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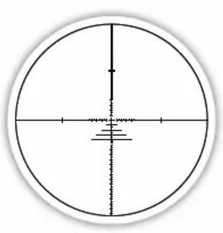
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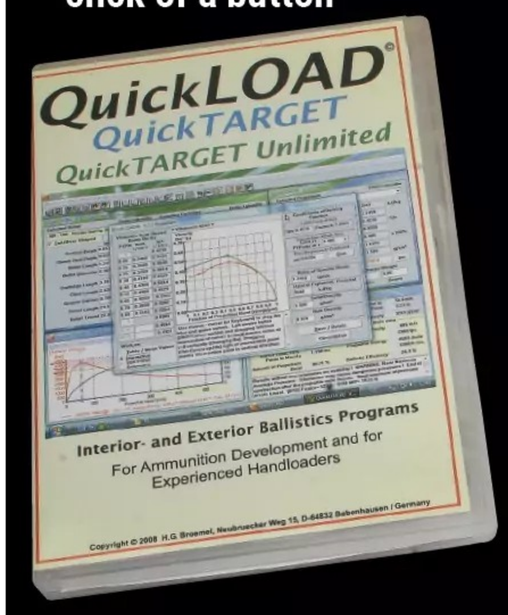
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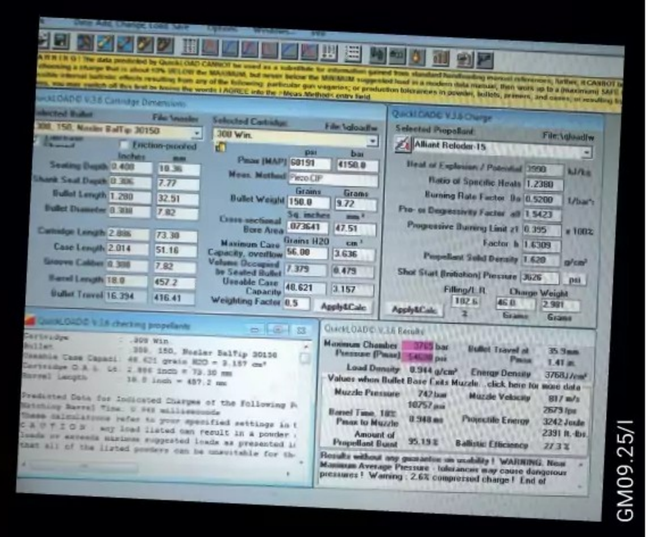
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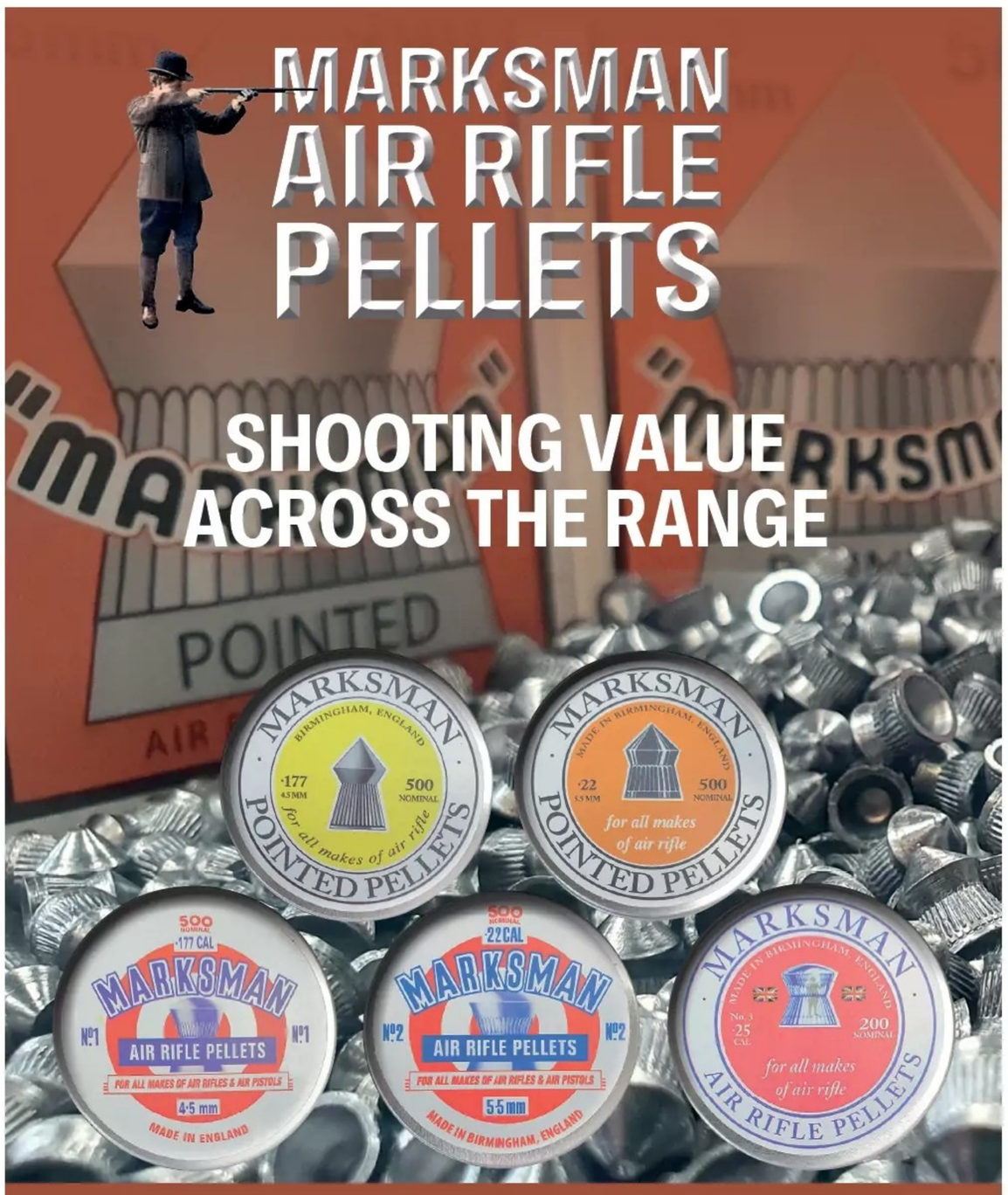
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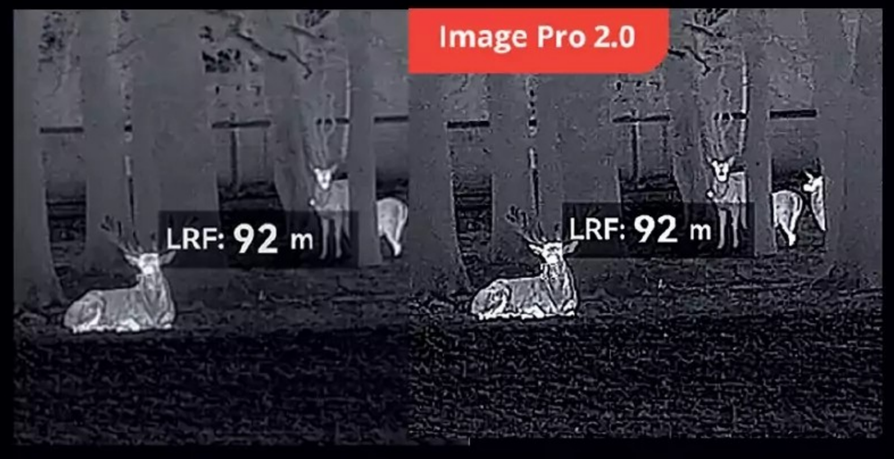
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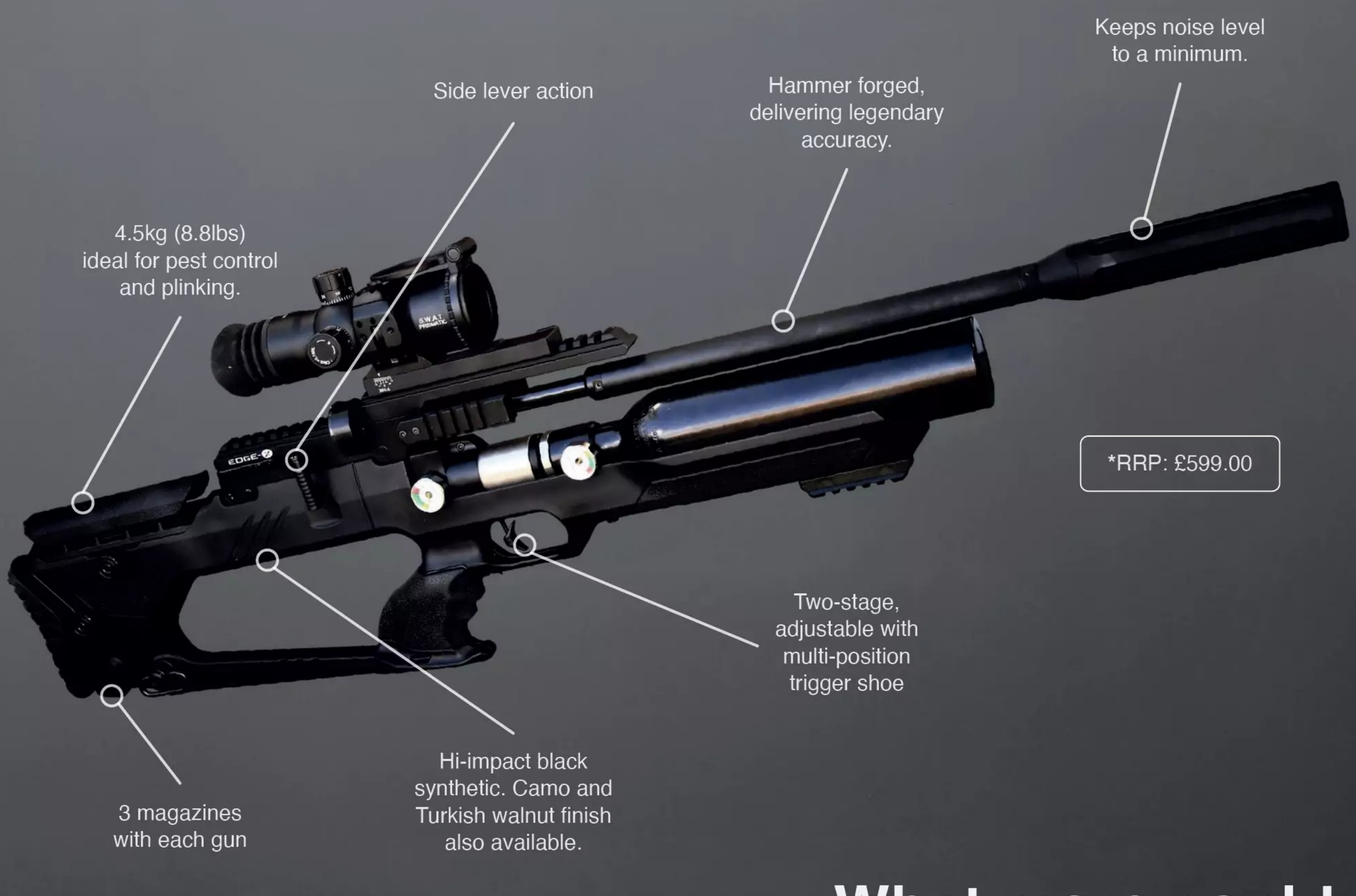
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EDITOR'S COMMENT

Whether you shoot targets, vermin, game or clays, this month's Gun Mart is loaded with content to keep you informed and inspired. From kit round-ups to classic rifles and modern thermal optics, we've pulled together a broad mix to suit most shooting disciplines. Expect honest verdicts, thorough testing and expert insight throughout.

In Five in Focus, we showcase a sharp selection of men's shooting coats that combine style with real-world practicality. There's also our Field Cutlery section, showcasing a couple of blades for out in the field.

The Airgun section sees Mark Camoccio test the distinctive Snowpeak PP750L pistol/rifle hybrid, the feature-rich Stoeger XM1 Scout, and the junior-friendly Gamo Delta. He also revisits the Weihrauch HW35E, a break-barrel classic that remains impressively capable, while Dave Barham puts the precision-focused Krait Pro through its paces.

Turning to Firearms, Chris Parkin gets to grips with the PRS-ready CZ 457 MDT ACC and rediscovers the joys of lever-action shooting with the Savage Revel DLX. He also investigates the budget-friendly Nocpix Bolt P25R thermal scope to see how it performs.

In Country & Shotgun, Bruce Potts puts the ultra-quiet Hatsan Escort Hushpower .410 to the test, while Rob Speed explores whether the elegant Fabarm Infinite RS side-by-side can rival modern over-and-unders. Bruce also examines the fast and light 24g Hull Super Fast load.

Enjoy, and as always, safe shooting!

Ed Jackson
Managing Editor

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time well spent

Gun Mart is published monthly by Time Well Spent, and goes on sale the third Thursday of the month preceding the cover date.

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News

All the latest news and views from the shooting world

Government sets 2029 deadline for lead ammo ban

› Environment Minister Emma Hardy has announced legislation banning shots containing over 1% lead and bullets exceeding 3% lead content. Legislation will be introduced by the summer of 2026, followed by a three-year transition ending in 2029.

Military, police, elite athletes and outdoor target ranges with proper risk management remain exempt. Small-calibre bullets for live quarry shooting and airguns are also excluded from the restrictions.

BASC welcomed the exemptions but expressed serious reservations about the compressed timeline. Deputy director Terry Behan warned: "The Government has shortened the expected timeframe for shotgun ammunition from five years to three years on the assumption that ammunition is readily available. That is not the case for commercial and supply reasons beyond our sector's control."

BASC is particularly concerned about the proposed reclassification of larger calibres, including .243, which could affect 60,000 deer stalkers and seriously impact the national deer cull, with consequences for road safety, food production and government environmental priorities.

Countryside Alliance chief executive Tim Bonner described the ban as "an important step for the future of shooting" but echoed timeline concerns, noting manufacturers are already coping with increased military ammunition demand. He emphasised the need for a single transition date while highlighting practical challenges.

The GWCT backed the decision based on scientific evidence. Director Roger Draycott said: "We believe the transition will be beneficial for nature and help secure the future of game management, which provides a lifeline for many of the UK's most threatened species."

GWCT highlighted Denmark's three-decade success with a complete lead ban, where game management has thrived despite restrictions.

Government estimates suggest the restrictions could prevent 7,000 tonnes of lead entering the environment annually and protect up to one million birds from lead poisoning. The Food Standards Agency states there is no safe level of lead consumption.

EU countries that banned lead shot over wetlands now use 95% steel shot, demonstrating manufacturers can scale production when necessary. With three years to prepare, the shooting community faces a critical period that will test industry adaptability and determine whether government optimism about supply chain readiness proves justified or misplaced.



Credit: SolidMaks / iStock / Getty Images Plus via Getty Images

Lothar Walther celebrates century milestone

› German barrel manufacturer Lothar Walther marked its 100th anniversary with a company celebration in Bavaria. Founded in 1925 by Lothar Walther in Zella-Mehlis, Thuringia, the company has built a reputation for manufacturing high-quality precision barrels and small-calibre weapons across sporting, hunting and professional markets.

Today, grandsons Dr Frank Walther and Gerd Walther continue the family legacy, maintaining the precision engineering standards that have made Lothar Walther barrels sought after by gunsmiths and shooters worldwide. The centenary celebration saw staff enjoy go-karting at the Bavaria Kart track, with toolmaker Henrik Sittko setting the fastest lap time, followed by refreshments at Pflug Brewery in Hörvelsingen.





BRK/Daystate experience days attract 300+ enthusiasts

› Over 300 airgun enthusiasts from across the UK gathered at Sandon Hall, Staffordshire, on 3–4 July for the BRK/Daystate Experience Days, which also marked the launch of BRK's new Ghost Special Edition air rifle.

The two-day celebration, held under blue skies and sunshine, drew more than 150 shooters daily for an immersive experience of target shooting, technical workshops and expert-led presentations. Attendees had rare access to test the complete range of BRK (formerly Brocock) and Daystate air rifles on purpose-built outdoor ranges extending to 120m, with over 10,000 pellets fired in total.

Notable attendees included renowned extreme benchrest shooters Chris Jensen and World Champion Lauren Parsons from Airguns of Arizona, who travelled from the US to provide expert guidance alongside the Airgunners' Support Pack team, who managed the ranges and offered one-to-one coaching.

Technical presentations by Mat Manning and Rich Saunders covered key topics, including camouflage techniques and gaining landowner permission for pest control shooting. For technically minded visitors, the Sub 12 Airgunners team and engineers from BRK and Daystate provided valuable insights into rifle tuning, servicing and performance optimisation, which drew plenty of questions from attendees.

Demonstrations from the brands' assembly and testing teams gave visitors a behind-the-scenes look at how these high-performance rifles are made, adding educational value to the experience.

Beyond shooting activities, the Experience Days hosted various stands, including pest control training provider Killgerm, specialist tuning and accessories brand PRS, and the Staffordshire Red Squirrel Initiative, whose team raised awareness about invasive grey squirrel threats and offered conservation advice.

Every visitor received generous goodie bags, but the luckiest were Michael and Peter, who won top raffle prizes of a BRK Ghost SE and a Daystate Blackwolf, respectively.

"Everyone had a great time, with plenty of guns to shoot and opportunities to chat with experts and fellow airgun enthusiasts," said Tony Belas of Daystate. "The 2025 event was a resounding success, and I'd like to thank the staff who worked so hard to deliver it, as well as the visitors who came to be part of it."

Hikmicro elevates Scott Country to Diamond Dealer



› Thermal imaging specialist Scott Country International has landed Hikmicro's coveted Diamond Dealer status, the manufacturer's most exclusive partnership tier. Only retailers hitting specific sales targets and service standards qualify for this recognition.

The Worcestershire-based company has seen strong growth in thermal optics over the past year, capitalising on hunters' increasing appetite for night vision technology. Diamond Dealer status brings enhanced product access and technical support from the Chinese thermal imaging brand.

The partnership reflects broader market trends, with thermal scopes and monoculars now commonplace on night shoots and pest control operations across the UK.

£30,000 air rifle theft hits Brighton shooting ground

› Thieves stole 25 Weihrauch break-barrel air rifles worth £30,000 during an overnight raid on Polowood Shooting Ground in Brighton on 24 July. They breached hedgerows and barbed wire at St Mary's Farm, also taking pellets, power tools, and refreshments from the tea hut.

Owner Gary Coomber kept operations running thanks to support from the likes of C&H Weston gun shop, which sourced replacement rifles and scopes. Mr Coomber hopes the shooting community will make the stolen Weihrauchs "too hot to handle".

Sussex Police is investigating, appealing for witnesses to call 101, quoting serial number 332 of 24/07.

New referee rules miss the mark on gun safety, critics say

› Firearms licensing changes coming into effect this September will require shotgun certificate applicants to provide two referees instead of one, but BASC argues the move sidesteps more effective safety measures.

The Firearms (Amendment) Rules 2025, affecting England, Wales and Scotland from 5 September, double the referee requirement for new shotgun certificates. However, BASC questions whether this administrative change will actually improve public safety.

BASC's firearms director, Bill Harriman, drawing on 35 years of experience, reports no instances of certificate refusals based on referee concerns. "If a referee's suitability is questioned, police simply ask applicants to find someone else," he explained.

Instead, BASC advocates for mandatory medical markers on certificate holders' GP records. This system, available since a 2023 Department of Health IT upgrade, would flag firearms owners to doctors treating mental health conditions or other issues that could affect safe gun ownership.



Credit: georgeclerk / iStock / Getty Images Plus via Getty Images

Despite overwhelming support from police and shooting communities during recent consultations, the Home Office rejected mandatory medical markers. Two years after the system's introduction, neither the Home Office nor the Department of Health can confirm how many GP practices have implemented the marking system.

Conservative MP Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown echoed BASC's concerns, emphasising that proper monitoring of certificate holders' mental and physical health would deliver greater public safety benefits than additional paperwork.

The changes will take effect as debate continues over the most effective approaches to firearms safety, with shooting organisations and officials disagreeing on which measures would best serve public protection.

Gunmaker seeks investment for steel shot breakthrough

› A Scottish gunmaker is seeking a £600,000 investment after developing technology for safely firing steel shot through tightly choked shotgun barrels.

Glasgow-based Glas Gunmakers, founded by Fraser Young and Jamie Culpan, says it aims "to create a shotgun that offers superior handling while withstanding the high pressures of steel shot at full choke – an achievement that is unmatched by any other gunmaker".

The timing could be significant in light of the recently announced transition away from lead shot by 2029, forcing shooters to switch to steel sooner than anticipated. Industry guidance advises against firing steel shot through chokes tighter than ½ due to potential barrel damage.

Glas says its barrels are machined from nuclear-grade stainless steel, unlike traditional barrels made from multiple separate components. This construction, the firm states, allows the barrels to handle significantly higher pressures without the structural weaknesses associated with conventional soldered joints. Prototypes have already been tested, and the technology has been patented.

The transition to non-toxic ammunition presents both challenges and opportunities for gunmakers. While steel shot is readily available, its hardness compared to lead creates problems for existing firearms designed for softer ammunition.

Glas is seeking investment to fund machinery and facilities. Sales of 20 units are being targeted for a £1.5 million turnover by year three, and £350,000 worth of sales have already been secured. The founders are offering a 10% finder's fee to anyone who can introduce them to investors who complete. Visit glasgunmakers.com.



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Timney Trigger for CZ 452 Rimfire

› Timney manufactures a vast array of replacement triggers for rifles of all descriptions, and I was keen to try fitting one to one of my rifles.

The CZ 452 is an incredibly common firearm, and many of us either own one, learned to shoot with one, or have at least encountered one. The thing is, they're as accurate as you could want and will pretty much last forever, but the triggers are basic and offer no adjustability.

Now, adjusting a trigger won't necessarily make you a better shot, but metallic components wear, and when a rifle can last tens of thousands of rounds, that wear leads to creep and grittiness. Let's be honest: these rifles were designed in an era of hand finishing, long before the precision tolerances we now expect.



All set for testing with a trigger-pull gauge

Installation

The Timney arrives in a small box, with instructions, some stickers, and a "go-for-it" mindset. Step one, of course, is to clear a workspace and ensure your rifle is unloaded, with the bolt removed.

There are three screws to remove from the underside of the rifle, although this can vary depending on your specific CZ variant and stock. These screws hold the trigger guard in place, but the action itself is secured to the stock with two machine screws spanning the magazine well. Nothing will spring out, so just be patient.

It's worth noting that although Timney says "no gunsmithing required", they're assuming you're familiar with basic hand tools.

Fortunately, there's nothing to lose from your new integrated unit, but the old trigger must be removed. It's pinned into the action with two main pins. You don't need specialist tools, but a 3/32" or 2.3mm punch is mandatory. Use it carefully (without brute force) to drift out the two pins holding the trigger components in place.

Once out, the old parts fall free, and these are the only bits you'll reuse, so don't lose them. I recommend placing a soft cloth under the receiver to catch anything that might fall, preventing it from bouncing off the workbench and disappearing forever.

Prep work

At this point, give the receiver a good clean and ensure no compressed dirt remains in any of its slots. I used a rubber-jawed bench vice, which made the job easier, but if you don't have one, improvisation will do.

The Timney unit comes pre-adjusted from the factory and features two basic adjusters. The larger one at the top is for pull weight, which is adjustable from 2–4lbs (~900–1800g) and includes a locknut. The lower one is for sear engagement and is thread-locked in place, so I'd leave that one alone for now.

Fitting the trigger

It's pretty clear where the Timney slots into the action. Once aligned, the original pin holes become apparent. Drive the pins back in using the punch and light taps with a small hammer. Before doing so, loosen the trigger mounting grub screw underneath.

I often find it helpful to insert a slightly undersized drill bit through the holes to help with alignment before inserting the interference-fit pins. Take your time and let the trigger unit seat itself naturally. The front pin is slightly longer than needed, so just tap it until it sits evenly on both sides. It's not critical to be perfectly even.

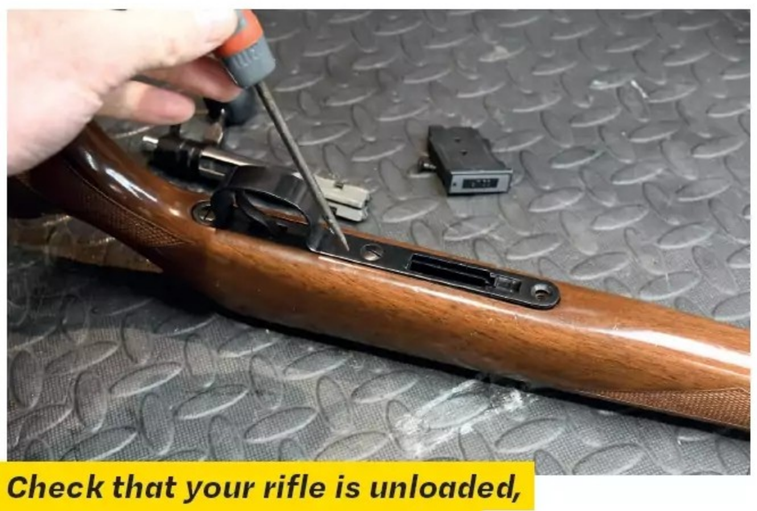
Once the pins are back in, the trigger may feel a bit loose. Don't panic, as this is expected. Use an Allen key to tighten the mounting screw from underneath while gently wiggling the trigger. You'll feel it gradually centre itself and tighten in place. No specific torque values are given, so use common sense. Once the wobble stopped, I added an additional quarter-turn. It's a small Allen key, so don't overtighten.

Inletting the stock

The Timney unit has different dimensions than the original trigger, so you'll probably



Fitted, fully functional, and ready for a stock fit test


Check that your rifle is unloaded, and then you can dismantle it


Detail of the original trigger

need to do some minor inletting to the stock. This is where common sense and hand tool skills come in. CZ stocks do vary slightly in shape and size internally, but you'll likely need to widen the trigger pocket a bit and possibly lengthen the front edge by about 1mm.

Timney recommends a Dremel, but I used fine files. Seeing as the Timney has two spur-like extensions on the internal sears that project rearward, you'll probably also need to relieve some material at the rear of the inlet, adjacent to the rear action screw.

These operations have to be done gradually and in coordination, as you can't fit the action into the stock until both front and rear clearances are correct. Don't rush, remove minimal material, and check the fit frequently. The 452 doesn't produce recoil heavy enough to crack a stock easily, but you still want to avoid removing more than necessary.

Final assembly and testing

Once everything fits and you can cycle the bolt freely, make sure the bolt can be removed and reinstalled with the action mounted in the stock. This is critical because if the bolt is inserted before the action is secured, those two rear sear spurs may prevent removal or reinstallation later.

I think the whole job took me about an hour, but I was photographing and filming along the way. Once the sawdust is cleared and the action is clean, it's time to reassemble everything.

A word on dry-firing

Many people caution against dry-firing rimfires, and technically, it's not ideal, but I've done it thousands of times with this tough old CZ, and it's never shown signs of damage. That said, it's your responsibility to follow all standard safe-handling procedures and get familiar with your new trigger before making any adjustments to pull weight or sear engagement (which is likely thread-locked for a reason).

The rifle now feels more refined and precise, making it easier for novices to handle with confidence. The trigger blade shape is more defined, and I measured the breaking weight at 1300g (2lbs 13oz) as supplied, which works well, even when I am shooting with gloves on.

Later adjustments are straightforward if desired; you just need to follow the instructions. A crisp trigger truly transforms the 452, and I would thoroughly recommend considering one for your rifle. GM

REVIEWER: CHRIS PARKIN

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Timney Trigger for CZ 452 rimfire
Price: £180.90
Contact: Hannam's Reloading - www.hannamsreloading.com





Hornady Powder Cop Die

› **Checking powder charges on a turret or progressive press can often be difficult, and is sometimes ignored, but it is an important safety consideration.** Although a small mirror and torch can be used to check a case occasionally, it slows down the entire reloading process, and inspecting every case this way is not really practical.

The Hornady Powder Cop is a very clever die that uses a stem as a probe to check the level of the powder inside each and every case. Once the die is correctly installed on the press, the stem, which has a small rubber 'O' ring seated in a groove, will not move if there is no powder charge, will rise slightly when a correct charge is present, and will rise much higher if a double charge is detected.

Suitable for cases that accommodate .22 calibre or larger, the die is relatively easy to set up, and once installed, it remains set for that particular calibre and powder charge. The stem is thinner at one end, with the thicker end being intended for use with larger cases, and a small ring of plastic 'fingers' is included to act as a guide to centre the stem into smaller calibre cases.

Hornady actually uses a similar device in their own ammunition manufacturing presses, and it is a really simple but effective design. If you have any space on your press, it is a worthwhile addition. GM

REVIEWER: MARK UNDERWOOD

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Hornady Powder Cop Die
Price: £53.65
Contact: Edgar Brothers - www.edgarbrothers.com

Megaline AC95 and AC82 Rifle Cases



› **Megaline's versatile range of gun cases provides a tough and durable solution for storing and transporting your valuable firearms.** There are eight sizes for long guns, with a further seven for pistols, and all share a similar format. The cases are made in Italy and feature a 3mm polypropylene wall thickness with overlapping seams, steel hinges, and multiple latches to lock them securely closed. All the interiors are lined with eggbox foam to protect your firearm, and with so many sizes available, it's easy to find the right fit, whether your guns are long or short, scoped or unscoped.

The two cases I selected covered the extremes of my rifle collection, starting with the AC95 Bullpup Hard Case, which is ideal for my air rifle. The overall size is 98x35x12cm, with a stippled outer texture for grip and a smooth profile to prevent snagging when sliding it in and out of a vehicle. The handle will accommodate two padlocks for extra security, and there is plenty of space inside for additional accessories you might want to store with the rifle, all held snugly when compressed within the foam.

The second case I chose was the AC82 Double Rifle Hard Case, measuring 118x35x12cm. It will accommodate two slimmer sporting rifles or, more likely, a single rifle fitted with a large scope or night vision devices, which also require ample space and protection. The case shells align accurately when closed, ensuring a quick and secure lockup, and the design allows multiple cases to be stacked without causing excessive compression or unnecessary complication. GM

REVIEWER: CHRIS PARKIN

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Megaline AC95 and AC82 rifle cases
Prices: £59.99 and £69.99, respectively
Contact: Range Right - www.range-right.co.uk

Sure Shot Target Gloves



The ISSF spec (left) and 3D Mesh glove (right)


The extensive rubber grip material transforms gun handling



Both gloves carry the smart Sure Shot branding


Note the neoprene stretch panels on the ISSF spec (left), and the neoprene strap on the 3D Mesh version (right)

› **Target gloves have become a must-have accessory for many competitive-minded shooters, whether they are shooting indoor 10m, HFT, or Field Target.** One dealer that has been at the vanguard for shooting kit across the board is Sureshot Airguns, and their new selection of gloves has all bases covered. On show here are two newly revised target gloves in the line-up, and the quality is hard to fault.

ISSF

The ISSF Full Finger Target Glove features a generous casing of rubber grip material, which is actually formed from small rubber pyramids. The grip is wrap-around, save for the inside of the bottom two fingers, meaning the high-grade leather shell is the contact point here. A band of stretchy neoprene runs across the base of the fingers, allowing for some flexibility, and the glove features a simple pull-on fit at the wrist. The result is a wonderfully supportive glove with a great degree of stiffness and incredible grip, which effectively adds strength to the lead hand in the heat of competition. Whether adopting the classic fist to support the rifle for a standing shot, or planting the hand on a tree, mid-HFT course, this glove just brings confidence and stability to the party.

3D

A super-stylish alternative comes in the form of the new 3D Mesh Leather Full Finger Target Glove, and this has less rubber on the inside of the fingers, so more sensitivity is allowed. Again, high-quality leather is used for the grip area, but here, the back of the glove features a part-exposed mesh design, alongside the same rubber grip material, bringing a subtle change in flexibility. This glove also features a split wrist design and a neoprene wrist strap, making it slightly easier to put on and take off.

Options

Field Target shooters are well catered for, as the ISSF glove is also available in FT spec, where the index finger, middle finger and thumb are cut down and exposed, allowing for easy manipulation of the scope's parallax dial or side wheel. Likewise, the 3D Mesh glove is available in this configuration, and both designs can be ordered as a left-hand glove for right-handed shooters, or vice versa. Either way, these Sureshot target gloves are quality accessories, designed for shooters who want to maximise performance. GM

REVIEWER: MARK CAMOCCIO

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Sure Shot Target Gloves (3D Mesh & ISSF)
Variants: 3D Mesh (leather full finger or FT spec) – Red, Grey, Blue; ISSF (full, half finger or FT spec)
Sizes: 3D Mesh – S to XXL; ISSF – XS to XXL
Price: £25 each
Contact: Sure Shot Airguns – www.sureshot-airguns.co.uk

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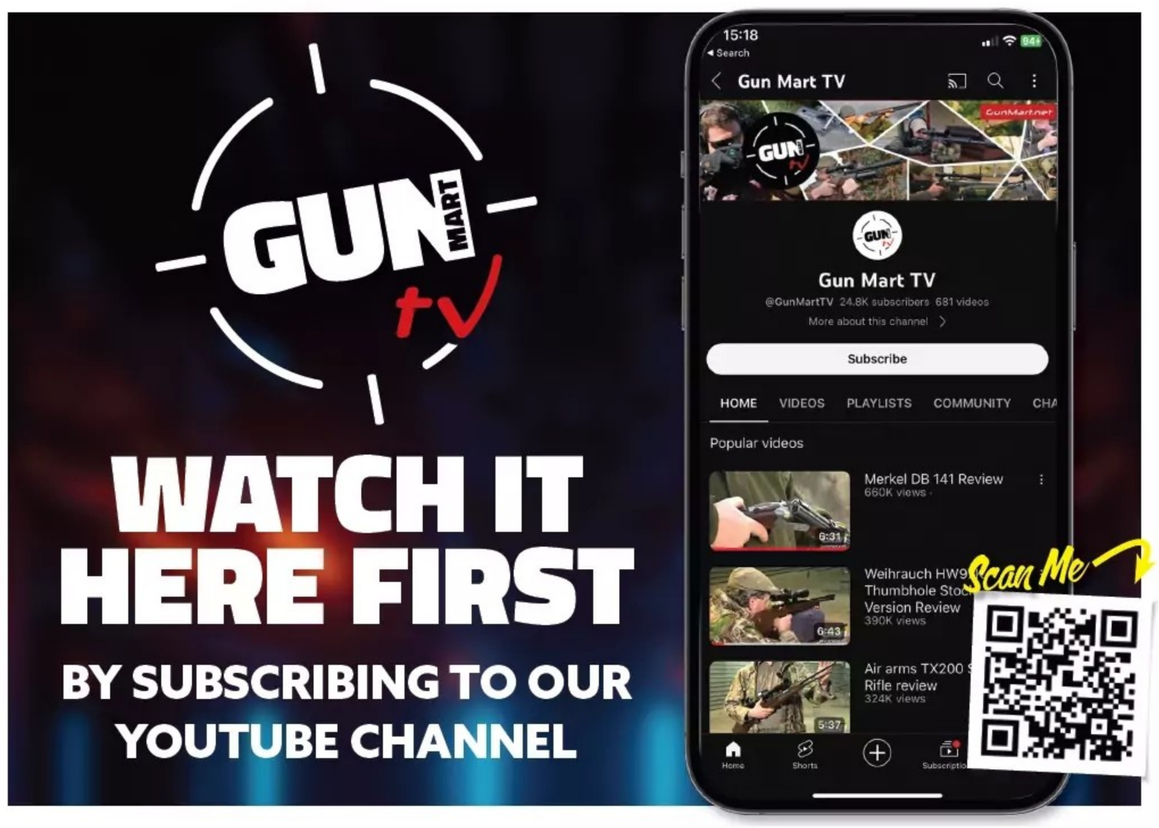
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FIVE IN FOCUS

SHOOTING

We look at a selection of shooting coats for men

› The right shooting coat can transform your day in the field from an endurance test to pure enjoyment. When it has an effective liner, your body temperature won't enter your mind. When the outer fabric has the right amount of stretch and allows total freedom of movement, you won't think twice about reaching for that high bird. When pursuing driven pheasants through a November squall or standing on a peg on a bitter December morning, staying warm, dry, and comfortable isn't a luxury – it's a necessity. A sodden, shivering Gun is a miserable one, and misery rarely leads to consistent shooting.

Today's leading manufacturers pour enormous resources into cutting-edge technology, delivering coats that are simultaneously waterproof, windproof, breathable, and lightweight. Understanding the numbers matters: waterproof ratings, measured in millimetres, tell you exactly how much punishment a coat can withstand – the higher the figure, the drier you'll stay. 'Breathability' refers to how well the fabric allows moisture vapour to pass through from the inside to the outside. It's essentially the fabric's ability to let your sweat evaporate rather than trapping it against your skin. Again, the higher the number, the more breathable the fabric.

The marketplace brims with choices, from traditional tweeds with modern technical linings to space-age synthetics that wouldn't look out of place on Everest. The challenge lies not in finding a good coat, but in identifying the perfect one for your specific needs, budget, and shooting style. Here, we've done the hard work for you, analysing five outstanding options side by side.



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Brand origin: USA
Waterproof rating: 10,000mm
Breathability: 10,000mm
Fabric: 100% cotton outer with a Z-Lining Pre-Vent membrane and polyester lining
Pockets: 6
Colour: Dark Brown
Warranty: 2 years
Hood: Detachable, adjustable hood
Sizes: S–3XL
Weight (large): 1.55kg
USP: It successfully combines traditional hunting heritage and classic oiled cotton aesthetics with modern waterproof technology, offering shooters the best of both worlds – timeless style with reliable contemporary protection under Browning's trusted American hunting brand legacy.
RRP: £315.95
www.browning.eu

HÄRKILA PRO HUNTER SHOOTING GTX JACKET

Brand origin: Sweden
Waterproof rating: 30,000mm
Breathability: 30,000mm
Fabric: Breathable, soft Airtech outer with a waterproof GORE-TEX membrane
Pockets: 8
Colour: Willow Green
Warranty: 5 years when you sign up to the Pro Hunter Society for free and register your purchase
Hood: Detachable
Sizes: EU46–58 (UK 36–48″ chest)
Weight (size medium): 1.31kg
USP: 'Apparel of the Year' winner at the Great British Shooting Awards 2024
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www.harkila.com

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Breathability: 5,000mm
Fabric: Polyester twill
Pockets: 10
Colour: Olive Night
Warranty: 12 months
Hood: Detachable
Sizes: XS–4XL
Weight (size medium): 1.5kg
USP: The design combines all of New Forest's bestselling jackets – essentially taking the most popular features from multiple successful jackets and combining them into one comprehensive design.
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www.newforestclothing.co.uk

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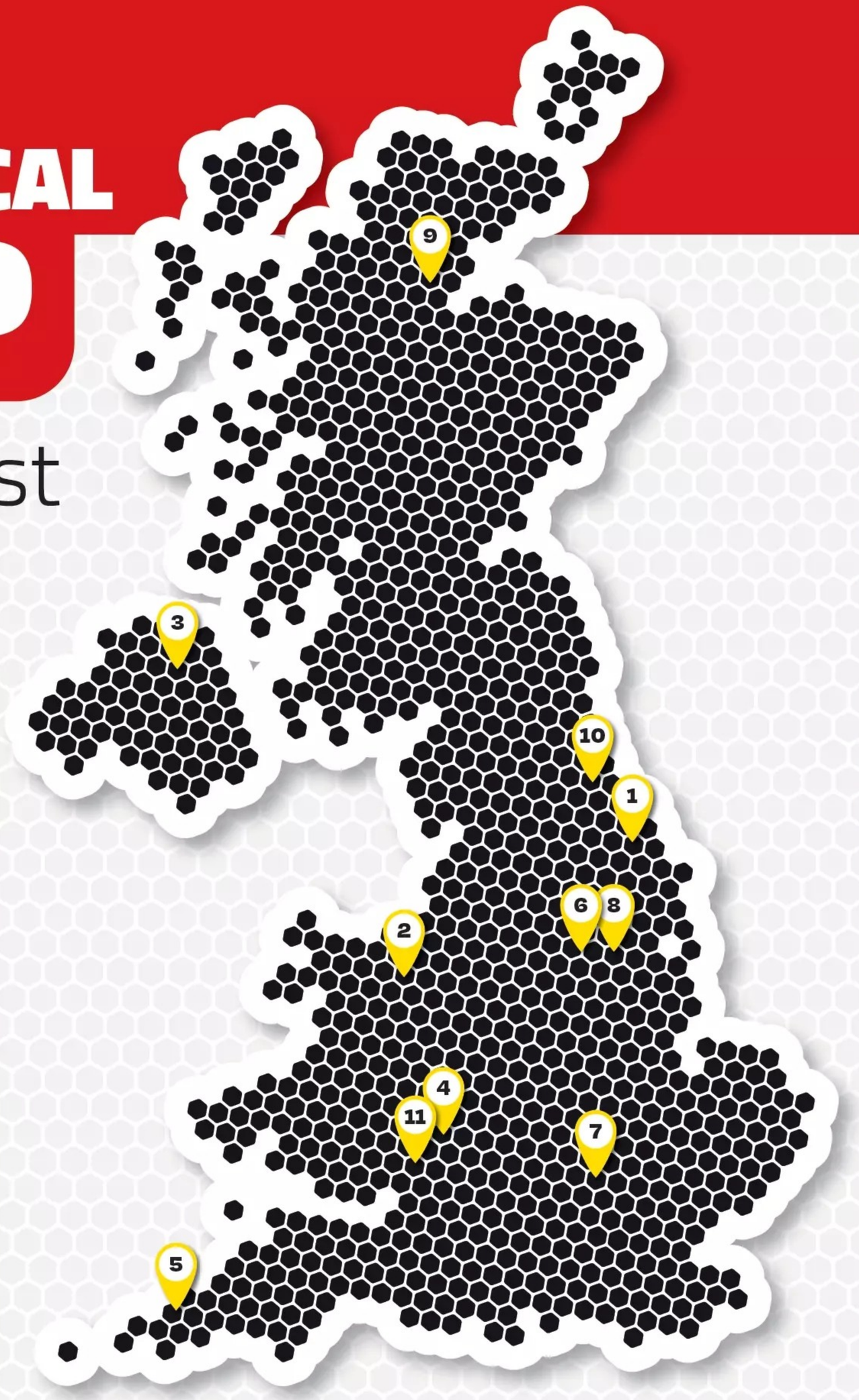
Brand origin: Italy
Waterproof rating: >10,000mm
Breathability: >10,000mm
Fabric: Durable water-repellent-treated microfibre
Pockets: 5
Colours: British Green and Brown Bark
Warranty: 12 months
Hood: Removable; designed to ensure a clear field of vision
Sizes: S–4XL
Weight (medium): 1.3kg
USP: A precision-engineered jacket that applies Beretta's craftsmanship and field-testing expertise to create a coat for those who prioritise stealth, movement, and Italian quality.
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www.e.store.beretta.com

STONEY CREEK SUPPRESSOR JACKET

Brand origin: New Zealand
Waterproof rating: 10,000mm–39,727mm
Breathability: 16,000mm
Fabric: The quiet, brushed tricot outer fabric has been DWR-coated, which actively sheds water. An internal hydrophilic membrane blocks 100% of rain and wind, and breathes exceptionally well.
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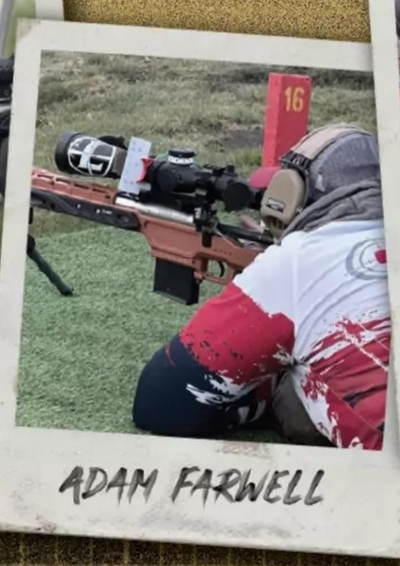
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GM09.25/23

PRECISION IN HAND

Dave Barham takes aim with the new Krait Pro, a bullpup brimming with adjustability, style, and serious shooting pedigree



The magazine holds 18 pellets in .177 calibre, and 16 in .22

› When I first saw this latest incarnation of the AirMaks Krait, I knew I had to get hold of one to test. It's just so dinky and solid, making it a real airgun hunter's dream. Needless to say, Jamie Ransome at Hawke Optics, which now distributes AirMaks Arms in the UK, wasted no time in getting one to me, and I haven't been able to put it down ever since.

The new Krait Pro brings the family of Krait rifles to a whopping 14 different formats, including the Krait, Krait-T and Krait Lite versions, with four different specifications for each of those models: Standard, Long, Long High Power and Extra High Power. However, only two models are currently available in the Krait Pro range: the Krait Pro featured here and the Pro L version.

Both the Krait and Krait Lite variations feature a carbon bottle, while the Krait-L models have a cylinder tube reservoir. The Krait Pro I have here in .177 has a 400mm barrel and a 300cc carbon bottle, while the Krait Pro L has a longer 520mm barrel and a larger 480cc carbon bottle. All the barrel lengths are available choked or unchoked and have a 1:17.7 twist.

All models also feature a modular shrouded CZ barrel system, which at sub-12ft/lbs gives the rifle a very quiet report from the muzzle, even when used without a ½" UNF threaded moderator.

Tailored to fit

Everything about the new Krait Pro has been beautifully engineered to an extremely high standard, and the machined components are produced to ridiculously high tolerances. The level of craftsmanship is excellent, and everything just feels right as soon as you pick one up.

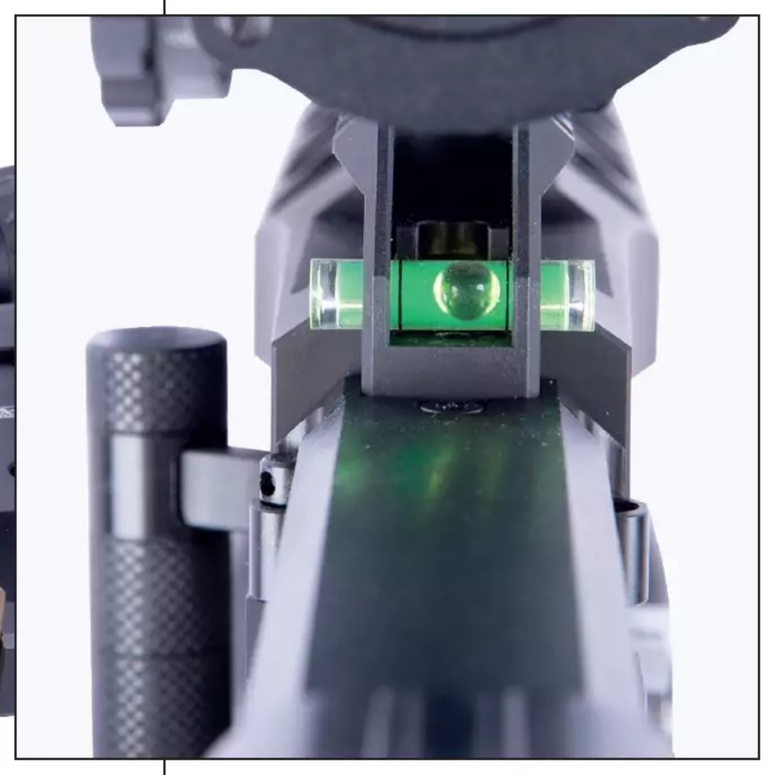
What's more, the Pro is completely customisable, right off the shelf. For instance, the length of pull can be adjusted a whopping 65mm by simply turning the thumbscrew at the base of the rifle. Then there is the butt hook itself, which is fully adjustable by unscrewing an Allen screw and sliding it up or down to suit, as well as rotating left or right. Even the hooks themselves, top and bottom, are adjustable for height and angle, so you can fiddle about and get the precise gun fit for you. Before extension, the overall length of the rifle is just 610mm, and unscoped, it weighs 3.45kg (7.6lbs).

The cheekpiece is fully adjustable for height plus slant, and this is achieved by using two

I FOUND MYSELF REPEATEDLY HEADING TO MY LOCAL CLUB RANGE WITH THIS RIFLE. IT'S NOT BECAUSE I NEEDED TO, IT'S BECAUSE I WANTED TO. IT'S JUST SUCH GREAT FUN TO SHOOT, AND AS FAR AS ACCURACY IS CONCERNED, WELL, IT JUST DOESN'T MISS A BEAT."



Detail of the ARCA rail and various M-LOK slots on the fore-end



This bubble level helps the shooter monitor cant during critical shots

flathead Allen bolts spaced 25mm apart on a single bracket with two channels in the stock. Adjusting both screws to the same height allows the cheekpiece to be raised up or down, but if you loosen just one of them, you can tilt the cheekpiece up from the front or the rear.

Up top, there's an extended 250mm-long Picatinny scope rail that has a 20 MOA gradient integrated into it, plus numerous M-LOK slots to add accessories. At the back end of this rail, you'll also find an integrated bubble level, which is very handy for avoiding cant out in the field.

While I'm on the subject of the top rail, I would highly recommend that you opt for high mounts when attaching a scope. They provide a little extra height (around 6mm) and make the whole setup more comfortable for achieving perfect eye-to-scope alignment.

Underneath the rifle, you'll find an Arca rail/fore-end that protects the carbon bottle. This too has numerous M-LOK slots for accessories, as well as a small Picatinny rail for a bipod.

When it comes to filling the rifle with air, the supplied probe simply connects to a Foster fitting. It's a simple case of plugging the probe into the fill port located on the left side of the main action and filling to 300bar.

Cocking made easy

I love the short-stroke side-lever on the Krait rifles, as it cocks the gun with just over a 90-degree pull and very little effort, then returns to position with a positive, muffled click. The 55mm-long drop handle is chunky and feels great in your hand when cocking. The lever can also be swapped from right to left in a matter of seconds for those who shoot left-handed.

The AR15-style pistol grip really suits this rifle and the way it handles. It is made from reinforced polymer with a textured rubber coating on the outside and feels great to hold. It also has a rather aggressive 15-degree angle, which again suits this rifle perfectly.

I haven't mentioned the main body of the rifle yet, have I? Well, that's partially FDE Cerakoted, which



Detail of the adjustable cheekpiece



The butt can be adjusted in many different ways



A closer look at the Krait Pro's side-lever

gives the rifle a striking "Desert Storm" look and also helps protect the metalwork underneath. The 30mm barrel shroud is also Cerakoted and adds visual appeal as well as sound-suppressing functionality.

Adjustability inside and out

The Krait is not only adjustable externally, but also fully adjustable internally, with even the UK sub-12ft/lbs versions offering tuning potential.

Straight from Hawke Optics, the Huma-Air regulator is set to around 70bar, but this can be adjusted from 50 to 110bar. It is essential, however, that you drain the air first in order to decrease the pressure of the regulator. This is easily achieved by draining the 15cc plenum (60cc in FAC models) via the grub screw next to the fill gauge. AirMaks also produces an optional extra tool that is designed to do the job for you.

You can also adjust the hammer spring yourself via an adjuster hidden behind the buttpad. Simply pull the adjustable length-of-pull buttpad all the way back to expose it.

Tuning air rifles is not something I've ever attempted, as I'm a simple guy, and if the gun fits and the trigger is right, I'm happy. However, I can see the appeal of tuning a rifle to suit the pellets that you intend to use, to get as near to perfection as possible.

The fully adjustable match trigger on this rifle is nothing short of superb. It features a gently curved trigger blade, which can be adjusted on the post for height as well as rotational angle. As you would expect, the unit itself is also two-stage adjustable for length and weight. There is a manual AR15-style safety lever immediately above and behind the trigger unit, which can also be swapped out from left to right if required.

Decent capacity

Each rifle comes with one of AirMaks' spring-loaded alloy magazines, but additional units can be purchased if needed. They are a drop-in rotary type, very easy to use, and can only be inserted into the rifle from right to left. The magazine



The manual safety catch can easily be swapped from one side to the other if required



As you would expect, the muzzle is screwcut for a silencer



Extended 250mm Picatinny rail with 20 MOA gradient and multiple M-LOK slots for accessories

CHECKED, TUNED, DELIVERED

» **FORMER AIRMAKS UK AGENT CHRIS ROBERTS** has stayed on as part of the team at Hawke Optics, personally tuning every rifle that enters the UK before it reaches the shops. He's very proud of what he does, and it shows, as there are very few, if any, returns of AirMaks rifles due to this process. Chris knows that each rifle sold in the UK has been through his hands first, virtually eliminating any future problems that the end user could possibly have.

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slots in with a positive "click" and is held securely by a sprung ball-bearing system. The .177 version holds 18 pellets, while the .22 holds 16, which is more than enough for most hunting situations.

Importantly, the magazines also feature an anti-double feed system, which eliminates the possibility of double loading, something I have been guilty of on many other rifles over the years.

Hard to put down

I found myself repeatedly heading to my local club range with this rifle. It's not because I needed to, it's because I wanted to. It's just such great fun to shoot, and as far as accuracy is concerned, well, it just doesn't miss a beat. It delivers pellet-on-pellet accuracy out to 30m, and at 40m from the bench, I was punching fingernail-sized groups in the paper targets. I pushed it further to the far wall of the range at 53m and was happily hitting the spinner targets with ease.

I'm in no doubt that this little bullpup is going to make a fantastic hunting rifle, as the ease of use, reliable performance, and pinpoint accuracy dictate that. However, with the longer-barrelled L model, I can see a lot of dedicated club target shooters getting in on the action, too.

Whether you're a hunter, club shooter or competition shooter, the Krait Pro is absolutely everything you'll ever want it to be and more. GM



Detail of the excellent, fully adjustable match trigger



The magazine can only be inserted from the right-hand side

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: AirMaks Arms Krait Pro
Type: PCP
Calibre: .177 on test, .22 available
Barrel Length: 400mm/15.7"
Overall Length: 610mm/24"
Weight: 3.6kg/7.6lbs
Energy: 11.7ft/lbs
Price: £1,899
Contact: Hawke Optics – www.airmaksarms.co.uk

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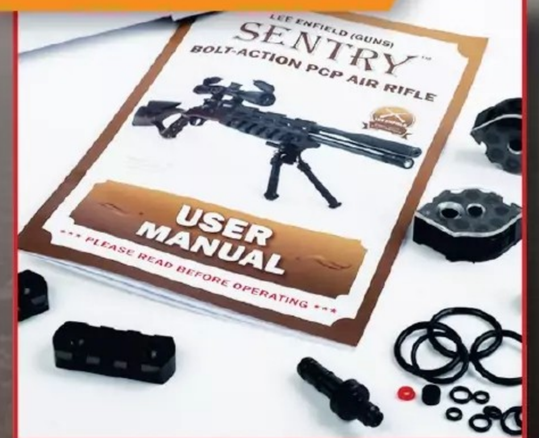
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From pistol TO RIFLE





Mark Camoccio tests the Snowpeak PP750L and finds a cleverly engineered hybrid that blurs the lines between pistol and rifle

› **Snowpeak is a major Chinese manufacturer that produces a range of airguns for Sportsmarketing (SMK).** On test here is an upgraded version of a pistol I reviewed some time ago. Welcome to the SMK Snowpeak PP750L. The changes are substantial, despite the similar profile, and I'll highlight them throughout the review.

Neat and compact

Take a close look at this model, and you'll appreciate some neat design work. For a start, I said pistol, but a big feature is the fully adjustable skeleton stock, which means that handling and performance can be transformed. Effectively, the PP750L morphs from a pistol to a rifle at the push of a button, and we'll focus on that in a while.

Open sights are fitted, and there's a fully shrouded barrel, dovetail rails, wooden grips, a two-stage trigger, a manometer, and a side-lever-operated PCP action. This model also comes complete with a range of goodies: a threaded silencer, a single-shot tray, a magazine, a full set of spare seals, Allen keys, a filling adaptor, and instructions.

Fit, finish and sighting options

The whole action has a smart matte-black finish and, with an all-metal construction apart from the butt assembly, there's a definite sense of quality. Look at the pistol grip and you'll see wooden panels, probably beech, which further enhance the air of refinement.

The open sights fitted are nothing special, to be honest, with the foresight post wrapping around the barrel shroud. The rear sight is basic too – adjustable for elevation but not windage. Look closely and you'll find a small reversible leaf plate that allows you to alter the notch shape and height. That said, given this model's potential when converted into a rifle, I would fit a suitably compact alternative sight from the outset. I fished out my SMK 2x20 pistol scope, which was easily attached onto the dovetail rail provided.

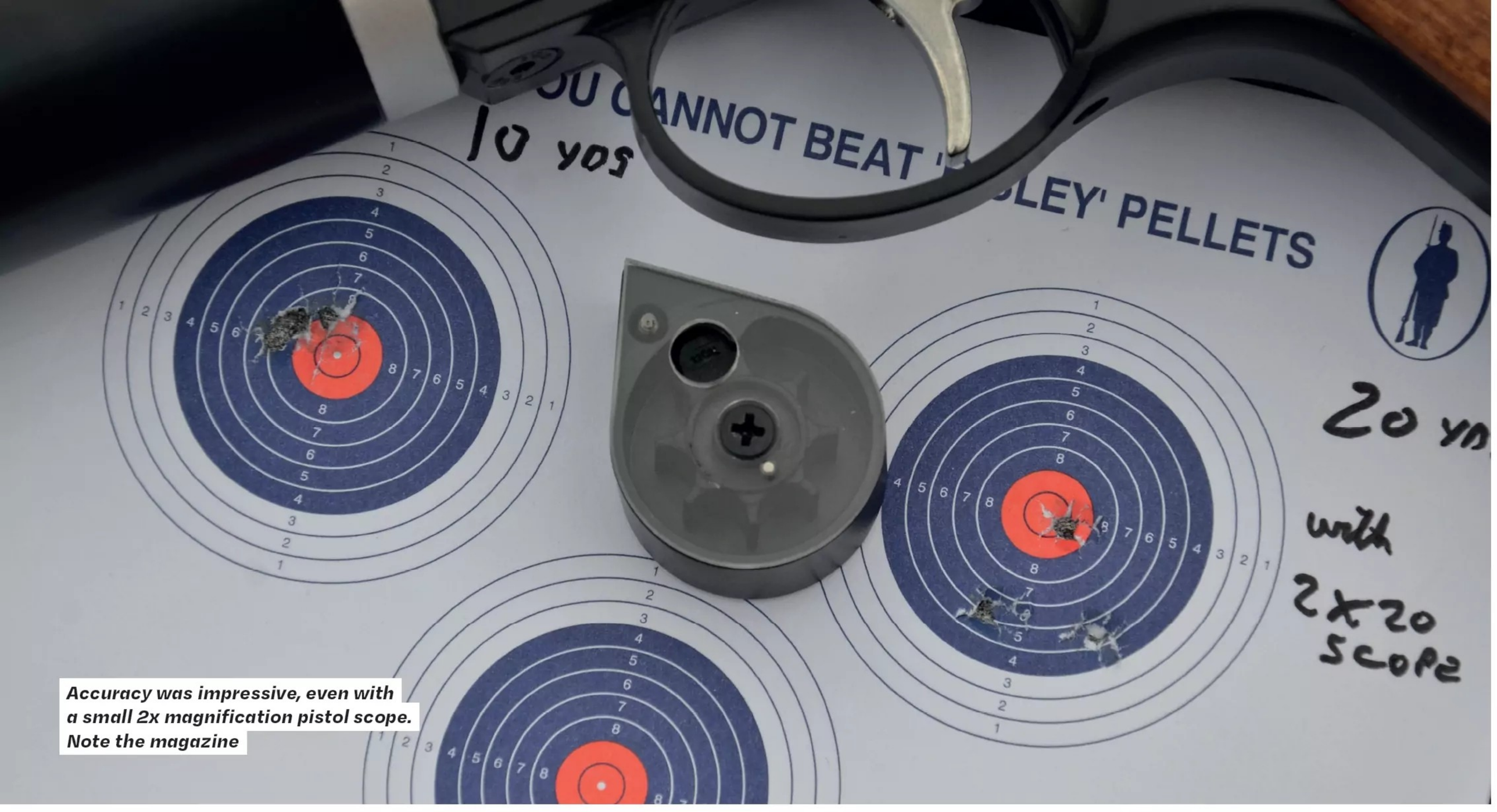
A quick side note must go to the instructions, which are too generic. They attempt to cover all models across the Snowpeak line-up, but ultimately fall short.

Final prep

My test gun was supplied in .22 calibre, and this gets a seven-shot magazine. Order it in .177, and you'll get a nine-shot mag. The magazine itself feels very precise and well-made. To fill it, the cover needs to be twisted anti-



Detail of the side-lever. Note the rear sight



Accuracy was impressive, even with a small 2x magnification pistol scope. Note the magazine

clockwise all the way around, then the first pellet inserted skirt-first from the back. Thereafter, fill each chamber in turn from the front.

A two-stage trigger is fitted to this model, and whilst there is some generic mention in the instructions about adjustment across the product range, my example came perfectly set, so I didn't bother. A small amount of first-stage movement, then a tiny amount of creep, and it released the shot. It all worked well in use.

Handling and upgrades

This model offers great versatility, as it can be shot with the stock removed, either single-handed or double-handed, as a true pistol. Of course, with the skeleton stock fitted, the PP750L suddenly locks into the shoulder, and that stability makes for easy handling. Pull back the small side lever, snap in the magnetic magazine (or single-shot tray) from the left side, and close the lever.

I initially managed ¾″ groups over ten yards with open sights, but with the stock extended and my pistol scope in place, accuracy was transformed in seconds. An enlarged ragged hole at 10 yards became a sub-½″ cluster at around 20 yards, making this pistol satisfying to shoot and highly rewarding of good technique. Shot cycling proved smooth and faultless, too. The muzzle report wasn't significant, but this later model now features a barrel threaded for a silencer.

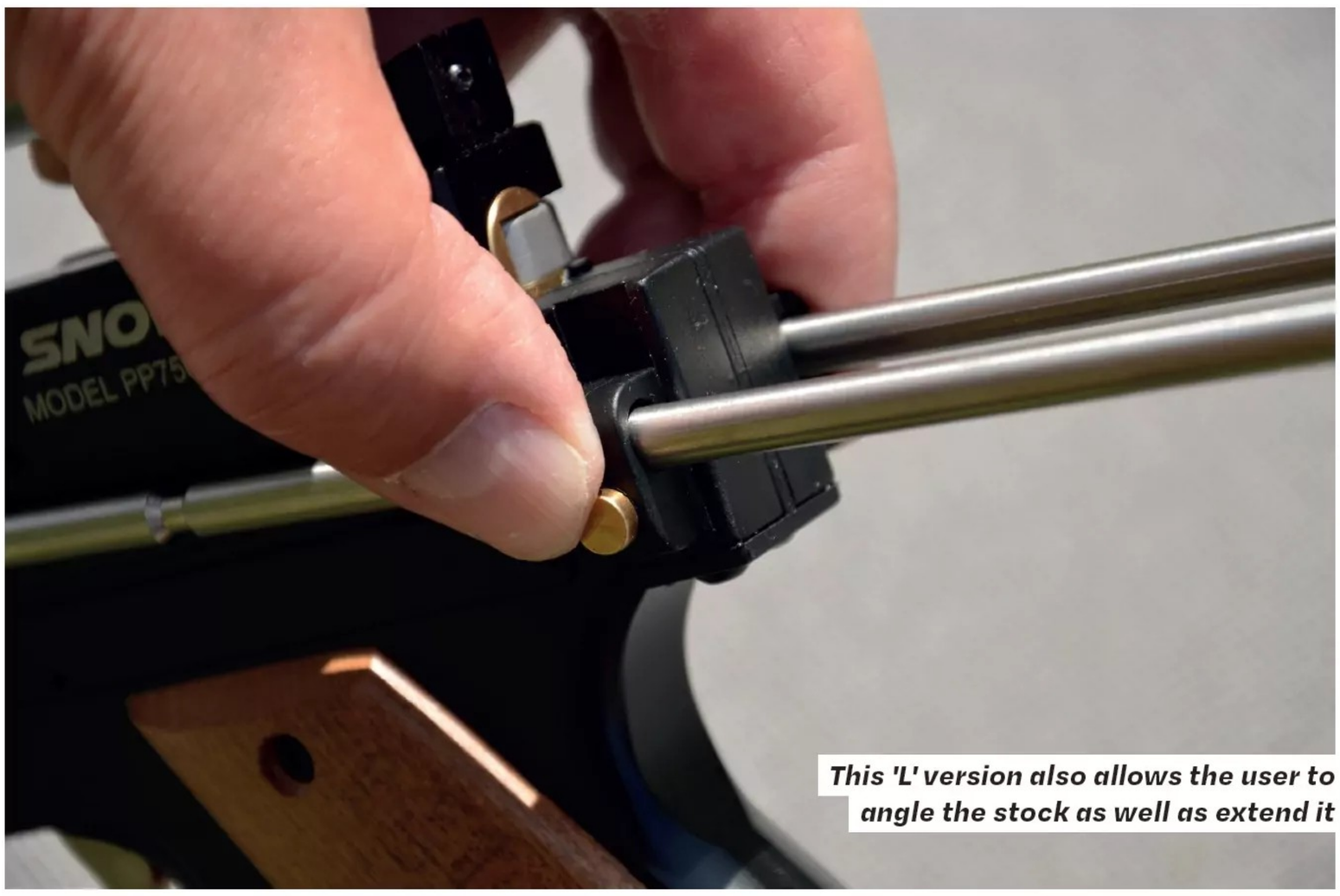
As for the skeleton stock, it can be removed altogether simply by depressing the two small brass spring-loaded buttons on either side of the action and sliding the stock clear. The length of pull is adjusted in the same way. Note the cut-out grooves on the skeleton bars. The stock can be set to connect at these points, effectively varying the length of pull in three stages: 11.5″, 13.5″ and 15.5″ fully extended.



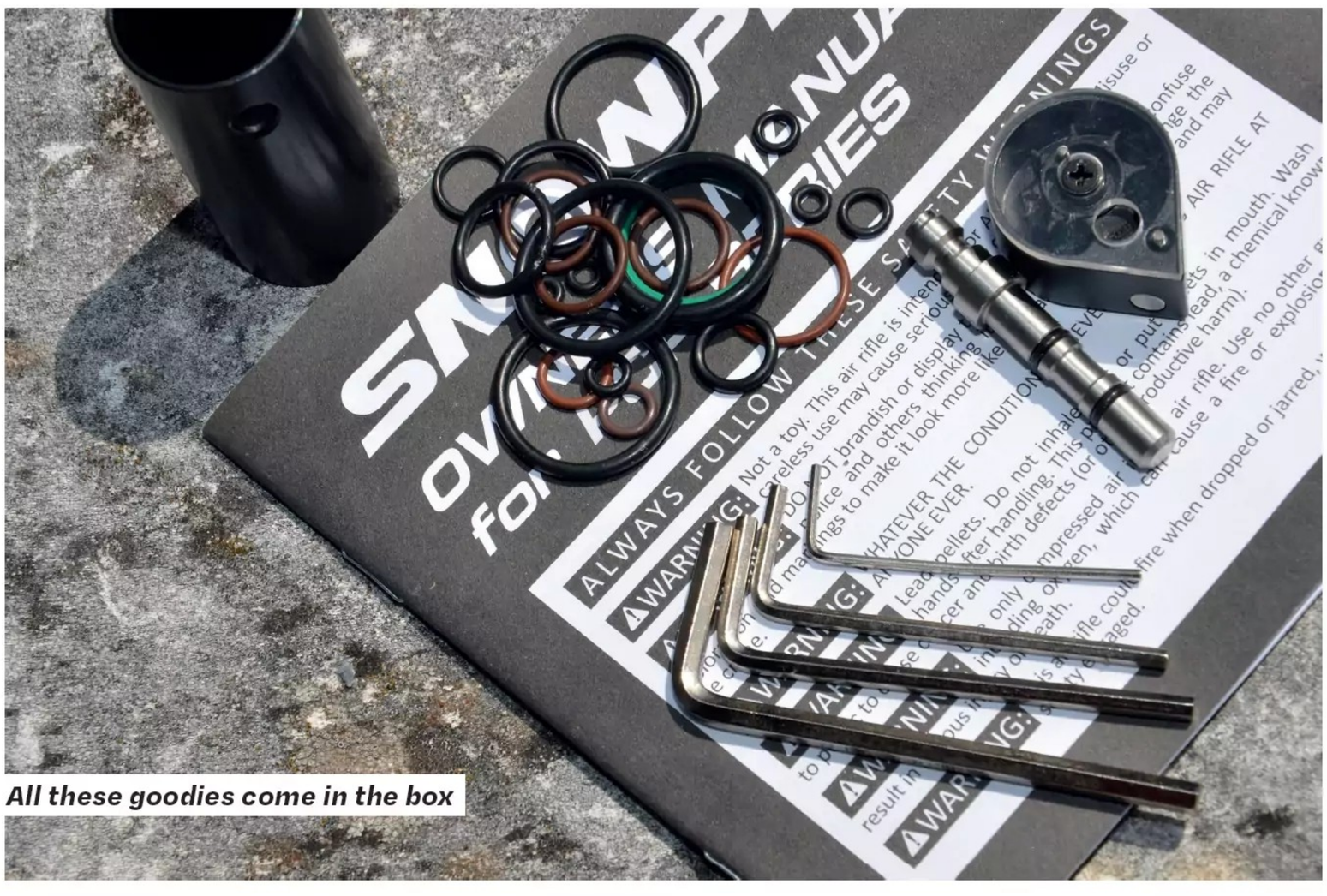
In all its glory. Note the slick adjustable butt pad that comes with this 'L' version



Smart wooden grips enhance the aesthetics. Note the trigger and its built-in safety button



This 'L' version also allows the user to angle the stock as well as extend it



All these goodies come in the box

This skeleton stock also features a couple of revisions over the original model. The brass spring-loaded button clamps are now designed to slide up and down independently, so the skeleton stock can be altered to sit at a different angle in the shoulder. In addition, the more sophisticated rear pad assembly can be raised or lowered using a large knurled adjustment wheel. The result is a stock that can be adjusted to suit the individual perfectly.

Test bench

Now to shot count and consistency, which represent another area of significant improvement over the standard model. My records showed I managed just 42 shots from the older version. With this PP750L, and from the specified 250bar fill pressure, I blew those figures out of the water!

I chose to test the first 100 shots, actually 14 magazines' worth, equivalent to 98 shots, and this returned a total spread of just 15fps using 12.96gr BSA Greenstar pellets. What the manufacturer calls a 'consistent valve' is part of the design, but that is excellent consistency in anyone's book, equating to an average of 4ft/lbs. This left a residual pressure of 160bar, so expect 130 to 150 shots.

Rangemaster Sovereign pellets managed 4.5ft/lbs, so personal pellet trials are clearly well worth conducting, as usual.

Verdict

The Snowpeak PP750L delivers a significant increase in shot count and efficiency over the more basic model, and with all the additional tweaks and upgrades factored in, it adds up to a highly appealing, super-compact yet capable airgun that combines the portability of a pistol with the performance of a rifle. GM

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Snowpeak PP750L
Type: PCP
Calibre: .22 on test, .177 available
Barrel Length: 10.8″
Overall Length: 28″ (fully extended)
Weight: 3.2lbs
Energy: 4ft/lbs (average)
Price: £329.95
Contact: Sportsmarketing - www.sportsmk.co.uk

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PCP Vermin Target Pellet High Power



M30
MULTI SHOT BOLT ACTION

RRP £599.95

PCP Vermin Target Pellet High Power



M60B
MULTI SHOT

RRP £699.95

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DELTA DELIVERS FUN



Designed for younger shooters, the Gamo Delta gets a thorough hands-on test from airgun enthusiast ***Mark Camoccio***

› **I remember my first air rifle and the excitement it gave me all those years ago.** The Webley Vulcan was a cracking gun, but I was 13, and large-framed even then, and I could cope with its weight and cocking effort. Many youngsters get their first taste of airguns at a far younger age, and that's something we need to encourage, under the correct supervision, of course, to get new blood into our sport.

Easy handling

The problem is being able to handle a gun safely, and there's nothing worse than giving little Jonny a heavy, full-powered adult air rifle that he can barely lift, let alone operate! The answer, of course, is dedicated hardware, and if you take the time to look, you will find a good range of air rifles specifically aimed at the little people among us who are showing an interest in getting involved.

Gamo is a huge Spanish manufacturer, and unsurprisingly, they have a few options among their burgeoning product line-up. The Delta is perhaps the most basic, straightforward, and cost-effective option among them, and I happen to have one on test here. So, time to give it the once-over and see just what we get for our money.

First impressions

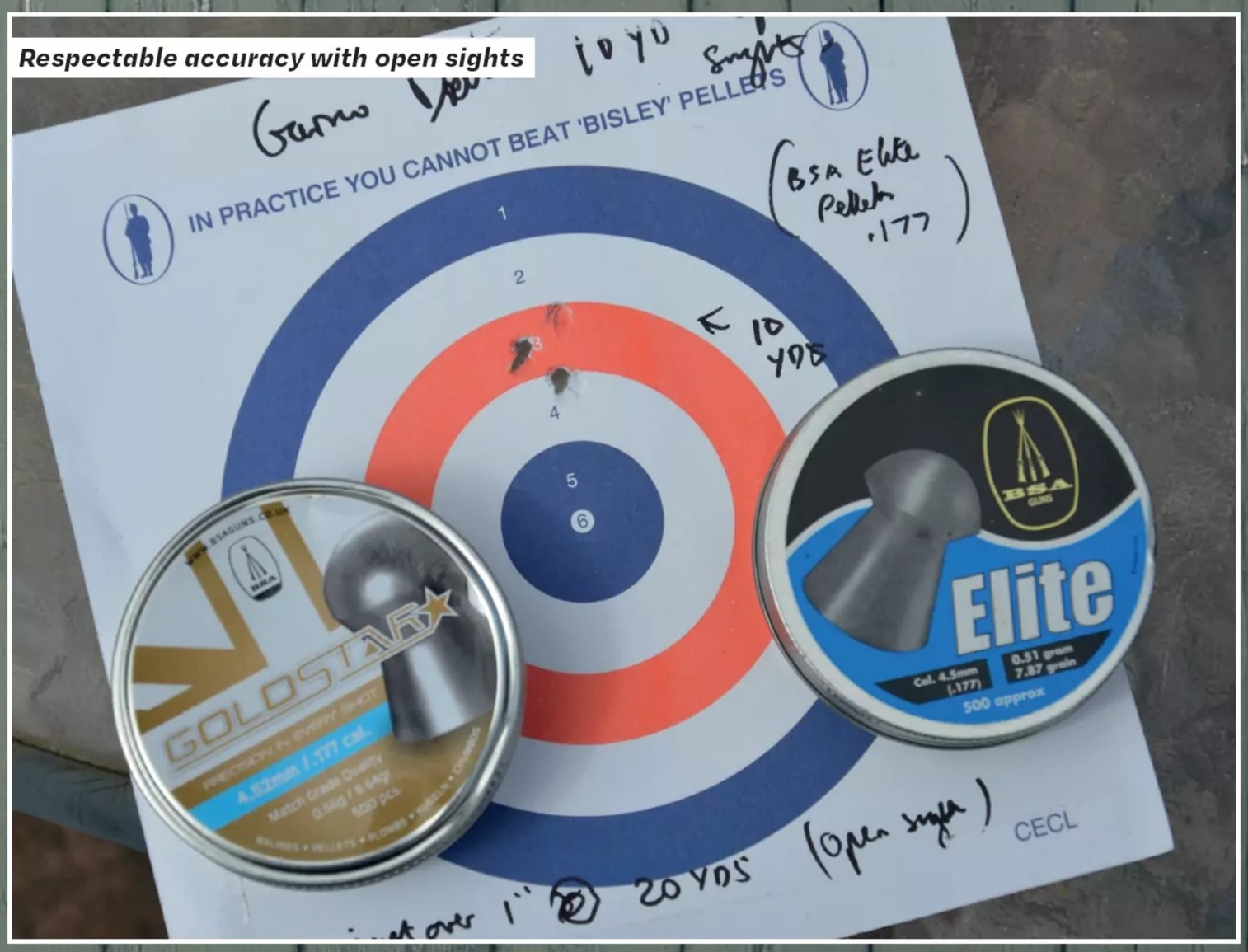
First impressions of the Gamo Delta, which is available only in .177, are of a straightforward yet stylish airgun. Copious use of synthetics means weight can be kept to a minimum, and Gamo is the master of the art. Visually, everything is synthetic, other than the main chemically blued cylinder and the adjuster leaf in the rear sight. The curved cylinder end block, trigger, and safety are all plastic, yet I have to say functionality is in no way compromised.

Up front, the full barrel shroud is all part of a single moulding that incorporates the breech block and sight base. Gamo then runs a thin steel barrel liner through the centre, and this is rifled in the usual way. This process again allows for significant weight savings, and the end result is a spring-powered airgun in the featherweight category.

While on the subject of weight, or lack of it, I've seen the Delta listed as being 2.1kg (4.6lbs). However, on lifting it up from the box, I found that hard to believe, so I thought I'd run it over the scales for myself. Sure enough, it comes in at a mere 1.9kg (4.2lbs), which is great news for mini-mes who want a stress-free start to shooting.

Ergonomics and configuration

Pick up the Delta, and it just feels so comfortable and pointable. The sporter stock configuration has plenty of detail in the moulding, but it's the grippy surface that appeals greatly. Good looks and practicality combine well, and while the raked pistol grip will be a bit of a



Respectable accuracy with open sights

The Gamo Delta is stylish and super-lightweight

The clearly marked finger wheels make it easy to adjust the rear sight

An articulated cocking link is used

Detail of the trigger blade and the in-guard safety catch

Here you can see the tip of the fore-end



This shows the stylish detail around the moulded grip



The shroud incorporates a moulded foresight



The furniture is synthetic. Note the butt pad

stretch for some small hands, ambidextrous credentials keep things easy and inclusive.

The Delta comes fitted with open sights as standard, and these are easily adjustable with clearly marked finger wheels for windage and elevation. I'm a big advocate of sticking with the 'irons' at the start while teaching youngsters the art of shooting, and there's something liberating about keeping things simple. However, we also get dovetail rails machined into the receiver, for when the clamour for scopes becomes too great.

Hands on

Gamo designs the Delta to be deliberately low-powered as a junior model, so with a scaled-down powerplant, the cylinder can be shorter. Cocking the action follows convention, and I would always say butt into groin to keep firm control of the gun, then grip the shrouded barrel, jolt the breech open, and pull down in one positive motion until the mechanism engages. I have to say that, given the ultra-low power output, the cocking effort was far higher than I expected. Still quite manageable, but some kids will need help, I would wager. Not quite as easy as it should be is the honest assessment here.

Thumb home a pellet, snap the barrel back up, and close it. Look inside the trigger guard, and the tab just in front of the trigger blade is the manual safety. Smooth in operation, this is just pulled back to apply, and nudged forward to release. Don't need a safety? Then simply ignore it. At this point, it's worth mentioning that the action is fitted with an anti-beartrap device, so the action cannot be de-cocked without firing it off. No big deal, just an observation.

Firing the Delta reminds you it's a Gamo, with their characteristic firing cycle — a little bit unsophisticated, overly lively, and loud. But with only modest recoil to worry about, we need to remember the price point here. As for what Gamo calls their standard trigger, it's really hard to fault. Yes, the blade is plastic, but it's nicely shaped, and with a light first stage and fairly light, if slightly creepy, second, it all trips predictably. Immeasurably better than my old Vulcan trigger, I hasten to add!

The eyes have it

I started with the open sights to gauge their worth, and adjustment was straightforward. My eyes aren't what they used to be, so I'll admit I struggled over a longer period. That said, I recognise I'm not the target audience for this Delta. We are missing the bright fibre-optic elements here, but in good light, all works well.

Sub-½″ over 10 yards, and 1″ groups over 20 yards, proved the potential of the system, and when I fitted a suitably compact Hawke 2-7x32 Airmax scope, ¾″ clusters over 20 yards were par for the course. Very respectable in my book, especially given the low power output.

And so to performance. Over the chronograph, a variety of ammunition returned much the same average of around 2.7ft/lbs, with BSA Goldstar pellets returning great consistency of 10fps over a ten-shot string.

Verdict

Overall, then, where the Gamo Delta is concerned, it's hard not to conclude that it represents great value for money. Superlight, visually appealing, and accurate enough to reward hard work. GM

Thanks to Range & Country Shooting Supplies in Sleaford, Lincs., for the kind loan of this airgun.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Gamo Delta
Type: Springer
Calibre: .177 only
Barrel Length: 15.7″
Overall Length: 37.6″
Weight: 4.2lbs
Energy: 2.8ft/lbs
Price: £89 (guide)
Contact: BSA Guns – www.bsaguns.co.uk

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GM09.25/18



GM09.25/48

Stylish SHOOTER

With style, value, and accuracy on offer, ***Mark Camoccio*** investigates why the Stoeger XM1 Scout deserves a closer look



› The gun on test here is best described as sleek and stylish, which is largely down to Stoeger's Italian heritage. As part of the world-famous Beretta stable, Stoeger has made something of a name for itself, with careful styling and subtle features all part of the remit.

Under the radar

Stoeger's original XM1 was the company's first foray into the world of PCPs back in 2020, and I remember being impressed with the visuals and handling. The bullpup version came next and, while it was another well-presented model, the military-inspired configuration has never quite appealed to me. Well, on test here is the latest in the XM1 line-up – the Stoeger XM1 Scout – and all I can say is, it has to be my favourite yet. There's a distinctive profile courtesy of the full-length barrel shroud and prominent adjustable cheekpiece, but a host of other features, along with all the usual Italian flair, result in a stunning air rifle that really does catch the eye.

This model seems to have largely gone under the radar, but I'm not quite sure why, especially when you consider what it comes with. Inside the padded box, we get two magazines, a single-shot tray, two grip inserts, three Picatinny rails, spare seals, Allen keys, a filling probe, and even a Stoeger-branded 3-9x40 AO scope and mounts! Everything we need to get started. Take a look at the Scout, read through that list of inclusions, and then consider that it's all officially on offer for £590, meaning it definitely deserves a closer look.

Slimline sporter

So, what we have here is a slimline sporting rifle, designed to switch from single-shot to multi-shot, with a regulated action and side-lever control. I'd say it's primarily a hunting tool, and at 7.3lbs, it's unlikely to tire the user during extended sessions. Action-wise, the all-metal construction means everything feels super robust, and with a full-length synthetic stock and matte black finish to all the metalwork, the Scout is nothing if not highly practical.

The visuals with this model are undeniably pleasing, and Stoeger calls it "Human Tech Design". Flowing lines are everywhere, and there's no doubt some serious design work has gone into the Scout. I love the flared fore-end, and with an added grip pattern all part of the synthetic moulding, it just works really well.

Initial setup

As mentioned, we have a Stoeger-branded 3-9x40 AO kit scope in the box, so my first task was to bolt this in place using the Picatinny mounts attached. A simple task that took seconds, once I'd checked eye relief. Now is the time to get the stock elements set, and this can all be initially done without even firing a shot.

The length of pull (LOP) can be altered via the spacers in front of the rubber butt pad. Where the cheek section is concerned, this is a big step forward. Looking at my test of the original XM1, this model came with two interchangeable cheek sections, but the latest Scout model carries a far more effective alternative, with an adjustable panel. Just remove the tiny Allen screw on each side, and slide the cheekpiece to the desired height. Five different height settings are possible, and there is a nice amount of friction to make the task easier. Get just the right amount of pressure to the face, then replace the screws to lock it in position. A full,

repeatable sight picture should now be possible. A bit fiddly, but once set, it's job done. Just set it up at home and don't lose the screws in the field.

Handling overall is excellent, and the drop-down target grip is a big factor. The two interchangeable grip panels are a great idea, with one significantly slimmer than the other. Just remove the bottom screw, and the replacement panel slides into position. A nice touch, and used in conjunction with the adjustable butt and cheekpiece, we're talking a multi-'tweakable' airgun here for sure!

Initial thoughts on the Stoeger optics? Not bad at all, and a great starter. Clarity is lost a little on the fringes of the image, but hard to fault for an all-in deal.

Trigger points

Checking the owner's manual, the trigger has adjusters primarily for first-stage travel and second-stage release. As usual, I didn't want to rush to alter anything, and the test gun came with a fairly light release, albeit with a small amount of creep. I can live with that, so I didn't bother to change anything. The blade itself is pleasing and fairly broad, but features a rather dodgy Air Arms-style push-button safety, set into the blade. But hey, it's manual, so ignore it! Just adopt a safe regime. If you load the gun, fire it off! Call me old-fashioned if you like.

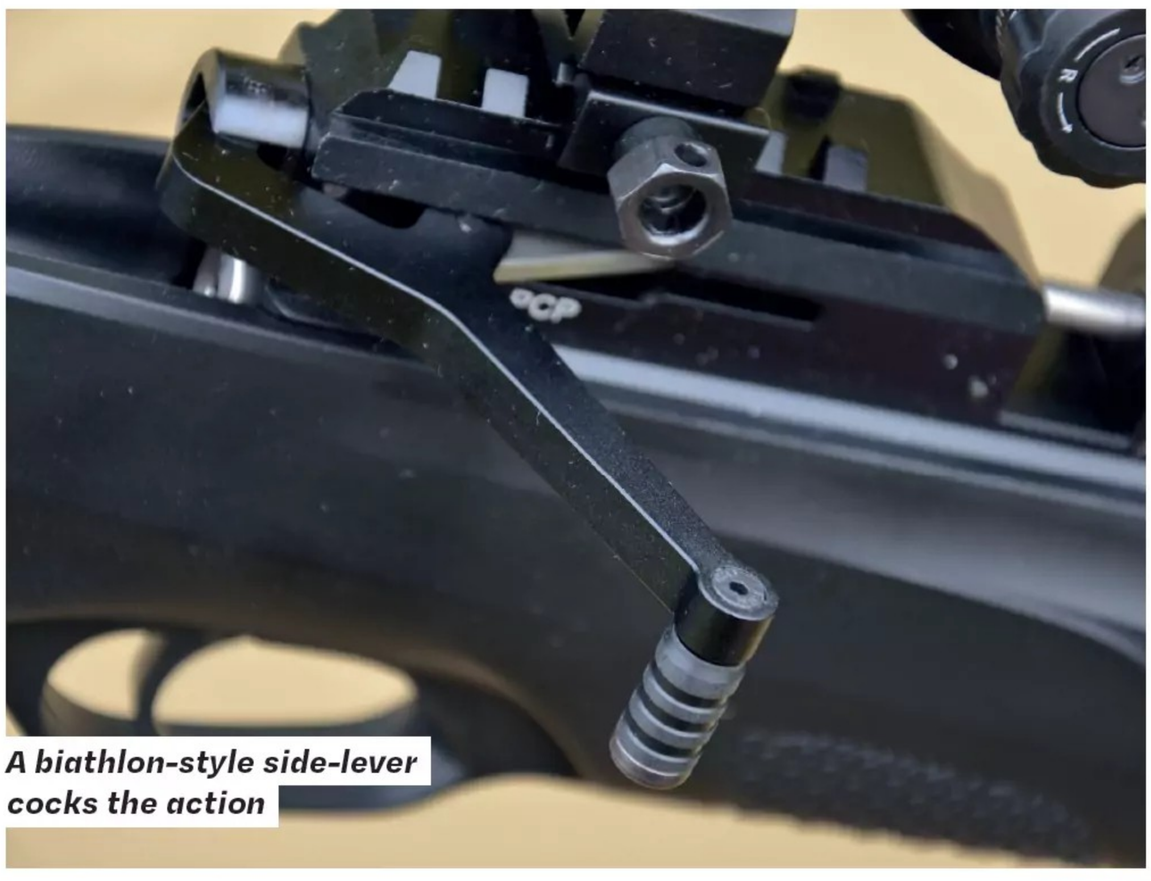
I like the all-metal magazine, and the single-shot tray is machined aluminium and feels refined, even featuring a small magnet. Now, where did they think of that? To fill the mag, twist the casing anti-clockwise all the way around, insert the first pellet skirt-first from the rear, then fill in the normal way.

Handle the pressure

The recommended fill pressure is 250bar, but in practical terms, as usual, I would suggest sticking to a



Sleek Italian styling sets this model apart



A biathlon-style side-lever cocks the action



Detail of the ported barrel shroud and the Picatinny scope rail



Fancy fitting a silencer? No problem. Note the manometer



Stoeger's XM1 Scout is super-sleek and attractive



The front grip section can be swapped out for a slightly different feel



The adjustable cheekpiece is a great feature



The length of pull can be slightly adjusted using the thin spacers



The regulator pressure can be seen here



This airgun sports a two-stage trigger. Note the safety catch



The magazine system is quite a robust design and feels precise

slightly lower pressure for decreased stress over time. The filling adaptor is a Foster plug fit and works a treat. It even gets held in place by the spring-loaded valve cover, which is neat.

For my test, I filled to 220bar, purely because this was the max in my bottle at the time. To load, pull back the side-lever (modest effort required) and slide in the magazine from the left side.

At this point, it's worth mentioning the muzzle report, which is best described as significant, but not harsh. The shroud dissipates some of the spent air and has rear ports, but with only a couple of inches forward of the barrel, there's little room for expansion and baffles inside. Basically, if hunting is the intention, fit a silencer to the rifle via the ½" UNF thread up front.

OK, chrono time. This is a regulated action, don't forget, and the regulator pressure is displayed on the gauge positioned on the underside of the rifle. On the test gun, this was set to around 130bar. Over the chrono, 100 shots all came in within a total spread of 23fps, which is pretty impressive for a start. I stopped when the residual cylinder pressure had dropped to around 140bar. Pushed to its limit if you insist, and from a 250bar fill, I reckon 130 shots are easily on the cards. As it stands, all I can say is my test gun was pleasingly consistent and a vast improvement on the original XM1's performance. In addition, the mag proved totally reliable and slick in operation.

Intriguingly, the XM1 Scout shows as having an adjustable hammer spring, situated at the rear of the cylinder, and I was keen to see what difference this made. A quick check of the manual stated that this adjuster may have varying effects depending on the market, and this was the case with my gun. As in, I reckon it comes into its own with FAC power levels, but makes little difference at 12 ft/lbs. I gave it almost a full turn, and it still only upped velocity by 4fps over my test maximum. Understandably, Stoeger is playing it safe to keep everything nice and legal.

Downrange

Over 30 yards, and using BSA Black Star pellets, I soon managed ½" groups with ease. Switching to some JTS Dead 'Center' 18gr pellets, these came down to 3/8", which is pretty acceptable. Moving back to 40 yards, there was minimal difference between the ammo, but FX pellets, with a softer lead mix, just edged the test, with ½" clusters the norm. That's tidy performance, and factoring in the consistency, this Scout looks to be a seriously capable rifle.

Verdict

Stoeger has massively upped its game, and this Scout is in a different league to the original XM1 in terms of shot count and consistency. I love the looks and handling of this latest model, and while it may concede points for finish alongside some of the market leaders, it's difficult to fault the build quality and overall performance, certainly for the money. Indeed, on that score, this brand seems to vary in price between dealers, so it's definitely worth shopping around if the format appeals. At the current asking price, it's a lot of gun for the money, and it even comes with glassware!

Thanks to Range & Country Shooting Supplies in Sleaford, Lincs., for the kind loan of this rifle.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Stoeger XM1 Scout
Type: PCP
Calibre: .22 on test, .177 and .25 available
Barrel Length: 18.2"
Overall Length: 37.8"
Weight: 7.26lbs
Energy: 10.8ft/lbs
Price: £590 (guide)
Contact: GMK – www.gmk.co.uk

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Calibres .177 (9 shot) .22 (7 shot), Weight 2.5kg, Length 986mm **SRP: £260**

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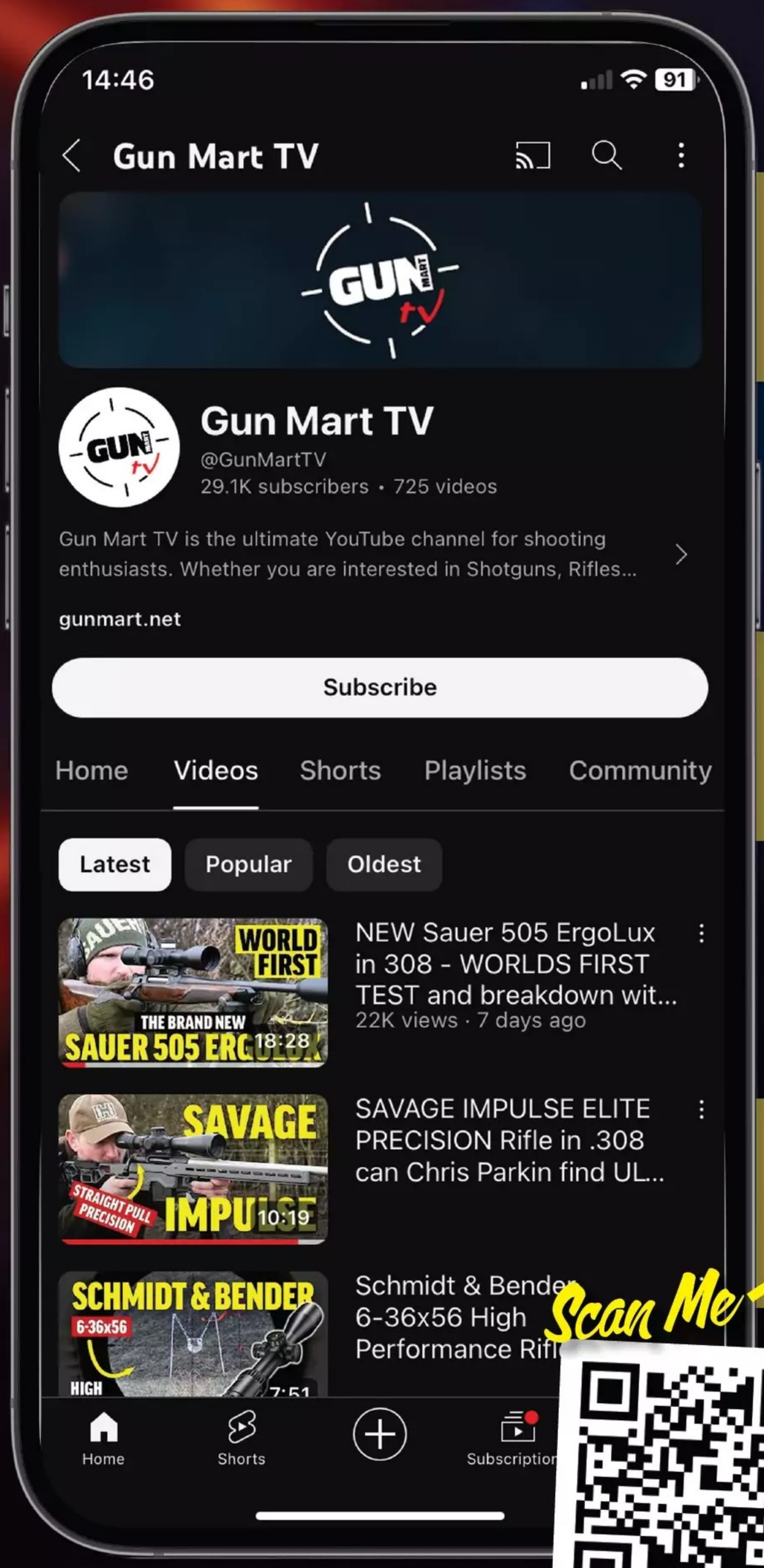
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HW 35
HAWKE

Classic BREAK-BARREL excellence

Mark Camoccio tests the Weihrauch HW35E, a retro-styled break-barrel that proves engineering brilliance never goes out of fashion

› **Several landmark classic models exist in our world of airguns, and as any genuine enthusiast will know, one of those gems is the Weihrauch HW35.** Introduced in 1951, this German break-barrel caused quite a stir, and with a list of top features and a level of engineering that eclipsed all but a few rivals at the time, it's a rifle that has well and truly stood the test of time.

Retro

Indeed, such is the '35's standing in the hall of fame that Weihrauch has kept it in the lineup to the present day, albeit with modern tweaks and revisions incorporated along the way. On test here is the HW35E, where 'E' denotes 'Export', and this version is only available via special order. Where the original '35 would only generate around 10.5ft/lbs, the modern version can now produce energy levels nearer the limit. As for the HW35E on test here, it's differentiated from the standard K specification by the inclusion of an upgraded walnut stock, sling swivel mountings, and a longer barrel. The barrel is 18.5", and whilst this sounds quite long these days, bear in mind that the special HW35E of old sported a monster 22" tube, meaning this latest incarnation sounds positively compact.

Profile

First impressions are of a high-grade piece of machinery, and with many of Weihrauch's standard features built in, and their usual standard of finish, this is one good-looking airgun. The matte oil finish of the woodwork enhances the grain pattern beautifully, and with revised laser-cut chequering incorporated around the pistol grip and fore-end, handling and grip are enhanced considerably. A white-line spacer and cap set off the grip, and the Weihrauch logo forms part of the chequering up front, so plenty of attention to detail to revel in, for those of us who appreciate such things.

Chemical bluing is part of Weihrauch's DNA, and the metal finish overall here is superb. Add in all-metal, fully adjustable open sights and a subtle red rubber butt pad, and the spec sheet is already off to a flyer.

Wedgie

What makes the HW35 instantly recognisable is, of course, the small cut-out on the left side of the fore-end. This is to accommodate the 'wedge lock' barrel lock catch as the barrel moves through its arc on cocking. The barrel lock is a key feature and would have greatly added to this model's appeal at the time of its introduction, certainly when compared to some of the weaker designs available from rival brands. It's all about the breech area, so often the Achilles' heel of a break-barrel, so these things matter. In today's market, Weihrauch's top-class engineering and fine tolerances, not to mention their trademark beefy cross-bolt around the breech jaws, mean wear around the breech isn't something to lose sleep over. But for a belt-and-braces approach, the slickness and sheer precision of the '35's lock design is very hard to fault.

Arresting sight

Fitting a scope to a spring-piston-powered airgun requires thought and preventative action if the dreaded 'scope creep' isn't to spoil the fun, and to this end, Weihrauch's standard approach sees an extensive dovetail rail complete with several pre-drilled arrestor holes in the receiver. Use mounts



Pulling this small lever forward opens the breech lock



Weihrauch's high standard of engineering is obvious


The laser-cut chequering is matched with a grip cap and white-line spacer


Detail of the fully adjustable metal rear sight

with a protruding arrestor stud, and locate it into the holes, or go the whole hog with a one-piece mount, which is my preferred choice with a springer. Either way, the problem is remedied at the source.

Trigger happy

Triggers are a key contributor to good shooting, and this is an aspect of airgun design that Weihrauch latched onto from their early days of production. Even Weihrauch's latest dedicated HW30 Junior comes with their Rekord trigger unit, so it's obvious they mean business. Basically, no half-measures just because it's a kid's gun.

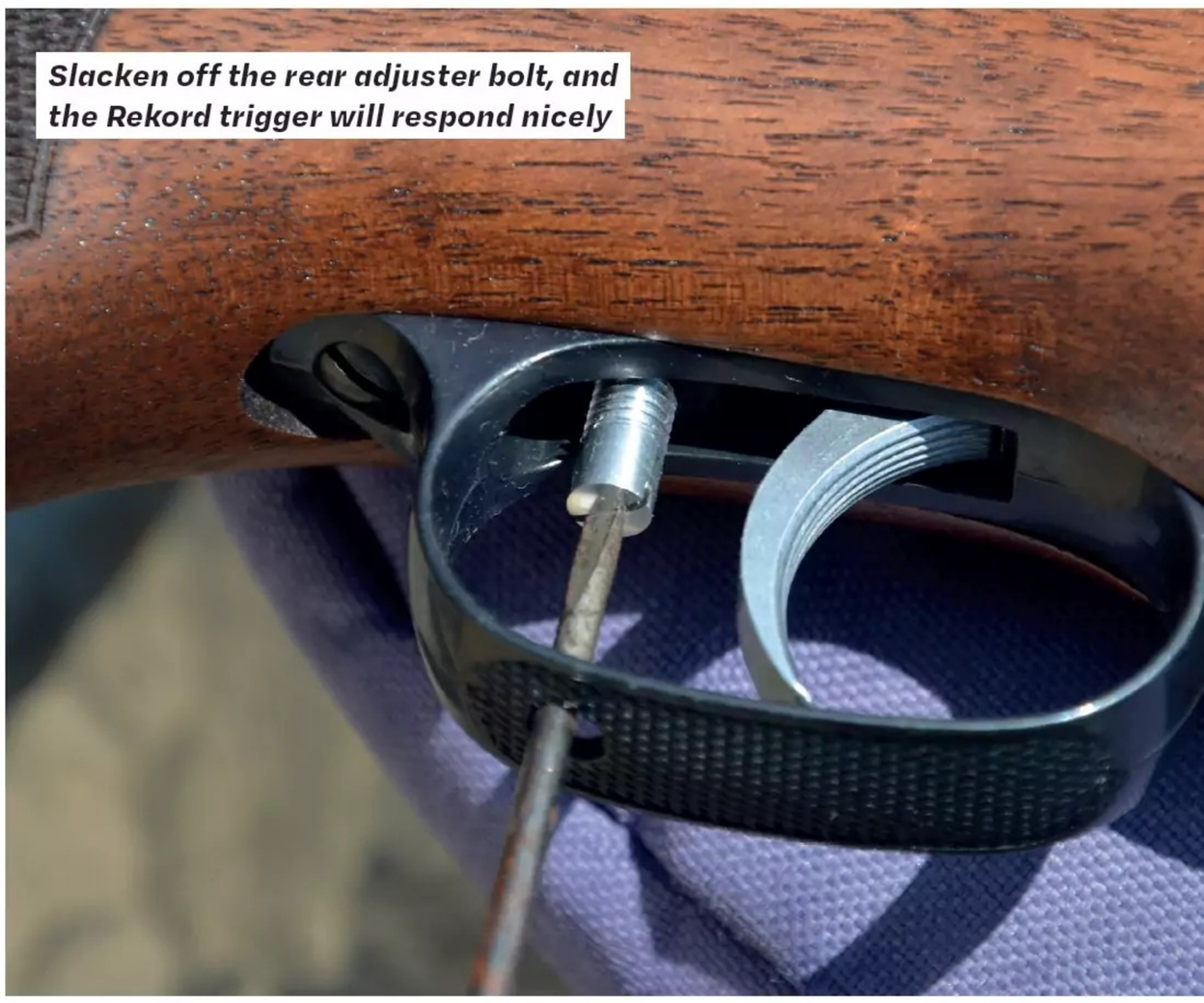
Returning to the HW35E, we once again find the legendary two-stage Rekord trigger by which many others are judged, and it's easy to see why. The classic broad-ridged, cast aluminium blade provides the ideal release point, while the large silver adjuster behind the blade allows initial tweaking to lighten the final pressure. For those wanting to go further, the multi-component, 18-piece trigger cassette offers ample potential for finer adjustments, provided you have the necessary experience. Put simply, the Rekord remains a benchmark trigger and continues to take pride of place on the '35E.

Lock, stock....

And so to the range. To cock the action, first pull the spring-loaded wedge-lock lever forward with the thumb of the left hand, and this will release the breech. Now, firmly gripping the barrel just behind the foresight, pull down fully in an arc to complete the stroke. You'll hear the classic Weihrauch crunch as the auto safety button pops out on the bottom left side of the cylinder, the trigger sets, and the piston locks in position. At this point, the HW35 of old was synonymous with what became affectionately known as the 'Weihrauch click', as the cocking linkage went about its business, a detail which no doubt infuriated hunters worldwide.



The foresight comes with interchangeable elements



Slacken off the rear adjuster bolt, and the Rekord trigger will respond nicely



Modern brand detailing appears in the laser-cut chequering



The articulated linkage means the stock only needs a short cut-out underneath

Well, no more. The problem was taken seriously by Weihrauch, and after a few design tweaks, the articulated cocking linkage is now somewhat more refined, with a remarkably small cut-out on the underside of the stock being the result.

With the breech exposed, take a moment to admire the precision engineering. Then, push a pellet into place, ensuring it sits flush, before pulling the barrel back to close and securely lock the breech.

So what of effort and din? Well, the cocking stroke itself is fairly easy, courtesy of the added leverage from the beefy barrel, and it's super-smooth, too. As for the firing cycle, this model, straight from the factory, was very acceptable. Still quite a loud mechanical report, with plenty of recoil, but little spring noise to speak of. And on that note, all I would say is it's no coincidence that Weihrauch is still one of the main brands in which airgun tuners specialise when rebuilding or tuning 'specials'. This speaks volumes for their inherent build quality and robustness. In short, this HW35E would hugely benefit from some subtle lubrication further down the line.

Open sights

Adjusting the open sights is straightforward enough, with clearly marked finger wheels for both windage and elevation. As for the foresight, it's designed to take interchangeable elements, allowing for different-sized post elements to be fitted to suit the individual.

Handling

In the aim, the HW35E feels every inch the pedigree sporter, exuding class and precision in equal measure. The fore-end is a tad short for large-framed shooters like myself, although this didn't prove a major problem in use. My main negative concern is the rather bland, featureless and fairly low cheekpiece on the stock. I know this is a retro



5p-sized groups over 30 yards were a good starting point

model and a nod to Weihrauch's illustrious past, but given that most shooters will be fitting glassware of some description, surely a beefed-up rear section is now long overdue. OK, I feel bad even saying it, and it's no great shakes to pad out this area if necessary for greater support. So, moving swiftly on.

Velocity figures

When Weihrauch is involved, I often get carried away talking about potential tuning and so on, which can be misleading. Putting that aside for a moment, we are still looking at an extremely capable rifle, straight out of the box. At the time of the test, I just happened to have some heavier 18.1gr JTS Dead 'Center' pellets to hand, and I couldn't resist running them through the 35E. Webley Mosquitos proved the perfect diet, but the comparison with heavier pellets served to demonstrate how performance can differ quite dramatically, depending upon ammunition. The heavy pellets proved a drag on the action, generating just 9.5ft/lbs, while switching to the Mosquitos returned a healthy 11.2ft/lbs, which is some difference. Consistency was commendable with both over a 10-shot string, but physics dictates that springers normally favour lighter ammo regardless, and that's how it would have been set up at the factory.

As for accuracy, at 30 yards from a sitting, FT-style over-the-arm position, respectable 5p-sized groups were the norm, with a variety of ammo.

Verdict

So, the Weihrauch HW35E is a classy, traditional break-barrel with real pedigree. Yes, the stock design is looking a little dated, but for those who appreciate just what this model represents, it seems almost churlish and disrespectful to point that out! Either way, a classic airgun from one of the most respected names in the business. **GM**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Weihrauch HW35E
Type: Springer
Calibre: .22 on test, .177 available
Barrel Length: 18.5″
Overall Length: 44″
Weight: 7.9lbs
Energy: 11.2ft/lbs (average)
Price: £475 (guide)
Contact: Hull Cartridge Company – www.weihrauch.co.uk

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GM09.25/34

Field cutlery

Mark Underwood offers advice on all the latest knives and tools

Elk Ridge Blue Gentleman's Lock Knife



› This is a really nice-looking knife, but it is also a very functional tool. The 3″ satin-finished 3Cr13MoV stainless steel blade is nicely shaped and comes well-sharpened and ready to go. Edge retention and ease of sharpening with this type of steel are pretty good, and it also has a reasonable degree of corrosion resistance. Although the blade is lightweight and slim, it is still reasonably rigid and strong, and the small thumb stud on the side is perfectly positioned to make opening it one-handed quick and easy.

The 4″ handle features bright blue polyoxymethylene scales behind a large stainless steel bolster, and this really makes the knife stand out and hard to lose, which is a handy feature when you are outdoors. Although relatively slim, the handle does provide a comfortable and secure grip, and the shape is good for carrying out fiddly or fine work.

The lock-back locking mechanism is strong, with a well-sized release switch well back on the spine of the handle, where it cannot be accidentally depressed while using the knife. When you open the blade, you can feel the lock engage securely.

Being a locking blade, this is not an EDC tool, but in appropriate situations, it is a very handy tool to carry. At 7″ in length overall, it is small enough to carry but large enough for general-purpose outdoor activities.

If you're after a knife that stands out, looks smart, and feels comfortable in the hand, this is a good option. **GM**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Elk Ridge Blue Gentleman's Lock Knife
Price: £22.99
Contact: Knife Warehouse - www.knifewarehouse.co.uk

Elk Ridge Clipped Damascus Knife



› There is no doubt that a Damascus knife blade is both striking and eye-catching, but it is unusual to find one on a knife that is as well priced as the one on test.

The Elk Ridge Clipped Damascus Knife comes with a plain brown leather sheath with a press-stud fastener and a belt loop, and features a good-looking 3.7″ Damascus steel blade with a strong full-tang construction. Its fine edge delivers clean cuts across a range of materials and holds its sharpness well. The drop-point design ensures a sharp tip, making it well suited to detailed work and piercing tougher surfaces.

In contrast to the fancy Damascus finish on the blade, the handle is very plain. It is made from dark wood and features two brass pins that secure the scales, and there is a lanyard hole at the rear. It has a slight curve and a nicely shaped belly just behind the middle, which sits well in your hand for a comfortable grip. Overall, it works really well with the blade and makes for a nice-looking knife.

At just 8″ long overall, this is a nice, small knife. While Damascus blades are often much more expensive and therefore less likely to see heavy use, this one serves well as a general-purpose tool that you can use without worrying about the cost. It looks good, works well, and is great value for money. **GM**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Elk Ridge Clipped Damascus Knife
Price: £39.99
Contact: Knife Warehouse - www.knifewarehouse.co.uk

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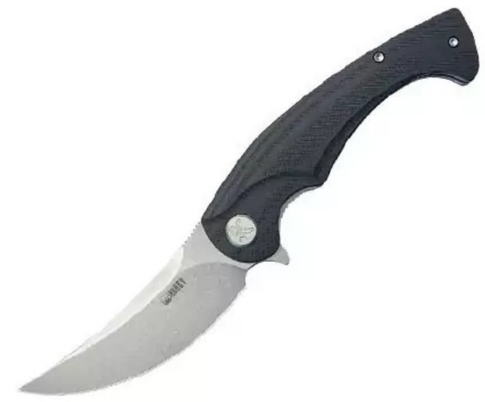
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GM09.25/23

COMPETITION



The barricade stop also marks the rifle's balance point, providing superb stability when using improvised rests



The CZ 457 MDT ACC Varmint in .22LR

› **I've reviewed nearly every rifle in the CZ 457 family, and the platform has become a true keystone in the rimfire market.** The core action remains consistent, while barrel options, stock configurations, and modularity offer precision-tailored setups for nearly any application. In many ways, the 457 offers specification choices previously only available in custom builds.

Precision rifle price and positioning

So, what has CZ done now? They have partnered with MDT to offer a factory rifle fitted with the popular ACC chassis, an out-of-the-box solution designed specifically for precision rifle competitions. This is a premium component, considerably more expensive than those found on other factory CZ models, and it makes the new rifle nearly twice the price of the 457 LRP (Long Range Precision), which also features a match chamber and a fluted heavy barrel. MDT's branding and design clearly command a premium, both in name and in performance, thanks to their established pedigree in worldwide PRS competition.

The spec

The rifle features a 24″ (610mm) cold hammer-forged barrel, threaded ½″x20 for muzzle devices. It's a straight 22.2mm parallel contour, ensuring excellent heat stability and rigidity. As with other 457s, the action remains the same: a steel bolt with a single rear locking lug, dual extractor claws, and a manual ejector that allows brass to be flung as hard and fast as bolt manipulation dictates.

The barrel is clamped into the action with two machine screws and is technically interchangeable, though spare barrels aren't commonly available retail. The action accepts

CONTENDER

Combining rugged build with refined features, the CZ 457 MDT ACC impresses ***Chris Parkin*** as a serious option for PRS-style rimfire shooting



Detail of the magwell and the 10-round magazine

The fore-end offers ARCA and M-LOK

both .22LR and (on appropriate models) .17HMR, thanks to CZ's single-length action design, but we are looking at this specific model today.

The bolt handle is a 20mm steel ball, overlaid by a 33mm multi-faceted rubber sphere that enhances grip and ergonomics. Just like every 457 I have used, the bolt throw is quick and ultra-smooth, reflecting the input of skilled shooters, designers, and engineers using modern methods to maximise performance, rather than cost-cutting marketers calling the shots. Control is fingertip light, and the ammo feeds cleanly from the magazine, but you will notice the slightly tighter feel of the action due to the match chamber/headspace, which will soon become part of the gun's personality.

The trigger is a single-stage unit, adjustable for both pull weight and sear engagement. It's crisp out of the box and can be tuned or serviced over time to eliminate creep that may develop, as, like any material, steel will still wear over its life. The smooth, mid-curve trigger blade sits inside a generous guard that's integrated into the chassis.

A 10-round CZ magazine is included, though it does feel a little lost in the oversized chassis magwell. Function is flawless, but a tighter magwell could improve reload ergonomics, and since it is a specific inlet for the 457 requiring a unique CNC programme, I'm surprised they didn't trim a little from the oversized generic edges. Cost will always get in the way in the end.

A standard dovetail is machined into the top of the receiver, but CZ wisely includes a 25 MOA Picatinny rail. It extends 30mm forward, allowing large optics to be mounted while preserving correct eye relief on an inherently compact rimfire action.



The MDT ACC chassis

MDT's ACC chassis is already well-known in precision shooting circles, and its implementation here feels seamless. The fore-end is 430mm long, with a 44mm-wide U-profile and 37mm depth. The walls are 3.6mm thick, ensuring immense rigidity. The barrel is fully free-floated, and an integrated ARCA rail runs along the underside, with M-LOK slots extending all the way back to the aggressively serrated barricade stop's 35mm square face. Side-mounted M-LOK points offer further accessory options.

An AR-style vertical grip is included, which is boxy and hand-filling at 110mm tall, with a 40–44mm cross-section. Its position is adjustable, allowing for 9mm of reach adjustment to fine-tune trigger control.

Moving rearward, the buttstock features a rigid skeleton frame. The adjustable cheekpiece offers 40mm of vertical travel via a knurled dial, with twin locking screws and return-to-zero position markings. The comb is half-hexagonal in shape, providing cheek support without forcing lateral jaw displacement. There's 10mm of lateral travel as well, so perfect eye-to-optic alignment is easily achieved quickly, every time.

The length of pull (LOP) is adjustable over a 30mm range. The recoil pad is firm, slightly concave, and vertically adjustable. At full extension, LOP measures 370mm (14.5″), shortening to 340mm when collapsed. QD sling mounts are located on both sides of the hand stop, which doubles as a bag rider (23mm wide).

The entire chassis is anodised in a deep matte black with a flawless finish. Every edge is chamfered to avoid snags, and the laser-etched markings are crisp and clear.

For testing, I added a Schmidt & Bender 6-36x56 High Performance scope in Tier One rings, and a Tier One wide-stance bipod mounted via the ARCA rail.

On the range

One reason I love using rimfires is their low noise level, which makes them ideal for extended sessions without disturbing the neighbours. I was initially curious about how the 24″ barrel would affect velocity – would it push





The grip is adjustable for reach to the trigger blade. Note the bolt knob



The firing pin shows a flat upper face to prevent chisel-tip damage when dry firing

standard ammunition into the supersonic range compared with shorter 16″ or 20″ barrels?

Using SK Standard ammo, I recorded an average velocity of 1,065fps, with an extreme spread (ES) of 24fps and a standard deviation (SD) of 8.8fps over 10 shots. RWS Match clocked in slightly faster at 1,085fps, but with a wider ES of 40fps and SD of 11.6fps. Wind was a more critical factor than velocity at 100m, but consistency remains king when you push the range further.

The best 10-shot group measured just 16.8mm with SK ammo, and all groups were comfortably sub-MOA when I could avoid the wind. RWS Match was really no worse overall on paper, but I suppose the chronograph results swayed me toward the SK, and if I were competing, I would no doubt test in greater depth.

Shooting experience

Fitted with a SAK moderator, the rifle makes a unique, almost charming "ting" sound, which is caused by the firing pin's impact resonating through the rigid chassis. Additional fore-end weights (available from MDT) would likely dampen this, but I found it endearing and quite characterful. You could achieve the same sound with just a flick of your finger on the aluminium fore-end, so it's clearly the CZ's harmonic frequency.

All controls are intuitive and tactile. Bolt throw is 42mm, with an approximate 60° lift, meaning it's fast, light, and non-disruptive to your aimpoint.

The rifle weighs 4.7kg bare and about 6.5kg scoped and ready to shoot. It's heavy, yes, but that's ideal for this rifle's purpose: prone and positional stability in competition scenarios.

On barricades, the balance is exactly at the barricade stop, and with roughly 1.2kg of scope and mount over the centre, the gun is planted. Some may prefer to add weights for further tuning, but it shoots well straight from the box. The barrel is not as heavy as some custom rifles, but I personally like to feel a bit of feedback from the gun, not just a dead weight.

Holding its own

Though it's not necessarily the rifle I'd buy for my own use, because I'm not a PRS guy,

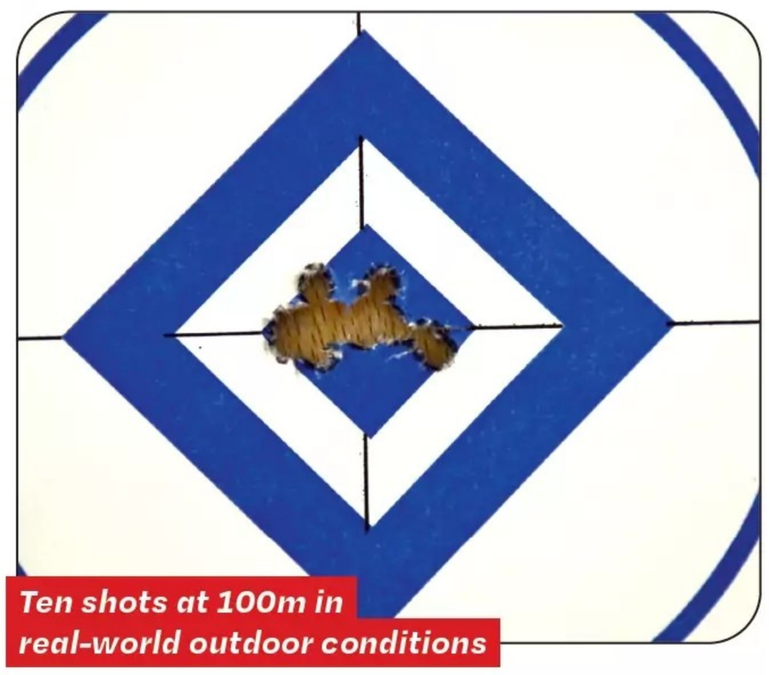


The MDT chassis offers plenty of adjustability

IF PRECISION RIMFIRE COMPETITION IS YOUR GOAL, THE CZ 457 MDT ACC IS WELL WORTH A LOOK"



Note the left-side bolt release catch and the match chamber markings on the barrel



Ten shots at 100m in real-world outdoor conditions



I like that you can adjust both the sear engagement and trigger weight, helping to future-proof the rifle as it wears over time

I can't help but admire how beautifully it shoots and handles. Magazine feed is smooth, and I found no damage on the bullet meplats. Ejection is reliable at any speed.

CZ magazines are affordable and widely available, and beyond this rifle, you are entering high-end territory with guns from companies such as Vudoo or Masterpiece Arms. While these may offer slightly crisper triggers, smoother bolt throws, and heavier barrels, the CZ holds its own in real-world wind handling and practical usability, where personal preference – and, dare I say, ego – becomes a major factor.

Conclusion

If precision rimfire competition is your goal, the CZ 457 MDT ACC is well worth a look. It's a very different animal from the rest of the 457 range, being more refined, more specialised, and impressively capable. It is expensive, and some may say it's only a standard 457 action, which is true, but the action is good, with comfortable handling.

I can't argue that ultimate PRS shooters want that cast iron rifle weight and dead recoil feeling (and you can still perceive a tiny amount in most heavy rifles), but for those dipping a toe in the water and wanting something of a halfway step, maybe the CZ is the perfect choice between the handling dynamics of a varmint rifle and the full-blown precision of a competition gun. I want to investigate further. **GM**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: CZ 457 MDT ACC
Calibre: .22LR
Barrel Length: 610mm/24″
Overall Length: 1075mm/42.5″ (adjustable by 30mm)
Weight: 4747g/10lbs 7.4oz
Length of Pull: 354mm/14″ (adjustable by 30mm)
Magazine Capacity: 10 rounds
Price: £2,611.99
Contact: Sportsman Gun Centre - www.sportsmanguncentre.co.uk

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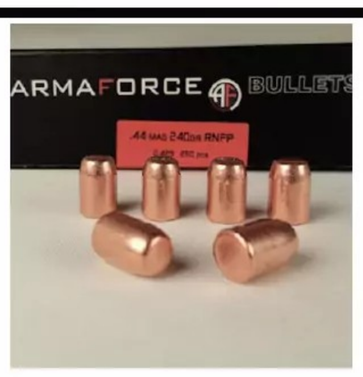
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GM09.25/11

Can a thermal scope under £900 really deliver? ***Chris Parkin*** gets behind the Nocpix Bolt P25R to find out

Heat-seeking VALUE

› Nocpix has launched the Bolt in two variants: the P25R and the L35R. Both share similar functionality and internal architecture but differ in sensor size and objective lens diameter. These models are primarily aimed at new thermal users, especially those using sub-12ft/lb and FAC-rated airguns, as well as rimfire rifles. That said, while they can handle centrefire use, the smaller sensor in the P25R (on test) naturally comes with realistic resolution and range limitations.

25mm lens

I've been using the P25R. It features a 25mm lens paired with a 256x192px sensor offering 12µm pitch. With a NETD rating of sub-20mK, the unit provides respectable thermal sensitivity and gradient clarity. The refresh rate is 50Hz, ensuring smooth image reproduction, and the field of view is 7.5x5.3°. The base magnification is 3.5x, digitally zoomable up to 14x via the upper dial, positioned where you'd typically find an elevation turret on a traditional scope. Nocpix claims a detection range of up to 1,300m, and there's a built-in laser rangefinder rated to 1,200m mounted above the objective lens.

Straightforward tubed ergonomics

The layout is relatively conventional, with a 30mm main tube that allows easy mounting with standard rings. The compact size and modest weight (880g) make it especially well-suited to smaller rifles. Personally, I prefer tubed thermal optics like this one, as most traditional sporting rifles are ergonomically designed for that format, and setting up correct eye relief is much easier.

Perfect accessories

The Bolt comes well-equipped: heated target patches (great for zeroing), a carry case, two 18650 batteries, a charger, data cable, lens cloth, and a starter guide to walk you through setup.

As with most digital units, the interface takes some learning, but the menu system is fairly intuitive,





Three main control buttons for power, photo/video, and the laser rangefinder



Detail of the flip-open lens cap and rubber focusing collar



The laser rangefinder is quite compact

and the instruction book is one of the best I have encountered.

The device features three control buttons and a dial on top; short and long presses cycle through various functions. The grey power button requires a three-second hold to start the unit up, after which the reticle appears on the internal 1024x768 AMOLED display in about ten seconds. An auto-refresh function means the display will click on and off a few times before stabilising.

The two other buttons above the eyepiece control video and the rangefinder, which takes two presses to initiate and then measure, with the display in metres or yards.

Logical power supply benefits

Power is managed via a dual-battery system: an internal battery (charged through a USB-C port on the right) and an external 18650 battery housed under the left-hand turret cap. This setup allows hot swapping without powering down the unit and promises up to 9,000mAh/12 hours of runtime, depending on conditions, which is superb.

Sadly, no clicks

Navigation is done through the central dial, which doubles as a selector, and a button on top that scrolls colour palettes. One minor drawback is that the dial doesn't have tactile clicks, so you must watch the screen closely, especially during zeroing, to track changes. All expected features are present: seven colour palettes, brightness/contrast adjustments, and multiple reticle shapes and colours.

Nocpix incorporates what they call a "Reality+" intelligent image algorithm to enhance image quality, but all digital devices use equivalent firmware to manipulate images for improved clarity in what is a relatively limited input/output resolution system.

Digital secrets are in front of you

Remember, the internal display can't compete with modern smartphones or tablets, so when you transfer photos or videos via the app, they


Shooting feral pigeons with a 12ft\lbs PCP airgun

appear much clearer on your mobile screen. The Bolt supports both photo and video recording, along with audio, and it's especially handy that recording continues even while navigating menus. This made it easier for me to document the interface.

That said, all the images recorded in photo mode turned out black and white, regardless of the selected colour palette. Video, however, correctly preserved colour modes. This could be a firmware bug in my early test unit.

Click for ballistics

You can input full ballistic data and save multiple zero profiles for different rifles. I used the P25R primarily on an air rifle to control feral pigeons and squirrels. I also used it on a rimfire for similar tasks and got to experiment with the ballistic capability a bit more. In use, the unit appeared to give decent range compensation settings, yet, as always, it will benefit from experimentation and tuning for your projectile, BC (ballistic coefficient), and muzzle velocity. Bore height is also more critical at closer ranges, so don't forget it.

Aimpoint simplicity

I appreciated the ability to change reticle colours and shapes, especially when using the rangefinder and ballistic calculator, as this helps declutter a busy screen.

The ocular lens allows ±5 dioptre adjustment for sharp screen focus, which remains crisp across the entire field of view without disturbing spherical anomalies.

Eye relief is quoted at 50mm, and a rubber bellowed eyecup is included. It genuinely feels like a true 50mm relief distance, and I found it optically comfortable to use even without the eyecup.

The dual-battery system proved invaluable, as you're never left powerless at a critical moment.



Detail of the 18650 battery port. You can even swap out the battery without powering off, which is very helpful



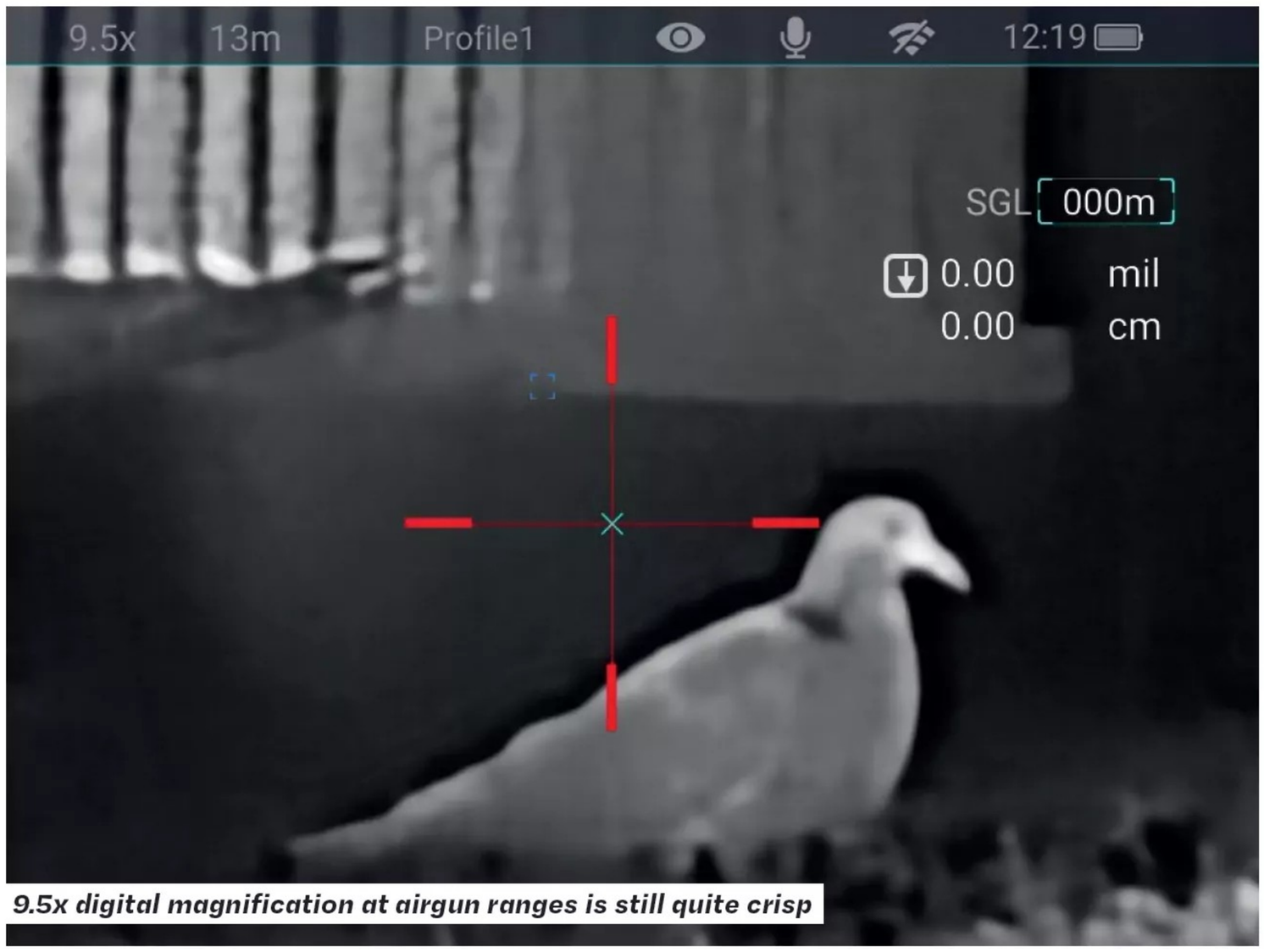
The bellowed eyecup makes it easier to see the full screen, and it is removable



The top zoom dial also controls the menus, but it doesn't have any tactile clicks, which is a shame



Here you can see the right-side charging/data transfer port



9.5x digital magnification at airgun ranges is still quite crisp



The hot target spots are a helpful zeroing tool

The objective lens features a flip-up cap and is focused via a serrated rubber collar, which offers a good grip and precise control.

Real-world value

It's important to recognise that this scope delivers nearly all the functionality of far more expensive thermal units, albeit with some compromises in image quality. You can easily detect heat sources well beyond practical shooting ranges, but be mindful of ID if you do push the distances.

I found the reticle options particularly helpful for minimising aiming error. For airgun use out to around 30m and rimfire to about 75m, accurate headshots on small quarry are perfectly achievable. On centrefire rifles like a .223, I'd be comfortable taking body shots on foxes out to 150m. That's more than adequate for many real-world users who are willing to trade ultra-high image resolution at £2,000+ for affordability. At just 376mm in length and with 50mm of eye relief, this scope fits compact rifles beautifully, especially airguns and rimfires, and that's a crucial point worth emphasising, as it shows Nocpix, unlike some, really do understand their market without trying to bamboozle prospective customers.

Conclusion

I think the Bolt is a real showcase of future value and design ethos. It's not perfect, but it's a genuine step forward. I can't wait to use it more on a .223 while out foxing. GM

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Nocpix Bolt P25R
Price: £899
Contact: Hawke Optics - www.nocpix.uk

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RIFLE MAINTENANCE CENTRE



Similar to the Gunsmiths Maintenance Centre but has sliding dust covers to keep supplies secure and clean.

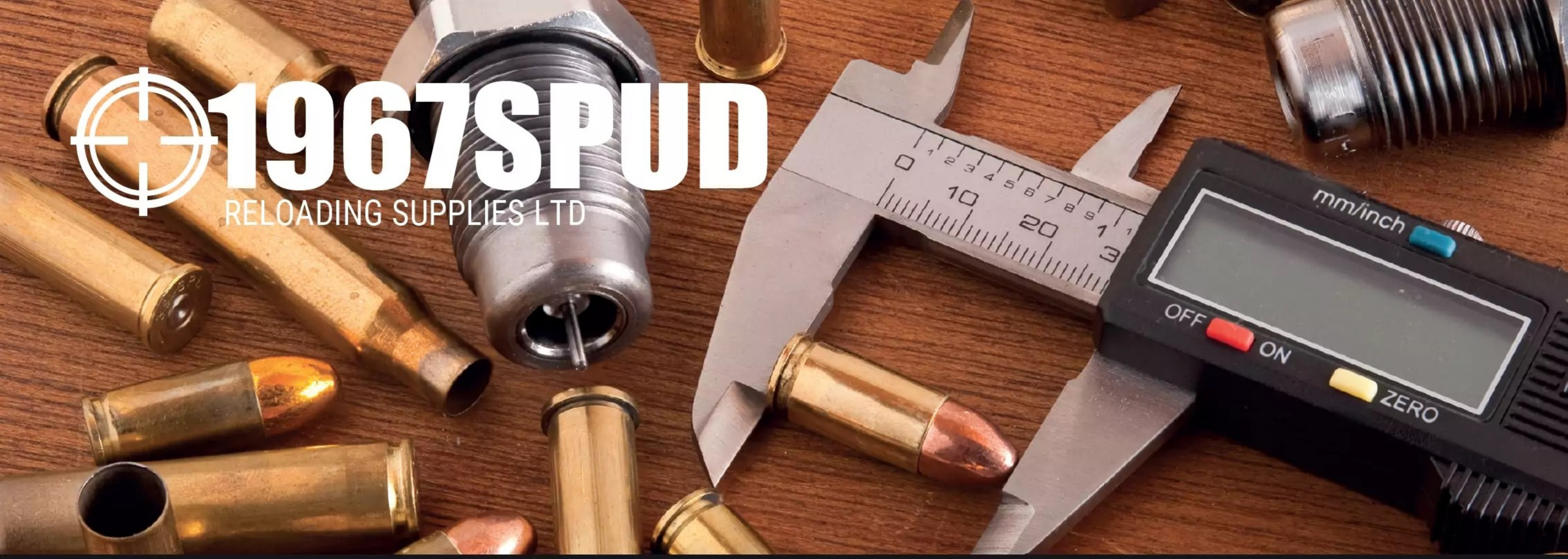
SITE-IN-CLEAN REST WITH CASE

A convenient carrying case to store the rest in. The rest store has a tray in the top of the case leaving plenty of room below for ammo, safety glasses or anything you may need.

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RELOADING BASICS

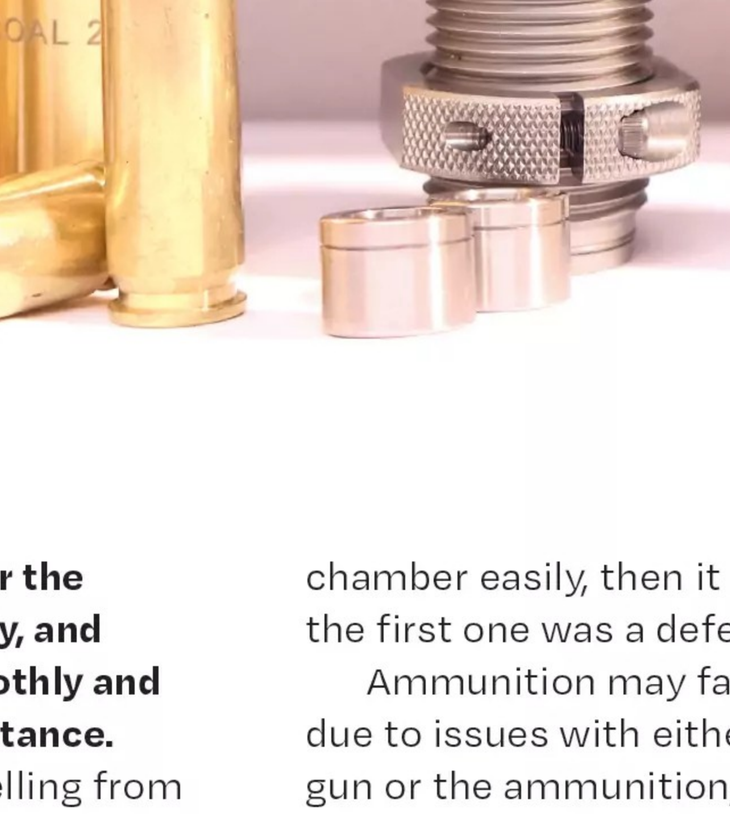
This month, ***Mark Underwood*** explores the common reasons why your reloads might not chamber properly and offers advice on how to fix them



› Ammunition should enter the chamber of your rifle easily, and the bolt should close smoothly and lock up with minimal resistance. Whether the round is travelling from the magazine or being placed into the chamber by hand, it should not need to be forced to travel forward and find its place in the chamber.

If you experience problems getting a round to chamber smoothly, it's best not to try to drive it home by applying excessive force. If you try another round from the same batch of ammunition and you experience the same problem, then there is obviously an issue with your reloads that requires addressing. If the second round does chamber easily, then it may be that the first one was a defective one-off.

Ammunition may fail to chamber due to issues with either the gun or the ammunition, so both must be carefully examined.



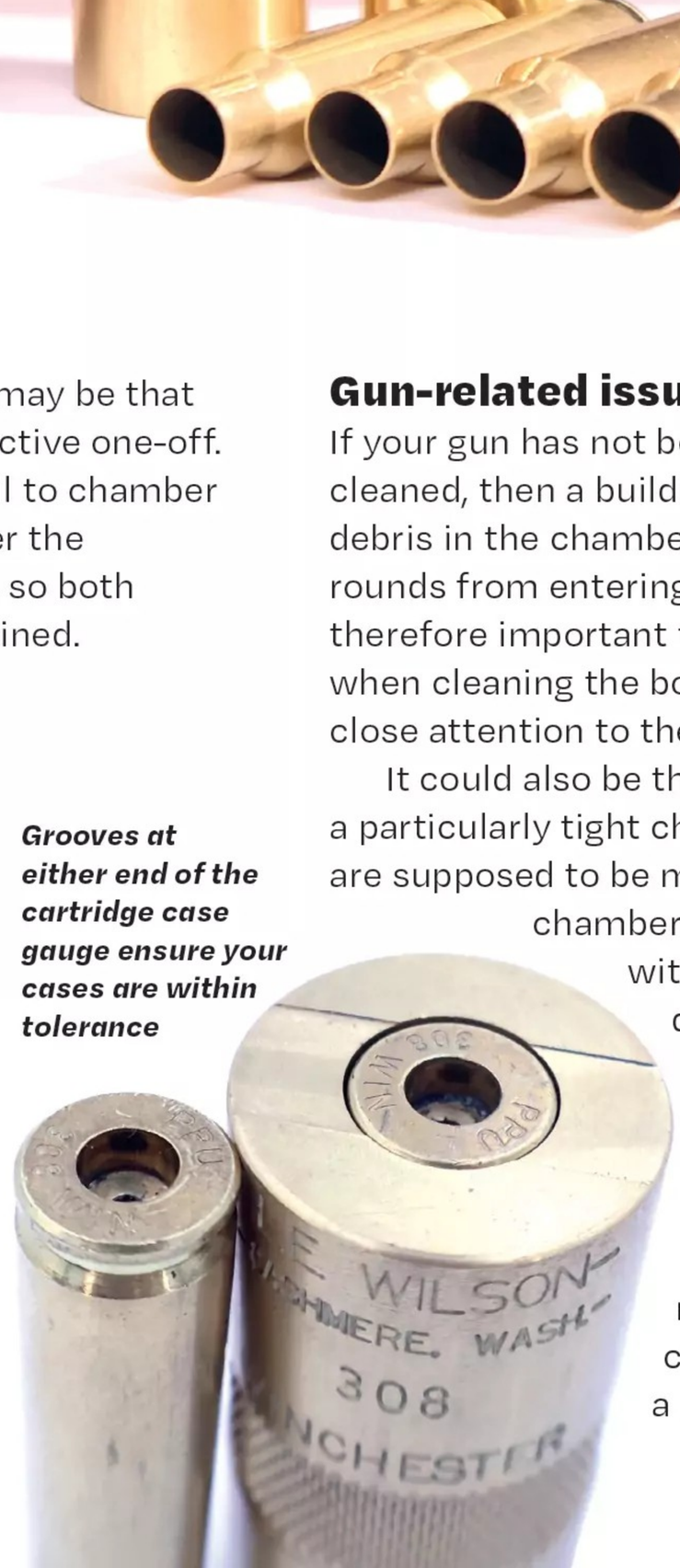
If your rounds fit the minimum dimension gauge, the chances are they will fit your gun

Gun-related issues

If your gun has not been properly cleaned, then a buildup of dirt and debris in the chamber can prevent rounds from entering smoothly. It is therefore important to ensure that, when cleaning the bore, you also pay close attention to the chamber.

It could also be that your gun has a particularly tight chamber. All guns are supposed to be manufactured with chambers that comply with SAAMI minimum dimensions, but occasionally guns do slip through with smaller chambers.

If your reloads are not chambering, it's a good idea to



Grooves at either end of the cartridge case gauge ensure your cases are within tolerance

IN ASSOCIATION WITH 1967SPUD RELOADING SUPPLIES LTD "Shoot it... reload it!"

check whether factory ammunition causes the same issues, as these rounds are manufactured to very tight, SAAMI-compliant specifications and tolerances, and should chamber easily and smoothly.

If your gun's chamber is too small, this is an issue for a gunsmith to resolve, rather than something that you can sort out yourself. If the factory rounds do chamber OK, then this suggests that it is your reloads that are the problem.



Reloaded ammunition should chamber smoothly and easily

Ammunition issues

One of the most common causes of ammunition being difficult to chamber is that the Cartridge Overall Length (COL) is too long. Most reloading data will include a COL for each given load to ensure that the completed round, with a particular bullet, will not be too long for the chamber. If your ammunition is too long, the bullet will be pushed into the rifling as you try to chamber the round. If the bolt does actually close, then the bullet being jammed into the rifling will cause the chamber pressure to be significantly increased when you fire. If your rounds are difficult to chamber, eject an unfired one and check for rifling marks on the bullet.

You should always check to ensure that you have not exceeded the COL stated in the data that you are using. When using different bullets of the same weight, their shape can vary, with some having longer ogives and slimmer tips than others. Those with shorter, fatter ogives might stick in the rifling and make chambering the round harder because they are wider at the point where they sit in the start of the rifling.

Another common, but less obvious, cause of rounds not chambering easily is incorrect resizing of the cases. Whether you resize full length or neck only, all of the critical dimensions must match your chamber. With cases that are going to be reused in the same gun, just neck sizing the cases is usually sufficient to make them ready for reloading, but if they are new, or have been fired in another gun, they will need to be full-length resized to return them to standard dimensions.

One of the most important dimensions to get right, and the one most often responsible for ammunition not chambering correctly, is the headspace: the distance between the breech face and the chamber shoulder. As well as resizing the diameter of the case body and mouth, a correctly adjusted resizing die should also address the headspace by pushing the shoulder back by the required amount. This process, known as shoulder bump, is often missed due to incorrectly set dies, and cases are left too long to chamber correctly.

If your rounds are not chambering easily, and you have confirmed that the bullet is not hitting the rifling, the headspace is the next dimension to check. First, take one of your fired cases, before resizing, and attempt to chamber it to check if it slides in and out smoothly and if the bolt closes easily. If it doesn't, resize it in the usual way and try it again. If it then enters the chamber more easily, but the bolt is hard to close, headspace could be the problem.

If you screw your resizing die further into the press, you should find that it starts to engage with the shoulder of the case and start to push, or bump, it back. Only very slight adjustments of the die are required, as a shoulder bump of just one or two thousandths of an inch should be required to get the cases short enough to chamber easily. Excessive shoulder bump can damage the case.

Gauges

Several gauges can be used to check the dimensions of your resized cases or the finished ammunition. Made to SAAMI specifications and with very tight tolerances, L.E. Wilson minimum dimension gauges are used to ensure that your finished rounds will fit a standard chamber in a given calibre. This type of gauge can highlight both COL and headspace issues.

There are also cartridge case gauges that you can use to check the dimensions of both fired and unfired cases, so you can quantify the amount of shoulder bump you apply.

Conclusion

When ammunition does not chamber easily, it is important to identify and resolve what is causing the problem. Rounds that cycle smoothly will function better with more consistency, and the cases will last longer. Making sure your reloads are properly sized is relatively easy, as long as you set up your dies correctly and use a gauge to check them. GM

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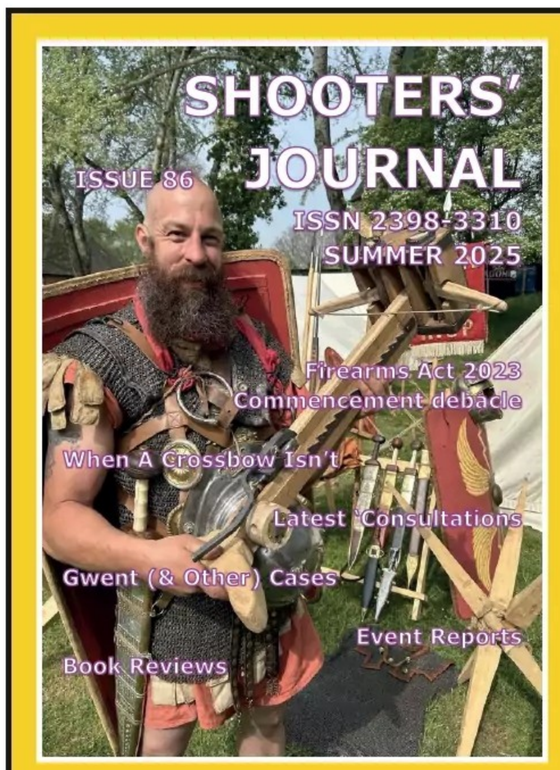
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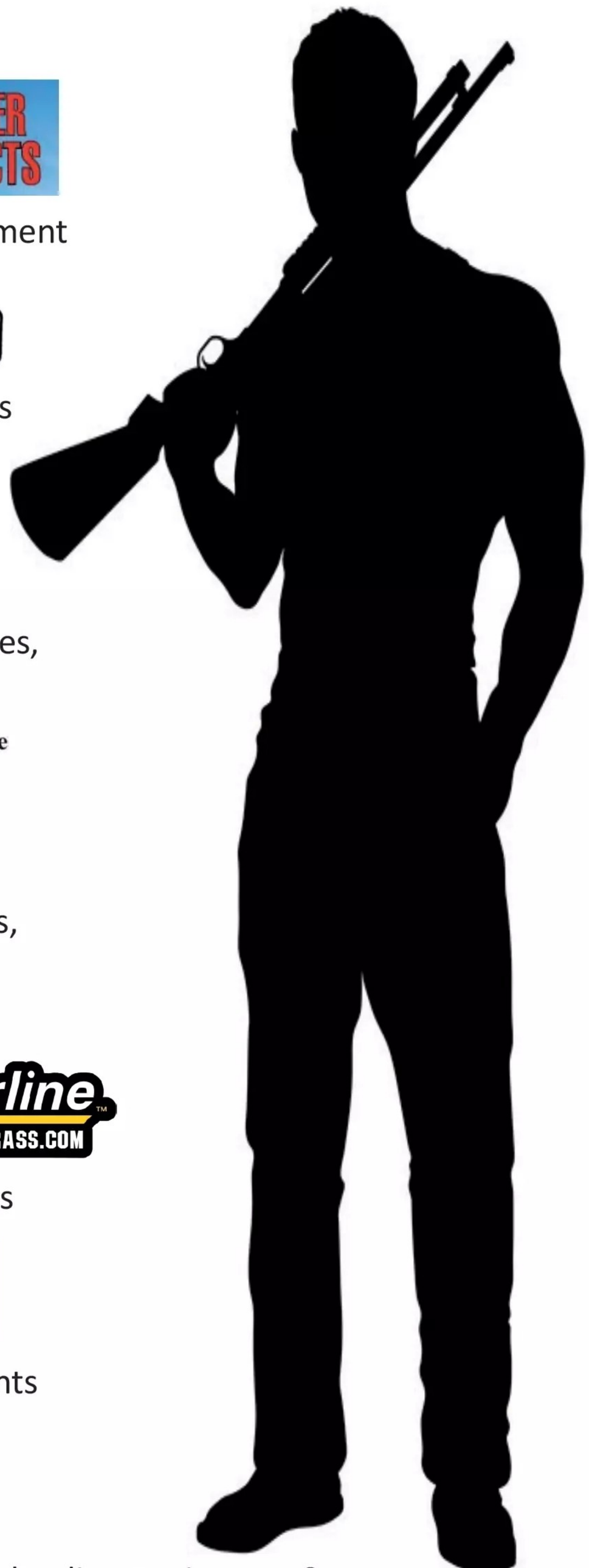
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GM09.25/24

Back to BASICS

Longer-range steel gongs were a test of my shooting ability, not the Revel's capability



The DLX separates for cleaning or transportation

Chris Parkin rediscovers the joy of marksmanship with the Savage Revel DLX, a lever-action .22 that rewards focus and skill

› **We're living in an age of technologically advanced firearms.** It's not just the function of modern rifles, but how they're manufactured. Computerised machining has replaced much of the hand-finishing once essential in gunsmithing, and materials, coatings, and even sights have evolved dramatically. While the trend is leaning towards everything going digital, with even optics subject to cost-cutting measures, one has to ask: where do iron sights fit into all of this?

Revel in the lever

Enter the Savage Revel DLX, the deluxe version of Savage's lever-action rifle (and yes, "Revel" is "lever" spelt backwards). My test rifle came in .22LR, although .22WMR and .17HMR versions are also available. This .22LR variant features a ½"x28 threaded muzzle at the end of its barrel, along with a shrouded blade sight that allows for fast-fire fun. The rear sight notch is adjustable for elevation, and all external metalwork is finished in a deep, rich black. The aluminium components are smooth, while the steelwork is matte. A secondary barrel band supports the under-barrel magazine tube.

Scoped or not?

The steel barrel fits into an aluminium receiver with a right-side ejection port and a sliding bolt nestled within. The bolt features a right-side extractor claw and a positive mechanical ejection system, flinging spent cases far and wide for ultra-fast operation. Four threaded holes sit atop the receiver to allow for optional Picatinny rail fitment, making it easy to mount optics if desired. I chose to leave it bare, reconnecting instead with the raw and rewarding challenge of using iron sights.

The action design remains sleek. The die-cast receiver has a lightly dappled finish, with visible steel screws and pins anchoring the internal mechanism. If you slide out the two lower, dimple-ended pins (which remain captive), you can separate the upper and lower receivers for cleaning or compact storage. The oversized cocking loop and generous trigger guard allow for quick, gloved operation. Cycling the action is smooth, with no mechanical drag.

The trigger is a single-stage unit, and it exhibits a bit of movement before a predictable break at 1,230g (approximately 43oz). You can see the travel, but you don't feel it, and a gradual squeeze ensures consistent reliability. A cross-bolt safety is located just above the trigger blade.



Dirty dozen

The tubular magazine holds 12 rounds of .22LR. It's accessed by turning the serrated cap near the muzzle anti-clockwise, releasing a bayonet-style detent. The spring-loaded inner tube can then be slid partially out, and I recommend leaving the last 100mm in the rifle. Rounds are then loaded sequentially into the shaped cutout, where they will naturally fall back toward the action if the gun is pointing slightly upward. Once full, return the brass plunger and re-lock it. Cycle the lever, and the rifle will feed flawlessly from the tube without damaging the rounds. The mechanism automatically cocks the external hammer, though manual cocking and de-cocking are also possible.

Ergonomics

The aluminium tang sits centrally in the straight-hand walnut stock, which offers a generous 14.85″ (375mm) length of pull. The firm but grippy rubber recoil pad includes a hard polymer heel insert, ensuring the rifle mounts cleanly without snagging clothing. The walnut stock is fully ambidextrous and features stippling at the grip for tactile control. The open-radius grip naturally aligns your hand, and your fingers pass easily through the cocking loop. Stylised slots in the comb and fore-end add visual flair, representing modern touches on a traditionally styled rifle. Savage's logo is engraved on the grip base and sides of the slender fore-end, which also features finger grooves for added control.

A spot of plinking

For testing, I used Remington's subsonic hollow points and Ranch Hand ammunition in the 18″ (457mm) barrel, which I believe is the ideal length for standard velocity .22LR rounds. It is long enough to maximise performance without sending them supersonic. It's also great for maintaining a longer sight radius for improved iron sight precision while keeping the rifle compact and nimble.

This rifle is not designed for pinpoint accuracy when used without a scope, but the barrel is more than capable of producing tight groups, provided the shooter does their part. Open sights are undeniably more challenging to use, but they offer a level of satisfaction that is hard to match. That is the real joy of this rifle. It doesn't just ask for your attention; it demands your focus. There is no relying on technology here, just you, the rifle, and the target. And when it all comes together, the result is incredibly rewarding.

All shooters

Of course, being a .22LR makes this rifle accessible to a wide range of shooters across all sizes and skill levels. For me, it's been one of the most fun rifles I've shot in years. I didn't add any accessories and was genuinely surprised by how quiet the rifle remained, even without a moderator, when firing subsonic ammunition. The rounds remained nicely at 1,065fps, so no crackers at all. However, if you



The Savage Revel DLX in .22LR

The muzzle is threaded ½"x28 for a sound moderator. Note the front sight.

The rear sight offers nine elevation settings but no windage adjustment

The oversized cocking loop enables lightning-fast operation

This Savage lever-action gets a modern look

want a bit more speed and power, the Ranch Hand ammo managed 1,223fps. Both ammo types use 40gr bullets, so that's exactly 100ft/lbs for the hollow point subs and 1,32ft/lbs for the Ranch Hand, which are a little noisier. Of course, you can add a moderator, making the rifle virtually silent with the subsonics, and you'll likely hear more of the target or quarry impact noise than that of the gun.

Elevation game

I shot the groups from 30m and used large Birchwood Casey Shoot-N-C targets for two reasons: firstly, they made aiming easier as my eyes aren't what they used to be; and secondly, the bullet holes were much easier to see. This is particularly important because the rear iron sight offers nine positions for elevation, and you need to experiment. The simple design shows a folded steel blade with a notch to align with the front sight. The elevation is adjusted by lifting the notched blade and sliding the underside wedge back and forth – very simple but in keeping with the traditional feel of the gun.

The front sight hood can be removed if you prefer, as it will slide back and forth, and this was a helpful benefit when shooting in differing light conditions. However, neither end is windage adjustable.

Indoors and out

I've been using the rifle for a month, both indoors at my club and outdoors, and it has proved to be a real challenge. It has encouraged me to enjoy shooting for its own sake, rather than simply testing ammunition for group size. I've taken it out to 125m on steel gongs, although I'll admit the targets were a metre square and I didn't always hit them. If it had been a scoped rifle, it would have been far too easy. Flip targets for close-range plinking work brilliantly with this gun, and because of the inherent difficulty of using open sights, there's little motivation to use premium ammunition. It's a very economical way to have fun.



When filling the rifle, you can withdraw the tube completely if desired

Rugged finish, refined feel

The steelwork has resisted any corrosion from skin contact, and the matte finish has prevented any reflected light from interfering with the sight picture in bright sunshine.

The cross-bolt safety is functional and blocks the trigger. The lever movement is smooth and silent, and I have to admit that, had I been using a Picatinny rail and a suitable moderator, I would have loved to take this rifle out rabbiting. It was a genuine pleasure to shoot and handle, weighing just 2.8kg (6lbs 4oz) with an overall length of 940mm (37″).

For transport, the rifle can be separated into two halves, allowing it to fit into a discreet case just 565mm (22.5″) long. That is a particularly appealing feature for club shooters who need to travel discreetly in public places.

Fun gunning

The rifle is fast to mount into your shoulder without snagging, and the cheekpiece has a traditionally low profile, allowing the eyes to align naturally with the iron sights. Some may or may not appreciate the styling details of the cut-outs on the butt and fore-end, but I think they break up the shape a little and advertise it as a new, modernised gun, not just a halcyon relic.

Disassembling the upper and lower sections for transport and cleaning is fairly straightforward, and it was notable that the feed mechanism remained relatively free of lubrication debris from the ammunition.

Ejection is completely reliable, and the steel cocking lever has solid stops at each end of its travel, allowing confident, deliberate use without fear of damage.

Conclusion

A simple, effective rifle that reconnects you with the joy and challenges of marksmanship. Success is no longer just about reading the wind at long range. Even at shorter distances, landing every shot in a single group without a flyer is highly satisfying, and it sets the stage for gradually tightening those groups further. GM



Detail of the grip and the cross-bolt safety positioned behind the single-stage trigger



The external hammer can be manually cocked and de-cocked. Note the finish on the receiver

Detail of the grippy recoil pad



In order to see and aim more easily with iron sights, large targets were the order of the day

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Savage Revel DLX
Calibre: .22LR on test, .22WMR and .17HMR also available
Barrel Length: 457mm/18″
Overall Length: 940mm/37″
Weight: 2.8kg/6lbs 4oz
Length of Pull: 375mm/14.85″
Magazine Capacity: 12 rounds
Price: £815
Contact: Viking Arms - www.vikingarms.com

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This magnum moderator is rated for calibres up to .375 and also features titanium at the crown


The bayonet fitting allows the same moderator to be used on multiple rifles



Neatly detailed

Svemko Magnum 1.0 moderator

› Svemko is a relatively new name on the UK scene when it comes to moderators, but it quickly caught my attention with a broad range of over-barrel and end-of-barrel products. The Norwegian company uses some of the latest alloys to minimise weight while retaining excellent corrosion resistance, and also incorporates a beneficial feature that is rarely seen in the civilian market.

Titanium

The Magnum 1.0 model I have on review was supplied specifically for use with a rifle chambered in .300 PRC, a cartridge that delivers around 4,000ft/lbs of muzzle energy.

Svemko uses Grade 5 titanium (6Al-4V) for the internal baffles, a material valued for its strength and, more importantly, its resistance to corrosion in the harsh, high-temperature gas environment generated by high-energy cartridges. The alloy's aluminium and vanadium content enhances titanium's inherent benefits, making it ideally suited to this demanding application. This material is used in the core, the primary blast baffle, and the primary blast chamber, where strength and corrosion resistance are especially important. The anchoring threads and crown are titanium too, which is a vital detail, as corrosion often first appears there, especially when a moderator becomes stuck on a barrel.

New aluminium

The outer shell is made from 6082-T6 aluminium, a premium alloy increasingly used in place of 6061 due to its higher tensile strength and significant corrosion resistance. The shell is anodised in matte black and looks every bit as tough as it performs. It also acts as the main pressure vessel and the final resistor against the aggressive gas blast, making the material choice critical.

Bayonet

Svemko advertises parabolic internal geometry to ease gas flow and evenly distribute the blast. The standout feature is that it is not threaded like a conventional moderator. The company supplies muzzle adaptors in various threads to suit your rifle(s). These allow the same moderator to be used across multiple rifles (within size/energy constraints) via a quarter-turn bayonet-style fitting, for one-second on/off attachment.

Justified numbers

The overall length is 230mm, and the weight is 336g, which is light for any moderator, especially one rated for magnum cartridges. The outer diameter is 49mm, and subtle helical grooves on the exterior add grip and offer a visual reference to the bayonet locking system.

In terms of performance, this moderator is impressive. The .300 PRC test rifle had a 26" barrel to maximise powder burn, yet it was remarkable how much more civilised the rifle felt to shoot. The recoil felt more like an elongated push than a sharp kick, and the noise signature was no louder than a .308 with a typical short barrel and a mid-tier reflex moderator.

Worth the money?

Although Svemko moderators are relatively expensive, their internal design and use of premium materials more than justify the cost. Considering the low weight and compact size, the Magnum 1.0 is hard to overlook. Though this is a short-term review and long-term corrosion resistance is hard to assess, the test unit was not brand new and still showed no signs of wear or damage, which is promising for future performance. Finally, the aluminium outer shell seemed to shed heat relatively quickly to minimise thermal haze in the sightline. When considering the price, do bear in mind the multi-rifle capability and possible cost savings!

Conclusion

To achieve such noise and recoil suppression is genuinely impressive, and Svemko is now firmly on my shortlist. GM

REVIEWER: CHRIS PARKIN

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Svemko Magnum 1.0 moderator
Price: £700
Contact: Edgar Brothers - www.edgarbrothers.com

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Designed for comfort and performance, the MDT XRS chassis impresses ***Chris Parkin*** with its thoughtful features and consistent build quality

› **The MDT XRS chassis is available in a wide variety of inlets for rifles like my CZ 457, but also caters to models from Remington, Savage, Tikka, Howa, and Ruger.** The XRS offers a middle ground in rifle furniture, as it has a full aluminium spine that mates with your barrelled action's bedding surfaces, while its outer surfaces are clad in injection-moulded polymer skins. These provide a warmer, softer ergonomic feel and help reduce weight.

Choose your colour

It's available in Flat Dark Earth (FDE), as seen here, or plain black. For centrefire rifles, the XRS is compatible with AICS magazines. In this case, it's a perfect drop-in fit for the CZ 457 system. MDT also makes an inlet for the older CZ 455, which uses the same magazines, and it can accommodate the .22LR or .17HMR mags.

The XRS chassis features a full-length CNC-machined 6061 aluminium spine encased in polymer skins. As well as a textured vertical pistol grip, it also comes with a more angled grip, which was my preference. The overall weight is 1,700g (3.9lbs), and it features a generously sized barrel channel that accommodates anything from lightweight hunting rifles to heavy varmint or precision target setups. The stock's overall length is 840mm (33"), depending on the length of pull, which is adjustable from 327mm (13.25") to 382mm (15") using the supplied spacers, and more can be added if needed.

Accessory space

The fore-end offers over 300mm (12") of M-LOK rail on the sides and bottom, all kept rigid thanks to the aluminium spine. There are numerous bipod mounting options via M-LOK. I added a Picatinny rail for the bipod and a section of ARCA rail ahead of the barricade stop, allowing me to shoot from a tripod as well.

For this rifle, the CZ's original magazine release lever is retained, and MDT supplies new screws of the correct length, allowing for installation of the action into the chassis in under two minutes. A polymer trigger guard

"MDT HAS DONE A SUPERB JOB OF COMBINING THE MECHANICAL PRECISION AND RIGIDITY OF AN ALUMINIUM CHASSIS WITH THE COMFORT AND TACTILE APPEAL OF A POLYMER-SHELLED STOCK."


The chassis system provides plenty of space for the barrel


The underside M-LOK rail provides a secure and rigid location for various accessories


All the M-LOK fixings attach securely to the aluminium spine


Recoil lug detail

provides generous space for gloved fingers, and the front face of the grip — whichever style you choose — is rubberised for better tactile feedback.

Get a grip

The reach from the grip to the trigger blade is 85mm, which avoids the feeling of "overwrapping" the trigger, as sometimes experienced with AR-15 ergonomics. The rear of the grip has a deep cut-out, making it equally comfortable to shoot with either a thumb-up or wrapped grip position. This layout enables quicker bolt manipulation compared to a thumbhole stock, unless using a thumb rest, which has become very popular for this reason.

The vertically adjustable cheekpiece provides approximately 40mm of travel, easily accommodating even the highest scope mounts. Two thumbscrews on the right side control this adjustment and can be relocated to the left if preferred. Note that the chassis inlet is specific to right-handed bolt setups.

The underside of the buttstock offers plenty of room for a supporting hand or rear bag. At the very rear, interlocking 7mm spacers allow for precise adjustment of the length of pull. The 18mm-thick, firm rubber recoil pad grips well in the shoulder and has a consistent profile without any sponge-like flex, which is something I really appreciated.

Quality

Machining throughout the stock is precise and clean, without any sharp edges or burrs, finished with a deep matte black hard anodising. The aluminium spine reveals the internal structure of the M-LOK system, giving visual assurance of the chassis' strength and rigidity. Accessories mount securely, with no hint of loosening or wobble.

The CZ 457-specific inlet includes a V-groove with a rear recoil lug slot, providing a stress-free bedding fit. This is a testament to the machining tolerances of both





The XRS is available with a wide variety of popular action inlets



The butt shows a bag rider, length of pull spacers, and an adjustable cheekpiece



MDT supplies new action screws that are cut to a precise length



You can fully remove the cheekpiece. These long bars show just how much additional height is available

MDT and CZ, which are far more consistent than those of many rifles from previous decades, where tolerances varied significantly.

Dialled-in

I've used the XRS with a variety of bipods and have always appreciated the solid, tactile feedback it provides. There's no flex in the fore-end, and the consistent rigidity from front to back makes the entire setup feel tight and precise. The firm butt pad reinforces this impression.

As mentioned, I preferred the angled grip, which was hand-filling and featured a slight ambidextrous palm swell. The 85mm trigger reach allows for perfect finger placement, ensuring your index finger sits naturally on the trigger blade rather than wrapping around it.

The negligible recoil is perfectly linear, and the weight helps suppress any muzzle jump, not that a rimfire has a lot.

Magazine insertion was generally secure and crisp, though the flat underside of the chassis could benefit from a deeper, chamfered magazine well, as it occasionally took a moment longer to align the mag correctly.

The inclusion of lateral QD sling mounts for biathlon-style carry, along with the versatile cheekpiece shape and its adjustability, rounds out a well-executed system that suits a wide range of shooters and rifles.

Conclusion

MDT has done a superb job of combining the mechanical precision and rigidity of an aluminium chassis with the comfort and tactile appeal of a polymer-shelled stock. It delivers all the benefits of a modern chassis without excessive bulk, and the refined machining and thoughtful features, such as Torx fasteners, recoil pad spacers, and dual grip options, make it highly user-friendly. GM



The MDT XRS chassis shown with the CZ 457 LRP fitted. Two grip profiles are supplied: the angled version (pictured) and a vertical alternative

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: MDT XRS Chassis System
Overall Length: 840mm/33″
Overall Weight: 1700g/3.9lbs
Length of Pull: 327mm/13.25″/ to 382mm/15″
Reach to Trigger: 85mm/3.3″
Available Inlets: Remington 700, Savage, Ruger, Howa, CZ 455 and 457
Price: £542.99
Contact: Highland Outdoors - www.highlandoutdoors.co.uk

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Beretta	686 Silver Pigeon 1	£1,395
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Beretta	687 Silver Pigeon III	£1,395
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Bettinsoli	Xtrail Camo	£695
Blaser	F3 Vantage	£3,695
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Browning	B525 Crown	£3,750
Browning	B525 Liberty Light	£1,795
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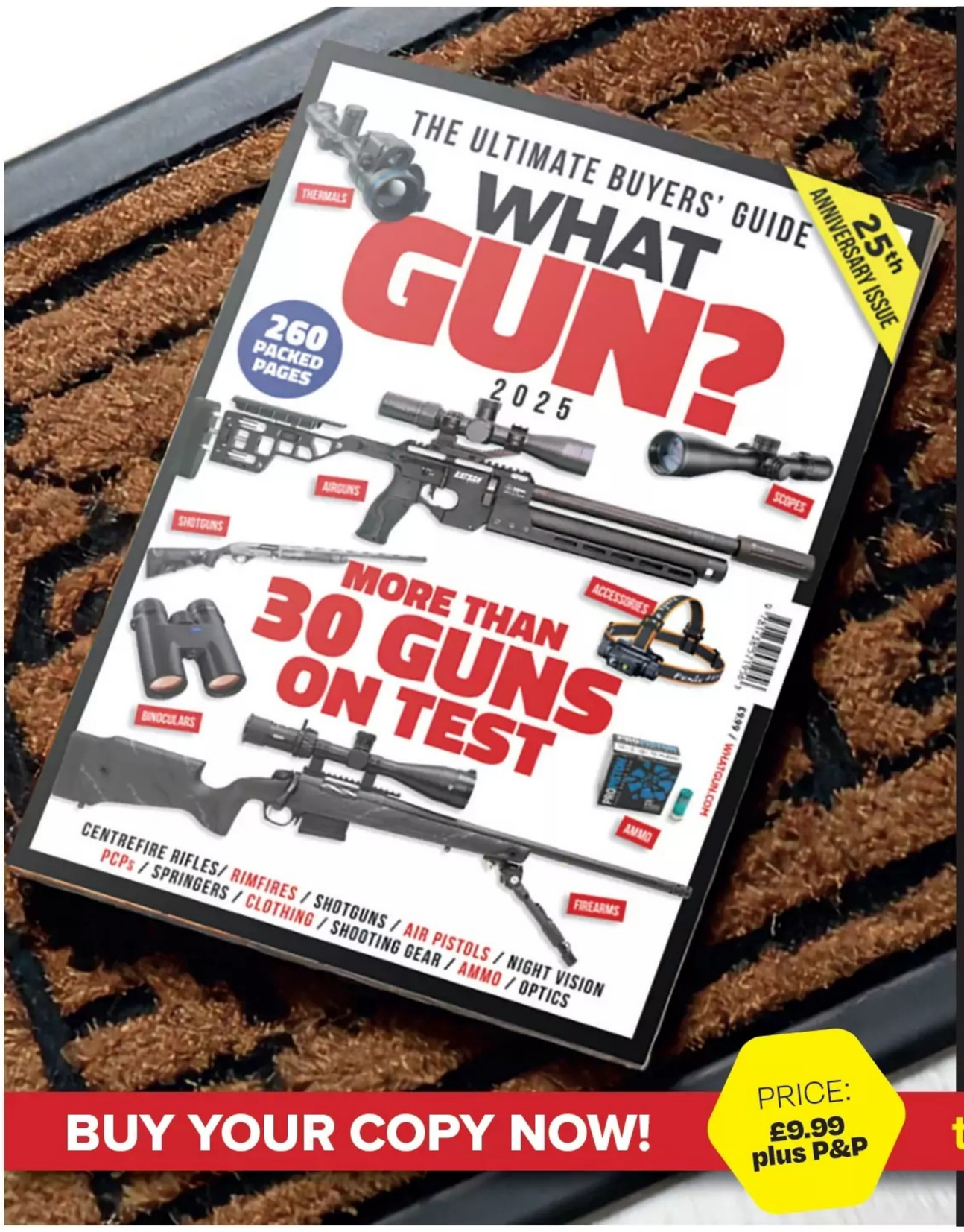
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Beretta	686 Silver Pigeon 1	£1,295
Beretta	687	£895
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GM09.25/23

HUSHED HUNTER

Bruce Potts tests the Saddlery & Gunroom-converted Hatsan Escort Hushpower, revealing why this .410 is one of the quietest and most effective vermin shotguns around



The aluminium action is perfectly scaled to the .410 round and functions flawlessly



The excellent 9.5" Hushpower muzzle-mounted .410 moderator adds minimal weight to the shotgun and is super quiet, too

› **I tested the Hatsan .410 Escort Hunter a few years ago and was mightily impressed with its performance, features, and the price point.** It was exceedingly good.

Well, it was only a matter of time before the chaps at Saddlery and Gunroom in Biggin Hill converted this .410 pump into one of their excellent Hushpower models. So, instead of a full-length moderator shroud, as seen on their other .410 to 12-bore Mossberg pumps, this Hatsan model uses the Escort's multi-choke system with an extended full choke that accommodates Saddlery's Hushpower .410 muzzle-mounted sound moderator, which can be easily fitted or removed for cleaning.

It's an ideal solution for vermin controllers who need a silenced shotgun for rats, squirrels, rabbits, or discreet shooting. Priced at £599.99, the walnut-stocked version is a bargain!

The furniture

This wood-stocked Escort version actually balances better in my view, as a polymer stock, although excellent for weather protection, is light at the rear and can make the gun muzzle-heavy. Here, this wood-stocked Hushpower weighed in at 6.82lbs on the scales.

The walnut is plain and light in colour, as you'd expect at this price point, but it's strong and features a versatile, easy-to-maintain oil finish.

The fore-end is very generous at 9" long and 2" wide, with a pronounced finger groove to the upper lip that allows the supporting hand's fingers to wrap around it for a good grip when pumping the action.

To enhance grip further, there is a comprehensive wraparound, diamond-patterned chequering panel that is laser-cut and not only feels secure in the hand but also looks quite sporty too.

The pistol grip features a more conventional cut chequering pattern on both sides, along with a few additional accent panels. It has a narrow, slim profile and a slender shape designed to suit a wide range of hand sizes.

The comb is low and there is no cast, while the length of pull measures 14.25". It is surprisingly comfortable to shoulder, thanks to the soft black rubber ventilated recoil pad.

At its core

This wood-stocked version of the Hatsan Escort features a matte-black painted finish over a lightweight anodised aircraft alloy receiver. On top, it has practical 11mm dovetails for scope mounting, and on a compact .410 like this, the option to use a red dot or thermal sight is particularly appealing.

The mechanism is well thought out, featuring a sliding bolt carrier that locks on closure, finished in matte blue, and including a customary extended hooked extractor claw for flawless extraction.

The bolt is driven by twin parallel steel action bars attached to the fore-end, helping to prevent binding. With only 4" of travel, the action is quick and smooth for that second or third shot in the field. Once cocked, the bolt remains locked until fired. However, a small auxiliary lever located on the left side of the action, just in front of the trigger guard, can be pushed



The Hushpower Hatsan .410 is not only good-looking, but also very affordable, nimble in the aim, and delivers the best .410 patterns I have seen!

in to unlock the bolt and allow a chambered round to be removed.

In front of this lever is the loading gate, finished in matte black, with enough space to slide a long 3″ .410 round into the magazine. As expected, this shotgun's capacity is 2+1.

Controls

Trigger pull is rarely an issue with a shotgun, but I tested it anyway. On the Lyman trigger gauge, it broke cleanly at 4lbs 13.6oz, which was 2lbs lighter than the previous Escort .410 I tested.

The safety, as with most semi-autos and pump-action shotguns, is a push-through or cross-bolt catch located at the rear of the trigger guard. When pushed to the left, the shotgun is ready to fire; when the button protrudes on the right, the trigger is blocked and the gun is safe.

The barrel

The barrel on this model measures 24″ and features a black finish throughout, complementing the action area. It is chambered for 3″ ammunition or shorter. I like the slim 6mm rib, as it doesn't obscure too much of the target when using the single small brass bead sight.

Internally, the bore is finished to a high standard with a tough, oxidation-proof chrome plating. The barrel is made from chromium, nickel, and molybdenum steel, and is proofed for use with steel shot.

Best of all is the ability to change chokes, allowing the addition of the Hushpower .410 muzzle-mounted sound moderator. The system uses extended multi-5 chokes (F, IM, M, IC, CYL), so you can select the one that best suits your patterning needs, although Hushpower recommends the extended full choke for optimal performance.



The disc-profiled baffles are pressed in and have proved highly effective in sound tests with both super and subsonic rounds

Shhhhhhhhh!

This .410 Hushpower moderator is 9.25″ long, has a diameter of 1.50″, and is made from aircraft-grade lightweight aluminium. It is finished in satin black paint and weighs just 310g.

The extended full choke is bonded to the moderator's end cap, which is removable, with 1.5″ of the choke, i.e. the threaded section, sticking out the back for a flush fit to the Escort's muzzle. It's a concentrically fitted mod, so it does not drop below the sightline, but it's no issue, as





The Hatsan's extended choke is bonded into the Hushpower's end cap for swift, secure fitment



Plenty of clearance for the smooth and silent passage of the .410's shot column

both-eyes-open shooting allows use of the bead as normal.

With the end cap removed, you can see that the baffle stack consists of six dished-profile baffles, pressed into the aluminium body and not designed to be removed. A generous expansion chamber sits just before the first baffle.

At the muzzle end, there is a 0.5" deep aluminium end plug with a central hole measuring 0.560", providing 150 thou of clearance over a .410 shot column. This is a sensible margin, and after extensive testing, there were no signs of pellet strikes on the baffles or any tell-tale rattle from trapped pellets, which is clear evidence that the design works effectively.

In the field

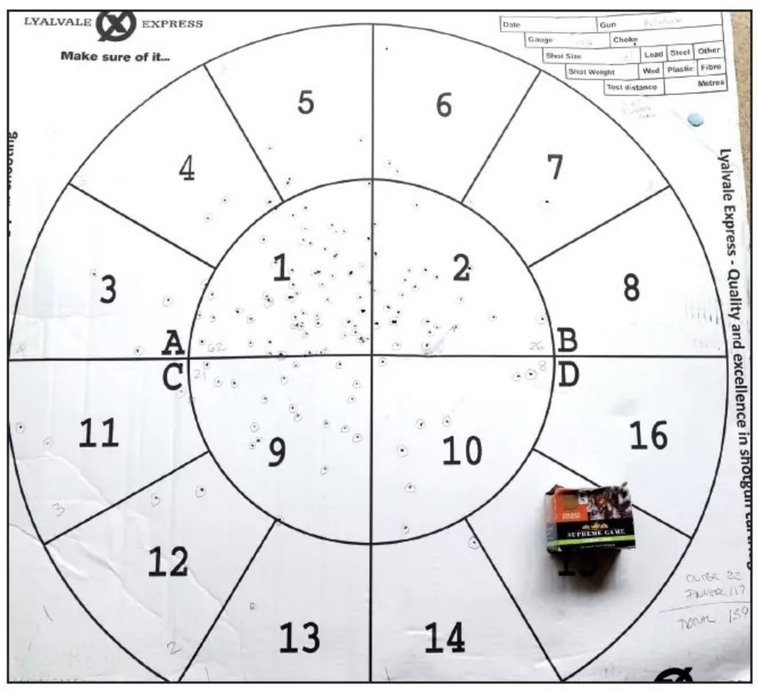
I have to say, this Hushpower conversion is my favourite. Despite the obviously longer overall length, it handles extremely well, thanks to its light weight and the gun's shorter 24" barrel. Aiming with the Hushpower was straightforward, and all the shot patterns were centrally placed.

So, how quiet is it? You have both supersonic and subsonic ammunition options, and while subsonics are the obvious choice, I have to say this Hushpower handles all .410 loads with equal efficiency.

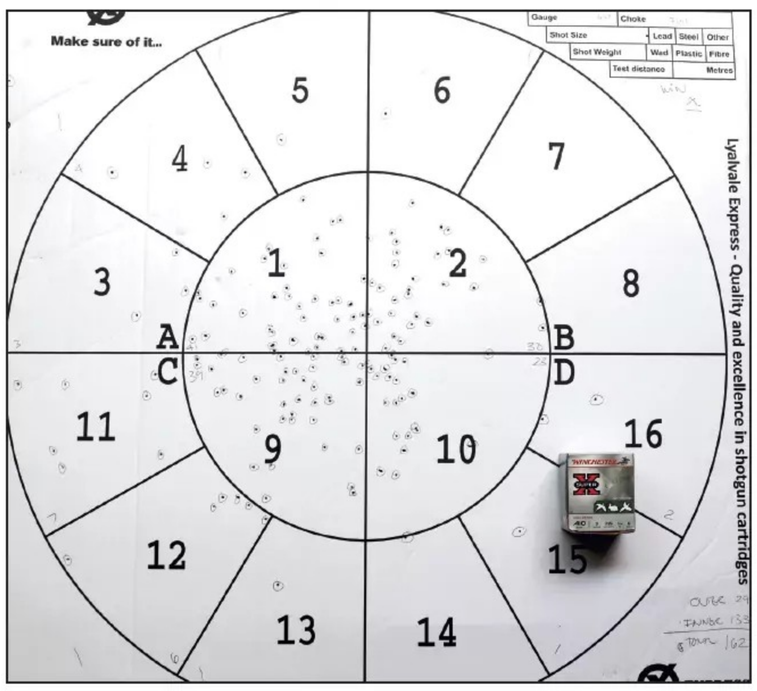
The subs were stupidly quiet, producing just a very low, hollow throng

"THE PATTERN WAS EXCEPTIONALLY WELL-POSITIONED, DENSE, EVEN, AND HARD-HITTING. I WAS THOROUGHLY IMPRESSED. OVERALL, THIS HATSAN HUSHPOWER IS SUPERBLY QUIET AND PROBABLY THE BEST .410 I HAVE TESTED! IT FUNCTIONED 100%, AND IT'S WORTH NOTING THAT YOU CAN LOAD ANY SIZE .410 CARTRIDGE, ALL OF WHICH FEED RELIABLY, MAKING THIS AN INCREDIBLY USEFUL TOOL."

BRUCE POTTS



Lyalvale's Supreme Game Subsonic cartridge with its 17g of No.5 shot is spectacularly quiet, has no recoil, and produces a nice, tight pattern



Winchester's Super X cartridge patterned really well, with 133 hits in the inner section of the pattern board



The Eley Trap cartridge with its 19g load of No 7.5 pellets managed 286 pellet strikes, with a monstrous swarm of 250 No.7.5 shot in the 15″ inner circle

as the pellets exited the moderator. The supersonic or standard .410 loads were also very quiet, sounding more like a pre-charged airgun.

Pattern-wise, I usually test my .410s at 25 yards, so I set up the pattern boards at that distance and started shooting.

First up was Lyalvale's Supreme Game Subsonic cartridge, loaded with 17g of No.5 shot. It was spectacularly quiet, with no noticeable recoil, and produced a nice, tight pattern thanks to the full-choked Hushpower moderator. A total of 139 of the larger No.5 pellets hit the board, forming a dense and slightly right-biased pattern—likely down to me—with 117 inner strikes and just 22 in the outer ring, meaning you can push the range of this Hushpower out further and still be stealthy and effective on vermin.

Next was the Winchester Super X cartridge, which is expensive but superbly effective and hard-hitting, loaded with 11/16oz (19.5g) of No.6 shot. I love this round, as it always performs, and my God, did it pattern well, with a dead-centre pattern of 162 pellets overall, distributed with 133 inner strikes and 29 outers. Just like the previous subs, that's a cracking pattern by anyone's standards, and quiet too – more of a startled squeak!

Eley's Trap cartridge is my all-time favourite, and anyone who shoots .410s will know how versatile it is across shooting disciplines, thanks to its 19g load of No.7.5 pellets. We had a total of 286 pellet strikes, with a monstrous swarm of 250 in the 15″ inner circle, and only 36 malingerers around the 30″ circumference.

The pattern was exceptionally well-positioned, dense, even, and hard-hitting. I was thoroughly impressed.

Overall, this Hatsan Hushpower is superbly quiet and probably the best .410 I have tested! It functioned 100%, and it's worth noting that you can load any size .410 cartridge, all of which feed reliably, making this an incredibly useful tool.

Conclusion

If you are in the market for a very good .410 shotgun, then the Hushpower Escort, converted by Saddlery and Gunroom, elevates this small shotgun cartridge/gun to another level. It is so quiet to shoot, and those patterns speak for themselves – a real bargain. **GM**

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Hushpower Hatsan .410 pump-action
Calibre: .410
Barrel Length: 24″
Overall Length: 53.5″ including moderator
Weight: 6.82lbs plus moderator
Length of Pull: 14.25″
Price: £599.99
Contact: Saddlery and Gunroom - www.saddleryandgunroom.co.uk



I prefer the wood-stocked version of the Hushpower, as it balances better in my view than the synthetic-stocked version

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LIGHT LOAD POWER

IS LESS REALLY MORE? **BRUCE POTTS** TAKES THE 24G HULL SUPER FAST CARTRIDGE FOR A SPIN AND FINDS OUT JUST HOW EFFECTIVE IT CAN BE



› **There is a lot to be said for going light, whether that means a smaller, trimmer shotgun or a smaller bore, mainly because it's less effort to carry.** Going lighter on the load can also have its benefits, especially when using Hull's Super Fast 12-bore load from their competition line.

This cartridge has always been a winner with clay shooters wanting a faster load and a dense pattern for those tricky doubles or long crossers, but with velocities up to 1500fps, recoil with the 27g version will be stiffer than most, especially on a high-volume bird day.

That's why the 24g Super Fasts are, in my opinion, a better bet, as the reduced loading keeps the velocities high and does not compromise pellet density too much, but more significantly, the recoil is reduced, making them much nicer to shoot.

I like using these for rough shooting in the woods after squirrels. That's just me, but it shows what a clay cartridge can do away from the grounds.

Cartridge construction

What the Super Fast does is offer a value-for-money cartridge, priced at £285 per 1,000, in one shot size, two loads, and with either a plastic or fibre wad, depending on your end usage. It's designed really as a club-level cartridge that can elevate or prepare you for competition-level shooting in the future.

With this 24g loading in particular, what you lose in shot weight, you gain in speed and downrange performance, with smooth but moderate recoil, and, as a bonus, they work in semi-autos too, which I had forgotten.

The 24g loading equates to 312 pellets per cartridge, and for the heavier 27-gram loading, you have 356 pellets to play with, not a lot of difference really, and that is reflected on the pattern boards. Control of spherical tolerances allows the shot to fly truer, producing dense, regular patterns with maximum performance, yet minimum pressure.

The 24g fibre wad load uses a 67mm (2.63") case, while the other options use a 70mm (2.75") one. All variants contain No.7.5 lead shot (2.3mm), which is well suited to clay shooting, but also highly effective for vermin control and simulated game. Hull makes great efforts to maintain precise diametric tolerances during manufacture, ensuring the shot size remains within regulation limits for competition use.

The outer casing is blue, with all the salient details of the load inside printed in silver, with a standard but very uniform six-star crimp and no bulges at all. All cases are subjected to rigorous quality control checks, including primer sensitivity and plastic, with this load having a nickel finish to the 7mm head.

Hull cases are loaded with the CX range of primers, which are widely regarded as among the most reliable and consistent on the market today.

The propellants are single-based and engineered to deliver a precise burn rate, pressure, and velocity, resulting in the Super Fast cartridge achieving

Hull Cartridge has excellent quality control procedures, and as a result, each component is the best it can be from shot to shot



impressively high speeds of around 1500fps. Even at 40 yards, each pellet still retains a velocity of 630fps and 1.03 ft/lbs of energy.

The fibre wad performs very well, as it transfers energy from the propellant to the shot column without deformation, while also sealing the barrel effectively against hot gases. That's because Hull knows the trend for overbored barrels these days and has made fibre wad diameters to fit these barrels correctly without compromising performance. Also, the material used for the fibre wad is specially selected for its uniform density and thickness before being subjected to a waterproof, anti-tear treatment.

What I like about Hull is that they take quality control very seriously. Throughout production, they measure ignition time, peak pressure, barrel time, muzzle velocity (V1), range velocity (observed) (V2), and the full pressure curve, covering all parameters, followed by the all-important pattern. They are as bad as I am!

Using the ½ choke, we saw 280 hits, with 106 inners and 174 outers



Field test

Through my 12-bore Browning Shadow, with ¼ and ½ chokes fitted, the Super Fast 24g load still had some poke. Yes, velocities were up there, but compared to a 27g load, these were very moderate on recoil transfer to the shoulder and cheekpiece. The fact that the bores were left nice and clean was a bonus.

At 30 yards, using the ¼ choke first, we recorded a total of 224 pellets on the board. Of these, 74 were evenly spread within the inner 15", with the remaining 150 distributed around the outer area. A good start, and reassuring to see 224 pellets from the original 312 making contact with the pattern board.

Let's see how the tighter ½ choke fares. This time, the pellet count increased to 280 strikes, with a dense 106 hits in the inner zone and 174 in the outer area, so a very effective pattern for fast-moving clays or running squirrels.

Conclusion

Truthfully, what's not to like about this cartridge? Hull says it shoots fast, and it does. It patterns well, and that's certainly true, while recoil remains moderate enough for all-day shooting. All of this comes at a very reasonable price. That's the Super Fast from Hull.

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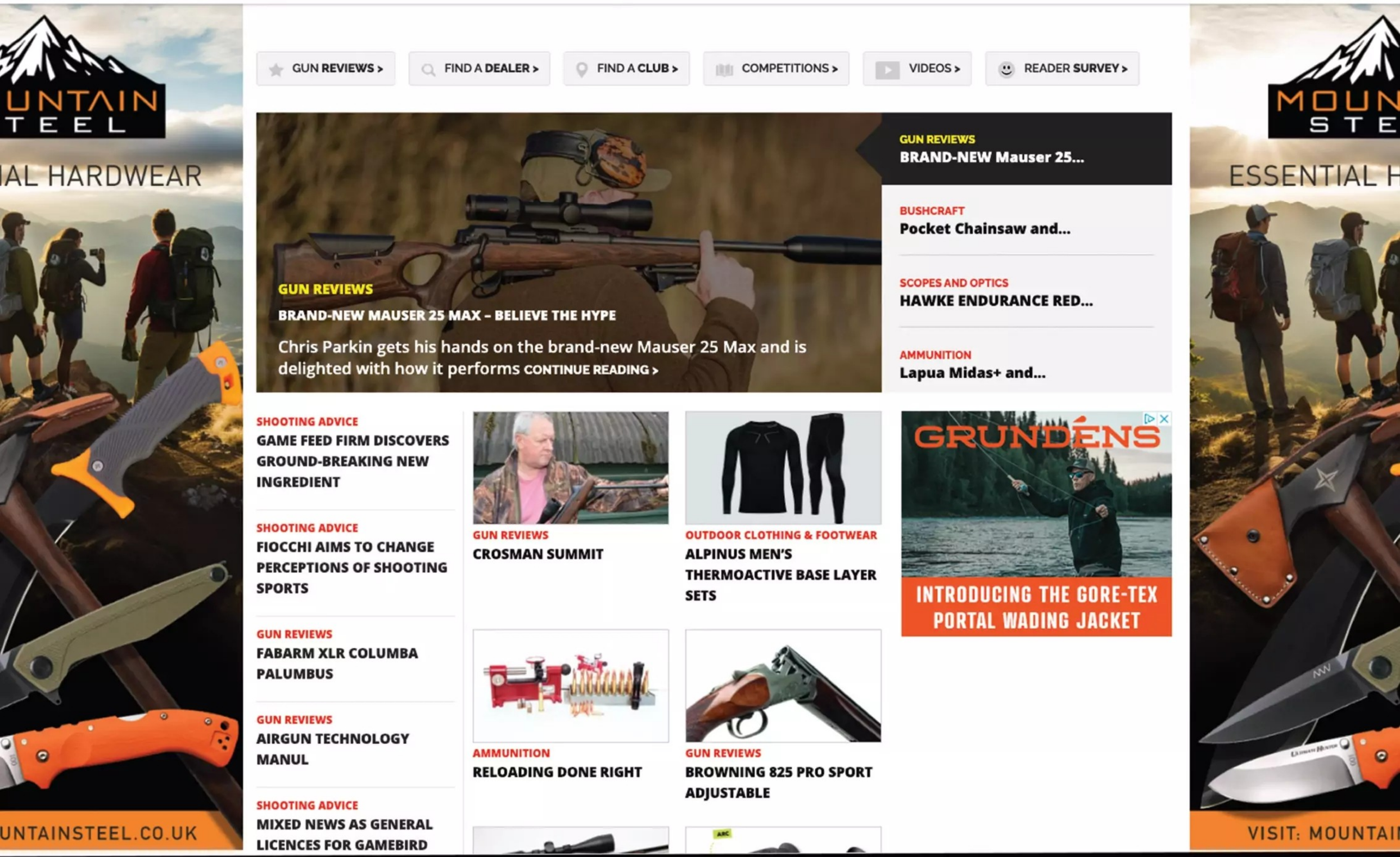
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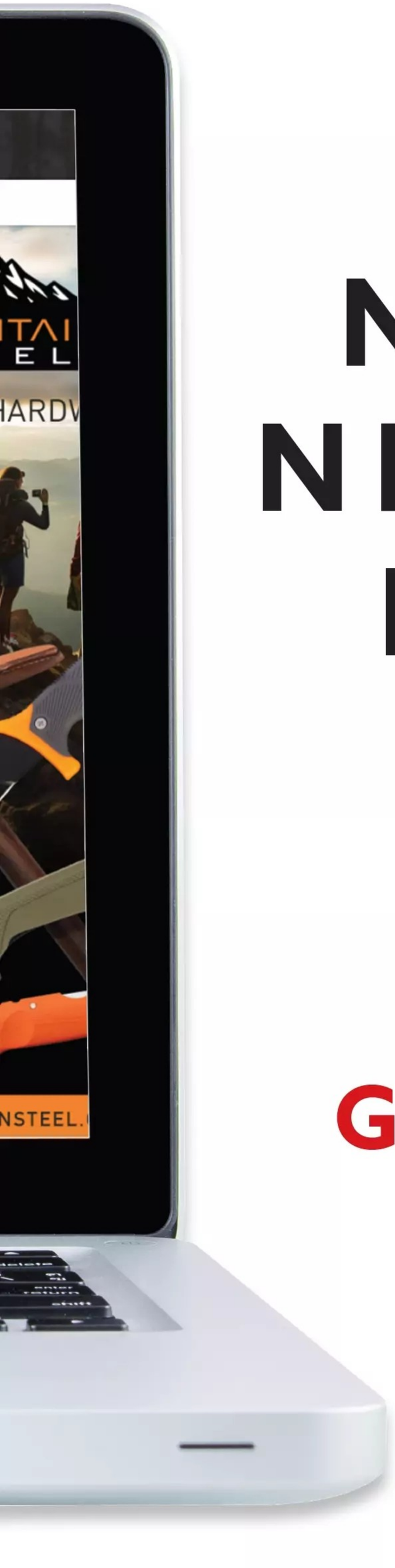
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Tradition meets innovation

Can a side-by-side shotgun truly rival a modern over-and-under? ***Rob Speed*** takes the Infinite RS into the field to find out

› **To most of us, a side-by-side shotgun is the iconic, traditional game gun, passed down through generations of shooters.** Like many others, I have an old side-by-side in the cabinet that puts a smile on my face every time I take it out for a day in the field. But I fear my days of using it may be coming to an end.

Numerous manufacturers have created modern-style side-by-sides that are proofed for steel shot cartridges here in the UK. This is fantastic news for keeping side-by-sides alive. However, until I discovered the Fabarm Infinite RS, I hadn't seen a side-by-side shotgun designed to such practical and futuristic specifications.

Feature-rich

The Infinite RS is designed as a sporting side-by-side shotgun, but it is not aimed at a single type of shooting. Fabarm believes that its use as a clay gun or for bird shooting is down to the shooter.

The receiver has a black satin finish with a flare of blue and white, which is simple and attractive. The wood is of a basic grade but hand-oiled, so it looks good. However, the gun is not designed to be a showpiece; it is designed to be a side-by-side like no other.

The most unique element of this gun has to be the Quick Release Rib. This model is provided with two ribs that can be quickly and easily fitted to the barrel. One of them provides a 50/50 point of impact (POI), which is designed for shooters who prefer a flatter-shooting shotgun, while the other rib has a 65/35 POI, which is designed for those who desire a higher-shooting shotgun.

The gun is fitted with an adjustable cheekpiece, allowing each shooter to alter the height and cast for a perfect fit, ensuring it shoots exactly where they want.

I cannot explain in words how satisfying it is to look down the rib of this Infinite RS. The 10–8mm top rib guides my eye perfectly to the end of the gun, ready to acquire the target clearly with my head held in a comfortable, upright position. This might sound silly, but it felt as if I was mounting an over-and-under.

The stock is incredibly comfortable, with a pistol grip that features a generous palm swell and a steep angle, allowing the wrist to sit straight, a trait uncommon in side-by-sides. The chunky stock dimensions allow the gun to sit comfortably in the shoulder when mounted, and the relatively parallel Monte Carlo adjustable stock gave me a solid cheek weld, which I have never had before with a side-by-side.

Similar to most sporting shotguns, you get an adjustable trigger, meaning the blade can be moved to sit in the exact position required. The gun also includes a relatively large safety, making it easy to establish whether it is on or off, and it incorporates a barrel selector as well, enabling you to choose which barrel engages first.

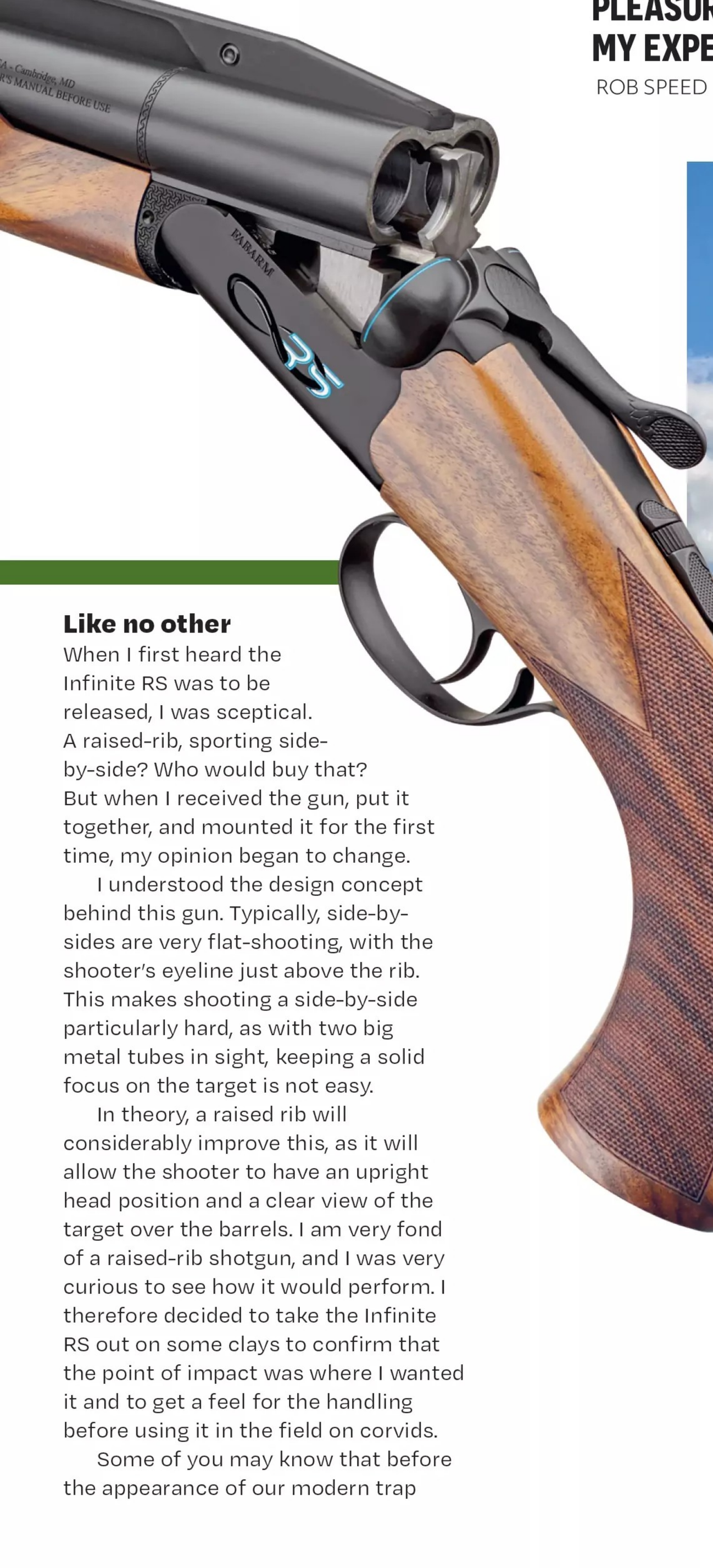
A key feature of the gun is its Tribore HP barrels, designed to deliver impressive, consistent shot patterns. They are high-performance steel-proofed and chambered for 3″ cartridges. The gun comes with five extended Exis HP chokes, supplied in a Fabarm case.

An impressive 10-year mechanical warranty is provided by the manufacturer, which is even transferable to a second owner. Fabarm certainly believes in this product, which also makes me want to believe in its longevity.



THIS FABARM INFINITE RS WAS GENUINELY A PLEASURE TO SHOOT AND I THOROUGHLY ENJOYED MY EXPERIENCE WITH IT"

ROB SPEED





An unusual sight picture, but you soon get used to it

Like no other

When I first heard the Infinite RS was to be released, I was sceptical. A raised-rib, sporting side-by-side? Who would buy that? But when I received the gun, put it together, and mounted it for the first time, my opinion began to change.

I understood the design concept behind this gun. Typically, side-by-sides are very flat-shooting, with the shooter's eyeline just above the rib. This makes shooting a side-by-side particularly hard, as with two big metal tubes in sight, keeping a solid focus on the target is not easy.

In theory, a raised rib will considerably improve this, as it will allow the shooter to have an upright head position and a clear view of the target over the barrels. I am very fond of a raised-rib shotgun, and I was very curious to see how it would perform. I therefore decided to take the Infinite RS out on some clays to confirm that the point of impact was where I wanted it and to get a feel for the handling before using it in the field on corvids.

Some of you may know that before the appearance of our modern trap



While definitely a unique gun, the Fabarm Infinite RS still performs

disciplines of clay pigeon shooting, the sport actually involved shooting live pigeons released from cages. As crazy as this may sound, there was a type of shotgun that was popular among many of the shooters at that time.

A side-by-side that was chunkier, heavier, and fitted with a top rib that gave a single sight plane was called a 'live pigeon gun'. Although the birds I shoot over decoys are very much wild and not caged, I do believe that there are some similarities in the types of targets. So, could the Fabarm Infinite RS be the modern version of a live pigeon gun? Let's find out.

Performance in the hide

With the pattern of crow decoys set, I settled in the hide and didn't have to wait long for the first contender. As the bird entered the pattern, it actually landed within the decoys. Because I had not used the No.6, 30g fibre loads through this gun, I slipped the barrels over the netting and shot the bird on the floor. It was a perfect dispatch, and it gave me the utmost confidence that the cartridges worked well through the half choke I had chosen to use, and that the gun was shooting exactly where I wanted it to.

As the next few birds entered the pattern in front of me, I had a great variety of angles, directions, and distances, and was incredibly impressed with how the gun performed. The perfect balance on the hinge pin, combined with the 8lb 4oz weight, meant I could assertively push the gun in front of each target with great control.

Having shot a Blaser Vantage with a raised rib for a long time, the sight picture I was seeing felt extremely familiar, and I was amazed to be shooting a side-by-side as well as I was. One shot in particular left me in absolute amazement. I caught this moment on film, so be sure to check out the video of this outing on my 'Fieldsports with Speed' YouTube channel and see for yourselves how the gun performed in the field.

The few misses I had were purely down to me misjudging the target and had nothing to do with the gun. I want to be fair and explain what I didn't like about the Infinite RS, but I can't. The only negative I found was that the barrels got hot very quickly while clay shooting. Even while holding the chunky semi-beavertail fore-end, I continued to burn my fingertips. However, this is the same with every side-by-side shotgun, so I would recommend wearing a glove.

Verdict

I can see any clay shooter who enjoys something a little different having a thoroughly enjoyable



Proof is in the pudding, and the gun performed well in the hide

experience with the Infinite RS in sporting or trap disciplines. Personally, I thoroughly enjoyed using it for decoying corvids.

It handled slowly and smoothly as I confidently took incoming and crossing birds over the decoys. I firmly believe this gun to be a modern creation of the live pigeon gun that many shooters would have used in times past.

For any shooter who wants to use a side-by-side with extra weight for improved handling and reduced recoil, the Infinite RS is that gun. It handles very much like a sporting over-and-under shotgun.

I found the 50/50 POI rib to be an excellent choice, providing the perfect fit for me. I can see the 65/35 POI rib being a well-suited option for trap shooters who prefer a higher point of impact and improved peripheral vision over the end of the barrel.

The Quick Release Rib can be swapped out to adjust your point of impact

This Fabarm was genuinely a pleasure to shoot, and I thoroughly enjoyed my experience with it. It is a relatively big investment for a very unusual style of shotgun, but I strongly believe that whoever buys one will make some fantastic memories with it. I strongly recommend that anyone who is interested handle one at a Fabarm demo event or a local stockist, as I am sure you will be amazed at how different it is. GM

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Name: Fabarm Infinite RS
Type: Side-by-side
Calibre: 12-bore
Barrel Length: 32″ on test, 30″ also available
Weight: 8lbs 4oz
Length of Pull: 14.8″
Price: From £3,995
Contact: Anglo Italian Arms – www.caesargueriniuk.com

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ACCESSORIES

AERON CZ FX FIELD Target Stock. The Field Target stocks are a great addition to the FX Dreamline or Streamline. Like new, high quality and not only are they very functional but they look amazing. extremely comfortable to shoot without adding a lot of weight. THIS IS NOT A COMPLETE GUN. THIS IS JUST THE CHASSIS STOCK. Only Compatible with FX Streamline & Dreamline Classic. £325 07771531042 (Wiltshire)

SIGHTRON SIIISS 10-50X60 30MM target scope in excellent condition cost £1300 first £900 takes it 07974611638 (Yorkshire, West Riding) BOXX gun cabinet (H 182.5 x W 35.5 x D 25.5cm) with two sets of three keys and bolts, has a hole in the top where a light was removed, collection only from Hayes on a first-come, first-served basis with a negotiable price, please call Martin on 07814 556246. (Middlesex)

PARD NIGHT VISION 008P never been used £350 phone Chris 01612485508 (Manchester)

ATN DAY/NIGHT SCOPE 5-25X Ultra HD 4K, as new in its box with all items present, £375, email Maffs74@gmail.com (Kent).

AIRGUNS

BEEMAN P-17, GREAT CONDITION, only been shot about 15 times in total - had to move out so no garden to use it in, hence selling. Comes with a can of Diablo Exact pellets. £75.00 07933282588 (Cheshire)

DAYSTATE PULSAR , COMES with original hard case in excellent condition. £1000.00 07533288885 (Worcestershire)

ATA AIRBORNE .177 PRE charged pneumatic, Walnut stock, 3d printed barrel band including bipod mount, Bipod (no major brand), 6x24x50 Scope (no major brand), 3x magazines (1xoriginal, 2x3d printed ones), Will come with tin of pellets. Sling screw on front. All works as it should, bought in January but it just isn't getting used so just gathering dust. Quite happy for buyer to test. £375 07395550369 (Warwickshire)

WEIHRAUCH HW99S, SPECIFICATION: CALIBER - .22, Overall Length - 1050mm, Barrel Length - 410mm, Power - Approx 11.5 ft/lbs, Weight - 3.2kg, £250. 07768615386 (Hampshire)

THEOBEN SLR 98 THUMB stock in 177. Very rare now in 177. This rifle comes with magazine and single shot loading tray. Simmons white classic scope in 3.5 10x50. Flambeau hard carry case. £2000 ono. marknelsonces@live.co.uk (Lancashire)

WIERAUCH HW100KT COMES WITH 2 magazines hawke scopes bipod 12 litre divers bottle with 2 year test and is full with brand new whip also comes with nite scopes brand new never used £850. 07707303993 (Cheshire)

BSA R10 SE REGULATED .177 £200 Paulwright165@btinternet.com (Dorset)

UMAREX COLT M4 CARBINE, Full power, break barrel spring air rifle, .177 Pellet. Great condition, looks like new, boxed, plus carry case. £150 07749825736 (Devon)

GAMO COYOTE BLACK POLYMER stock 22cal with moderator £250 phone Chris 01612485508 Manchester

CROSMAN NITRO VENOM DUSK break barrel gas ram air rifle in immaculate condition with noise suppressor, telescopic sight, and gun bag, £100, buyer collects, email jahooli@protonmail.com (Sussex).

BROCOCK GHOST .177 AIR rifle with a 10-40 Immersive Optics scope, bipod, carbon fibre silencer, three magazines, and a new 12ltr charging kit, as new having only fired 50 pellets, £1,000 no offers, call 07962929688 (Yorkshire, West Riding).

S400 CLASSIC .177 WITH Rhino scope, a great rifle in good condition that shoots well, £500, call 07737188020 (Sussex).

FAMILY BUNDLE INCLUDING A PCP Milbro .177 Guardian with pump, a .177 CO2 Crossman rifle with scope and bag, a CO2 BB M29 8" .44 Magnum with a small dent, and a CO2 BB Crossman Phantom pistol, all boxed and like new, £500, call 07825153376 (Yorkshire, West Riding).

AIR ARMS S510 WALNUT carbine for sale as a complete outfit, including a scope, bipod, new Air Arms Q-Tec silencer, and a 5-litre bottle tested until 2029, £775.00, email woodse9@ntlworld.com (Kent).

WEIHRAUCH HW100 KT .22 calibre rifle in excellent condition, complete with two magazines, a bipod, and a gun sleeve, £750, call 07743 864007 (Berkshire); an air bottle is also available with a test date to be confirmed.

BENJAMIN AMADA .22, AR15 replica, air rifle. Hardly used with original scope,tripod, 10 shot mag, tripod and lux padded bag. Great condition. £445. 07890 382226 (Shropshire)

BSA CENTENARY AIRSPORTER 575 only 1000 produced. Never been out of the box, unwrapped or fired. All accessories owned from new. £875 01189 734 868 (Berkshire)

STEYR FT 110 PNEUMATIC air rifle 0.177 with pressure regulator to get the max LEGAL power from the rifle. This is in absolute MINT condition Now cost £3,300. For sale £2,300 Loads of accessories also for sale please ask. LBM379@AOL.COM (East London)

BSA MK1 AIRSPORTER AND Cadet major. £165 , £85 01189734868 (Berkshire)

MK23 AIRSOFT PISTOL FULL upgrade.Maple leaf crazy jet barrel. Bucking. Handront D cover. H plate. external Hop adjustment. Short silencer. V38.Rapid Retention holster. 2 Magazines. £150 incl. Postage. 07748228961 (Kent)

CROSSMAN .22 AIR PISTOL, red dot scope and silencer. Three years old bought from new. A good clean pistol. No iron sight on front. £80.00 07771860790 (Surrey)

GAMO MAXXIM ELITE MULTISHOT .22 Air Rifle As new with scope and rifle bag. Less than 50 pellets through it. Superb. £250 07496900027 (Radnorshire)

KRAL PUNCHER KNIGHT .177 - black + accessories: hard case, suppressor, gas refil tank (full) with hose. Only been out of the box a handful of times, and used even less. Reluctantly selling £700.00 Olly_lfs@outlook.com (Middlesex)

COLLECTION OF 4 JUNIOR air rifles and air pistols includes umarex mod 45 gamo delta marlin lever action and hatsan mod 25 air pistol all are in 177 cal all are nearly new with boxes. 07845647416 (Staffordshire) Gamo coyote air rifle, black polymer stock, .22 calibre moderator in great condition £300.00. 01612485508 (Manchester)

GAMO GX250 STILL NEW bought for grandson but not interested has scope and silencer plus a new pump £300 phone 07597172641. (Nottinghamshire)

BRAND NEW JTS AIRACUDA Air Rifle. Never Shot as never got the chance to. Comes with Small air bottle for refill, slip, pellets, single shot and multi shot mag, Also included is Vector Veyron 4-16x44 FFP illuminated MPR-V5 0.1 MRAD 30mm scope & mounts 07368532913 (Wiltshire)

BSA R12 CLX PRO CARBINE .177, never been fired numerous accessories sling, gun cabinet, gun bag, airmx scopes 4-16x44, 4-16x50, mounts , charging compressor numerous pellets, air gun oil, silicone gun grease. offers poa Call: 07836204282 (Fife)

SNOWPEAK M25 .22 CALIBRE comes with scope PCP, Bolt action, 2 years old Call: 07542 981566 (Derbyshire)

REMIMEX MITO S IN .177, fantastic, very accurate tactical-style pistol with shoulder-stock. Fantastic back garden, quick-shot plinker. Just 2 years old and very good condition. Included the fitted laser-dot sight, 1 magazine, 1 single-shot adapter, 1 tin of pellets, carry-case, targets, paperwork AND a gun-bag that fits this gun perfectly - took me ages to find this case. This has had around 4-5 tins of pellets through it, cleaned, kept oiled and nice. Bargain, come and test. Full pics available 07804619414 (S. Yorks)

AIR ARMS GALAHAD SR, .22, Beach stock, I believe Discovery ED 6-24x50 SFIR Scope. Both are in very good condition and working order. Includes x1 Magazine, a refill thingy A tin of .22 pellets. A soft gun bag OR a hard case the choice is yours. Call: 07736000965 (Yorkshire, West Riding)

DAYSTATE X2R CUSTOM STOCK 10 and 1 shot mag bag sling air rifle. £650 Call: 07707748805 (Nottinghamshire)

BSA LIGHTNING SE .177 Very good used condition, almost mark free. Briefly used for varmin co. trolley in garden, shot no more than 200 pellets Collection Eggbuckland, Plymouth, or can arrange postage at buyers cost, with proof of ID. 07891462951 (Devon)

DAYSTATE MK3 .177, NIKKO Sterling 4-16x50 Scope, Sling, Silencer, 3 Mags, 2 Single Shot Trays, Case, 12L 300 Bar Air Tank, All Accessories, Charger, etc. Gun Owned from New, 2007 Model, Only Used for HFT. Air Tank Needs Test. £700. (Monmouthshire)

CYBERGUN AK47 .177 CO2 air rifle 07553061000 (Pembrokeshire)

AIR ARMS S410 .177, Q-Tech Moderator, Hawke Mil Dot 16-24-50, Good Condition, Very Accurate. 07534763891 (Staffordshire)

WEIHRAUCH 100 PCP 177. Good condition. 2 mags silencer bipod. Strap. Air tank. Out of date but still has air in. Scope. Selling as i dont use it anymore. £750 ono (Derbyshire)

SHOTGUNS

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DISARMED 12 BORE SHOTGUN Anson, also 3 bore garden gun Victor, unwanted inheritance both in wall display case. Must be 100 + years old. £300 07771592000 (Leicestershire) Rizzini 20 Bore Round Body Deluxe, usually £7395.00 new, for sale at £4250.00, call 01634 730700 (Kent).

AYA YEOMAN 12-BORE OVER-AND-UNDER shotgun, £150.00, call 07514 015424 (Hertfordshire).

WEBLEY & SCOTT .410 single-shot bolt-action shotgun, £100.00, call 07514 015424 (Hertfordshire).

20 BORE SHOTGUN CARTRIDGES for sale, approximately 300, number 6 and 7's, all boxed and good quality makes. Valid SGC required. Offers. 07806771238 (Derbyshire).

WEBLEY & SCOTT 12 bore. Built 1970s based on Beretta S56E, 27" barrels, 14.5 LOP. Good overall condition. One of the first shotguns with Teague chokes - one set knurled extended chokes and set flush. Prefer FTF Bristol area. £295.00 07579 027057 Somerset



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AIMPOINT MICRO S-1 FOR a shotgun. Boxed with instructions hardly used. £350.00 o.n.o Contact: juliepeters123@btinternet.com (Hampshire)

BROWNING 425 MULTI CHOKE with all 5 chokes, 12b over and under sporter 28 inch barrels, mint condition. £750 07800882838 (Yorkshire, West Riding)

BERETTA A400 XTREME PLUS. This is as new condition and has a 10 year warranty that is in place and doesn't need to be transferred (checked with GMK). 30I" Barrels with a raised rib, Black Model with the kick off system, Comes boxed complete with shims, Extension spacers and 4 boxed chokes (Basically everything that comes with it if bought from new). Gas port cleaning brush that attaches to a drill included. Safety breech flag. Will even throw in a cartridge collector stick to whoever buys. £1195 07402686875 (Essex)

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FIREARMS

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GARAND 30.06 STRAIGHT PULL Rifle for sale Excellent condition. FAC only comes with 8round clips. £500 ono 01405815753 (Yorkshire, West Riding)

RUGER 10/22 SEMI-AUTOMATIC RIFLE with a stainless barrel and scope having fired about 500 rounds, £300, email steve.338lap@outlook.com (Kent).

RUGER .45 STAINLESS BLACK powder muzzle-loading pistol having fired about 120 rounds, £350 ono, email steve.338lap@outlook.com (Kent).

ACCURACY INTERNATIONAL PALAMASTER .308 rifle with a stainless barrel, die set, cases, and heads having fired about 460 rounds, £850, email steve.338lap@outlook.com (Kent).

S.M.L.E ENFIELD .303 RIFLE with die set, cases, and heads, £500, email steve.338lap@outlook.com (Kent).

BRNO .375 H&H RIFLE with scope, die set, cases, and heads having fired 240 rounds, £350, email steve.338lap@outlook.com (Kent).

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STATE ARMS .50 RIFLE with a very heavy barrel, die set, cases, heads, case trimmer, and press having fired about 150 rounds, £1400 ono, email steve.338lap@outlook.com (Kent).

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REMINGTON 700PSS 308 VGC scope/bipod HeaveyBarrel vert nice clean condition. 01405815753 (Yorkshire, West Riding)

PARD 008P NIGHT VISION never used £350.00 01612485508 (Lancashire)

RARE PRO-ELITE BREAK BARREL .22 FAC Air Rifle, Factory Build,Gold Trigger, Lother Walther Shrouded Barrel, Power 22-24 FT LB. Together with one Piece mount,and 4-12x40 Scope. Superb Rifle. 07907875928. £425-00 o.n.o. (Nottingham).

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ANTIQUES

DEACTIVATED BREN GUN 7.62MM made in Italy by Breda near mint, latest spec, cocking handle moves under spring pressure partially strips £300. 07359266418 (Newcastle)

PAIR OF REPLICA SCOTTISH-BROADSWORDS, two Targes (round-shields), suitable for re-enactment, or decoration; £350. 07719415472. (Lancashire) Deactivated mk 2 bren gun 7.62mm made under licence in italy by breda latest spec cocking handle works under spring pressure.partially strips,£330 includes postage. 07359266418. £330 (Newcastle)

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REPLICA SCOTTISH CLAYMORE, ANTIQUE finish quality steel, blade length 40", overall length 55", comes with an authentic Scottish targe (round shield), £450-. 07719414572. (Lancashire).

AVIATION, RAF, AIRPLANE ITEMS wanted. Books, diecast models, plastic kits, 12" action figures, military toys, airfix models etc. Tel 07973 885754 or email: davidsutton16@aol.com (Kent)

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