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# TACTICAL GEAR

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By Dave Morelli

# SET YOUR SIGHTS ON THE AR-15



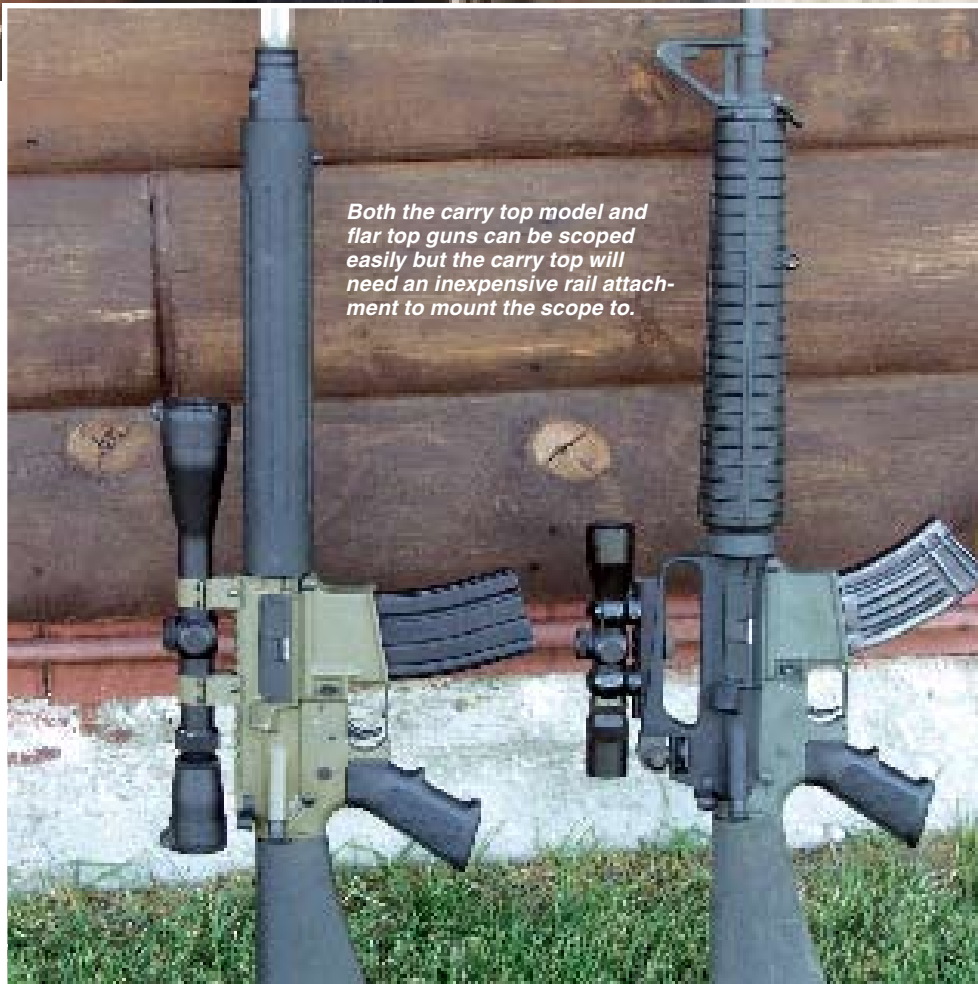
*The AimPoint Red Dot can be mounted on the Quad Rail Fore End on the Carry Handle models and the peep sights can be used right through the glass of the Red Dot if needed.*



One of the most versatile tools the operator has in his arsenal is the AR-15. Depending how this tool is deployed, he has many options for sighting systems available to him or her and the tool can be modified for military, law enforcement, or civilian use. As one of my favorite tools, I like the new innovations of receiver design that facilitate quick change ability of sighting systems to give the operator in the field options to meet the specific task he is called on to do.

One thing I like about the carry handle receiver is the sights are already on the gun. There are numerous adapters that give the operator choices of optical sighting with the carry top model. For close quarter combat (CQB) this is often a great choice. The peep sight system on these guns can give the operator quick CQB target acquisition and adequate longer-range capabilities. I prefer the A-2 type sights on these models but the older ones are adequate, just a bit more inconvenient to bring to battle sight zero.

I also have flat-top models that are more suited to scopes and other optics and many companies make removable flip up peep sights to fasten on the picatinny rails. If the flat top model is fitted with an optic system such as an EO Tech or AimPoint, the peeps can be quickly deployed by flipping up the peep and sighting right through the optic device.



*Both the carry top model and flat top guns can be scoped easily but the carry top will need an inexpensive rail attachment to mount the scope to.*

*The Crimson trace is an efficient way to Laser up an AR15. The mount for the AimPoint will get in the way of the beam but can be easily removed with the quick mount system when the laser is the best choice in sighting for the situation.*



*The Crimson Trace Laser Grip is designed for the carry top model of AR15.*



This allows the operator to have two sighting systems and be able to quickly use either without removing any device. This is a great advantage should your optic device fail or become disabled in a fight; there is a quick backup system right on the weapon.

As with any sight system it is only as good as the operator and the training he devotes himself to. My tactical carbine is a carry top model because it is also fitted with a Crimson Trace Laser Grip sighting system, which I will get into later. It is tuned to battle sight zero and I use the peeps often when training. When I attended a carbine class at Center Target Sports I removed the AimPoint and shot the class with the peeps. The class was entirely close quarter drills and the peeps handled the task easily. One should practice transition from the ready search position to firing position and sight over the peeps. With practice one can consistently hit a 7-inch circle with impressive speed. This would be a good tactic for building searches and other CQB.

As I mentioned before this carbine is also fitted with Crimson Trace Laser Grip sighting. This sighting system is supported by the carry top handle and has its place in the defensive world. It is also a great CQB system and gives the operator the option of shooting from cover and exposing less of himself to do so. The weapon can also be fired accurately, with practice, from the retention position, which is also a plus in building searches and clearings. I have an AimPoint sight for this flat top with a quick mount that can be replaced or removed to meet the task. The AimPoint blocks the Laser Grip sight when both are on the weapon. Another option if I wanted to have a laser and the optic sighting system is to go with one of the barrel-mounted lasers. I have never used one but it would solve the problem.

Practice with the Laser Grip is essential. The Laser Grip has a button on the front of the grip that the meat of the 3rd finger makes contact with when the grip is held. Slight pressure will activate the laser when needed. It doesn't take much to get used to it. The barrel-mounted lasers usually have a pressure switch that can either go to the grip or the fore end. Which ever you prefer it manipulation must be mastered.

It is amazing how much of ourselves we unconsciously expose when behind barricades. When your doing it you think you are in good shape. When your done observers are telling you're your butt or some other important appendage was hanging out. Most snipers will take what ever you give them, and that is the extent of their sense of humor. Practice using the Laser Grip sight from around corners and behind barricades and have



*The EO Tech sight is very popular and a great choice in the holograph type sights. It can also be used with a removeable peep if it is mounted on a flat top AR. This one has a sight post gas block but if the gun has a flat top gas-block a detachabel front post can be put on for peep sight use.*

your partner inform you of your concealment. Without a weapon in your hand have him stand in front of the barricade and have him let you know what is exposed while you are in the shooting position. Then, after he moves, practice holding the dot on the target and firing from your stance. It is harder than you think when the weapon isn't shouldered.

One of the most popular sights for the carbine is the red dot sights and variations. I am slightly partial to the AimPoint sights because it was what we carried on our carbines in my SWAT days. AimPoint has kept up the pace and still makes a fine sight. What I don't like for a defensive tool is some of the cheaper variety red dot sights. They are good for intended purposes but not for defensive ones. Only sights that have stood the test of abuse in law enforcement and military operations will be mounted on anything that I depend on to protect my family or me. These items have proven their ability to take the abuse of combat.

Another one of my favorites in the red dot classification, I classify it as a red

dot but it is really not, is the EO Tech Holographic Sight. I have had the opportunity to use and write about this sight and really like it. It will take heavy abuse and still get the job done. It can be quickly added and removed from the flat top, or fore grip rail if that's where you like it, and will quickly put your muzzle on the bad guy in any kind of battle. I was watching the news the other night and noticed that airport policemen carrying AR's that had these sights on their weapons. Good Call!

Another great red dot type sight is the Leupold Mark 4 CQ/T Scope. It combines the speed of a red dot with some magnification for longer-range precision. It operates with 1x magnification for CQB acquisition but can vary to 3x for precision out to 300 yards. The circle dot reticule gives ranging and holdover or lead for moving targets. The reticule has 10 brightness settings and 2 for compatibility with night vision devices.

Although these sights, red dot and holograph, have enough intensity to work in daylight the dots are more easily picked

up in room light or low light. They have intensity adjustments so they can be made brighter or less bright depending on conditions. They also have night vision capabilities if the need arises. Practicing with these sights in all conditions will make the operator more proficient and these systems make shooting with both eyes open easier. My aging eyes sometimes take too long to line up and focus peeps, but when the red dot goes up, everything blurs out but the dot or holograph. What you see is what you get and if properly sighted the pill will pop what the dot covers. Keeping both eyes open allows the operator to become more proficient in peripheral vision and training should be incorporated in identifying peripheral threats and engaging them.

The AR-15 has been developed into quite an accurate semi-auto in its development. I know that the early models were accurate enough for the intended purpose but with free float tubes and heavy match grade barrels the precision of these guns has improved greatly. The need for long-range sighting is more jus-



tified now than ever. My ARV (AR Varmint) rifle has a Leupold Rifleman scope on it in 4-12 variable. It more than magnifies the critters that I put the cross on these days. The flat top receivers really are the way to go if a scope in destined to be on the AR. There is an adapter that will attach to the carry handle to accept Weaver mounts but the scope is too high on the weapon for me. I do have a 4x scope on one of my carry top rifles but for a longer range precision shooting I like the flat top. It's a great mid range gun though.

The AGOG has always been a good choice on the AR's. They are quality optics and have models to fit every need. Trijicon makes several in different configurations. Some will mount right on the carry handle and the peeps are still accessible. They come in a 4x32 magnification and can be adapted to a flat top also. They have built in self-lighted reticules and the models have ranging systems ballistically matched to 5.56 or 7.62 NATO. They clearly show center mass aiming points out to 800 yards. For a battle gun they are an excellent choice.

There are many tactical and hunting scopes that can be mounted on the AR but one of my favorites has always been Leupold. Their quality is excellent and they come in just about every configuration and reticule imaginable. Now they come with Darrel Holland's ART Reticule that combines Mil-Dot with MOA drop compensation. It is one of the quickest methods to precisely range and compensate for drop that I have tried. I bought a Leupold Vari-X 4.5x14x50mm for my 300 boltgun but it would be a great scope for the AR-15. The 50mm objective requires a higher mount to clear the fore grip and it is a good idea to change the gas block to a picatinny flat type instead of the sight post, as it will show up in the scope. With this scope on the gun peeps would not be an option but if the scope was removed the clamp on front and rear

sights could be put on the gun to shoot peeps.

Night Vision is another option as a sighting system for the AR and probably will cost more than the rifle. Choosing these systems will definitely involve the intensity of the need as the price goes up with quality and really goes up as weight goes down. For law enforcement and military the best is needed but the bank is bigger than mine so for my night calving coyote raids the ATN Warrior gets the job done. I don't usually have to pack it far and there is always a good rest. It will let me identify a coyote out to 100 yards and mounted on the AR it will teach the penalty for trespass. ATN has a variety of night equipment to choose from that will fit any budget or need.

One thing nice about the AR is with a four-rail fore grip combinations of sighting systems are endless. I've seen three-gun shooters that have a high power scope on the flat top receiver and a red dot on the side of the grip. When engaging long targets the scope is used and for close quarter quick shots a red dot is fixed onto the side rail. A quick twist of the gun in the shoulder will give the shooter red dot capabilities. That a lot hanging off the front of the gun but it can be easily removed for other stages where it isn't needed.

I like a set of iron sights on the side rail. It is less weight and doesn't stick out like a red dot and can be left on the gun to be used when needed. This gives the gun more versatility in uses.

The AR has come a long way and sighting systems have followed. The versatility of this rifle and the selections of sighting available can be put in a book and not cover all of them. But for the serious operator or occasional varmint hunter a little research can yield the perfect sight for intended use of the rifle.

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# A TRUE FIGHTING HANDGUN

*The GRP II is a fine 1911 combat pistol. Shown here in the Bulman QDFS, with Hornady 230-grain TAP-FPD ammo and a cap from Gunsite.*



## **NIGHTHAWK'S COMPACT SERVICE PISTOL: GLOBAL RESPONSE PISTOL II**

*By Rich Grassi*



**Nighthawk Custom's GRP II is a steel-frame Commander-style pistol -- having a full size 1911 frame and the shorter (4 1/4-inch) barrel and slide.**

**T**he full-sized Government Model 1911 pistol is a fine service handgun. The only problem is it has a little too much length.

The longer sight radius is handy when trying to drill the "X" ring in a hotly contested bull's-eye match. The longer barrel gives the relatively low pressure .45 ACP just a little more velocity – but not much. The full-size slide and barrel weight, slight though it is over a shorter gun – say 3/4 of an inch shorter – is thought by some to curb recoil or muzzle flip. I'd debate that.

So, what's the advantage of a shortened slide and barrel than the Government size?

I've investigated this since the late 1970s. I'd been convinced by my betters that the steel-framed, compact service pistol – marked "Combat Commander" – was simply no damn good. It weighed about as much as "a real .45" and it wasn't as accurate. It kicked harder and hit softer. What good was it?

After reading an article by Massad Ayoob about the subject, I found a used Combat Commander and it was tricked up a little by the grand gunsmith of Tacoma Washington, John Lawson (John G. Lawson, The Sight Shop, 1802 E. Columbia Ave., Tacoma WA 98404; 253-474-5465; ([www.thesightshop.org/](http://www.thesightshop.org/)).

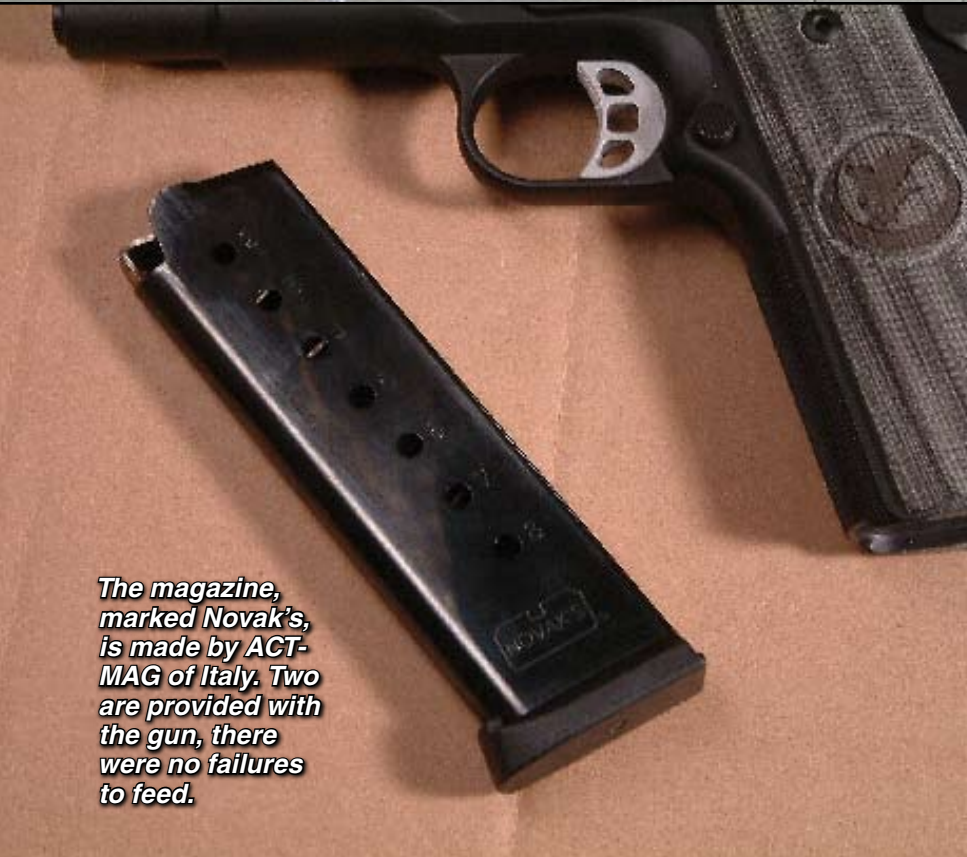
**The rear sight is the Extreme Duty Adjustable sight by Novak's. The sights have tritium vials for use in adverse lighting conditions.**







*The GRP II was fired on school drills against the IDPA target. All the hits were in the maximum scoring areas.*



*The magazine, marked Novak's, is made by ACT-MAG of Italy. Two are provided with the gun, there were no failures to feed.*

I tried the gun and found that it was slightly quicker to present than the slightly longer gun. Muzzle velocity was cut by very little. The gun just felt “right,” so much better to me in balance than my beloved 1911. Finally, the time between accurate shots was reduced due to the lessened slide mass.

### **Nighthawk Custom**

Nighthawk Custom provides the custom 1911 in a variety of formats. When I found that their Global Response Pistol line included a shorter top unit along with a full-size frame, the GRP II, I was hooked.

Like GRP, the GRP II features Novak Extreme Duty Adjustable Night Sights, a forged slide stop with a barrel link post that is cut flush with the slide, a stainless steel match-grade barrel, tough Perma Kote ceramic finish, a Nighthawk lightweight match trigger fitted to give a 3.5- to 3.75-pound trigger pull, and hex head stock screws.

The GRP II has a 4 1/4-inch “Commander-“ length barrel and a standard guide rod and plug. A mainspring housing with integral lanyard loop is standard and the gun is available with Crimson Trace LaserGrips.

The sample GRP II came with the standard gray Gator Back stocks, made of linen micarta by VZ Grips. A pair of eight-round magazines is provided along with an Allen wrench to tighten stock screws. The eight-round magazines are made by ACT-Mag, an Italian concern who provides OEM magazines for many pistol makers.

The magazines have the same length overall as a conventional seven-round magazine with a bumper pad. The floorplate on the ACT/Nighthawk magazine is hollow and the magazine tube is actually longer, allowing enough room for extra round of .45 ACP.

The Nighthawk slide stop is machined from forged steel. The slide stop stud (axle) is trimmed on the right side. This is to prevent the shooter pressing in on the slide stop stud while the index finger is (properly) up on the frame and away from the trigger during a stressful event. The slide stop hole on the right side of the frame is chamfered to make it easier to field strip the piece.

The Nighthawk Custom GRP II embodies high quality. Little things are taken care of. The right stock panel is cut for an ambi-safety, for example. The front edge of the trigger is rounded, not sharp and squared.

The slide is tightly fitted to the frame, too. The barrel bushing is closely fitted to barrel and slide, but I turned it without a wrench. This gun is properly put together.

### **Top Flight Shooter**

I used the Bulman Gunleather Quick Forward Drop Scabbard holster in the test.





**Cor-Bon 160 grain DPX "Compact Gun Load" was fired from 15 yards standing without support. The resulting group is 2 1/4 inches high by 1 1/4 inches wide.**

It pulled the guns' butt in close to my side, while keeping it accessible for a quick draw. The "skin guard" – a high arch of leather on the back of the pouch to keep the gun away from the shooter's body – worked fine in spite of the thick paddle of the thumb safety. The muzzle is raked to the rear and the mouth band is reinforced, making the re-holstering process easy.

The rear stabilizing belt loop snaps onto the belt some distance back from the holster pouch. This is what pulls the gun in tight. It also helps when putting the holster on.

There is a stitched-in front sight channel too. The sharp front sight never picked up leather shavings to spoil the view after a draw.

This holster is one of my favorite designs from a terrific manufacturer. (Contact Josh at Bulman Gunleather, P.O. Box 361, Newry PA 16665; 814-696-8615; <http://www.bulmangunleather.com>).

I'd fired a number of loads for accuracy with some surprises. I found that this particular sample liked the lighter slugs – Cor-Bon 185-grain DPX and Remington 185-grain JHP, for instance. Hornady TAP-For Personal Defense 230 grain XTP +P and Federal Classic HiShok also shot well.

I was shooting the sample for this article within the week after the passing of the father of the Modern Technique of the Pistol, John Dean (Jeff) Cooper. A number of members of an email list – alums of Gunsite and Jeff Cooper – decided to each

fire a tribute to Jeff on a particular day.

I took the Nighthawk GRP II and the Bulman holster to the club and set out an IDPA target. From seven yards, I shot seven failure drills – two center and one into the cranial-ocular cavity – for a total of the required 21 rounds of ammo. After a moment of silence, I continued.

I did a 50-round workout of "school drills" – singles, pairs, reload drills, distance shooting – from 5 to 25 yards. I was happy to see that all the required head shots were in the right place and that the center shots were all in the "0" zone.

While this gun was in my custody, it was at the range in hot, humid conditions. It came out of a chilled, air-conditioned vehicle and into the wet heat and back into the cool car.

The GRP II went through dozens of presentations from the Bulman holster and others. The finish was unworn as the gun was packed and returned to the manufacturer.

It'd been fired quite a bit. While it's a high end custom, it's tough and took a beating – with style. Is it too expensive to be your service handgun?

I don't know. What's your life worth?

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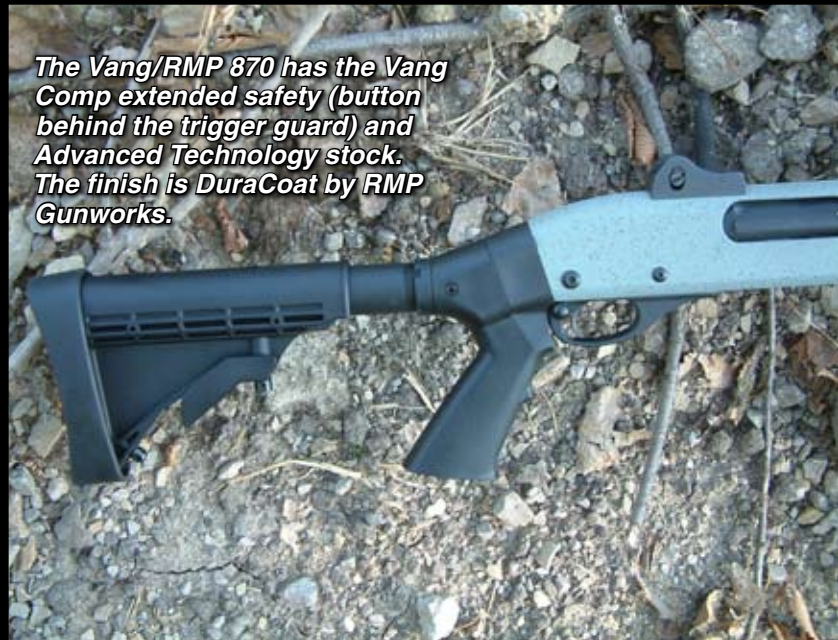
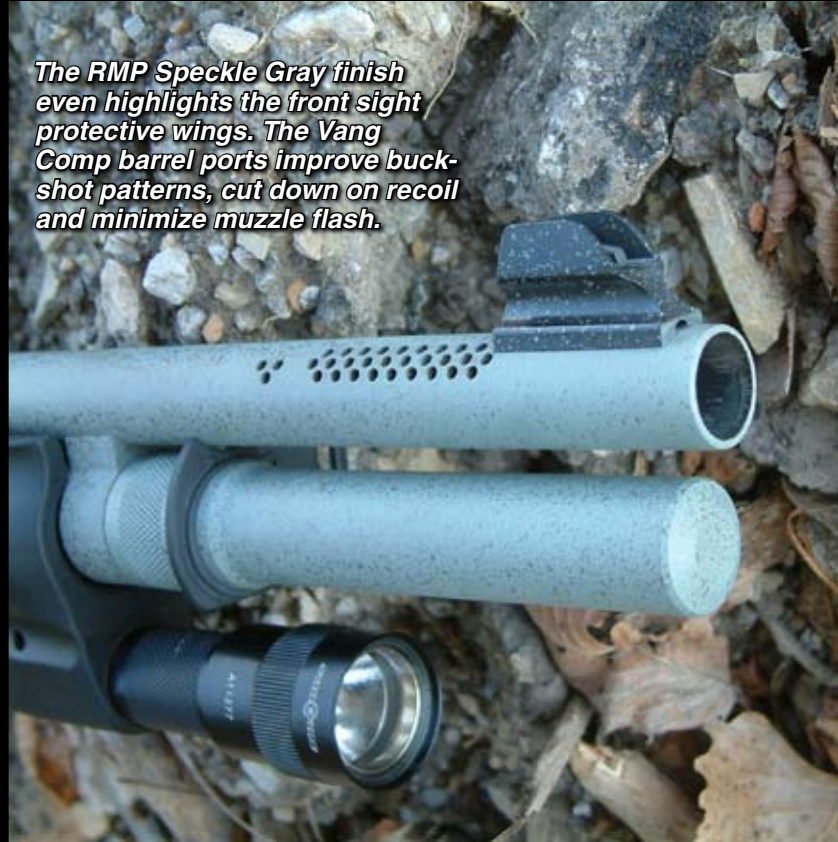
# Vang Comp System improves the 870

By Rich Grassi

*This newly finished (in DuraCoat) Remington 870 has LPA Precision Ghosting night sights, the Vang Comp System barrel treatment, a SureFire Weapon Light forend, and the Advanced Technology Six-Position stock.*

*The RMP Speckle Gray finish even highlights the front sight protective wings. The Vang Comp barrel ports improve buck-shot patterns, cut down on recoil and minimize muzzle flash.*

*The Vang/RMP 870 has the Vang Comp extended safety (button behind the trigger guard) and Advanced Technology stock. The finish is DuraCoat by RMP Gunworks.*





**T**he Remington Model 870 is by far the most common police/defense pump shotgun still in use today. While it's not new technology, it has its advantages.

The problem with using the shotgun for tactical applications is precisely what we – earlier in my career-thought the advantage was. That is the ammunition. If you use buckshot, it's likely a pellet will blow free from the pattern even at distances less than 15 yards. That pellet is a "miss" on the range. On the street, in a house, in a school, that "miss" becomes an "unintentional hit." As we're accountable for every projectile that leaves the muzzle of the gun, that unintended hit becomes a personal tragedy and the highway to liability.

### Fixing the Problem

We can horse around with ammunition. If the stray pellet bothers you, it's said, go to a slug.

This single 1-ounce projectile will perforate many things, making it a nice ammunition item to have when the bad guy takes cover. Unfortunately, it can also penetrate things to hit innocents we can't see. The 12-gauge slug may also perforate the human adversary and continue on with enough power to hurt someone downrange.

There are better loads for tactical use. These include the Remington Low Recoil line of slugs and buckshot as well as the Federal Tactical line and the CCI-Lawman brand of slugs and buckshot.

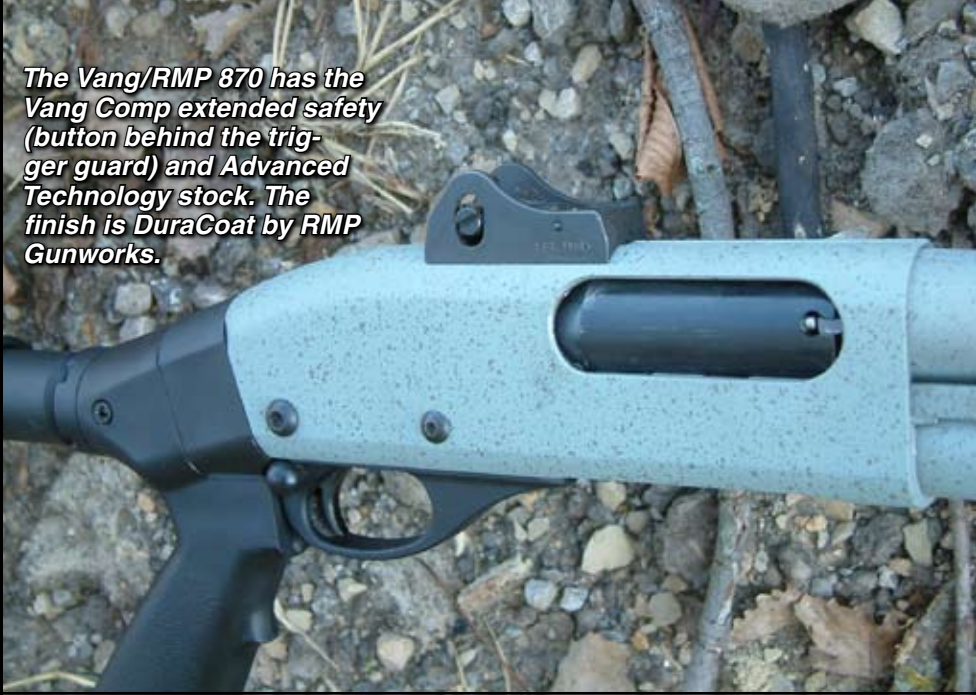
Out of most cylinder bore barrels, the low-recoil stuff throws better patterns. There is still some concern if the barrel isn't properly cleaned. What's the solution?

### Vang Comp Systems


The Vang Comp barrel treatment is a product of years of gunsmithing experience. Hans Vang developed a system of lengthening the shotgun barrel's forcing cone and back-boring the barrel to give buckshot a smooth trip to the muzzle. In addition, he cuts compensating ports through the barrel. The porting is optimized for barrel length and prevents expanding gasses from blowing through the shot column, spoiling the pattern. Not only that, the Vang Comp ports reduce the more abusive aspects of shotgun recoil. It also tends to lessen muzzle flash.

Now, that's tactical! While there is no black ballistic nylon fabric or hook-and-loop fastener fabric in the Vang Comp barrel system, it's as tactical as you can get. I've had experience with the system since the late 1990s. I've never seen a bad job come out of that shop.

Apparently the Vang Comp System is finding favor among turkey hunters as



*The Vang/RMP 870 has the Vang Comp extended safety (button behind the trigger guard) and Advanced Technology stock. The finish is DuraCoat by RMP Gunworks.*



*The SureFire Weaponlight Forend features a six-volt light, a constant-on switch and a system-disable switch.*



*The Advanced Technology Collapsible Buttstock is similar in appearance and design to the collapsing stock of the AR-15 series of carbines.*



***This Vang Comp/RMP 870 fired an impressive pattern from 20 yards and in with Remington 8-Pellet 00 Buckshot.***



well. It's about time they found out about it! Tight patterns are essential in that endeavor as well, along with the lessened kick of those long magnum turkey loads.

Add to the improved shot patterns the fact that the Vang Comp System reduces muzzle rise and minimizes muzzle flash, and you have an essential component to the defensive shotgun.

Pete Rafferty of RMP Gunworks, a graduate of the Colorado School of Trades, has taken in some Remington 870 shotguns for repair and refurbish. Working with Hans, RMP built a strategic business alliance with Vang Comp Systems. Hans Vang had been seeking shops to act as Vang Comp dealers and Pete Rafferty stepped up to the plate. The shotguns pictured in this piece are products of the gun mechanic's art, a true collaboration between Hans and Pete.

### **Transformation**

The silvery colored shotgun featured has a Vang Comp barrel, ghost ring sights, a new Vang 870 safety and the new Vang stainless steel follower. Pete added a DuraCoat finish, Speedfeed stocks and a Tac Star Sidesaddle. Hans also installed the Remington Flexi-tab conversion to prevent the rounds in the magazine from jumping the shell stops and tying up the gun. An authorized Remington repair station, Vang Comp Systems has years of experience with the design.

The DuraCoat finish Pete selected was the silvery "stainless steel" color. The effect of this coating was striking on a Remington 870. If a defensive situation occurs during hours of diminished light – like most of them do – there will be no doubt in the predator's mind that the "victim" has a fighting shotgun!

The sights, furniture and Sidesaddle securing bolts are left black. The con-



***Rangemaster Jack Morgan finds the recoil mild between the Vang Comp System and the Advanced Technology stock.***

***John Burghart fires Remington LE Express buckshot from the Vang Comp/RMP 870.***





**For More Information,  
Contact:**

**Vang Comp Systems**

400 W. Butterfield Road  
Chino Valley AZ 86323-5613  
928-636-8455  
<http://www.vangcomp.com/>

**Tacstar Industries  
(Sidesaddle Ammo  
carrier) (Division of  
Lyman Products)**

475 Smith Street  
Middletown, CT 06457  
(860)632-2020  
800-423-9704

**Remington Arms  
Company, Inc.**

870 Remington Drive  
P.O. Box 700  
Madison, NC 27025-0700  
800-243-9700  
<http://www.remington.com>

**RMP Gunworks  
(DuraCoat Finish)**

5657 SW Carlson Rd.  
Topeka, KS 66610  
785-256-6682  
<http://www.rmpgunworks.com>

**SureFire, LLC**

18300 Mount Baldy Circle  
Fountain Valley, CA 92708  
800-828-8809  
<http://www.surefire.com/>

**Advanced  
Technology, Inc.**

102 Fieldview Drive  
Versailles, KY 40383  
(800) 925-2522  
<http://www.atigunstocks.com/index.html>

trast is appealing.

The sights, provided by Hans Vang, are the LPA Precision Sights Ghost Ring sights. The large, thin-rimmed aperture is protected by steel 'wings.' Similarly, the post front sight is centered between protective steel. The front sight has a tritium vial to provide the shooter with a muzzle index during adverse light conditions. Both units, front and back, are rugged and built to withstand hard use.

His 870 safety button is a large, round protrusion. For the right-handed

shooter, the trigger finger will encounter the safety as it enters the trigger guard to fire. It features a positive release for the well-trained southpaw as well.

The stainless steel magazine follower won't break. The leader is reasonably long to help keep the magazine spring from kinking.

The other shotgun pictured differs in that Pete installed a Surefire Weapon-light Fore-End, used a different color DuraCoat and put a six-position collapsible stock on it.

**Shots Fired**

The shotguns were fired at a law enforcement range on a couple of different range trips.

Our "Stainless Steel" colored example was tried out during preparation for a law enforcement agency shotgun qualification course. This course involved firing slugs for accuracy from 40 yards to 20 yards and involved a buckshot course at distances varying from 20 yards down to 10 yards.

The first member of our test team used Remington "Slugger" express 1-ounce slugs. He dropped a slug out, shooting low. He indicated that it was "operator error." On the buckshot course, he used Federal Classic 9-pellet OO buckshot.

There was one pellet over the shoulder of the police silhouette. All but two of the remaining 44 pellets went into the scoring rings of the target. This is "tactical" or low-recoil buckshot quality with express buckshot power!

Jack Morgan, an agency range-master, used ammo by CCI-Speer. Using their Lawman 1-ounce slug, Jack put the first two slugs – from 40 yards – almost touching in the chest! All five of the pun-kin balls went into the maximum scoring (five) ring.

He used Lawman 8-pellet 00B to fire the buckshot course. Thirty-eight of the 40 pellets went into the "Five" ring. The two "flyers" – if they can be called that – stayed inside the four-ring. This was impressive performance.

I selected Winchester Ranger slugs and put all five inside the five-ring, though low in the scoring box. That's why the gun has adjustable sights! Using Winchester buckshot, I had one pellet fly free of the centered pattern, still well within the silhouette.

Since the newly renovated gun had a silvery finish, I examined the burn pattern from the ports. The scorching was even, showing that the ports were smoothly finished and they were working as intended.



*Hans Vang – shown  
at work in his Chino  
Valley AZ shop.*

**The Vang Comp Systems Stainless Steel magazine follower for Remington 870 shotguns is a reliability upgrade. It is rugged and prevents the magazine spring from kinking.**



**Vang Comp Systems makes a vastly improved Big Speed Safety for Remington 870s, as well as magazine extensions (top) and a magazine extension that is extra long for use on door breaching shotguns (not shown).**

We fed the new-old 870 from the Tac-Star Sidesaddle. Out of the shotguns I have and use, nearly all have the Side-saddle. I've had no trouble with them and they've given me the ability to change ammo or to replenish the magazine as needed. I like them.

The Speedfeed furniture was functional. Pete Rafferty got banged up a little as he was unfamiliar with the short buttstock that we insisted on. The short stock is better for a defensive shotgun for reasons of stance and use of protective armor. Morgan and I had no trouble with the short stock.

The second shotgun is striking in appearance. It features the eminently practical and well-thought out Surefire Weaponlight Fore-end. The six-volt light is controlled by a pressure pad to allow for momentary on-and-off, a rocker switch for constant on and a system disabling off switch.

The high output lamp provides 65 lumens output for an hour. This is quite a bit of light. The package makes lighting available without juggling a shotgun and a separate light.

The RMP DuraCoat finish was a gray color with dark specks. Pete Rafferty even put the speckle coating on the protective wings of the LPA front sight, making for a striking appearance.

The stock was from Advanced Technology, Inc. It's a collapsible, six-position "SHOTFORCE" branded buttstock patterned after the collapsing AR-15 style stock. This version is fabricated from a matte black glass-filled nylon material. The stock changes length of pull from 9-1/4 inches to 13-1/4 inches. The included butt pad offers stability and it



**The 870 is not the only Remington shotgun to get the Vang Comp/RMP treatment – this Remington 11-87 has Vang Comp improvements and an olive drab coating by RMP Gunworks.**



fits other makers' collapsing buttstocks. The pad has a checkered non-slip surface and provides air-cushioned recoil reduction.

Test team member John Burghart shot Remington Law Enforcement "Express" buckshot – the full-power stuff – into fist-sized patterns from about 10 yards with the Vang Comp/RMP 870 shotgun. He said, "This Express is good stuff." I took that to mean that its power was somewhat more reminiscent of the turkey loads he uses in the game fields than the current law enforcement offerings.

The Vang Comp barrel eats high-velocity ammo like candy, making tight patterns out to 25 or 30 yards.

Morgan also shot the newly refitted 870. He was enamored of the Vang Comp extended safety button, which is a favorite every place it's tried. Likewise, the Advanced Technology Buttstock was appreciated.

Some agency shotguns are fitted with the new stocks to allow for adjustment between users of different statures. The stock is meeting with considerable success.

### Total Package

Hans' Vang Comp System is simply superb. This is the fourth Vang Comp creation I've had the chance to spend some time with. While at Gunsite in October 2003 I got to shoot a few other Vang shotguns and saw others in use at that facility.

If the shotgun is there for your personal defense, Vang Comp is the way to go. I see that as the absolute minimum modification I would perform on a defensive shotgun. The RMP DuraCoat finish prevents corrosion, won't chip or peel and it really looks good, too. The LPA sights, Tac Star "Side-Saddle," SureFire WeaponLight and Advanced Technology stock are handy additions as well. Sights are very important on the defensive shotgun and the light – helping to identify targets – is of huge import. The "Side-Saddle" likewise helps keep spare ammo close to hand, necessary all too often these days.

You can't go wrong with the Vang Comp/RMP Team.

**TACTICAL GEAR**

## VIDEO



(Note: To view the video above you need to have the latest version (9.2) of Adobe reader installed. To download Adobe Reader 9.2 click here: <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>



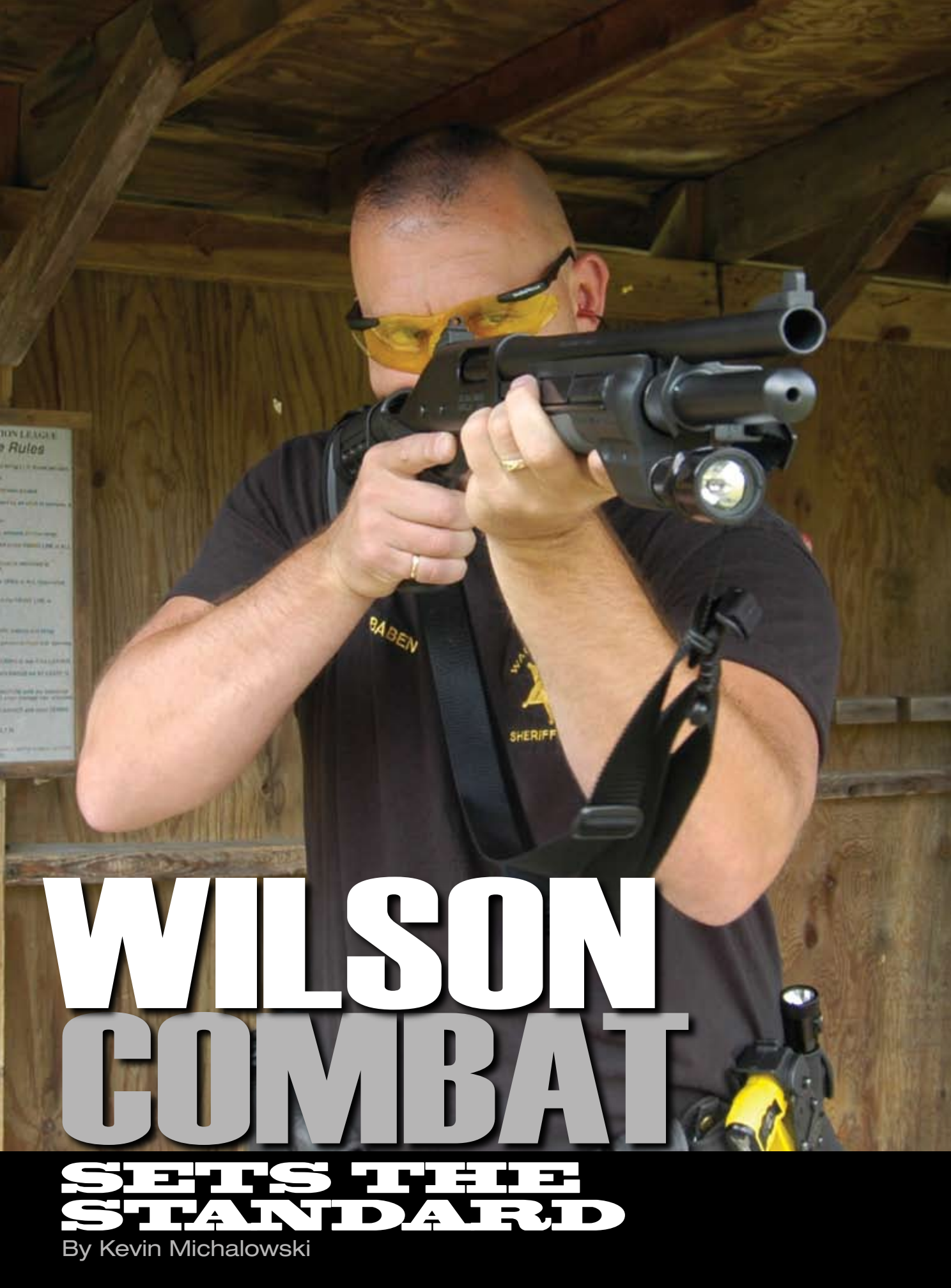
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# WILSON COMBAT

**SETS THE  
STANDARD**

By Kevin Michalowski

# "STANDARD MODEL" IS ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY

It's a shotgun. But it's more. The modern combat shotgun is a versatile, lethal fight-stopper that lets the operator tailor the function to the objective. The right shotgun in trained hands can handle any task from door breaching to riot control. Ammunition choices range from less lethal projectiles to slugs that will knock a man off his feet at 200 yards. And even though some police administrators cringe at the idea of using buckshot to end a fight, there is still a place for this round in law-enforcement and military applications.

But all this talk about ammunition is dependent on the platform from which the ammunition is fired. The Wilson Combat/Scattergun Technologies Standard Model is what you would call "an exceptional platform."

The Standard Model incorporates the features most combat shotgun users want. Built on the Remington 870 action, the gun offers an 18-inch cylinder-bore barrel with 3-inch magnum chamber that will handle any 12-gauge ammunition you shove into it. The magazine extension tube offers increased capacity for a total of 7 rounds. Wilson includes an extra-power, heavy-duty stainless magazine spring for sure feeding in any situation. A high-visibility, non-binding follower shows an empty-magazine tube at a glance. The Standard Model also includes your choice of a four- or six-round receiver-mounted Sidesaddle shell carrier. In a critical re-load situation your extra ammo is quickly available without fumbling. Put the rounds in the carrier "brass down" and you can push them out with your thumb and have them in position to run them right into the magazine tube. Special purpose rounds can be placed "brass up" to make sure there is no mistaking your ammo.

The two best features of the Standard Model are the collapsible butt stock and synthetic fore-grip/tactical light. The fore-grip



includes a 6-volt SureFire Tactical Light with 11,000 candlepower. This will light up your target regardless of the situation and includes a cool switch system that offers easy selection of momentary on or constant on features. While Wilson offers a standard length buttstock, with an optional shorter buttstock, the real choice is the optional Knoxx Spec Ops Stock. The Knoxx stock includes a great recoil pad and is adjustable for length of pull, meaning it will work for officers of any size and is compatible with tactical vests and body armor.

Another great feature is the jumbo-head safety. This thing is easy to find, sure in operation and yet is not something you would bump and accidentally engage or disengage. The multi-purpose tactical sling, buttstock sling swivel and a rigid magazine tube front sling mount all work together to insure the gun stays with you at all times.

For getting rounds on target quickly Wilson uses the adjustable TRAK-LOCK® Ghost Ring rear sight paired with a ramp-type front sight with a tritium self-luminous insert. Nice. This sight is quick, accurate and tough as nails. During testing we used this sight from CQB ranges out to 200 yards with no adjustment and outstanding accuracy. There are few better options for a combat shotgun than a good ghost-ring sight.

Our range tests showed the Standard Model to function perfectly in the hands of several different shooters, with a variety of ammunition. It would work equally well as an entry weapon or in a perimeter security role. Day or night it will serve its intended purpose.

The finishing touch on the Standard Model is the finish. All the metal parts are coated with the tested-tough Armor-Tuff coating. This coating is proven around the world as the toughest and most durable practical finish for all environments. And, if there is anything you don't like about this shotgun (not likely) Wilson Combat can custom build one to your specifications.

The long and short is this: The Wilson Standard model is not "just" a standard shotgun. It is THE standard by which other combat shotguns should be judged.

## Specifications and Features:

**Action:** Pump

**Caliber:** 12 Gauge

**Barrel:** 18.4 inches (cylinder bore)

**Overall Length:** Fixed Stock 38.8 inches

**Overall Length:** Collapsible Stock Extended 39.7 inches

**Overall Length:** Collapsible Stock Closed 35.8 inches

**Weight:** Empty 8.9 lbs

**Capacity:** 6 +1 Rounds

Adjustable Trak-Lock® Ghost Ring rear sight, ramp-type front sight with tritium self-luminous insert

Sidesaddle Shell Carrier, extended capacity: 4 or 6 rounds

High-Visibility, Non-Binding Follower

Extra-Power Heavy-Duty Stainless Magazine Tube Spring

Jumbo Head Safety

Multi-Purpose Tactical CQB Sling

Mil-Spec Black Manganese Phosphate (Parkerized) or optional Armor-Tuff® Finish

**TACTICALGEAR**





## Ka-Bar's TDI Knife

# in the

**M**all ninjas and various other know-it-alls like to toss around the oft-quoted axiom, “Never take a knife to a gunfight.” But knowledgeable police officers understand that sometimes a knife might be the tool you need. And so it is with Ka-Bar’s TDI Knife. Sometimes.

“I want to point out that this knife will not solve every problem and if you ignore the other elements of your training, you will end up losing your gun,” said John Benner as he began his most recent training exercise.

Benner, the founder of the Tactical Defense Institute and designer of the TDI Law Enforcement Knife, was in Wisconsin at the end of February to train members of the Waupaca County Sheriff’s Department Re-

by Kevin Michalowski

serve Unit and the Waupaca County SWAT Team in the defensive use of his knife. Tactical Gear Magazine sponsored the training and worked with Ka-Bar to provide each officer a TDI knife following the training.

“Let me stress again, I’m not trying to take anything away from your other training. This knife is simply another tool in your toolbox and we’ll show you how to use it,” said Benner.

The TDI knife is a unique fixed-blade knife designed for extreme close-quarters defense, specifically in a weapon-retention situation. Designed to be worn on the “off” side of the duty belt and drawn like a pistol, the TDI Knife is one of the fastest and easiest knives to bring into action. Weighing in

at less than a quarter pound, the basic knife (there are several models) is just 5-5/8 inches long with a drop-point blade of 2-5/16 inches. Right from the factory the hollow-ground blade is razor-sharp with a 15-degree edge and Rockwell hardness reading of 57-59 CR. The Zytel handle is nearly indestructible, but provides a great grip.

“The key element of the design was for comfort and concealability,” said Benner. “The handle was originally set on the angle it is to make sure an officer could wear the knife all day comfortably. To be honest, we found out all the other benefits of the angle after we created it.”

Those other benefits include outstanding ergonomics, speed and power. Grabbing and drawing the TDI knife is very similar to grabbing a pistol or Taser. Once the knife is in hand, the blade is aligned with bones of the lower arm, giving outstanding thrusting power. The design also makes it virtually impossible for the hand to slip free and overrun the blade.

### The Basic Cuts

Using training knives, the officers learned the basics of “blade orientation” through eight basic cuts. The idea was not so much to teach a pattern but to instill the idea that with a single-edged knife, like the TDI, the blade must be oriented properly.

“It’s pretty simple,” said Benner. “Apply sharp edge to opponent and repeat as necessary.”

The location of the cuts fall into two categories: Blood cuts and mechanical cuts. With a blood cut, it takes time for blood loss to stop a violent attacker, especially a determined one. With the mechanical cut, the violent activity is stopped quickly because the muscle simply no longer works.

“I’m also a big believer in the point-oriented attack,” said Benner noting that a point-first thrust has a better chance of cutting a violent subject than does a slash. “You would be surprised how common clothing can stand up to a slash; especially something like a down coat.”

It became clear early on to the officers in the training that defending oneself with a knife is nothing like the “knife-fighting” made popular in Hollywood.

“The goal here is stop the threat and give you a chance to escape an extremely dangerous situation at extreme close quarters,” Benner said. “This is for when you are losing the fight. If you could control the subject with your empty hands, you wouldn’t need the knife and if you are in control, you are not authorized to use it.”

To that end, the class was really about tactical anatomy, showing the officers where and how to cut an opponent to stop the fight as quickly as possible.

“Ending a fight quickly is always our goal and is court defensible,” said Benner.

A simple thrust to the chest or even a slash across the throat will still allow a motivated adversary plenty of time to inflict

## The Basic Ka-Bar TDI Knife

Weight: 0.18 lbs.

Overall length: 5<sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub>”

Blade length: 2<sup>5</sup>/<sub>16</sub>”

Grind: Hollow

Edge Angle: 15 Degrees

Shape: Drop Point

Steel: AUS 8A Stainless Steel

HRC: 57-59 CR

Handle Material: Zytel



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### A design by Jim Burke



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more damage. But a slash across the top of the forearm, or better yet, a thrust and run, where the knife is driven into the arm and pulled deeply across the muscles and tendons, instantly impedes the subject's ability to grasp and pull, giving the officer a chance to escape.

"We had a report of an officer who used the TDI knife during a struggle for his gun," said Benner. "The officer said, 'I shoved the blade into his forearm and twisted it. It turned out that guy didn't really want my gun so bad after all.'"

Cuts to the forearms limit a violent subject's ability to grasp, pull and grapple. Cuts to the legs put the subject off balance and often immobilize the subject giving the officer time to disengage and regain the advantage.

Benner pointed out that each movement he was teaching was "a moment in time." In training the officers moved slowly for form and stopped often to assess loca-

Coring: Basically this is twisting the blade after a thrust. Doing so damages more tissue and causes more pain in an effort to stop the fight sooner. If the officer is dealing with limited movement or his or her arms are pinned, coring can be a very effective technique.

Pumping: Also used if mobility is limited, pumping is just like it sounds. Once the blade is thrust into the subject, the handle is pumped up and down. This technique also helps to drive the blade through tough material like heavy coats.

Thrust and Run: This creates a long and deep cut by thrusting the blade down into the tissue and "running" the sharp edge to create a long cut to stop the aggressive behavior quickly. Depending on the location a deep thrust and run can almost immediately incapacitate the area that's cut.

Filleting: This is the technique that made several officers cringe. As described by Benner: Cut down to the bone, turn



tions and options in defending the attacks, but Benner stressed that such would not be the case in a real fight.

"This is dynamic and fast. You protect yourself, cut where you can and regain the advantage," he said.

### Wound Enhancement Techniques

A cut is a cut, but with a little work any basic cut can be enhanced to inflict more damage and stop aggressive activity more quickly. And in some cases, just the discussion of these wound enhancement techniques made a few of the officers cringe.

*Above, left: Sgt. Todd Rasmussen, OIC, of the Waupaca County SWAT team uses a TDI knife against a standard department-issue jacket to learn that thrusts are more effective than slashes. Above, right: Using a training knife, a Waupaca County SWAT officer, "cuts" the upper arm of his attacker and prepares to disengage from a frontal attack.*

the blade, then run it. This causes a huge wound. Making an arm or leg useless in a fight.

### What About Liability?

The wound enhancement techniques immediately brought questions about ex-



cessive force and liability concerns. Benner addressed those succinctly.

“The use of this knife means you are involved in a deadly force incident. If you need to defend yourself in court or an inquest, remember, you could have shot the subject, but you decided to use restraint and used the knife instead,” Benner said.

Benner also offered to supply the department with a draft knife policy that will help to define the role of the knife and help out with liability and use of force questions.

“I must stress again that this knife is just another tool,” Benner reminded the officers.

“It is not designed to replace any other tools or training, but rather to augment them and give officers another option. You must use it in conjunction with your defensive and weapon-retention techniques. It does not replace that training.”

## TACTICAL GEAR

*Below, left: Using a training knife, officers with the Waupaca County Sheriff's Department learned the proper application of force with a TDI knife. After the training, each officer was issued a brand new TDI knife. Below, right: The TDI knife slips behind the inner belt and nearly disappears on a standard duty belt. It is easy to carry and comfortable.*



## Experience, Ideas Hone Skills

John Benner has more than three decades of law enforcement experience, including 25 years with the Hamilton County, OH, SWAT team. He founded the Tactical Defense Institute in 1989, focusing on pistol, rifle and shotgun training.

“We originally bought the property because we couldn't find a place to train,” Benner said.

About four years ago Ka-Bar approached Benner looking for fixed-blade law enforcement knife. His experience with law enforcement managers taught him the most important lesson of designing an LE tool.

“The first question we had to ask was ‘What will chiefs accept?’,” said Benner.

Other elements of the design included comfort, ease of carry on an already-crowded duty belt and access from the off-hand side for use in extreme close quarters.

The end result is the TDI knife. And thanks to the partnership with Ka-Bar and Benner's experience as a trainer, the TDI knife has continued to grow in popularity.

“Ka-Bar has been great to work with and I really enjoy getting out to train officers and show them another way to protect themselves,” said Benner.



*John Benner looks on as two members of the Waupaca County SWAT move through a training exercise on a frontal assault.*

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# PRACTICAL DEFENSIVE PRACTICE

By Dave Morelli



**PROFICIENCY WITH  
YOUR HANDGUN IS  
A BIG ELEMENT OF  
SELF-DEFENSE.**

**IF YOU ARM  
YOURSELF, YOU  
MUST BE SAFE  
AND SKILLED.**



“That the Constitution shall never be construed to authorize Congress to infringe on the just liberty of press or rights of conscience; or to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms.”

Samuel Adams said that as the U.S. Constitution was being developed, leaving no doubt that our founding fathers believed people need to keep and bear arms. After all, in the Constitution, that right is second only to the rights of the press, religion and free speech. The Second Amendment was written in plain language, so its meaning cannot be disputed — although many try — and it holds that the right to defend yourself and your family shall not be infringed.

I love reading statements from when our forefathers argued the Bill of Rights. They express the true feelings and intentions of the document, and their wisdom is still evident. Tyranny is still with us — just in different forms. Along with the everyday criminal scum in our cities, we know terrorists are training to attack American police and citizens. The greatest military or police agency cannot help if they're not there when trouble arises. Criminals fear an armed citizen, and an immediate armed response to an attack represents your best chance for survival.

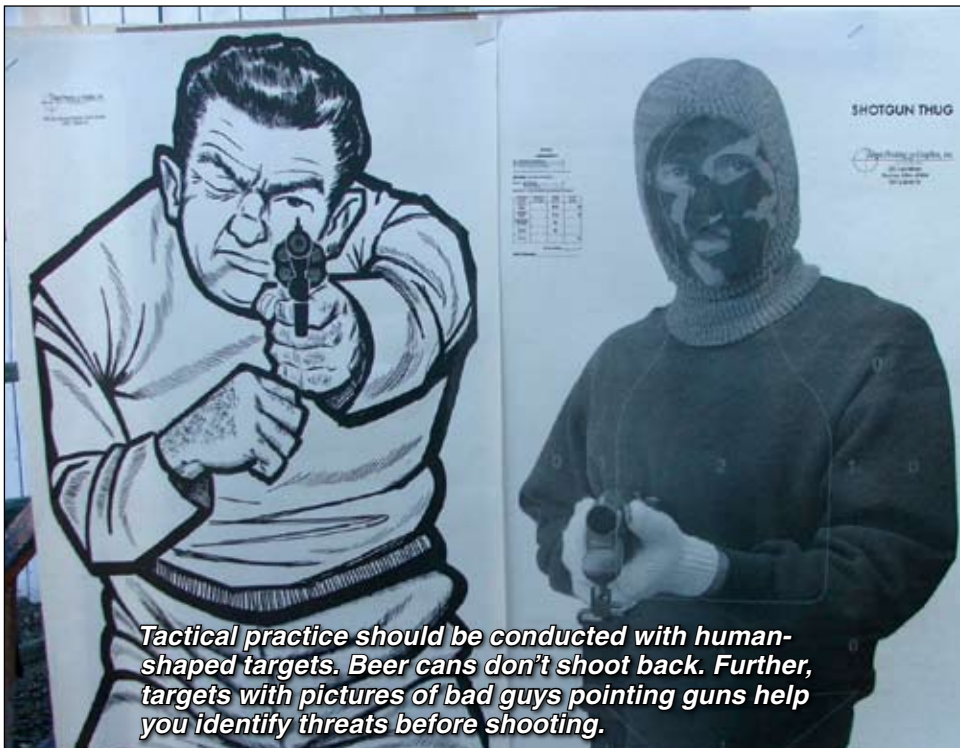
Proficiency with your gun is a big element of self-defense. If you arm yourself, you must be safe and skilled.

## Getting Familiar

Most folks use handguns as defensive weapons. It doesn't matter what kind you use, but the choice should fit your need. Choose the largest caliber you can shoot and control accurately, and also consider concealment and reliability. Most important, practice regularly with your weapon so operating it becomes second nature.

For example, if your handgun is a S&W 659 series with a decocking safety, train so your thumb automatically places the gun in the fire position when you present the gun and then returns it to decock when holstering the weapon. If you prefer a 1911, your training should evolve around its operation, and so forth. Speed and ease come from repeatedly training your mind to instantly instruct your muscles about appropriate action. In stressful situations, that action becomes automatic, which lets you concentrate on more important matters.

Training begins with homework. Dry-fire and handling practice is essential to becoming a competent pistolero. Of course, this is done with an unloaded weapon, and you must still know your backstop and point your firearm in a safe direction. And if you're unfamiliar with your firearm, consult a book or



*Tactical practice should be conducted with human-shaped targets. Beer cans don't shoot back. Further, targets with pictures of bad guys pointing guns help you identify threats before shooting.*





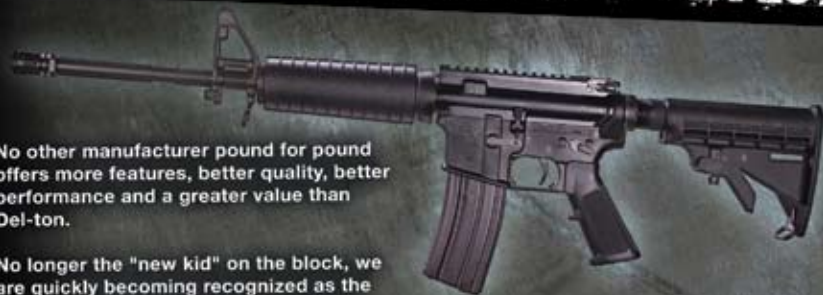
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the owner's manual about its function and operation.

I start my home practice with sight alignment and trigger control. I complete 25 aimed dry-fire exercises at a target, maintaining sight alignment through the release. A target with a 1-inch black dot at the center works fine because this exercise is done at 10 to 15 feet. Remember to use a good two-handed grip

with whatever stance you prefer. (I like the Weaver stance.) The idea of this exercise is to train your eye to line up the sights while performing a smooth trigger release. Your focus and concentration should be on the front sight. This also trains your finger muscles to the pull weight and trigger takeup. If I'm working with a double-action auto, I practice trigger pull in double- and single-action

to be familiar with each.

Here's another exercise I like. I stand with my gun in the ready position, pointed toward the ground at a 45-degree angle, and raise it into my line of sight with the target. I release the trigger the instant the sight lines up with the target. I practice this until I can raise my handgun and line up the sights with my eyes closed. This also helps prepare me for night practice. Many defensive situations occur in darkness or low light, so practicing in these conditions is essential. I also practice this dry-fire in a dark area with a flashlight. That familiarizes me with my light and the grip I must use with it.

The next exercises involve a holstered handgun. You must practice with whatever carry method you choose. Many folks practice with a gun belt but then use the shoulder-carry. You must practice with your everyday carry method. You should be able to draw and return your gun to its holster without taking your eyes off a target or opponent. Grabbing spare magazines or speed loaders should be instinctive and done by feel. As holster sessions continue, the next logical practice involves getting on target. I practice with my eyes closed until I can draw, aim and have the sights on target when I open my eyes.

Practicing to perform a safe, quick presentation during stress is as easy as repetition. Practice slowly and smoothly, letting your muscles and mind work together. Concentrate on correctness, smoothness and efficiency of motion. During a stressful encounter, you revert



*Vehicles are common in urban tactical situations, so you should practice with them. They provide excellent cover when used properly. Just take care not to perforate the family SUV when practicing.*



to training. Whatever your grip, stance or tactical technique, make sure they're proven, and practice them. It could save your life. If you're new to the game, you might seek advice from a competent firearms instructor.

## Range Time

Your homework should only take five to 20 minutes per day. Then, it's time for range work. Any practice at the range is better than none, but hitting the range at least once a week will turn anyone with average ability into a good pistolero. I like to shoot at least 50 rounds per session but usually not more than 150. I round out my shooting time with carbine, shotgun or rifle practice, depending on time. Sometimes, shooting too much makes me lose my training edge, and I end up just lobbing rounds downrange. Considering the cost of ammo, I like to gain as much from each shoot as possible.

Tactical practice should be conducted with human-shaped targets. Beer cans don't shoot back. I like the B-27 silhouette-type target. There is no bull's eye on bad guys, and this type of target helps train you to shoot for center mass. Hits to center mass are the quickest way to stop a life-threatening attack (after you've exhausted all other options to avoid confrontation, of course). Try to avoid shooting at the entire target, and aim for a tiny spot. Targets that have pictures of bad guys pointing guns help you identify threats before shooting (not all the targets show bad guys). These make you think.

Barricaded shooting is very important, but it seems to be left out of many private curriculums. When shooting begins, finding cover should be one of the first things you consider. Cover is anything that hides you and provides protection through which bullets won't pass. Examples include large trees, block or cement walls, and vehicles, especially near the engine block or behind wheels. These are better than objects that hide you but aren't bulletproof, such as bushes, counters or interior walls. Sometimes, that's all you can find. But hopefully, it will be a stepping stone to something better.

Barricade practice is important because I cannot think of many situations in which I wouldn't "return favors" from behind cover. Railroad ties usually make good barricade practice when embedded vertically in the ground. They provide an edge to shoot around for strong- and weak-hand shooting. If your practice facility has a kill house, use it. Shooting around the corners will more closely resemble home-defensive situations or cover in urban situations. Finding and using cover can be critical to surviving a gunfight, so it should be a part of every serious defensive program. Those skills



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*Most gunfights are short-range affairs, so you should practice at close range. Several drills provide realistic experience.*

must come naturally when the bad stuff hits the fan.

I also practice shooting from a crouched position behind barrels, trying to conceal as much of my body as possible. This might resemble shooting from behind a mailbox or something similar. It's usually better to shoot around the side of barrel-type barricades than over the top because you expose less of yourself when returning favors.

Vehicles are common in urban situations, so you should practice with them. They provide excellent cover when used properly. (Take care not to perforate the family SUV when practicing.) Shooting over the hood and trunk will expose you more than if you shoot around the front or rear. The best cover is next to the wheel because there's another wheel on the other side, plus all that steel in the axle to stop incoming rounds. Use distance when hiding behind barricades. That makes it more difficult for bad guys to see you but easier to avoid ricochets off the barricade.

The possibilities for re-creating barricades at the practice range are endless. Take ideas from around home or the community. It's good practice to recognize these before you need them. Sometimes, you'll only have a curb, but it's better to hide behind that than to stand there with your gun hanging out. The curb might not cover you, but at least it makes your opponent shoot at a smaller target. To simulate this, I practice shooting in the prone position from behind a

horizontal railroad tie. I get in and out of the prone position during the presentation and work out the bugs.

### **Drilling at Close Range**

Most gunfights are short-range affairs, so you should practice at close range.

Here's a drill I like. Start three yards from the target. Draw and fire on the target, placing two shots at center mass. Then, repeat the drill, but place one shot to the head. I strive to hit a 2-inch spot or tighter. You must be quick but accurate.

Then, move to five yards, and finally out to 25 yards, using about 50 rounds to finish the session. Although I'm shooting at center mass, the idea is to aim at as small a spot as possible.

Although I practice reloads during my homework, it's wise to include them during range sessions, too. There are two types of reloads: the quick load and the tactical reload. The quick reload involves dropping the magazine and recharging the gun with a fresh magazine. The tactical reload involves changing the magazine before it's empty, ideally when there's a lull in the shooting. That way, you have a full magazine when the shooting resumes, and you can save the partially full magazine for later. Use the quick reload when you must and the tactical when the time is right.

I practice a couple of reloading drills, usually at about 10 yards.

One is El Presidente. I start with six rounds in the magazine and carry another

magazine also loaded with six rounds. With three targets in front of me, I try to place two shots in each from right to left, or vice versa, with a quick reload in the middle. I change the starting position of my hands — up, ready or folded on my chest — because you never know what position you'll be in when you must present your gun.

Other drills are offshoots of El Presidente, and I change the shot placement to one on the first target, one on the second and two on the last. Then, I fire the remaining two rounds at the first two targets. When attacked by several assailants, you might only have time for one shot at the first two to stop the attack. Also, I practice addressing the greatest threat first, shooting at closer targets or those with more dangerous weapons, such as shotguns.

### **Conclusion**

It's better to have a firearm at home or with you and not need it than to need one and not have it. Just knowing that more honest civilians are taking defensive positions against violence deters criminals. It's a great responsibility to carry a handgun — one that an only be accepted with adequate training.

— Dave Morelli is a former police officer and all-around gun nut from Idaho.



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MGM Targets, a leading manufacturer of steel reactive and stationary targets, is proud to announce the release of the MGM Switchview tactical lever. The MGM Switchview is a small, lightweight lever that clamps around the power adjustment ring of variable power scopes. Made from anodized 6061/T6 aluminum the Switchview allows the user to quickly and easily adjust the scope's power setting with a push or pull of the lever.

The MGM Switchview is ideal for law enforcement, military or competition shooters, working equally well on telescopic sights for AR-15 to long-range bolt actions. Only slightly higher than most target style turrets, the lever is easy to use without being overly intrusive and enables the user to change magnification settings in only a couple of seconds. Even while wearing gloves or in slippery or wet conditions, finding the lever and adjusting the power setting is quick and easy.

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The 10" 460 Rowland Pistol, or MPA460-15, is also chambered for .460 Rowland ammo, has a 10" threaded barrel with muzzle break, scope mount, side charger, and 30 round magazine. Its MSRP is \$675, but is available with extra 45 ACP Upper for \$799.

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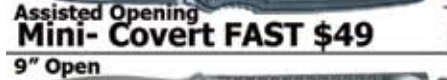
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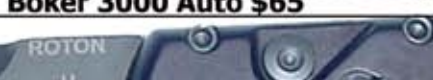
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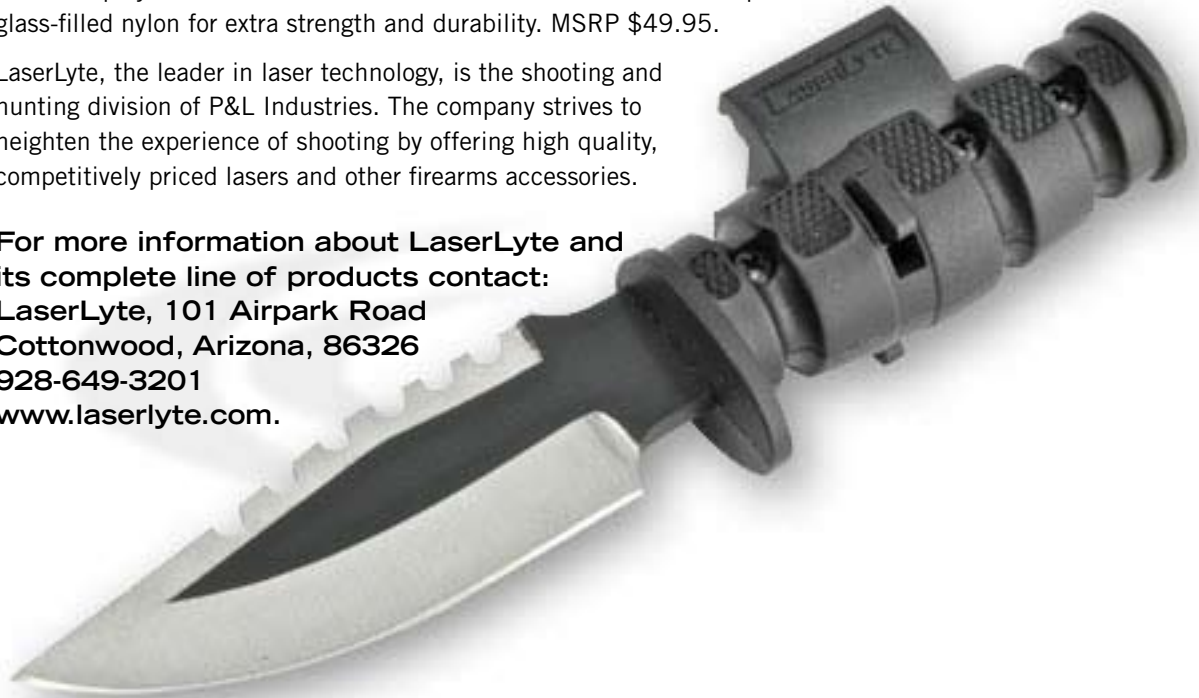


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The Wilson Combat team announces the availability of a custom AR platform rifle chambered in 6.8 SPC caliber.

The 6.8 SPC (6.8x43mm) was initially developed by MSG Steve Holland and Chris Murray, a United States Army Marksmanship Unit gunsmith, to offer superior downrange lethality over the 5.56 NATO/.223 Remington in an AR pattern service rifle with minimal loss of magazine capacity and a negligible increase in recoil. When built to the level of quality and precision Wilson Combat has achieved the 6.8 SPC is also capable of outstanding accuracy and reliability.

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## GOULD & GOODRICH UNVEILS ADVANCED NEW DUTY HOLSTER - MODEL 391

For twenty-five years Gould & Goodrich has worked with law enforcement agencies around the world. These agencies have provided a forum for extensive market research. This research data has driven Gould & Goodrich to design a duty holster that meets the needs of law enforcement professionals as they face the rigorous demands of their jobs. The model 391 holster offers a fast, smooth draw and a revolutionary, patented retention system. This advanced system gives you the option to deploy the strap release lever and change your holster's status from Triple Retention to Double Retention. Or simply press the thumb slide for a synthesized release of the strap and internal retention device.

When you holster your weapon, you get instant audible retention with a single motion. The model 391 is constructed of high grade, durable Black Kydex and solid stainless steel for maximum durability. The holster's outer shell resists scuffing under the stress of normal activities. A sueded liner protects your gun's finish. The holster offers a rear sight pocket and front sight channel. Multiple finishes are available in right- or left-hand versions.

Gould & Goodrich products are available nationwide through law enforcement distributors and your favorite gun shops, as well as through online and catalog retailers.

**For more information on new sizes or to request a free catalog of our leather, nylon and synthetic gear, CALL 910.893.2071 or 800.277.0732. FAX 910.893.4742. E-MAIL [info@gouldusa.com](mailto:info@gouldusa.com). WEB [www.GouldUSA.com](http://www.GouldUSA.com)**



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**RED STAR ARMS AK-47 ACCESSORIES**



AK Gas Piston

AK Trigger

Patent #6772548

- AK-47 Ext. Magazine Release .....\$19.99
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- New Product by Red Star Arms. U.S. made gas piston for the AK-47 and MAK90. 100% CNC machined, and made from heat treated stainless steel.**
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(eliminate most of your pretravel for a crisper Trigger pull)

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Mfg. by E.D.M. process produces improved geometrical designed corrosion resistance parts that have a higher tensile strength and are 40% lighter than steel. Shorter, faster lock/cycle time, more positive feeding with less chance of misfires.

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- 10/22@ DOUBLE BIGHEAD SAFETY Blue. Works with 10/22@ Mag. ....\$26.99
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AR-15 Hogue Rubber Overmolded free float Aluminum Forend tube	\$89.95
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AR-15 Weapons Solutions Rear Sight	\$29.99
AR-15 Assembly/Disassembly Book	\$6.95
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AR-15 Barrel Rail Mount	\$19.99
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Hogue M98 Overmolded Full Length Bed Block	\$269.95
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M-98 Micro Click Sight	\$69.99
Jard Mauser Trigger System Upgrade	\$49.99
ATI Stock with Built in Scope Mount Camouflage	\$129.99
ATI Stock with Built in Scope Mount Black	\$99.99
ATI Mauser Bolt Handle	\$15.99
ATI Scope Mount	\$52.99

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Trigger only	\$36.67
RSA Halfcock Hammer & Trigger Kit Stainless Steel Finish	\$179.95
RSA Halfcock Hammer Only Stainless Steel Finish	\$118.37
RSA Trigger Only Stainless Steel Finish	\$46.67
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RSA .375" High 60 Deg. Serrated Blue	\$14.95
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RSA .375" High 1/8" Radius Non Serrated S/S	\$16.95
RSA .450" High 60 Deg. Serrated Blue	\$14.95
RSA .450" High 60 Deg. Serrated S/S	\$16.95
RSA .450" High 1/8" Radius Non-Serrated Blue	\$14.95
RSA .450" High 1/8" Radius Non-Serrated S/S	\$16.95
RSA .22/.32 Halfcock Hammer & Trigger Kit Blue	\$159.95
RSA .22/.32 Halfcock Hammer & Trigger Kit S/S finish	\$179.95
RSA .22/.32 Hammer Only Blue	\$108.67
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Bisley Halfcock Hammer only Stainless Steel Finish	\$139.95
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Colt Single Action Backstrap & Trigger Guard for RSA Stainless Steel for new model	\$239.95
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Colt Single Action Backstrap & Trigger Guard for RSA 4140 steel for Old Model

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Ruger Base Pin Sheriff's Model Blue	\$24.95
Ruger Base Pin Sheriff's Model Stainless	\$24.95
Ruger Base Pin-Colt Style Blue	\$21.95
Ruger Base Pin-Colt Style Stainless	\$21.95
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.22/.32 Single Six Halfcock Hammer & Trigger Kit S/S Finish	\$179.95
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Keith #5 Grip Frame New Model 4140 Steel	\$275.00
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Ruger 3 Screw Trigger Old Model	\$40.00



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UNCLE MIKE'S  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ADDS NEW CONCEAL  
AND CARRY  
PRODUCTS



Uncle Mike's Law Enforcement has added three new products that are designed for concealed carry of handguns.

Uncle Mike's PDA Holster (pictured) looks like a regular cell phone or PDA carry case but it is really an alternative way to carry a small concealed handgun. The case comes with a belt clip and has a soft interior that protects the firearm. The PDA Holster gives the owner instant access to their firearm while keeping it undetected. It sells for a suggested retail price of \$9.95.

Uncle Mike's Fanny Pack has a new design with updated materials for a better look and function. The pack holds the handgun snugly but is easily accessible. In addition to a handgun the Uncle Mike's Fanny Pack will hold other small items. Suggested retail price is \$34.95.

Uncle Mike's "Day Timer" Holster is a nice looking small day planner that is actually a holster. It looks like any other day planner from the outside, but instead is an excellent way for a gun owner to carry a concealed handgun. The day planner is made of ballistic nylon and sells for a suggested retail price of \$16.95.

**For more information, go to [www.unclemikesle.com](http://www.unclemikesle.com) or call consumer inquiries at 800-423-3537.**

# A Weapon is Only as Good as the Man Holding it.

**MYTH:** In a fight, you can always rely on your weapon.

**FACT:** You only have less than a 5% chance to draw your weapon when faced with a violent offender (This doesn't mean you'll even have a chance to use it!).

**MYTH:** The techniques you learned in the academy will save your life.

**FACT:** Every seasoned cop knows what they teach in the academy has more concern for the criminal's safety than your safety.

**Now** you can finally learn what they **CAN'T** teach you in the academy. Introducing **The Self Defense Training System (SDTS)**, the only **TRUE** train at home program that guarantees you the results you want, without an instructor and without a partner.

Developed by Master Instructor Damian Ross, a Black Belt in Tekkenryu Combat Jujutsu, Judo, and Karate. Mr. Ross has been a security specialist, personal protection agent and combatives instructor and advisor for military, federal and local law enforcement personnel since 1992. Because of it's rapid results, the **SDTS** is the preferred training program for unarmed and small arms conflict resolution by government and private contractors alike, for one simple reason, **IT WORKS.**

## The Self Defense Training System 12 Modules



**THIS IS NOT A GAME:  
Do your WORST,  
Fast & FIRST!**



- 1: Essential Self Defense
- 2: Advanced Methods of Striking
- 3: Ground Fighting for Keeps
- 4: Defense Against Mugs and Holds
- 5: Escape and Evasion Techniques
- 6: Body Conditioning
- 7: Combat Physical Training
- 8: Weapons Defense
- 9: Weapons Offense: Knife and Club
- 10: Combat Throws and Takedowns
- 11: Old School Weapons, Methods & Tools
- 12: Quick Killing and Deadly Finishing Techniques

### Veteran Police Officer uses the SDTS to Stay Safe

*"I'm a tactical firearms instructor and I never even had a chance to draw my weapon. The SDTS Saved my life."*

*Bill Compton, Patrolman and Tactical Firearms Instructor  
Wayne, NJ*

**The Self Defense Training System (SDTS)** is the most comprehensive training and self defense education program of its kind. Each training module includes a Quick-Start Guide, Instructional Section and Training and Drills Segment. You will be given **step-by-step** instructions and personal guidance to building your own personal self defense program. Then, you can go online and exchange ideas and ask questions on the Training Forum.

**NO INSTRUCTOR NEEDED!** This training system has been developed over decades of teaching and training thousands of people. The SDTS is **THE BENCHMARK** for all self defense programs. Join the scores of martial artists, law enforcement officers, soldiers and civilians who have decided to take charge of their training. Because what you know is only part of the equation, **it's how you do it that matters most.**

Listen, we know you're serious and we know that once you get your hands on this material you'll immediately see the life saving value, and that's why we're giving you a **30 day FREE Test Drive of Module 1 of the SDTS: Essential Self Defense.**

In your Test Drive, you'll receive **Module 1**, plus the bonus video **"The Truth About Self Defense Revealed"** and even the Self Defense Archives (a total value of \$227 for FREE). All you have to do is pay for shipping and handling and take the next small step and contact us.

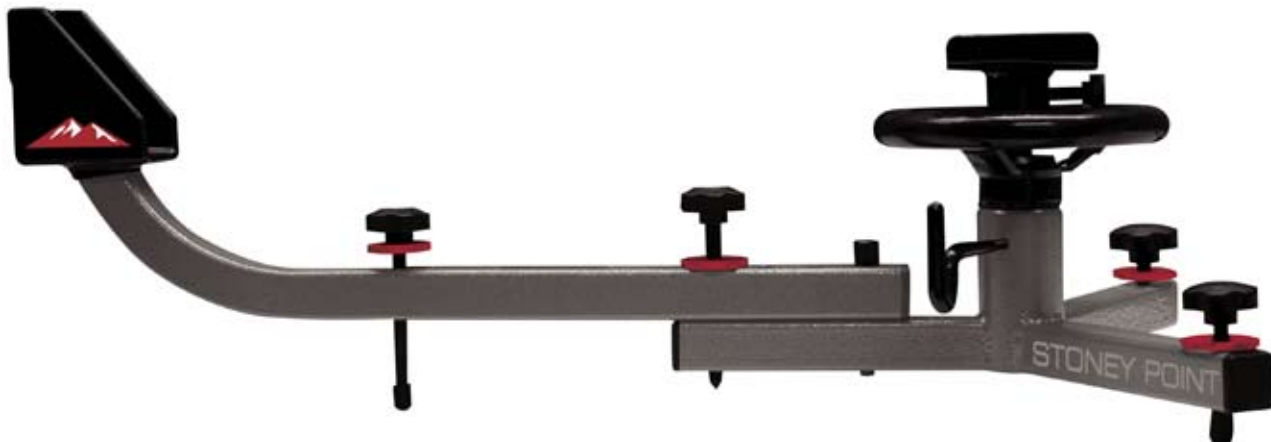
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**THE SELF DEFENSE COMPANY**





## NEW STONEY POINT BENCH ANCHOR ADJUSTABLE SHOOTING REST



Experience the ultimate level of precision and shooting comfort from the bench. The new Bench Anchor Shooting Rest from Stoney Point is an affordable bench rest that makes sighting in your favorite rifle quick, easy and painless.

The rigid tubular steel construction and studded feet make for rock solid shooting, and there is no better way to dial in the accuracy of any rifle. The new steel structure keeps your rifle locked on target and virtually eliminates felt recoil. Once a rifle is set up, it is easy to make coarse and fine adjustments front and back. For larger caliber and magnum loads, the butt plate significantly reduces felt recoil.

The Bench Anchor Shooting Rest is easy to set up for both right- and left-handed shooters. It comes with an accessory tray that saddles the bottom support and allows for adding weight or shooting bags for even steadier shooting. Suggested retail price is \$95.99. It is available at Stoney Point dealers nationwide.

**For more information, visit [www.stoneypoint.com](http://www.stoneypoint.com) or call consumer inquiries at 800-423-3537.**