

THE ARMORY

LIFE

WINTER 2023
\$8.99

SHIELD
SMSc

17-RD.
MAGAZINE

SUREFIRE
XSC

17+1 HELLCAT PRO 9MM

P. 14



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY®

ECHELON



The Echelon from Springfield Armory sets a new standard for modern, striker-fired duty pistols. With a host of patent pending features, this modular and highly adaptable handgun is designed around a robust stainless steel chassis and revolutionary optics mounting system.

Engineered with superior ergonomics and built to withstand the harshest conditions, the Echelon takes its rightful place at the front of the pack. The Echelon from Springfield Armory - Unparalleled.

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY.

COG

CENTRAL OPERATING GROUP

THE COG IS ENTIRELY SELF-CONTAINED AND SERIALIZED
ALLOWING IT TO BE EASILY MOVED BETWEEN
GRIP MODULES IN SECONDS.



VIS

VARIABLE INTERFACE SYSTEM

MOUNT OVER 30 OPTICS DIRECTLY
TO THE SLIDE WITHOUT ADAPTER PLATES

17 & 20 ROUND
9MM MAGS



TACTICAL RACK U-NOTCH
OR TRITIUM 3-DOT



EDITOR'S NOTE 6
BY MIKE HUMPHRIES

WHAT IS THE ARMORY LIFE? 8

THE ARMORY LIFE VAULT 10

UPPING THE ANTE 14
The new 17-round magazine for the Hellcat Pro delivers enhanced EDC firepower.
BY JEREMY TREMP

INTERVIEW: STEVE HORNADY 20
Hornady's company president tells us the fascinating story behind this industry giant in the ammunition world.
BY WAYNE VAN ZWOLL

TWO OF A KIND 28
The Model 2020 Rimfire family offers shooters heirloom-quality .22 LR bolt-action rifles.
BY JEREMY TREMP

THE NEW STANDARD 36
Trijicon's RMR HD reflex optic delivers rugged and reliable red dot performance.
BY SCOTT CONDITT

THE ONLY CONSTANT 42
Join the author on his journey away from leather — mostly — to modernize his EDC system for the Hellcat Pro.
BY MIKE HUMPHRIES

TO GREAT LENGTHS 46
Springfield takes the long view with these new variants of the 5.56mm Hellion bullpup.
BY SCOTT CONDITT

A BARK WITH BITE 54
Considering Black Hills Ammunition's highly capable Honey-Badger 10mm, which delivers heavy-hitting defense.
BY ROY HUNTINGTON



14
UPPING
THE
ANTE



20
INTERVIEW:
STEVE HORNADY



28
TWO OF A KIND



36
THE NEW
STANDARD



42
THE ONLY
CONSTANT



46 TO GREAT LENGTHS



54 A BARK WITH BITE



60 PEAK PERFORMANCE



90 A MODERN CLASSIC



68 AHEAD OF THE CURVE

PEAK PERFORMANCE 60

Renowned innovator Apex Tactical helps take the SA-35 9mm pistol's performance to the next level.

BY JEREMY TREMP

AHEAD OF THE CURVE 68

The micro-sized Ronin EMP 3" takes the classic 1911 design into new CCW territory.

BY MIKE MILLS

MY M14E2 JOURNEY 76

Homebuilding an ultra-rare rifle with the help of SARCO and Springfield Armory.

BY WILL DABBS, MD

RDP YOUR EDC 84

This drop-in compensator and barrel kit takes your 9mm Hellcat to the next level of performance.

BY SAM WEITZNER

A MODERN CLASSIC 90

DeSantis' Speed Scabbard combines old-school with cutting-edge.

BY RICHARD JOHNSON

NEW PRODUCTS 96



COVER IMAGE:
DOUG NAES

The Armory Life (ISSN# 2831-3283) Vol. 3, No. 4 Published 4 issues per year Spring (April, May June), Summer (July, August, September), Fall (October, November, December) and Winter (January, February, March) by Outdoor Sportsman Group® 1040 6th Ave., 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Periodical postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address change (Form 3579) to The Armory Life, P.O. Box 37539, Boone, Iowa 50037-0539.

THE ARMORY LIFE

An Outdoor Sportsman Group® publication



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY

OWNER & CEO

Dennis Reese

PRESIDENT

Stephen McKelvain

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Peter Eckberg

MARKETING

VP, MARKETING

Stephen Kramer

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

Alex Joseph

MEDIA RELATIONS MANAGER

Mike Humphries

DIGITAL BRAND MANAGER

Chad Kimmer

PRINT & GRAPHICS MANAGER

Jeremy Noder

Customer Service contact:
CS@Springfield-Armory.com,
(800) 680-6866

The Armory Life™, Springfield Armory® and all Springfield Armory products are the property of Springfield, Inc.

ARMORY and  are registered trademarks of Springfield Armory® in the United States.

Some advertisements in this magazine may concern products that are not legally for sale to California residents or residents in other jurisdictions.



Printed in the U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE PUBLISHER

Dennis Reese

VP, SHOOTING GROUP PUBLISHER

Chris Agnes

EDITORIAL

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mike Humphries

EDITOR

Joe Kurtenbach

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Antonio Acitelli

ART DIRECTOR

Michael Ulrich

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Michael Anschuetz

COPY EDITOR

Lisa Baumgardner

CONTRIBUTORS

Scott Conditt, Dr. Will Dabbs, Roy Huntington, Richard Johnson, Lee Kjos, John McKenzie, Jake Miller, Mike Mills, Doug Naes, Yamil Sued, Jeremy Tremp, Sam Weitzner, Wayne van Zwoll

ENDEMIC AD SALES

VP, ENDEMIC SALES

Michael Savino

mike.savino@outdoorsg.com

NATIONAL ENDEMIC SALES

Jim McConville (440) 791-7017

WESTERN REGION

Hutch Looney hutch@hlooney.com

EASTERN REGION

Pat Bentzel (717) 695-8095

MIDWESTERN REGION

Mark Thiffault (720) 630-9863

NATIONAL AD SALES

ACCOUNT DIRECTOR

DETROIT OFFICE

Kevin Donley (248) 798-4458

NATIONAL ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

CHICAGO OFFICE

Carl Benson (312) 955-0496

**DIRECT RESPONSE
ADVERTISING/NON-ENDEMIC**
Anthony Smyth (914) 409-4202

OUTDOOR SPORTSMAN GROUP® INTEGRATED MEDIA

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PUBLISHING & BRANDED MEDIA

Mike Carney

EXECUTIVE VP, GROUP PUBLISHER & OPERATIONS

Derek Sevcik

VP, CONSUMER MARKETING

Peter Watt

VP, MANUFACTURING

Deb Daniels

SENIOR DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION

Connie Mendoza

DIRECTOR, PUBLISHING TECHNOLOGY

Kyle Morgan

SENIOR CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Tim Neher

The Publisher and authors make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of the information contained in this publication. Any reliance or use of the information is solely at your own risk, and the authors and Publisher disclaim any and all liability relating thereto. Any prices given in this issue were suggested prices at the press time and are subject to change.

Copyright 2023 by Outdoor Sportsman Group®.

All Rights Reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced without written permission.

YOUR PARTNER IN PROTECTION

3 MILLION MILES AND COUNTING.

The road can be a beautiful place, but there are risks. Every mile, day and night, Charles depends on Federal® as his Partner in Protection. No one else gives you the knowledge, training and the most effective and trusted family of defense ammunition.

I CHOOSE
FEDERAL

Charles Johnson

Age 48 / TRUCK DRIVER, HUSBAND, FATHER OF 2

Every Day Protection » Hydra-Shok Deep®

   BUY NOW AT [FEDERALPREMIUM.COM](https://www.federalpremium.com)

©2023 FEDERAL AMMUNITION

FEDERAL 



EDITOR'S NOTE

MIKE HUMPHRIES

WE ARE PROUD to bring to you the Winter 2023 issue of *The Armory Life* print magazine.

There's a lot of great content in this issue, from our cover story on an exciting new EDC offering to in-depth product reviews and much more.

The cover of this issue shows a gun that is probably quite familiar to you, but might also seem a bit different. The pistol is a Hellcat Pro Threaded, and it features the new 17-round Hellcat Pro magazine. Check out how this new accessory helps take an excellent CCW to the next level of performance in the article starting on page 14.

While you can do your research and buy the finest gun around, it's not of much use without good ammo to run it. And when it comes to offering high-quality fuel for your firearm, few can compare to Hornady.

Starting on page 20, we have an exclusive interview with the president of the company, Steve Hornady. He gives us an insider's look at the history of this fascinating manufacturer. Be sure to check it out.

Rounding out the issue are pieces on the new Model 2020 Rimfire family of bolt-action .22 LR rifles, two new Hellion bullpups with an interesting twist, building a rare Vietnam-era M14E2 with the help of SARCO and Springfield Armory, and many more.

Additionally, the issue is packed with detailed reviews designed to

give you the inside scoop on new products available in the firearms community. These include Trijicon's RMR HD, Black Hills Ammunition's HoneyBadger 10mm, some custom Apex Tactical SA-35 gear and more.

All these pieces throughout the issue combine to make this yet another must-read issue of *The Armory Life*.

As always, I'm interested in hearing your thoughts about what we are doing with *The Armory Life*. Please feel free to reach out to me at support@thearmorylife.com, and let me know what you think about what you are seeing in both the magazine and the website.

So, welcome to the Winter 2023 issue of *The Armory Life* quarterly magazine. Flip through its pages, read some articles, scan some QR codes, visit the website and enjoy. And be sure to keep an eye out for future issues as well!! 



VISIT THEARMORYLIFE.COM



GAIN CONFIDENCE, PREPAREDNESS & PEACE OF MIND

*WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO THE
U.S. CONCEALED CARRY ASSOCIATION*

www.USCCA.com/join

877-677-1919





WHAT IS THE ARMORY LIFE?

IN ADDITION to the print magazine you're reading here, there's also another means of consuming *The Armory Life* content — and it's just a few clicks away. TheArmoryLife.com website delivers free, daily content from some of today's top content creators and writers.

For those of you not familiar with the site, it covers a broad range of topics divided up into the following categories: EDC, Gear, Guns, Hunting, Skills, Survival and History. To visit them, simply go to the website, scroll up to the top of the page and click the "COLLECTIONS" button.

DIVING IN

This print magazine, in addition to providing you with beautifully

illustrated content, is designed to act as a portal for readers to the website. This is accomplished through the use of QR codes on select pages. Scan these with your smartphone, and you will be taken directly to expanded article content and videos to complement the content within these pages. Additionally, these codes can also give you access to more information about Springfield Armory products reviewed.

In case you're not familiar with how QR codes work, simply open up the camera app on your smartphone and point it at the QR code.

With most modern smartphones, your camera will automatically read the QR code and give you a link to click to visit the featured content. If your phone's operating system does not offer this feature in your camera app, please visit your app store and download a QR code scanner. Use the QR code located at the lower right-hand side of this page to take you to the site.

AN ENGAGING OPTION

While you are on the site, don't forget to sign up for *The Armory Life* Debrief. Doing this will ensure you receive our weekly Debrief email, featuring the editorial team's top content selections for the past seven days. Signing up will also enter you in *The Armory Life* Monthly Giveaway for a chance to win top Springfield Armory firearms. When you sign up for the Debrief, you'll automatically be entered for the current giveaway as well as all future monthly giveaways.

There are several ways to sign up for the Debrief email — by visiting TheArmoryLife.com/Debrief, through the dedicated tile located on the front page, at the sign-up section inset within daily articles, or in the "pop-up" that will appear when you visit the site. If you'd like to sign up right now, simply scan the QR code located at the lower left corner of this page and fill out the form.

CONCLUSION

Visit TheArmoryLife.com to sign up for *The Armory Life* Debrief and enter to win a free gun, check out all the free daily content, and much more! 



[THEARMORYLIFE.COM/DEBRIEF](https://TheArmoryLife.com/Debrief)



VISIT [THEARMORYLIFE.COM](https://TheArmoryLife.com)



TRUST IS EARNED

The **DELTAPOINT PRO** is built to outlast and outperform. While others warranty failure, we guarantee unmatched optical clarity and rugged reliability for life. Because at Leupold, failure is not an option.

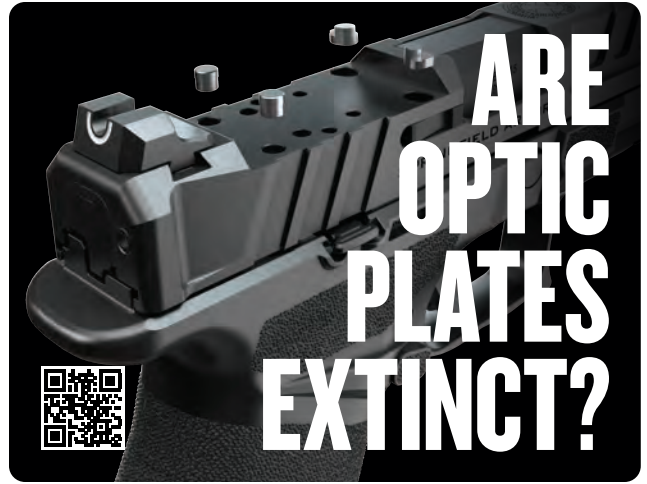


BE RELENTLESS





WELCOME to *The Armory Life* Vault, a portal to expanded digital content from TheArmoryLife.com. Scan the QR codes to find out more about each!



**VIETNAM
WAR
DIGITAL
E-MAG**




THE APPEARANCE OF U.S. DOD VISUAL INFORMATION DOESN'T IMPLY OR CONSTITUTE ENDORSEMENT.



THE AR DESIGN'S MISTAKE?



AMERICA'S UNSUNG HEROES



IMAGE: USMC

BULLS VS. BUSHINGS

REASONABLE FORCE REALITIES



IMAGE: ADOBE/AXEL BUECKERT

BUY ONE. GET ONE FREE.* HASSLE-FREE.

It can be complicated to get a silencer.
We make it simple.



Free NFA Gun
Trust provides
flexibility &
peace of mind



Split into 4
eZ-payments
no fees,
no interest



Delivered
to your
front door,
once approved



Fast &
precise barrel
threading at
your service



SILENCER CENTRAL®

*Offer valid on BANISH® silencers valued at \$849 and up. Purchaser pays the \$200 tax stamp. Promotion starts on 10/24/2023 and continues while supplies last or 12/31/23. Cannot be combined with other offers. Must be age 21+ and a resident of a silencer-legal state. Valid on new purchases only.



\$465 Value

BANISH® 22K-V2
Length: 3.25"
Weight: 2.6 oz
Material: Titanium
Caliber Range: 17 HMR,
22LR, and 22 Mag

CLAIM YOUR **FREE** SILENCER

For A Limited Time Only

New and improved BANISH® 22K-V2 is now 100% titanium with enhanced sound performance. Get your free rimfire silencer with the purchase of a BANISH® product.* Sale starts at 12:01 AM on Oct. 24, 2023.

Buy Now



Call
866-485-7643

Buy Online
SilencerCentral.com/bogo

UPPING

THE 17-ROUND HELLCAT PRO DELIVERS ENHANCED EDC FIREPOWER.

JEREMY TREMP



WHEN THE MICRO-SIZED 9mm Springfield Armory Hellcat came onto the scene in September of 2019, it sported a 3" barrel and an 11-round flush fit magazine. With that capacity and compact size, it was immediately thrust into the spotlight as the highest-capacity micro compact 9mm on the market.

In addition to the flush-fit 11-round magazine, the Hellcat also ships with an extended 13-round magazine. With that magazine, the dimensions of the length of the grip went up slightly, but also gave users more capacity. This was a fair trade-off for most, particularly in a role as a back-up magazine or for those who want-

ed more area of gripping surface with the pistol.

In recognition of the appeal of a Hellcat that could carry more rounds, Springfield later released a 15-round extended magazine for the pistol that only extended slightly longer than the 13-round magazine. I think you can probably figure where this is heading.

THE NEXT STEP

So, with a 15-round magazine, the Hellcat was starting to enter duty-pistol capability range — but it still had that compact 3" barrel. Building on the strengths of the original micro-sized Hellcat, Springfield developed the Hellcat Pro OSP.

The Pro features a flush-fit 15-round magazine, and in addition it has a longer 3.7" barrel and matching lengthened slide. The result is an optics-ready pistol that is still slim and compact and easy to conceal, but one that offers duty pistol-grade performance.

I've long been a fan of the Hellcat series of pistols. I immediately

HELLCAT THE ANTE



The 17-round Hellcat Pro magazine takes EDC performance to the next level. Hellcat Pro Threaded fitted out with Shield SMSc red dot, Surefire XSC light and JK Armament 105 CCX suppressor.

IMAGE: DOUG NAES

WATCH THE VIDEO
17-ROUND HELLCAT PRO





The new 17-round magazine for the 9mm Springfield Armory Hellcat Pro provides two additional rounds for increased defensive firepower.

fell in love with the original Hellcat at its release in 2019. The U-Dot sights were extremely intuitive for me to master, and the pistol felt comfortable and properly proportioned, as well as very easy to carry.

When the Hellcat Pro was released, I was ecstatic to switch over to the larger version of the Hellcat. I was even more comfortable and confident with the Pro as it fit in my hands perfectly, which made it even more controllable. And despite its larger size, it was still extremely concealable — even with its on-board, flush-fitting 15-round magazine.

If you're recognizing a trend here, I bet you can guess what is next. Yep, more rounds for the Hellcat Pro! Springfield Armory has now released factory 17-round

magazines for the Hellcat Pro, taking the already impressive capacity of the EDC pistol to where it can go toe-to-toe with practically all duty-style 9mm pistols.

Yes, that's right. A 17+1 9mm pistol compact enough for most people to be able to conceal. This is where competition in the marketplace breeds wonderful innovation for the consumers. It seems like every manufacturer is trying to squeeze as much out of their products as possible — some with more success than others — and Springfield Armory has once again stepped up and delivered for its customers.

THE DETAILS

Needless to say, as a fan of the Hellcat Pro who uses one for

CCW, I was very interested in this new accessory for the pistol. I was able to get my hands on three of the new 17-round magazines in black to test out in my tried-and-true Hellcat Pro I carry every day. They are also offered in Desert FDE.

During my range session with them, it almost felt too good to be true having that much capacity in my daily carry pistol. An added benefit of having larger-capacity magazines, even if you carry with the flush-fit magazine in the gun, is the extended time on the line



The Adaptive Grip Texture on the extended portion of the magazine matches the frame of the pistol for enhanced ergonomics.

when training at the range with the longer magazines.

Being able to stay on the line longer with multiple magazines can mean better training experiences and more rounds down range. I can now confidently run the Hellcat Pro in classes next to duty-size pistols without any ammo restraints.

These new Hellcat Pro magazines, like all Hellcat family mags, are made from stainless steel for extreme durability. In addition, they feature a highly polished surface for smooth feeding into the pistol. Also, the magazines feature witness holes on the back of the magazine body, counting from round four through 17. At a glance, I can easily discern which magazines are empty, partial or fully loaded.

I will also say, the magazines are not a bear to load. We've all seen those magazines that seem like there is no way they can hold the

capacity they claim. You begin to load the magazine and, by the time you are nearly to the end, you can't even manage to get the last round in.

This is simply not the case with the 17-round Hellcat magazines. They feel just like loading all the other Hellcat mags, which are perfectly capable of handling their maximum capacity without bruising your fingers. And in case you have any trouble loading those rounds, Springfield is thoughtful enough to include a handy mag loader with all Hellcat family pistols.

The magazines are about ½" longer than a flush-fit Hellcat Pro magazine. The extended basepad of the magazines feature the same Adaptive Grip Texture as the pistol,

giving it that factory look as well as excellent ergonomics. People with larger hands will certainly rejoice at these magazines and the extra real estate they provide. The total pistol height with the new 17-round magazine comes in just under 5.5". Getting a tight and proper grip on the Hellcat Pro has never been easier.

I have also learned that these 17-round magazines will come packed with all new Hellcat Pro pistols. As a result, you will get one flush-fit 15-rounder magazine and one extended 17-round magazine. Perfect for carry and your back-up magazine.

IN PRACTICE

As far as reliability is concerned, you will be pleased to know that these magazines are exactly what you would expect from a Springfield Armory product. They ran flawlessly with the hundreds of

rounds provided by True Shot Gun Club that I fired through them and the pistol during my time with them.

Since these extended magazines are from the factory and designed exactly for the Pro as opposed to an aftermarket extension, you can guarantee that the spring pressure is set exactly where it needs to be. This is imperative when trusting your life to a self-defense pistol. And if you are one to



The magazine features a stainless steel body, round count witness holes, and black or Desert FDE bases.

carry a second mag with you, that puts you at a notable number of rounds for an EDC. You can be extremely well-prepared with that kind of capacity.

For me, even if I stick with the 15-round flush-fit magazines for it to be as concealable as possible, I will use the 17-round magazines as my off-body carry mags. I always carry a few spare mags in my truck and my day bag, and I also place some in my bedroom drawer. I want these mags to offer as much capacity as possible since they are more of an emergency spare. These new 17-round mags fit that bill perfectly.

CONCLUSION

When micro compact pistols first came onto the scene, they were a



The author tested the Springfield Armory Hellcat Pro extended magazines on the range with a variety of ammunition.

niche CCW product that were ultimately limited by capacity. The original Hellcat helped break that mold. Today, these micro com-

THE NEXT LEVEL

ONE OF MY FAVORITE FEATURES of the Hellcat family of pistols is the adaptability of the platform. I can carry a super small 11+1 Hellcat during summer months or in gym clothes, or I can carry my normal Hellcat Pro with 15+1 wearing shorts and a t-shirt. I can even take it to the next level and rig out a 17+1 Hellcat Pro with a suppressor and weapon-mounted light.

Frankly, the Hellcat Pro Threaded, which features an extended 4.4" threaded barrel with 1/2x28 threading, is my go-to variant as it allows me the greatest freedom to modify my pistol.

My current build utilizes the tried-and-true Shield SMSc micro red dot optic, a Surefire XSC weapon-mounted light and, to top it off for some range fun, an ultra-compact JK Armament



105 CCX suppressor. I also set it up with the new 17-round magazine.

The SMSc is an amazing red dot, and its battery life makes it an optic you can surely count on when you need it the most.

For weapon-mounted lights, I truly trust Surefire. Their reputation and commitment to quality and innovation make the XSC a winner for compact pistols.

It has a nice bright beam, intuitive controls and a swappable recharging battery.

Finally, the JK Armament 105 CCX is a modular suppressor that is so lightweight it doesn't require a booster. The CCX is hearing safe and makes shooting the Hellcat Pro a ton of fun. And the end result is a highly capable — and unique — set-up.

—Jeremy Tremp

pacts like the Hellcat and larger Hellcat Pro can rival the capacity and performance of even a full-size pistol.

If you are in the market for industry-leading capacity at competitive prices, the Hellcat family of pistols is a solid option for you.

From 11-, 13- and 15-round capacities for the Hellcat and 15- and 17-round now for the Hellcat Pro, the Hellcat family of pistols truly has something for everyone.

For me, this new 17-rounder is unquestionably a great addition for my Hellcat Pro EDC carry system. MSRP for the magazines, in both black or Desert FDE, is a very reasonable \$42.99.

It seems as if we have hit a perfect balance between size and capacity with the 17-round Hellcat Pro. It makes you wonder, what does Springfield have up their sleeves next? 🤖

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

STORE.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
JKARMAMENT.COM
TRUESHOTAMMO.COM





Length: 18 Inches
Weight: 32.02 Ounces
Caliber: .223 Wylde



ACCURACY GUARANTEED. PERFORMANCE REDEFINED.

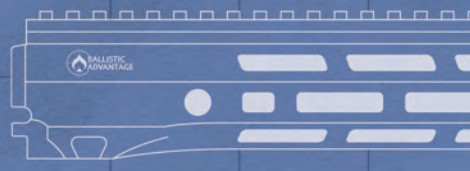
.223 WYLDE 1/8 41 BR SS HP MP '03602



SUB-MOA
GUARANTEED



AMERICAN MADE



BALLISTICADVANTAGE.COM



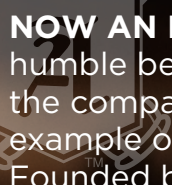
Steve Hornady, president of renowned ammunition maker Hornady, has carried on the tradition of quality established by his father at the company's founding in 1949.



IMAGES: HORNADY

STEVE HORNADY

WAYNE VAN ZWOLL



NOW AN INDUSTRY GIANT, Hornady was built from humble beginnings. Founded right after World War II, the company's story of growth is, today, a wonderful example of how the American Dream can come true. Founded by Joyce Hornady in 1949, the fascinating story of Hornady Manufacturing is told by his son and current company president, Steve Hornady.

Mr. Hornady was kind enough to give us a personal perspective into the company his father started in the wake of the Second World War, as well as the firm's path in the decades since then. We would like to thank him for taking the time to do this Q&A session interview with *The Armory Life*.

The Armory Life (TAL): Tell us about your younger years, and how you were first introduced to firearms.

Steve Hornady (SH): I have clear memories as a little boy holding bullets to feed Dad's handloading press while we were down in the basement of our home. When I was 5 or 6, we also went on prairie dog safaris right here in Nebraska.

TAL: When, where and how did your father Joyce Hornady start making bullets?

SH: Dad was making bullets so he and his friends could shoot varmint. Shortly thereafter, he used spent .22 cases to make bullet jackets. He shot competitively in the late 1930s and as much as he could into the 1940s.

He shot often with Vernon Speer, who had a machine shop in Lincoln. He and Dad collaborated on a line of bullets. Reworked rimfire cases were replaced with better jackets. Then, Vernon moved to Idaho, and eventually the two men went their separate ways.

Dad bought a surplus bullet assembly press, got an investor to back him and plunged into the bullet business in 1949, the year I was born.

TAL: Were you working with your father early on? Did you envision becoming a company president?

SH: Our family believed in working as soon as you were able. As a kid, I mowed the lawn. By age 14, I was doing minor maintenance at the factory. I can't say when the future came to mind, only that at some point I wanted to be an important part of the company.

TAL: How did your mother and siblings contribute to the company in its early years?

SH: My mother, Marval Hornady, was a strong, self-reliant woman who worked hard. She kept books for Dad from the start, besides managing the household. She and Dad made family and business decisions together.

TAL: We recall Frontier Ammunition. What prompted the decision to sell cartridges as well as bullets for which Hornady was then known?

SH: In the early 1960s, Dad wanted to sell Hornady bullets to shooters who didn't handload. At that time, there was a glut of .30-'06 and .308 brass available, much of it military surplus. We bought carloads, washed it, polished it and used it to make '06 and .308 cartridges. Re-forming it gave us .270 and .243 cases for those rounds. The response was favorable, so we built up that end of the business.

TAL: When, and under what circumstances, did you take the company reins?

SH: In January, 1981, Dad and company engineer Ed Heers and sales executive Jimmy Garber took off in our company plane for the SHOT Show. It crashed. No one survived. I would have been with them, but my wife had just endured a kidney transplant. I was with her and our kids.

As the only family member fully engaged in the business then, I was expected to lead it — despite my young age. Somehow, we made progress, and the company has since fared well.

TAL: Was the .17 HMR the first cartridge with "Hornady" in the name? How did it come about?

SH: Yes. Dave Emary, our chief ballistitian and engineer at the time, was keen on the idea of a .17 rimfire. So were others in the industry. A friend at Federal had asked us to make a .17-caliber bullet years before Dave had a prototype cartridge on the .22 Magnum case.

But unlike some experimenters, Dave persevered, tweaking designs and components when early results disappointed. It didn't hurt to have a bullet factory he could tap for variations of our new poly-tipped V-Max bullet! When he brought

me the final rendition, I was skeptical. Then I shot it. It was so fast, flat-shooting and accurate, well, I couldn't say no! It was the big news in 2002.

TAL: Is Hornady's recent focus on new bullet design market-driven or from personal interest?

SH: I don't know that you can separate those two prompts. We don't do consumer studies or assemble focus groups. We come up with products we like, thinking other hunters and shooters will like them, too. Not all our ideas deliver home runs at market, but they usually get on base.

TAL: How have your personal interests in shooting evolved? Does your family share them?

SH: As I don't move as quickly or easily as in my youth, I've given up on "run-and-gun" competition, but I still love shotgun shooting of all kinds. Not that I excel, but my enthusiasm for shotgun games now runs in the family. My son and grandson are avid Sporting Clays shooters. Daughters and their husbands have taken up big game hunting. Their hunts have enabled them to travel the world.

TAL: Hunting has taken you to many far-off places. Which was your most memorable? What kind of hunting do you enjoy most?

SH: Those are tough questions. The most unusual hunt I recall was for polar bear. That environment is unlike any other! As for my favorite places, I'd have to say new ones! I like to go where the country and culture, the hunting tactics and guides, as well as the animals, bring me fresh, memorable experiences.

TAL: Over the years, Springfield Armory has developed and offered many popular firearms for the shooting community. How have these rifles and pistols affected ammunition sales?

7

Over the past nearly 75 years, Hornady has grown into a highly influential manufacturer in the ammunition community.

8





Shown here is the late Joyce Hornady, patriarch of the Hornady family and founder of Hornady Manufacturing.

SH: It's hard for us to keep track of all factors affecting market demand, or to account for all the blips in sales curves. But specific firearms have helped us develop many target and hunting rounds — our loads for the M1 Garand, for instance.

One of the charter chamberings in Springfield's Waypoint rifle is the 6.5 Creedmoor. That popular cartridge was born at Hornady and earned its reputation mostly with our ammo! We also have full suites of loads for the .223 and 5.56 NATO, also the .308, to serve the Springfield M1A and SAINT. Our handgun loads cover all chamberings in Springfield 1911's, SA-35's, Hellcats and the Echelon.

TAL: Demand for your ammunition seem to always be strong. How has Hornady responded to the market's needs?

SH: It requires a lot of work and effort, and also a commitment to the quality for which our brand is known. Buying and installing new

equipment, expanding the factory and building inventories are all big commitments that take time and investment to fulfill.

TAL: To what do you attribute Hornady's success in making and marketing products, and in keeping them in such high regard among shooters?

SH: In all our product categories, we try to offer the very best value. We think our top-shelf hunting cartridges and components are the most consistently accurate and dependable. Shooters using

our match ammunition compete at the highest levels.

It's important to remember, though, that not everyone wants to pay for the most expensive product; for some purposes, a "standard" grade will suffice. Within that category, our job is to give customers the most they can get anywhere for their hard-earned dollars.

TAL: How do you respond to trends in the shooting sports? Or, do you think your products drive those trends?

SH: We have driven or at least nudged some markets along. Our 6.5 Creedmoor and PRC cartridges have helped make long-range shooting popular, and our products consistently show up in the hands of the best shooters. But we keep a close watch on the market so we can tend demand not of our own making.

TAL: You're active, personally, in the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF). How else do you work on behalf of shooters and the Second Amendment?

Hornady was started in an old automotive garage in downtown Grand Island.



INTRODUCING THE NEXT-GENERATION RMR.®

RMR HD



Trijicon

With the durability of the RMR® as its foundation, the Trijicon RMR® HD features a top-loading battery, larger window and ideal illumination from a forward-mounted light sensor that reads the target and provides an optimal aiming point. It also offers a new reticle that allows you to switch between a complex reticle or single crisp dot.

See the next-generation RMR® at [Trijicon.com/RMRHD](https://www.Trijicon.com/RMRHD).



Brilliant Aiming Solutions™

SH: I've served on the NRA board, and of course, we donate product to encourage participation in the shooting sports. We support and fund many events like "Friends of the NRA" banquets. Those play a big role in keeping people aware of what's happening in our industry, and in the politics that affect the future of hunting and shooting.

TAL: While we have discussed the past and present of the company, let's talk about its future. How do you envision Hornady's path over the next decade? What roles do you see for yourself and your son, Jason?

SH: My son, Jason, is now the hands-on, day-to-day lead at our company. I've stepped back somewhat to give more attention to development — planning what we'll make and how we'll make it, and how we can become more



Steve Hornady stands here with his mother, Marval Hornady (left) and his sister Margaret Hornady David (right).

productive and efficient in our operations.

TAL: Have you a guiding principle you consciously bring to work each day?

SH: Be as fair and as generous as possible.

TAL: If you were to live the last 30 years over, what, if any, changes would you make?

SH: I don't think I have any major regrets. We should have been more aggressive in developing our ammunition-making capability, but that's hindsight. We made sound choices based on data valid at the time. I should have exercised more, but I'm not worried about that now!

TAL: Thank you so much for taking the time to do this interview with us, and for giving us your insight into the fascinating story of Hornady Manufacturing, as well as your own story. We truly appreciate it.

SH: Thank you. It was my pleasure. 🍷

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
HORNADY.COM

In this image, we see Steve Hornady in years past with his son Jason and daughter Meighan in the shop with some Hornady reloading gear.





SPRINGFIELD ARMORY

NEW

HELLION[®] 18" & 20"

MODELS NOW AVAILABLE



TWO OF



The new Model 2020 Rimfire rifles are offered in two main variants. The Target (top) comes with a synthetic stock and the Classic (below) with walnut stocks.

WATCH THE VIDEO
HANDS ON WITH THE MODEL 2020 RIMFIRES



A KIND

**THE MODEL 2020 RIMFIRES
OFFER SHOOTERS
HEIRLOOM-QUALITY
BOLT-ACTION .22 LR RIFLES.**

JEREMY TREMP





The Model 2020 Target model's reinforced polymer stock is offered in either black (shown) or sage green with black webbing. It free-floats the barrel.

WHEN THE MODEL 2020 WAYPOINT launched in September 2020, it represented a significant new direction for Springfield Armory. While it is a well-known brand in the self-defense and sport shooting communities, those in the hunting world might not have been quite as familiar with the company.

The success of the Waypoint — through its combination of custom-grade features at a price well below comparable custom rifles — helped introduce Springfield Armory's quality and brand to a whole new segment of the shooting community. And now, there's some new bolt-action rifles to add to the family, but not necessarily what you might have been expecting.

I will admit I was very excited to learn about the Model 2020 Rimfires when Mike Humphries, editor-in-chief of *The Armory Life*, reached out to me about them. Featuring "Target" and

"Classic" variants, the line of bolt-action rifles in .22 LR has a robust selection of stock options as well as a whole host of very impressive features.

Springfield currently offers six variants of the Model 2020 Rimfire. This is made up of two Target variants as well as four Classic models, with the latter featuring stocks made from various grades of high-quality Turkish walnut.

The Target model features a precision rifle-style synthetic stock in either black or sage with black webbing. It also features a threaded barrel with a heavier profile and protective thread cap, whereas

the Classic models feature a non-threaded barrel with a slimmer "sporter" profile.

SOLID FOUNDATION

As you can tell from the images of the guns, these new rifles are designed to be high-quality rimfires with all the attention to detail and performance you would expect from a company like Springfield Armory.

The heart of the bolt-action rifle is the blued steel receiver that is home to the hard-chromed bolt. Highly corrosion resistant, the bolt is designed for smooth cycling and a 60-degree bolt throw. Also, dual cocking cams further enhance the speed and smoothness



DUTY RDS™

NEVER COMPROMISE

- **ALL NEW** professional grade optic
- CR2032 Battery –3 year life, constant-on
- Compatible with night vision
- Flush-mounted windage & elevation adjustments
- Digital intensity controls
- One-piece torsion nut mount
- Accessible price point



**EXCLUSIVE APPRECIATION GIFT FOR
THE ARMORY LIFE READERS.**

Scan to get yours – no purchase necessary.
Limited time only while supplies last.

Aimpoint®

of operation of the bolt. Speaking of the bolt, it also features a threaded-on bolt knob to allow users to easily swap it out if they so choose.

For mounting optics, all Model 2020 Rimfires ships with a removable “interrupted” Picatinny rail for the receiver. The rifles allow for the use of either direct-mount scope rings or Picatinny mount rings, depending on your preferred set-up.

To maximize accuracy, all of the rimfire rifles feature free-floated 20” barrels. The rifling twist rate is 1:16”, and the threaded muzzle of the Target model features 1/2x28 threading. The heavier Target model features a straight taper contour, while the Classic guns’ barrels have a #1 sporter contour.

All stocks are equipped with a contoured rubber recoil pad, and the length of pull on all rifles is 13.45”. This allows the shooter a natural position to maximize the handling and performance of the rifle. For those who wish to add a sling or a bipod to their rifle, Springfield has designed each stock with dual sling swivels.

The Target stock’s profile is like that of a precision rifle, while the Classics’ wood stocks would easily be right at home on a high-end custom rifle.

All of the rimfire rifles feature a Model 700-pattern trigger factory set at 4.5 lbs. and optimized for the .22-caliber action. In addition, the trigger is adjustable for fine-tuning to your preferences. The safety of the rifle is a two-position model that allows the action to be cycled while on “safe”.

To ensure reliable feeding, the Model 2020 Rimfire features a rotary magazine crafted from durable polymer. The magazine, which holds 10 rounds, is cross-compatible with Ruger® 10/22®



The Springfield Armory Model 2020 Rimfire series of rifles use a Ruger® 10/22®-pattern 10-round rotary magazine.

pattern magazines of the same capacity. Magazine releases on the Target models are extended, while the Classic models feature a low-profile and visually unobtrusive magazine release.

Did I mention pricing yet? Digging deeper, the Target model comes in at \$434 for the black-

stocked model, and \$499 for the sage stock with the attractive “black webbing” treatment. The Classic models start at \$529 with a Select Satin walnut stock and range up to \$690 for the Grade A, \$839 for the Grade AA and \$1,099 for the Grade AAA walnut stocks.

And what do you get for those prices on all the packages? A rifle that clearly was designed to provide shooters with an accurate and adaptable gun. The choice to utilize the Model 700-pattern trigger as well as 10/22®-pattern magazines shows a good understanding of the

benefits of a broad selection of aftermarket

parts. I could see myself installing a match trigger in this rifle to squeeze even more accuracy out of the platform down the road.

Finally, the removable bolt knob is a nice touch regarding the option of installing your own. Many shooters find a bolt-action rifle knob-style they love, and they utilize that on all their rifles. Especially if you are using this rifle for training, it’s nice to have everything feel as close as possible to your larger-caliber rifles.



MODEL 2020 RIMFIRE



CHAMBERING	.22 LR
BARREL	20"
WEIGHT	6 lbs., 3 oz. (Classic); 7 lbs., 7 oz. (Target)
OVERALL LENGTH	38"-38.25"
SIGHTS	N/A, Picatinny rail
STOCK	Turkish walnut (Classic), polymer (Target)
ACTION	Bolt-action
FINISH	Blued
CAPACITY	10 (one magazine included)
MSRP	\$434-\$1,099

CROSSBREED[®]

**WE HAVE YOU
COVERED** »



RECKONING

HANDCRAFTED



IN THE U.S.A.

» **NOW FITTING THE NEW
SPRINGFIELD ARMORY ECHELON**

CROSSBREEDHOLSTERS.COM

MODEL 2020 RIMFIRE TARGET



RANGE TIME

As a true bolt-action rifle addict, I love the option of having a solid rimfire I can take out and plink with or use as a training platform for new shooters. The moment I got my hands on the Model 2020 Rimfire rifles, I was immediately drawn to the synthetic stock variant. The feel of the stock as well as the threaded barrel made the

rifle fit well with my shooting style and interests. However, I will admit that the Classic models are also certainly appealing!

First and foremost, I needed to hit the range to try squeezing as much accuracy from the platform as I could. I set my target at 50 yards and, using a bipod and a bag, set the rifle on a bench. Using Remington Target .22 ammo, I sighted in at 9X on the Leupold VX-Freedom 3-9x40mm Rimfire optic I had on the rifle and began

shooting a few three-round groups.

All my grouping was sub-1", and the best of the bunch was closer to .5". The Remington ammo fed perfectly without any malfunctions, and the accuracy speaks for itself. I've come to trust all the match and target ammo from Remington that I've been able to use. They've done a great job at keeping a good stock of quality ammo that I can pick up without breaking the bank when I need the utmost accuracy.

As I mentioned, for my testing of the Target model I utilized the Leupold VX-Freedom 3-9x40 Rimfire optic attached to the Picatinny base via Warne ring mounts. The VX-Freedom optic is just about perfect for this rifle. The optic weighs in at a mere 12.2 oz. and sports a wide 3-9X zoom range with a 40mm objective lens for superior light transmission and optical clarity. The VX-Freedom is waterproof and fogproof, ensuring your success in all types of environmental conditions. The zoom throw was extremely smooth

The Target versions of the Model 2020 Rimfire feature muzzles with 1/2x28 threading.





The author installed a Leupold scope and Magpul MOE bipod on the sage green Target rifle and ran Remington ammunition in it.



Sling Swivel Stud

Free-Floated Barrel

1/2x28 Threaded Muzzle

and easy to actuate, with clarity throughout the entire range.

Utilizing the sling swivel on the front end, I installed a Magpul MOE bipod for the most stable shooting position possible. Finally, I also did some testing with a SilencerCo Switchback rimfire suppressor, which makes the entire experience of shooting a .22 outstanding.

Shooting rimfire rifles is a blast. I love the ability to practice shooting fundamentals without the flinch accompanying a larger caliber. With a rimfire rifle, you can really dial in your shooting ability and focus on the basics. It's a great training aid for both new and experienced shooters. Also, with a rimfire like the Target model, you can add a suppressor to eliminate the audible variable and hone in on the perfect trigger press and proper breath control.

The operation of the Model 2020


Rimfire rifles was a breath of fresh air compared to most rimfire rifles I've encountered. The action is smooth and tactile, and I didn't feel like I was dragging the bolt through sand or getting hung up on metal. Cycling the bolt was smooth and fast, and the gun chambered each round with ease. The length of pull and the height of the stock's cheekpiece were perfect for me, at 5'11" with average-length arms. The rifle was comfortable, lightweight and very feature-rich.

CONCLUSION

As much as I am drawn to the synthetic Target model, there is no denying the beauty and elegance of the Turkish walnut-stocked Classic models. It has that classic look of a timeless rimfire rifle, but outfitted

with the latest features and benefiting from modern manufacturing materials and processes.

Beyond target shooting and training, this rifle will find a home with me on camping trips, wilderness excursions, varmint hunting and general outdoor adventures. I think everyone should have a bolt-action rimfire rifle in their collection. Why? The simplicity of design and operation along with the ease and cost of acquiring ammo makes adding a rifle like this to a collection a no-brainer.

If you're intrigued by the Springfield Armory Model 2020 Rimfire rifles, I would encourage you to give them a closer look. The quality and features make this a very attractive option for those looking for a lifelong rifle that can be passed down for generations. 

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
LEUPOLD.COM
MAGPUL.COM
REMINGTON.COM
SILENCERCO.COM
WARNESCOPEMOUNTS.COM

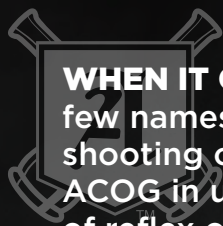


Shown here on an Echelon 9mm, the new Trijicon RMR HD takes the proven RMR reflex optic to the next level of performance.

THE NEW STANDARD

TRIJICON'S RMR HD TAKES A RESPECTED PLATFORM TO THE NEXT LEVEL.

SCOTT CONDITT



WHEN IT COMES TO RED-DOT OPTICS, there are few names as respected in the tactical and civilian shooting communities as that of Trijicon. From the ACOG in use with the U.S. military to the RMR family of reflex optics topping off military, law enforcement and civilian handguns, this is a brand that is truly trusted by those in the know.

Which brings us to the topic at hand – the newest iteration of the RMR. For those who may not be familiar with the RMR family, it is a compact red dot that has earned a reputation for being extremely rugged and capable of taking abuse, and continuing to run.

The Trijicon RMR (which stands for “Ruggedized Miniature Reflex”) was first introduced in 2009. While red dots on a handgun may seem commonplace these days, that was not the case then. Considering the violent force a slide cycling back and forth can exert on anything riding on it, developing a reflex optic that could handle both that shock and the abuse of intensive operations was quite a feat.

One of the most noteworthy design features of the RMR was that the small, extremely durable optic featured a specially designed housing that was shaped and contoured in such a way as

to provide the unit with superior strength, diverting the energy of impacts it may endure away from the optic’s glass.

The proven capability to withstand punishment in the field coupled with innovative optical design features were undoubtedly some of the main factors that led to the updated RMR Type 2 version of the optic being chosen as the official US SOCOM Handgun Reflex Sight (HRS).

Now, Trijicon has stepped up their game even further with a new update to the iconic optic — the Trijicon RMR HD.

STEPPING UP

The Trijicon RMR HD is the next generation of innovative red dot pistol optic specifically designed around the evolving needs of the law enforcement, military and civilian shooting communities.

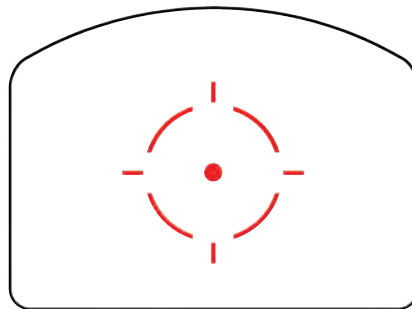


The new RMR HD is a perfect match for the Springfield Armory Echelon. Note how the pistol's VIS mount allows for direct-mounting the optic to the slide.

While slightly larger overall than the RMR and RMR Type 2, the new RMR HD is designed to fit the same footprint as those earlier versions as well as be compatible with current duty holster configurations.

If you are familiar with the RMR, you'll be right at home with the new HD model. This latest iteration was built on the foundation of the Trijicon RMR adjustable LED model, featuring the same housing design shape made from 7075-T6 forged aluminum as well as high-quality lenses and extremely rugged electronics. It is also waterproof to 20 meters/65 feet. Weight is 1.69 oz., it employs one CR2032 battery, and dimensions are as follows: 2.15" (length), 1.27" (width), 1.19" (height).

So, if it's as tough as the original RMR units and just slightly larger, what do you get with the new HD version? Remember that one CR2032 battery I mentioned? It's now top-loading, meaning you do not have to take off the optic to replace the battery. Oh, and that battery is rated to run for more



Trijicon's RMR HD offers a reticle with a center aiming dot and a 55 MOA ring. The outer ring can be turned on or off to meet the user's preferences.

than three years of continuous use at the dot-only day setting.

In addition to the top-loading battery design, you also get a larger sight picture window. Within that window, you will see a red dot (you can choose either a 1 MOA dot with the RMR HD 1 model or a 3.25 MOA dot with the RMR HD 2) that will be quite familiar. You also now have the option of toggling on a 55 MOA segmented circle around the red dot. Both the dot

and the circle include a new "super bright" setting and an additional night vision setting over the older RMR units.

Also new is a forward-mounted light sensor that allows the automatic brightness mode of the RMR HD to read the lighting conditions at the target, rather than only at the user end. This new design approach helps minimize the risk of "reticle washout" or "reticle bloom" when utilizing the optic in varied lighting conditions from the shooter to the target. This also helps the RMR HD adjust to changing light sources such as the use of a weapon-mounted light.

The RMR HD gives the user a great deal of control over the illumination settings, with nine total brightness settings. It gives you a "lock-out" mode that secures the auto-brightness setting and is ide-

IMAGE: TRIJICON

al for an EDC set-up. There is also a “lock-in” mode that secures the user-chosen brightness setting. Additionally, there is a “tunable-auto” mode that allows the user to tune the mid-point and range of the setting to their preferences.

Beyond the electronics controls, Trijicon has also tweaked the external controls for enhanced performance. For example, the windage and elevation adjusters have been tuned for tactile and audible clicks when zeroing. In addition, the brightness controls — made up of a “+” marked button on the left of the body and a “-” marked one on the right — have been enlarged and offer both tactile and audible adjustments, even when used with gloves.

RANGE TIME

Having had some experience working with Trijicon’s original RMR, getting to test out the RMR HD was a treat. I decided to test out the RMR HD on my new Springfield Armory Echelon pistol, which effortlessly afforded a low-profile direct mount to the slide using its Variable Interface System (VIS) optics-mounting system.

Taking the Echelon and Trijicon RMR HD to the range and shooting from broad daylight conditions to dusk, one of the features I really enjoyed most during my trip was the aforementioned forward-looking light sensor. Whereas I find myself routinely making small adjustments to other manufacturer’s dots in different lighting conditions or when shooting between different target colors, the fact that this tiny sensor on the RMR HD basically gauges the brightness for me at the target (not just at my shooting position) and thereby adjusts the LED intensity automatically according to lighting conditions downrange is a great feature.

I have experienced the dreaded “reticle washout” as well as that



The slightly larger RMR HD features a top-mounted battery compartment design and enlarged viewing window.

TRIJICON RMR HD

OPTIC TYPE	Reflex
RETICLE	1 or 3.25 MOA dot (with selectable 55 MOA ring)
MAGNIFICATION	1X
WEIGHT	1.69 oz.
DIMENSIONS	2.15" (L), 1.27" (W), 1.19" (H)
MOUNT	RMR footprint
BODY	Forged aluminum, waterproof to 65 feet
OPERATION	Nine brightness modes with three night vision-compatible settings
BATTERY/LIFE	Single CR2032 battery, over three years of life
MSRP	\$849

distracting and annoying “reticle bloom” with other optics. This simply did not happen with the RMR HD when I operated and tested it in rapidly or regularly changing lighting conditions. For example, I activated and deactivated my weapon-mounted light and took the unit on the Echelon between rooms indoors with variable lighting conditions, and it ran like a champ.

Amongst other noteworthy features that stood out to me was the large, unobstructed and crisp field of view on this unit. I had no trouble obtaining my sight

picture and finding the reticle with ease through the .92"x.69" window. The glass is parallax free and, although I greatly enjoy allowing the unit to automatically adjust brightness, I do like that it includes nine brightness settings with multiple modes so you can manually adjust it for excellent visibility in any lighting condition.

Due to how low the optic sits on the slide since it is direct-mounted on the Echelon, I could mostly co-witness the irons on the pistol as well through the optic, which is a real plus. I asked Trijicon about this, and I was told that the RMR HD’s “deck height” is identical to that of the Trijicon SRO and only slightly taller than that of the standard RMR. The direct-mounting allowed with the Echelon’s VIS system makes it a great foundation for this (or just about any other) red-dot optic, in my opinion.

It may seem like a small thing to some, but another feature I like is that the RMR HD housing has a small Index Ridge Alignment Aid



on top of it. It's basically a small protrusion running the length of the optic's hood, and I thought it was a really nice feature that provides a built-in index point for obtaining a fast sight picture. I found this to be useful when doing a few close-distance drills and practicing some basic point-shooting.

I detected no point of impact change or need to re-zero during my range session. The RMR HD also has three total night vision settings for use with any generation of night vision system. As far as adjustments go, the unit includes a 135 MOA total travel on windage and elevation, allowing you a great degree of control when sighting in.

I also really enjoyed the newly designed reticle options, which allowed me to switch between

the "complex" reticle and the single crisp dot. After some time with the optic I personally leaned towards the single dot, but found the ring helpful at greater distances. I also found that adjusting the auto illumination in addition to the dot/circle contrast setting was easy and intuitive.

FINAL THOUGHTS

It was truly a pleasure getting a chance to try out this new optic from Trijicon as it represents the next step in the evolution of the RMR family. It keeps everything that was good about the original, and adds in the features and modifications needed to take the design to the next level.

Trijicon's reputation for durability, reliability and quality are certainly intact with the new RMR HD, with the company seeming to have set its sights on further solidifying its place as the optic of choice for serious handgun shooters. 🎯

The larger window made it easy to see the target, acquire the dot reticle, and reacquire the dot quickly after each shot.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

TRIJICON.COM
SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM

MOSSBERG® | 940® PRO TACTICAL

**OPTIC-
READY.
ALWAYS
READY.**



**940 Pro Tactical
Holosun® Micro Dot
Combo
12GA, 8-Shot**

(Holosun is a trademark of
Holosun Technologies, Inc.)

SAFETY TIP 

Store firearms securely, inaccessible
to children and unauthorized users.

Consult and comply with any and all applicable federal, state,
and local laws, regulations, requirements, and/or restrictions,
including but not limited to those regarding the purchase,
ownership, use, transport, and carrying of a firearm.
Not all products are available in all states or jurisdictions.

**940 PRO TACTICAL –
SET YOUR SIGHTS ON ONE.**

An innovative, cut receiver allows direct mounting of Shield RMSc-pattern micro dot sights for improved eye alignment and target acquisition. Inside, corrosion-resistant internal parts with premium finishes, plus a gas system that can go up to 1500 rounds between cleanings, help ensure a smooth, reliable performance. Outside, an adjustable LOP stock, front fiber-optic sight, and Accu-choke compatibility combine to keep you on target and ready for the unexpected. Available as optic-ready shotgun or as a Combo— with pre-installed Holosun® Micro Dot Optic.

**Mossberg – Makers of dependable, hardworking firearms for more
than a century.**

**LEARN MORE AT
MOSSBERG.COM**

MOSSBERG®
SINCE 1919

SCAN CODE FOR
MORE INFO ▶



MIKE HUMPHRIES

CHARTING THE PATH OF MODERNIZING MY EDC SYSTEM.

THE ONLY CONSTANT...

I WILL OWN THIS RIGHT UP FRONT. I have been a leather holster guy for a long time. Now, don't take that to mean I only carry a 1911, or even some dusty old wheelgun. I enjoy the benefits of cutting-edge design and have been carrying polymer-framed pistols with red dots for many years now.

For me, there was always something comforting and familiar about the feel of a leather holster. I also always liked the style of them. But, I have been reconsidering my position on this and have recently modernized my carry system for my Hellcat Pro. I'm learning that change might be the only constant.

A NEW FOUNDATION

When the Hellcat Pro 9mm launched in early 2022, I immedi-

ately knew I needed to get one. As someone who had been happily carrying a Hellcat OSP with a Shield RMSc red dot, I knew the Hellcat platform was a great EDC. Add to that the fact I generally tend to favor larger pistols over smaller ones for CCW, and the new Pro was just about irresistible.

Once I had picked up my own Hellcat Pro and topped it off with a Shield RMSc, I immediately fell for it. Slim and compact, yet packing

15+1 rounds of 9mm in a flush-fit magazine, the Hellcat Pro combined the ease of concealment of a small pistol with the performance and capability of a much larger one.

But what holster would I carry it in? A quick perusal of the Springfield Armory Store located a BlackPoint Tactical DualPoint 2.0 inside-the-waistband (IWB) holster in left-hand for \$89.99 in black. I decided it was time for me to transition away from leather to a more modern material.

Designed with appendix IWB (AIWB) in mind but also adaptable to strong-side carry, the Kydex DualPoint 2.0 did a wonderful job





The author's Mini WING IWB holster from BlackPoint Tactical is shown here with a Hellcat Pro topped off with a Shield RMSc "Glass Edition" red dot. Note the Kore Essentials 1.5" Gun Belt.

IMAGES: JAKE MILLER/SPRINGFIELD ARMORY



The Mini WING features Kydex and leather construction, as well as numerous cant and ride height adjustment points.

of concealing my optics-equipped Hellcat Pro. I also learned to appreciate the benefits of Kydex — namely lightweight construction and a tight “snap” fit to retain my firearm when it clicked into place.

FAMILIAR GROUND

As someone who used to exclusively carry strong-side IWB, I found the transition to AIWB carry interesting. There are a lot of benefits to this mode of carry, hence its extreme popularity these days. The DualPoint 2.0 is also an exceptionally well-made holster.

However, I found myself wanting to transition back to dedicated strong-side IWB carry. And while the DualPoint 2.0 is adaptable to this style of carry, I wanted to see what else BlackPoint had to offer. So, I did a little digging around on their website and spotted the Mini WING IWB holster for \$98.99 and

ordered a left-handed one.

Designed as an extremely minimalistic holster, the Mini WING drew me in through its slim and petite dimensions combined with its ruggedly solid feel and construction. I could immediately tell that this holster was designed to not only help make a gun practically disappear on your waist, but would also securely grip and retain it.

THE DETAILS

There is also one other unique aspect to the Mini WING, and one

that was of particular appeal to me. In addition to its primarily Kydex construction, the Mini WING also features leather “mini wings”. These are incorporated into the holster to allow it to wrap around the contours of your waist, as well as offer flexibility as you move throughout the day.

I was immediately won over by the fit and feel of the Mini WING. Its combination of Kydex and leather made for a holster that has the benefits of both. I got the slim dimensions and “click” of the pistol in the holster you get with Kydex, and I also had the comfort and flexibility you get with leather. Also, unlike full leather, there was no break-in period.

The holster features two widely spaced steel belt clips that are designed to snap over your belt to allow for ease of removal and fitting. Their wide spacing also makes the holster extremely flat and easy to conceal on your waist. I also noted that the holster has numerous adjustment points for adapting not only its height but its cant.

As with the DualPoint 2.0, the Mini WING IWB is designed to be usable in a range of positions around the waist, from appendix and forward-of-the-hip locations, to strong side and farther back.

I recently fitted out my Hellcat Pro with the newest “Glass Edition”

The Kore Essentials 1.5” Gun Belt features a unique ratcheting system that allows for extremely precise fitting and seemingly infinite adjustments.



version of the Shield RMSc, which features a scratch-resistant glass lens as well as upgraded electronics and improved battery contacts. However, it still features the same overall size and footprint. I noted that the Mini WING had plenty of clearance for the optic.

SUPPORT TOOLS

As having spare ammunition is always a good idea, I also ordered an outside-the-waistband (OWB) left-hand single “Spare Magazine Pouch” from BlackPoint Tactical for \$43.99 to go with the Mini WING. While one of their IWB units would have been lower profile, I personally don’t like having both an IWB holster and IWB mag pouch on at the same time.

Offered in single and double variants, the pouch features solid Kydex construction. I also noted it has a curvature to its design that makes it fit comfortably against your body, rather than having a flat body with curves at the edges. The single pouch I acquired has fixed retention, while the double magazine versions offer adjustable retention with an adjustment screw. Fixed belt loops ensure the pouch remains solidly on your belt.

To support both the Mini WING holster and the Spare Magazine Pouch, I needed a belt. Since I had upgraded from classic leather to something more modern for my holster, I decided my belt choice might deserve the same treatment. I had recently seen an advertisement for Kore Essentials belts and was intrigued. I selected the Kore Essentials 1.5” Gun Belt in black leather with an “X3” buckle in “gunmetal” dark gray for \$59.95. All in all, a very handsome belt.

Offered in a wide range of colors and buckle styles, these belts are extremely low-key looking yet have a very innovative feature.



The BlackPoint Tactical magazine pouch features a curved body to ensure comfort against your side. Note the fixed belt loops.

Specifically, they feature a ratcheting micro-adjustable locking system that allows you to precisely fit the belt to your waist.

It accomplishes this through a reinforced “Power-Core” center with a toothed track. The ratchet system in the buckle interfaces with this track to allow you to



Ammo Armor magazine protectors provide a low-profile means for carrying back-up mags safely in your pocket.

adjust the belt precisely to fit your waist. However, the outside of the belt — with a buckle with a false belt notch prong — looks like any other “normal” belt. Also, the belt is adjustable to a wide range of waist sizes, from 24” all the way up to 54”. I found the belt made tuning the perfect amount of tension for my holster and spare mag pouch extremely easy.

And lastly, I picked up two Ammo Armor magazine protectors. With these, I can easily carry two spare mags in my pocket, protected within the Ammo Armor polymer cases. If you have not used these, they are a convenient and low-profile means for carrying back-up mags. Simply draw, place it in the crook of your primary arm (while keeping the pistol pointed in a safe direction) and strip out the fresh mag. And at \$9.95 each, they are extremely affordable.

CONCLUSION

I couldn’t be happier with my new EDC rig. With the solid foundation of the Hellcat Pro and Shield RMSc, I now have a means to comfortably carry the whole system along with either one or up to three spare magazines — and all quite discreetly.

While several years back I would have been carrying a 1911 in a leather rig with maybe two spare magazines, I now have an ultra-modern and red dot-equipped 9mm pistol in an equally modern and advanced carry set-up. It looks like the only constant I can truly count on is change. 🛡️

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

BLACKPOINTTACTICAL.COM
SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
STORE.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
AMMO-ARMOR.COM
KOREESSENTIALS.COM
SHIELDSIGHTS.COM

TO GREAT



WATCH THE VIDEO
GOING LONG WITH THE HELLION



LENGTHS...

SPRINGFIELD TAKES THE LONG VIEW WITH THESE NEW HELLION BULLPUPS.

SCOTT CONDITT

The new Hellion 20" 5.56mm bullpup features a ribbed barrel along with a bayonet lug. Note the Waffentechnik Model B2K 7.3" bayonet in OD green.



The Hellion 18" 5.56mm offers increased ballistic performance with a minimal increase in overall length.

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY offered bullpup enthusiasts here in the United States a terrific new option when they dropped the highly capable Hellion 5.56mm back in January of 2022. The compact and handy original 16"-barreled model of the Hellion bullpup makes for a semi-automatic 5.56mm that is a mere 28.25" in overall length at its shortest with the five-position buttstock fully collapsed.

This sleek form factor made it highly maneuverable as a formidable compact carbine while also retaining all of the desirable characteristics of a full-size carbine. This is the primary advantage of a bullpup-pattern firearm where the action is located in the buttstock area and behind the trigger. With this design, you can get a rifle-length barrel in an overall length more like a short-barreled rifle (SBR).

THE FOUNDATION

Now, some may say "leave good enough alone" when it comes to

the development of new designs on tried-and-true platforms that have achieved the original goals. But if there's one thing I've learned working in this industry for several years now, it's that the firearms community loves options.

And on that subject, Springfield Armory has done just that for Hellion fans by offering two new variants of the rifle — one with an 18" barrel and another with a 20" tube. And while both options are cool, the latter doubles down by literally bringing a knife to the gunfight with a bayonet option.

Yes, you read that right.

Diving right in, let's start by covering all of the tried-and-true features of the Hellion that have pleased bullpup fans and have carried over in these two new models from the original 16" version of the design.

Springfield ensured that this Croatian-based design was geared toward the needs of American shooters.

To that end, the design was adapted to feature a swappable AR-pattern pistol grip. It comes with a BCM Gunfighter Mod 3 pistol grip standard, but you can fit it out with practically any AR-pattern grip of your choice.

Also, the rifle is set up to run with AR-pattern magazines, ensuring it is compatible with all your AR rifles.

Additionally, the forend features M-Lok slots for easily fitting the Hellion out with the accesso-



HELLION 18" BULLPUP



CHAMBERING	5.56mm/.223
BARREL	18"
WEIGHT	8 lbs., 3 oz.
OVERALL LENGTH	30.25"-31.75"
SIGHTS	Flip-up
STOCK	Five-position adjustable
ACTION	Semi-auto
FINISH	Black
CAPACITY	30 (one magazine included)
MSRP	\$2,016

ries of your choice.

All of the Hellion models run on a smooth and reliable short-stroke gas piston system. The piston system always runs exceptionally clean in my experience and also helps to ensure low maintenance requirements and longevity when it comes to wear and tear on internal components and barrels.

You also receive a full suite of completely ambidextrous controls, including the safety selector and non-reciprocating charging handle, as well as a reversible ambidextrous option when it comes to the ejection port.

The ambidextrous ejection port feature is one that I really thought was neat from the first iteration of the gun, and is adjustable for either right- or left-handed ejection without requiring any special tools or extra parts.

The Hellion line-up includes a unique five-point adjustable buttstock, which is a nice standout feature when it comes to bullpup designs that usually don't offer that option.

A two-position adjustable gas regulator that features a "normal" and "suppressed" mode selector for those considering suppression is also offered throughout the line.

In addition, all of the models include some truly robust built-in, flip-up iron sights that are integrated right into the top of the Picatinny rail. They

do not obscure your view when they are down, and to deploy them you simply engage the spring-loaded buttons to rapidly flip them up and automatically lock them in place. The rear sight peep features multiple distance apertures that you can select depending on what engagement distances you may be shooting.

The bolt lever release is located to the rear of the magazine well and the mag release. Having spent most of my training time on traditional carbines, I am not

ashamed to share that this is the one feature difference from my more traditional carbine collection that took me the longest to retrain myself to engage when shooting the Hellion. But once you get a handle on it, smooth operation and engagement just becomes a matter of repetition and training.

The Hellion features a BCM Gun-fighter Mod 3 grip, but can accept practically any AR-pattern grip.



HELLION 20" BULLPUP



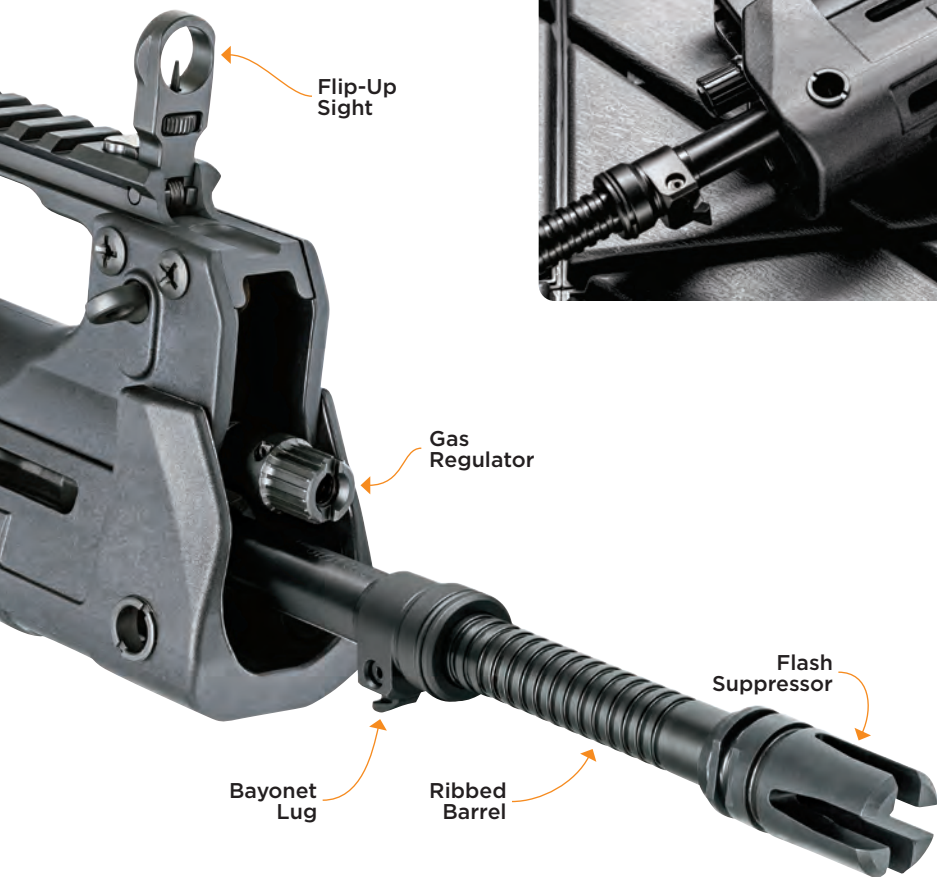
The longer 20" barrel made fitting out the Hellion with a bayonet lug possible.



GOING LONG

Now, let's spotlight the differences between the new 18" and 20" models. Beyond the obvious extended lengths of the barrels and negligible weight differences, to be honest, I was happy to see that not much else was altered. Why? Simply because it all works.

The increase in muzzle velocity from the longer lengths of the barrels on the two guns is inherently a bonus, without making the firearms significantly less maneuverable. I found the weight difference between the 18" and



Flip-Up Sight

Gas Regulator

Bayonet Lug

Ribbed Barrel

Flash Suppressor



The forend of the Hellion features multiple M-Lok slots for ease of accessorizing.

20" Hellions over the 16" gun barely noticeable.

Here are the specs: The 18" barrel model measures in at an overall length of 30.25" at the shortest and 31.75" with the buttstock fully extended. It features a CMV, Melonite-coated barrel with a 1:7" twist, and the carbine weighs 8 lbs., 3 oz.

The 20" variant features a 20" CMV barrel with a Melonite coating, and a 1:7" twist. Weight of the carbine is 8 lbs., 6 oz., and it has an overall measurement ranging

from 32.25" to 33.75". The barrel of the 20" model is unique, however, in that it is ribbed. Another really cool feature of the 20" gun is that it has an integrated bayonet lug on the barrel.

As noted, the Hellion is based off of a Croatian-designed bullpup. The design has proven itself in demanding environments around the world, offering a handy and capable 5.56mm that is highly adaptable to a wide range of shooters. The Hellion has capably carried on this tradition, with

these two new variants offering some unique new options.

RANGE TIME

Shooting at the range was a lot of fun. The bullpup design really makes for a pleasant and soft impulse, which is refreshing. You get a great sense of enhanced control and diminished muzzle rise when shooting this rifle versus most traditional carbines, and if you are an avid AR-15 shooter like myself it's neat to mix it up with a different flavor.

I loaded up a mag full of Remington UMC Centerfire Rifle .223 55-gr. ammo and shot steel from 50 yards away using both an EO-Tech low-powered variable optic (LPVO) and EXPS2 holographic weapon sight on the Hellions.

Straight away, switching between the 18" and 20" back-to-back, I really enjoyed both and they felt very comparable. However, if I had to choose a personal favorite for a fun range session, shooting the 20" variant with a



The Hellion's two new longer-barreled variants — with the 20" model shown here — offer increased downrange performance and capabilities.

IMAGE: LEE KUOS

bayonet affixed to the end was a hoot — if only for style points.

Yes, I had a bayonet affixed. In addition to fitting the rifle out with the bayonet lug, Springfield has also sourced NATO-pattern Waffentechnik Model B2K 7.3" bayonets that are correct for the Hellion rifle. Available on the Springfield Armory Store, they feature a 440 stainless steel blade and come with a sheath.

The bayonet easily fit onto the very secure lug, and while firing a few mags though the 20" rifle with it attached, it did not interfere with firing whatsoever. I definitely had to clean some carbon off the bayonet when I took it off, but if you're not getting your tools dirty it means you aren't using them.

CONCLUSION

My key takeaway from these two newly dropped Hellions is that there is truly something for everybody now in this line. If you want

an ultra-streamlined and compact bullpup, both the 16" and 18" variants are exceptional options, with the 18" offering a bit of increase

HELLION 20" BULLPUP



CHAMBERING	5.56mm/.223
BARREL	20"
WEIGHT	8 lbs., 6 oz.
OVERALL LENGTH	32.25"-33.75"
SIGHTS	Flip-up
STOCK	Five-position adjustable
ACTION	Semi-auto
FINISH	Black
CAPACITY	30 (one magazine included)
MSRP	\$2,031



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
STORE.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
EOTECHINC.COM
REMINGTON.COM

**IT'S WHAT
YOU DON'T
SEE THAT
COUNTS.**

**CONCEALMENT,
PERFECTED.[®]**

DESANTISHOLSTER.COM

 **De F
Santis
GUNHIDE[®]**

A BARK

ROY HUNTINGTON

WITH BITE

Black Hills' 115-gr. HoneyBadger 10mm gives you a highly capable loading for this powerful cartridge. Shown with XD-M Elite 4.5" OSP 10mm pistol.



BLACK HILLS' HEAVY-HITTING 10MM HONEYBADGER DELIVERS DOWNRANGE.



I WAS A COP IN SAN DIEGO when the infamous FBI Miami shoot-out occurred. The failure of the 9mm, among others, during that shoot-out caused law enforcement (LE) agencies around the country to suddenly re-think what they carried. This contributed to the helter-skelter search for a “better” police round. In the aftermath we saw, as goes the FBI, so goes the rest of the LE world. So, when the FBI opted for the then-new 10mm, agencies gave it serious consideration — but calmer heads prevailed.

IMAGE: YAMIL SUED



HoneyBadger offers shooters a very powerful round for their favorite 10mm autopistol.

IMAGE: YAMIL SUEB

Norma Precision designed the 10mm in the early 1980s, at the request of Dornaus & Dixon, who were struggling to develop and sell the infamous Bren Ten 10mm pistol. The 10mm cartridge was designed as a group effort by Whit Collins, John Adams, Irving Stone (of Barstow barrel fame) and Jeff Cooper.

Believe it or not, the pistol cartridge began life as a cut-down .30 Remington rifle case, and in 1983 Norma began loading the first ammo. For some reason, Norma took it upon themselves to make the original load hotter than specified, which ended up causing early guns chambered in 10mm to wear fast.

The Bren Ten pistol died a natural death due to high cost, unavailability of magazines, poor marketing and a host of other challenges. But the 10mm lived on. When the FBI realized the Norma-styled 10mm was simply too much gun for the average agent, they cast about for a “shorty” 10mm, result-

ing in the development of the .40.

The new .40 round spread among LE agencies, federal agencies and the general shooting public like an out-of-control wildfire. Most were convinced the .40 offered improved “stopping power” over the 9mm loads of the time. They may have been right, though, due to bullet designs from that era causing many 9mm loads to under-penetrate. The heavier .40 bullets usually penetrated more, hence being more reliable stoppers in the street.

But all was not rosy. As technology improved the 9mm bullet designs and agencies discovered many officers had trouble qualifying with the snappy-recoiling .40, a general move back to the 9mm ensued, with even the famed FBI returning to the nine. But where did that leave the 10mm?

HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT

Handgun aficionados who saw the potential of the full-power 10mm cartridge still enjoyed the versatil-

ity of the round. While the round wasn’t chambered in huge numbers of new models, it still found a home in many new guns over the years. Also, new technology enhanced the performance of the 10mm with new bullet and powder developments. Just as the 9mm gained effectiveness by partnering with new bullet designs, so did the 10mm.

Keep in mind the average full-power 10mm runs at a substantial 37,000 PSI or so, and offers an average of 200 to 300 feet per second (fps) advantage over the .40 (which runs at about 35,000 PSI). The larger case capacity of the 10mm also allows the use of heavier bullets, even hard cast, heavy hunting bullets if you like.

However, just like small-frame revolvers, the 10mm cartridge rewards experienced shooters who can properly take advantage of its capabilities. Recoil can be substantial in smaller, lighter guns, and can still be a bit snappy even in bigger steel guns. However, if a shooter is experienced at managing recoil,



The HoneyBadger line features a wide range of chamberings (as well as .45-70, .40 and .357 Mag., which are not shown). The 10mm is shaped differently to meet OAL requirements.

none of the guns or loads are difficult to shoot accurately and rapidly if needed. I find the recoil of most 10mm loads to be a bit more than hardball in a lightweight .45 ACP and much less than any of the big-bore revolver cartridges. Don't let the "legendary awesome power" of the 10mm scare you away.

Some say it's "the same as a .41 Magnum", but that isn't the case at all. While a very few factory 10mm loads can nip at the heels of a low-level .41 Magnum revolver load, in actuality, a true .41 Magnum load is substantially more powerful than a 10mm. A stout .41 Magnum load (40,000 PSI) can send a 210-gr. bullet out at close 1,400 fps. A higher-end 10mm firing a 180-gr. bullet can chase 1,200 fps in some loads. So, while the 10mm is substantial, effective and flat-shooting, don't ask it to do the same work a .41 or .44 Magnum can do.

Having said that, more and more hunters, hikers and backcountry workers are relying on the 10mm for bear protection. Having eight to 15 rounds at-hand in your semi-auto is pretty reliable protection, offering deep penetration, multiple shots and a fast reload (if you have time during those hectic few seconds!).

Which brings us neatly to the Black Hills 115-gr. HoneyBadger 10mm load — and the concept behind it.

FLUTED?

Now and again, I get to use the word "innovative" when it really applies. Jeff and Kristi Hoffman, founders of Black Hills Ammunition, have helped lead the way toward reliability, performance and sheer high quality when it comes to ammo for discriminating shooters. The military must agree, too, as Black Hills has supplied a wide range of ammo for military units of all sorts, including the ones you can't talk about.

I've often said, when you simply can't have a failure in your ammo, carry Black Hills. I've toured their facility and their tight-knit crew takes great pride in what they do. While some commercial factory loaders load hundreds of thousands of rounds of a particular cartridge daily, Black Hills has small, "boutique" style loaders, carefully tended by craftsmen, loading small lots of simply impeccable final products.

Jeff and Kristi are driven by a quest for quality and performance, so it's only natural they came up

with their innovative HoneyBadger design. The concept is a solid copper fluted bullet which doesn't have to rely on expansion to create a permanent wound channel. The unique flutes cause extreme tissue disruption, and the fact the bullet is solid copper means it holds together for deep penetration.

Although the bullets are light for chambering, they still cut a full-caliber hole and usually penetrate more deeply than even heavier, more conventional bullet designs. The entire HoneyBadger line is also moving at higher velocities than heavier competitive designs.

According to Jeff Hoffman, "About eight or nine years ago we were given some bullets by Dave Fricke, head of Lehigh bullets at the time, and asked what we thought. Well, we thought there was huge potential. Over the next few years, we worked with Dave honing the designs for various caliber fluted bullets. Today, Lehigh and Black Hills are joint patent owners of elements of the design."

The design is called a "Solid copper, non-deforming, non-fragmenting projectile, with wide, sharp flutes" according to Black Hills' info.

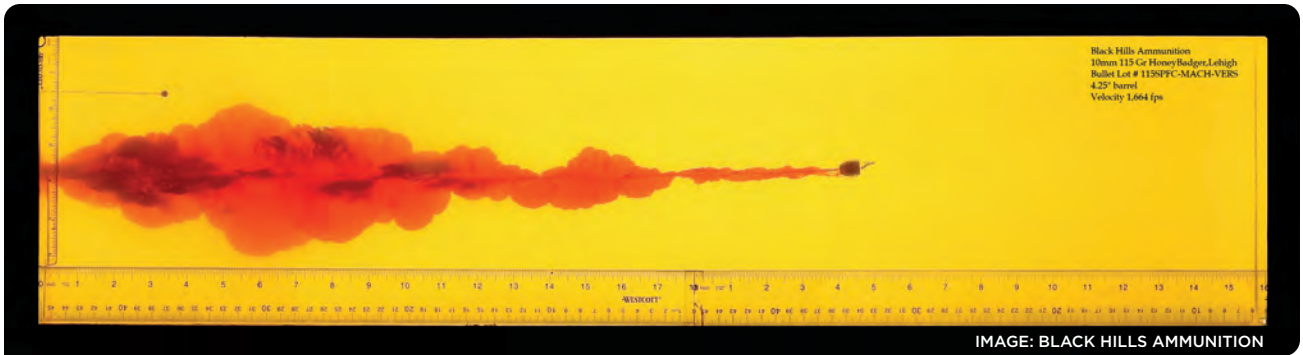


IMAGE: BLACK HILLS AMMUNITION

This shows a 10mm HoneyBadger penetrating nearly 23" in gel. Note the dyed "wound" channel. The copper bullets retain 100 percent of their weight.

Jeff explains, "Among the many advantages over hollow-point designs is the fact the HoneyBadger simply doesn't recognize the challenges a normal hollow-point design does. There's no hollow-point to fill, causing the bullet to act like an FMJ. It's extremely reliable in all barriers tested, and penetration and wound cavity is consistent and reliable."

I've seen the test data, visited the factory to watch the gel being shot and can attest to the fact HoneyBadger works.

Penetration in calibrated ballistic

gel is where things get interesting. The 10mm load averages 20" of penetration, exhibiting 100-percent weight retention. To verify velocity, I chronographed just over 100 rounds through two Springfield Armory semi-autos for this article.

A two-tone 5" Ronin 10mm averaged 1,565 fps over 50 shots, while an XD-M Elite 4.5" OSP 10mm averaged 1,547 fps over 50 rounds. Accuracy testing revealed the Ronin can deliver groups in the 1.3" to 1.75" range at 25 yards, while the XDM-Elite chased it at about the 1.75" to 2.25" range. I fired about 300 rounds in total, with no issues with either the guns or the ammo.


MY CONCLUSIONS?

I think Jeff says it best: "I've seen products come and go, and you

can often spot the gimmicky ones and know they won't last. I was concerned initially the unique design of the HoneyBadger bullet might not work as well as it looked. But we have a full-time ballistics lab here at Black Hills, with three techs. We've tested the HoneyBadger designs hundreds of times, through hundreds of gel blocks and in the hunting field and verified it truly does work, even beyond our original expectations."

This is a hard-hitting, accurate load, and the lighter bullet weight means it's easy to control. I didn't find recoil difficult to manage in either the Ronin or the XD-M Elite, and it was no problem shooting those 300 rounds in one afternoon.

The deep-penetrating nature of the round means it's perfect for defense against big critters like bear and hogs, and even bigger varmints of the two-legged and four-legged variety. It's also safe to shoot in tube-fed rifles. Accuracy is there for longer shots if needed, and having 15 or more rounds in hand means you can throw down a storm of deep-penetrating solid copper projectiles between you and whatever the threat is.

And that, friends, should help you sleep soundly at night. 



The solid-copper fluted design of the HoneyBadger round along with the 10mm's performance make for a potent combination.

IMAGE: YAMIL SUED

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
BLACK-HILLS.COM
SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
RANSOMREST.COM



MODEL
2020
RIMFIRE

NEW BOLT-ACTION .22 RIFLES

The Model 2020 Rimfire family offers shooters a refined rimfire rifle with all the quality and performance you've come to expect from Springfield Armory. Offered in both Classic wood-stocked and Target synthetic-stocked versions, the Model 2020 Rimfire carries an impressive accuracy guarantee and the heirloom quality of a firearm you will keep in your family for generations.

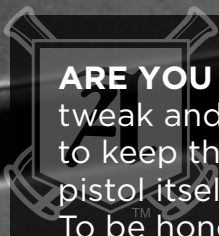


SPRINGFIELD ARMORY.

SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM

PEAK PERFORMANCE

APEX TACTICAL HELPS TAKE THE 9MM SA-35 TO THE NEXT LEVEL.



ARE YOU THE TYPE OF SHOOTER who likes to tweak and modify your firearm, or do you prefer to keep them stock? For me, it depends on the pistol itself and what I intend the purpose to be. To be honest, a lot of guns come from the factory with everything you need on them while others require some attention. I've found that Springfield Armory's offerings fit that former group. But, I also can't seem to resist the urge to customize a lot of my guns. I am a bit of a tinkerer.

There is one company I will buy anything they make if it fits one of my pistols, and that is Apex Tactical Specialties. The folks at Apex are masters at creating high-quality parts that you can thoroughly trust. I

recently got my hands on their SA-35 Low-Profile Magwell and extended magazines, which were a phenomenal upgrade to the pistol.



PERFORMANCE



JEREMY TREMP

Apex Tactical has released an Action Enhancement Trigger Kit for the SA-35 from Springfield Armory. Also note the Apex Low-Profile Magwell and extended magazine.

WATCH THE VIDEO:
MY CUSTOM APEX SA-35





The author acquired an Apex Low-Profile Magwell along with 19- (far left) and 17-round magazines for the SA-35 project. Note the LOK grips cut for the magwell.

FUNNELING IT IN

The magwell is very impressive. It is designed to offer a large, open mouth for magazines, while only adding about ¼" in grip length. It was a straightforward installation following the detailed directions Apex provides. If you've got some gunsmithing tools and a bit of elbow grease, you'll be just fine.

The Low-Profile Magwell kit is a well-thought-out, precision-machined piece of gear for your SA-35. Priced at \$150, it comes with everything needed to install and engages off the lanyard hole in the grip. Once installed, you'll need to utilize the LOK Grips — available from Apex for \$80 — that are cut for the Apex SA-35 magwell. They come in a gray or a red color scheme.

If you install the magwell, you will need to use Apex's extended SA-35 magazines due to its slightly longer length.

These are specially modified Mec-Gar mags, which are offered in either 17- or 19-round capacities in black or nickel finishes. They are offered in versions for pistols both with and without the Apex magwell. Prices for the magazines start at \$55.

I found that installing the magwell was quite easy. The lanyard hole running through the frame allows a perfect anchor point for the magwell to attach without any welding or cutting.

There are then side supports that create a rock-solid attachment to the left and right side of the frame. I would suggest

checking out the Apex website for a detailed walkthrough of the installation process.

TRIGGERING MOVES

In addition to the Low-Profile Magwell and the magazines for the pistol, I also wanted to try out the Apex Action Enhancement Trigger Kit for the SA-35.

Priced at \$200, the kit is designed to offer a very clean and crisp trigger break with reduced overtravel, as well as a hammer with enhanced leverage for easier cocking and a high hold on the



The Low-Profile Magwell Kit comes with everything you need for installation.

pistol. It is also designed as a direct drop-in system.

Like the magwell, it comes with everything you need for the project. The kit includes the following parts:

- Flat Trigger
- Hi Tilt Spur Hammer
- Mk 1 Balanced Sear
- Balanced Sear Lever
- Sear Lever Spring
- Trigger Pin Removal Punch
- SA-35 Spare Hammer Spring
- SA-35 Spare Firing Pin Spring

The trigger, machined from billet steel, is a wide and flat design that is, according to Apex, inspired by the work of famed pistolsmith Jim Garthwaite. The new hammer, inspired by the work of Jim Boland, is a “Hi Tilt Spur” design intended to allow the highest grip possible on the pistol.

Whereas I chose to install the magwell myself, I decided to take advantage of living near Apex’s facility and headed over to watch a true craftsman work.

I brought my trigger kit and SA-

35 down to the Apex headquarters and met up with Randy Lee, founder of Apex Tactical. He is the mastermind behind the Apex SA-35 products we have come to know and love.

We took the pistol to the bench and Randy began the installation process. Admittedly, it didn’t look too complex, but I was glad I had a professional to get it done right the

first time. As Randy worked, I asked him about his background and thoughts behind the SA-35 products they have been designing.

After hearing all that goes into their R&D, testing, materials and manufacturing process, I had an even deeper respect for the products from Apex Tactical.

Once it was all installed, the trigger was breaking at around 4.5 lbs. and felt fantastic. I did, however, want the weight to be a bit lighter as this was going to be a range pistol and not an EDC gun. After a bit of trial and error, we landed at a crisp 3.9-lb. break. The trigger was feeling exceptional, and the look really complemented the new hammer and magwell.

RANGE TIME

With the magwell, trigger, hammer and magazines installed, my SA-35 was completely Apex’d out and ready for some range time. When I first reviewed the SA-35 in its bone-stock configuration, I

The magwell is designed to fit to the SA-35 frame with no cutting or welding required. Note how little overall height it adds.





The Apex Action Enhancement Trigger Kit comes with all the parts you see here.

was stunned at how accurate and smooth shooting a pistol designed almost 100 years ago could be. If I was impressed back then, my expectations and hopes were even higher this go-around with my new Apex Tactical upgrades.

I headed to the range to test the reliability with multiple ammunition types as well as determine how the newly installed hammer and trigger felt. I tested it with Remington UMC ammo, Nosler ASP, and PMC hollow-point 9mm ammunition.

I utilized five different magazines as well to get a good feel for the reliability across a few mags. I didn't experience any malfunctions with the pistol, and it ran like a champ. The new trigger was a joy to shoot as well. I prefer a straight profile on my triggers, and the lower trigger weight made dialing in accurate shots a breeze.

Next, I wanted to test out how smooth, efficient and quick my reloads were using the Apex Tactical SA-35 magwell. I set up each

magazine with two rounds so that I could shoot hammer pairs, slide lock to reload, rinse and repeat. Having five magazines in total, this ended up being the highlight of my range trip. I didn't fumble a single reload, and each time that magazine seated perfectly as well as dropped consistently without any hiccups.

The new trigger also made quick follow-up shots a breeze. Keeping in mind I am not a competition shooter, I was happy with the results I was getting with the newly installed Apex SA-35 trigger.

EXPERT OPINION

Speaking of competition shooters, I linked up with the legendary Rob Leatham to get his thoughts on the Apex Tactical SA-35 parts. Here is what he had to say about them.

"By changing the shape of the trigger with this kit, Apex offers a feel the modern shooter will appreciate. It's not 'better' than the traditional curved shape, but I love the way it feels," he said. "Some shooters will prefer the traditional look of the SA-35 as it comes from Springfield, but others will like the more modern feel and look of the Apex parts. But everyone will like the way this Apex kit shoots."

Regarding the magwell, he had the following to say:

"For competitive shooters, we need to be able to reload as

Shown is a 19-round Apex magazine for the SA-35, along with the Low-Profile Magwell from Apex.



OFFER
ENDING SOON

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY®

GEAR UP

3 EXTRA MAGS AND RANGE BAG FREE

WITH **SELECT** HANDGUN PURCHASE

HELLCAT

HELLCAT PRO

XD

XD^S
MOD. 2

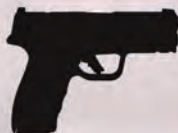
XD^M ELITE

SEPT. 15TH - DEC. 31ST 2023



\$150 ADDITIONAL VALUE!

1 PISTOL + 3 ADDITIONAL MAGAZINES + 1 RANGE BAG



GEARUP2023.COM





The author ran the Apex parts-equipped SA-35 at the range with no malfunctions and appreciated its performance.

quickly as possible. For decades, we addressed this by heating up the frame and swaging it wider or welding on a piece and cutting it out,” he explained. “The problem is this is hard to do and shortens what many think is the perfect grip length. Apex Tactical solved

this issue with their Low-Profile Magwell. It’s expertly executed, but that’s no surprise. After all, master class shooters and gunsmiths are in charge there.”

CONCLUSION

I would agree wholeheartedly with Rob’s assessment of the Apex Tactical SA-35 enhancements. After my range day, I can confidently check off the “reliability” test as I had zero issues with the pistol.

Any time we adjust, add to or modify factory firearms, there’s a real possibility of introducing a problem or negating our warranty. Needless to say, I am pleased to see reliability still reigning supreme with my SA-35.

The Apex Tactical SA-35 enhancements are well worth a look if you want to squeeze every bit of performance out of your pistol. It will give you a familiar yet enhanced feel on the range, and these products are sure to last a lifetime in my opinion.

Give Apex Tactical a look if you own or are interested in owning an SA-35. Be sure to also check out their robust lineup of Hellcat products and keep an eye out for future releases! 🇺🇸

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

APEXTACTICAL.COM
SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM



EB FUELED SERIES



Ed Brown **Fueled® M&P®**'s feature our exclusive **CUSTOM ACCURACY RAIL** to perfectly mate the slide and the barrel surfaces for improved lockup and accuracy



edbrown.com



AHEAD OF THE

SPRINGFIELD'S RONIN EMP 3" TAKES THE 1911 DESIGN INTO NEW TERRITORY.

MIKE MILLS



WATCH THE VIDEO
WRINGING OUT THE EMP

THE CURVE




IMAGE: JEREMY TREMP



SPRINGFIELD ARMORY

The Ronin EMP 3' in 9mm downsizes the 1911 for ease of EDC. Shown with Vedder LightTuck IWB holster.



THERE IS JUST NOTHING LIKE A 1911. This is true from the angles of the grip to the feel of that safety when it's disengaging. And when you pull that trigger, you understand why so many people love the 1911 design. But, with a platform that's more than a century old, is there any room for updating it while still retaining the benefits of the original design?

For me, the question is what a modern shooter and CCW user wants from their 1911. The pistol was originally designed as a duty-style pistol that fired a large, powerful cartridge. The unsurprising result was a ruggedly reliable, yet large and heavy pistol. And while you can EDC a full-size 1911 in .45 ACP, there is definitely a role for something smaller and lighter.

Yes, there are a lot of polymer-framed, striker-fired pistols that can fit that role, and fit it well. Just look at the Hellcat family for one very good solution. But how about those of us who really appreciate the 1911, but want something smaller?

Combining modern manufacturing techniques with the increased performance of today's 9mm ammo, Springfield Armory had given us the Ronin EMP 3" 9mm as an ultra-concealable configuration of the classic 1911.

FEATURES YOU NEED

When Springfield set out to make the EMP series, they didn't just take a standard 1911 and simply stick in the 9mm cartridge. The Ronin EMP is redesigned around the 9mm to enhance and

improve the reliability and performance of the 1911 platform for use with modern 9mm ammunition. It's also scaled down from the original .45 ACP-sized gun to be one designed around the smaller and shorter 9mm round.

The EMP features 11 proprietary parts distinct from a standard 1911, including a 9mm-size lightweight aluminum frame. The result is an ultra-concealable 1911 with impressive reliability and performance.

While others may just re-chamber a barrel, retune the springs and stick in a 9mm magazine, Springfield set out to keep the best characteristics of the 1911 intact while tailoring and resizing the pistol platform to suit the modern high-performance 9mm ammunition that is available today.

Another advantage of the redesigned frame for the Ronin EMP is that it is not only smaller and lighter, but also has a smaller grip circumference. So, in addition to being light and easy to carry, it also features enhanced ergonomics and handling characteristics.

The Ronin EMP 3" boasts a forged stainless steel bull barrel that provides you with match-grade performance,

tight lock-up and a beautifully finished look at the muzzle end of the pistol.

As noted, a lightweight forged aluminum frame gives you the strength you want, while providing a lighter package to carry around all day. And the classic looks of the 1911 are present with the Ronin EMP with its wood grips, blued slide and silver-Cerakoted frame.

HANDS-ON

On the range, the 3" Ronin EMP shoots like a much larger pistol. With the dual captive recoil spring and a redesigned grip radius, recoil is easily managed to allow fast follow-up shots and impressive accuracy. The nine-round stainless steel magazines will not only give you capacity you can be comfortable with for CCW, but also the lifetime of service you would expect from such a durable and rust-resistant material.

The Tactical Rack sights integrated into the pistol's design give you an intuitive sight picture in the way of a white-dot rear and fiber-optic front. On the range, these sights are immediately identifiable, with the high-visibility front sight providing clear sight alignment and a solid sight picture.

I found that when fast follow-up shots are needed, the Ronin EMP delivered. The crisp break and reset of the trigger of the pistol I tested is precisely what you would expect from a 1911. The skeletonized trigger design, with its linear grooves on the



facing surface, provided a positive tactile engagement and a solid feel with each trigger pull.

During my testing, I ran a variety of ammunition through the Ronin EMP 3", from basic PMC 115-gr. FMJ to the following self-defense loads: Hornady American Gunner 124-gr. +P XTP hollow-point, Atlanta Arms 115-gr. JHP, and Ammo Inc. 124-gr. JHP.

All of this ammunition ran flawlessly through the match-grade barrel. It also gave impressive accuracy at 15 yards, with the high-performance ammunition performing best — not only in accuracy but in velocity results as well.

When firing the +P ammunition, the dual recoil spring and the redesigned grip radius kept things well in hand. The recoil felt consistent and controllable, and gave less muzzle rise than I would expect from such a compact design.

As you can see from the chronograph results in the shooting

1911 RONIN EMP 3"



CHAMBERING	9mm
BARREL	3"
WEIGHT	24 oz.
OVERALL LENGTH	6.6"
SIGHTS	Tactical rack white dot rear, fiber optic front
GRIPS	Wood
ACTION	Semi-auto
FINISH	Blued/satin aluminum
CAPACITY	9+1 (one magazine included)
MSRP	\$917

results chart on the last page of this article, not only did the 3" bull barrel hold its own on velocity, but the match-grade performance of the barrel was very notable.

Getting a near 1" group at 15 yards with a 3" barrel is certainly

impressive. And although the self-defense ammo did perform better overall, the PMC Bronze held its own, bringing in an average of 1,110 feet per second velocity and a 1.75" group size. Be sure to check out the accompanying chart for all the results.

During my range time with the pistol, I found the Ronin EMP to be extremely comfortable in the hand. The wooden grips not only give it a classic 1911 look, but the dual-texture design provides both grip and comfort. Also, the checkering on the backstrap of



DURABLY. ADAPTABLY.

POWERFULLY. AMERICAN.

You expect your build to be ready for action every time you pull the trigger, so we engineer our products with uncompromising precision. Always American-made, our accessories enhance the functionality of your firearm, while also making it uniquely yours. Enjoy your build even more when you customize your firearms with Midwest Industries.



SHOP OUR DIVERSE PLATFORMS AT [MIDWESTINDUSTRIESINC.COM](https://www.midwestindustriesinc.com)

 **MADE IN USA**



The author tested the 1911 Ronin EMP for accuracy and performance, with it running flawlessly.

the mainspring housing gives an additional positive feeling of control with just enough grip to be aggressive yet not abrasive.

The smaller radius of the newly designed frame not only makes it easy to conceal the Ronin EMP 3", but also allows you to effortlessly

The pistol shot very tight groups at 15 yards, with some as small as just over 1".



manipulate the controls, from the safety to the slide release.

All of the controls operated smoothly during my testing, with just the right amount of resistance to give confidence in the pistol's operation.

THE FINAL WORD

As I mentioned, I am a true fan of the 1911 design. With its more than 100 years of proven service combined with its excellent ergonomics and performance, the design is one that has stood the test of time.

And now, thanks to the efforts of Springfield Armory, I have a new version of the 1911 downsized to be my constant EDC companion.

Effective concealment is made easy by the design of the Ronin EMP. The 3" barrel and the smaller overall profile make it, in my opinion, the perfect carry pistol for any occasion. Even more so since it's based on the 1911! 🗡️

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
TRUESHOTAMMO.COM
VEDDERHOLSTERS.COM

**PERFORMANCE (15 YDS.)
 1911 RONIN EMP 3" 9MM**

LOAD	GROUP SIZE	VELOCITY
AMMO INC. 124-GR. JHP	1.25"	1,011 fps
ATLANTA ARMS 124-GR. JHP	1.4"	1,069 fps
HORNADY AMERICAN GUNNER +P 124-GR. XTP	1.1"	1,161 fps
PMC 115-GR. FMJ	1.75"	1,110 fps

The five-shot group sizes are measured in inches and were shot at 15 yards from a bench. Velocities are measured in feet per second (fps) and were measured by a Caldwell Ballistic Precision Chronograph 10' from the muzzle. Abbreviations: +P (increased pressure), FMJ (full metal jacket), JHP (jacketed hollow-point), XTP (eXtreme Terminal Performance).







THERE ARE AMMO PLANTS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING NEARLY FOUR MILLION ROUNDS A DAY. THAT'S NOT US. WE ARE A CRAFT AMMUNITION MAKER. **AND YOU CAN'T AUTOMATE CRAFT.**



Ammunition

TO LOCATE A DEALER NEAR YOU, PLEASE CALL 800.568.6625

WWW.BLACK-HILLS.COM    



DESERT EAGLE[®]

MADE IN THE U.S.A.



MAGNUM RESEARCH[®]

WWW.MAGNUMRESEARCH.COM



Join us: @magnumresearchinc

WY M14E2

RARE AND SULTRY, simultaneously utilitarian and cool, the elusive M14E2 was designed to be a squad automatic version of the esteemed M14 service rifle. In years past, the closest you could get to one of these unusual fire-arms was by perusing the pages of some moldy old gun book. However, now thanks to SARCO, Inc. as well as Springfield Armory, an M14E2 of your own is within reach — that is, if you're reasonably handy with tools.

IMAGE: JAKE MILLER/SPRINGFIELD ARMORY

JOURNEY

HOMEBUILDING AN ULTRA-RARE RIFLE WITH **SARCO** AND **SPRINGFIELD ARMORY**.

WILL DABBS, MD



This semi-auto DIY build of the ultra-rare M14E2 was done with SARCO, Inc. parts and a Springfield Armory M1A.



THE UNICORN

Small arms evolve over time. The pressures of congressional budgets combined with the crucible of combat drive mechanical adaptation to ideally produce an improved product. Sometimes the result is something like the paradigm-shifting German StG44. Other times it's the ambitious but dead-end WWI-era French Chauchat.

For me, the M14E2 sits somewhere in the middle. It may be a "failure" due to the fact it wasn't widely adopted and did not achieve its intended aims, but it's also weirdly cool. Add in the fact that in the past the M14E2 was unobtainium, and it makes it just about irresistible.

But how did the M14E2 in all its wonderful weirdness come

about? With the development of the M14 from the classic John Cantius Garand-designed M1, what you had was the ultimate iteration of the revered design. Chambered for the new 7.62 NATO round, select-fire and fed by a detachable magazine, the M14 addressed all the relative shortcomings of the admittedly exceptional M1.

The M14 was originally envisioned as a one gun-does-everything replacement for the M1 rifle, the M1 Carbine and the M1918A2 Browning Automatic Rifle (BAR). The appeal of simplified logistics was likely a driving force behind this plan. However, the 7.62 NATO round is a large, powerful cartridge that is hard to control in full-auto fire from a rifle like the M14.

To address this, the M14E2 was developed. Its wooden stock included a vertical pistol grip, a folding front grip, and a rubber buttpad under a flip-up steel buttplate, all designed to help tame the rifle's recoil under full-automatic fire. It also included a robust steel bipod as well as a muzzle stabilizer that slipped over the original slotted flash suppressor. A slotted synthetic handguard helped facilitate barrel cooling.

The end result looked about as awkward as some mad scientist's hybridized duck-monkey. However, the gun fits the human form beautifully and runs like a scalded ape.

So, if you'd like to build up a semi-automatic M14E2 "clone" of your own, the voyage begins with sourcing the parts.



Unfortunately, Uncle Sam only made around 8,300 of these strange hybrid rifles, and many of them were gobbled up in combat in Vietnam. Original buttstocks and parts on the civilian market were few and far between, with commensurately high prices. Enter SARCO, Inc.

A NEW SOURCE

Anyone with a passion for surplus military guns and gear knows the name SARCO well. The company was incorporated way back in 1962 by Cholly Steen, III, and the name stood for "Steen Armament Research Company". SARCO would become renowned for digging up some of the most unique and rare military surplus gear available from around the world.

But, by its nature, the business of acquiring and selling surplus material is directly affected by the availability of the products. As compared to sourcing parts of widely made military products, supporting the demand for more rare items can be difficult. Add to that the effects of time, with each year making even the most common parts more and more scarce, and you have quite a hill to climb.

As a result, SARCO would eventually find itself also in the business of manufacturing to support the demands of its wide range of customers. Which brings us back to the topic at hand.

The M14E2 is a perfect example of the type of product that SARCO would support, but its extreme rarity limits the availability of

parts. So, the company decided to address this by having new parts made to help collectors and enthusiasts build their own semi-auto M14E2 rifles.

If you have a rifle like an M1A for the build, they offer practically everything else you need. This includes a new stripped stock, a new stock hardware set including a new front grip assembly and rail, and an original slotted handguard.

THE PARTS

Building up your own M14E2 clone is a DIY home project of modest complexity. I'm comfortable around tools, but I'm not a professional gunsmith. If you struggle to change the oil in your car, you might want to sit this one out. However, I am living proof that you can success-

IMAGE: JAKE MILLER/SPRINGFIELD ARMORY



fully build up this rifle with nothing more than a Dremel tool, a power drill and patience. The end result will set you apart at the range, and it's a really satisfying way to kill a lazy Saturday afternoon.

In addition to the SARCO parts, I acquired a "Standard Issue" Springfield Armory M1A with a synthetic stock. I binned the stock and used the basic barreled action as a starting point. You'll need a flash suppressor with a bayonet lug to secure the muzzle stabilizer, but Springfield Armory offers that for sale on the Springfield Armory Store for those that can legally install it on their rifle. Be sure to check your local laws.

The OD canvas sling from the Springfield Armory Store is a good fit for this project. To use

it on the M14E2, you rig it backwards. The sliding keeper goes on the rear, while the Parkerized hook locks the front grip in place.

The Springfield Armory Store also offers the M-2 bipod, which is a great fit for this project. The bipod is rugged steel with a Parkerized



The author's build of the M14E2 from SARCO and Springfield parts on an M1A resulted in a very convincing reproduction of the original design.



IMAGE: JAKE MILLER/SPRINGFIELD ARMORY

finish. Press a button on the side to deploy or stow each leg. The legs are readily adjustable for command height.

The SARCO M14E2 stock is stripped and unfinished, but beautifully executed. Original stocks were cut from birch, which is both hard and durable. SARCO had theirs made from American beech, which is even more so. I found the quality to be superb.

The SARCO M14E2 stock hardware set includes the front grip along with the internal mounting rail and installation screws. While the screws in the kit are $\frac{3}{8}$, I found them to be a little short and sourced a pair of 10-24x $\frac{1}{2}$ screws at my local hardware store. Like the originals, the grip folds fore and aft as desired. The original G.I. field manual made it clear that the foregrip was meant to be supported by the sling, not its mechanical latch.

Other parts in the stock hardware set include the buttplate with pivoting shoulder rest, rubber buttpad with plugs, front ferrule, and rear sling swivel along with mounting hardware. Some of this

stuff is original, but much of it is newly manufactured. Quality, like that of the stock, is unimpeachable. SARCO also offers original distinctive synthetic slotted handguards as well.

That left a false selector switch and slip-on muzzle stabilizer for me to find. Google is your buddy for those last two items.

RETIRING TO THE WORKSHOP

One of my mandates in undertaking this project was that it be done with the sorts of tools normal people might actually have. If it takes a cold fusion reactor and a 12-axis CNC mill slaved to an ENIAC supercomputer, then this gun might as well be located on Mars. I wanted to prove that a normal dude with normal mechanical proclivities could pull this off. You'll need a Dremel tool. If you don't already have one, I sure wouldn't admit that to anybody.

The SARCO stock is intentionally tight in places. You'll need to strategically tweak the wood back in places to get the components to

fit. Remember that it is way easier to take material away than it is to put it back, so take your time.

There is a steel insert stock liner that fits inside inlets in the stock to support the rifle chassis. I had to shave the front edges of the steel insert back just a bit to get it to accept the M1A receiver legs. I suggest fitting the insert to your action before mounting it in the stock. It should slide in and out readily without being loose. I found that a cutoff wheel on the Dremel worked fine. Wear safety glasses throughout unless you want to rock a cool eyepatch.

Fitting the steel insert into the stock was the most tedious part of the build. I shaved a bit of wood back on the forward part of the magwell and then fit the insert, repeating as necessary until it finally snapped into place and aligned with the holes. I had to gently bend the insert and take my time with the Dremel, but the end result is rock solid. Just slowly tease back the front bit of the magwell with your Dremel until the length is right.



The M14E2 offered several unique adaptations to the original design — like a vertical pistol grip, rubber buttpad, forward grip and more.

The steel insert is held in place via two-hole proprietary fasteners. Brownells sells an appropriate driver bit that will fit in a standard screwdriver. However, I'm cheap, and I wanted to complete this project with a minimum of extra-neous expense. I just measured the distance between the holes in the fastener and sank a couple of nails that far apart in a scrap of wood. The resulting improvised franken-tool wouldn't do more than a couple of bolts, but it worked fine for this project and cost me literally nothing.

The steel front end cap on the stock is called a ferrule. The originals were crimped in place at the factory. I had to tweak the front of the stock back just a hair with a sanding drum on my Dremel to get the cap to fit, and then secured it with a little JB Weld epoxy. It will remain in place until the sun burns out.

Fitting the barreled action to the stock, I took my time and identified the tight spots via trial and error. Aside from fitting the insert, the only real trouble area was the front of the stock where it accepts

PARTS LIST

SARCO M14E2 STRIPPED STOCK	\$165
SARCO M14E2 STOCK HARDWARE SET	\$160
SARCO ORIGINAL SLOTTED HANDGUARD	\$50
SPRINGFIELD STANDARD ISSUE COMPOSITE STOCK M1A	\$1,770
SPRINGFIELD M1A FLASH SUPPRESSOR	\$52
SPRINGFIELD M1A CASTLE NUT PLIERS	\$27
SPRINGFIELD OD GREEN SLING	\$23
SPRINGFIELD M-2 BIPOD	\$171
MUZZLE STABILIZER	\$80
FALSE SELECTOR	\$50
TOTAL COST	\$2,548

the gas cylinder. I used a sanding drum to relieve this area to about the same geometry as the ferrule for a consistent tight fit. Drop the action back in place and repeat as necessary until everything jives.

I had to do some significant adjustment to the area around the selector switch hole with the Dremel to get the fake selector to fit, but that's not too tough. Settling the action in place took a while but resulted in a factory-tight interface between wood and steel. Once I had everything fitted, I stripped the stock back down and stained it with walnut oil stain.

Final assembly requires little more than a screwdriver. I did a

little tweaking and final fitting with the Dremel as I found a few spots that needed some extra work. But basically, I was done. Just to be on the safe side, I had a local gunsmith look over the gun to ensure everything was good to go. Once he had cleared

it, I got it out to the range and found it to be a very fun gun to shoot. The extra mass combined with the compensator, pistol grip, forward grip and overall solid foundation conspire to make it a delightful shooter.

RUMINATIONS

You could make this project way more complicated by glass-bedding the stock. However, that wasn't my mission here. This is a shooter-grade semi-auto reproduction of the rare 1960's-era M14E2 squad automatic created with the help of SARCO, Inc. The end result is utterly reliable, fun to run, and sets me apart from my peers. The fact I made it myself offers a little extra special pride of ownership.

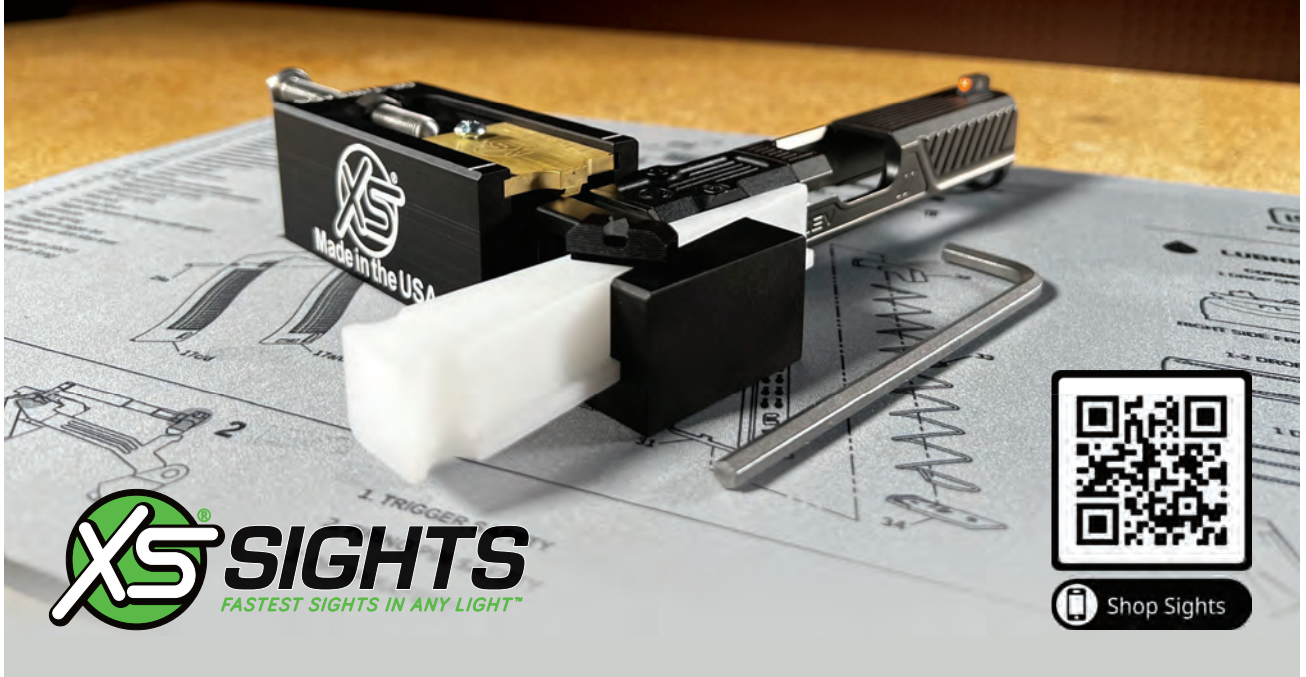
Once you add everything up, this admittedly isn't a cheap project. However, it's not stupid expensive, either. If you're fairly handy with tools, then fire up your Dremel and build up an M14E2 of your own. It cost me a single Saturday. Getting there is indeed half the fun. 🍷

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

SARCOINC.COM
 SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM
 STORE.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM

Night Sights & Install Tools

The Complete Sight Solution



XS SIGHTS
FASTEST SIGHTS IN ANY LIGHT™



Shop Sights



EVERY DRAW IS A WIN



*Keeping your loved ones safe is your job.
Keeping your gun safe is ours.*



www.craftholsters.com

CRAFT
HOLSTERS

RDP Y0 EDC

**THIS DROP-IN
KIT TAKES YOUR
HELLCAT TO THE
NEXT LEVEL OF
PERFORMANCE.**



The author examines the new threaded barrel and compensator kit for the Springfield Armory Hellcat and demonstrates how to install the system in your pistol.

UR

SAM WEITZNER



THE HELLCAT IS WIDELY REGARDED as an excellent choice for concealed carry and personal protection. Its combination of small, concealable size and increased capacity over similarly sized guns made it a very popular choice among shooters when it came to market.

With the growing number of people buying defensive firearms over the last few years, there has been a matching growth in the number of gun owners heading to the range to shoot recreationally. Frequent range trips and shooting more drills not only improve a shooter's skill with their chosen firearm, but often leads that shooter to look for new ways to engage in the shooting sports with it.

For many Hellcat owners, the release of the Hellcat RDP presented an exciting opportunity to get the carry gun they love with performance features that would enhance their shooting experience at the range. Including a red-dot optic and a compensator, a rare feature set on a pistol of this size, meant that shooters could have the defensive performance of the Hellcat in an even more flat-

shooting and capable format.

Many standard Hellcat owners expressed interest in the RDP, but understandably hesitated to sell or trade their trusted carry gun for the new RDP variant. However, an offering from Springfield Armory is poised to allow Hellcat owners to enhance their own trusted carry pistol with a brand-new threaded barrel and compensator set.

The Hellcat 3.8" Threaded Barrel with Self-Indexing Compensator set, in 9mm of course, is easily dropped in and doesn't require any gunsmithing or fitting to operate correctly. It also features Springfield's patent-pending self-indexing muzzle device system. This system eliminates the hassle of trying to perfect the timing of the compensator with shims when it is threaded onto the barrel. A spring-loaded arm on the bottom of the 8082 aluminum compensator locks into a groove on the barrel to provide a



Springfield Armory manufactures this threaded barrel kit, so you can be assured it will fit and run properly in your Hellcat 9mm pistol.

IMAGE: YAMIL SUEDE

perfect fit without the need for trial and error in the mounting process.

The barrel itself is lengthened to 3.8" (over the 3" barrel of the standard Hellcat) to accommodate the muzzle device, and is threaded 1/2x28. It sports a Melonite finish for added durability. Both the barrel and the compensator from the set are easily installed at home in a matter of minutes.

TAKE-DOWN

The first step is to ensure that there is no ammunition anywhere near the area where you intend to install the parts. This means loose rounds, loaded magazines and even ammunition for other firearms. It is essential for your safety and the safety of others that you do not let ammunition near the firearm during maintenance or installations.

With ammo removed from the area, point the Hellcat in a safe direction with your finger off the trigger and engage the magazine release. Remove the magazine and place it to the side after confirm-

ing it does not contain any ammo.

Now, perform the most crucial step of the process. Bring the slide rearward and push the slide release lever upwards to lock the slide to the rear. Inspect the chamber fully to ensure there is no ammunition in the chamber or anywhere else inside the gun.

Once you have confirmed that the gun is completely free of ammunition, you can begin the short and

sweet process of installing the set.

With the slide locked to the rear and the magazine removed, slide the disassembly lever on the frame of the Hellcat upwards toward the top of the slide. Once the lever has slid upwards, pull back on the slide to keep the tension and then use the slide release to slowly ease the

To start, ensure your Hellcat is unloaded and do a basic fieldstrip.



IMAGE: AUTHOR



slide fully forward.

Point the Hellcat in a safe direction and, keeping your hand on the slide, pull the trigger. You should be able to pull the slide straight forward and off of the frame. Now that the slide has been taken off, place the frame of the Hellcat to the side.

Once you slide the new barrel in place, you can install the comp. To finish the installation, simply reassemble the gun as you would after cleaning.



The threads have a common 1/2x28 pitch, which makes it compatible with a wide range of suppressors.

Begin taking apart the slide assembly by removing the recoil spring assembly from the slide. This is done by pushing on the flat area at the back of the spring assembly to release it from where it is sitting in contact with the gun's barrel. With that assembly removed, all you'll have to do is draw the barrel up and out of the slide.

FITTING CHOICES

Now it's time to install the new threaded barrel and compensator set. Remove the contents of the barrel and comp set from its packaging.

If you plan to use the compensator, place the included thread protector for the barrel in a safe place so you can find it if you want to use it in the future. The barrel and compensator will come assembled in the packaging. To install them,

they'll first have to be separated.

Flip the barrel upside down, and you'll see a spring-loaded arm sticking out of the bottom of the compensator. Push it down and turn the compensator to loosen it. Continue to turn the compensator off the barrel's threads while holding down on the lever to ensure it does not snag during removal.

Once the compensator is all the way off and the barrel threads are exposed, you can place the barrel down and forward into the slide, reversing the technique you used to remove the original barrel. The threaded portion should be exposed and sticking out of the end of the slide.

With the threaded barrel in place, resting firmly with the chamber against its cutout in the slide, place the recoil spring assembly back into the slide. Push the flat portion of the recoil spring assembly like you did during disassembly to compress it slightly and let it lock into place against its cutout in the barrel.

With the recoil spring assembly now in place, the barrel should be stable when you install the compensator. Depress the spring-loaded arm on the bottom of the compensator once again and push the compensator gently into contact with the threads on the end of the barrel. Rotate the compensator onto the threads. As you reach the bottom of the threads and the compensator is almost aligned, it's time to let the self-indexing system work its magic.

Rotate it clockwise to tighten it — all the way until it stops. Now, you'll need to turn it back about ½ turn. While depressing the lever, continue again to screw the compensator back onto the barrel until it can go no further. It should be visibly out of alignment at this point. Release the pressure on the lever, and reverse the direction of the compensator slowly, for about ½ to ¾ turn. You will feel and hear the key catch into the notch — and at this point, your compensator is properly installed and ready to go. Verify that it does not turn in either direction and that the single port is straight up, in front of the front sight.

With that done, you can now place the slide on the frame and draw it rearward, pushing up on the slide release to lock the slide of the Hellcat to the rear. With the slide locked in position, push the disassembly lever back down toward the bottom of the frame. You can now release the slide gently and the gun is reassembled.

It is a good idea to check the function of the gun's mechanisms after maintenance and installation — just make sure you do so without any ammunition near the

The drop-in kit includes a threaded barrel, compensator and thread protector.



The threaded barrel and compensator kit makes turning your standard Hellcat into a Hellcat RDP-style pistol a breeze.

firearm. Once you've checked that everything is functional, you should be all set and can start using your pistol and begin enjoying the performance of your newly enhanced Hellcat.

CONCLUSION

This kit adds an appealing new feature to the original Hellcat pistol where threaded barrels are legal. In my experience, running it in the

gun noticeably reduces muzzle rise when shooting. As expected, the gun remains utterly reliable with the kit installed. That makes sense, as this is a factory parts kit — not something from a third party.

A threaded barrel is also worth considering for the Hellcat if only to add a sound suppressor. However, the included compensator adds significant value to this kit. Unlike a suppressor, the comp is not regulated by federal law. Also, the installation of the barrel kit is a breeze for users of most skill levels.

Bottom line: this upgrade is undoubtedly a worthwhile investment for Hellcat owners seeking enhanced customization and functionality in their compact firearms. Be sure to check it out at the Springfield Armory Store. Priced at \$199.99, it's a great option for your trusted Hellcat EDC. 📄

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:
STORE.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM



STOP DIGGING FOR YOUR GUNS THE XL SPINS!



LIMITED TIME PROMOTION
SCAN CODE FOR EXCLUSIVE
DISCOUNTS & DEMO VIDEO.



REVOLUTION[®]
SAFE COMPANY

INSPIRED BY PENDLETON

Shop online at RevolutionSafes.com or call 770-466-6181

The DeSantis Speed Scabbard is a classic leather holster ready for EDC. Shown with Springfield Armory Echelon 9mm and Boxer Outdoors Apogee Tactical Belt.



A MODERN

RICHARD JOHNSON

CLASSIC

**THE DESANTIS SPEED SCABBARD
COMBINES OLD SCHOOL QUALITY WITH
TOP-NOTCH PERFORMANCE.**



HANDGUN EVOLUTION in my lifetime has been remarkable. While polymer-framed pistols were virtually unknown when I first became interested in shooting, today they are the kings of the self-defense and law enforcement realms.

As one might expect, holsters have undergone similar changes in recent decades. Once the domain of leather craftsmen, the holster market exploded with Kydex and other synthetic materials that now offer an unprecedented number of carry options.

What then, does it say about a holster company that was successful “back in the day” before polymer-framed guns were common, yet still continues to thrive in the modern handgun market?

I’d argue that the company is making exceptional designs that resonate with shooters and backs

them up with excellent customer service. How else would they navigate such revolutionary changes in the industry?

DeSantis Gunhide is almost as old as I am, which is to say they’ve been making quality rigs for more than half-a-century. I was familiar with their goods while growing up and have used many of the company’s holsters as both an armed citizen and uniformed cop. I can’t tell you how many times I slipped a pistol in my pocket sheathed in a DeSantis Nemesis pocket holster or strapped one of the company’s

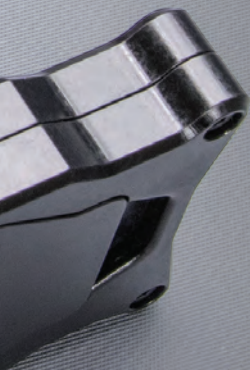


IMAGE: JOHN MCKENZIE/DOWN RANGE PHOTOGRAPHY



DESANTIS
SPEED
SCABBARD

The combination of classic leather with the ultra-modern Echelon system makes for an appealing EDC system. Note the Apogee belt the author also tested.



BOXER
OUTDOORS
APOGEE BELT

ankle rigs to the top of my boot when putting on the uniform. The company's gear always delivered. And they have offerings ranging from classic leather to modern synthetic materials.

One of the classic DeSantis designs is the Speed Scabbard. When I received my Springfield Armory Echelon I knew I needed a solid outside-the-waistband (OWB) holster, so I was quite pleased to see on the Springfield Armory Store that DeSantis supported the new gun at launch with a Speed Scabbard variant for it. I ordered one of the \$88.99 holsters immediately.

DESIGN AND FEATURES

At its most fundamental, the DeSantis Speed Scabbard is an open-top OWB leather holster designed for comfortable carry. It is a classic three-slot rig that allows you to carry it with either a neutral or a forward tilt. This design approach gives you a great deal of flexibility on how you can set up the leather holster for carry to fit your particular EDC needs.

DeSantis uses precisely molded leather with an adjustable retention screw located near the triggerguard. This allows you to dial in how much friction must be overcome to remove the gun from the scabbard. A fast draw is great, but you must balance that against security considerations.

My rig showed perfect stitching that was doubled in some areas for added strength. The edges of the leather were smooth and rounded as if the company spent extra time to buff the exterior edges. This is common on a custom rig, but it is less common on a more affordable holster like the Speed Scabbard.

One of the key features of the Springfield Echelon is its game-changing optics Variable Interface System (VIS) mount. The

Echelon can directly mount more than 30 of the most popular pistol red dots currently on the market without needing an adapter plate. This makes for a ruggedly simple low-mounting option for a wide range of optics.

I hoped that holster manufacturers would produce models that could accommodate all of the varied optics the Echelon could mount. DeSantis seems to have done just that with the Speed Scabbard. I tested mine with a range of optics on the pistol, and every one fit the holster with ample clearance.

In general, I find OWB holsters more comfortable to wear than inside-the-waistband (IWB) rigs. I suspect I am not alone. Even so, there are still some OWB rigs that are more comfortable than others, and the Speed Scabbard definitely falls into the "more comfortable" category.

RIGGING IT UP

Quality belts can make a major impact on how a gun carries. With a high-quality belt, even a mediocre holster can perform well. Think what a solid holster like the Speed Scabbard can do with one. Thin belts bought at the local clothing store rarely provide enough stability to carry a gun. While fashionable, these belts can make a top-notch holster uncomfortable or even impractical to use. For this reason, I always encourage people to buy good quality belts designed specifically for CCW.

While ordering my holster from the Springfield Armory Store, I saw that they also carried a Boxer Outdoors Apogee Tactical Belt marked with the Springfield Armory logo for \$99.99. Offered in a choice of black, gray or coyote brown, I went for basic black.

This belt is an interesting mix of materials and features that

blend into a sound platform for gun carrying. The strap portion of the belt is made of webbing similar to many rigger belts. However, the company coats the belt in a black polymer that gives it the appearance of something more akin to leather. I found this appearance suitable for many clothing styles for which a standard web belt would seem out of place.

More important than the style was the performance of the belt. Frankly, I was pleased at how well it worked. The belt is 1.5" wide, which worked well with the Speed Scabbard. Most significant, though, was the buckle system. It uses a ratchet-type buckle that allows for a high degree of adjustment, allowing users to improve fit and tightness, no matter what they are carrying. The rugged buckle also has a quick-release.

Throughout my evaluation, the Boxer Outdoors belt performed admirably, solidly anchoring the Speed Scabbard while carrying the Echelon.

DURABILITY AND RETENTION

Testing the durability of a holster can be a difficult thing. In general, writers work on a deadline and testing a rig for two years simply isn't realistic. Luckily, I own several Speed Scabbard holsters for other handguns. I have owned those rigs for several years, so I can speak to the general durability of the design and craftsmanship.

Put simply, the Speed Scabbard is a tough rig. Samples from my collection have been through some rough times, and they bear the scars of hard use. Yet every single one remains in service. All of the leather, stitching and tension screws remain perfectly serviceable. My new Echelon rig appears to be of the exact same quality.



The DeSantis Speed Scabbard holster is a classic three-slot rig that allows you to carry it with a neutral or forward tilt.

Retention is good with this rig. Any open-topped holster needs to have some sort of internal retention to prevent the gun from popping or falling out during regular activities.

DeSantis designed the Speed Scabbard to retain the Echelon using friction. The hand-molded

leather mates tightly to the pistol. As mentioned earlier, an adjustable retention screw allows you to increase or decrease the friction to match your needs.

I find the system to be superior to other leather, open-top rigs, but I understand if you prefer to have a thumb break for added security. If so, check out the Thumb Break

The author found the holster to be remarkably comfortable carrying the Echelon 9mm pistol.



If you prefer added security, the Thumb Break Scabbard by DeSantis is also available.



Scabbard — also available on the Springfield Armory Store for \$89.99. Also designed by DeSantis, the rig is nearly identical to the Speed Scabbard, but with the addition of a reinforced thumb break for increased retention.

FINAL THOUGHTS

As should be evident by now, I appreciate the quality of the DeSantis Gunleather designs, with the Speed Scabbard being one of my favorites. The company uses good quality components and designs that simply work for me.

The Speed Scabbard proved to be a solid carry partner for the Springfield Echelon. It carried well, offering a solid anchor for the gun while remaining comfortable for long-term wear. My other Speed Scabbard holsters suggest this one will provide valuable service for a long time to come. 🇺🇸

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

STORE.SPRINGFIELD-ARMORY.COM



Statement of Ownership,
Management and Circulation
(Required by 39 USC 3685)

- 1) Publication Title The Armory Life
- 2) Publication Number 2831-3283
- 3) Filing Date 10/01/23
- 4) Issue Frequency Quarterly with issues of Winter (Jan/Feb/Mar), Spring (Apr/May/June), Summer (Jul/Aug/Sept), Fall (Oct/Nov/Dec)
- 5) Number of Issues Published Annually 4
- 6) Annual Subscription Price \$10.00
- 7) Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication
Outdoor Sportsman Group
David Madrid
1040 6th Avenue, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10018-3703, 212-852-6600
- 8) Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher
Outdoor Sportsman Group
1040 6th Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-3703
- 9) Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Production Director
Publisher: Christopher Agnes, 2 News Plaza, Peoria, IL 61614
Editor: Mike Humphries, 420 W Main Street, Geneseo IL 61254
Production Director: Connie Mendoza, 2 News Plaza, Peoria, IL 61614
- 10) Owner: Outdoor Sportsman Group, 1040 6th Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-3703
Stockholders owning or holding percent or more of the total amount of stock: None
- 11) Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities: None
- 12) Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rate) (Check one)
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this

organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
 Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
 Has Changed During the Preceding 12 Months

13) Publication Title
The Armory Life

14) Issue Date for Circulation Data Below
Fall 2023 (Oct/Nov/Dec)

15) Extent and Nature of Circulation: Quarterly

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a) Total Number of Copies	253,438	251,680
b) Paid and/or requested circ.		
1) Paid/requested outside/county mail subscriptions stated on PS Form 3541	242,500	250,000
2) Paid in-county subscriptions		
3) Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter	143	86
4) Other classes mailed through USPS		
c) Total paid and/or requested circulation	242,643	250,086
d) Nonrequested dist. by mail		
1) Outside-county as		

stated on PS Form 3541	7,500	0
2) In-county as stated on PS Form 3541	0	0
3) Other classes mailed through USPS	0	0
4) Nonrequested distribution through the mail	3,294	1,594
e) Total Nonrequested Dist.	10,794	1,594
f) Total Distribution	253,438	251,680
g) Copies not Distributed		
h) Total		
i) Percent paid and/or requested circulation		
16) Electronic Copy Circulation		
a) Paid Electronic Copies	0	0
b) Total Paid Print Copies + Paid Electronic Copies	242,643	250,086
c) Total Distribution + Paid Electronic Copies	253,438	251,680
d) Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies)	95.74%	99.37%

17) This statement of ownership will be printed in the Winter 2024 (Jan/Feb/Mar) issue of this publication.

18) Signed by Peter J. Watt, Vice President, Consumer Marketing
Date 10/01/23

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

ED BROWN PERFORMANCE MAGAZINES

> BETTER PERFORMANCE
> BETTER WARRANTY
> BETTER PRICE

FULL LINE OF SINGLE STACK MAGS FOR GOVERNMENT & COMPACT MODELS
STAINLESS STEEL • BLACK NITRIDE

EDBROWN.COM

f i y

ADVANTAGE ARMS

.22LR CONVERSION KITS

GLOCK - XD - 1911 - HELLCAT - SIG P365

ADVANTAGEARMS.COM



NEW PRODUCTS

APEX TYPE 3 TRIGGER

The new Type 3 Action Enhancement Trigger for the Hellcat/Hellcat Pro from Apex Tactical features unique cuts on the visible sides of the trigger and chamfered front corners. MSRP starts at \$85. apextactical.com



SAFARILAND LEVEL I HOLSTER

The Safariland 6390RDS-ALS Mid Ride, Level I Retention Duty Holster for the Echelon pistol with red dot optics equipped is available in Black and is priced at \$182. store.springfield-armory.com



XS R3D 2.0 SIGHTS

These XS Sights tritium sights feature a notch-and-post design with two rear tritium dots and a high-contrast, orange or green dual-illuminated "glow dot" front sight. Starting MSRP is \$131.99. xssights.com



SAFARILAND LEVEL III HOLSTER

The Safariland 6360RDS-ALS/SLS Mid Ride, Level III Retention Duty Holster for optic-equipped Echelon pistols is offered in Black, Multi-Cam or Black Multi-Cam. The prices range from \$208.50 to \$268.25. store.springfield-armory.com



HELLION BAYONET

The NATO-pattern Model B2K Waffentechnik bayonet is 7.3" long and fits the new 20" Hellion 5.56mm. It's constructed of stainless steel and comes with a sheath. The price is \$299.99. store.springfield-armory.com



800-338-3220 | HORNADY.COM



FBI TESTED AND SELECTED

From design to craftsmanship to testing,
we set out to make great ammunition.
The world's toughest critics agree.



Scan for more info
and videos

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) completed an extensive evaluation process and selected Hornady Critical Duty® as its source for 9mm +P and 40 S&W service ammunition.



HELLCAT[®] PRO



17 RND MAG
○○○○○○○○
○○○○○○○○
NOW AVAILABLE

