

# ONTARGET

2021 FALL HUNTING ISSUE

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## BRENTON STALKER CARBON HUNTER 18

THE MIDWESTERN  
.450 BUSHMASTER  
SLEDGEHAMMER

## TOP LONG-RANGE / SUPPRESSOR-READY

- SIG SAUER CROSS
  - MOSSBERG PATRIOT
  - SAVAGE IMPULSE PREDATOR
  - SPRINGFIELD ARMORY
- 2020 WAYPOINT

HUNTING  
RIFLES

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## MOSSBERG SILVER RESERVE EVENTIDE

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OVER/UNDER

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R92 TRIPPLE  
BLACK  
44 MAGNUM  
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# ON TARGET™

2021 FALL HUNTING ISSUE

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Bill Battles

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- Mossberg Patriot Long Range Hunter
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- Savage Impulse Predator
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OT Staff

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OT Staff

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Mike Dickerson

## BRENTON STALKER CARBON HUNTER 18

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Chris Mudgett

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Bill Battles

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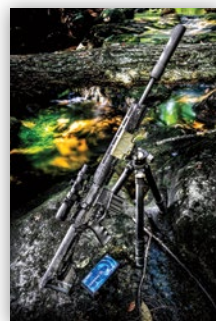
70

Enter to win a Christensen Arms Ridgeline rifle and Riton Conquer 3 6-24x50mm riflescope package worth over \$2,700.

OT Staff

## On Our Cover:

Brenton's Stalker Carbon Hunter 18 wearing a Leupold Mark 3 HD scope in a Seekins Precision mount and Silent Legion Suppressor, resting on Leupold's Pro Guide Tripod. Photo by Ben Battles.



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# Rossi R92 Triple Black .44 Magnum



## Light, Fast, Powerful And Not Afraid Of Doing Work

**T**HE ROSSI R92 IS A HISTORICALLY accurate reproduction of the lightweight, small-frame, pistol-caliber Winchester Model 1892. Designed by legendary American firearms designer, John Moses Browning, the Model 1892 prototype was delivered to Winchester only two weeks

after it was requested. The Model 1892 was intended as an update of the the Winchester Model 1873—also designed by Browning—which it replaced as the company's pistol-caliber lever gun. Over its 50-year production life more than 1,000,000 Model 1992s were produced, and it

starred in nearly every cowboy Western ever made, including the TV series *The Rifleman* and *Wanted: Dead or Alive.*

The Rossi R92 is available chambered in .22 LR, .357 Mag., .44 Rem. Mag., .45 Long Colt and .454 Casull, in a variety of finishes, with a variety of furniture

 Bill Battles

 Ben Battles



# Rossi R92 Triple Black .44 Magnum

and in a number of different barrel lengths. Our evaluation rifle was the unique R92 Triple Black chambered in .44 Rem. Magnum (also available in .357 Magnum) with a 16.5-inch barrel (\$1,020.11). Everything on the gun—except the

brass bead front sight—is finished in a weatherproof matte black, giving it an “all business” look. All metal parts are coated with a black Cerakote finish for excellent durability in crappy weather conditions.

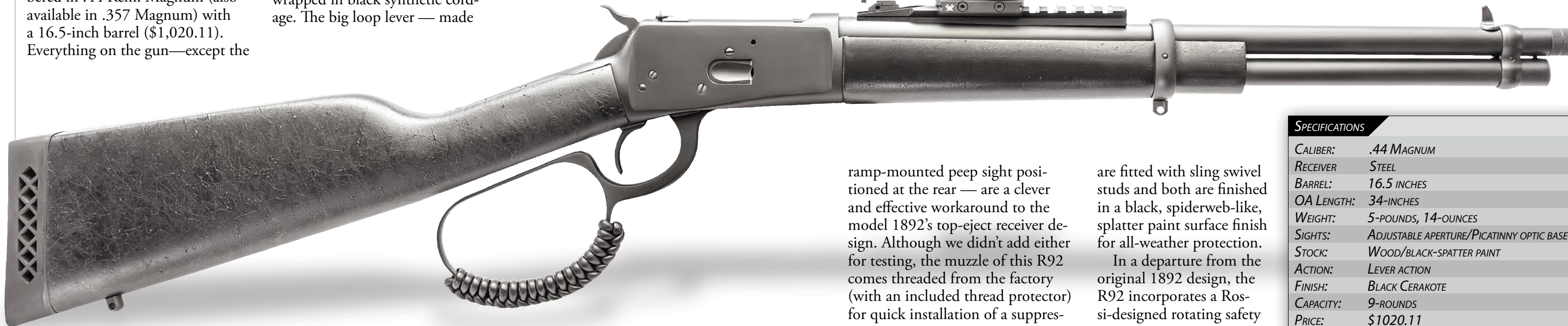
Other features include a “big loop” lever with its lower half wrapped in black synthetic cordage. The big loop lever — made

popular years ago by the lever-action specialists of Wild West Guns — is hugely advantageous when large- or gloved-hands are thrown into the mix and is definitely a welcomed addition. A unique sighting arrangement — including a barrel

mounted 12-slot aluminum Picatinny rail for optics mounting with an integral and fully adjustable,

sor or muzzle brake. Furniture consists of a matte black buttstock with flat-topped comb and 1-inch, ventilated, black-rubber recoil pad, and a one-piece forearm with single barrel band. Both buttstock and forend are made from wood, both

positioned in the top rear of the bolt. Turning the lever 90 degrees clockwise disengages the safety, exposing a red dot in the top of the bolt indicating the gun is “off safe”. A 90 degree turn counter clockwise engages the safety, which locks the



## SPECIFICATIONS

CALIBER:	.44 MAGNUM
RECEIVER	STEEL
BARREL:	16.5 INCHES
OA LENGTH:	34-INCHES
WEIGHT:	5-POUNDS, 14-OUNCES
SIGHTS:	ADJUSTABLE APERTURE/PICATINNY OPTIC BASE
STOCK:	WOOD/BLACK-SPATTER PAINT
ACTION:	LEVER ACTION
FINISH:	BLACK CERAKOTE
CAPACITY:	9-ROUNDS
PRICE:	\$1020.11

ramp-mounted peep sight positioned at the rear — are a clever and effective workaround to the model 1892’s top-eject receiver design. Although we didn’t add either for testing, the muzzle of this R92 comes threaded from the factory (with an included thread protector) for quick installation of a suppress-

are fitted with sling swivel studs and both are finished in a black, spiderweb-like, splatter paint surface finish for all-weather protection.

In a departure from the original 1892 design, the R92 incorporates a Rossi-designed rotating safety

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# Rossi R92 Triple Black .44 Magnum



**1**—TO WORK AROUND THE R92'S TOP-EJECT, 1892 RECEIVER DESIGN, ROSSI GAVE THE TRIPLE BLACK MODEL A FORWARD, BARREL-MOUNTED PICATINNY OPTIC BASE TO FACILITATE MOUNTING OF A RED-DOT OR EXTENDED-EYE-RELIEF MAGNIFIED OPTIC. WE USED THE NEW VORTEX SPARC SOLAR RED-DOT THROUGHOUT TESTING. DON'T WANT TO RUN AN OPTIC? THE OPTIC MOUNT ALSO INCORPORATES A VERY EFFECTIVE, BUILT IN, FULLY ADJUSTABLE PEEP SIGHT.

firing pin to the rear inside the bolt. Hammer and trigger operation are unaffected by the safety position.

With an empty weight of 5 lbs. 14 oz., and an overall length of 34 inches, the R92 Triple Black .44 Rem. Mag. is a lightweight and handy carbine for brush-gun duty. Its .44 Rem Mag. chambering lends itself to medium game hunting at short to moderate ranges. We've killed

enough white tail deer with .44 Mag. handguns to attest to the lethality of this round when loaded with expanding bullets appropriate for hunting, and the extra barrel length of the R92 produces enough additional velocity to make the .44 Rem. Mag.

really shine. Ammunition capacity of the R92 Triple Black .44 Rem. Mag. is eight rounds in the under-barrel tubular magazine, plus one in the chamber. Ammunition is loaded into the magazine through a load gate on the right side of the receiver.



**2**—WHILE THE R92 IS BASED ON JOHN BROWNING'S ORIGINAL 1892 DESIGN, THE ROSSI MAKES TWO STAND OUT DEPARTURES: A BOLT-MOUNTED ROTATING SAFETY SWITCH AND A LARGE-LOOP LEVER, THE LATTER OF WHICH IS A GODSEND FOR LARGE AND/OR GLOVED HANDS.



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1



**1**—THREADED FOR A SUPPRESSOR OR MUZZLE BRAKE, THE R92 TRIPLE BLACK GETS A STUBBY 16.50-INCH BARREL, MAKING IT PERFECT FOR THE TRUCK, THE SADDLE OR THE THICK BRUSH. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE GOLD-BEAD FRONT SIGHT, ALL METAL PARTS ARE FINISHED IN A DURABLE BLACK-CERAKOTE.

For testing we mounted the new-for-2021 Vortex SPARC Solar red-dot sight (\$399.99 with integral mount) on the Picatinny top rail. The SPARC Solar, as the name suggests, is solar powered with a CR2032 battery backup. When ambient sunshine levels are not enough to power the sight, it will automatically switch to battery power. This tag-team effect extends battery life to up to

an impressive 150,000 hours! Settling in to the 50-yard line — the distance we like to test rifles at when magnification isn't part of the equation — we broke out the three different .44 Magnum loads we could get our hands on for testing: Black Hills nasty-little 160-grain HoneyBad-

ger, SIG's premium 240-grain Elite V-Crown JHP and Federal's 280-grain Swift A-Frame loads. In the downrange-precision department, the Black Hills, SIG and Federal loads all laid down stellar performance through the R92's launch tube, all printing a best three-shot group of under

**2**—THE FOREND AND BUTTSTOCK ARE BOTH CARVED FROM WOOD BUT ARE TREATED TO LOW-LUSTED BLACK SPATTER-TYPE PAINT FINISH FOR ALL-WEATHER PROTECTION. SLING SWIVEL STUDS ARE PRESENT BOTH FRONT AND REAR, AND A ONE-INCH, VENTILATED, BLACK-RUBBER RECOIL PAD HELPS SOAK UP THE RECOIL FROM THE MAGNUM LOADS.



2

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# Rossi R92 Triple Black .44 Magnum

**1**—We're going to go on record and say our Rossi R92 Triple Black Carbine is one of the smoothest- and quickest-cycling lever guns we've ever tested for on target. And, as a not-so-practical or even meaningful aside, the gun produces one of the most satisfying mechanical "click-click" sounds we've ever heard while running the lever.

1.30-inches, but the SIG ammunition — which, time and time again, has treated us to a high level of precision — produced the best performance of testing with its 0.62-inch group. We'd love to see what this carbine is capable of with a good, magnified, extended-eye-relief scout scope. No malfunctions were recorded and our R92 happily consumed everything it was fed.

The R92's dual

locking-block action proved extremely smooth, clean and fast to cycle, which is one of the qualities that endeared the Model 1892 design to generations of American shooters. We might even go as far to say that this is one of the

smoothest-running lever gun's we've ever tested.

See the slick little R92 Triple Black at your local firearms retailer, or for more information contact **ROSSI USA**; Tel.: (800) 948-8029; Web: [www.rossiusa.com](http://www.rossiusa.com)

2

**2**—The R92 gave us stellar performance from the 50-yard line, punching this 0.62-inch three-shot group using SIG's premium 240-grain Elite V-Crown JHP load.



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Four New-For-2021

# SUPPRESSOR-READY, LONG-RANGE

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ON TARGET STAFF



BEN BATTLES

SIG SAUER  
CROSS

MOSSBERG PATRIOT  
LONG RANGE HUNTER

SAVAGE  
IMPULSE PREDATOR

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY  
2020 WAYPOINT



# SAVAGE IMPULSE PREDATOR

FINALLY. AN AFFORDABLE STRAIGHT-PULL

**S**AVAGE ARMS HAS NOT BEEN shy about betting on new rifle technology in recent years, and now the company is rolling the dice on something most American shooters have never embraced – a straight-pull bolt action rifle.

Straight-pull rifles have long been popular in Europe, but those guns typically cost far more than most American hunters are willing

to pay. Now they don't have to thanks to the Savage Impulse, the first made-in-America straight-pull bolt action rifle.

I recently tested the Savage Impulse Predator model chambered in 6.5 Creedmoor (it's also available in 22-250 Rem., 243 Win and 308 Win.) and came away impressed with the accuracy

and operation of this gun. It is, in a word, fast – and that's a good thing when you have multiple predators inbound on the run.

The Savage design employs a HexLock bolt that uses six stainless steel ball bearings and a detent in the receiver to lock up. Push the bolt forward to close the action and the bolt handle rotates forward, engaging a mechanism that expands the ring of

bearings and locks the action. Pulling the trigger unlocks the bolt, as does a button on the rear of the bolt. When you pull the bolt back, the handle rotates back to its rearward position as a case is extracted. The bolt cycles smoothly, but you need to draw it back with just a little authority to fully eject cases. Once you get used to it, you can run the gun with blazing speed compared to traditional bolt action rifles.

The rifle can be highly customized to fit your individual

needs. Its ambidextrous design allows you to easily swap the bolt handle from side to side, and you can even adjust the angle of the bolt handle. The AccuFit stock, which sports a Mossy Oak Terra Gila camo finish and a substantial recoil pad, comes with spacers and risers that let you adjust length of pull and comb height.

Much of the rifle's 8.7-pound weight is attributable to a beefy, medium-contour 20-inch carbon-steel barrel that's mated to an aluminum receiver and threaded to accept brakes or suppressors.

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LONG-RANGE  
HUNTING RIFLES

The action is bedded to the stock via the Savage AccuStock system, which uses an aluminum rail to engage the action three-dimensionally along its entire length.

One thing you won't lack with the Impulse Predator is firepower. It's equipped with a detachable 10-round AICS magazine with an ambidextrous release. The spring-loaded, hinged magazine release positioned at the front of the trigger guard takes a bit of pressure



MIKE DICKERSON

**1**— WE MOUNTED LEUPOLD'S NEW MARK 3HD 4-12x40 SCOPE TO THE RIFLE'S 20-MOA RAIL, WHICH IS MACHINED DIRECTLY INTO THE TOP OF THE ALUMINUM RECEIVER.

**2**— THE IMPULSE IS COMPATIBLE WITH ANY AICS MAGAZINE AND SHIPS WITH ONE STEEL 10-ROUND ACCURATE MAG. AN AMBIDEXTROUS PADDLE-STYLE MAGAZINE RELEASE IS POSITIONED AT THE FRONT OF THE TRIGGERGUARD. SAVAGE'S EXCELLENT, ADJUSTABLE ACCUTRIGGER CAN BE FOUND ON THE ENTIRE IMPULSE LINE OF RIFLES.







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 LONG-RANGE**  
 HUNTING RIFLES

**1**—THE SAVAGE ACCU-STOCK IS COATED IN A MOSSY OAK TERRA GILA CAMO ON THE PREDATOR MODEL AND IS FULLY ADJUSTABLE FOR COMB HEIGHT AND LENGTH OF PULL VIA THE INCLUDED ACCUFIT INSERTS.

**2**—THE IMPULSE PREDATOR MODEL IS FITTED WITH A MEDIUM-CONTOUR, 20-INCH CARBON STEEL BARREL WITH A THREADED MUZZLE TO ACCEPT A BRAKE OR SUPPRESSOR. SILENT LEGION'S 6.5-SPECIFIC SUPPRESSOR IS SHOWN HERE.

to operate, making it unlikely that a magazine could be accidentally dropped from the receiver.

The rifle is equipped with the much-copied, clean-breaking Savage AccuTrigger, which is user-adjustable down to a pull weight of about 3 lbs. Our test gun arrived

from the factory with a trigger pull weight of 3 lbs., 6 oz.

Savage rifles have long had a reputation for shooting accurately out of the box, so I was keen to see how the Predator performed at the range. With a Leupold Mark 3HD 4-12x40 scope mounted to

the one-piece, 20-MOA rail machined into the top of the receiver, I put the gun through its paces with 6.5 Creedmoor ammo from Black Hills, Hornady and Winchester in a variety of bullet weights.

The rifle did not disappoint. Three of four tested loads produced sub-MOA average 100-yard groups of 0.69, 0.83 and 0.88 inches, and the gun delivered best



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SUPPRESSOR-READY,  
LONG-RANGE  
HUNTING RIFLES

groups measuring less than half an inch with Hornady's Precision Hunter 143 gr. ELD-X load and Winchester's 140 gr. BTHP match ammo. The worst-performing load, with a lighter, 95 gr. varmint bullet, still turned in average groups measuring just 1.16 inches, which

will definitely get the job done. Measured bullet velocities were, on average, 190 fps slower than factory-stated numbers, but that's to be expected with the gun's relatively short 20-inch barrel.

The concept of using a straight-pull ball bearing "roller locked"

1—THE SAVAGE IMPULSE PREDATOR RIFLE PROVED TO BE CONSISTENTLY ACCURATE IN TESTING. THESE NEARLY IDENTICAL 100-YARD GROUPS WERE FIRED BY THE AUTHOR WITH TWO DIFFERENT LOADS.

2—STRAIGHT-PULL BOLT-ACTION RIFLES HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN PRICED BEYOND THE MEANS OF THE AVERAGE HUNTER. NO LONGER IS THAT THE CASE THANKS TO THE NEW SAVAGE IMPULSE. ELIMINATING TWO MOVEMENTS FROM THE TYPICAL THROW OF A BOLT-ACTION RIFLE MEANS THAT ONE COULD CYCLE AND FIRE THE IMPULSE NEARLY AS FAST AS THEY COULD A SEMIAUTOMATIC. ADDITIONALLY, THE BOLT CAN BE SWAPPED FROM THE RIGHT TO THE LEFT-HAND SIDE.

system isn't new, having been proven in use by some European gun makers. What is new is the affordability of a straight-pull system in this American-made rifle, which is priced far below European straight-pull guns with a MSRP of \$1,379. See the new Savage Impulse line at your dealer, or for more information contact SAVAGE ARMS; Tel.: (800) 370-0708; Web: [WWW.SAVAGEARMS.COM](http://WWW.SAVAGEARMS.COM)

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# SIG SAUER CROSS

## THE AR-15-ish BOLT ACTION

**S**IG HAS DONE AN ADMIRABLE JOB AT pulling major talent out of the firearms industry and bringing it all under one roof. It then consolidates this talent into all-star teams, mostly made up of engineers, product managers and segment experts, who are then assigned (or let loose) to tackle specific projects. The rifle you see here, like many other SIG initiatives, is a product of this winning strategy.

Meet SIG's new-for-2020 bolt-action rifle, appropriately named the Cross—short for crossover. This general purpose, do-it-all rifle bridges the gap between lightweight hunting and long-range precision chassis rifles, and is fully capable of undertaking any task in-between. Tipping the scales at just 6.5 pounds, and folding to a length of just 25 inches, this sub-half-MOA capable rifle provides a package unmatched in today's market—especially at an MSRP of \$1649.99 to \$1,879.99, depending on finish.

The Cross is initially being made available in three calibers: 6.5 Creedmoor, .308 Win, and the all-new .277 SIG Fury. The latter is based on a U.S. Army requirement for a new 6.8mm cartridge. The .277 SIG Fury is the commercialized version of that round, and opens the doors to both civilian precision shooting and hunting markets; each segment

will reap the advantages of the research and development that were poured into the creation of the cartridge. Once ammunition comes online, you'll have a 135-grain laser beam traveling in excess of 3,000 feet per second, out of a 16-inch barrel, from a platform that weighs 6.5 pounds. It sounds a little scary, but perceived recoil is less than a .308 Win. fired from the same gun, and performance is astounding.

The .277 SIG Fury is slated for a somewhat delayed release, as ammunition production ramps up. Until then, you can get your hands on either the 16-inch .308 Win., or the 18-inch 6.5 Creedmoor, both of which have been shipping for quite some time now. Our test gun was chambered in .308 Win. and outfitted with a 16-inch, cold-hammer forged, 5R rifled barrel, finished in an attractive bead blasted grey color. The gun proved to be wicked accurate and damned handy.

If the platforms like the P320 and MCX are any indication, it should come as no surprise that the Cross was designed from the ground up to be modular and easily upgradeable. The action of the Cross is unique and not based upon anything else currently available. It most closely resembles an AR-15, which allowed SIG to greatly reduce the weight of the rifle, while at the same time

**CHRIS MUDGET**

**1**—MUCH LIKE AN AR-15 (OR A SIG MCX RATTLER IN THE CASE OF THIS PHOTO) THE CROSS WAS DESIGNED FROM THE GROUND UP TO BE MODULAR AND EASILY UPGRADEABLE. THE ACTION OF THE CROSS, ALONG WITH THE RIFLE'S ERGONOMICS, CLOSELY RESEMBLE AN AR-15. THIS ALLOWED SIG TO CUT WEIGHT OF THE RIFLE (THE CROSS WEIGHS ONLY 6.5-POUNDS) WHILE ALSO SETTING THE STAGE FOR FUTURE UPGRADES.





FOUR NEW FOR 2021  
SUPPRESSOR-READY,  
LONG-RANGE  
HUNTING RIFLES



1

paving the way for upgrades.

The bolt, as an example, floats similarly to that of an AR-15, which is a clue that more calibers are to come. The barrel, barrel nut and forward portion of the receiver also closely resemble an AR-15, as do the safety selector and pistol grip. See a pattern developing? These are all important pieces of engineering, as they greatly expand the possibilities of

the Cross, opening it up to easy barrel changes, handguard swaps and other upgrades, all of which are on the way.

The massive, three-lug bolt feeds the rifle from a center-fed, AICS-pattern magazine. A massive bladed extractor and properly placed ejector produce reliable, repeatable case extraction that tosses spent cases low enough to avoid contact with optic windage turrets. Bolt

**1**—A LONG, SLIM AND STABLE M-LOK COMPATIBLE FOREND PROVIDES NEEDED VERSATILITY WHILE HELPING TO KEEP OVERALL WEIGHT IN CHECK. THE 16-INCH, STAINLESS-STEEL .308 BARREL (18-INCH IN OTHER CALIBERS) GETS A 1:10 TWIST AND 5/8"X24 TPI THREADS FOR MOUNTING A MUZZLE BRAKE OR A SOUND SUPPRESSOR, SUCH AS THE SIG SRD762TI-QD SHOWN HERE.

**2**—WITH WAY LESS ROOM THAN NEEDED, WE'LL DO OUR BEST HERE TO TOUCH ON THE HIGH POINTS OF THE CROSS FROM THE BARREL BACK. NOTABLE FEATURES INCLUDE A FULLY-ADJUSTABLE PRECISION-STYLE FOLDING STOCK, A ONE-PIECE BLACK-ANODIZED RECEIVER FITTED WITH AN AR-STYLE AMBI SAFETY AND HANDGRIP, A 2-STAGE MATCH TRIGGER, MASSIVE 3-LUG SHORT-THROW BOLT AND AICS-PATTERN MAGAZINE. PAIRED WITH THE SIG BDX RIFlescope/RANGEFINDER OPTICS SYSTEM SHOWN HERE, ACCURATE LONG-RANGE HOLDS ARE EASILY ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE CROSS PLATFORM.



2

# NO UPGRADES NEEDED.

+ COMES WITH EVERYTHING TO HIT THE RANGE  
OR PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

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**SUPPRESSOR-READY,  
 LONG-RANGE**  
 HUNTING RIFLES



**1**—WITH NEARLY 850 ROUNDS THROUGH ON TARGET'S TEST GUN TO DATE, THE ATTRIBUTES AND VERSATILITY OF THE CROSS PLATFORM ARE OBVIOUS. ACCURATE, LIGHTWEIGHT, COMPACT AND EXTREMELY MODULAR, IT'S TOUGH TO BEAT FOR A DO-ALL BOLT GUN. BETWEEN THE WELL PLACED/SIZED BOLT HANDLE AND EXTREMELY-SHORT BOLT THROW, YOU'VE GOT A PLATFORM THAT CAN BE ACCURATELY FIRED AT A SURPRISINGLY RAPID PACE.

**2**—ON TARGET'S TEST GUN PROVED TO BE A SOLID HALF-MOA PERFORMER, WITH ITS BEST 5-SHOT GROUP RECORDED TO DATE MEASURING 0.40 INCHES WITH HORNADY'S 168-GRAIN ELD-MATCH AMMUNITION.

throw is extremely short and intuitive, and combined with a near perfectly placed, ergonomic bolt handle, you've got a platform that can be accurately fired at a surprisingly rapid pace.

To date, we've logged just shy of 850 rounds through this particular rifle. Tens of 5-shot groups have punched paper at ranges from 100 to 500 yards off the bipod, tripod and bench. Steel has been hammered from 600 to 1,000 yards, quite ef-

fortlessly. Our test Cross loaded with Hornady 168-grain ELD-Match ammunition printed a .40-inch group at 100 yards, and a .60-inch group with Black Hills' 178-grain ELD-X hunting load—three of which were in a .30-inch cluster.

The Cross has proven to be a lightweight, fully adjustable and incredibly accurate platform. The long handguard allows plenty of surface area to get stable in field-expedient shooting po-

sitions, and there's plenty of space to add a bipod or ARCA rail for use with a tripod. Once the fully adjustable stock was properly tuned, the entire package just felt right in hand. We really appreciated the skinny handguard and more vertical pistol grip, making it easy to grasp and pull in tight within the shoulder pocket and stabilize it—making long off-hand shots suddenly easy. For AR-15 shooters, this bolt gun is for you. Contact **SIG SAUER**; Tel: (603) 610-3000; Web: [WWW.SIGSAUER.COM](http://WWW.SIGSAUER.COM)



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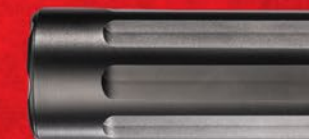
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# MOSSBERG PATRIOT LONG RANGE HUNTER

## MORE FOR YOUR MONEY

**IT'S NOT EASY BECOMING AN OLD FART.**

It takes a lifetime to accomplish, but one day you just wake up and realize you've arrived. It is with deep regret that I acknowledge the day has arrived for me.

You'll know you're there when all of a sudden nothing you took for

granted as a normal part of life when you were a kid exists any longer. The milk man, the bread delivery guy, the bakery man, TVs with antennas, gigantic American cars with white-wall tires, corded telephones and bolt-action rifles with high-polish blued metal and highly figured French walnut stocks. It's the last item, of course,

which prompted this lament, as I just received my 500th synthetic-stocked bolt-action rifle with matte black metal finish to review.

Hey, I may be an old fart, but I'm not stupid. I understand that this is what hunters want these days. Every rifle manufacturer offers them — usually in multiple lines — and they're inexpensive and easy to clean

and care for. And they're getting better, less expensive and more feature rich every day. Perfect example: the new Patriot Long Range Hunter from Mossberg.

This new member of the “plastic rifle” genre offers very innovative features most hunters care about. Being the Long-range variant of the Patriot line, it's chambered in one very popular short-action caliber (.308 Win.) and three go-fast cartridges:

.300 Win Mag., 6.5 Creedmoor (tested) and the new red-hot 6.5 PRC. All models of the Patriot Long Range Hunter are priced at \$766. Other Patriot models start at \$421, and Vortex-scoped combos start at \$570.

The Patriot Long Range Hunter lacks the adjustable-comb stock, 10-round magazine and bull barrel of its big brother, the Mossberg MVP LR Long Range, but it's lighter, comes in a wider range of calibers and has no shortage of features that

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LONG-RANGE  
HUNTING RIFLES**

hunters desire. It will also save them \$170 compared to the MVP LR.

The Patriot Long Range Hunter is fitted with a partially fluted, 22-inch barrel (.308 Win. also; 24-inch in .300 Win. Mag. and 6.5 PRC) with an 11-degree crowned muzzle threaded for a suppressor or other muzzle device. A threaded muzzle cap is provided. Barrel contour is



**BILL BATTLE'S**

**1**—THREADED FOR A SUPPRESSOR (GEMTECH'S TRACKER SHOWN) OR MUZZLE BRAKE, THE PATRIOT LONG RANGE IS FITTED WITH A 22-INCH FLUTED/MEDIUM CONTOUR BARREL IN .308 WIN AND 6.5 CREEDMOOR (TESTED), AND A 24-INCH LAUNCH TUBE IN .300 WIN. MAG. AND 6.5 PRC.

**2**—THE SPIRAL-FLUTED, TWO-LUG BOLT IS EQUIPPED WITH A SMALL CLAW EXTRACTOR, SPRING-PIN EJECTOR AND AN ENLARGED BOLT HANDLE (THANK YOU MOSSBERG FOR THAT LAST ONE). A TWO-POSITION SAFETY CAN BE FOUND ON THE RIGHT SIDE, AND MOSSBERG'S ADJUSTABLE LBA TRIGGER BENEATH. WE MOUNTED A BUSHNELL BANNER 2-6-18X50 RIFLESCOPE ON THE ON THE FACTORY-EQUIPPED PICATINNY OPTIC RAIL FOR TESTING.







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medium-sporter with a matte black, phosphate-like finish. The spiral-fluted, two-lug bolt is typical of today's rifles, with a small claw extractor, spring-pin ejector and — kudos to Mossberg on this one — an enlarged bolt handle. A small safety lever is mounted to the right of the bolt head, and permits bolt manipulation when the safety is engaged. A small bolt-release lever occupies the same

position to the left of the bolt head. A 15-slot Picatinny optics rail comes mounted atop the receiver from the factory. The trigger is Mossberg's LBA, an excellent adaptation of the Savage AccuTrigger. It's user adjustable for pull weight from 2- to 7-pounds, and exhibits zero creep, stacking, take-up or over-travel. In three words: it's damn-near perfect. The polymer detachable box maga-

**1**—THE BUTTSTOCK IS EQUIPPED WITH A MONTE CARLO COMB, 1-INCH RUBBER BUTT PAD, FLAT-BOTTOMED BENCH REST FOREARM WITH DUAL SLING SWIVELS UP FRONT AND ONE IN THE REAR, AND IS POLYMER-COATED IN SPIDER GRAY FINISH WITH LIGHT MICRO-TEXTURE FOR ENHANCED GRIP.

**2**—THE POLYMER-DETACHABLE MAGAZINE HOLDS 5-ROUNDS IN .308 WIN. AND 6.5 CREEDMOOR, 4-ROUNDS IN 6.5 PRC AND 3-ROUNDS IN .300 WIN. MAG. IT FED FLAWLESSLY DURING TESTING, AND INSERTED AND DETACHED WITHOUT DRAMA.

zine is fast and easy to insert or drop, and offers ammo capacities of 5+1 in .308 Win. and 6.5 Creedmoor, 4+1 in 6.5 PRC and 3+1 in .300 Win Mag. The matte-black finished trigger guard is made from steel.

The action is aluminum pillar bedded into the stock, which features a pronounced Monte Carlo comb, 1-inch rubber butt pad, flat-bottomed bench rest forearm with dual sling swivels for both sling- and bi-pod-mounting, single sling swivel aft and is polymer-coated in Spider Gray finish with light micro-texture for en-



## Dependable, Sub-MOA, Modular Hunting Rifles

The Brenton MHR allows you to change upper receivers in seconds to swap between calibers. Welcome to the future of the hunting rifle.

Purpose built AR platform hunting rifles for the discerning outdoorsman.



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AND STRAIGHT-WALL  
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hanced grip. Molded-in checkering is completely absent, and to be honest, wasn't really missed.

In keeping with this rifle's long-range role, we mounted a Bushnell Banner 2 6-18x50 riflescope on the Picatinny top rail. While getting the rifle dialed in at 100-yards for bench testing, we noted that the bolt was both smooth and quick, aided by the

enlarged bolt handle no doubt. We've always been able to wring out great downrange precision from the Patriot rifles we've tested over the years and the Long Range Hunter certainly didn't put a stain on this record. Using Federal's 130-grain Terminal Ascent load, we were able to drill a best-of-testing 0.64-inch three-shot group. All other ammo gave us sub-

**1**—THE LONG RANGE HUNTER EASILY HELD UP THE PATRIOT'S EXCELLENT RECORD OF DOWNRANGE PRECISION WITH ON TARGET'S PREVIOUS TEST RIFLES, PRODUCING SEVERAL GROUPS THAT WERE NIPPING AT THE HEELS OF 1/2-MOA.

**2**—THE LONG RANGE HUNTER PROVED LIGHT, QUICK-CYCLING, RELIABLE AND COMFORTABLE IN ANY SHOOTING POSITION. IF YOU'VE FOUND YOURSELF EXTENDING THE RANGES OF YOUR HUNT, IT'S TOUGH TO GO WRONG WITH THIS NEW MOSSBERG PATRIOT.

MOA performance, and the Black Hills 143-grain Hornady ELD-X load was nipping at the heels of the winner with a 0.69-inch group. Overall, a very good showing.

If saving some money while not giving up performance is your number one priority in a hunting rifle, then you're going to want to check out the new Patriot Long Range Hunter at your firearms retailer. Contact **O. F. MOSSBERG & SONS**; Tel.: (203) 230-5300; Web: [MOSSBERG.COM](http://MOSSBERG.COM)

2

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**HK**  
HECKLER & KOCH



**IT'S TIME FOR AN UPGRADE**

The best-selling HK pistol just got even better.

HK VP9 pistols now include the following upgrades.

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If you've been thinking about upgrading to an HK, now is the time.

VP pistols have easy to change backstraps on side panels for a personalized fit. 27 custom-fitted grip combinations are possible.



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# SPRINGFIELD ARMORY 2020 WAYPOINT

**SIMPLY OUTSTANDING FROM BUTTPAD TO MUZZLE**

**B**OLT RIFLES HAVE ALWAYS HAD STEADY demand. The advent of the M1A and AR altered that quite a bit, and while semi-autos remain popular, the pendulum has started to swing the last few years. Major gun manufacturers are making bolt rifles or have partnered with

someone that does. Manufacturing costs and tolerances make them stronger, more accurate, easier to produce and less costly. It was time for Springfield Armory to join that party, and

they did it with an excellent offering, the Waypoint 2020. Is it an all-new concept? Not really, but why reinvent the wheel? What this rifle offers is 100% U.S. manufacture, excellent value and quality on a known platform using the latest materials and manufacturing techniques, starting at \$1,699. And that is hard to beat!

Waypoint receivers are machined to precision tolerances from stainless steel

with an integral locking lug, pinned top rail, enlarged ejection port and low-profile side mounted bolt stop. EDM-cut raceways keep the bolt tight but also smooth, providing flawless feeding from an AICS detachable box magazine (capacity varies by cartridge). Fluted with dual locking lugs and cocking cams, it can be disassembled without tools. The bolt handle is removable and the firing pin design results in one of the fastest lock times on the market today. Barrels are either fluted stainless or a BSF carbon-fiber

wrapped barrel, each with a .75 MOA precision guarantee. *On Target's* test rifle used the carbon-wrapped, 22-inch, 1:8 twist barrel (adds \$576) chambered in 6.5 Creedmoor (.308 Win., 6mm Creedmoor and 6.5 PRC are also available). Threaded at 5/8"x24 TPI, a radial muzzle brake and thread protector are included. Triggertech's Frictionless Release Technology provides a crisp, clean and repeatable trigger break that's adjustable for pull weight from 2.5 to 5 pounds.

The stock is an AG composites carbon-fiber model with a Pachmayr

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Decelerator recoil pad installed. Each is handmade and pillar bedded, with the empty weight of the rifle being as little as 6 pounds 9 ounces. Each stock is custom painted in either Evergreen or Ridgeline camo with fixed or adjustable combs (a 3-axis adjustable comb adds \$126). There are five strategically placed QD sling swivel receptacles on the stock and M-LOK compatible slots on the bottom for a bi-pod if needed. Each rifle ships in a



**DAVE BAHDE**

**1**—THE CARBON-WRAPPED, 22-INCH, 6.5 CREEDMOOR BARREL ON OUR TEST RIFLE ADDED AN ADDITIONAL \$524 OVER ITS FLUTED STAINLESS-STEEL SIBLING, BUT ALSO SUBTRACTED AROUND A HALF-POUND OF WEIGHT. THE REMOVABLE SA RADIAL MUZZLE BRAKE CREATED A NOTICEABLE REDUCTION IN FELT RECOIL. M-LOK SLOTS UNDERNEATH AND QD SLING SWIVEL RECEPTACLES ON EITHER SIDE OF THE FOREEND ARE STANDARD.

**2**—HIGHLIGHTS OF THE STAINLESS-STEEL RECEIVER INCLUDE A RADIAL-FLUTED BOLT WITH A LARGE, REMOVABLE BOLT HANDLE, ENLARGED EJECTION PORT, INTEGRALLY-MACHINED RECOIL LUG, PRECISION EDM-CUT RACEWAYS AND A PICATINNY OPTICS RAIL FITTED WITH RECOIL PINS. FINISH ON METAL COMPONENTS IS EITHER MIL-SPEC GREEN (SHOWN) OR DESERT VERDE CERAKOTE.







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nylon case with one polymer detachable box magazine.

We equipped our test rifle with a Trijicon Credo 2.5-15 x 42mm scope mounted in a set of Farrell Industries rings. It is available with a Mil-Dot reticle or MOA (HX) mounted in the

second focal plane. The glass is clear, bright, and consistent edge to edge. Low profile, light but strong, it is an excellent all-around scope with a retail price of \$1,299. Precision machined from solid billet aluminum, Credos are true, matched, and nicely built.

**1**—THE HAND-LAID AND PILLAR-BEDDED CARBON-FIBER STOCK IS BUILT BY AG COMPOSITES. OUR TEST RIFLE WAS EQUIPPED WITH THE OPTIONAL ADJUSTABLE COMB, BUT STANDARD ON EACH ARE THE PACHMAYR DECELERATOR RECOIL PAD AND QD SLING SWIVEL RECEPTACLES ON EITHER SIDE. STOCK FINISHES INCLUDE EITHER EVERGREEN (SHOWN) OR RIDGELINE CAMO PATTERNS.

**2**—ADJUSTABLE FROM 2.5 TO 5 POUNDS, THE FACTORY TRIGGERTECH TRIGGER USES THE COMPANY'S "FRICTION RELEASE TECHNOLOGY" FOR CONSISTENT AND EXCEPTIONALLY CLEAN BREAKS. THE WAYPOINT 2020 FEEDS FROM AICS-COMPATIBLE MAGAZINES. ONE MAGPUL PMAG 5 5-ROUND POLYMER MAGAZINE IS INCLUDED.

Accuracy was excellent during testing, with our best group coming from Black Hills Gold loaded with the Hornady 143-gr. ELDX bullet, measuring just under 0.5 MOA. Nothing we tested fell outside Springfield's 0.75 MOA guarantee, and most groups were under 0.70 inches. Group testing was performed using the muzzle brake, with the addition of a Dead Air Silencers Nomad-30 suppressor.

# BUILT FOR: THE HUNT

Built. It's a simple word, but it implies that you've personalized your rifle for a specific need. Aero Precision M5 Receivers and ATLAS Handguards create a lightweight, dependable platform that's ready to handle anything your hunt can throw at it.

What are you building for?



AEROPRECISIONUSA.COM



1



**1**—SPRINGFIELD GIVES YOU A 0.75 MOA ACCURACY GUARANTEE WITH THE WAYPOINT 2020. OUR TEST RIFLE EASILY MET THAT BENCHMARK WITH SUB-HALF MOA PRECISION.

**2**—STAINLESS-STEEL RECEIVERS THAT ARE MACHINED TO PRECISION TOLERANCES, PAIRED WITH EDM-CUT RACEWAYS, WORK TO KEEP THE BOLT TIGHT BUT ALSO RUNNING VERY SMOOTH. FEEDING, EXTRACTION AND EJECTION WERE ALL FLAWLESS.

felt recoil. Suppressed, it remained easy to shoot, well balanced and plenty quiet for hunting without hearing protection.

Bolt operation is smooth and tight with zero wobble and zero binding with just the right amount of lift

Balance was excellent with or without the suppressor. There was no perceptible impact shift from barrel heating on 10 round strings at 300 yards with the BSF barrel.

The Waypoint 2020 fit nicely in my Eberlestock X1A3 pack, was comfortable to carry, and set up on my tripod quickly. Blast at the shooter is minimal using the supplied brake; it's loud, but there is a noticeable reduction in

pressure and a bolt knob that was easy to grab onto. Ejection was consistent no matter how hard we ran the bolt, and there were no issues feeding from four different AICS magazines, including a double stack Accurate-Mag. The stock is very solid, and it feels hand-made—no fantastic plastic here. Overall, the Waypoint 2020 feels very much like a custom-built precision rifle.

This rifle has many features you

expect to see on rifles at twice the price—namely the carbon stock, carbon wrapped barrel, fluted bolt, stainless steel action—all built to very tight tolerances. Accuracy is excellent and you're left feeling like you bought a \$5,000. custom precision rifle for \$2,399 (the actual cost of our test configuration). I liked the 2020 Waypoint enough to order one in 6.5PRC for myself. If you want an out-of-the-box precision rifle for hunting, duty work or just plain fun on the range, look no further than this one. See the 2020 *On Target* Editors' Choice Award winning Springfield Waypoint 2020 rifle at your dealer, or contact **SPRINGFIELD ARMORY**; Telephone: (800) 680-6866; Website: [WWW.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM](http://WWW.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM)

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ISRAEL WEAPON  
INDUSTRIES

# GALIL ACE GEN II PISTOL

The Galil ACE GEN II Pistol in either 5.56 NATO or 7.62x39 caliber is a continuation of the fan-favorite Galil ACE, created using real feedback from real customers using our gun in the field. Modeled after the legendary AK-47 and Valmet RK 62, the Galil family never stops improving. The new Galil ACE GEN II Pistol is 7lbs 5oz, with a shorter safety profile and throw, Free Float MLOK rail forearm, 30 round capacity, and an updated trigger profile. The GEN II also has a barrel length of 8.3" and an overall length of 27 5/8 with the brace collapsed.



**IWI.US**  
\*OPTIC NOT INCLUDED



NEW-FOR-2021

# Hunting Gear & Accessories

ON TARGET STAFF

BEN BATTLES

## BLACK HILLS GOLD 6.5 CM DUAL PERFORMANCE (\$65)

BLACK HILLS IS HABITUALLY AT THE FOREFRONT of ammunition development, and that's a compliment of the highest degree. While most manufacturers are still struggling to obtain components, no thanks to the manufacturing slowdown we've all experienced, Black Hills had the foresight to plan ahead when the times were good and continues to innovate as a byproduct. New for 2021 Black Hills is releasing, among other loads, a new 6.5 Creedmore cartridge under its Dual Performance line.

This 130-grain, purpose-built CNC machined monolithic copper hunting bullet reliably performs on longer shots as well, hence the name Dual Performance. Cranking along at a muzzle velocity of 2,800 feet per second and producing 2,263 foot pounds of energy at the muzzle, this projectile is designed to both expand upon impact — creating a large wound track — and penetrate deeply. For more information contact **BLACK HILLS AMMUNITION**; Tel.: (605)348-5150; Web: [WWW.BLACK-HILLS.COM](http://WWW.BLACK-HILLS.COM)

## MYSTERY RANCH RANGEFINDER HOLSTER (\$25)

WHILE THE CARGO OR THIGH POCKET OF OUR hunting pants have traditionally been the ad hoc holster for our rangefinders, the placement has been far from optimal. We're becoming more organized (slightly) as the seasons pass and our high-tech gear has certainly become more expensive. In an effort to protect these vitally important accessories, we've been searching for quality dedicated pouches that offer utility, functionality and quick deployment.

Currently, favorite means of stowing a rangefinder for the hunt is made by renowned pack manufacturer Mystery Ranch. Our staff has a collection of Mystery Ranch packs deep into the double digits at this point, as the name has become synonymous with quality, functionality and long-haul comfort. The rangefinder holster is available in foliage or coyote and is designed to attach to your pack's MOLLE webbing, shoulder pad, binocular harness or waist belt. Stretch woven side panels allow for a universal fit (5" tall x 1.5" deep x 2.5" wide) and a speedy draw, while also providing a pair of lashing points for additional security. For more information contact **MYSTERY RANCH**; Tel.: (833) 548-1999; Web: [WWW.MYSTERYRANCH.COM](http://WWW.MYSTERYRANCH.COM)

## COLD STEEL CLICK N CUT HUNTERS MODEL (\$31.99)

NO ONE LIKES A DULL BLADE, ESPECIALLY ON A HUNTING KNIFE. COLD STEEL's new Click N Cut Hunters Model features a blaze-orange ABS-plastic handle, foldable/replaceable-blade hunting knife technology, and thicker 1.5mm 420J2 stainless-steel blades for added blade- and locking-mechanism strength for those more arduous tasks. This system delivers the same easy-to-remove/easy-to-install replacement blade system as the original Click-N-Cut fixed-length knives but with the convenience and compact storage of a folding lockback knife. Replacing a blade is as simple as partially folding the blade with the lock bar depressed, removing and replacing the blade, and allowing the lock bar to secure the blade in the closed or open position. The Click-N-Cut system makes blade replacement faster and safer than other systems on the market and is strong enough to handle the toughest jobs. Cold Steel's heralded Tri-Ad locking system offers safe and secure lockup and responds well with both positive and negative pressure. The Click-N-Cut Folder comes with three 2.5-inch blades — a Bowie, gut hook and a serrated utility — all conveniently stored in an ABS-plastic belt-hook sheath.

Contact **COLD STEEL**; Tel.: (877) 269-8490; Web: [COLDSTEEL.COM](http://COLDSTEEL.COM)

## VORTEX SPARC SOLAR (\$400)

IRON SIGHTS ON YOUR HUNTING RIFLE ARE borderline archaic at this point in the game — the red-dot revolution is in full swing. If you haven't seen one in person yet, check out Vortex Optics' new SPARC Solar powered red dot. This micro red dot sight harnesses the power of the sun to greatly increase battery life; up to 150,000 hours on a single CR2032 lithium battery. That's about 17 years, seven more than the actual battery is rated for. Ten daytime illumination and two night-vision settings ensure the proper amount of brightness for any hunting condition. The SPARC features a 2 MOA dot for precision aiming, ideal for use on both a general-purpose carbine or hunting rifle/handgun, and it even comes with a height adjustable Picatinny mount, making it a turnkey solution. Contact **VORTEX OPTICS**; Tel.: (800) 4VORTEX; Web: [WWW.VORTEXOPTICS.COM](http://WWW.VORTEXOPTICS.COM)



## SME SHOT-SPOT WIFI CAMERA (\$199.99)

LOOKING TO STREAMLINE THE SIGHT-IN PROCESS of your hunting rifle? The Bullseye Spot Shot WIFI Spotting Scope Camera with Screen is a digital video camera equipped with an integrated 2.4-inch high-resolution LED viewing monitor that works with your spotting scope equipped with a 1- to 1.5-inch eyepiece. The device is a dual-function system that can operate as a stand-alone target viewing system or, when combined with the Bullseye Target Manager app, pairs with your mobile device. The tilting LCD screen can be adjusted for high- or low-angle viewing to help eliminate background glare. When using the camera in full sunlight, the blackout hood ensures a bright, high-contrast view of the LCD screen, effectively relieving eye strain that often accompanies long periods of looking through a spotting scope. An integral rechargeable lithium battery delivers 8 to 10 hours of use between charges, while a micro USB charging port and cable allow charging from mobile or stationary power sources. Contact **SHOOTING MADE EASY (SME)**; Tel.: (877) 269-8490; Web: [WWW.GSMOUTDOORS.COM](http://WWW.GSMOUTDOORS.COM)

## LEUPOLD PRO GUIDE TRIPOD KIT (\$600)

THE USE OF LIGHTWEIGHT SHOOTING AIDES HAVE been in use since someone discovered a musket could be fired more accurately in the field when its forend was stabilized with a pair of crossed sticks. Ever since that time, riflemen have been improving upon that concept as they experimented with practical methods of stabilizing their guns for longer-range precision shots. The tripod has become so lightweight, maneuverable and easy to adjust that many professional shooters (read snipers) and recreational hunters alike have begun taking them into the field with them. The pack space they take up is well worth the many benefits they provide — both as a shooting platform and for long-range spotting scope glassing.

For 2021 Leupold has released its Pro Guide Carbon Fiber Tripod that delivers incredible versatility and performance in a nice, small package, yet expands to a maximum height of 67 inches and a minimum of 6.7 inches when utilizing the three pivot locks. Its smooth ball-head action and Arca-Swiss head mount will integrate with most of your existing accessories and optics, while the four twist and lock carbon fiber leg sections are perfect for making almost any height adjustment on the fly. This tripod is so stable, we have achieved sub-3/4 MOA groups at 100 yards from a kneeling position and 1,000-yard standing shots on MOA steel. Contact **LEUPOLD**; Tel.: (800) LEUPOLD; Web: [WWW.LEUPOLD.COM](http://WWW.LEUPOLD.COM)



# HELLCAT<sup>®</sup>

## RDP<sup>™</sup>

The Hellcat<sup>®</sup>, the highest capacity micro 9mm in the world, is now offered in the Rapid Defense Package (RDP<sup>™</sup>) configuration. Paired with a HEX<sup>™</sup> Wasp<sup>™</sup> micro red dot and a Self Indexing Compensator the Hellcat RDP delivers fast target acquisition and rapid, accurate follow-up shots. Also new on the Hellcat RDP is an optional ambidextrous manual safety and the Gen 2 trigger with enhanced ergonomics.

Self Indexing Compensator

Tritium & Luminescent  
Front Sight

Hex<sup>™</sup> Wasp<sup>™</sup> Red Dot

U-Dot Rear Sight

Optional Manual Safety





## WILSON COMBAT MULTI-CALIBER MAGAZINES (\$18.95 to \$23.95)

PERFECT FOR THOSE WHO OWN DIFFERENT caliber AR's for hunting and defense, Wilson Combat has developed a multi-caliber polymer AR-pattern magazine with a unique follower and tube design that ensures flawless function with not only standard .223/5.56 NATO loads, but also the 300 Blackout and Wilson's own 300 HAM'R ammunition. Yes, Wilson Combat has actually done what many people falsely claim a standard AR magazine does, but really doesn't — and that's reliable function with all the rounds listed. Additionally, Wilson also now offers an AR-10 Multi-Caliber Magazine, reliably feeding 7.62mm NATO/.308 Win., 6.5 Creedmoor and .338 Federal. All magazines offers a durable, non-slip polymer body, anti-tilt follower, and powerful spring all equating to a magazine that will be fully functional regardless of field conditions. Contact **WILSON COMBAT**; Tel.: (800) 955-4856; Web: [WWW.WILSONCOMBAT.COM](http://WWW.WILSONCOMBAT.COM)



## BUSHNELL FUSION RANGEFINDING BINOCULARS (\$700)

IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE THE COMPLEXITY and number of items brought afield by hunters and shooters, dual use items are becoming hugely popular. Two such items that we're seeing combined on the regular are the rangefinder and binocular, hence the name Rangefinding Binoculars. This is one of those products that may have you scratching your head as to why they're aren't more popular. Your confusion would not be unfounded — the manufacturing complexities and subsequent cost have reserved this technology for those with more "flexible" budgets. But, like everything else technology driven, not only will the cost eventually come down, these products also tend to shrink in size.

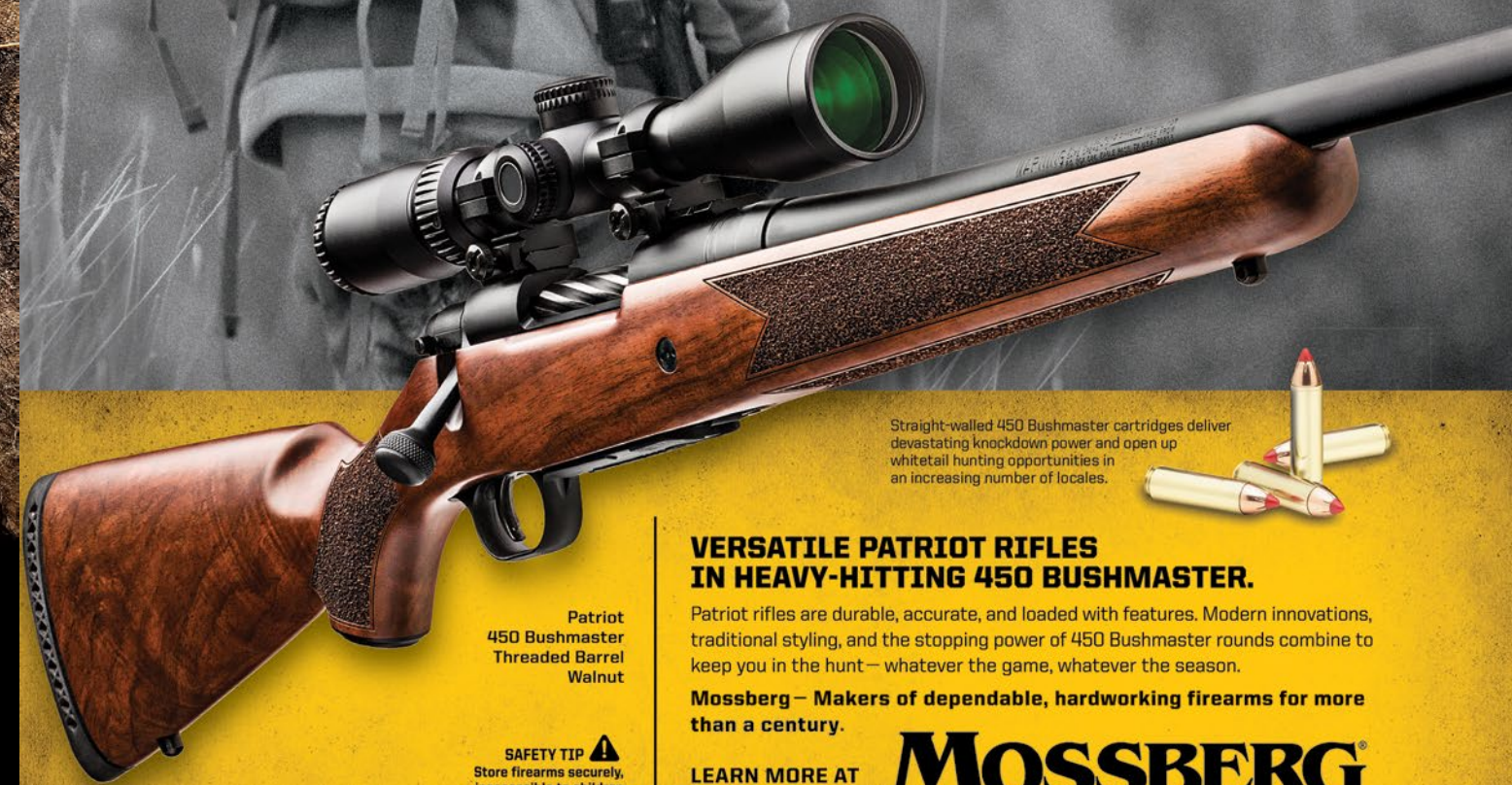
Bushnell is now combining its superb ranging accuracy and advanced optics technology to produce the Fusion X 10X42mm Ranging Binocular — a, relatively speaking, affordable marriage of rangefinder and binocular. Their HDOS, or High-Definition Optical System, provides optimum viewing clarity, while their one-of-a-kind ActivSync Display means the digital ranging readout is always crystal clear. Rangefinding capability is about one mile, and the unit's low-light performance is very good thanks to multicoated lenses and BK7 prisms. If we were to purchase just one new hunting product this year, it would be rangefinding binoculars. Contact **BUSHNELL**; Tel.: (800)423-3527; Web: [WWW.BUSHNELL.COM](http://WWW.BUSHNELL.COM)



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Straight-walled 450 Bushmaster cartridges deliver devastating knockdown power and open up whitetail hunting opportunities in an increasing number of locales.

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Store firearms securely,  
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# Federal Premium Terminal Ascent Ammunition

Match level precision with  
lethal terminal performance

## IT WAS NOW OR NEVER.

Legal shooting light would expire in just minutes as I sat watching a mature, slick-six whitetail (with no brow tines) feeding slowly toward me 100 yards away. He was a perfect candidate to remove from the gene pool. I was on a mission to harvest a management buck and a cull buck while testing Federal's new Terminal Ascent premium hunting ammo, hunting a 16,000-acre, low-fence ranch with Double T Outfitters in south Texas. Madden-ingly, the buck would never turn broadside. He offered only a quartering-on angle, which has never been one of my favorites for deer-sized game.

"Oh well," I thought, "I'm here to put this ammo to the test," and touched off a shot from my customized Remington 700 chambered in 280 Ackley Improved, sending a 155-grain bullet into the buck's vitals. He staggered at the impact, ran 30 yards and dropped.

Late the following day, the exact same scenario played out with a cull buck at 165 yards, and ended with identical results. In both cases, the bullet entered slightly behind the shoulder, penetrated more than 20 inches and exited just in front of the offside hip. For sure, there was no issue with penetration or terminal effectiveness with this bullet, and that's by design.

Terminal Ascent ammunition is uniquely designed to achieve deep penetration while expanding reliably at a broad range of velocities and distances. Terminal Ascent blends the features of top match-style bullet designs with bonding technology to deliver any-range accuracy and reliable expansion, providing high weight retention, deep penetration and lethal terminal performance. The design traces its lineage to Federal's proven Trophy Bonded Tip, which evolved from the firm's Trophy Bonded Bear Claw ammo.

The design starts with a corrosion-resistant, nickel-plated case using clean-burning propellant and a sealed primer. The bullet has a solid shank with a thick, solid-copper base which supports a lead

core that is bonded to the copper jacket. The solid shank and bonded core help the bullet achieve deep penetration with good weight retention compared to traditional cup-and-core bullets.

Reliable expansion is further ensured by the use of exterior jacket skiving and serrations that allow petals to peel back on contact, even with bullets running at modest velocities, such as a 200-grain 30-caliber bullet traveling at 1,400 fps at 1,200 yards downrange. Expansion is further aided by a hollow cavity in the bullet's nose, which is tipped with a patent-pending Slipstream Tip. The tip is unique in that it has a hollow core with a small cavity running the length of the tip almost to its point. The point breaks free upon impact, allowing fluid to enter the hollow core, generating pressure and expansion. The Slipstream tip also has high resistance to heat generated by high-velocity bullets in flight.

Delivering tough, bonded performance in a match-style hunting bullet is a tall order, but from what I've seen, Federal has succeeded admirably. Terminal Ascent bullets are boat-tail designs with a secant ogive, a small aerodynamic meplat and high ballistic coefficient, delivering flat trajectories and minimizing wind drift.

Maximizing BC was a primary objective in developing Terminal Ascent bullets to meet the growing demand for sleek, elongated bullets that perform well at long range. To do so, Federal engineers focused on relatively heavy-for-caliber bullet weight choices and optimal boat-tail angles. Longer boat-tails can result in higher BCs, but they can also reduce stability. Federal experimented with boat-tail angles and extended them as far as possible without sacrificing stability, creating bullets such as the 155-grain 280 Ackley Improved load I tested, which has a .586 G1 BC. The 130-grain 6.5 Creedmoor bullet has a .532 G1 BC.

Federal engineers also experimented with the number and placement of grooves on the bullet shank, creating what Federal calls AccuChanel

 Mike Dickerson

 Mike Dickerson, Ben Battles & courtesy of Federal Ammunition





**1**—FOR TESTING IN THE FIELD AND AT THE RANGE, THE AUTHOR USED A REMINGTON 700 AMERICAN WILDERNESS RIFLE THAT HAD BEEN ACCURIZED BY HILL COUNTRY RIFLES AND CHAMBERED IN 280 ACKLEY IMPROVED.

**2**—THE AUTHOR SHOT THIS MANAGEMENT BUCK IN SOUTH TEXAS WITH A TRICKY QUARTERING-ON SHOT WITH THE TERMINAL ASCENT 155-GRAIN 280 ACKLEY IMPROVED LOAD. THE BULLET ENTERED SLIGHTLY BEHIND THE SHOULDER AND PENETRATED MORE THAN 20 INCHES BEFORE EXITING, DEMONSTRATING EXCELLENT PENETRATION AND LETHALITY.

groove technology. Grooves improve accuracy while reducing fouling and barrel wear but, according to Federal engineers, they also result in about a five percent drop in BC per groove. The engineers found they could achieve the same benefits and accuracy with one or two strategically placed grooves versus the three grooves used in older bullet designs. They

also used computational fluid dynamic modeling to alter the grooves to reduce drag. While most grooves have 90-degree walls, AccuChannel grooves have a sloped rear wall that reduces pressure and drag on the bullet.

In testing at the range, the 155-grain 280 Ackley Improved load proved to be quite accurate. The very first group fired

from the new 24-inch Benchmark barrel of my customized rifle measured 0.70 inch. Subsequent groups, shot in more windy conditions, averaged 0.75 inches, but included one group with three bullets nestled into a single ragged hole. There are few challenges in hunting that can't be handled by ammo with this level of downrange precision — and few animals

Federal Premium  
**Terminal Ascent**  
Ammunition



**2**

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Federal Premium  
**Terminal Ascent**  
Ammunition

**1**—TERMINAL ASCENT AMMO IS AVAILABLE IN A VARIETY OF HUNTING CARTRIDGE OPTIONS, USING HEAVY-FOR-CALIBER BULLETS, RANGING FROM 6.5 CREEDMOOR TO 300 WIN. MAG., WITH SOME INTERESTING STOPS IN BETWEEN SUCH AT 280 ACKLEY IMPROVED AND 300 PRC.

in North America that can't be taken with a 280 Ackley Improved and Terminal Ascent ammo.

Velocity for that load was clocked at 2,887 fps, which is only 43 fps slower than the factory-stated velocity for that round of 2,930 fps. Mind you, that's out a new barrel that hasn't been fully broken in yet, so I would expect a slight velocity gain over time.

The new line of ammunition was initially launched in 11 cartridge options, including 6.5 Creedmoor 130-grain, 6.5 PRC 130-grain, 270 Win. 136-grain, 270 WSM 136-grain, 280 Ackley Improved 155-grain, 28 Nosler 155-grain, 7mm

Rem. Magnum 155-grain, 308 Win. 175-grain, 30-06 Spring. 175-grain, 300 Win. Mag. 200-grain, and 300 Win. Short Mag. 200-grain. Terminal Ascent bullets were also offered as components for handloaders. These include 130-grain .264, 136-grain .277, 155-grain .284, 175-grain .308, and 200-grain .308.

Added to the lineup in late 2020 were a 300 PRC 215-grain factory load and several component bullets, including a new .277 155-grain bullet, a .284 175-grain bullet and a .308 215-grain bullet. Additions to the lineup may appear by the time you read this. See Federal's Terminal

Ascent line at your nearest dealer, or for more information, contact **FEDERAL AMMUNITION**; Tel.: (800) 831-8100; Web: [FEDERALPREMIUM.COM](http://FEDERALPREMIUM.COM)



**2**—TERMINAL ASCENT IS DESIGNED TO DELIVER MATCH-STYLE BULLET PERFORMANCE WITH TOUGH, BONDED-BULLET TERMINAL PERFORMANCE WITH GOOD WEIGHT RETENTION, AND DESIGNED TO EXPAND RELIABLY WITHIN A BROAD RANGE OF VELOCITIES AT DISTANCES OUT TO 1,400 YARDS.

**3**—THE UNIQUE DESIGN OF TERMINAL ASCENT BULLETS INCLUDES A SOLID SHANK WITH A THICK, SOLID COPPER BASE SUPPORTING A LEAD CORE THAT IS BONDED TO THE COPPER JACKET, EXTERIOR JACKET SKIVING, A PATENT-PENDING, HOLLOW, HEAT-RESISTANT, NEON-BLUE SLIPSTREAM TIP, ACCUCHANNEL GROOVES AND AN OPTIMIZED BOAT-TAIL ANGLE. (FEDERAL AMMUNITION PHOTO)

**4**—THE 155-GRAIN 280 ACKLEY IMPROVED LOAD PROVED TO BE QUITE ACCURATE AT THE RANGE, PRODUCING 3/4-MOA AVERAGE GROUPS AND THIS SINGLE-RAGGED-HOLE BEST GROUP.



MODERN  
PRECISION  
RIFLE

A RIFLE  
THAT MAKES  
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SHOT  
COUNT

THE MPR IS AN ULTRA-LIGHTWEIGHT CHASSIS RIFLE DESIGNED TO BREAK WITH TRADITION YET EXCEL AT PRECISION.

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# Brenton

.450 Bushmaster

## Stalker

Carbon Hunter 18

### *The Midwestern Sledgehammer*

LIKE MANY YOUNG HUNTERS OF MY GENERATION, I too grew up carrying a hand-me-down lever action Model 94, except mine was chambered in .44 Remington Magnum. When the time was right, that rifle would snap up and onto my shoulder—my eye perfectly aligned behind the peep sight—as I took the slack out of the trigger; milliseconds later the rush of recoil was absorbed by my boney shoulder. I loved and respected that rifle; it was lightweight (at least during the first hour), hard-hitting and pretty handy—considering the alternatives for me at the time. Thanks to the seemingly never-ending dry practice sessions on my grandparent's front lawn, I was able to manipulate and accurately shoot that '94 at a subconscious level, just like precision casting a fly rod, the other skill honed on that very same stretch of lawn.

All my admiration for that old Winchester seemingly evaporated the first time I laid hands on an AR-style rifle. The platform's incredible ergonomics gave me an almost reassuring, yet comforting confidence, almost as if Stoner himself had designed the rifle with me in-mind. The



Chris Mudgett



Ben Battles



**1**—THE BRENTON'S 18-INCH BARREL — THREADED FOR A MUZZLE BRAKE OR SOUND SUPPRESSOR (SILENT LEGION'S .450 BUSHMASTER SUPPRESSOR SHOWN HERE) — IS SHROUDED BY A LIGHTWEIGHT, WEATHERPROOF, PICATINNY-RAIL-EQUIPPED REINFORCED CARBON-FIBER-COMPOSITE 15-INCH HANDGUARD.

**2**—THE .450 BUSHMASTER, COMPARED TO THE STANDARD AR-15 CHAMBERING OF 5.56x45MM NATO ON THE RIGHT, LAUNCHES A LARGE CHUNK OF LEAD WITH A RELATIVELY FLAT FLIGHT PATH OUT TO ABOUT 200 YARDS. MAGAZINES ARE DIMENSIONALLY THE SAME, ALBEIT WITH RESHAPED FOLLOWERS AND FEED LIPS. FOR STATES THAT ALLOW STRAIGHT-WALLED-ONLY CARTRIDGES FOR HUNTING, OR ANY STATE WITH THICK GROUND COVER, THE .450 BUSHMASTER IS AN OUTSTANDING OPTION.



sleekness, lightweight and superb balance—coupled with its modern looks, tack-driving accuracy and recoil-mitigating magazine-fed semi-automatic action—simply screamed

#### SPECIFICATIONS

TYPE:	DIRECT IMPINGEMENT, SEMI-AUTO.
CALIBER:	.450 BUSHMASTER
BARREL:	18 IN., 1:24 IN. TWIST
OVERALL LENGTH:	36.25 IN.
WEIGHT:	7 LBS. 2 OZ.
STOCK:	MAGPUL MOE FIXED
GRIP:	HOGUE
FINISH:	MARBLEKOTE
CAPACITY:	5 RDS.
MUZZLE DEVICE:	THREAD PROTECTOR
TRIGGER:	BRENTON BR-1
SIGHTS:	NONE
MSRP:	\$2,300

utilitarian to me. It was love at first sight. Now, what I quickly learned was that, while your standard AR chambered in 5.56 NATO may be ideal for bipeds, it isn't necessarily the optimal choice for medium to larger sized game animals. For that, a little more lead is required. Which brings me yet another reason to love the AR-pattern rifle — caliber choices! The AR-15 is really a modern marvel and can be chambered in a multitude of calibers to fit your specific needs, even in calibers that may give you pause. Those living in certain mid-western states have a unique requirement for a straight-walled cartridge of specific dimensions, if they want to hunt deer with a centerfire rifle. In 2014, Michi-

gan's Natural Resources Commission approved a regulation to allow the use of rifles capable of using .35-caliber or larger ammunition with straight-walled cartridges that have a minimum case length of 1.16-inches and a maximum case length of 1.8-inches to harvest deer in limited firearms zones. These dimensions were instituted to reduce the likelihood of a bullet traveling far enough beyond an intended target to pose much of a threat. The law started in Michigan but spread to neighboring state Ohio and then on to Pennsylvania and Indiana. When it comes to straight-walled cartridges compatible with the AR-15, pickings are slim. But the motivation for modern hunters to find a suitable alternative to a shotgun firing slugs was high, to say the least. One such load is the .450 Bushmaster, a concept originally dreamed of by none other than

**2**



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50,000-HR. BATTERY LIFE.**

**BUILT LIKE YOUR  
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#### THE RXS-250 REFLEX SIGHT.

Waterproof, dustproof and just about bombproof, it's engineered to get on target in any situation. The aircraft-grade aluminum housing is torture tested and proven to hold zero through extreme abuse, like a drop onto concrete mounted to a standard-sized, fully loaded pistol. The night-vision-compatible and daylight bright 4-MOA dot cuts through every lighting condition, with a true-tone multi-coated lens that boasts over 90% light transmission without blue and purple hues that can hinder low light target acquisition. Compatible with DeltaPoint slide-cuts, optics-ready plates, and the included Weaver-style rail mount to fit nearly any small-arms platform. The RXS-250 is ready for anything.



**BRIGHT 4-MOA DOT** with a crisp Point Source LED system featuring 10 brightness settings and a 12 hour user-selectable timer.

PURPOSE-BUILT.

BUSHNELL.COM/RXS





1

the late Col. Jeff Cooper, and made a reality by Tim LeGendre, and eventually modified by Hornady Manufacturing. Cooper had envisioned a large bore cartridge in a semi-auto rifle capable of one-shot kills on large game animals out to about 250 yards. LeGendre developed what was coined the 45 Professional cartridge, and later delivered a functional AR-

15 to Cooper in said chambering.

Hornady got involved, and after some modification to case diameter and overall length, they were able to top the cartridge with their 250-grain SST Flex-Tip bullet, and thanks to a new OAL of 1.700-inches, it could be shoe-horned into a slightly modified AR magazine with a single-stack follower, albeit at a significantly reduced capacity. In my mind, a modern

.44 Remington Magnum was born with a relatively flat trajectory out to about 200 yards, delivering a 250-grain chunk of high-performance lead on target at eye-popping levels of foot pounds of energy, all out of my preferred magazine-fed, semiautomatic platform.

It should be of little surprise that the Stalker Carbon Hunter 18 chambered in .450 Bushmaster gracing these pages was born in the town of Lansing, an area of the State of Michigan keen on taking full ad-

1—THE BOLT-CARRIER GROUP IS FINISHED IN A NiB (NICKEL BORON) UCT EXO COATING FOR A DRAMATIC REDUCTION IN FRICTION AND A MEASURABLE INCREASE IN RELIABILITY. ALL BRENTON RIFLES ARE EQUIPPED WITH THE COMPANY'S OWN BT1 SINGLE-STAGE, ADJUSTABLE AND DROP-IN TRIGGER ASSEMBLY.

2—BRENTON DECIDED TO USE THE MAGPUL FIXED MOE RIFLE STOCK ON ALL OF ITS RIFLES DUE TO THE EXCELLENT CHEEK-WELD, MASSIVE INTERNAL STORAGE COMPARTMENT AND MULTIPLE SLING MOUNTING POINTS. OUR TEST RIFLE WAS FINISHED IN AN ATTRACTIVE MARBLEKOTE HARVEST CAMOUFLAGE PATTERN, BUT "FOLIAGE," "MIDNIGHT" AND "SNOW" PATTERNS ARE ALSO OPTIONS.



2

Brenton  
450 Bushmaster  
Stalker  
Carbon Hunter 18

# STAND OUT FROM THE REST



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**SEEKINS PRECISION**  
UNRIVALED INNOVATION

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Brenton  
BUSHMASTER  
Stalker  
Carbon Hunter 18



# FORGE YOUR OWN PATH

1

vantage of the NRC's reform. After this change, Bartt Brenton, found himself in a frustrating position. As a fellow lover of the AR-pattern rifle, Brenton quickly discovered his choices of straight walled cartridges were not overly broad in his preferred platform, especially in a factory configured rifle. Instead of accepting this, he saw an opportunity to not only solve the problem for himself, but for an entire region of hunters spanning multiple states. Brenton USA was born.

As a career engineer, Bartt Brenton spent his career working at the world's largest superconducting cyclotron laboratory located at Michigan State University. As a lifelong hunter, Brenton's many years afield — combined with his scientific experiences and exposure to technologically advanced science and materials — gave him an advantage over others within the space.

Combining the two, Brenton be-

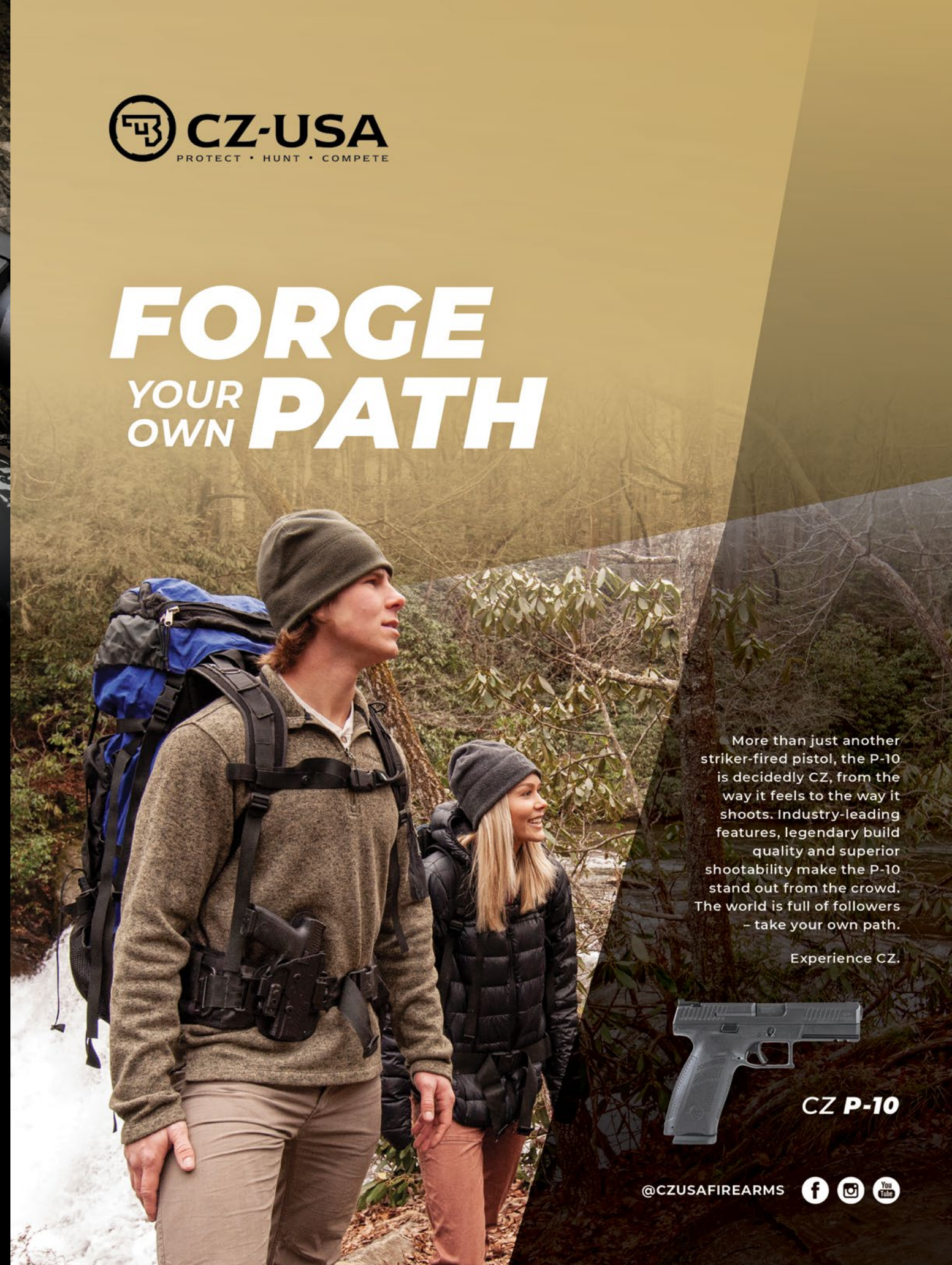
gan building rifles for the serious AR hunter, with an objective of providing a hunting-specific platform that took full advantage of all the benefits the AR brings to the table, but in a premium yet no-nonsense form factor. With an *everything you need, nothing you don't* mindset, Brenton's rifles quickly gained notoriety among Midwestern hunting circles

1—"HUNTSize" CONTROLS ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE RECEIVERS — ENLARGED TO HELP WITH MANIPULATION WHILE WEARING GLOVES — INCLUDE THE REAR TAKEDOWN PIN AND SERRATED MAGAZINE RELEASE. THE HOGUE OVERMOLDED-RUBBER GRIP REMAINS TACKY AND COMFORTABLE IN ALL WEATHER CONDITIONS AND IS AN EXCELLENT CHOICE FOR A HUNTING-SPECIFIC AR.

2—ENLARGED CONTROLS ON THE LEFT SIDE INCLUDE THE SAFETY SELECTOR AND BOLT RELEASE/HOLD OPEN, AS WELL AS A GLOVE-FRIENDLY, ENLARGED TRIGGERGUARD OPENING. WE USED THE VERY SOLID COMBO OF A NEW-FOR-2021 LEUPOLD MARK 3HD 1.5-4X20 RIFlescope AND SEEKINS PRECISION MXM 30MM MOUNT THROUGHOUT TESTING. THE FACTORY MAGAZINE FEATURES A .450 BUSHMASTER-SPECIFIC FOLLOWER AND FEED LIPS AND HOLDS A TOTAL OF FIVE ROUNDS.



2



More than just another striker-fired pistol, the P-10 is decidedly CZ, from the way it feels to the way it shoots. Industry-leading features, legendary build quality and superior shootability make the P-10 stand out from the crowd. The world is full of followers — take your own path.

Experience CZ.



CZ P-10

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1

who shared his passion and desire for a slicked-up, big-bore sledgehammer of an AR in .450 Bushmaster.

The bolt-carrier group is finished in a NiB (nickel boron) UCT EXO coating. The EXO NiB coating is high in hardness, yet lower in friction than either chrome or nickel Teflon. A high-phosphorous electroless nickel base coating ensures excellent corrosion resistance not found in other nickel-boron finishes that utilize a single, thinner layer; all equating to unquestionable reliability.

The 18-inch barrel is conveniently threaded to accept your choice of muzzle device or sound suppressor, with our preference being the latter — especially when paired with subsonic 450 Bushmaster in the near 400-grain range. The barrel is encased by a 15-inch free-floating handguard constructed of reinforced carbon-fiber composite for toughness, weather resistance and for its

extreme lightweight that really balances the rifle nicely. The handguard has a pair of Picatinny rail sections at either end and positioned at 6 o'clock for mounting the rifle on a tripod or utilizing a bipod.

A fixed Magpul MOE stock was chosen for its extremely consistent cheek-weld and massive internal storage capacity. The MOE stock features multiple QD sockets for attaching the rear point of a sling, however, the only choice for a front attachment is a QD cup located at the rear of the front most Picatinny rail section at 6 o'clock. All controls, including the bolt release/hold open, magazine release, charging handle, rear takedown pin have been extended and the triggerguard has been enlarged — all in an effort to increase the platform's usability with gloved hands in the cold winter months the

Midwest is known for.

The trigger is Brenton's own Performance Grade Trigger, which is a single-stage drop-in cassette style trigger. The pull weight is user adjustable from 3.5 to 6.5 pounds and the trigger shoe provides a nice contour that is not only functional but atheistically pleasing. Brenton states each trigger is hand-tuned and test-fired (at their test bench) for optimal performance by one of their expert trigger technicians as the final quality check before it's ready for delivery. Our trigger measured 3 pounds 13 ounces using a Lyman Digital Trigger Pull Gauge. Finally, our Stalker was attractively finished in a Marblekote Harvest camouflage pattern that will no doubt blend into most late season terrain. Three other

patterns are also available.

Accuracy, Accuracy, Accuracy. Chambered in .450 Bushmaster, the Stalker Carbon Hunter is fully capable of ethically taking virtually any big-game critter in North America. Not only is the Stalker Carbon Hunter in .450 Bushmaster a lead-launching sledgehammer, it does so with scalpel-like precision. At 50 yards, the rifle clover-leafed three rounds of 300-grain Federal Power-Shok — the only ammunition available to us during testing. Moving out to 100 yards the rifle pounded out a three-shot group measuring just 0.58-inches. As long as the distance to target remained

reasonable, I would absolutely take this rifle/cartridge combination in pursuit of any game in North America, with absolute confidence.

For many years, the uncasing of a magazine-fed AR-style semiautomatic rifle would draw instant sneers, regardless of its chambering, regardless of its color. The mere sight was an instant turnoff for a majority hunters whose paths we'd cross afield. Thankfully those times have changed, and while I can't speak for the hunting community as a whole, within the regions that I've been hunting these last few

1—WHILE THE RECOIL ENERGY CERTAINLY REMINDS YOU THAT YOU JUST PULLED THE TRIGGER ON A BIG-BORE AR, SHOOTING THE BRENTON WAS A LOAD OF FUN ... ESPECIALLY WHEN REACTIVE STEEL-PLATE TARGETS ARE INVOLVED. WE TESTED THE CARBON STALKER 18 BOTH SUPPRESSED AND UNSUPPRESSED AND NEITHER CONDITION GAVE US A SINGLE MALFUNCTION.

2—SINCE ITS INCEPTION, WE'VE COME TO LEARN THAT THE .450 BUSHMASTER IS AN INHERENTLY ACCURATE CARTRIDGE, AND IF WE'RE NOT PRINTING SUB-MOA GROUPS, IT'S ALMOST GUARANTEED TO BE EITHER THE GUN, THE OPTIC OR US, AND NOT THE AMMO. CASE IN POINT: THE BRENTON'S 0.58-INCH 100-YARD, THREE-SHOT GROUP USING FEDERAL'S 300-GRAIN POWER-SHOK SHOWN HERE. THIS RIFLE IS WORTH THE PRICE OF ADMISSION. PERIOD.



2

years, America's rifle has finally gained acceptance by even the most traditional traditionalists among us. For those who can appreciate fine craftsmanship and thoughtful design—all in a practical, hard-hitting, straight-walled package—will have a tough time doing better than Brenton's Stalker Carbon Hunter, especially when chambered in .450 Bushmaster. See this rifle at your nearest dealer, or for more information contact **BRENTON USA**; Tel.: (517) 281-2571; Web: [WWW.BRENTONUSA.COM](http://WWW.BRENTONUSA.COM)



# MOSSBERG

## SILVER RESERVE

# EVENTIDE

### OVER/UNDER SHOTGUN

## THE ALL-TERRAIN OVER/UNDER

**M**OSSBERG HAS SERIOUSLY UP-graded its Silver Reserve and Gold Reserve shotgun lines for 2021. Eleven all-new models in all four gauges now comprise the two lines, and are priced from \$636 to \$1,221. While still made in Turkey, these

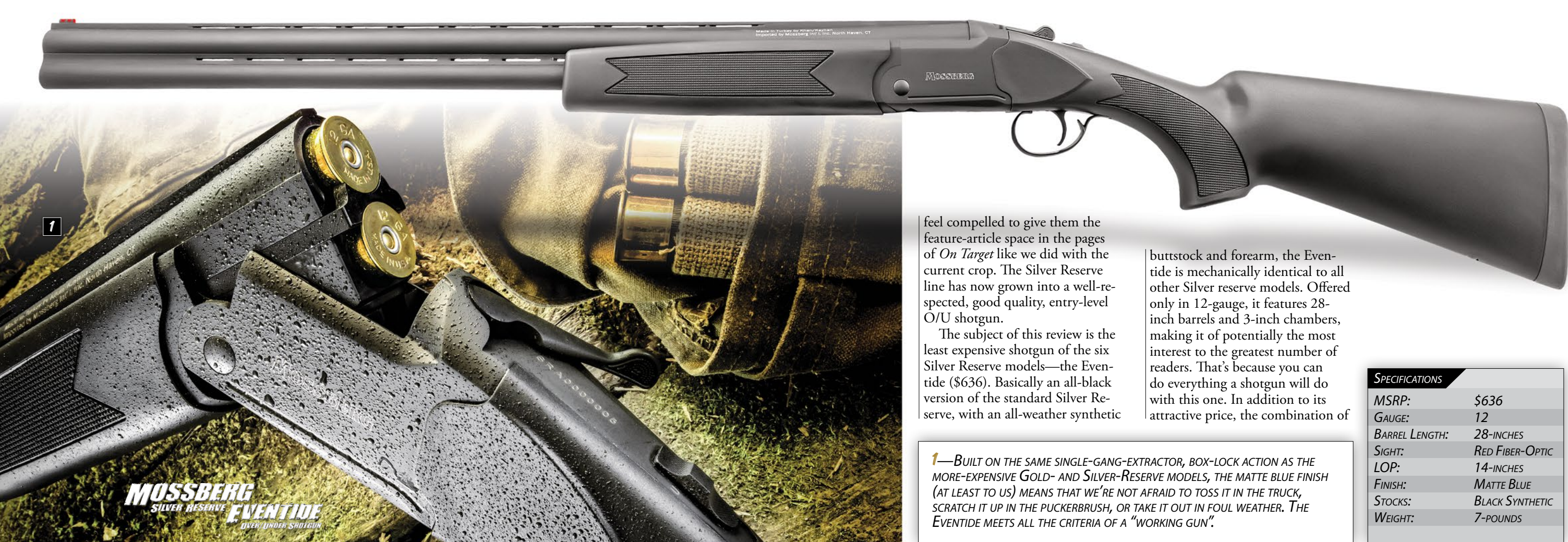
definitely are NOT the Mossberg Reserve O/U shotguns of yesteryear. That's not to say that the previous generation of shotguns were terrible,

but these are certainly an upgrade. The first Silver Reserve guns to come out were a bit rough around the edges, and truth be told, we didn't

 **BILL BATTLES**

 **BEN BATTLES**





**1**—BUILT ON THE SAME SINGLE-GANG-EXTRACTOR, BOX-LOCK ACTION AS THE MORE-EXPENSIVE GOLD- AND SILVER-RESERVE MODELS, THE MATTE BLUE FINISH (AT LEAST TO US) MEANS THAT WE'RE NOT AFRAID TO TOSS IT IN THE TRUCK, SCRATCH IT UP IN THE PUCKERBRUSH, OR TAKE IT OUT IN FOUL WEATHER. THE EVENTIDE MEETS ALL THE CRITERIA OF A "WORKING GUN".

feel compelled to give them the feature-article space in the pages of *On Target* like we did with the current crop. The Silver Reserve line has now grown into a well-respected, good quality, entry-level O/U shotgun.

The subject of this review is the least expensive shotgun of the six Silver Reserve models—the Eventide (\$636). Basically an all-black version of the standard Silver Reserve, with an all-weather synthetic

buttstock and forearm, the Eventide is mechanically identical to all other Silver reserve models. Offered only in 12-gauge, it features 28-inch barrels and 3-inch chambers, making it of potentially the most interest to the greatest number of readers. That's because you can do everything a shotgun will do with this one. In addition to its attractive price, the combination of

SPECIFICATIONS	
MSRP:	\$636
GAUGE:	12
BARREL LENGTH:	28-INCHES
SIGHT:	RED FIBER-OPTIC
LOP:	14-INCHES
FINISH:	MATTE BLUE
STOCKS:	BLACK SYNTHETIC
WEIGHT:	7-POUNDS



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## MOSSBERG SILVER RESERVE EVENTIDE OVER/UNDER SHOTGUN

all-weather durability, shoot-anything 28-inch barrels and 3-inch chambers for magnum loads let you hunt deer, waterfowl, turkeys, upland birds, varmints and other small game; protect your family and your home; and shoot trap, skeet, 5-stand and sporting clays. If I've left out anything a shotgun can do, be assured that the Mossberg Silver Reserve Eventide will get the job done. Not surprisingly, the Eventide is

designed with a box-lock action—as opposed to a side-lock, which is becoming increasingly rare and ungodly expensive. Lock-up was rock solid, even with the forearm removed. It features a single selective trigger, with the barrel selector being internally integrated into the sliding safety selector mounted at the aft end of the abbreviated top tang, directly behind the locking lever. Our sample gun had never been fired except for proofing, so everything was quite tight. That

was most obvious with the locking lever, which took a LOT of force to push to the right to open—and it was a long push before the muzzles finally dropped. The safety/barrel selector was better, but still was no piece of cake to operate. Mercifully, however, the safety does not automatically reset to on-safe every time the action is opened (the bane of clay target shooters). The trigger exhibited a long take-up, roughly 3/8ths of an inch, to a really hard wall, with just a hint of stacking before the

**1**—If you're prone to abusing your guns in the field, and don't want to be burdened with the responsibility of keeping fancy, high-gloss wood looking its best, then synthetic is the furniture for you.

**2**—“Shoot anything” 28-inch barrels and 3-inch chambers for magnum loads make the Eventide a very versatile shotgun. The gun comes with five choke tubes ranging from Full to Improved Cylinder and a choke tube wrench in a plastic case. The red fiber-optic sight worked well in all lighting conditions.



# THE CHOSEN ONES

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[sigsauer.com](http://sigsauer.com)

**SIGSAUER**  
NEVER SETTLE





**1**—If you're the type of hunter or clay shooting who doesn't haphazardly throw guns into the back of their truck, you might want to consider one of Mossberg's premium shotguns, like the beyond-its-sticker-price looking Gold Reserve Black Label shown here. With all the right features for clay shooters, and with wood figure like this, its \$983 sticker price might be the O/U bargain of the century.

break, which occurred at a consistently heavy 6.5 lbs. with either barrel. I'd call it an acceptable field trigger, but an awkward trigger for clay target shooting. The pull will undoubtedly get better with use.

The barrels are fitted with flush choke tubes, and accordingly flare out at the muzzles to provide space for the screw-in tubes. The gun comes with five choke tubes—in constrictions ranging from Full to Improved Cylinder—and includes a plastic case, choke tube wrench and a couple of Allen wrenches. The barrels feature ventilated mid and top ribs, with a red fiber-optic

front sight mounted up front. The 3-inch chambers are equipped with a single gang extractor—good news for clay target shooters, less so for hunters who prefer empties to be ejected.

The buttstock and forearm are made from matte black polymer with pointy molded-in checkering that provides a good grip. The butt is fitted with a not-too-cushy rubber pad; this would probably be our one recommended upgrade for Eventide owners.

Shooting the Silver Reserve Eventide produced no unusual results. The gun balanced and swung well, and if we were doing our part, hit all of the

clays that were launched downrange. With 175 rounds through the Mossberg as of writing this — both in good and bad weather — the gun has done everything we've asked of it without hiccup, which is exactly what the end user of a shotgun like the Eventide is going to expect.

Overall, for the money, you'd be hard pressed to find a better quality, more versatile O/U shotgun for hunting or clay target shooting. See the Silver Reserve Eventide at your gun shop, or for more information contact **O. F. MOSSBERG & SONS**, Tel.: (203) 230-5300; Web: [www.mossberg.com](http://www.mossberg.com)

**MOSSBERG**  
SILVER RESERVE **EVENTIDE**  
OVER/UNDER SHOTGUN



**2**—BALANCING WELL, POINTING WELL, AND WITH GOOD ERGONOMICS AND FIRING/SUPPORT HAND TRACTION, THE EVENTIDE IS A GREAT SHOOTER AND WENT BANG EVERY TIME WE PULLED THE TRIGGER. THE OVERLY-HARD BUTTPAD COULD STAND TO BE IMPROVED UPON, BUT THAT'S LITERALLY OUR ONLY GRIPE ... YOU'D BE HARD PRESSED TO FIND A BETTER ALL-WEATHER O/U FOR THE MONEY.



A17  
TARGET THUMBHOLE



MARK II  
MINIMALIST BROWN



B17 FV-SR  
OVERWATCH



A22  
PRO VARMINT



A22  
PRECISION



RASCAL  
MINIMALIST TEAL/GREY



RASCAL  
MINIMALIST PINK/PURPLE

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**THE PRIZE PACKAGE IN THIS ISSUE'S**  
Gun Giveaway Contest  
includes a Christensen Arms  
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rifle in .308 Win. and a Riton 3  
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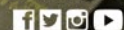
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# 2021 CATALOG

HANDGUNS, RIFLES, AND ACCESSORIES

**TORO**  
TAURUS OPTIC READY OPTION

 **TAURUS™**

slide  
**OPTIC-READY**

four interchangeable  
**RED DOT MOUNTING PLATES**

upgraded  
**GEN 3 TRIGGER SYSTEM**

caliber  
**9MM LUGER**

## ADVANCED OPTICS. VISIONARY DESIGN.

Introducing the all-new TORO (Taurus Optic Ready Option) platform. Available for the first time ever on the full-size Taurus® G3 and the compact Taurus® G3c. Four interchangeable red dot mounting plates give you the ability to outfit your optic-ready Taurus® G3 or G3c with a variety of popular brands—quickly and easily. The exclusive TORO platform is seamlessly integrated into the slide of both pistols, enabling faster target acquisition and follow-up shots no matter your application or budget. Add in our Limited Lifetime Warranty and industry leading customer service for quality standards that you can depend on.

Holosun® and Trijicon®  
red dot sights not included.

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# AR PISTOLS

The Wilson Combat® ARP (AR Pistol) Tactical pistol is an outstanding choice for home or vehicle defense and exhibits the accuracy and attention to detail for which our tactical rifles are known. Optics shown below are sold separately.



5.56/.223



300 HAM'R®



300 BLK



300 BLACKOUT

AR9 PISTOL  
GLOCK®, Beretta®, and X9  
magazine compatability.

Custom Configurations Shown  
-Dozens of options available

# RIFLES

We offer the widest selection of rifle calibers to suit your needs. From precision shooting to hunting, Wilson Combat® has an AR rifle for you. We build a wide array of high-quality AR parts and accessories from barrels, receivers, handguards, trigger units and more. By controlling the design and manufacture of these products we can build a more consistent, reliable product for you.

## AR-15

- .204 Ruger
- .223 & 5.56 NATO
- .223 Wylde
- .22 Nosler
- 224 Valkyrie
- 6mm ARC
- 6.5 Grendel
- 6.8 SPC
- 300 HAM'R®
- 300 Blackout
- 7.62 x 40 WT
- 350 Legend
- .375 SOCOM
- .458 SOCOM
- .450 Bushmaster

## AR-10

- .243 Winchester
- .260 Remington
- .308 Winchester
- .338 Federal
- .358 Winchester
- 6mm Creedmoor
- 6.5 Creedmoor
- 7mm-08 Remington

## OTHER

- .458 HAM'R®
- .9mm



PROTECTOR ELITE  
CARBINE  
[ 300 HAM'R ]

SUPER SNIPER  
[ .308 WINCHESTER ]



# PROTECTOR SERIES

Available for both AR Carbines and AR Pistols, the protector series from Wilson Combat® is a new, more affordable line of rifles with the same great attention to detail and accuracy as our standard line. Optics shown below are sold separately.

Wilson Combat®  
Match Grade Barrel

Mil-Spec Forged  
Upper and Lower

2-Stage Tactical  
Trigger Unit

Black Nitride, Mil-Spec  
Bolt Carrier Group

Available In 5.56 NATO,  
300 BLK or 300 HAM'R®  
Right or Left Hand

# WCP320

[ full-size & carry ]  
9MM

Wilson Combat SIG P320 grip module

Wilson Combat X-TAC pattern

SIG SAUER flat-faced XFULL trigger



# WCP320

Wilson Combat and SIG SAUER are pleased to announce the availability of a Wilson Combat enhanced P320 9mm semi-automatic pistol collaboration, the WCP320.



**WCP320**  
[ carry ]  
9MM

The Wilson Combat Optimized WCP320 Carry will become a favorite of those who want a smaller than full-size striker-fired handgun that is perfect for defensive use and concealed carry.



**WCP320**  
[ full-size ]  
9MM

Wilson Combat gunsmiths and engineers have completely reworked a SIG SAUER P320 chassis and unfinished SIG manufactured slide into our ideal version of a high performance, perfected striker-fired pistol.



# 1911 HANDGUNS

We have over 40 years experience as champion competitors, gunsmiths, parts manufacturers and industry-leading experts on the use and application of the 1911 handgun. All 1911 handguns are 100% BulletProof®

construction—with all parts CNC precision-machined from bar stock or forgings — a Wilson Combat® industry first. Unlike our competitors, our custom pistols are always evolving to take advantage of the latest advancements in firearm technology and design.

## EXPERIOR Series

The Wilson Combat EXPERIOR series handguns are a unique blend of classic 1911 design with modern reliability and ergonomic enhancements that optimize overall handling and shooting performance.



**Available Calibers:** .45 ACP | 9mm  
**Available Models:** 6" Longslide, Full-Size, Commander, Professional, Commander Compact, Compact, and Sub-Compact.



**DOUBLE STACK EXPERIOR**  
[ commander ]  
9MM

9mm Double Stack EXPERIOR models compatible with the proven reliability of the high capacity EDC X9 magazine will be offered in 5" Full Size, 4.25" Commander and 4" Compact slide versions.



**ACP**  
[ full-size ]  
.45 ACP | 9MM

Hand built for the new generation of American shooters, the ACP features all of the precision, craftsmanship and quality associated with a Wilson Combat custom handgun at a lower, package price. Also, available in Commander and Compact size frames

# EDC X9 LINE

Designed by Bill Wilson and Wilson Combat® engineers, and thoroughly tested by our team of designers, champion shooters and external industry experts, the EDC X9 offers discriminating shooters 1911 match-grade accuracy, superior ergonomics, and concealability with modern service pistol capacity and reliability. Making it the superior choice for everyday carry.

- Up to 18 + 1 magazine capacity.
- Similar in size to a GLOCK
- Optional lightrail.
- Adjustable TAB Sight.



EDC X9

EXPERIOR



# SFX9 LINE

The X9 family continues its performance-driven evolution with the new SFX9 solid frame models. This variant of the SFX9 has a 3.25" sub-compact top-end mated with our new SF (Solid Frame) lightweight full-size aluminum grip frame design. The SFX9 frame is machined from solid T6-7075 aluminum that is rugged, comfortable, and highly concealable. The SFX9 is light enough to carry for long durations and the solid frame's enhanced grip shape significantly enhances recoil control during rapid-fire and extended range sessions.



Rugged, light and incredibly easy to shoot- the SFX9 has been optimized to be the best option for concealed carry by the leaders in 1911 quality engineering and manufacturing.

SFX9  
Rail

SFX9  
Non-rail

## A SMALL SELECTION OF OUR TOP QUALITY ACCESSORIES

### 1911 ACCESSORIES



Beavertail Grip Safety, High Ride, Bullet Proof®



Hammer, Ultralight Skeletonized, Bullet Proof®



Extractor, 70 Series, .45 ACP, Bullet Proof® XS, Blue



Ambidextrous Thumb Safety, Tactical Levers, Bullet Proof®



Drop-In Barrel, .45 ACP, Full-Size, 5", Stainless



ETM, 9mm, Full-size, 10 Round, ETM Basepad, Black Fluoropolymer Finish



Magazine, .45 ACP, Full-Size, 8 Round, Standard Basepad



1911 Custom Work

### BERETTA® ACCESSORIES



G10 Grips, Ultra Thin, Black Cherry



Snag Free Front Sight & Rear Battlesight



Mag Guide



Beretta® Custom Work

### SIG® ACCESSORIES



Grip Module, WCP320, Carry, No Manual Safety, Black



Vickers Elite Snag Free Front Sight & Rear Battlesight



Wilson Combat Guide Rod, SIG® P320/WCP320, Fullsize



SIG® Custom Work

### GLOCK® ACCESSORIES



Vickers Elite Snag Free Front Sight & Rear Battlesight



Wilson Combat GLOCK® 17 Gen 4 Stainless Slide with Standard Sight Cut



Barrel, Full-Fit 9mm for G19



GLOCK® Custom Work



## RIFLE ACCESSORIES



Match Grade AR Barrels



Scope Mount, Omni H, Cantilever, AR Platform



Billet Lower/Upper Receiver, Forest Camo, Anodized Finish



M-LOK® Rails for AR-15 and AR-10



Pistolgrip, AR Platform, Wilson Combat®, Black



Bolt Carrier Assembly, 5.56 NATO, Polished Nickel Boron



Tactical Trigger Unit, 3-Gun, Semi-Auto



Rifle Custom Work

## AMMUNITION



Handgun



Rifle



Remanufactured



More Quality Ammunition

## THE WILSON COMBAT® DIFFERENCE

### OUR LEGACY

For over 40 years, Wilson Combat® has been the leading innovator in high-performance, custom firearms and accessories. Our founder Bill Wilson has guided Wilson Combat® from a small, one-man gunsmithing operation to the international leader in custom firearm development and production. Wilson Combat® has one driving goal—overall quality from manufacturing to customer service after the sale. Our well-equipped, modern facility in Berryville, AR contains CNC machining, gunsmithing, test fire, and finishing all at one location to ensure that we maintain this sharp focus on excellence.

### UNBELIEVABLE QUALITY

All Wilson Combat® custom 1911 handguns go through a rigorous quality control checklist, and an extensive test-fire and targeting process. This process is done by professional shooters to guarantee that your pistol is properly adjusted, shoots reliably and accurately and that the sights are regulated to point of aim—another Wilson Combat® exclusive. It is not uncommon to fire up to 100 rounds or more per gun during the test fire and targeting process.

### OUTSTANDING CUSTOMER SERVICE

Wilson Combat® has extensive educational materials available to support customers—almost 100 educational product ideas on our YouTube page [gowilsoncombat.com](http://gowilsoncombat.com) and linked to [www.wilsoncombat.com](http://www.wilsoncombat.com). All 1911's get "Wilson Combat® Supergrade Service" for life. Our team of seasoned customer service representatives are here to help you in every way possible via phone or email.

### CONTACT US

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