

Beretta DT10 Trap



Designed from the ground up for American trap shooting, Beretta's DT10 Trap is intended as a high-level competition shotgun. The DT10 Trap, a successor to the Beretta ASE shotgun that was geared toward the European shotgunning community, is a

modernized, American-style shotgun. Beretta designed the gun through the input of its own staff, dealers and high-level competitors in the trap field.

Unlike European trap guns that usually feature non-adjustable combs, the DT10 stock design is a Monte Carlo

with an adjustable comb. Another distinctive feature is the very wide fore-end, a quality unique to American trap. The DT10 Trap also has a rib 7/16" high at the muzzle.

As indicated by the "DT" in DT10, this model features a detachable trigger group.

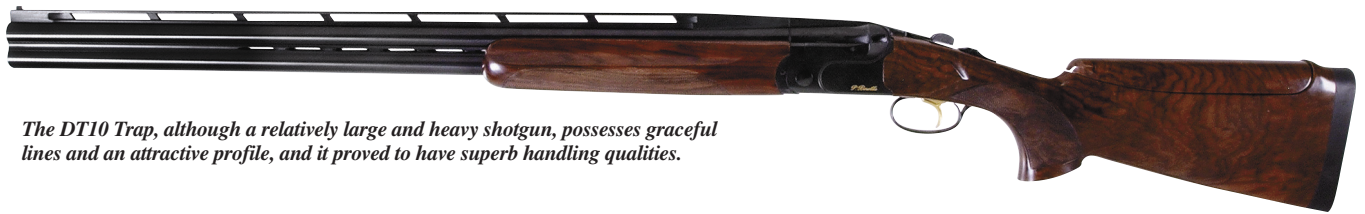
Having been popularized on Perazzi and Rottweil shotguns, the feature gives shooters the option of quickly accessing the trigger group in the event of a broken leaf spring. The DT10 Trap utilizes leaf springs, which, according to Beretta, result in faster lock times.



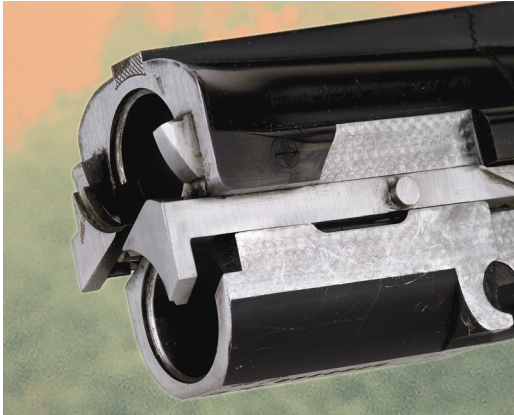
The DT10 Trap's steel receiver features an attractive blue finish that is highlighted by the sparing and tasteful use of gold accents on the trigger and the engraved name. Leaf springs are utilized in the DT10 Trap's detachable trigger mechanism because, according to Beretta, they offer faster lock times.

The *American Rifleman* has used the phrase "Dope Bag" at least since 1921, when Col. Townsend Whelen first titled his column with it. Even then, it had been in use for years, referring to a sack used by target shooters to hold ammunition and accessories on the firing line. "Sight dope" also was a traditional marksman's term for sight adjustment information, while judging wind speed and direction was called "doping the wind."

WARNING: Technical data and information contained herein are intended to provide information based on the limited experience of individuals under specific conditions and circumstances. They do not detail the comprehensive training procedures, techniques and safety precautions absolutely necessary to properly carry on similar activity. Read the notice and disclaimer on the contents page. Always consult comprehensive reference manuals and bulletins for details of proper training requirements, procedures, techniques and safety precautions before attempting any similar activity.



The DT10 Trap, although a relatively large and heavy shotgun, possesses graceful lines and an attractive profile, and it proved to have superb handling qualities.



The DT10 Trap's action is based on a modified Greener crossbolt system or, more specifically, a modified Kersten system. This system places locking extensions on either side of the upper barrel for the crossbolt to lock into with lugs that lock under the crossbolt rather than completely encircling it (l.). The DT10 Trap possesses a fully adjustable stock with Beretta's patented memory system. The adjustable comb allows shooters to adjust for comb height and cast-on or cast-off (bottom l.). The stock's memory system utilizes markings that allow users to record or memorize settings (bottom r.).

DT10 TRAP

MANUFACTURER:

Fabbrica D'Armi Pietro Beretta S.p.A. Via Pietro Beretta, 18 25063 Gardone Val Trompia, Brescia, Italy

IMPORTER:

Beretta, USA Corp. (Dept. AR), 17601 Beretta Drive, Accokeek, MD 20607; (301) 283-2191; www.berettausa.com

GAUGE:

12, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

ACTION TYPE:

over-under shotgun

RECEIVER:

blued steel

BARREL:

30"

CHOKES:

five optima-choke tubes; two full, one improved modified, one modified and one improved cylinder

TRIGGER:

single-stage, 4-lbs. pull for both barrels

STOCK:

walnut, adjustable comb: length of pull, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ "; drop at heel, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "; drop at comb, $\frac{1}{2}$ " (note: drops are with lowered comb)

OVERALL LENGTH:

47 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

WEIGHT:

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

ACCESSORIES:

lockable hard plastic case, choke tube key, stock adjustment and removal tools, neutral trigger, two orange beads (small and large), spare firing pins and springs, spare leaf hammer springs

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE:

\$8,500

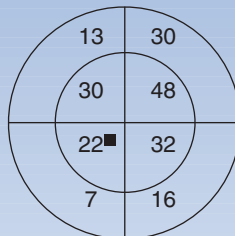
Although the necessity of the detachable trigger system during "normal" shooting situations is questionable, it does allow for simplified cleaning and maintenance.

To remove the trigger, first ensure that the gun is unloaded. Push the safety/selector switch, located on the top tang, past the fire position. That will expose a white dot at the base of the switch and will be accompanied by a distinctive "click." Operate the top lever and open the action. The trigger group is now unlocked. Pull down gently to remove it. Replacement is simply in the reversed order.

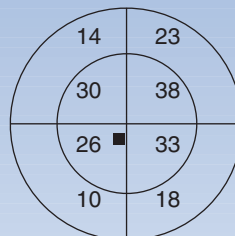
The action locks up solidly and is based on a modified Greener crossbolt system or, more specifically, a modified Kersten system. That system places locking extensions on either side of the upper barrel for the crossbolt to lock into. Unlike the original Kersten design, the

SHOOTING RESULTS

AVERAGE OF 10 PATTERNS AT 40 YDS.



Improved Modified



Improved Cylinder

■=Point of Hold

Federal P128—12-ga.,

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "—1 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.—No. 6 copper-plated lead

Average Pellet count: 287

Measured Velocity @3-ft.: 1221 f.p.s.

Remaining Energy Per Pellet @40 yds.: 1 ft.-lb.

Recoil: 28.3 ft.-lbs.

Total Hits	198 (69%)	Total Hits	192 (67%)
21" Inner Circle	132 (46%)	21" Inner Circle	127 (44%)
30" Outer Ring	66 (23%)	30" Outer Ring	65 (23%)

DT10 utilizes lugs that lock under the crossbolt, as in the modified Greener crossbolt system, rather than completely encircling it.

The barrel selector is incorporated into the safety/selector switch and slides left or right to reveal one or two red dots. The single dot indicates that the lower barrel will fire first, two dots readying the top barrel to fire first.



The DT10 Trap features a detachable trigger group design that is easy to manipulate and allows quick access to the trigger group for simplified cleaning and maintenance.

The barrels have Beretta's "Optima Bore," which features both a lengthened forcing cone and an over-bored barrel. The longer forcing cone begins to taper from the chamber and gradually tightens toward the muzzle, and the over-boring is claimed to reduce felt recoil. At the muzzle, the new "Optima Choke" competition choke tube system is longer and slimmer than "standard" chokes. This allows a more gradual choke constriction, encouraging the concentration and even distribution of shot within the pattern.

The adjustable stock allows shooters to adjust comb height and cast beyond the factory configuration. Beretta's patented "memory system" uses "indicators" (with graduated scales) so shooters can record adjustment settings when initially fitting the stock, or when adjusting for different shooters or conditions.

The DT10 Trap also features a "progressive rib" on the barrels. As the name implies, the rib progressively tapers from flush

with the receiver to 7/16" high at the muzzle. The trigger of the DT10 is micro-adjustable to alter length of pull. That is accomplished by loosening a small screw on the trigger blade. Maximum movement is 3/16".

As soon as one picks up the DT10 Trap, the quality of the gun becomes obvious through its handling and fit and finish. It is also quite heavy. The wood is a high-grade walnut with a glossy finish and features well executed, hand-cut checkering on the wrist and fore-end in a double-bordered - 24 lines-per-inch pattern. There are a few over-runs here and there, but overall it was some of the better checkering observed on a factory-produced gun. Commensurate with the price of the gun, the polish and finish of the metal was also of high quality, and there were no tool marks anywhere.

Actually, the quality of the polishing on internal sections was better than the external parts of many guns on the market today. The monobloc was also expertly jeweled, and wood-to-metal fit was excellent.

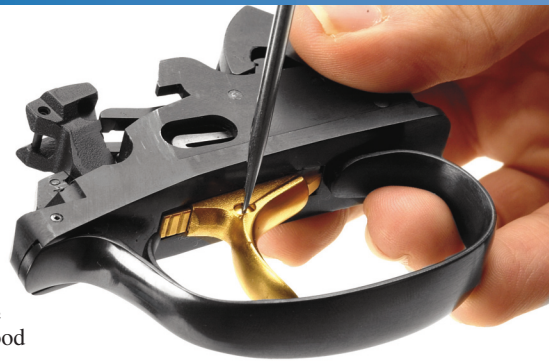
Another indicator of the quality of the gun is its use of a Deeley fore-end latch, rather than the less costly Anson pushrod that

requires less fitting. The Deeley latch requires more labor-intensive fitting of the hanger to the barrels and the latch into the wood of the fore-end.

What stood out about this gun was the extent to which Beretta made the DT10 to fit the shooter as well as possible despite the fact it is a factory-made, as opposed to a custom-made, gun. It has a right-handed palm swell, a stock cast-off for right-handed shooters and right-canted trigger. Included is a neutral cant replacement trigger blade. Beretta has informed us that it offers the option of returning the gun for refitting of a stock with a left-hand palm-swell at a minimal charge. Left-canted triggers are also available.

The DT10 Trap was pattern-tested with results shown in the accompanying table, and function fired on both the trap and, for curiosity's sake, five-stand sporting clays range using a variety of loads. The patterning of the DT10 was a little unexpected as the improved modified and improved cylinder chokes shot very similar patterns. Both patterns had good shot distribution and shot a little high, as to be expected in this type of shotgun.

There were no malfunctions of any type. The DT10 ejected fired shells smartly and



The trigger of the DT10 is micro-adjustable back and forth to alter length of pull. This is accomplished by loosening a small screw on the trigger blade. Maximum movement is 3/16". Left, right or neutral canted triggers can be employed.

the selective ejectors performed without a hitch. At the 16-yd. line, the DT10 Trap hit targets solidly. Even set-up as a right-hand gun, the lone left-handed shooter experienced little difficulty in hitting targets. Recoil was mild with most loads tried, as the DT10 is a large, fairly heavy shotgun that dampens much of the perceived recoil.

The DT10 offers a high-end gun to the shooter, but it also carries a large price tag. For those who can afford this level of quality and appreciate the level of performance it provides, the DT10 Trap is ideal. Combine that with the detachable trigger system and the generous accoutrements, and the DT10 Trap is a high-performance gun for the discriminating trap enthusiast.



The DT10 Trap, although an expensive shotgun, offers a great deal to the serious trap shooter—in both the gun and its accessories. Included with the gun is just about every little tool and accoutrement that the trap shooter needs, neatly packaged in a lockable case.

Auto-Ordnance 1911PKZ



Over the years, Auto-Ordnance has catalogued a variety of M1911-style pistols in various lengths and calibers. It would be fair to say, however, that neither gunsmiths nor the shooting public ever placed these guns on a par with the very best commercial Government Model pistols. Particularly in recent years, Auto-Ordnance pistols were reputed to be assembled from components produced by numerous manufacturers without benefit of rigorous dimensional controls or proper heat-treating.

All that changed in February 1999 when Auto-Ordnance was acquired by Kahr Arms. Though only four years old at the time, Kahr Arms had already received acclaim for both its all-steel and polymer-frame double-action 9 mm Luger and .40 S&W carry pistols. Kahr's parent company, SAEILO, had been in the business of precision machining since 1981, and that expertise was quickly put to use improving the Auto-Ordnance line.

Kahr Arms instituted a stringent quality control program



Though small by today's standards, the 1911PKZ's G.I.-style sights (l.) allowed accurate shooting and added to the historic style of the pistol. The safety and slide release levers are also pure G.I.-style and non-ambidextrous. The barrel bushing (l.), although by no means a match-quality fitted unit, still allowed for some respectable results.

AO 1911PKZ

MANUFACTURER: Kahr Arms (Dept. AR), P.O. Box 220, Blauvelt, NY 10913; (845) 353-7770; www.kahr.com

CALIBER: .45 ACP

ACTION TYPE: locked breech, short-recoil, semi-automatic pistol

FRAME: Parkerized, investment cast 4140 steel receiver; bar stock 4140 slide

BARREL: 5"

RIFLING: six-groove, 1:16" LH twist

MAGAZINE: detachable box, seven-round capacity

SIGHTS: post front, square notch rear drift-adjustable for windage

TRIGGER: single-action, two-stage, 5-lbs. pull

OVERALL LENGTH: 8½"

WIDTH: 1½"

HEIGHT: 5½"

WEIGHT EMPTY: 39 ozs.

ACCESSORIES: hard plastic case, gun lock, reference fired cartridge case

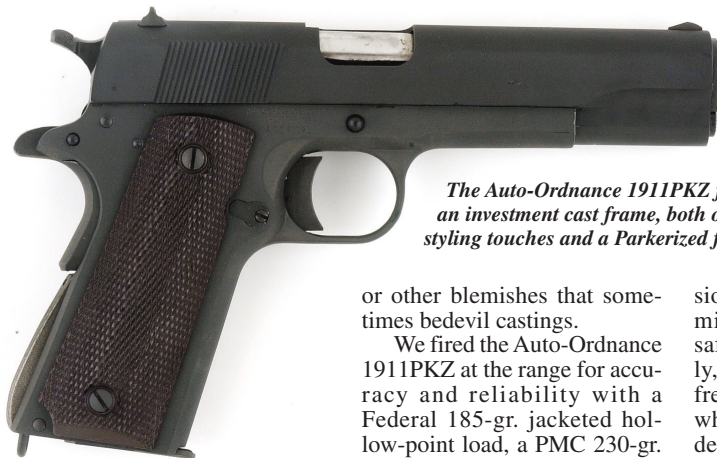
SUGGESTED RETAIL

PRICE: \$462

that included new parts specifications, comprehensive in-house Rockwell hardness testing and careful checking of all dimensional tolerances. New state-of-the-art CNC equipment was purchased so that major components, such as the slide and frame, could be machined in-house, and certain high-stress parts previously made from castings were machined from bar stock. All Auto-Ordnance M1911 parts are now strictly held to military specifications.

Auto-Ordnance currently produces three Government Model guns, the Model 1911PKZ, Model T1911 and Model 1911WGS (a Commander-length gun may be introduced in 2002). All have 5" barrels, fixed sights, bar stock slides of 4140 steel and 4140 investment-cast frames. The Model T1911 is the standard model and has small G.I.-type iron sights, brown plastic stocks and a matte black oxide finish. The deluxe 1911WGS also has a matte black finish, but sports high-visibility three-dot iron sights and black textured rubber wraparound stocks.

The third model, the 1911PKZ model reviewed here, is intended as a facsimile of a World War II-era M1911A1 service pistol, and sports that gun's lanyard loop, minuscule G.I. iron sights, checkered wide spur hammer, short steel trigger, arched mainspring housing, checkered brown plastic stocks and Parkerized finish. A left-side slide stamping, "MODEL 1911A1 U.S. ARMY," though historically inaccurate, adds to the gun's military appearance.



The Auto-Ordnance 1911PKZ features a bar stock slide and an investment cast frame, both of 4140 steel, as well as military styling touches and a Parkerized finish.

The 1911PKZ differs from the military model in some details, however, such as its angled slide serrations, beveled magazine well, throated barrel and lowered ejection port (these last three being justifiable as enhancing reliability).

The 1911PKZ also differs from the military model in its magazine, a steel seven-round Metalform unit whose parallel feed lips better control the cartridge's path into the chamber. The Parkerized magazine can be disassembled for cleaning or spring replacement.

The .45 ACP Auto-Ordnance 1911PKZ faithfully adheres to standard M1911 design principles, operating procedures and disassembly steps previously detailed in these pages. Note that the pistol lacks the passive firing pin block featured on the Series 80 Colts and Para-Ordnance M1911-type clones.

Compared to previous Auto-Ordnance samples, we were pleasantly surprised at the fit and finish of the 1911PKZ we received. Tool marks were absent, all machining was crisp and precise, and the investment-cast frame showed no pits, voids

or other blemishes that sometimes bedevil castings.

We fired the Auto-Ordnance 1911PKZ at the range for accuracy and reliability with a Federal 185-gr. jacketed hollow-point load, a PMC 230-gr. ball load and a 170-gr. jacketed soft-point, lead-free non-toxic load from Winchester. The results are summarized in the accompanying table.

Accuracy of the 1911PKZ was good for a basic, stock M1911. Best accuracy was with the Federal and PMC loads, which grouped into 2.70" and 2.74", respectively, for five, five-shot groups fired at 25 yds. The Winchester NT 170-gr. load produced a still-respectable average of 3.98".

Out of 150 test-fire rounds, there were two early malfunctions, both with the Federal 185-gr. hollow-point load, largely attributable to the matte texture of the Parkerized frame's feed ramp, which inhibited smooth feeding. As the ramp became smoother during the session, feeding improved. Feeding might also have been enhanced with the replacement of the stock magazine follower with a unit that kept the bullet nose elevated. Kahr representatives stated that a such a follower will be incorporated in future magazines. Note that the 1911PKZ's owner's manual recommends using only 230-gr. ball ammunition.

There were no failures to extract or eject, though ejected brass occa-

sionally hit the shooter in the middle of the forehead. All safety features worked perfectly, and the magazine dropped freely from the magazine well when the magazine catch was depressed.

The 1911PKZ's trigger broke at 5 lbs., with some initial creep—about par for current-production, basic



One of the few modern changes that Auto-Ordnance updates from the original classic M1911 formula, the 1911PKZ's throated barrel (above) is intended to improve feeding reliability. Despite a few modernized touches here and there intended to simply improve reliability, the 1911PKZ is at its heart an old-fashioned M1911 pistol.

M1911s. A sharp edge on the serrated trigger face abraded the trigger finger after only about 10 rounds were fired and required wrapping the finger with tape. A more permanent solution would be to soften the trigger edge with abrasive paper.

The Auto-Ordnance 1911PKZ is sufficiently authentic-looking to gain the favor of World War II reenactors and military buffs, yet can be shot extensively without reservation—unlike a collectible U.S. M1911A1. Reliable, accurate and well-made, and with a list price of \$462, the 1911PKZ represents a good value in a new American-made basic M1911 pistol.



SHOOTING RESULTS

.45 ACP Cartridge	Vel. @ 15' (f.p.s.)	Energy (ft.-lbs.)	Recoil (ft.-lbs.)	Group Size In Inches		
				Smallest	Largest	Average
Federal No. 45C 185-gr. JHP	835 Avg. 22 Sd	286	3.9	2.50	2.92	2.70
PMC No. 45A 230-gr. FMJ	667 Avg. 11 Sd	227	3.6	2.02	3.32	2.74
Winchester No. SC45NT 170-gr. JSP	791 Avg. 20 Sd	236	3.1	2.88	5.26	3.98
Average Extreme Spread:						3.14
Measured average velocity for 10 rounds from a 5" barrel. Range temperature: 85°F. Humidity: 55%. Accuracy for five consecutive, five-shot groups at 25 yds. from a sandbag. Abbreviations: FMJ (full metal-jacketed), JHP (jacketed hollow-point), JSP (jacketed soft-point), Sd (standard deviation).						



Wild West Guns Alaskan CoPilot

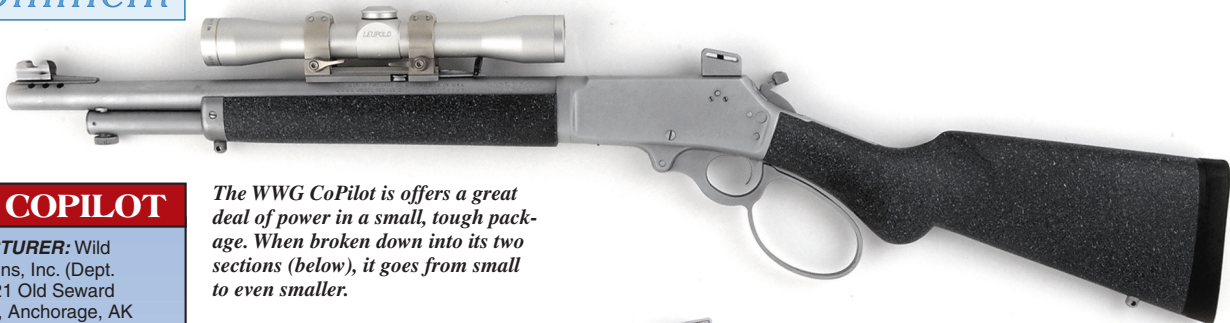


Many would agree that with its Guide Gun, Marlin Firearms created the ideal rifle to keep handy in a bush plane, canoe or wherever man is amongst potentially dangerous beasts. Others, such as Jim West, of Wild West Guns in Anchorage, Alaska, would agree that the Guide Gun comes close, but is not quite perfect. West uses Marlin's Model 1895 as a platform for his "compact, easy-to-carry, powerful survival and hunting tool:" the Alaskan CoPilot.

Granted, simply shortening the barrel and changing the stock's length of pull qualify as making the CoPilot "compact," but West doesn't stop there. The CoPilot is a take-down gun that breaks down into two short sections by turning out the thumbscrew from the bottom of the magazine, retracting the magazine tube about 1/2", and turning

West tunes the action for flawless functioning, and the trigger for a smooth pull of three to four lbs., and offers an enlarged loop lever as an option (r.). Takedown begins (below) by turning out the thumbscrew on the bottom of the magazine tube. After loosening the thumbscrew, pull the magazine tube out of the receiver about 1/2", and unthread the front half of the gun from the rear.





WWG COPILOT

MANUFACTURER: Wild West Guns, Inc. (Dept. AR), 7521 Old Seward Highway, Anchorage, AK 99518; (800) 992-4570; www.wildwestguns.com

CALIBER: .457 Wild West Magnum (.45-70 Gov't also)

ACTION TYPE: lever-action, center-fire rifle

RECEIVER: Parkerized steel

BARREL: 16"

RIFLING: conventional, six grooves cut, 1:20" RH-twist

MAGAZINE: four-round tubular

SIGHTS: WWG Ghost Ring rear; fiber-optic front with skeletonized steel hood

TRIGGER: single-stage, non-adjustable, tuned, 3-lbs. pull

STOCK: granite-finished synthetic; length of pull, 13"; drop at heel, 2¼"; drop at comb, 1"

OVERALL LENGTH: 35"

WEIGHT: 6 lbs. 15 ozs.

ACCESSORIES: Pachmayr Decelerator recoil pad, padded carrying case, Leupold Scout Scope with WWG Quick-Release rings and mount, large loop lever

SUGGESTED RETAIL

PRICE: From \$1,549 (\$3,200 as tested)

The WWG CoPilot offers a great deal of power in a small, tough package. When broken down into its two sections (below), it goes from small to even smaller.



off the front half of the gun from the rear half. Reassembly is equally simple by reversing the steps.

"Easy-to-carry" doesn't do justice to the size of the take-down package. This gun could fit as easily in the map pocket of a bush plane as it does in the briefcase-size carry case West supplies with the CoPilot.

"Powerful" is another adjective that pales in comparison to what West's CoPilot actually delivers. Chambered for either the .457 Wild West Magnum, which also accepts the .45-70 Gov't, or the whopping .50 Alaskan, the CoPilot is nearly in the same power league as the .458 Win. Mag. Indeed, recoil from our sample CoPilot chambered in .457 WWM was so severe that we had to use our Recoil Buster rifle rest and a sand bag between the butt of the

rifle and our shoulder to shoot it for accuracy and function.

West puts emphasis on reliability that is second to none. That level of reliability is achieved by tuning the action for flawless feeding, extracting and ejecting. West also gives the 1895SS a complete trigger job to smooth and lighten the pull, installs a Pachmayr Decelerator recoil pad, ports the barrel to reduce perceived recoil and installs a high-visibility, fiber-optic front sight with skeletonized protective hood. The standard finish is mil-spec Parkerizing.

Additional options and accessories at added cost include a large-loop lever, different finishes, synthetic stocks, ghost ring sights and a Scout-type scope system.

We tested the CoPilot chambered for .457 WWM using

405-gr. and 350-gr. loads made by HTM and sold through Wild West. We also shot 300-gr. Winchester .45-70 Gov't factory loads, which recoiled like mild plinking loads after having shot extensively with the .457 WWM fodder.

Accuracy was excellent, even given the low power and coarse post sight in the Leupold extended eye relief scope West provided with the gun. That scope is intended for fast target acquisition, not precision shooting. The action was as smooth as cream with no malfunctions of any kind, feeding even the long 405-gr. .457 WWM cartridges without so much as a slight bobble and throwing cases clear and far from the action.

Make no mistake about it, while you can hunt deer with it, a Wild West CoPilot is by no means a deer hunter's gun. No, this is a specialized tool. It's best carried by those whose routine jaunts involve a chance of encountering potentially dangerous animals equal to the chance the rest of us have of hitting a deer with our car when commuting to work. Taken down, the CoPilot occupies little space, and the space it does use is meager compared to the peace of mind that comes with having it close at hand in an emergency.



The barrel is rechambered for the .457 Wild West Magnum (L)—a lengthened version of the .45-70 Gov't You can still shoot .45-70 Gov't cartridges in a .457 WWM-chambered rifle.

SHOOTING RESULTS

.457 WWM and .45-70 Gov't Cartridges	Vel. @ 15' (f.p.s.)	Energy (ft.-lbs.)	Recoil (ft.-lbs.)	Smallest (inches)	Largest (inches)	Average (inches)
.457 WWM HSM 405-gr. BCSP	1835 Avg. 15 Sd	3,028	40.3	1.79	3.11	2.46
.457 WWM HSM 350-gr. SP	2034 Avg. 32 Sd	3,215	38.3	1.98	3.16	2.41
.45-70 Gov't Winchester X4570H 300-gr. JHP	1664 Avg. 69 Sd	1,844	20.9	1.74	2.48	2.05
Average Extreme Spread:						2.31
Measured average velocity for 10 rounds from a 16½" barrel. Range temperature: 88°F. Humidity: 80%. Accuracy for five consecutive five-shot groups at 100 yds. from a Recoil Buster. Abbreviations: BCSP (bonded core soft-point), JHP (jacketed hollow-point), Sd (standard deviation), SP (soft-point).						

Leupold LPS 2.5-10X 45 mm Riflescope



One of Leupold's newest scopes in its LPS series is a stout, 2.5-10X 45 mm model designed with the practical big game hunter in mind. A 30 mm one-piece tube of 6061-T6 aircraft aluminum alloy provides sufficient length to mount the new LPS on even magnum-length actions without being overly long for big game hunting applications.

Mounted in the tube, all lenses have Leupold's DiamondCoat multi-layer coating that the company claims allows 99.65 percent light transmission through each lens. Total light transmission is claimed to be 92 percent. That, when coupled with a generous exit pupil (4.5 mm at 10X), gives the new LPS user a bright, clear image even in low-light conditions. External lenses have an enhanced "ion-assist" DiamondCoat that resists scratches to a degree 10 times greater than that required by the military.

The 45 mm ocular lens is a great benefit to hunters, in particular those who shoot hard-kicking magnums, as it allows mounting of the scope low on the rifle. A lower-mounted scope permits the shooter to assume a more solid cheek weld, and that results in greater accuracy and less perceived recoil. Regarding recoil, another concern to those who shoot hard-kicking rifles is "scope eye," which occurs when the scope strikes the shooter painfully on the brow during recoil. Leupold reduces the chances for getting scope eye by

providing a generous 4" of eye relief in the LPS line. And if you end up having to shoot from a particularly awkward position, one where getting hit by the scope is likely, a soft rubber eyecup should protect you if you do manage to be struck on the brow by the ocular bell. Also, part of the ocular bell is a finger-adjustable, fast-focus eyepiece with an adjustment range of -2 to +1 diopters.

Adjustment turrets are made surprisingly low to lend a streamlined appearance to the entire scope and feature 1/4-minute click adjustments over a range of 60" both horizontally and vertically. While perhaps a more practical feature for target scopes, the LPS has finger-adjustable drums that can be pulled up and set at zero, then pushed back down in place. That allows shooters to make known adjustments for different loads or shooting conditions and then return easily to the original shooting setting.

As befits a big game hunting scope, parallax is pre-set for 150 yds. The scope weighs 17 ozs. and is 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ " long—a practical size for most center-fire, bolt-action rifles. Power range, as stated, is 2.5-10X with each setting marked clearly on the finger-adjustable power setting ring forward of the ocular bell, and the field of view ranges from 37.2' at 100 yds. on 2.5X to 9.9' at 10X.

Though Leupold subjects LPS scopes to demanding in-house tests, such as withstanding 5,000 impacts at 750 Gs, and a vacuum-pressure water tank, we subjected a sample LPS to the


most extreme test to which any piece of equipment could be expected to withstand—a week in Arctic Quebec. Located near the 58th Parallel on Inuit land in Northern Quebec, Ungava Adventures' camp on the shore of Lake Napier provided us with hot and cold, dry and wet, and all-around extreme environments for any piece of equipment, especially for a "delicate" one such as a scope. Rather than mount the scope on the rifle we had brought with us for caribou hunting, we opted instead to let the scope jostle around in our daypack, the contents of which received much rougher handling than the rifle.

In camp, we set the scope on top of an oil-fired cabin stove to warm, then took it out in the cold drizzle to see if it would fog. We repeated that test several times, and even got so plucky as to take the very warm scope directly off the camp stove and submerge it about a foot deep in the icy waters of the glacier-carved lake.

After extensive beating from airline baggage handlers and a week riding in a daypack with other equipment, the LPS passed every hot/cold, dry/wet test we could conceive. Back in the States, we mounted the LPS on a center-fire rifle and "shot the square," which is a test to see if its repeatability or ability to retain zero was

affected. It wasn't, and the scope continued to perform well.

With its LPS line of premium scopes, then, Leupold has combined the rugged good looks of a no-nonsense, big game hunting scope with the durability, brightness, clarity and features big game hunters demand.

Available from: Leupold & Stevens, Inc. (Dept. AR), P.O. Box 688, Beaverton, OR 97075; (503) 526-1400; www.leupold.com. Suggested Retail Price: \$ 1,427. 



Adjustments are in 1/4-minute increments via the finger-adjustable drums (above). The scope's power settings are marked clearly (below).

