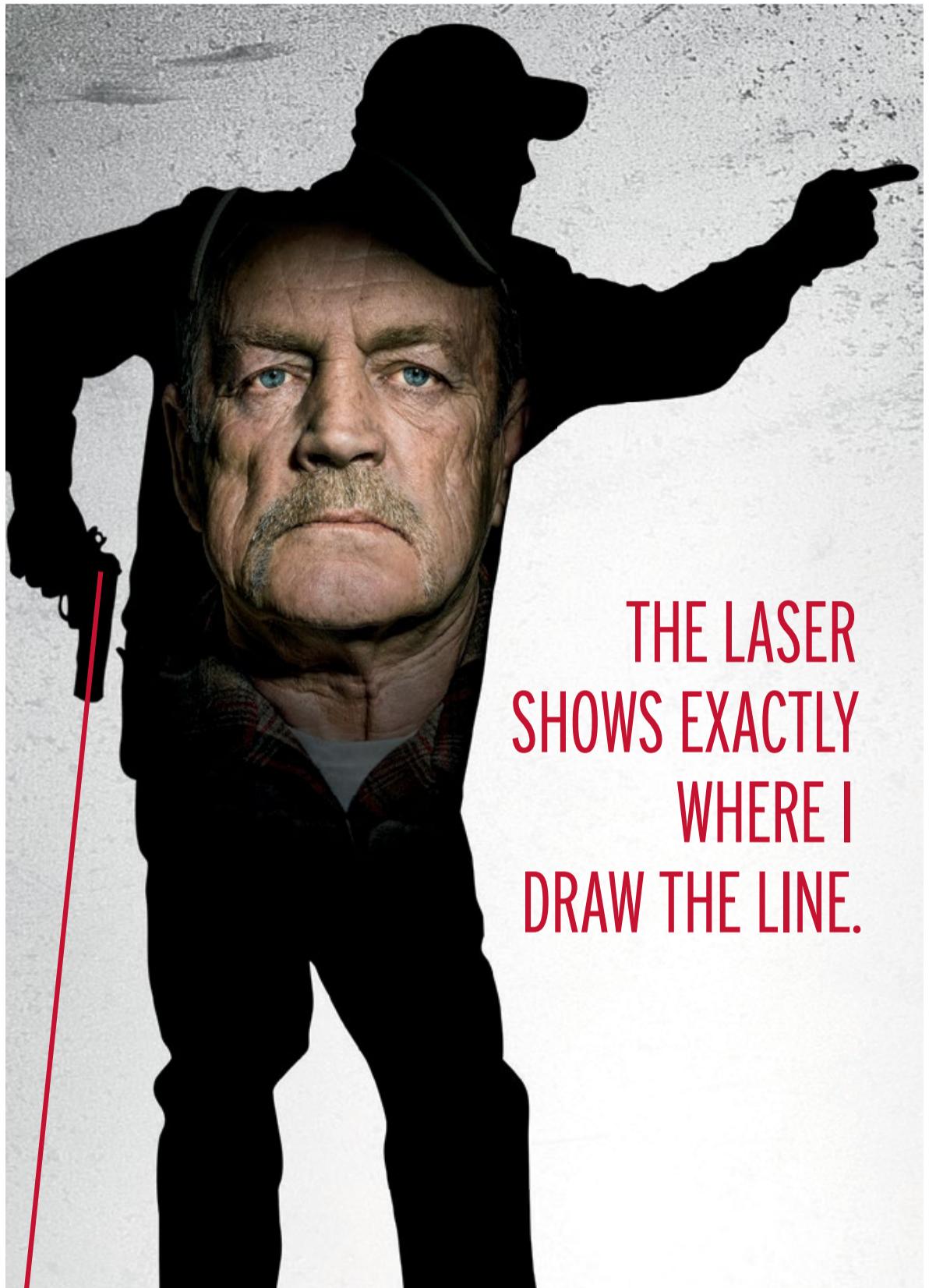
The 9mm Micro 9 Crimson Carry starts with a Micro 9 Two-Tone design and adds a Crimson Trace Lasergrasp. The laser and compact pistol are a good match since the laser allows a user to aim the Micro 9 in unconventional positions, like from under a vehicle when you have been attacked in a parking garage. The Micro 9 Crimson Carry also comes with iron sights for a reliable backup sighting option.

SPECIFICATIONS

MICRO CRIMSON CARRY

Caliber	9mm
Barrel	3.15 inches
OA Length	6.1 inches
Weight	15.6 ounces (empty)
Grips	CTC Lasergraps
Sights	Fixed
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$894

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MICRO SAPHIRE

Elegant, refined and lethal if needed, the Micro Sapphire has a mirror-polished slide and blue PVD accents on its grip and controls. The slide is also engraved with elegant scroll work. The G10 grips feature a blue hue and ball-milled serrations. The Sapphire is made to impress and catch the eye, yet like all the other models in the Micro series, it is highly concealable and offers seven rounds of .380 ACP firepower.

SPECIFICATIONS

MICRO SAPHIRE

Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.6 inches
Weight	13.4 ounces (empty)
Grips	Tritium three-dot night
Sights	Fixed
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$1,014



MICRO BEL AIR

The Bel Air provides a unique, eye-catching take on the Micro platform. The Micro Bel Air has a mirror-polished slide, mainspring housing, hammer, trigger and thumb safety. The frame wears a Bel Air blue KimPro II finish that is both durable and elegant. The smooth Micarta grips have the classic look of smooth ivory yet are more durable and won't crack.

SPECIFICATIONS

MICRO BEL AIR

Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.6 inches
Weight	13.4 ounces (empty)
Grips	Ivory Micarta
Sights	Fixed
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$810



“At typical confrontation distances, the Micros can be real tack drivers.”

MICRO CARRY DC

The Micro DC is all business with its all-black finish. It also has an extended magazine so the grip fits all average-sized hands. Your small finger will not be left dangling when you grip this Micro. Tritium night sights, an ambidextrous safety, a checkered mainspring housing and black cherry G10 grip panels enhance the Micro DC package for everyday carry.

SPECIFICATIONS

MICRO CARRY DC

Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.6 inches
Weight	13.4 ounces (empty)
Grips	G10
Sights	Tritium three-dot night
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	7+1
MSRP	\$877

“Another important feature was their ease of operation.”



MICRO RAPTOR

I've always liked the Raptor's aesthetics with its scaled zebrawood grips as well as its scalloped slide top, rear gripstrap and slide serrations. The Micro Raptor has all of the distinctive features of the full-sized 1911, plus tritium three-dot night sights and an ambidextrous thumb safety. The Raptor may be good looking, but it's built to deliver real-world results. 

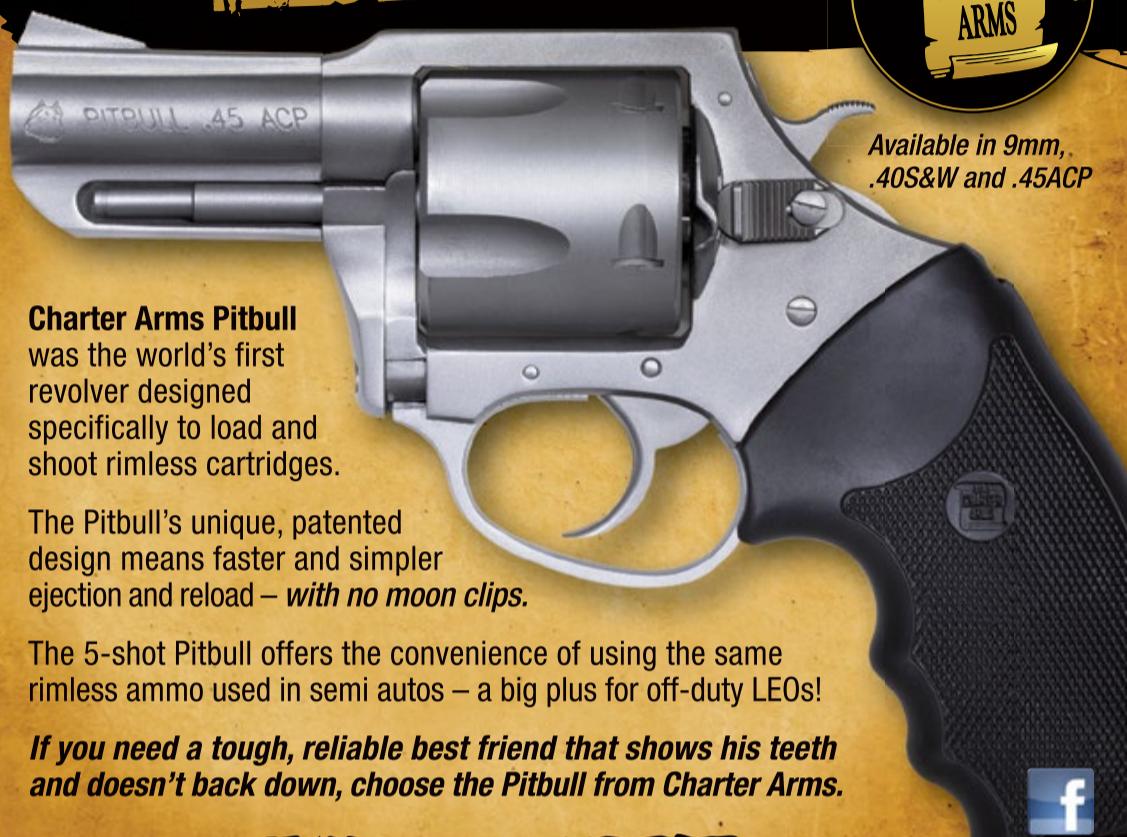
SPECIFICATIONS

MICRO RAPTOR

Caliber	.380 ACP
Barrel	2.75 inches
OA Length	5.6 inches
Weight	13.4 ounces (empty)
Grips	Zebrawood
Sights	Tritium three-dot night
Action	SA
Finish	KimPro II
Capacity	6+1
MSRP	\$939

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MASTER



THE DRAW

Get your gun out of concealment and

into the fight when seconds count! BY DAVE NORMAN



We are only as good as our training, and only as prepared as our state of mental readiness. All the fancy gear in the world won't help when the buzzer goes off or an attacker raises a crowbar if you can't act swiftly, automatically and precisely every single time.

Shooting is a perishable skill. Like riding a bicycle, we never quite lose it. But unlike the gross motor skill of riding a bicycle, we quickly lose the edge that our instincts need to react swiftly and automatically. This drill and these best practices will help you master the draw, make your first shot hit and develop and retain that edge so you can win a gunfight.

The goal of developing your draw from concealment is to fire one accurate shot that strikes the center mass of your intended target at a combat distance. Plenty more shots can follow, but they will likely be increasingly less accurate, so make sure that starting point is a dead-center hit. For these drills, use standard IDPA or USPSA silhouette targets set 7 to 10 yards away.

Now let's work backward. That accurate shot needs to be fired from a modern and serviceable handgun that is properly aligned with your target at the moment of ignition. That alignment requires a firm and proper grip. That grip requires properly grasping the gun while it is still holstered. That holster needs to properly position and conceal your handgun. That concealment needs to be moved out of

the way effectively, to expose your pistol for grasping. So let's break down the draw in an easy step-by-step process.

That Right Holster

Finding the perfect holster for your body and needs is an art, and a topic in and of itself. So far as the holster pertains to mastering the draw, your holster should position the grip of your handgun somewhere on your body that you can easily and ergonomically reach it from the widest range of body positions that you're in throughout the day. This might mean from a sitting position in a vehicle or at a desk. Make sure the gun is positioned right and that the gun/holster combination is comfortable enough that you will actually wear it.

Choose holsters that carry your pistol in such a manner that the muzzle doesn't point at any part of your body, especially on the draw. Just in case. Next, choose a retention type fitting your needs—a Level I or Level II retention holster for open carry is a great idea. Most tuckable holsters offer only a friction fit to retain the gun during strenuous motion, and this seems, by and large, fine. Whatever holster you choose, drill with it every single time you go to the range.

At the range, properly holster and conceal your unloaded gun while facing a proper target that's against a proper backstop. Square up to your target and take a half step backward (with your

right foot if you're right-handed). Hang your hands at your side. Shake out your shoulders. Let your mind go blank. Now very slowly go through a proper draw by the numbers.

Taking Aim

Step 1: Stare at center mass on your target, and keep your eyes there throughout the draw. Now grasp your shirt, near your gun, with both hands. Pull straight up, as high as your armpit. The exaggerated raising clears all the fabric away from your grip and your draw path, and it instills good instincts—not drawing it high enough in practice can lead to not drawing it high enough in a panic, then getting your gun tangled up. Always practice over-drawing your concealment.

Step 2: Let go of your concealment with your shooting hand while your other hand keeps holding it up. This is done to keep the draw path clear, and to keep that hand safe from being accidentally swept by your muzzle during the draw.

Step 3: Grasp your pistol firmly, with your finger extended along the side of your holster (or pants), right along the slide of the gun. Repeat these three steps until you get a firm, comfortable, repeatable grip every single time. Come back several times a session to just these first three steps. They're that important.

Step 4: Quickly disengage any of your holster's retention devices.

Step 5: Draw your pistol straight out

“All the fancy gear in the world won't help when ...an attacker raises a crowbar if you can't act swiftly, automatically and precisely every single time.”

Practice makes perfect, and perfect practice makes for lifesaving skills.





It's important to practice drawing from realistic positions.



Clear the holster and obtain a secure firing grip.



Finish in the strongest firing position your posture allows.



Practice drawing your pistol from concealment.



Clear your cover garment as you draw your pistol.



Keep both eyes open for situational awareness.

of the holster, raising your shooting hand to that arm's armpit while rotating the muzzle up to horizontal, so it points downrange. Your finger remains off of the trigger, firmly along the slide (or cylinder) this whole time. The end position is with your firing arm's elbow down, the gun almost touching your shooting arm's shoulder pocket, with the muzzle downrange and your finger off the trigger.

This keeps your muzzle pointed in a safe direction and keeps your gun close to your body, to inhibit attackers (or confused bystanders) from so easily grabbing it during your draw. You will be able to fire from this position if you must (if your attacker has closed to contact range). And with the gun close to your body, but pointing safely away from yourself, you make it harder for them to grab it and take control of it.

Step 6: Your support hand should now finally let go of your concealment garment. Drive your pistol forward, straight towards center mass of your target, and bring your support hand out to meet it. The muzzle should be trained on center mass during its entire transition from high retention to the final aiming position, so that if you must fire before completing the draw, the muzzle is right on target the entire time.

Step 7: Lean slightly forward as you finish driving your gun towards the target. Load your weight slightly forward of center, onto your leading foot, so that the recoil energy of your shots has to move your whole body a few inches backward

before disturbing your balance.

Step 8: Your ending position is with a firm two-handed grip, with your sights properly aligned on center mass, the pistol up to bear, with your feet planted firmly and your weight forward of center. Your finger is still not on the trigger—not until the very moment you intend to dry fire or shoot your target. From this position, you can fire multiple shots from a secure body position, as well as lunge forward or to either side.

Step 9: Bring your eyes from the target to your front sight. Once it is aligned on center mass, pull the trigger.

Step 10: With your finger off the trigger and the muzzle downrange, bring your gun straight back until your wrists touch your chest. This is a high-retention ready position from which you can drive the gun forward again to engage another threat or reholster.

Step 11: With your finger still off the trigger, let go with your support hand and raise your concealment garment. Drive that gun purposefully, but slowly, directly into your holster. Let go. Do not wander around with your gun in your hand or let it deviate from that flight path—it should only travel directly from the holster to high retention, then to bear, and back again. Pick an arbitrary number above 100 and tell yourself to repeat this drill that number of times.

Center Mass

Assuming a reasonably accurate pistol with quality ammunition, your accuracy

“Always drill with proper front sight awareness until it becomes such second nature that point-shooting instincts take over.”

starts with your natural point of aim and the body position you're in when you pull that trigger. Drill to bring your pistol to bear by the numbers so that its end point finds the sights properly aligned on center mass every single time you bring it up to bear. This will happen automatically with proper practice over time.

At first, however, run through the numbers, never taking your eyes from center mass of your target—where your eyes go, so too will the muzzle point. When your pistol is at full extension, refocus your eyes on the front sight. See where it is in relation to the rear sight and adjust accordingly. If it's way off, try to figure out why. Is it a problem with your grip being either too high or low? Is there a problem with transitioning from one specific grip angle to another, like moving from a Glock to a revolver?

Most often a hasty grip is the culprit, and it can be fixed by slowing down the draw for a few repetitions until your hand naturally finds a comfortable, repeatable, proper grip on our handgun. Once you adjust the sight alignment for a center-mass hit, squeeze the trigger. Assess your hit. Return your handgun to the holster. Retuck. Repeat.

Go slowly at first through the drill,



Low-light training allows you to hone all of your shooting skills.

then speed up (safely) until the point when your first shot wanders out of the center zone on your silhouette target. Figure out why, slow down and smooth out the draw until your shots once again cluster within that zone.

Once you can run through this drill accurately about as fast as feels safe and reasonable, put a sticker in the center of your silhouette target. Focus on that sticker specifically and watch your groups instantly shrink. Focusing your attention on a specific point on a much larger target is another mind trick for shrinking groups. Now drill until you can hit that sticker reliably.

Sights Vs. Instinct

Somewhere along your training, you might start accurately shooting without diverting your eyes to the front sight. This is a habit that some instructors tell you to break immediately and to return your focus to that sight and that sight alone. Others say to embrace it and develop the point-shooting skill that takes over.

Point (instinct) shooting is a very advanced skill, and as such it is extremely perishable. Always drill with proper front sight awareness until it becomes such second nature that point-shooting instincts take over. You can return to forced front sight awareness for longer ranges, critical shots and to engage smaller portions of your target, but let instinct handle the rest at close range.

Skill Upgrade

Start your range session with at least 10 cycles of dry-fire practice with your carry gun from your carry holster from full and proper concealment. End each range session with at least 10 dry-fire repetitions of drawing and dry firing at a proper target against a safe backstop. The first draw of the day shows you what shape your skills were in when you arrived. The last repetitions before you leave give your mind and muscles a primary touchstone to the motor skills they'll need to call on should you need to draw your gun in self-defense. It's best to have your most recent shooting motions be your defensive draw with your defensive gear. 🗡️

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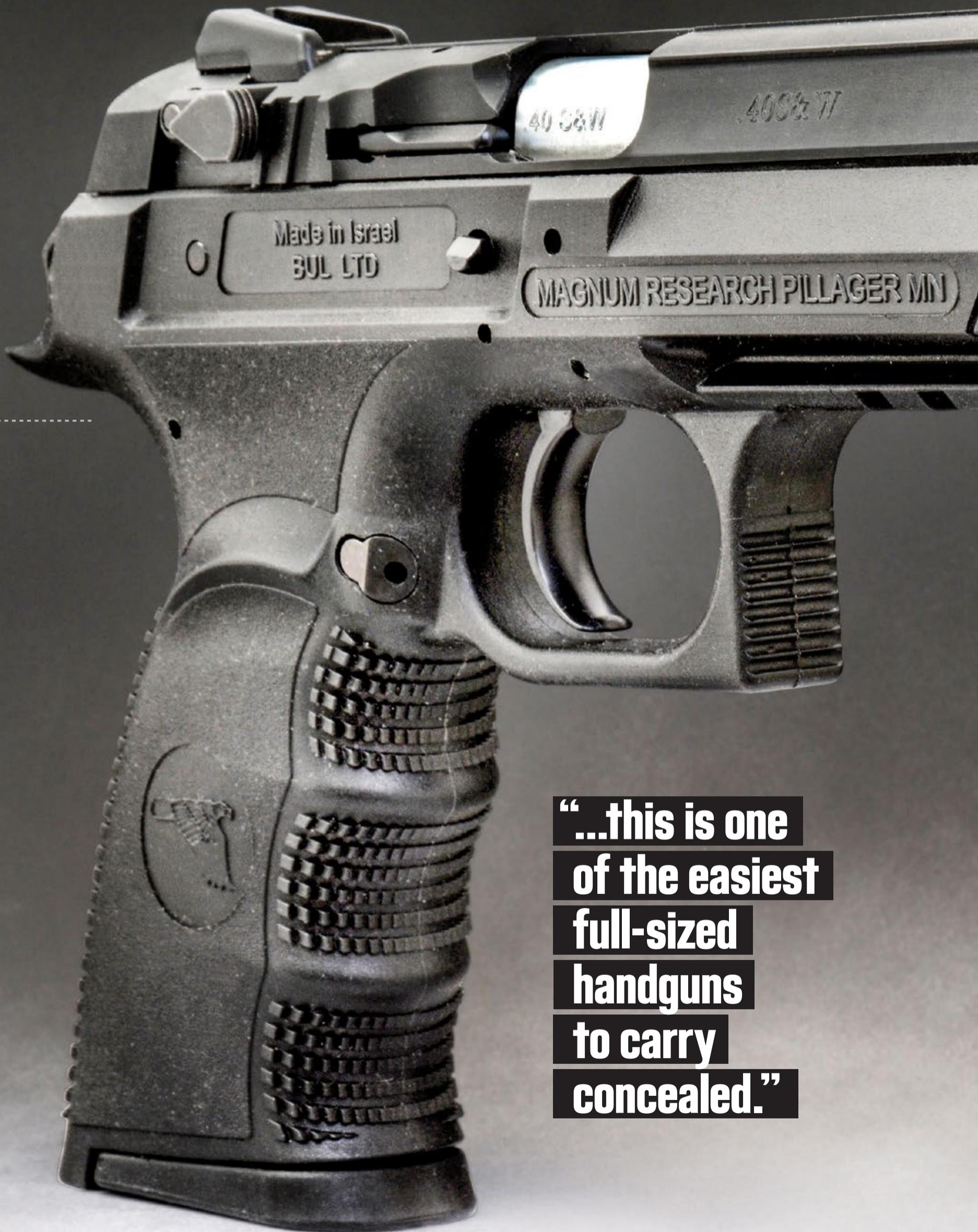
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BIRD OF PREY



Magnum Research's Baby Desert Eagle III takes flight in threat-stopping .40 S&W.

BY DENNIS ADLER

THE MOST AMAZING THING ABOUT

polymer is that you can shape it anyway you want. Imagine trying to contour pistol grips and frames from steel. Actually, you don't have to imagine it, as it has been done for decades. It just takes more time and costs more money to do. Polymer frames were originally developed by Heckler & Koch in 1970 for the VP70, which was more than a decade before Gaston Glock took the polymer frame from near obscurity and turned it into one of the most successful handgun designs of the 20th century.

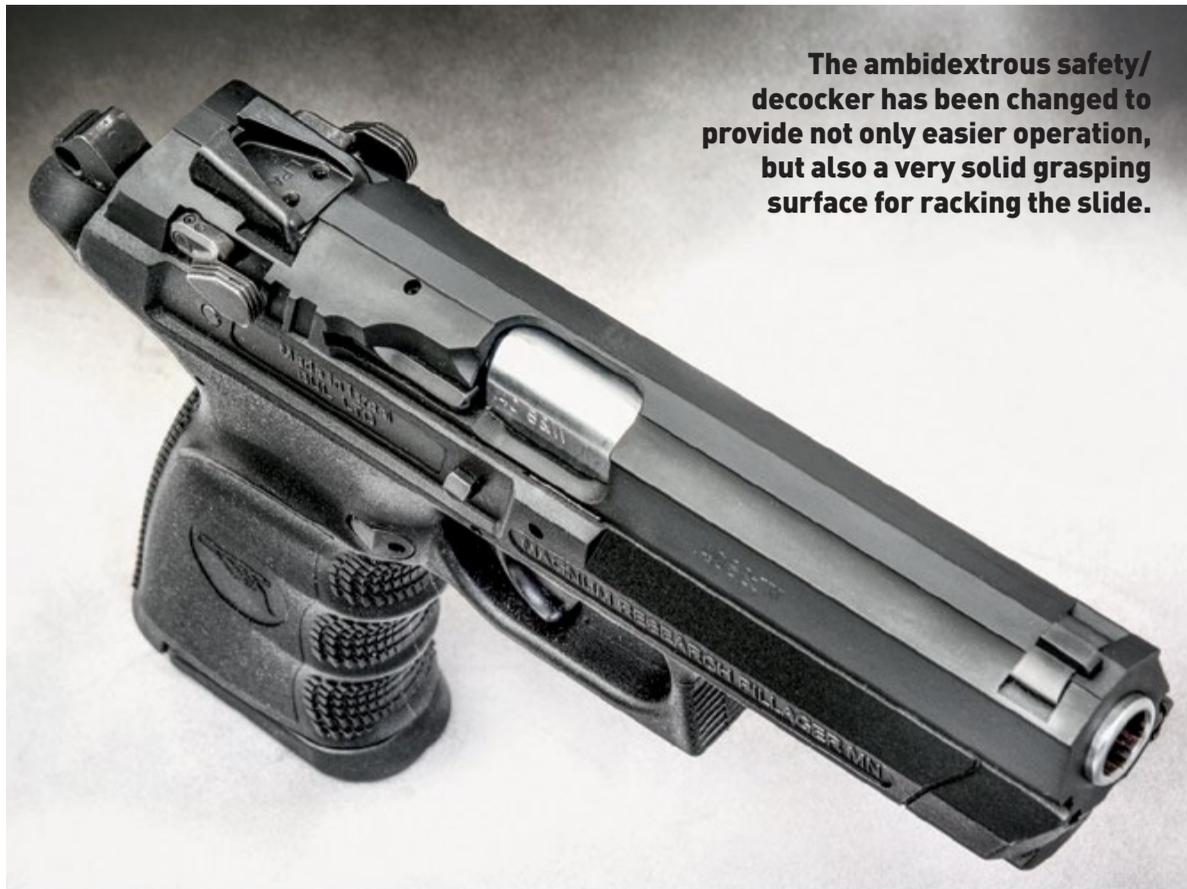
Today, it's more likely that a new handgun will have a polymer frame than one made of alloy or steel. For the Baby Desert Eagle, now in its third iteration, polymer has allowed this classic Israeli version of the CZ 75 to soar to new heights with a lighter carry weight and a new grip frame design.

Icon Reborn

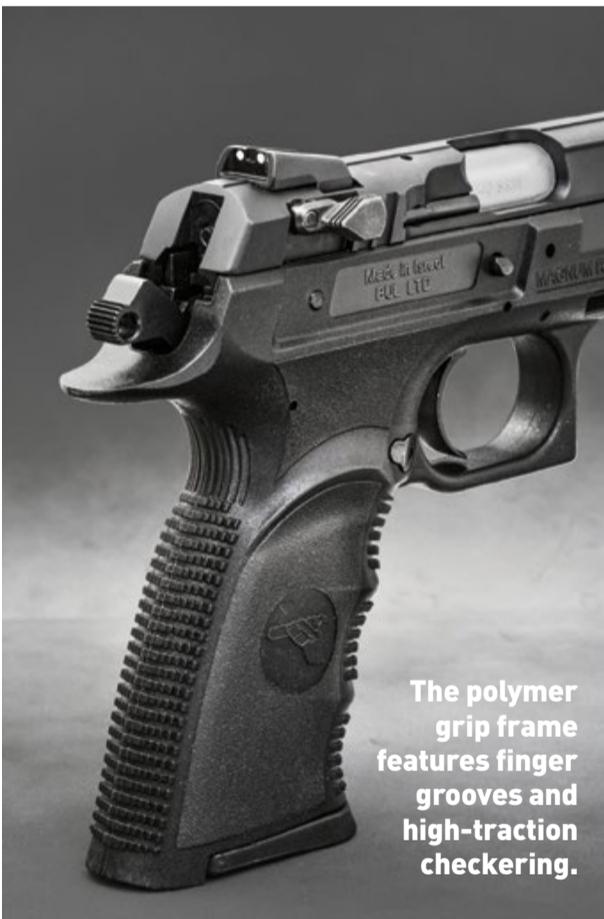
Among the many variations of the *Ceská Zbrojovka* design, the Baby Desert Eagle is best remembered for its second version, a specially built, Israeli-manufactured CZ 75 BD. The Baby Desert Eagle II and the new Baby Desert Eagle III's internal design and operation are essentially the same and based entirely on the CZ—a short recoil-operated, locked-breech design.

Although the exterior is reconfigured to resemble the big .44 and .50 AE Desert Eagles, the Baby Desert Eagle III remains a CZ at heart. It's a single-action/double-action, single-stack variant chambered in either 9mm, .40 S&W or .45 ACP. In all other respects it is the *Ceská Zbrojovka* design introduced in 1976 and improved with the addition of a firing pin block in the late 1980s (CZ 75 B) and the addition of a decocking lever (CZ 75 BD), which

Magnum Research's new polymer-framed, CZ 75-inspired Baby Desert Eagle III is available in 9mm and .40 S&W (shown).



The ambidextrous safety/decocker has been changed to provide not only easier operation, but also a very solid grasping surface for racking the slide.



The polymer grip frame features finger grooves and high-traction checkering.



The slide rides inside the frame rails for a very tight slide-to-frame fit.



SPECIFICATIONS

MAGNUM RESEARCH BABY DESERT EAGLE III

Caliber	.40 S&W
Barrel	4.43 inches
OA Length	8.38 inches
Weight	28 ounces (empty)
Grips	Polymer
Sights	Three-dot
Action	DA/SA
Finish	Matte black
Capacity	12+1
MSRP	\$646

thus second-strike capability) and the decocker (pushing either ambidextrous safety lever downward automatically decocks the Baby Desert Eagle III and engages its internal safeties).

Finally, at the end of the day, the CZ 75 design remains one of the easiest designs to field-strip for cleaning. As important as ease of operation is the ease in which a gun can be taken down in the field for cleaning or to address a mechanical malfunction. With the magazine removed and the chamber cleared, all the user needs to do is cock the hammer and move the slide back 0.1875 inches, thereby aligning two registration marks (one on the rear of the slide, one on the frame) and pull out the slide release lever. The slide slips off the frame and the recoil spring, guide rod and barrel are easily removed. Another small but noteworthy feature is that the back of the guide rod has a registration pin that locks into the barrel lug, keeping it firmly in place for reassembly.

Polymer Powerhouse

As Magnum Research celebrates its 30th anniversary in 2016, the company has introduced three new 9mm versions of the polymer Baby Desert Eagle III, the Full Size model with a 4.43-inch barrel, a Semi-Compact with a 3.93-inch barrel and a Compact variant with a 3.64-inch barrel. In .40 S&W, there are two polymer-framed versions, the Full Size model I tested and the Semi-Compact. The new .45 ACP model is currently only offered on the steel-frame platform.

The advantage of a polymer frame, other than weight savings, is the distinctive grip design. The polymer models have a fully contoured grip with deeply molded checkering on the backstrap, a slightly deeper beavertail and a finger-grooved,

was also used on the Baby Desert Eagle II. What is most significant about that feature on the Baby Desert Eagle III is that the shape of the ambidextrous safety/decocker has been changed to provide not only easier operation, but also a very solid (albeit roughly textured) grasping surface for racking the slide.

This is noteworthy because, like all CZ 75 designs, the slide is shallow and rides inside the frame rails. This allows for a very tight slide-to-frame fit, solid barrel lockup and more consistent accuracy, a CZ 75 design trait inspired by the c.1947

Sig P210, a pistol still regarded as one of the most accurate handguns in the world. The Baby Desert Eagle III, its predecessor, and all other CZ 75-based models, such as the Jericho, the Canik TP-9V2, the TriStar T-120 and the Swiss-built Sphinx SDP Compact, are all distinguished by this characteristic. Not all, however, have the ambidextrous safety/decocker, nor do they have the Desert Eagle's barrel and dust cover configuration.

The CZ design endows the Baby Desert Eagle III with excellent balance, a proven double-action/single-action trigger (and



“What the polymer-framed models bring to the table is a lighter carry weight without sacrificing recoil management...”

checked, combat-style frontstrap. This gives the polymer Baby Desert Eagle III superb stability in the hand, especially with the higher-velocity .40 S&W chambering. In all other respects, the undercut triggerguard and the relationship of the slide and magazine releases are identical to the steel-framed models.

With an overall length of 8.38 inches, a width of 1.53 inches, a height of 5.75 inches and a weight of just 28 ounces unloaded, this is one of the easiest full-sized handguns to carry concealed. The Semi-Compact model is 0.55 inches shorter

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The Baby Desert Eagle III produced 2-inch or smaller groups with all of the test loads, with Federal's 180-grain Hydra-Shok JHPs producing a 1-inch, five-shot group.

in overall length and 3 ounces lighter, though both models offer a very respectable 12+1 capacity in .40 S&W.

The imperative with any CZ-platform pistol, the Baby Desert Eagle III included, is how the gun is put together and the materials that are used. That is what can, and often does, separate the various CZ 75 designs from one another. A CZ 75 pistol can cost as little as \$459 or as much as \$1,295, but the Full Size Baby Desert Eagle III in .40 S&W carries a very affordable MSRP of just \$646.

Range Time

I tested the Baby Desert Eagle III using three different brands of tactical ammunition. This included Hornady's American Gunner 180-grain XTP, Federal's Hydra-Shok 180-grain JHP and Sig Sauer's Elite Performance V-Crown 165-grain JHP. All three were consistently accurate with the test gun, delivering average groups of 2 inches or less from 15 yards. The Hornady load clocked a 1,005 fps average through a ProChrono chronograph for the slowest velocity, but this is incremental, while the

PERFORMANCE

MAGNUM RESEARCH BABY DESERT EAGLE III .40 S&W

LOAD	VELOCITY	ACCURACY
Hornady American Gunner 180 XTP	1,005	1.99
Federal 180 Hydra-Shok JHP	1,010	1.00
Sig Sauer 165 V-Crown JHP	1,054	1.20

BULLET WEIGHT MEASURED IN GRAINS, VELOCITY IN FPS BY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY IN INCHES FOR BEST FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 15 YARDS.

“The pistol’s white-dot sights are quick to pick up...and the gun is quick to get back on target.”

Federal Premium load traveled down-range at 1,010 fps. The lighter Sig Sauer V-Crown load had the highest average velocity of 1,054 fps.

The best five-round group, which measured 1 inch with two shots overlapping, was scored with the Federal load. The Sig Sauer ammo opened up by a mere 0.20 inches, while Hornady delivered its best five rounds at 1.99 inches. All hits were inside the 9, 10 and X rings at point of aim. The pistol’s white-dot sights are quick to pick up, recoil is more than manageable for a .40 S&W and the gun is quick to get back on target. When fired in single action, the trigger’s take-up is 0.375 inches with minimal stacking and zero overtravel.

The Takeaway

I have always liked the CZ 75 design and the entire line of Baby Desert Eagle pistols. What the polymer-framed models bring to the table is a lighter carry weight without sacrificing recoil management; a superior grip design; ease of operation and the advantages of single- and double-action firing; a decocking, hammer-fired action; and excellent, low-profile white-dot sights. It is simply the best Baby Desert Eagle yet, or perhaps the best CZ 75 yet. Take your pick. For more information, visit magnumresearch.com or call 508-635-4273. 🔫

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CARRY AT HOME





Most people think of concealed carry as a safety precaution for the street, but it has saved the lives of people in the home, too!

BY MASSAD AYOUB

Lifesavers

Case One took place in Illinois. An elderly widow had grown very frail after a life of hard work, and had a great deal of difficulty moving around. She realized that if she ever needed the revolver she had promised her late husband she'd keep for protection, she probably couldn't get to it in time if it was in a fixed location such as a nightstand. She got into the habit of tucking the Colt .38 into the front pocket of the apron she always wore around the house. The time came when a vicious young criminal broke into her apartment and made it clear that he intended to rape and probably murder her.

She never could have made it to a drawer or safe to retrieve the gun in time, but she was able to whip the Colt out of her apron and take him at gunpoint. She begged him to leave so she wouldn't have to shoot him. Instead, he lunged at her, clawing for the gun.

She shot the attacker dead and survived the incident unscathed.

Case Two takes us to New York City. When you step outside to perform a routine chore like bringing the trash to the curb for pickup, or retrieving the mail, you're unlikely to put a gun on unless you have one on your person already. That was the case with a famous NYPD officer several years ago, a man who had won the National Police Revolver Championship. Off-duty, carrying the garbage out, he saw some punks attacking an elderly woman. He dropped the garbage can and ran to the scene to intervene. The thugs turned on him, and the next thing he knew he was being hit with an iron pipe. He fought back with courage he had exhibited on-duty before, and beat the hell out of them and subdued them. But he suffered hand injuries from bludgeon blows that crippled him to the point where he had to retire from both an exemplary police career and a stellar shooting career. Had he been carrying his off-duty gun, the outcome

EVERY NOW AND THEN ON INTERNET GUN FORUMS, you'll see a thread titled "Concealed Carry At Home." These discussions tend to quickly break down into two camps: those who do indeed keep their gun on their person when at home, and those who feel it's paranoid. There seems to be an unwritten law of the internet that says, "Anyone who carries more (or more often) than the guy commenting is paranoid, and anyone who carries less is a 'sheeple.'"

Well, for what it's worth, count this writer among those who carry at home. I put my gun on when I get dressed in the morning, and take it off and set it within reach when I undress at night. It's a simple practice that leaves that piece of emergency safety-rescue equipment always available. Let's look at three examples of why that practice makes sense.

would likely have been much better for him when the muggers turned on him.

Another incident in New York City provides our **Case Three**. Another officer of the same department was involved in a strikingly similar incident that had a much different ending because of one small factor. This cop was also off-duty and also taking a garbage can to the sidewalk when he observed a violent crime in progress. The one small difference was that this officer wore a gun 24/7. Suddenly facing an armed opponent, he instantly had his own gun in his hand, a Smith & Wesson Model 36 with 2-inch barrel and semi-square butt. This allowed him to "take out the garbage" in more ways than one. Keeping the little five-shot .38 Special on his person—even when he was at home—had proven to be a literally lifesaving practice.

Why Concealed?

Properly loaded, a snub-nose .38 Special can be an effective manstopper, and if a tired cop or a very senior citizen can wear one around the house all day, as in two of the cases presented above, so can any of us. I know a professional woman who works out of a home office on her remote farm, far from police assistance. Her workplace uniform is jeans and a polo shirt, and she's never without a little .380 ACP in the right front pocket of her pants. Cargo shorts and Docker's-type casual trousers make it easy and discreet to carry a subcompact-sized handgun in a pocket holster. Today's super-flat, super-small 9mm autos that take the full-power 9mm cartridge—think Glock 43, Kahr PM9, Kimber Solo, Ruger LC9 or Springfield XD-S—deliver a particularly attractive package of adequate power in a small, light envelope.

But why concealed carry in the home? After all, can't a person just keep a loaded gun in a drawer, or on a shelf, or in a quick-access gun safe? Sure we can, but if we're in Room A and the gun is in Room

CARRY AT HOME

When we need it, we may not be able to reach it in time if a particularly stealthy or clever intruder surprises us face-to-face, as happened in Case One. In Case Two, there was no time to run back into the house for a gun, and there wouldn't have been in Case Three, either.

Why concealed? Even in places where you can't get a permit to carry in public, isn't it legal in every jurisdiction to carry openly within the four walls of your home? Yep, that's correct, too—even in Washington D.C., where the long-standing prohibition against that practice was crushed in 2008 by the United States Supreme Court's landmark decision in



Keeping a gun on all the time makes it instantly available.

Photo by Alex Landeen

But why concealed carry in the home? After all, can't a person just keep a loaded gun in a drawer, or on a shelf, or in a quick-access gun safe?

Heller v. District of Columbia. However, there is such a thing as discretion, and there are good reasons for it.

Those people who think it's paranoid to carry a gun at home (and some who think

it's paranoid to do so anywhere) aren't confined to the internet. They exist in all our lives. The neighbor who comes to the door unexpectedly to borrow the proverbial cup of sugar. The postman or delivery-

man. Your mother-in-law who hates guns. Or one of your kids' friends.

I remember the time I'd just gotten home from speaking for a cop in an officer-involved shooting case (he was cleared), and I was still wearing a suit and tie. I had just taken off my suit coat when there came a knocking on the door. I opened it to find a young teenager who was asking after my 13-year-old daughter. He froze and began stammering, his eyes fixed on my right hip, where I kept a Smith & Wesson .45 ACP and a badge



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clipped to my belt. Somehow, I don't think it was the badge that drew his attention. He babbled an excuse and left. Now, a dad has a right to be smug about one less teenager lusting after his little princess, but the fact is, I don't think as a parent I have a right to unnecessarily interfere with my children's socializing. Think about this scenario: A kid goes running home and shouts, "Mommy! Mommy! I went to David's house to play, and his daddy had a real gun on!" Suddenly, one of our kid's best friends is forbidden by his frightened parents to come over and play. That isn't fair to the kid.

There's also the possibility of false accusations. One man in New Hampshire wound up in a legal nightmare when a woman came onto his rural property asking for directions. He habitually open-carried a Sig Sauer P220 .45 ACP. The woman went to the police and claimed he had pulled it on her. He denied it. "He said, she said" cases get ugly and expensive, and this one was both. Assuming he's telling the truth, if his gun had simply been concealed, that costly and painful course of events would probably never have taken place.

On his excellent radio show *Gun Talk*, my old friend, Tom Gresham, hosted a guest who went through a similar nightmare. If you live long enough, you meet the guy who feels his mission in life is to make all of his neighbors as miserable as possible. One such guy spotted Tom's guest leaving the house one day with a pistol openly holstered on his hip. He started a verbal argument with him. Tom's guest simply drove away and was horrified to be arrested after the whacko neighbor falsely reported that he'd pulled the gun on him. The presence of the gun on his belt when the cops confronted him, of course, made the false complaint seem plausible. As some say on the internet, "Concealed carry could have prevented this."

Easy Choice

Personally, I open-carry full-sized handguns on my own rural property all the time, but I still keep an open-front shirt or a photographer's vest near each door that I can quickly slip on to receive any visitor who might not know me and be comfortable with me being visibly armed.

Each of us makes our own choices. Good luck with yours. For some of us, simply keeping the gun on all the time makes it both instantly available and secure from unauthorized hands. For us, concealed carry at home is what works best. 🔫

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NEW FOR 2016

The latest subcompact pistols and revolvers hitting the market for your personal protection. **BY WILLIAM BELL**

With concealed carry at its most popular, gun manufacturers are stepping up to create dozens of pocket-sized pistols and wheelguns for personal protection. These guns are extremely compact with aluminum alloy and polymer frames while other components help reduce weight while still offering plenty of firepower. Here are a number of interesting new models hitting the market soon.



Llama Micro Max

Many firearms aficionados will be familiar with the name Llama, once associated with fine Spanish-made firearms. Well, the name and quality is back, but the guns are now crafted in the Philippines. One of the more well-known models is the Micro Max in .380 ACP. Features include contoured polymer grips (optional wood grip seen here), a rounded butt with a flat mainspring housing, an extended beavertail grip safety, a skeletonized combat hammer and trigger, a lowered and flared ejection port, and a throated barrel. Novak-style sights and a matte blue finish complete the package. (eagleimportsinc.com; 732-493-0333)



Photos Courtesy Manufacturers

Several new concealed-carry handguns are hitting the market this year, including the Llama Micro Max from Eagle Imports.



Springfield XD-S 3.3" .40

The popular Springfield XD-S 3.3" has been enhanced in 2016 with the addition of a version in .40 S&W. Single-column magazines with a flush-fit base carry six rounds, and a seven-round magazine comes with the Mid-Mag X-Tension base. This steel and polymer pistol weighs only 22 ounces with an empty magazine, and the integral grip is knurled for good hand purchase. A red fiber-optic front sight is mated with a fixed dovetail rear sight. (springfield-armory.com; 800-680-6866)



Remington RM380

This diminutive pistol is a mating of steel and aluminum alloy. It weighs a scant 12.2 ounces unloaded while offering a 6+1 capacity of .380 ACP ammo. It has a smooth, 10-pound DAO trigger; a fully functional slide stop; an ambidextrous magazine release; and glass-filled nylon grips that are checkered like the frontstrap. It can also be had with a Crimson Trace laser sight mounted on the triggerguard, which adds little weight or bulk. (remington.com; 800-243-9700)



Beretta Px4 Storm Subcompact

Here's a gun with features and firepower you would not expect on a handgun this size. Like its bigger brothers, you get interchangeable backstraps, an accessory rail, a reversible magazine release, an ambidextrous safety, a black Bruniton finish and a DA/SA trigger. Its polymer frame keeps its weight down to 26.1 ounces, yet in 9mm it has a 13+1 capacity. (beretta.com)



Taurus Millennium G2

The Taurus Millennium G2 is not really new, but the recently redesigned Gen 2 enhancements have made it even more useful as a concealment handgun. Its polymer and steel construction and thin profile keep the weight down to 22 ounces, plus the 3.2-inch barrel gives it an overall length of just 6.24 inches. This 12+1 capacity 9mm now features an accessory rail, high-profile sights, aggressively textured integral grips and "melted" edges that add comfort and won't catch on a holster or clothing. The pistol's standard features include the Taurus Security System and a loaded-chamber indicator. (taurususa.com; 800-327-3776)



Bond Arms Patriot

The Patriot from Bond Arms features a stainless steel double-barrel assembly and frame. The derringer is chambered for .45 LC/.410 rounds, and the 3-inch barrels are interchangeable with Bond Arms' other barrels. The Patriot features Bond's patented rebounding hammer, retracting firing pins and a crossbolt safety. It weighs 21.5 ounces unloaded and has rosewood grip panels. A driving holster is included. (bondarms.com; 817-573-4445)



Smith & Wesson M&P Shield Ported

One of the more popular 9mm concealment pistols has just become even better. The M&P Shield in 9mm has been given the Performance Center treatment, which includes a ported barrel and slide to help tame recoil; an enhanced trigger with a 6.5-pound pull and shorter reset; a HiViz green fiber-optic front sight; and a HiViz red fiber-optic rear sight. You also get a flush-fit, seven-round mag and an extended, eight-round mag with the pistol. (smith-wesson.com; 800-331-0852)



Ruger LC9s

While the Ruger LC9 captivated shooters years ago when it was introduced, the new striker-fired LC9s features a short, light, crisp trigger pull for faster, more accurate shooting. It uses all existing LC9 accessories, including lasers, holsters and extended nine-round magazines, and like previous models, the Ruger LC9s features a through-hardened alloy steel slide and a one-piece, high-performance, glass-filled nylon grip frame. The Ruger LC9s' checkered grip frame provides a secure and comfortable grip. (ruger.com)



Bersa Thunder 380 Combat Plus

Most compact .380 ACP pistols have a reduced magazine capacity, but not the Bersa Thunder 380 Combat Plus. It has the same features and many of the same dimensions as the Thunder 380 Combat, but instead of an 8+1 capacity, it carries a full 15+1 capacity. The Combat versions have distinctive green, rubber, wraparound grips; larger slide serrations; a redesigned slide with a lower profile; a more rounded triggerguard; and a smaller beavertail for better concealment. (eagleimportsinc.com; 732-493-0333)



Kimber K6s

One of the most talked about handguns to hit the scene, the Kimber K6s is a stainless steel, six-shot, .357 Magnum revolver that is about the same size as the old Detective Special. It has a concealed hammer with a smooth double-action-only mechanism, and it weighs just 23 ounces. Unique for a wheelgun, the rear sight is set in a dovetail and the front sight is pinned. The cylinder has flats instead of flutes, the cylinder release is the push-button type, and the grips are ergonomically shaped polymer. (kimberamerica.com; 888-243-4522)



Sphinx SDP Subcompact Alpha

With a steel slide and an aluminum alloy frame, the Sphinx SDP Subcompact Alpha is precision machined and hand fitted to provide maximum accuracy while remaining highly concealable. Weighing just 25 ounces unloaded, this pistol has a 3.13-inch barrel, full-length guide rails, a match-grade trigger and a 13+1 capacity in 9mm. More features include front and rear slide serrations, fixed sights, an ambidextrous decocker, a reversible magazine catch and an enlarged, undercut triggerguard. (kriss-usa.com; 855-574-7787)



Ruger LCP Custom

Compact at just 5.16 inches long and 3.8 inches tall, the LCP Custom is designed to fit a variety of holsters and provide concealed-carry options. It features a steel slide and a black, one-piece, high-performance, glass-filled nylon grip frame. More of the LCP Custom's notable features include the wide, red-anodized, skeletonized aluminum trigger; the polished stainless steel guide rod; and a front photoluminescent and rear windage adjustable sights. (ruger.com)



SCCY CPX-3

SCCY makes some of the smallest subcompacts in 9mm, and now the company has entered the .380 ACP market with its new CPX-3, which has a unique feature the company calls the "Roebuck Quad Lock" system. The barrel locks to the slide in four distinct areas, making the barrel and slide almost a solid piece for enhanced accuracy. With a polymer frame and stainless steel slide, the CPX-3 weighs just 15 ounces unloaded. The top of the slide is laser etched to reduce glare and is finished in black nitride or a natural matte finish. The DAO trigger is set at the factory for a pull weight of 8 pounds. (sccy.com; 866-729-7599)

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Iver Johnson Pocket Ace

Harkening back to days of green-felt-topped card tables and riverboat gamblers, the Pocket Ace is based on the Sharps four-shot Pepperbox pistol first introduced in 1859. Like the original, this Iver Johnson “derringer” is chambered in .22 rimfire and has a rotating hammer nose that changes position each time it’s cocked to fire the cartridges in all four chambers. The Pocket Ace has a satin stainless steel finish and walnut grips. (iverjohnsonarms.com; 321-636-3377)



Honor Defense Honor Guard

One of the “new kids on the block,” Honor Defense makes its pistols in the U.S.A., with all-American components. The company’s Honor Guard in 9mm is one of the slimmest made at 0.96 inches, with a weight of 22 ounces and an overall length of 6.2 inches. This small pistol has several unique features like front and rear serrations that go over the slide, a rear sight that is flat in the front should it be needed to help retract the slide one-handed, an ambidextrous slide catch and magazine release, backstraps in two sizes, and seven- and eight-round magazines. There’s also a version with a manual safety, along slide and a FIST frame (Firearm with Integrated STandoff). (honordefense.com; 678-943-8035)



Walther PPS M2

For 2016, Walther has made some changes to the PPS, which is already a highly popular, compact handgun for concealed carry. With its 21-ounce weight, the PPS M2’s grip texture has been redesigned and made more “aggressive” to help tame recoil and muzzle flip. By request, the original paddle-style magazine release has been replaced with a conventional magazine button release. Striker-fired, the PPS M2 has a 6.1-pound trigger and is only 1-inch wide. (waltherarms.com; 479-242-8500)

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CARRY LAWS



Concealed-carry laws for all 50 states in 2016.

BY JEREMY D. CLOUGH

ALL 50 STATES ALLOW SOME FORM OF concealed carry, but the applicable laws remain as different as the states themselves, and they are constantly changing. What follows is a general overview of each state's laws on issuing permits, as well as whether they issue permits to non-residents and if they recognize permits from other states. While "reciprocity" is a term of art, I've used it here in the more general sense of whether or not they will recognize another state's permit. The exact terms of the reciprocity they offer are, of course, different for each state. Just because they recognize some out-of-state permits doesn't mean they recognize yours, so you'll need to check that. Other relevant laws you'll need to know are limits on ammunition or magazine capacity as well as the law of self-defense for that state. Included are links to official sources in each state, as well as the citation for their CCW statute to serve as starting points for

the additional research you should do to make sure you obey the law.

What follows is not legal advice. For that, you must contact an attorney licensed in that state who specializes in this area of law. This article is not intended to answer all the questions you need to ask, but to tell you where to look for the answers you need.

Be aware that laws change constantly and new ones often become effective

complicating things, available information, even when it comes from state agencies, may be conflicting. While the information in this article came from state government sources (including directly from the most recently published statutes), do not rely on this or any other unofficial source. Verify all information prior to traveling, and if you have any doubt at all about carrying, don't do it.

There is a school of thought that

“Be aware that laws change constantly and new ones often become effective at unpredictable times.”

at unpredictable times. Almost half of all states made some changes in their CCW laws during 2015 and 2016, and some states have multiple versions of their CCW laws staged to take effect at different times, some as far in advance as 2021. There's no guarantee that they won't change again by the time this gets to press and into your hands. Further

pushing the legal limits on concealed carry will further expand our rights to do so. More often, it provides others with fodder for further restricting gun rights, and it means a fast trip to jail, confiscation of your firearms, heavy legal bills and possible lifelong restrictions on your right to own firearms. Know the law and stay within it. 🔫

ALABAMA

Website: www.ago.alabama.gov/Page-Gun-Reciprocity-Law%20

Statute: Code of Ala. § 13A-11-75

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: Varies by jurisdiction and length of time for which permit is issued

Length: 1-5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: The law was rewritten extensively, effective August 1, 2013. While Alabama used to only recognize those states that reciprocally recognize their permit, it now recognizes any carry permit.

ALASKA

Website: dps.alaska.gov/statewide/PermitsLicensing/concealedhandguns.aspx

Statute: Alaska Stat. 18.65.700

Issuing Authority: Department of Public Safety, apply at State Trooper office

Cost: Up to \$99 initial/\$30 renewal

Length: Up to 5 years (expires on the person's birthday in the fifth year following issuance)

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: While a permit is available, none is required to carry concealed in Alaska.

ARIZONA

Website: www.azdps.gov/Services/Concealed_Weapons/

Statute: A.R.S. § 13-3102, 13-3112

Issuing Authority: Department of Public Safety, Concealed Weapons Permits Unit

Cost: \$60 initial/\$43 renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: While a permit is available, none is required to carry a weapon in Arizona. Consult state laws regarding limitations on where and how weapons may be carried.

ARKANSAS

Website: asp.arkansas.gov/services-and-programs/detail/concealed-handgun-licensing

Statute: A.C.A. § 5-73-309

Issuing Authority: Director of Department of State Police

Cost: \$100 plus other costs if under 65 years of age (currently \$144.94), \$50 plus other costs if over 65 (currently \$93.44). Renewals are \$35 plus other costs, with no difference based on age (currently \$62.80).

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Some minor changes to eligibility, generally regarding retired law enforcement and military personnel, were approved by the governor in February and March of 2015. Most significantly, the age requirement of 21 years has been reduced to 18 for those who have served in the military.

CALIFORNIA

Website: oag.ca.gov/firearms

Statute: Cal Pen Code § 26150, 26155

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff or Chief/Head of Police

Cost: Licensing authorities application fee is limited to \$100 and \$25 for renewals, but statute provides for other fees (including up to \$150 for any required psychological exam) and for regular increase in cost.

Length: 2 years max for civilian permit

Terms Of Issuance: May issue

Reciprocity: Not provided for

Out Of State Permits: Code appears to allow county sheriff to grant a permit to one not residing in their county if their primary place of business is there and they spend a "substantial period of time" there.

Note: Effective January 1, 2016, a sheriff may allow a municipal police department to process applications. The statute already provided for police to agree for a sheriff to process their applications.

COLORADO

Website: www.colorado.gov/pacific/cbi/chpstatutes

Statute: C.R.S. 18-12-203

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: No more than \$100 initial, \$50 renewal, plus other fees

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes, but appears to apply to only resident permits

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: A temporary emergency permit is also available, and has an age limit lowered from 21 to 18. Effective July 1, 2013, Colorado banned the acquisition of magazines that contain over 15 rounds. Unlike the nationwide ban in 1994, when magazines manufactured prior to the ban were still regularly sold after it went into effect, in Colorado magazines manufactured before the ban appear to be "grandfathered in" only if you actually possessed them prior to the ban and maintained continuous possession of them since that time.

CONNECTICUT

Website: www.ct.gov/despp/cwp/view.asp?a=4213&q=494614&desppNav_GID=2080

Statute: Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-28

Issuing Authority: Chief of Police, Warden or First Selectman for temporary permit, Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection (State Police) for state permit and for non-residents

Cost: \$140 initial (appears to be \$70 for local, \$70 for state) plus other fees, \$70 renewal

Length: 5 years for state; temporary permit unclear, but must receive state permit within 60 days of receiving local permit

Terms Of Issuance: May issue

Reciprocity: No

Out Of State Permits: Yes, statute appears to require that non-residents already be permitted by another jurisdiction, but not necessarily their home state.

Note: Residents must apply locally for a temporary permit prior to eligibility for State permit. For out-of-state permits, apply directly to Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection (State Police). On April 5, 2013, new restrictions took effect on certain firearms designated "assault weapons," as well as magazines containing more than 10 rounds. Other minor changes took effect October 1, 2015.

DELAWARE

Website: courts.delaware.gov/Superior/weapons.stm

Statute: 11 Del. C. § 1441

Issuing Authority: Prothonotary of Superior Court

Cost: \$65 initial/renewal

Length: 2 years initial/3 renewal; expires on June 1

Terms Of Issuance: May issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Attorney General has authority to issue a short-term permit to non-resident under very limited circumstances

Note: Statute allows 3-year initial permit/5 renewal, but procedural rules only allow 2-/3-year licenses.

FLORIDA

Website: [www.freshfromflorida.com/#Concealed-](http://www.freshfromflorida.com/#Concealed-Weapons)

[Weapons](#)

Statute: Fla. Stat. § 790.06

Issuing Authority: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Cost: \$112 initial, \$60 renewal (including fingerprint processing fee; renewal is \$102 renewal if non-resident)

Length: 7 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Reciprocity appears to apply only to those with permits issued by their state of residence, but is extended to license holders under 21 if they are serving or have been honorably discharged from the military. Effective July 1, 2014, law was changed to allow for appointment of tax collectors to receive CCW applications.

GEORGIA

Website: dps.georgia.gov/georgias-firearm-permit-reciprocity (reciprocity information only)

Statute: O.C.G.A. § 16-11-129

Issuing Authority: Judge of County Probate Court

Cost: \$30 initial/renewal, plus additional fees that vary by county; \$1 for temporary renewal permit

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Georgia passed a sweeping concealed-carry reform bill that became effective July 1, 2014. It clarified and dramatically increased the areas where permit holders could carry, long a grey area in Georgia law, and allowed churches to opt-in to permit concealed carry if they choose. Additionally, for those serving in or honorably discharged from the military, the age limit is reduced from 21 to 18.

HAWAII

Website: www.honolulu.org/information/index.php?page=gunmain

Statute: HRS § 134-9

Issuing Authority: Chief of Police

Cost: \$10

Length: 1 year

Terms Of Issuance: May issue "in an exceptional case"

Reciprocity: No

Out Of State Permits: Appear to be provided for

Note: Permits appeared to be limited to carrying in the counties in which they are issued. No residence requirement appears in the statute, which also authorizes permits for certain foreign nationals.

IDAHO

Website: www.ag.idaho.gov/concealedWeapons/concealedWeapons_index.html

Statute: Idaho Code § 18-3302, § 18-3302K (enhanced permit)

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$20 initial, \$15 renewal, plus additional fees

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Effective July 1, 2013, an "enhanced" permit became available, which is issued to residents or non-residents who already have a permit in their state of residence. It requires training, a requirement that is otherwise discretionary with the issuing sheriff. Certain minor changes become effective July 1, 2015.

ILLINOIS

Website: www.ispfsb.com/Public/CCL.aspx

Statute: 430 ILCS 66/10

Issuing Authority: Department of State Police

Cost: \$150 initial/renewal for resident, \$300 initial/

renewal for non-resident

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: No

Out Of State Permits: Yes, if state of residence has substantially similar weapons laws

Note: Non-residents who may lawfully carry in their home state are not prohibited from transporting a concealed firearm within their vehicle in Illinois, but may not remove the gun from their vehicle and may not leave it unsecured if they get out. Minor changes (including notifying officers of licensee status) became effective July of 2015.

INDIANA

Website: www.in.gov/isp/3179.htm

Statute: Indiana Code § 35-47-2-3

Issuing Authority: Superintendent of State Police through local chief law enforcement officer (Chief of Police/Sheriff)

Cost: \$40-125, plus fingerprints, for unlimited license (qualified license is only for hunting and target shooting)

Length: 4 years or lifetime

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Out-of-state permits appear to only be issued to those with a regular place of business in Indiana. Some minor elements of the law changed effective July 1, 2014.

IOWA

Website: www.dps.state.ia.us/asd/weapon_permits.shtml

Statute: Iowa Code § 724.11

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff, Commissioner of Public Safety for out of state applicants.

Cost: \$50 initial/\$25 renewal

Length: 5-year nonprofessional, 1-year professional or duration of employment for some LE professional permits

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes, but professional permit only

Note: Contact Commissioner of Public Safety for out-of-state and some professional permits.

KANSAS

Website: ag.ks.gov/public-safety/concealedcarry

Statute: K.S.A. § 75-7c05

Issuing Authority: Attorney General through County Sheriff

Cost: \$132.50 initial/\$25 renewal

Length: 4 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: While a permit is available, pursuant to legislation passed in 2015, no permit is required to carry concealed in Kansas. Certain other minor changes were approved April 2, 2015.

KENTUCKY

Website: www.kentuckystatepolice.org/conceal.htm

Statute: KRS § 237.110

Issuing Authority: State Police through County Sheriff

Cost: \$60 initial/\$60 renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Some changes to the statute became effective on July 15, 2014, including a provision that allowed for electronic applications and for

allowing those moving into the state with permits from their prior states of residence to carry for 120 days after becoming a Kentucky resident and meeting certain filing requirements. Some changes to the training requirements became law on March 23, 2015.

LOUISIANA

Website: www.lsp.org/handguns.html

Statute: La. R.S. 40:1379.3

Issuing Authority: Deputy Secretary of Department of Public Safety and Corrections

Cost: \$25 per year initial/renewal, with possible additional fees for initial, including a one-time \$50 for those who have not resided in the state for the 15 years prior to application; annual cost reduced by half for those 65 and older. License requires 20-year prepayment for those under 65, and 10-year prepayment for those over 65.

Length: 5 years or lifetime, with statutory provision for less than 5 years, and proof of training required every 5 years for lifetime.

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

MAINE

Website: www.maine.gov/dps/msp/licenses/weapons_permits.html

Statute: 25 M.R.S. § 2003

Issuing Authority: Varies by area of residence and could include Mayor/Municipal Authority, Chief of Police or Chief of State Police

Cost: \$35 initial/\$20 renewal (\$60 initial/renewal for non-residents)

Length: 4 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Effective October 15, 2015, no permit is required to carry concealed in Maine, provided the person is 21 (or 18 with current military service or honorable discharge) and not prohibited from possessing a firearm. Reciprocity rules were also liberalized pursuant to a bill approved by the governor on June 15, 2015. Other minor changes to the law became effective May 29, 2015.

MARYLAND

Website: mdsp.maryland.gov/Organization/Pages/CriminalInvestigationBureau/LicensingDivision/Firearms/WearandCarryPermit.aspx

Statute: Md. Public Safety Code Ann. § 5-306

Issuing Authority: Secretary of State Police

Cost: \$75 initial/\$50 renewal, plus other fees

Length: 2 years initial/3 years renewal

Terms Of Issuance: Statute reads "shall issue," but requires a "good and substantial" reason

Reciprocity: No

Out Of State Permits: Limited

MASSACHUSETTS

Website: www.mass.gov/eopss/firearms-reg-and-laws/

Statute: ALM GL ch. 140, § 131

Issuing Authority: Local Licensing Authority or Colonel of State Police

Cost: \$100

Length: 5-6 years, expires on applicant's birthday

Terms Of Issuance: May issue

Reciprocity: No

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: There are currently two different versions of Massachusetts' CCW statute. One is in effect until January 1, 2021 (which is the one covered above). The second goes into effect January 1, 2021. Temporary permits for alien nonresidents appear to only be available for firearms competition.

MICHIGAN

Website: www.michigan.gov/msp/0,4643,7-123-1591_3503_4654-10953--,00.html

Statute: MCLS § 28.422

Issuing Authority: County Clerk of Court

Cost: \$100 initial, plus possible other fees/\$115 renewal

Length: 4-5 years, expires on applicant's birthday

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Reciprocity does not appear to be extended to non-resident permits. Effective December 1, 2015, the old County Concealed Weapons Licensing Board system was abolished. Other changes took effect in May, June and July of 2015, with more taking effect February 22, 2016.

MINNESOTA

Website: dps.mn.gov/divisions/bca/bca-divisions/administrative/Pages/Permit-to-Carry-FAQ.aspx

Statute: Minn. Stat. § 624.714

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$100 or less initial/\$75 or less renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

MISSISSIPPI

Website: www.dps.state.ms.us/firearms/firearms-permit-unit/

Statute: Miss. Code Ann. § 45-9-101

Issuing Authority: Department of Public Safety

Cost: \$80 initial/\$40 renewal (\$20 renewal for residents over 65), with possible other fees (\$132/\$82 currently listed by DPS)

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes (statute allows residency requirement to be waived: DPS website, however, says they do not issue non-resident permits)

Note: Disabled veterans and active-duty military are exempt from the application and renewal fees. Effective July 1, 2015, handguns may be carried in a purse, briefcase or similar container without a permit. The enhanced permit has a training requirement and allows carry into otherwise prohibited areas.

MISSOURI

Website: www.mosheriffs.com/?page_id=2334

Website: ago.mo.gov/divisions/public-safety/concealed-carry-reciprocity (reciprocity information only)

Statute: § 571.101 R.S.Mo.

Issuing Authority: County or City Sheriff or designee

Cost: \$100 or less initial/\$50 or less renewal

Length: 3 years if issued prior to August 28, 2013, 5 years if later

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

MONTANA

Website: doj.mt.gov/enforcement/concealed-weapons/

Statute: Mont. Code Anno., § 45-8-321

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$50 initial, with possible additional \$5 fingerprint fee/\$25 renewal

Length: 4 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: A minor wording change took effect on April 1, 2015. As of March 27, 2015, renewals do not require re-fingerprinting.

NEBRASKA

Website: statepatrol.nebraska.gov/ConcealedCarry.aspx

Statute: R.R.S. Neb. § 69-2433

Issuing Authority: State Patrol

Cost: \$100 initial/\$50 renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

NEVADA

Website: www.lvmpd.com/Permits/ConcealedFirearms/tabid/124/Default.aspx

Website: [gsd.nv.gov/Resources/Carry_Concealed_Weapon_\(CCW\)_Permit/](http://gsd.nv.gov/Resources/Carry_Concealed_Weapon_(CCW)_Permit/)

Statute: Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 202.3657

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$60 initial/\$25 renewal, plus additional fees

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Website: www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/nhsp/ssb/permitslicensing/plupr.html

Statute: RSA 159:6

Issuing Authority: Local policing agency for residents, director of State Police or designee for non-residents

Cost: \$10 resident/\$100 non-resident

Length: Not less than 4 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Reciprocity not extended to permits issued by a state in which the permit holder does not reside. Similarly, the nonresident permit appears to require the applicant first be licensed in their home state.

NEW JERSEY

Website: www.state.nj.us/njsp/about/fire_ag2.html

Statute: N.J. Stat. § 2C:58-4, N.J.A.C. 13:54-2.1

Issuing Authority: Apply to Chief Police Officer/Superintendent of State Police, but issued by Superior Court

Cost: \$20, plus additional fees

Length: 2 years

Terms Of Issuance: May issue

Reciprocity: No

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: The statute says that Superior Court “shall” issue a permit, but “only if...satisfied that the applicant...has a justifiable need to carry.”

NEW MEXICO

Website: www.dps.state.nm.us/index.php/nm-concealed-carry/

Statute: N.M. Stat. Ann. § 29-19-4

Issuing Authority: Department of Public Safety

Cost: Not more than \$100, plus fingerprint fee initial/\$75 renewal

Length: 4 years, with refresher course required at 2 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Recent changes provide fee waivers for active military personnel or those honorably discharged.

NEW YORK

Website: www.troopers.ny.gov/Firearms/

Statute: NY CLS Penal § 400.00

Issuing Authority: County or City Licensing Officer with some procedural oversight by Superintendent of State Police.

Cost: Varies by geographic location

Length: Varies by geographic location, but all permits must be recertified to the division of State Police every five years

Terms Of Issuance: May issue

Reciprocity: Statute does not appear to provide for it

Out Of State Permits: Unclear, but appears so

Note: In January 2013, as a reaction to the murders at Sandy Hook elementary school, New York quickly passed an extensive gun control law that includes a ban on magazines holding more than seven rounds, a poorly-thought-out measure that effectively criminalized even law enforcement officers who possessed such magazines. Since that time, portions of the statute have been suspended. The state of the law, however, is fluid, and if you plan on passing through any part of New York, it would be wise to contact an attorney for legal advice.

NORTH CAROLINA

Website: www.ncdoj.gov/about-doj/law-enforcement-training-and-standards/law-enforcement-liason/concealed-weapon-reciprocity.aspx (reciprocity information only)

Statute: N.C. Gen. Stat. § 14-415.12

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$80, plus up to \$10 for fingerprints initial/\$75 renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Some changes took effect July 1 and October 1 of 2015 re-codifying eligibility requirements and limiting items a sheriff could request upon application.

NORTH DAKOTA

Website: www.ag.nd.gov/BCI/CW/CW.htm

Statute: N.D. Cent. Code, § 62.1-04-03

Issuing Authority: Bureau of Criminal Investigation

Cost: \$60 initial, plus fingerprints and \$50 testing fee/renewal amount unclear but appears to be \$60 (plus additional testing fees for Class 1 license)

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Several changes went into effect in 2013, including, per the Attorney General's office, that all North Dakota licenses previously issued to residents of non-reciprocal states are now invalid. Other minor changes were approved April 15, 2015. Class 1 permits also now have greater reciprocity recognition than Class 2 permits.

OHIO

Website: www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/ConcealedCarry.aspx/?from=nv

Statute: ORC Ann. 2923.125

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$67 initial, plus other possible fees/\$50 renewal, plus other possible fees if not a state resident for 5 years

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes, but appear to be limited to those employed in Ohio

Note: Certain changes to the law became effective March 23, 2015, including expanded reciprocity.

OKLAHOMA

Website: www.ok.gov/osbi/Concealed_Weapons_Licensing/

Statute: 21 Okl. St. § 1290.12

Issuing Authority: State Bureau of Investigation, apply at County Sheriff

Cost: \$100 initial for 5 years/\$85 renewal, plus no more than \$25 for fingerprints and \$10 for photo; \$200 initial for 10 years/\$170 renewal

Length: 5 years or 10 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Temporary permits are available for those who have been given a domestic abuse protective order. The law was updated effective November 1, 2015.

OREGON

Website: apps.oregon.gov/SOS/LicenseDirectory/Results?USStr=concealed (application information by county)

Statute: ORS § 166.291

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$65 for initial/\$50 renewal

Length: 4 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: No

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Some minor elements of the law changed January 2, 2016. Others were changed in July of 2015 and in March of 2014, when changes were approved affecting eligibility for those with prior marijuana arrests.

PENNSYLVANIA

Website: www.psp.pa.gov/firearms-information/Pages/Carrying-Firearms-in-Pennsylvania.aspx#_Vm4kE3j5pUQ

Statute: 18 Pa.C.S. § 6109

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff/Chief of Police

Cost: \$20

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes (must have permit in state of residence, if available)

RHODE ISLAND

Website: www.riag.ri.gov/Forms/BCIPermit%20Application.pdf (Attorney General permit)

Statute: R.I. Gen. Laws § 11-47-11, 18

Issuing Authority: Attorney General or local authorities, including Board of Police Commissioners/Chief or Superintendent of Police, Town Clerk, etc.

Cost: \$40

Length: 4 years

Terms Of Issuance: May issue

Reciprocity: No (limited reciprocity extended to those passing through the state without delay, and appears to only apply in their vehicle)

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: While the Attorney General may issue a permit based on a “proper showing of need” under 11-47-18, statute 11-47-11 provides that local licensing authorities shall issue a permit to a “suitable person” with a “good” or “proper reason” for seeking a license.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Website: www.sled.sc.gov/cwp.aspx?MenuID=CWP

Statute: S.C. Code Ann. § 23-31-215

Issuing Authority: S.C. Law Enforcement Division

Cost: \$50 initial, plus up to \$5 for fingerprints/\$50 renewal

Length: 5 years upon renewal

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Only if applicant owns real property (land) in South Carolina

Note: Reciprocity appears only to extend to resident permits.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 112 ▶

DOUBLE BARREL



Bond Arms' tiny but powerful Patriot derringer offers a one-touch punch of either 9mm or .45 ACP ammunition. In fact, it's incredibly easy to switch out a .45 ACP barrel assembly for a 9mm set, or vice versa, when needed.

SPECIFICATIONS

BOND ARMS PATRIOT

Caliber	.45 ACP/9mm
Barrel	3 inches
OA Length	5 inches
Weight	21.5 ounces (empty)
Grips	Rosewood
Sights	Fixed
Action	SA
Finish	Satin
Capacity	2
MSRP	\$598

PATRIOT

Slim dimensions and swap-out barrels make Bond Arms' over/under the ultimate backup.

BY D.K. PRIDGEN

Now in its 21st year, Bond Arms, based in the small town of Granbury, Texas, epitomizes the American family-based company. Bond Arms started with two brothers. Greg Bond, an engineer and tool and die maker, designed and produced the first and many of the succeeding Bond Arms double-barreled handguns. Gordon Bond, whose penchant was more for business than CNC, would provide business and marketing assistance to his brother's company. In 2007, Gordon purchased Bond Arms, where he remains today.

Bond Arms' double-barreled pistols are a modern rendition of Remington's Model 95, which was manufactured for 69 years beginning in 1866. Though the Remington design is much maligned today for its poor qualities, Greg Bond's engineering eye saw (and his designs corrected) the weaknesses of the 95. Bond Arms added a number of upgrades to the original design, including modern frames and barrels cast from CNC-machined stainless steel, interchangeable barrels, reliable safety mechanisms, rebounding hammers and retracting firing pins, as well as removable triggerguards on some of the company's models.

In the end, just handling a Bond Arms derringer proves that the Bond design is better made, heavier, stronger, more durable, more versatile and more attractive than the original Model 95. It is also a safer pistol. Under Gordon's leadership, a number of significant improvements have been made to an already admirable product. This includes a redesigned trig-

ger system that allows the trigger pull to be much lighter and crisper.

Many of the Bond double-barreled pistols are shipped with .45 Long Colt/.410 shotshell barrels in place. Aside from the interchangeability of the cartridges in Bond barrels, the .45 Long Colt and .410 shotshells share a commonality in that both were created in the U.S.

Patriotic Tribute

Bond Arms' new Patriot is a double-barreled patriotic tribute. The gun's grips are made from an attractive rosewood. A bald eagle and an American flag are laser-carved into the panels, leaving the frontstrap open. There is also a patch of checkering on the grips for enhanced control and an extension large enough for a pinky perch. These grips offer a palm-filling feel, allowing more recoil control

The Patriot is incredibly slim and comes with a very tall front sight for quick targeting at the close ranges where derringers typically excel.



“All of the pistol’s metal work is very nicely done, and the action was smoother than any other double-barreled pistol I have handled.”



Author tested a few Bond Arms holsters for the outing: a BAD Driving holster (above left and middle right), a Sticky Holster (bottom right) and a BAJ IWB holster (top right).

and shooting comfort.

The Patriot's 3-inch, stainless steel, over/under barrels are chambered for the .45 Long Colt and/or .410 shotshells. An integral front sight rides the top barrel while spring-loaded shell extractors aid in the use of rimmed cartridges. On rimless cartridges, a notch in the chamber's side provides room for a fingernail to pry out empty cases. Swapping barrels proved quick and easy with just the supplied hex wrench.

Moving to the stainless steel frame,

we find the key-lockable crossbolt safety whose condition can be determined visually and by touch. Also on the left side is Bond's spring-loaded locking lever handle, with a knurled portion for when a reload is really essential. Moving forward on the design reveals the enclosed (but removable) triggerguard and the smooth-faced trigger.

At the rear of the frame is a rebounding hammer and retracting firing pins. The design of the wide hammer allows for easy thumb cocking. Excluding the hammer's protuberance, as on all Bond pistols, the Patriot is virtually snag-free, making it a perfect pocket gun. And this protuberance can be further eliminated with draw technique; just place the thumb over the hammer while drawing. It shields the hammer and places the hand in position to draw back the hammer when the gun is completely drawn.

I searched my ammo larder for .45 Colt and .410 buckshot to no avail. Scouring local sources was also fruitless. With no .45 LC or .410 buckshot ammo on hand, and no immediate prospect, I chose to swap out the Patriot's barrels for .45 ACP and 9mm. For the range trip, I gathered three brands of ammunition for each of the two lucky calibers to be tested.

I also used a few Bond Arms holsters for the outing: a BAD Driving holster, a Sticky Holster and a BAJ IWB holster. I worked with each at the range and found them well made and designed.

Barrels Of Fun

My testing began by firing a few rounds through each barrel to determine point of impact for each barrel and the spread between them. Using the same sight

COVERT CONVERTS

One factor in the popularity of Bond Arms' double-barreled firearms is their ability to easily swap out barrels for longer, shorter or different-caliber barrels. Not only does this save the user the cost of another frame, but it also allows them to maintain a familiar frame and action.

Bond Arms' barrels are machined from stainless steel and finished in either stainless steel or a glare-resistant bead-blasted finish. Barrels for rimmed cartridges include automatic casing extractors. Rimless cartridges have an opening cut in the chamber side, which allows shooters to dig the empty case out easily.

MORE POWER: Bond Arms derringers can be quickly and easily converted with only a hex wrench. Swap that 2.5-inch .45 ACP barrel on your concealment pistol for a 4.25-inch barrel to grab a little plinking time at the range with target .38 Special loads. Are you headed to the back 40? Slip Bond's 4.25-inch barrel chambered for .45 Colt/.410 shotshell on the frame to fend off snakes and other vermin during the walk. Swapping barrels introduces shooters to the quality of Bond Arms' handguns and barrels. Each barrel slips on easily and fits snugly time after time. —D.K.Pridgen

“The Patriot is an excellent choice on which to bet your life.”

picture, the top barrel was almost dead-on but a couple of inches to the left, while the bottom was 2 to 3 inches low but well in line with the aiming point. That's typical for over/under double-barreled handguns. At the distances the gun was designed to operate, the Patriot's accuracy was just fine.

To determine the mechanical accuracy of the Patriot from the bench, I needed to eliminate any variances. I always chose one barrel of the pair for accuracy testing. My accuracy results may look a little large, but remember that any small handgun like the Patriot is intended to help extradite you from a deadly up-close-and-personal situation, not make headshots from 30 feet away.

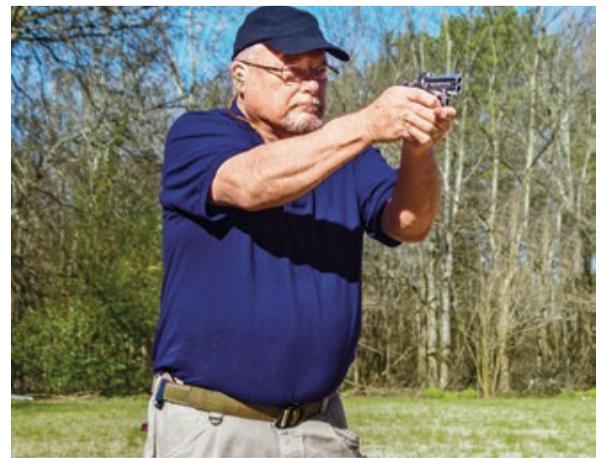
Finally, I worked with the Patriot off of a shooting bench. Shooting an IDPA target set 7 yards away, I fired two rounds and repeated the exercise. As I closed on the target, the barrel-impact deviation became less noticeable. All hits were in the center circle.

Next, I ran a couple of pressure exercises at 5 yards. One was 10 shots fired as fast as possible with the Bond by my side, its safety off and its hammer down. When the smoke cleared, there were 10 holes in the IDPA target, each inside the central circle of the target.

Final Shots

As I have found each time I worked with any Bond Arms product, this company produces some truly reliable firearms. All of the pistol's metal work is very nicely done, and the action was smoother than any other double-barreled pistol I have handled. There seems to be a lot of pride in the workmanship.

If your lifestyle or need is for a well-made two-shooter, look no further than Bond Arms. The Patriot is an excellent choice on which to bet your life. And it never hurts to be patriotic and show the flag, too. For more information, visit bondarms.com or call 817-573-4445. 🔫



▶ PERFORMANCE		
BOND ARMS PATRIOT		
LOAD	VELOCITY	ACCURACY
.45 ACP		
CorBon 160 DPX	917	3.31
Federal 185 JHP	839	3.52
Hornady 185 FTX	823	3.77
9mm		
CorBon 95 DPX	1,103	3.53
Federal 115 JHP	1,039	4.11
Hornady 100 FTX	1,003	3.45

BULLET WEIGHT MEASURED IN GRAINS, VELOCITY IN FPS BY CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY IN INCHES FOR BEST FIVE-SHOT GROUPS AT 7 YARDS.

THE TRUE DEFINITION OF EVERYDAY CARRY.



*actual size shown

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- 22 MAGNUM
- FUNCTIONAL PORTING
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for today's women.**

BY MEGAN AMSELLE

5.11 Tactical Raven Range Tights & Capris

5.11 Tactical has introduced its new clothing option for female shooters: Raven Range Tights. As comfortable as yoga pants, these tights have a tactical look and feature abrasion-resistant knee panels for extended durability during training. Best of all, the wide waistband has belt loops that make it simple to wear a holster. The Raven Range Tights are available in black or Tundra, and in full-length or capri-style configurations. **(511tactical.com; 866-451-1726)**

Having the advantage in a deadly encounter, whether it's in your home or while you're on the go, means making sure you have the best self-defense gear possible and know how to use it. For women, finding the right gear has traditionally been tricky for a variety of reasons—but not anymore! Check out these new products that have been specifically tailored to meet the needs of a female concealed carrier or hunter. From range gear to pepper gel to CCW holsters, there's something here for every woman.



Survive Outdoors Longer Urban Survivor

Survive Outdoors Longer has created a new Urban Survivor Kit, a handy box of emergency supplies that makes household preparedness simple. The 7-pound box contains a variety of useful items, including toiletries, an LED headlamp, clean water, a first-aid kit, an emergency blanket and fire-starting supplies, among many other items. Also included are mini guides to disaster survival and emergency medicine. This kit is a must-have for every household. **(800-324-3517; surviveoutdoorslonger.com)**



Know Where To Hold 'Em Women's Camisole Holster shirt

Know Where To Hold 'Em Women's Camisole holster shirt has a layer of outer mesh fabric on the pocket that disrupts the outline of your firearm to help keep a covert profile. It also has a padded inner layer on the pocket for added comfort. The pocket is positioned for a quick and natural draw. It has a unique design on the inside of the shirt to support the weight of the gun. From the outside this holster shirt looks like any other camisole. **(305-510-0719; knowwheretoholdem.com)**



Cameleon Bags Belladonna Concealed Carry Handbag

Cameleon Bags produces a wide assortment of concealed-carry purse styles. Ranging from casual denim to leather to crocodile and even snakeskin, this company is sure to offer

a bag to suit any taste. Pictured is the Belladonna, a classic vegan-leather handbag with a separate zippered holster compartment. The holster can accommodate a range of handgun sizes and can be positioned on Velcro for right- or left-handed shooters. **(cameleonbags.com; 703-961-9350)**



Crimson Trace LG-350 Lasergrips

Crimson Trace has unveiled its new LG-350 Lasergrips for Smith & Wesson J-Frame revolvers. The grip is available with either a red or green laser that is activated whenever the front of the grip is squeezed. The LG-350 also features the company's new Shock-Stop System, a special construction of anti-vibration material that reduces felt recoil, the bane of shooters everywhere. This unit allows you to increase your shooting accuracy and comfort. **(crimsontrace.com; 800-442-2406)**



L.L. Bean Women's Big Game Hunting Pack

L.L. Bean has developed exciting new hunting gear designed specifically for women. The Women's Big Game hunting pack is much more than just a downsized version of the men's pack. Its padded shoulder straps are specially designed to avoid the bust and to taper under the arms for easy movement. The water-resistant fabric is camouflage with a removable orange flag. This pack is designed to ride comfortably regardless of how far you hike. **(llbean.com; 800-441-5713)**



PowerTac E9 Flashlight

PowerTac's new E9 flashlight produces a blinding 1,020 lumens using its LED lamp. At 5 inches, it's the perfect size for a handheld flashlight and comes with a belt clip and a lanyard for carrying. Once you blind an attacker, you can hit him with the crenelated end before making your getaway. The E9 is waterproof and has five brightness settings (ranging from blinding to nightlight) for every situation. This light is a must-have. **(powertacusa.com; 919-239-4470)**

UnderTech Undercover Concealment Legging

Love leggings and yoga pants but have a hard time pairing a holster with them? UnderTech Undercover has the solution—comfortable black leggings with two holster pockets built into the waistband. Each pair of leggings has a kidney holster pocket and an appendix holster pocket (in right- or left-handed styles) to carry two guns or a gun and a cell phone. The pockets even have retention straps so your gun won't shift. **(undertechundercover.com; 800-601-8273)**



ADCO Arms Super Thumb Magazine Loader

Many shooters find magazine loading to be a difficult task. For those with arthritis or other hand problems, it can be painful or even impossible. Luckily, ADCO Arms has introduced its line of Super Thumb loading assistants, available in six different sizes that will fit a wide range of magazine and cartridge sizes. Instead of struggling to compress the magazine spring yourself, simply drop each cartridge into the Super Thumb, push it down easily over the magazine. **(adcoarms.com; 800-775-3687)**





American Mountain Supply Redcliff Concealed Carry Purse

For those seeking a more casual or colorful alternative to the standard leather concealed-carry bag, American Mountain Supply now offers the Redcliff Concealed-Carry Purse. The holster is housed in its own compartment, separate from the sizable main section of the purse. Attached with Velcro, the holster's position can be adjusted to taste and can be accessed by a zipper on either side, allowing for ambidextrous use. The purse is available in a wide range of colorful patterns. (americanmountainsupply.com; **800-368-4267**)



Can Can Concealment Garter Holster

Can Can Concealment, the company that makes serious concealed carry fun, has introduced a line of garter holsters for thigh carry. Available in three styles for full-sized, compact and subcompact guns, these holsters come with pretty ribbon detailing and quality design. Each garter features silicone strips on the inside to prevent slipping, magnets to prevent the gun from shifting in the holster and six rows of hook-and-eye closures for an adjustable fit. A separate garter belt adds support. Each garter can hold two guns and a magazine. (cancanconcealment.com; **888-753-9298**)

Superfeet Hunt

Female hunters can rejoice in a new hunting boot insole made just for them. Superfeet has developed a new insole for female hunters made of insulating Merino wool to help keep feet warm and cushioned on even the longest outdoor treks. These special insoles also feature a Scentlok layer to keep them smelling fresh for a longer period of time and a narrow heel cup that fits nicely in a variety of women's boot sizes. (superfeet.com)

Bond Arms Mama Bear

For fans of tiny concealed-carry guns, Bond Arms has introduced the Mama Bear derringer. At only 4.5 inches long and 18.5 ounces in weight, you will not find a more compact handgun anywhere. The double-barrel design holds two rounds of either .357 Magnum or .38 Special, although the barrel can be exchanged for one of a different caliber. Unique to this model is a removable triggerguard, adding an extra safety feature for holster or purse carry. (bondarms.com; **817-573-4445**)



Offhand Gear AR Handguards

Some of the most exciting new products for ladies who love AR rifles are the custom AR handguards from Offhand Gear. Available in several fun cutout patterns, including skulls, roses, butterflies and *fleurs-de-lis*, the handguards are made of aluminum with a Cerakote finish that's available in just about any color. Pick your pattern and color for an individualized AR like no other. (offhandgear.com; **480-204-2642**)

Racking Assist

Racking the slide on a pistol can be difficult for those with small or arthritic hands. Luckily, Racking Assist is coming to the rescue with a handy little tool that makes racking a slide simple. The plug-like device sits on a tabletop and catches the slide when a gun is pushed down on it. Once the slide is all the way back, the gun is lifted off, now locked open. It fits any pistol (.380 thru .45) and does not harm the gun at all. This simple gadget should be in every gun enthusiast's tool kit. (rackingassist.com; **314-705-2747**)





Sabre Red Pepper Gel Kit

Many of us buy pepper spray and assume that we'll know how to use it if an attack happens. We never practice unlocking the safety or activating the spray, and never determine the range and capacity of our spray ahead of time. As you may imagine, this can lead to some disasters in emergency situations. Sabre is trying to end this bad habit with its new Pepper Gel Kit, which includes both a canister of its powerful pepper gel spray and a practice canister of water to train with. Buyers can familiarize themselves with the activation and range of the practice spray and then carry the pepper gel with them. **(sabrered.com; 800-325-9568)**

Jotto Gear Home Defense Cabinet

Jotto Gear's Home Defense Cabinet allows secure firearms storage that is subtler and more attractive than a gun safe. The storage compartment is placed directly into a wall, with a full-length mirror concealing the door. The guns are secured with either keyed locks or biometric fingerprint locks, keeping your guns out of the hands of children and burglars alike. There is plenty of additional storage room inside the cabinet for more gear. **(nrajottogear.gojotto.com)**



Miss Concealed Hidden Heat Lace

Miss Concealed produces one of the prettiest belly band holsters on the market, the Hidden Heat Lace. At 5 inches wide, it can accommodate a wide range of handgun sizes. The holster pocket itself is padded and boned for comfort and stability. Available in black or nude lace, the Lace improves on the original model with the addition of extra pockets for a cell phone and two spare magazines. Its elastic construction and adjustable Velcro closure ensure comfort wherever you go. **(missconcealed.com)**

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L.L. Bean Northwoods Hunting Jacket & Pants

L.L. Bean's Northwoods hunting jacket and pants are designed specifically to fit a woman's body comfortably while they're out in the field. The wind- and water-resistant fleece jacket is available in orange or Mossy Oak camouflage, while the pants are Mossy Oak with a comfortable elastic waistband. The fleece fabric produces no sound at all while moving, a definite plus when your on the hunting trail or in a tree stand. **(llbean.com; 800-441-5713)**

Packin' Neat Tactical Purse Insert

Packin' Neat solves the problem of concealed carrying with multiple bags and purses with its Tactical Purse Insert. Pick a holster that fits your handgun of choice and then move it from purse to purse. The insert also includes several other pockets for your gear, so the whole purse organization system moves together, preventing entanglements and confusion over where your holster is located in each purse. The nylon insert is durable and large enough to hold all your electronics and toiletries in addition to your gun. **(packinneat.com; 239-887-8004)**



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NECK HOLSTER DEFENSE

Travel-friendly concealed carry design from Stellar Rigs!

BY MICHAEL JANICH



The term “pocket pistol” has evolved to describe any compact or subcompact revolver or semi-auto small enough to be suitable for pocket carry. However, as savvy shooters know, the carry options possible with these convenient little guns go far beyond the pocket. In addition to traditional belt or inside-the-waistband (IWB) carry, the diminutive size and light weight of these guns makes them adaptable to some very unique carry methods not possible with larger guns.

Kahr Arms has long been one of the industry leaders in the compact pistol market. In addition to manufacturing a broad range of best-of-breed guns in a variety of calibers, the company truly understands the needs of its customers and goes the extra mile to meet them. This is clearly evident when you look at the accessory section of its web site. Beyond the usual trinkets and apparel bearing the company logo, you’ll find a broad range of holsters for Kahr guns manufactured by some of the premier holster makers in the industry. Rather than letting its customers fend for themselves when it comes to carry options, Kahr has cherry picked some of the best aftermarket accessories for its guns and literally “done the homework” for Kahr pistol owners. In the process, the company has also created a one-stop-shopping solution for holsters guaranteed to fit its pistols.

When I added a CW380 to my collection, I immediately visited the Kahr website to find suitable holster options. One carry solution it offered that immediately piqued my interest was a “neck holster” from a company called Stellar Rigs. Custom molded from Kydex thermoplastic, the Neck Chain Holster is designed to hang from a ball chain (a heavy duty dog-tag chain) so the pistol rides on the upper chest in a horizontal orientation.

“...another great application for the Neck Chain Holster is as a platform for a backup gun, especially when seated in a vehicle.”

A number of years ago, I had the privilege of shooting and producing a number of instructional videos with Kelly McCann. One of the most extraordinary close-combat trainers in the industry, McCann served as the U.S. Marine Corps counterterrorism officer and counternarcotics officer and has years of hard-earned special operations experience around the world. While visiting his

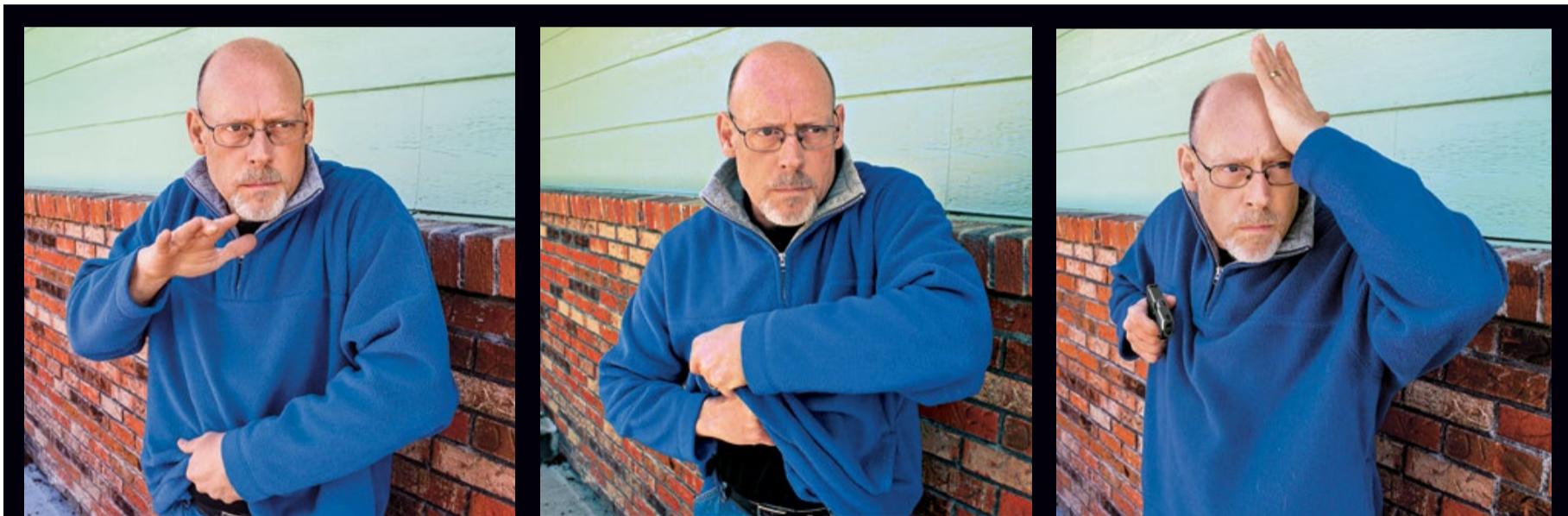
house, I noticed a shadowbox-style table in his living room containing memorabilia from his operational career. One of the most unique pieces was a .32 Seecamp pistol paired with a neck chain that was attached to a .38 cleaning brush. When I asked Kelly about it, he explained that it was the preferred last-ditch weapon for one of his special operations units. By inserting the oversized bore brush in the muzzle, the gun could be suspended discreetly around the neck. The long, deliberate Seecamp trigger pull prevented an accidental discharge and the unique

your neck and, unlike paracord, does not provide an attacker with a ready-made garrote. Since it doesn't rely on pockets, belts, waistbands or any of the other traditional carry "platforms," the Neck Chain Holster works perfectly with any style of pants or shorts and, for the ladies, even skirts.

Like any other holster, the mechanics of drawing from the Neck Chain Holster should be integrated with proper tactics to keep you protected during the process. To draw with the right hand, I hook the front of my cover garment with my left

Vehicle Versatility

In addition to providing a primary carry option, another great application for the Neck Chain Holster is as a platform for a backup gun, especially when seated in a vehicle. Conventional belt and IWB carries are typically rendered useless as soon as you sit in a car and buckle your seat belt. This makes drawing while in the car incredibly difficult and, against a carjacker or other threat entering from the passenger side of the front seat, leaves your gun hand extremely vulnerable as you draw. Even if you do manage



Use your support hand to lift your cover garment up and away from your body to ensure a solid pre-draw grip and draw the pistol out.

carry method allowed the gun to be drawn and used swiftly with either hand.

Seeing the Neck Chain Holster reminded me of Kelly's story. I'm also a long-time fan of neck knives, so I decided to give it a try. After using it for several months, I'm very impressed with it and the potential of neck holsters as a concealed-carry platform.

The Stellar Rigs holster is molded out of .093-inch Kydex and features a clamshell-style design that grips the slide and triggerguard of the pistol very securely, yet leaves the grip well exposed. To draw, you simply achieve a solid three-finger grip and, keeping your trigger finger straight, pull downward. The grip end of the pistol cams the clamshell construction of the holster open and the gun is quickly and safely in your hand and ready to go.

Quick To Action

The Neck Chain Holster conceals amazingly well below a loose-fitting, reasonably substantial shirt. Sweatshirts, hoodies and light jackets work even better, easily obscuring the outline of the holster to prevent printing. The break-away ball chain spreads the weight of the gun comfortably across the back of

hand and lift it up to about solar-plexus level while pulling it away from my body. Reaching my right hand under the garment, I achieve a solid grip on the pistol. At this point, I release the garment with my left and continue the motion of that arm up, anchoring my left palm just above the same-side eyebrow. This creates a solid guard to protect my head and neck, and raises my elbow and upper arm to shoulder level so I don't muzzle flash that arm as I draw. As I do this, I typically turn my shoulders to "blade" my body so the guard is forward and my weapon side is back. Pulling down on the gun allows it to clear the holster with the muzzle already oriented toward the threat. When my gun hand clears the bottom of the garment, I can either anchor it in a solid weapon-retention position or flow into an extended one- or two-hand shooting platform.

Because this draw is initiated with the support hand, you must of course make sure you've created a safe opportunity to lower your hands. Against a contact-distance attack, practice prefacing your draw with unarmed combative skills that allow you to fend, strike and create distance or a positional advantage before initiating your draw.

to get your gun out, shooting with your right hand is very difficult because of the unorthodox angles required to hit worthwhile targets.

Conversely, a small pistol riding in a Neck Chain Holster can be oriented to point to the right for easy access with the left hand. The draw from this carry position is much less restricted by the seat belt and, once drawn, the gun is positioned well away from an assailant in the passenger seat.

Neck carry is a uniquely different "out-of-pocket" approach to concealing a compact pistol. It is not suitable for every small gun, nor is it appropriate for every physique, but it is certainly worthy of consideration. Like any other carry method, make sure you invest the time and effort to integrate it with your style of dress, daily habits and preferred tactics to see if it works for you. 🗡️

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Kahr Arms
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kahr.com

.....
Stellar Rigs
561-616-5015
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A “crush grip” will help minimize movement and allow you to make precise hits on target.

HIGH STAKES PRECISION



Can you make a precise, lifesaving shot when it matters most?

BY PAUL CARLSON

Imagine the person that you care about most in the world. You hear the door open as they finally get home. Something doesn't seem quite right.

Confused, you look up from paying the bills to see the dirty, deranged man. You see the blade. You see the terror in your loved one's eyes. Do you have what it takes to use your defensive handgun to resolve this situation when a person you love is downrange?

You can't be prepared for every self-defense scenario. Instead, it makes sense to make sure that you are ready for situations that are the most likely. Then there are the situations that are less likely but have such severe consequences that you can't afford to be unprepared for them.

The large majority of self-defense shootings take place at close range and require only a moderate level of precision. When precision is required, however, you need to deliver it on command. Here are three important tips that can help you to develop the skills for making precision shots when you need to most.

Crush Grip

Students often ask how hard they should be gripping their gun. My answer is always the same and I'll tell you exactly what I tell them: "Grip the gun as hard as you can, then double the pressure."

Of course, I'm asking you to do the impossible, but I hope that I'm making my point. Having a "crush grip" on the gun has significant benefits. Nature gave you that crush grip for a reason. A crush grip makes sure that you don't drop your life-saving tools even when faced with a threat. As a result, a crush grip is a natural reaction in a defensive situation. When you face a life-threatening attack, you will put that grip into play without thought. As a result, it makes sense to make that crush grip a part of your regular training.

“You need to train with an integration of physical skills and realistic decision-making.”

A great side benefit of a crush grip is that it helps you to isolate your trigger finger. When you move one finger, the rest of our fingers want to move as well. If you move the rest of the fingers when you press your trigger finger it can cause problems with accuracy. When you need to make a precision shot, this can be a serious issue. You see, all those other fingers are gripping your handgun. If your fingers are moving, it is likely that your handgun is also going to move. Movement isn't going to help you make that tough shot.

If you grasp the gun with a crush grip, you make it difficult for the movement of the trigger finger to influence your other fingers. Six pounds of pressure from the trigger finger is hardly an influence on the rest of your hand when it is exerting 24 pounds of pressure. As a result, your gun remains steady and you increase the likelihood of getting precision hits. When it comes to making a precision hit under



stress, having a crush grip can go a long way toward getting the results you need.

Crisis Checklist

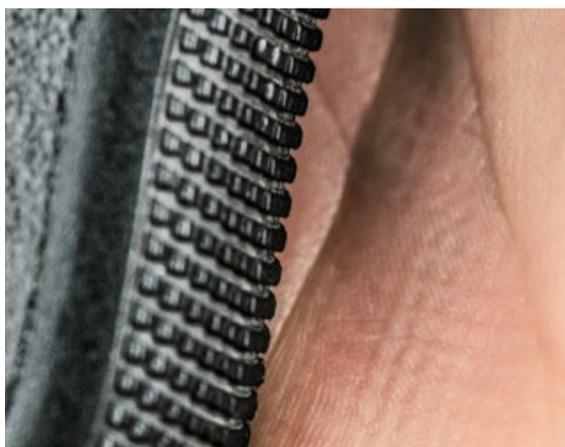
Making a precision hit isn't a matter of executing a simple skill. Instead, hitting a precision target is a set of complex tasks that you must complete in unison. Many people fail at making precise hits.

A revolver's long, heavy trigger pull takes more time to press. This increases the length of time you are forced to multitask and makes precision hits harder to obtain.

Of course the right equipment like a reflex sight can help, but getting precise hits is more about software than hardware.



Achieving top accuracy is a matter of becoming one with your gun. That means mastering the trigger pull and understanding its exact weight and feel while firmly grasping the gun so that it moves less while aiming.



It isn't because they don't understand the tasks that they need to put into play. Instead, shooters lose focus on some parts of the task while they are completing what they see as the next step.

To put rounds on a target that requires precision, you need to recognize the need for precision, align your front sight in the rear notch, place your aligned sights over the target while keeping them aligned, and press the trigger smoothly to the rear while keeping your sights aligned and placed over the target.

The tasks that you must complete to get that precision shot stack one on top of the other. By the time you press the trigger, you must engage in some serious multitasking while facing a violent and stressful situation. Making a precise shot won't be your only consideration. It's likely you'll need to be dedicating some valuable brainpower to the decision-making process that surrounds using lethal force.

This is a skill set that your training needs to address. The physical skills you need to make a precision hit should be habitual. Once you recognize the need to make a precision shot, you should be able to execute these complex skills with little conscious thought. It is more than just a mastery of physical skills. You need to train with an integration of physical skills

and realistic decision-making. Train so that you are ready to multitask and you will be more prepared to make precision hits when necessary.

Carry Confidence

If you want to get better with a specific tool, you should train with that specific tool. It almost seems like that should go without saying. Almost. I often have students come to class with gear that is different than the gear they carry for self-defense. As a result, they miss out on the opportunity to get better with their specific carry gear. Your typical concealed carry gun may be different from your favorite range gun in several ways:

Size: Concealed carry guns tend to be smaller with a different fit and felt recoil. Your carry gun is likely harder to shoot than your favorite range gun.

Trigger: Range guns tend to have lighter and shorter triggers, which can mask problems. The trigger on your carry gun may be less forgiving.

Sights: Different types of sights can require different amounts of attention to use efficiently. Training with sights that need a different level of attention than your carry sights can oversimplify the aiming process.

Action: Different handgun actions

“When it comes to making a precision hit under stress, having a crush grip can go a long way toward getting the results you need.”



Your carry gun is likely harder to shoot than your favorite range gun.

need different skills to operate. If you carry a five-shot revolver but show up to a defensive training course with a striker-fired semi-auto, you may have missed the point of training with what you carry.

Training with a gun that is easy to shoot is fun. If your goal is to get better at making the tough shots, stop worrying about fun and train to make those tough shots with your carry gun. If you want to get better with your carry gun, make sure you train with your carry gun.

Neither you or I have any desire to use our concealed-carry handgun in defense of innocent life. At the same time, we understand that it could be a necessity. It's only logical to assume that we may be called upon to make a precision shot. Using a crush grip, preparing to multi-task and training with your carry gun are three steps that will help you to be ready. Take those steps. Be ready! 🗡️

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COVERT CARRY MASTER

Elite trainer Jeff Gonzales details what you need to stay ready for instant threat responses. BY JORGE AMSELLE

The latest video from Panteao Productions covers the fastest-growing segment of the firearms market today, concealed carry. *Make Ready with Jeff Gonzales: Concealed Carry TTP's (Tactics, Tips and Procedures)* covers everything you need to know to carry concealed effectively with a clear and straightforward instructional approach.

Jeff Gonzales is a personal protection instructor and head of Trident Concepts, which specializes in personal protection and tactical training for both armed and unarmed combat. Gonzales is also a decorated U.S. Navy SEAL who has served in conflict regions around the globe, and the author of the book *Combative Fundamentals: An Unconventional Approach*.

Armed & Ready

The "TTPs" in the title stands for tactics, techniques and procedures, and Gonzales covers all of the issues that surround concealed carry, starting with situational awareness. If you remain vigilant and aware of your surroundings, you are more likely to be prepared. This also leads to the next section, conflict resolution; better to avoid a fight altogether if you can. Unlike some other instructors, Gonzales does not encourage a kitchen-sink approach. Instead, he advocates a "Threat Matrix" that promotes carrying what you reasonably need and what gear

fits within your specific lifestyle.

On the technical side, Gonzales covers the basics in good detail, including defensive handgun and ammunition selection, holster and belt selection, and finally selecting the proper cover garments to keep your gun concealed. He also discusses training scenarios, including methods of concealment, dealing with cover garment malfunctions, low-light shooting, drawstroke techniques and reloads. Also included is a discussion on topics you seldom see covered in defensive courses, such as carrying a backup gun and firing from a seated position.

Finally, Gonzalez covers the need for and use of supporting equipment and edged weapons, as well as interactions with police officers, which require a certain amount of attentiveness as laws do change from state to state. All of the information is presented in an easy-to-find chapter format so you can review any specific portions easily.

Expert Advice

It is no secret that the number of people with concealed handgun permits has more than doubled in the last 10 years, to over 11 million today. Training requirements vary from state to state, with some requiring no training and others many hours of it. Regardless, getting trained on how to effectively use

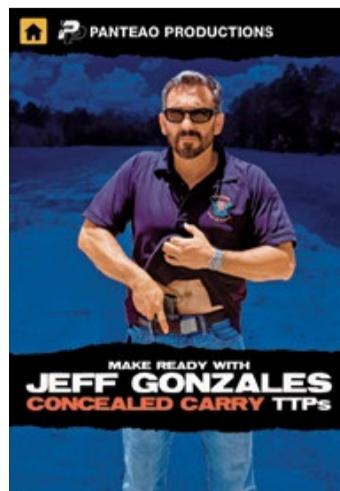


Gonzales prepares students for close-range encounters.

your handgun and how to properly keep it concealed is always a good idea, and videos like this one make training easy and accessible for everyone.

Panteao Productions is the leading provider of training DVDs with world-renowned experts. In fact, it has the most experts on hand of any other training company. And Panteao has kept up with the times since you don't have to order a physical DVD, but can also purchase a streaming version

online. These videos cover everything from tactics and personal defense to survival and competition. No DVD can replace one-on-one training with a qualified instructor, and these are certainly not intended to do that, but they do offer excellent advice from real experts and are well worth your attention. For more information, visit panteao.com or call 800-381-9752. 🗡️



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CARRY LAWS

← CONTINUED FROM PAGE 95

SOUTH DAKOTA

Website: sdsos.gov/services-for-individuals/concealed-pistol-permits/default.aspx

Statute: S.D. Codified Laws § 23-7-7

Issuing Authority: Secretary of State through County Sheriff

Cost: \$10 regular and \$100 enhanced initial/\$50 renewal for enhanced

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Certain minor changes in the application process were approved March 13, 2015. An enhanced permit is also available with additional training requirements and a fingerprint background check.

TENNESSEE

Website: www.tn.gov/safety/article/handgunmain

Statute: Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-17-1351

Issuing Authority: Tennessee Department of Safety/Highway Patrol

Cost: \$115 initial, plus \$5 or less for fingerprints/\$50 renewal/\$500 for lifetime

Length: 3-7 years, intended to align renewal with 5-year driver's license renewal or lifetime (with continuing eligibility check every 5 years)

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Changes, including the lifetime permit, took effect on July 1, 2015. The new renewal scheme was to be implemented by January 1, 2016. Out of state permits appear limited to those employed in Tennessee whose home state does not have reciprocity with Tennessee.

TEXAS

Website: www.txdps.state.tx.us/rsd/chl/index.htm

Statute: Tex. Gov't Code § 411.172

Issuing Authority: Department of Public Safety

Cost: \$140 initial/\$70 renewal, with some possible reductions, including 50-percent reduction for those over 60 years of age or indigent

Length: First birthday after 4th anniversary of issuance for initial, 5 years for renewal

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

Note: Changes took effect January 1, 2016 that removed the word "concealed" from the handgun statute.

UTAH

Website: bci.utah.gov/concealed-firearm/

Statute: Utah Code Ann. § 53-5-704

Issuing Authority: Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Criminal Identification

Cost: \$39 initial (\$49 for out of state), which includes fingerprint processing/\$15 renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes (must have permit in state of residence if that state has reciprocity with Utah)

VERMONT

Website: ago.vermont.gov/divisions/criminal-division/gun-laws.php

Statute: 13 V.S.A. § 4003

Issuing Authority: No permit required or available

Cost: N/A

Length: N/A

Terms Of Issuance: N/A

Reciprocity: N/A

Out Of State Permits: N/A

Note: No permit is required for concealed carry in Vermont.

VIRGINIA

Website: www.vsp.state.va.us/Firearms.shtm

Statute: Va. Code Ann. § 18.2-308.02

Issuing Authority: Circuit Court

Cost: \$50 or less, \$100 or less for out of state initial/renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes (apply to State Police)

Note: Certain minor elements of the law, which do not affect the above information, went into effect in 2015.

WASHINGTON

Website: www.atg.wa.gov/concealed-weapons

Statute: Rev. Code Wash. (ARCW) § 9.41.070

Issuing Authority: Chief of Police/Sheriff

Cost: \$36 initial with possible additional fees/\$32 renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes

WEST VIRGINIA

Website: www.ago.wv.gov/gunreciprocity/Pages/default.aspx (reciprocity only)

Statute: W. Va. Code § 61-7-4

Issuing Authority: County Sheriff

Cost: \$75, plus additional \$25 fee

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

Note: Some minor changes were approved on April 1, 2015.

WISCONSIN

Website: www.doj.state.wi.us/dles/cib/conceal-carry/concealed-carry

Statute: Wis. Stat. § 175.60

Issuing Authority: Department of Justice

Cost: Less than \$37 plus cost of background check initial (currently \$40 total)/less than \$12 plus cost of background check (currently \$10) renewal.

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: No

WYOMING

Website: wyomingdci.wyo.gov/dci-criminal-justice-information-systems-section/concealed-firearms-permits

Statute: Wyo. Stat. § 6-8-104

Issuing Authority: Attorney General through County Sheriff

Cost: \$74 for initial, plus possible other fees from \$5 to \$15/\$50 renewal

Length: 5 years

Terms Of Issuance: Shall issue

Reciprocity: Yes

Out Of State Permits: Yes (applicant must be licensed to carry elsewhere; does not appear to require that the license be from the applicant's state of residence)

Note: Though one is available, no permit is required to carry concealed in Wyoming as long as eligibility requirements are met.

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Heckler & Koch P30SK

The new P30SK is one of the smallest HK handguns on the market and is ideally suited as a concealed-carry pistol. With an overall length of less than 6.5 inches, the P30SK is small enough for discreet everyday carry but still packs a substantial 10 rounds of 9mm cartridges in an easy-to-shoot, ergonomic design. The completely adjustable P30 grip feature—consisting of interchangeable backstraps and lateral grip panels—is replicated in the shortened grip frame of the P30SK. Changeable backstraps and grip panels allow the pistol to be easily modified to fit any individual user. (hk-usa.com; 703-568-1906)



Tagua Gunleather Women's Leather Jacket

This attractive leather jacket allows you to stay stylish and armed thanks to two large concealment pockets capable of carrying your handgun and extra magazines. Thanks to its durable construction, your gun will not print or make the jacket sag. Velcro straps inside of the pockets offer you reliable gun retention in any position. Made from premium cowhide, the jacket is currently available in black or brown. (taguagunleather.com; 866-638-2482)

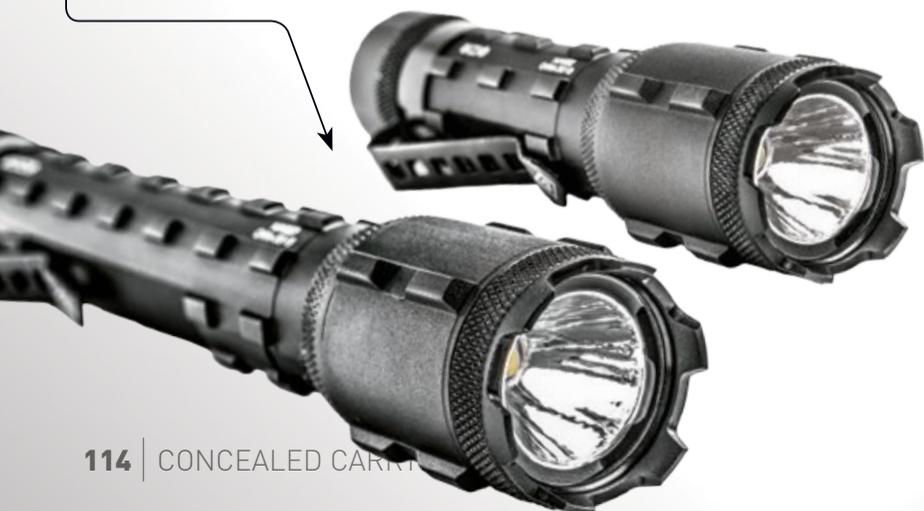


Urban Carry Holsters

Made in the U.S.A. from genuine saddle-grade leather, the Urban Carry holster offers quick access to your firearm. Simply pull the flap and the handle of your firearm is easily exposed. With only the magnetic flap exposed, the only people who will know that you are carrying in an urban environment are the other people with an Urban Carry holster. The Urban Carry also has a space in the back to keep your concealed-carry license, a credit card or some extra cash. (urbancarryholsters.com; 844-446-5783)

First Tactical Duty Flashlights

First Tactical's rugged Duty flashlights feature ultra-bright LED technology, a large, reversible pocket clip and an interchangeable front bezel for emergency close-quarters needs. Both the Small Duty (161 lumens) and Medium Duty (274 lumens) flashlights are operated by two AA batteries and produce a high-power beam distance of 130 meters and a low-power beam distance of 31 meters. They also feature a 14-inch hotspot and a 70-inch flood area. (firsttactical.com; 855-665-3410)



DeSantis Tuck-This II

The Tuck-This II holster from DeSantis Gunhide is built from heavily padded, 1050D ballistic nylon and lined with slick pack cloth. The widely adjustable belt tab can swing from the cross-draw position to FBI-style strong-side carry. The tab allows the user's shirt to be tucked down in between the gun and trousers, affording nearly total concealment. Accommodating belts up to 1.75 inches wide, the holster is currently made for most concealable handguns in both right- and left-handed versions. (desantisholster.com; 800-424-1236)



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SURVIVOR'S EDGE

The magazine that prepares you for real world disasters with the skills and knowledge to take on whatever Armageddon comes your way from power outages to a knife assault to snake attacks. In our ultimate guide for staying alive, we'll give you the resources to handle the three stages of survival—preparation, eye of the storm, aftermath!

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- 1 year/4 issues for \$25 2 years/8 issues for \$40

GUNS OF THE OLD WEST

This magazine gives attention to shooting matches, wardrobe, holsters, knives and other products and services in demand. In the fastest growing shooting sport, cowboy action shooting, the Old West is as alive today as it ever was.

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Discover your next concealed-carry gun within these 28 pages. Do you need a full-sized, compact, subcompact or pocket pistol? Revolver, semi-auto or derringer? What sort of action? Steel or polymer construction? Which caliber? How many rounds? What price point? Find your answers here. Remember, in today's unpredictable world, concealed carry is not just a right—it's an absolute necessity!

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Photos Courtesy Manufacturers

AMERICAN TACTICAL FX45

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.18", 4.25", 4.75", 5"
Weight: 38.4-49.6 ounces
Grips: Mahogany
Sights: Fixed; fixed front, adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Matte black, blued or stainless
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$499-899



BERETTA NANO

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3"
Weight: 19.8 ounces
Grips: Technopolymer
Sights: Three-dot, low-profile, dovetailed
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Matte black, pink, OD green
Capacity: 6/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$450-650



AMERICAN TACTICAL FX-45 HYBRID

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.24", 4.25", 5"
Weight: 24-32 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



BERETTA PICO

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.7"
Weight: 11.5 ounces
Grips: Technopolymer
Sights: Three-dot, low-profile, dovetailed
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Black nitride, Inox
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$399



AUTO-ORDNANCE 1911

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39 ounces
Grips: Polymer, wood
Sights: Blade front, drift-adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black oxide
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$637-662



BERETTA Px4 STORM

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 3.2", 4", 4.6"
Weight: 26.1-28.6 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black, dark earth
Capacity: 9/10/12/13/14/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$550-1,035



BERETTA M9/M9A1/92FS/96A1

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4.9"
Weight: 32.5-34.4 ounces
Grips: Polymer, Technopolymer
Sights: Three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Bruniton
Capacity: 10/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$650-795



BERSA POLYMER CONCEALED CARRY

Caliber: .380 ACP, 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.3"
Weight: 21.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action-only with short reset
Finish: Matte black, olive drab, duotone, Urban Grey, FDE
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$430-440



BERSA THUNDER SERIES

Caliber: .22 LR, .380 ACP
Barrel: 3.2"-3.5"
Weight: 18.4-20.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer, rubber wraparound
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Matte, satin nickel or duo-tone
Capacity: 7/8/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$320-419



COLT DEFENDER

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3"
Weight: 24-25 ounces
Grips: Hogue wraparound
Sights: Novak LoMount Carry with dots
Features: Single-action
Finish: Cerakote, stainless
Capacity: 7(.45)/8(9mm)-shot mag
MSRP: \$899



BERSA THUNDER PRO SERIES

Caliber: 9mm, .40 S&W, .45 ACP (UC)
Barrel: 3.25", 3.6", 4.25"
Weight: 23-30.7 ounces
Grips: Checkered black polymer
Sights: Three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Duotone or matte black
Capacity: 7/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$492-511



COLT LIGHTWEIGHT COMMANDER

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.25"
Weight: 37 ounces
Grips: G10 black cherry
Sights: Novak three-dot
Features: Single-action
Finish: Anodized, blued
Capacity: 8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$949



BRAVO BCM 1911 AMBI SAFETY

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 40 ounces
Grips: G10 X-TAC
Sights: Battlesight with Tritium front
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$3,375



COLT MUSTANG

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.75"
Weight: 11.5-12.5 ounces
Grips: Composite
Sights: High-profile, dovetailed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Brushed stainless, stainless/matte black
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$499-\$599



BRAVO BCM 1911 SINGLE SAFETY

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 40 ounces
Grips: G10 X-TAC
Sights: Battlesight with tritium front
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$3,290



CZ 75/85/97

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.7"-4.6"
Weight: 27.4-40.6 ounces
Grips: Plastic, rubber, aluminum
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black polycoat, matte stainless, polished stainless, glossy blue
Capacity: 10(.40/.45)/16(9mm)-shot mag
MSRP: \$570-816



▶ CZ P-01/ P-06/ P-07/P-09

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.8"-4.53", threaded
Weight: 27.2-29.1 ounces
Grips: Rubber (P-01, P-06), polymer stippling, interchangeable backstraps (P-07, P-09)
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black, Urban Grey (P-01, P-07, P-09)
Capacity: 10(.40)/14(9mm)-shot mag, 12/15-shot mag (P-07), 15/19-shot mag (P-09)
MSRP: \$510-653



▶ DOUBLESTAR C2S

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.5"
Weight: 31.7 ounces
Grips: VZ ETC Frag w/ Super Scoop
Sights: Novak three-dot LoMount
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black or Smokey Grey Ionbond
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$2,353



▶ DAN WESSON 1911

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 3.5", 4.25", 5", 6"
Weight: 25.9-42 ounces
Grips: Stipple shadow, cocobolo, G10
Sights: Snag-free night sight, tactical ledge sight, adjustable, fixed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black Duty, black anodized, stainless steel
Capacity: 7/8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,298-2,194



▶ DOUBLESTAR PHD

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39 ounces
Grips: VZ Gunner
Sights: Novak three-dot LoMount
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,228



▶ DOUBLESTAR C2

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.25"
Weight: 33 ounces
Grips: VZ ETC Frag w/Super Scoop
Sights: Novak three-dot LoMount
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black or Smokey Grey Ionbond
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$2,275



▶ EUROPEAN AMERICAN ARMORY POLYMER 1911

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 32 ounces
Grips: Textured polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$580



▶ DOUBLESTAR C2G

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39 ounces
Grips: VZ Gunner
Sights: Novak three-dot LoMount
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black or Smokey Grey Ionbond
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$2,250



▶ FN FIVE-SEVEN

Caliber: 5.7x28mm
Barrel: 4.8"
Weight: 23 ounces
Grips: Textured polymer
Sights: Adjustable three-dot
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/20-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,349



FNS

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 25.2-27.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Three-dot or three-dot night
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 10/14/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$599-649



FNX-40

Caliber: .40
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 21.9 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black, stainless steel
Capacity: 10/14-shot mag
MSRP: \$699



FNS COMPACT

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.6"
Weight: 23.4-25.8 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Three-dot or three-dot night
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 10/12/14/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$599-649



FNX-45

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.5"
Weight: 33.2 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black, stainless steel, Flat Dark Earth
Capacity: 10/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$824



FNS LONGSLIDE

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 26.5-29.7 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed three-dot
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/14/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$649



FNX-45 TACTICAL

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5.3"
Weight: 33.3 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: High-profile night sights w/optional electronic red-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black, FDE
Capacity: 10/14/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,399



FNX-9

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 27.4 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black, stainless steel
Capacity: 10/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$699



GLOCK 17/22

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4.48"
Weight: 25.06-25.59 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Safe Action, Gen4 option available, threaded barrel available on G17 Gen3
Finish: Black
Capacity: 15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$599-696



GLOCK 19/23

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4.01"
Weight: 23.65 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Safe Action, Gen4 and threaded barrel options available
Finish: Black
Capacity: 13/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$599-696



GLOCK 42

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 3.25"
Weight: 13.76 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Safe Action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$499



GLOCK 26/27

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.42"
Weight: 21.71-21.89 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Safe Action, Gen4 option available
Finish: Black
Capacity: 9/10-shot mag
MSRP: \$599-696



GLOCK 43

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.39"
Weight: 16.19 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Safe Action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$580



GLOCK 29 SF/30S/30 SF/36

Caliber: .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 3.77"
Weight: 22.42-26.30 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Safe Action, Gen4 option available only on G29 SF and G30 SF
Finish: Black
Capacity: 6/10-shot mag
MSRP: \$637-734



GRAND POWER K100

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4.3"
Weight: 26.1 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Plastic front, drift-adjustable steel rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 15/12-shot mag
MSRP: \$629 (from Eagle Imports)



GLOCK 41 GEN4

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5.31"
Weight: 27 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Safe Action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 13-shot mag
MSRP: \$640



GRAND POWER P45/P40

Caliber: .40, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 4.25"
Weight: 26.6 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Dovetailed steel front, drift-adjustable steel rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/14-shot mag
MSRP: \$819 (from Eagle Imports)



GRAND POWER X-CALIBUR

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 28.1 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fiber-optic front, Micrometer adjustable steel rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 15-shot mag
MSRP: \$999
(from Eagle Imports)



HECKLER & KOCH P30L

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4.45"
Weight: 24.32 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/13/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,249



GUNCRAFTER INDUSTRIES MODEL 3

Caliber: .50 GI
Barrel: 4.25"
Weight: 35 ounces
Grips: Shredders, Alumagrips
Sights: Tritium, various options available
Features: Single-action
Finish: Melonite, stainless steel
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: Starts at \$3,185



HECKLER & KOCH P30SK

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.27"
Weight: 23.99 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10-shot mag
MSRP: \$719



HECKLER & KOCH HK45/COMPACT

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.94", 4.46"
Weight: 24.48-25.28 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Black
Capacity: 8/10-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,199-1,399



HECKLER & KOCH P2000/P2000SK

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.26", 3.66"
Weight: 24 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Three-dot (optional tritium)
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Black
Capacity: 9/10/12/13-shot mag
MSRP: \$799-899



HECKLER & KOCH P30

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.84"
Weight: 22.88 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/13/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,099



HECKLER & KOCH USP/USP COMPACT

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.58" to 5.09"
Weight: 23.52-33.6 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Black
Capacity: 8/10/12/13/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$999-1,249



HECKLER & KOCH VP9

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 4.09"
Weight: 28.93 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$719



KAHR MK SERIES

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3", 3.1", 3.46", 3.5"
Weight: 20.2-22.2 ounces
Grips: Hard nylon, polymer
Sights: Drift-adjustable, white-bar-dot combat rear (optional tritium)
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte black or stainless
Capacity: 5/6/7-shot mag
MSRP: \$855-1,054



HECKLER & KOCH VP40

Caliber: .40
Barrel: 4.09"
Weight: 26.56 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/13-shot mag
MSRP: \$719



KAHR P/PM SERIES

Caliber: .380 ACP, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 2.53", 3.1", 3.24", 3.54", 3.56", 3.6", 3.64"
Weight: 9.97-16.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Drift-adjustable, white-bar-dot combat rear (optional tritium or CT laser)
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte black, two-tone
Capacity: 5/6/7-shot mag
MSRP: \$649-1,049



IWI JERICHO 941

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.8", 4.4"
Weight: 25.6-36.8 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Adjustable
Features: Short-recoil, polymer or steel frame (.45 ACP in steel only)
Finish: Black
Capacity: 10/12/16-shot mag
MSRP: \$599-655



KAHR T/TP SERIES

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.96", 4", 4.04"
Weight: 16.4-24.9 ounces
Grips: Hogue Pau Ferro wood, polymer
Sights: Drift-adjustable, white-bar-dot combat rear (optional night sights)
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte stainless
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$697-968



KAHR CM/CW SERIES

Caliber: .380 ACP, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 3.1", 3.5", 3.6"
Weight: 14-19.7 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Drift-adjustable, white-bar-dot combat rear
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Black frame, matte stainless slide
Capacity: 6/7-shot mag
MSRP: \$419-517



KIMBER AEGIS II

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 25-31 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Fixed Tactical Wedge tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: KimPro II
Capacity: 8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,331



KIMBER CDP II

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 25-31 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, rosewood Lasergrip
Sights: Fixed three-dot tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: KimPro II
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,331-1,631



KIMBER GOLD MATCH II

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 38 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, laminated
Sights: Kimber adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Blued, stainless, satin silver
Capacity: 8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,393-1,882



KIMBER CRIMSON CARRY II

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 25-31 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, Crimson Trace Lasergrips (red or green laser)
Sights: Fixed low-profile
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin silver, matte black
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,206-1,293



KIMBER MICRO

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.7"
Weight: 13 ounces
Grips: Synthetic, Rosewood, Crimson Trace Lasergrips
Sights: Fixed low-profile, three-dot tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: Various
Capacity: 6/7-shot mag
MSRP: \$651-1,210



KIMBER CUSTOM II

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 38 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Fixed low-profile, Kimber adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin silver, matte black
Capacity: 7/8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$857



KIMBER PRO CARRY II

Caliber: .9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 27-35 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Fixed low-profile
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin silver, matte black
Capacity: 7/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$857



KIMBER CUSTOM SHOP

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 25-39 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, Micarta, bone, G10 Tactical
Sights: Sighting trough, tritium, Kimber adjustable, fixed Tactical Wedge tritium, fixed low-profile three-dot night sights
Features: Single-action
Finish: KimPro II, charcoal blue
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,351-2,405



KIMBER RAPTOR II

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 25-38 ounces
Grips: Zebra wood, rosewood
Sights: Fixed Tactical Wedge tritium, adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Various
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,295-1,657



KIMBER RIMFIRE

Caliber: .22 LR
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 23 ounces
Grips: Synthetic, rosewood
Sights: Adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: KimPro II
Capacity: 10-shot mag
MSRP: \$871-1,220



LLAMA MAX-1

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 37 ounces
Grips: Custom G10
Sights: Mil-spec
Features: Single-action
Finish: Matte blue
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$543



KIMBER SOLO

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 2.7"
Weight: 17 ounces
Grips: Synthetic, Micarta, rosewood, CTC Lasergrips
Sights: Fixed low-profile, three-dot tritium
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Various
Capacity: 6/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$815-1,291



LLAMA MICROMAX

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 3.75"
Weight: 22.9 ounces
Grips: Contoured
Sights: Dovetailed front, Novak-style rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Matte blue
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$468



KIMBER SUPER CARRY

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 25-38 ounces
Grips: Micarta/laminated wood, G10
Sights: Tritium
Features: Single-action, round-heel frame
Finish: KimPro II
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,596-1,699



MAGNUM RESEARCH BABY DESERT EAGLE III

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.64", 3.93", 4.52"
Weight: 33.9-38.6 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed white three-dot combat
Features: Double-action/single-action (.45 ACP in steel only)
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 10/12/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$646-691



KIMBER TACTICAL II

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 25-40 ounces
Grips: Laminated
Sights: Fixed three-dot tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: KimPro II
Capacity: 7/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,317-1,490



MAGNUM RESEARCH DESERT EAGLE 1911

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.33", 5.05"
Weight: 33.9-36.2 ounces
Grips: Wood
Sights: High-profile sculptured rear, pinned-in front blade
Features: Single-action
Finish: Matte black, stainless steel
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$874



METRO ARMS AMERICAN CLASSIC II

Caliber: 9mm,
.45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 37.28 ounces
Grips: Custom hardwood
Sights: Dovetailed front,
Novak-style rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Deep blue,
duotone, hard chrome
Capacity: 8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$609-699



NIGHTHAWK T4

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.8"
Weight: 34.3 ounces
Grips: Nighthawk Custom Alien
Grips, thin, black,
no Nighthawk logo
Sights: Heinie Slant Pro
Straight Eight tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black nitride
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: Starting at \$3,395



METRO ARMS MAC 1911 BOBCUT

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.25"
Weight: 34.58 ounces
Grips: Custom
hardwood
Sights: Dovetailed front,
adjustable Novak-style rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Deep blue,
hard chrome, black chrome
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$902-1,045



REMINGTON 1911 R1

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 38.5-42 ounces
Grips: Walnut, wood laminate
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin black
oxide, stainless
Capacity: 7/8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$729-1,299



NAA GUARDIAN

Caliber: .25 NAA, .32 ACP,
.32 NAA, .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.18", 2.49"
Weight: 13.5-18.7 ounces
Grips: Hogue Pebble finish
Sights: Fixed low-profile
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$409-486



REMINGTON RM380

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.9"
Weight: 12.2 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Satin black oxide
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$436



NIGHTHAWK LADY HAWK

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.25"
Weight: 34.9 ounces
Grips: Thin Nighthawk
Custom Aluminum, Ambi-cut
w/logo
Sights: Heinie Slant Pro
Straight Eight tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: Cerakote Titanium
Blue/Sniper Gray with
stainless controls
Capacity: 9-shot mag
MSRP: Starting at \$3,395



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY 22 TCM

Caliber: .22 TCM
Barrel: 4.25", 5"
Weight: 40-48 ounces
Grips: G10 Operator II,
polymer
Sights: Fiber-optic front,
snag-free front,
adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 10/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$840-990



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY .380 BBR

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 3.5"
Weight: 23.5-25.9 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed front
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$462



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY TAC ULTRA

Caliber: .9mm, .45 ACP,
 .40 S&W, 10mm
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39.8-48 ounces
Grips: G10 Operator II, polymer
Sights: Fiber-optic front,
 adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 7/8/9/14/16/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$706-951



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY GI/MATCH

Caliber: .38 Super,
 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.5", 4.25", 5"
Weight: 34.6-41 ounces
Grips: Wood, polymer
Sights: Fixed, fiber-optic
 front, adjustable LPA
 rear (Match)
Features: Single-action
Finish: Nickel, Parkerized,
 two-tone
Capacity: 7/8/9/
 14-shot mag
MSRP: \$538-833



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY XT 22/45

Caliber: .22 LR/.45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 35.2-35.5 ounces
Grips: Wood
Sights: Low-profile, snag-free
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 8/10/14-shot mag
MSRP: \$611-913



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY MAP/MAPP

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 4.25", 5"
Weight: 29.3-
 40.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed front, snag-free rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 10-shot mag
MSRP: \$508



ROCK RIVER ARMS 1911 POLY

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 32 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Dovetailed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
 steel, polymer in black,
 tan, OD green
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$925



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY ROCK ULTRA SERIES

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 3.5", 5"
Weight: 34.6-41 ounces
Grips: G10 Operator II,
 black rubber, polymer
Sights: Fiber-optic front,
 adjustable rear, low profile
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized, nickel, two-tone
Capacity: 7/8/9/14/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$611-903



ROCK RIVER ARMS BASIC LIMITED

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 37 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Front blade,
 adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,950



ROCK RIVER ARMS BULLSEYE WADCUTTER

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 42 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: None
Features: Single-action
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$2,500



ROCK RIVER ARMS TACTICAL PISTOL

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 37 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Tritium front,
Heinie or Novak rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$2,200



ROCK RIVER ARMS CARRY PISTOL

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Heinie
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,650



RUGER AMERICAN PISTOL

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.20", 4.50"
Weight: 30-31.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Novak LoMount
Carry three-dot
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Black nitride
Capacity: 10/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$579



ROCK RIVER ARMS LIMITED MATCH

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 36 ounces
Grips: G10
Sights: Front blade,
adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Hard chrome
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$3,600



RUGER LC9s

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.12"
Weight: 17.2 ounces
Grips: Glass-filled nylon
Sights: Adjustable three-dot
(optional Crimson Trace
Laserguard)
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$479



ROCK RIVER ARMS NM HARDBALL

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 35 ounces
Grips: Walnut
Sights: Front blade,
adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$2,550



RUGER LC380

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 3.12"
Weight: 17.2-17.8 ounces
Grips: Glass-filled nylon
Sights: Adjustable three-dot
(optional Crimson Trace
Laserguard)
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$479-669



RUGER LCP

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.75"
Weight: 9.4-10 ounces
Grips: Glass-filled nylon
Sights: Fixed, adjustable
 Photoluminescent (Crimson Trace Laserguard)
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Blued, brushed stainless
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$259-489



SCCY CPX-2

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.1"
Weight: 15 ounces
Grips: Polymer
 (black, crimson, FDE, orange, pink, purple, SCCY blue, white)
Sights: Adjustable rear
Features: Double-action-only, without external safety
Finish: Black nitride finish or natural two-tone
Capacity: 9-shot mag
MSRP: \$314-334



RUGER SR1911

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.25", 5"
Weight: 29.3-39 ounces
Grips: Hardwood
Sights: Fixed Novak three-dot
Features: Single-action
Finish: Low-glare stainless, black anodized aluminum
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$939-979



SCCY CPX-3

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.75"
Weight: 10 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Adjustable rear
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Black nitride or natural two-tone
Capacity: 10-shot mag
MSRP: \$314-334



RUGER SR9/40/45/9E

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.5", 4.1", 4.5", 4.6", 5.5"
Weight: 23.4-30.1 ounces
Grips: Glass-filled nylon
Sights: Adjustable three-dot, three-dot (9E)
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Black nitride, stainless or blued
Capacity: 9/10/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$569



SIG SAUER 1911

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .357 SIG, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.3", 4.2", 5"
Weight: 28-41.6 ounces
Grips: Wood, Ergo XT, Hogue, G10
Sights: Low-profile, night, adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Nitron, stainless or two-tone, FDE, Oil-Rubbed Bronze
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,062-1,748



SCCY CPX-1

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.1"
Weight: 15 ounces
Grips: Polymer
 (black, crimson, FDE, orange, pink, purple, SCCY blue, white)
Sights: Adjustable rear
Features: Double-action-only, with external safety
Finish: Black nitride finish or natural two-tone
Capacity: 10-shot mag
MSRP: \$314-334



SIG SAUER M11-A1

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.9" (threaded barrel available)
Weight: 32 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: SIGLITE
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black Nitron, Flat Dark Earth
Capacity: 10/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,119-1,174



SIG SAUER P220

Caliber: .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 3.9", 4.4", 5"
Weight: 29.6-39.1 ounces
Grips: Polymer, wood, Hogue, G10
Sights: SIGLITE, TruGlo
Features: Single-action, double-action/single-action or double-action-Kellerman
Finish: Nitron, FDE, Kryptek
Capacity: 6/8/10-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,087-1,467



SIG SAUER P229

Caliber: 9mm, .357 SIG, .40
Barrel: 3.9", 4.4"
Weight: 32-40.2 ounces
Grips: Polymer, wood, Hogue, G10
Sights: SIGLITE, TruGlo
Features: Single-action, double-action/single-action, double-action-Kellerman
Finish: Nitron, two-tone, FDE, stainless
Capacity: 10/12/13/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,087-1,359



SIG SAUER P225-A1

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.6"
Weight: 30.5 ounces
Grips: G10
Sights: Contrast or night sights
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-Kellerman
Finish: Nitron, two-tone
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,175-1,251



SIG SAUER P238

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.7"
Weight: 15.2-20.1 ounces
Grips: Hogue rubber, polymer, wood, aluminum, G10
Sights: Contrast, SIGLITE night, TruGlo
Features: Single-action
Finish: Nitron, rainbow, FDE, nickel
Capacity: 6/7-shot mag
MSRP: \$706-834



SIG SAUER P226

Caliber: 9mm, .357 SIG, .40
Barrel: 4.4"
Weight: 23.7-42 ounces
Grips: Polymer, wood, Ergo, Hogue, G10
Sights: SIGLITE, TruGlo
Features: Single-action, double-action/single-action
Finish: Nitron, FDE, stainless steel
Capacity: 10/12/14/15/17/19/20-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,087-1,631



SIG SAUER P239

Caliber: 9mm, .357 SIG, .40
Barrel: 3.6"
Weight: 29.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: SIGLITE
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Nitron
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$979



SIG SAUER P227

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.9", 4.4"
Weight: 30-32.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer, G10
Sights: SIGLITE
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Nitron, FDE, stainless
Capacity: 10/14-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,087-1,359



SIG SAUER P250

Caliber: .22 LR, .380 ACP, 9mm, .357 SIG, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.6", 3.9", 4.7"
Weight: 19.4-29.4 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Contrast
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Nitron
Capacity: 6/9/10/12/13/14/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$434-480



SIG SAUER P290/ P290RS

Caliber: .380 ACP, 9mm
Barrel: 2.9"
Weight: 16.5-20.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer, G10
Sights: SIGLITE night, contrast
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Nitron, two-tone, Rainbow, Oil-Rubbed Bronze
Capacity: 6/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$488-543



SMITH & WESSON BODYGUARD 380

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.75"
Weight: 11.85 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Drift-adjustable front and rear
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$379-449



SIG SAUER P320

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .357 SIG, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.6", 3.9", 4.7"
Weight: 26.5-29.4 ounces
Grips: Interchangeable polymer grip module
Sights: SIGLITE night sights, contrast
Features: Double-action striker-fired operating system
Finish: Nitron, FDE, OD green
Capacity: 9mm: 10/12/15/17-shot mag; .40: 10/13/14-shot mag; .45 ACP: 6/9/10-shot mag
MSRP: \$597-747



SMITH & WESSON M&P

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.5", 4", 4.25", 4.5", 5"
Weight: 19-29.6 ounces
Grips: Polymer, Crimson Trace Lasergrips
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Corrosion resistant
Capacity: 6/7/8/10/12/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$449-829



SIG SAUER P938

Caliber: .22 LR, 9mm
Barrel: 3", 3.3", 4.1"
Weight: 16 ounces
Grips: Wood, Hogue G10, rosewood
Sights: SIGLITE, TruGlo adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Nitron, FDE, nickel
Capacity: 6/7/10-shot mag
MSRP: \$651-815



SMITH & WESSON M&P SHIELD

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.1"
Weight: 19 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: White three-dot
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Black Armornite
Capacity: 6/7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$449-469



SIG SAUER SP2022

Caliber: 9mm, .357 SIG, .40
Barrel: 3.9"
Weight: 29 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Contrast, SIGLITE night
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black Nitron, two-tone, FDE
Capacity: 10/12/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$543-684



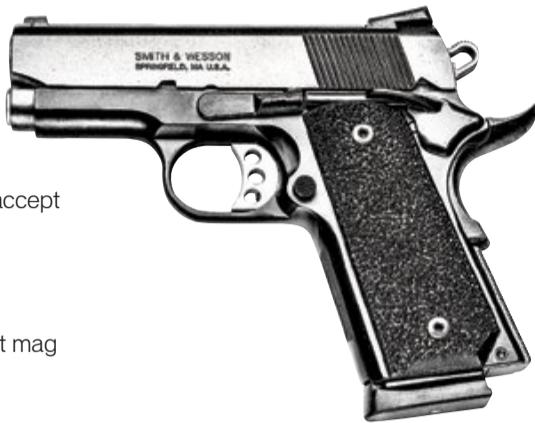
SMITH & WESSON PERFORMANCE CENTER 1911s

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.25", 5"
Weight: 29.6-40.5 ounces
Grips: G10 custom
Sights: Post front, adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless steel
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,589



SMITH & WESSON PRO

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4.25", 5"
Weight: 24-41 ounces
Grips: Polymer, synthetic, wood
Sights: Dovetailed front, adjustable rear, Novak, white three-dot, slide cut to accept red-dot optics on C.O.R.E
Features: Single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Corrosion resistant
Capacity: 7/8/10/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$769-1,609



SPRINGFIELD EMP

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3", 4."
Weight: 27-33 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo, G10
Sights: Tritium three-dot
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black frame, stainless slide
Capacity: 8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,249-1,320



SMITH & WESSON SD VE

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 22.7 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: White three-dot
Features: Striker-fired
Finish: Two-tone
Capacity: 10/14/16-shot mag
MSRP: \$389-409



SPRINGFIELD LOADED LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION OPERATOR

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 31 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo
Sights: Fixed combat three-dot tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,050



SPHINX SDP COMPACT

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.75"
Weight: 28.18 ounces
Grips: Polymer with rubberized overmold
Sights: Front and rear iron
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: PVD coating
Capacity: 10/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$949
(Imported by KRISS USA)



SPRINGFIELD MIL-SPEC

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo
Sights: Fixed combat three-dot
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized, stainless
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$719-819



SPHINX SDP SUBCOMPACT

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.1"
Weight: 25 ounces
Grips: Polymer with rubberized overmold
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: PVD coating
Capacity: 10/13-shot mag
MSRP: \$949
(Imported by KRISS USA)



SPRINGFIELD PROFESSIONAL MODEL CUSTOM

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 41 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo
Sights: Tritium three-dot
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black T
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$2,671-2,749



SPRINGFIELD RANGE OFFICER

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 40-41 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo
Sights: Varies by model
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 7/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$977



SPRINGFIELD XD

Caliber: 9mm, .357 SIG, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 26-33 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Three-dot, dovetailed (optional tritium)
Features: Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) trigger
Finish: Black, bi-tone
Capacity: 9/10/12/13/16-shot mag
MSRP: \$493-649



SPRINGFIELD RANGE OFFICER CHAMPION

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 30.5-31.5 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo
Sights: Fiber-optic front, low-profile combat rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 7/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$899



SPRINGFIELD XD MOD.2 SUB-COMPACT

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 3.3"
Weight: 26-27 ounces
Grips: Polymer with GripZone texture
Sights: Fiber-optic front, low-profile combat rear
Features: Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) trigger
Finish: Black, bi-tone, FDE
Capacity: 9/12/13/16-shot mag
MSRP: \$549-616



SPRINGFIELD RANGE OFFICER COMPACT

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 28.5-29.5 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo
Sights: Fiber-optic front, low-profile combat rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 6/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$977



SPRINGFIELD XD MOD.2 4" SERVICE MODEL

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 27.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer with GripZone texture
Sights: Fiber-optic front, low-profile combat rear
Features: Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) trigger
Finish: Black, bi-tone
Capacity: 12/16-shot mag
MSRP: \$549-616



SPRINGFIELD TRP

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 42-45 ounces
Grips: G10
Sights: Varies by model
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black Armory Kote, stainless
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$1,646-1,730



SPRINGFIELD XDM

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.8", 4.5", 5.25"
Weight: 27-32 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Varies by model
Features: Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) trigger
Finish: Black, bi-tone
Capacity: 9/11/13/16/19-shot mag
MSRP: \$681-896



SPRINGFIELD XD-S 3.3/4.0

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.3", 4"
Weight: 21.5-25 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fiber-optic front, two-dot rear
Features: Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) trigger
Finish: Black, bi-tone, FDE
Capacity: 5/6/7/8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$595-649



STEYR ARMS S-A1

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.6"
Weight: 24.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Triangular/trapezoid
Features: Reset Action System
Finish: MannoX
Capacity: 10-shot mag
MSRP: \$560



STEYR ARMS C-A1

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.6"
Weight: 25.6 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Triangular/trapezoid
Features: Reset Action System
Finish: MannoX
Capacity: 10/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$560



STI TACTICAL DS

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4", 5"
Weight: 38-42 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Cerakote
Capacity: Depends upon caliber
MSRP: \$2,099-2,199



STEYR ARMS L-A1

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 4.5"
Weight: 28.8 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Triangular/trapezoid
Features: Reset Action System
Finish: MannoX
Capacity: 10/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$560



STI TACTICAL SS

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3", 4", 5"
Weight: 37-44 ounces
Grips: G10
Sights: Fixed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black Cerakote
Capacity: Depends upon caliber
MSRP: \$1,899-1,999



STEYR ARMS M-A1

Caliber: 9mm, .357 SIG, .40
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 27.2 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Triangular/trapezoid
Features: Reset Action System
Finish: MannoX
Capacity: 10/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$560



STOEGER COUGAR

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.6"
Weight: 32-32.6 ounces
Grips: Synthetic
Sights: White three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black nitride; black nitride slide/silver frame; silver nitride/silver frame
Capacity: 8/11/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$469-509



▶ TAURUS 24/7 G2

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4.2"
Weight: 28 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Dovetailed front, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued or matte stainless
Capacity: 12/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$362-377



▶ TAURUS CURVE

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 2.7"
Weight: 13 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Laser/light, bore axis sight
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte blued
Capacity: 6-shot mag
MSRP: \$392



▶ TAURUS 700 SLIM

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.2"
Weight: 19 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed front, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless, black Tenifer
Capacity: 6/7-shot mag
MSRP: \$301-316



▶ TAURUS 92

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 34 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Integrated
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued or matte stainless
Capacity: 17-shot mag
MSRP: \$483-498



▶ TAURUS 800 SERIES

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 28-30 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 12/15/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$346



▶ TAURUS MILLENNIUM G2

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.2"
Weight: 22 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Fixed front, adjustable rear
Features: Picatinny rail
Finish: Blued, matte stainless
Capacity: 10/12-shot mag
MSRP: \$301-316



▶ TAURUS 1911

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 42 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Novak
Features: Single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless or two-tone
Capacity: 8/9-shot mag
MSRP: \$574-697



▶ TAURUS SMALL FRAME

Caliber: .22 LR
Barrel: 2.8"
Weight: 11 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Integrated
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Blued, matte stainless, nickel or two-tone
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$256-271



TAYLOR'S TACTICAL 1911-A1

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39.5 ounces
Grips: Wood
Sights: Fixed front, dovetailed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$519



THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 31.5-39 ounces
Grips: Laminate with medallion
Sights: Low-profile fixed
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$813



TAYLOR'S TACTICAL 1911-FS GUN METAL GREY

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39.8 ounces
Grips: VZ G10
Sights: Green fiber-optic front, snag-free tactical rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Gun Metal Grey Cerakote
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$799



WALTHER CCP

Caliber: 9mm
Barrel: 3.5"
Weight: 22.3 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Interchangeable front with white dot, adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless, stainless/Cerakote
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$469-489



TAYLOR'S TACTICAL 1911 COMPACT CARRY

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.62"
Weight: 34.6 ounces
Grips: Wood
Sights: Dovetailed front, snag-free tactical rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Parkerized
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: \$585



WALTHER P99 COMPACT

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.5", 4", 4.1"
Weight: 21.5-26 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Low-profile three-dot combat
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Tenifer
Capacity: 8/10/12/15-shot mag
MSRP: \$599



TAYLOR'S TACTICAL BLACK ROCK 1911-FS

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 39.8 ounces
Grips: Wood
Sights: Green fiber-optic front, snag-free tactical rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Nitride
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$699



WALTHER PK380

Caliber: .380 ACP
Barrel: 3.66"
Weight: 18 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Low-profile three-dot
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Cerakote black, nickel
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: \$399-449



WALTHER PPK/ PPK/S

Caliber: .22 LR, .380 ACP
Barrel: 3.3"
Weight: 20-21.1 ounces
Grips: Checkered panels
Sights: Fixed steel
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, nickel
Capacity: 6/7/10-shot mag
MSRP: \$399-699



WILSON COMBAT CLASSIC

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 38-46.6 ounces
Grips: Cocobolo
Sights: Ramp front, LoMount adjustable rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WALTHER PPS M2

Caliber: 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.2"
Weight: 21.5 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Low-profile three-dot combat
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Tenifer
Capacity: 5/6/7/8-shot mag
MSRP: \$469



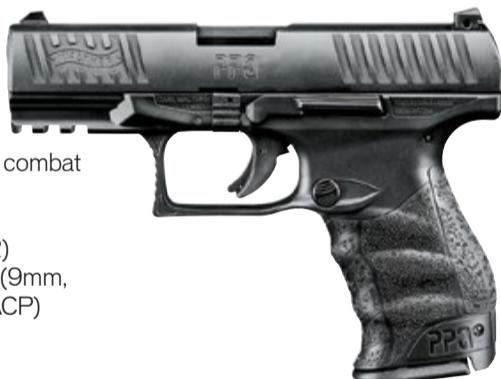
WILSON COMBAT CQB

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 4", 5"
Weight: 27.3-40.4 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst or diagonal
Sights: Fiber-optic front, Battlesight rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WALTHER PPQ M2

Caliber: .22 LR, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"-5"
Weight: 20.8-28 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Low profile three-dot combat
Features: Quick Defense Trigger (9mm, .40, .45)
Finish: Tenifer, Black (.22 LR)
Capacity: 11/15/17-shot mag (9mm, .40), 12 rounds (.22 LR, .45 ACP)
MSRP: \$429-749



WILSON COMBAT HACKATHORN SPECIAL

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 35.6 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst
Sights: Fiber-optic front, Battlesight rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WILSON COMBAT BILL WILSON CARRY

Caliber: .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 35 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst
Sights: Fiber-optic front, Battlesight rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 7-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WILSON COMBAT PROFESSIONAL

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 36.4-44.8 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst
Sights: Fiber-optic or tritium front, Battlesight rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WILSON COMBAT PROTECTOR

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 40.4 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst
Sights: Fiber-optic front, Battlesight rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 8/10-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WITNESS ELITE/HUNTER STOCK III

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 4.5", 4.75", 5.25", 6"
Weight: 33.6-44 ounces
Grips: Aluminum, synthetic, wood
Sights: Interchangeable front, fully adjustable rear
Features: Single-action or double-action/single-action
Finish: Chrome, blued (Hunter & Stock III)
Capacity: 10/13/14/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$976-\$2,336 (from European American Armory Corp.)



WILSON COMBAT TACTICAL CARRY

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 37.8 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst
Sights: Fiber-optic
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WITNESS PAVONA COMPACT POLYMER

Caliber: .380 ACP, 9mm, .40
Barrel: 3.6"
Weight: 30 ounces
Grips: Polymer
Sights: Windage adjustable
Features: DA/SA, sparkle frame, Reduced Recoil System
Finish: Black, Imperial, Sapphire, Charcoal, Fandango
Capacity: 13+1, 9+1
MSRP: \$403-434 (from European American Armory Corp.)



WILSON COMBAT TACTICAL SUPERGRADE

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 5"
Weight: 36.6-45 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst
Sights: Fiber-optic or tritium front, Battlesight rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Armor-Tuff
Capacity: 8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WITNESS POLYMER

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .45 ACP, 10mm
Barrel: 3.6", 4.5"
Weight: 26-33 ounces
Grips: Integral polymer
Sights: Low-profile, adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blue, Wonder
Capacity: 8/10/12/13/14/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$571-891 (from European American Armory Corp.)



WILSON COMBAT ULTRALIGHT CARRY

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .45 ACP
Barrel: 3.6", 4"
Weight: 25.2-26.5 ounces
Grips: G10 Starburst
Sights: Fiber-optic front, Battlesight rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Black
Capacity: 7/8-shot mag
MSRP: N/A



WITNESS STEEL FULL SIZE

Caliber: .38 Super, 9mm, .40, .45 ACP, 10mm, .45/.22 LR
Barrel: 4.5"
Weight: 33 ounces
Grips: Synthetic
Sights: Fixed blade front, windage-adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued steel, wonder finish
Capacity: 10/14/17-shot mag
MSRP: \$646 (from European American Armory Corp.)



CHARTER ARMS PITBULL/ BULLDOG/MAG PUG

Caliber: 9mm, .40, .357 Mag, .44 Special
Barrel: 2.2", 2.3", 2.5", 4.2"
Weight: 19.5-25 ounces
Grips: Neoprene, Crimson Trace
Sights: Blade front, notch rear or adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Various
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$396-696



KIMBER K6s

Caliber: .357 Mag
Barrel: 2"
Weight: 23 ounces
Grips: Gray rubber
Sights: Black serrated
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Smooth satin
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$899



CHARTER ARMS UNDERCOVER/UNDERCOVER LITE/ UNDERCOVERETTE

Caliber: .32 H&R, .38 Special
Barrel: 2", 4.2"
Weight: 12-26 ounces
Grips: Neoprene, Crimson Trace
Sights: Blade front, notch rear
Features: Double-action/single-action or double-action-only
Finish: Various
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$319-\$669



ROCK ISLAND ARMORY M200/M206

Caliber: .38 Special
Barrel: 2", 4"
Weight: 25.4-28.2 ounces
Grips: Wood, polymer
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Matte nickel
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$284-379



CHIAPPA RHINO

Caliber: .38 Special, .357 Mag, .40
Barrel: 2", 4", 5", 6"
Weight: 18-32 ounces
Grips: Wood, rubber
Sights: Fixed front, adjustable rear
Features: Single-action, double-action/single-action
Finish: Black, electroless nickel
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$899-1,250



ROSSI R35102/ R46102

Caliber: .38 Special, .357 Mag
Barrel: 2"
Weight: 24-26 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5/6-shot
MSRP: \$333-348



EAA WINDICATOR

Caliber: .38 Special, .357 Mag
Barrel: 2", 4"
Weight: 24-32 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, nickel
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$361-444



ROSSI R97104

Caliber: .38 Special +P
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 32 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Ramp front, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blue
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$378



RUGER GP100

Caliber: .357 Mag
Barrel: 3", 4.2", 6"
Weight: 36-45 ounces
Grips: Hogue Monogrip,
Hogue hardwood
Sights: Fixed, adjustable,
fiber optic
Features: Double-action/
single-action
Finish: Blued,
satin stainless
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$725-929



RUGER SUPER REDHAWK

Caliber: .44 Mag, .454 Casull, .480 Ruger
Barrel: 2.5", 7.5", 9.5"
Weight: 44-58 ounces
Grips: Hogue
Sights: Front ramp, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$1,079-1,119



RUGER LCR/LCRx

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag, 9mm,
.38 Special +P, .357 Mag
Barrel: 1.88", 3"
Weight: 13.5-17.2 ounces
Grips: Hogue, Crimson
Trace Lasergrips
Sights: Pinned white ramp,
U-notch rear, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action-only,
double-action/single-action
Finish: Matte black, Ionbond
Diamond black cylinder
Capacity: 5/6/8-shot
MSRP: \$545-899



SMITH & WESSON BODYGUARD 38

Caliber: .38 Special +P
Barrel: 1.9"
Weight: 14.3 ounces
Grips: Synthetic
Sights: Front ramp,
integral rear, integrated laser
Features: Double-action-only
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$539



RUGER REDHAWK

Caliber: .44 Mag, .45 LC,
.45 Auto/.45 Colt
Barrel: 4.2", 5.5", 7.5"
Weight: 46-54 ounces
Grips: Hogue Monogrip,
hardwood
Sights: Front ramp,
adjustable rear
Features: Double-
action/single-action
Finish: Satin
stainless
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$1,029-1,0879



SMITH & WESSON CLASSIC

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag, .38 Spl,
.357 Mag, .41 Mag, .44 Mag, .45 LC
Barrel: 1.88", 4", 6", 6.5"
Weight: 19.5-48.5 ounces
Grips: Wood
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Double-action/
single-action
Finish: Blued
Capacity: 5/6-shot
MSRP: \$739-1,169



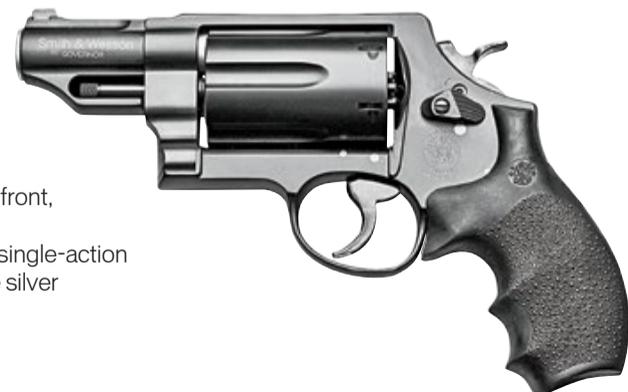
RUGER SP101

Caliber: .22 LR, .327 Mag,
.38 Special +P, .357 Mag
Barrel: 2.25", 3.06", 4.20"
Weight: 25-30 ounces
Grips: Rubber with
synthetic or wood inserts
Sights: Black ramp or
fiber-optic front, fixed
or adjustable rear
Features: Double-
action/single-action,
double-action-only
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 5/6(.327)/
8(.22)-shot
MSRP: \$679-719



SMITH & WESSON GOVERNOR

Caliber: .45 LC,
.45 ACP, .410
Barrel: 2.75"
Weight: 29.6 ounces
Grips: Synthetic, Crimson
Trace Lasergrips
Sights: Dovetailed tritium front,
fixed rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Matte black, matte silver
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$809-1,119



SMITH & WESSON J-FRAME

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag, .38 Special +P, .357 Mag
Barrel: 1.88", 2.13", 3"
Weight: 10.8-26 ounces
Grips: Synthetic, wood, Crimson Trace Lasergrrips
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action, double-action-only
Finish: Satin stainless, matte silver, matte black
Capacity: 5/7/8-shot
MSRP: \$469-1,129



SMITH & WESSON N-FRAME

Caliber: .38 Special, .357 Mag, .44 Special, .44 Mag, .45 ACP
Barrel: 2", 4", 5", 6", 6.5"
Weight: 25.1-48.3 ounces
Grips: Wood, synthetic
Sights: Hi-Viz, red ramp or Patridge front, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Matte black, satin stainless, matte stainless
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$949-1,559



SMITH & WESSON K-FRAME

Caliber: .22 LR, .357 Mag (Model 66), .38 Special +P
Barrel: 4", 6"
Weight: 36-44.2 ounces
Grips: Synthetic
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 6/10-shot
MSRP: \$689-849



SMITH & WESSON PERFORMANCE CENTER

Caliber: .38 Special, 9mm, .357 Mag, .44 Special, .44 Mag, .45 ACP
Barrel: 1.87"-8.3"
Weight: 15-57.7 ounces
Grips: Synthetic, wood
Sights: Adjustable front, integral, red ramp, interchangeable front, fixed or adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Matte black, satin stainless, matte silver
Capacity: 5/6/8-shot
MSRP: \$1,049-1,519



SMITH & WESSON L-FRAME

Caliber: .38 Special +P, .357 Mag, .44 Mag (Model 69)
Barrel: 2.5", 3", 4", 6"
Weight: 34.1-44.9 ounces
Grips: Synthetic
Sights: Red front ramp, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 6/7-shot
MSRP: \$749-849



SMITH & WESSON PRO SERIES

Caliber: .38 Special, .357 Mag
Barrel: 1.88", 2.13", 4"
Weight: 15-41.2 ounces
Grips: Wood, synthetic
Sights: Integral, tritium night, interchangeable front, fixed, tritium night, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action, double-action-only
Finish: Satin stainless, matte stainless, matte black
Capacity: 5/6/8-shot
MSRP: \$499-1,609



SMITH & WESSON M&P REVOLVERS

Caliber: .38 Special +P, .357 Mag
Barrel: 1.88", 5"
Weight: 11.4-26.7 ounces
Grips: Synthetic, Crimson Trace Lasergrrips
Sights: XS tritium, Patridge, integral front, integral or adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Matte black
Capacity: 5/8-shot
MSRP: \$869-1,329



SMITH & WESSON X-FRAME

Caliber: .460 Mag, .500 Mag
Barrel: 3.5", 4", 5", 6.5", 7.5", 8.38", 10.5", 12"
Weight: 56.5-79.2 ounces
Grips: Synthetic
Sights: Interchangeable front, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$1,299-1,689



TAURUS JUDGE

Caliber: .45 LC, .410 (2.5" or 3" chamber)
Barrel: 2.5", 3", 6.5"
Weight: 27-48 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fiber optic
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless, black polymer
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$483-598



TAURUS RAGING BULL SERIES

Caliber: .44 Mag
Barrel: 2.25", 5", 6.5", 8.4"
Weight: 27-63 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Adjustable rear, fixed front
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless
Capacity: 6-shot
MSRP: \$752-839



TAURUS LARGE FRAME

Caliber: .357 Mag, .44 Mag
Barrel: 4", 6.5", 8"
Weight: 44-57 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless
Capacity: 6/8-shot
MSRP: \$640-780



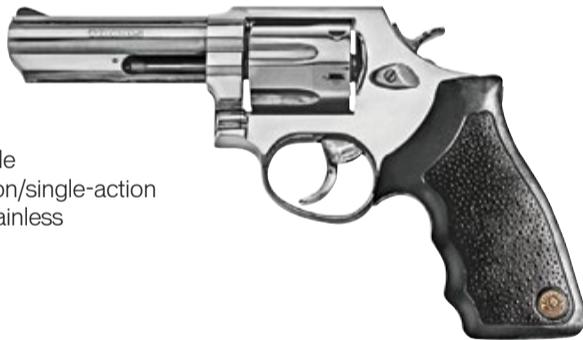
TAURUS SMALL FRAME

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag, .380 ACP, .38 Special, .357 Mag, 9mm
Barrel: 1.75", 2", 2.5", 4", 6.5"
Weight: 16-46 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed, adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless, duo-tone
Capacity: 5/8-shot
MSRP: \$356-627



TAURUS MEDIUM FRAME

Caliber: .38 Special, .357 Mag
Barrel: 4", 6"
Weight: 37-40 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed, adjustable
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless
Capacity: 6/7-shot
MSRP: \$471-590



TAURUS TRACKER

Caliber: .17 HMR, .22 LR, .22 Mag, .357 Mag, .40, .41 Mag, .44 Mag
Barrel: 2.5", 4", 6.5"
Weight: 28.8-45.6 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed ramp front, adjustable rear
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, matte stainless
Capacity: 5/7/9-shot
MSRP: \$477-600



TAURUS M605 PROTECTOR

Caliber: .38 Special, .357 Mag
Barrel: 2"
Weight: 20 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed, fiber-optic front
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Black polymer
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$356-371



TAURUS M85 ULTRA-LITE

Caliber: .38 Special +P
Barrel: 2"
Weight: 17 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed
Features: Double-action/single-action
Finish: Blued, stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$371-386



BOND ARMS BACKUP

Caliber: 9mm, .45 ACP, interchangeable barrels.
Barrels: 2.5"
Weight: 18-19 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$435



BOND ARMS PATRIOT

Caliber: .45 LC/.410, .357 Mag/.38 Spl, optional interchangeable barrels
Barrels: 3"
Weight: 21.5 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$560 (includes holster)



BOND ARMS CENTURY 2000

Caliber: .45 LC/.410, .357 Mag/.38 Spl, optional interchangeable barrels
Barrels: 3.5"
Weight: 21 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$461



BOND ARMS RANGER II

Caliber: .45 LC/.410, .357 Mag/.38 Spl, optional interchangeable barrels
Barrels: 4.25"
Weight: 23.5 ounces
Grips: Black ash with silver star inlaid
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$672 (includes holster)



BOND ARMS COWBOY DEFENDER

Caliber: Over 20 Calibers from .22 LR to .45 LC and .410, interchangeable barrels
Barrels: 3"
Weight: 19 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$440



BOND ARMS SNAKE SLAYER

Caliber: .45 LC/.410, .357 Mag/.38 Spl, optional interchangeable barrels
Barrels: 3.5", 4.25"
Weight: 22 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$518



BOND ARMS MAMA BEAR

Caliber: .357 Mag/.38 Spl, optional interchangeable barrels
Barrels: 2.5"
Weight: 18.5 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, pink
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$435



BOND ARMS TEXAS DEFENDER

Caliber: Over 20 Calibers from .22 LR to .45 LC and .410, interchangeable barrels
Barrels: 3"
Weight: 20 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Blade front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Satin stainless
Capacity: 2-shot
MSRP: \$440



NAA .22 LR

Caliber: .22 LR
Barrel: 1.13", 1.63"
Weight: 4 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, laminate, synthetic pearl, rubber, holster grip
Sights: Blade front, notched rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$226



NAA EARL

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag
Barrel: 2.5", 3", 4", 6"
Weight: 8.4-8.8 ounces
Grips: Rosewood
Sights: Bead front, fixed rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$298-344



NAA .22 MAGNUM

Caliber: .22 Mag
Barrel: 1.13", 1.63"
Weight: 5.9-6.4 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, laminate, synthetic pearl, rubber, holster grip
Sights: Blade front, notched rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$301



NAA MINI-MASTER

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag
Barrel: 4"
Weight: 8.8-10.7 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$298-363



NAA .22 SHORT

Caliber: .22 Short
Barrel: 1.13"
Weight: 4 ounces
Grips: Rosewood, laminate, synthetic pearl, rubber, holster grip
Sights: Blade front, notched rear
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$226



NAA PUG

Caliber: .22 Magnum
Barrel: 1"
Weight: 6.4 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Tritium
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$328-369



NAA BLACK WIDOW

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag
Barrel: 2"
Weight: 8.8-10.7 ounces
Grips: Rubber
Sights: Fixed or adjustable
Features: Single-action
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$288-347



NAA SIDEWINDER

Caliber: .22 LR, .22 Mag
Barrel: 1.5"
Weight: 6.7 ounces
Grips: Rosewood laminate, synthetic pearl, rubber, holster grip
Sights: Stainless steel post
Features: Attached swing-out cylinder
Finish: Stainless
Capacity: 5-shot
MSRP: \$350-508



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800-290-0065
americantactical.us

Auto-Ordnance

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auto-ordnance.com

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beretta.com

Bersa

732-493-0333
bersa.com

Bond Arms

817-573-4445
bondarms.com

Bravo Company USA

877-272-8626
bravocompanyusa.com

Charter Arms

877-769-4867
charterarms.com

Chiappa Firearms

937-835-5000
chiappafirearms.com

Colt's Mfg.

800-962-2658
colt.com

CZ-USA/Dan Wesson

800-955-4486
cz-usa.com

Doublestar

888-736-7725
star15.com

Eagle Imports

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eagleimportsinc.com

European American Armory

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eaacorp.com

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703-288-3500
fnamerica.com

Glock

770-432-1202
glock.com

Gunrafter Industries

479-665-2466
gunrafterindustries.com

Heckler & Koch

706-568-1906
hk-usa.com

IWI

717-695-2081
iwi.us

Kahr Arms

508-795-3919
kahr.com

Kimber

888-243-4522
kimberamerica.com

KRISS USA

855-574-7787
kriss-usa.com

Llama

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eagleimportsinc.com

Magnum Research

508-635-4273
magnumresearch.com

Metro Arms

732-493-0333
metroarms.com

Nighthawk Custom

877-268-4867
nighthawkcustom.com

North American Arms

800-821-5783
northamericanarms.com

Remington

800-243-9700
remington.com

Rock Island Armory

775-537-1444
us.armscor.com

Rock River Arms

866-980-7625
rockriverarms.com

Rossi USA

800-948-8029
rossiusa.com

SCCY

866-729-7599
sccy.com

Sig Sauer

866-345-6744
sigsauer.com

Smith & Wesson

800-331-0852
smith-wesson.com

Springfield Armory

800-680-6866
springfield-armory.com

Steyr Arms

205-417-8644
steyrarms.com

STI International

512-819-0656
stiguns.com

Stoeger Industries

800-264-4962
stoegerindustries.com

Sturm, Ruger & Company

ruger.com

Taurus USA

800-327-3776
taurususa.com

Taylor's & Co. Firearms

540-722-2017
taylorsfirearms.com

Thompson

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tommygun.com

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waltherarms.com

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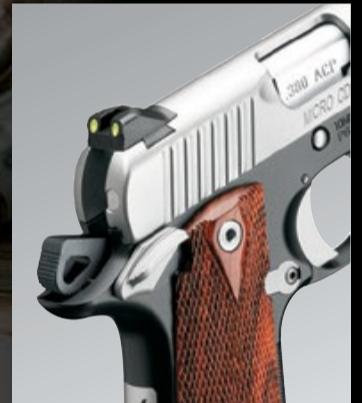
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