

THOMPSON/CENTER ENCORE NO. 3853, \$450

☑ Gun Tests Recommends: conditional buy ☑

Although it looked odd to some eyes, the T/C Encore felt pretty good to our shooters. However, we did have trouble getting low enough on the stock to see the sights. The stock is set up for a scope, but then, why put iron sights on the gun?



SPECIFICATIONS

OVERALL LENGTH	38.2 IN.
BARREL LENGTH.....	24 IN.
SIGHT RADIUS.....	16.1 IN.
OVERALL HEIGHT	7.6 IN.
LOP.....	14.3 IN.
WEIGHT UNLOADED.....	6.8 LBS.
CAPACITY.....	1 ROUND

ACTION FINISH.....	BLUED
ACTION TYPE	BREAK-OPEN SINGLE SHOT
BARREL FINISH	BLUED
MAGAZINE TYPE	N/A
STOCK	BLACK SYNTHETIC
TRIGGER PULL WEIGHT.....	3.6 LBS.
WARRANTY	LIMITED LIFETIME
TELEPHONE	(603) 332-2333
WEBSITE OR EMAIL.....	WWW.TCARMS.COM

A quick squeeze on the trigger guard opens the rifle. Note how low the hammer is. With some scopes you won't need to install an auxiliary button to cock the hammer. Although the Encore can be turned into various shotguns and handguns, we didn't care for the poor fit of the stock pieces. Metalwork was fine, though, and the trigger was as good as the Handi's.



Two screws and a big pin come loose when you take the Encore apart. Seems to us it ought to be possible to make a single-shot rifle that does not need tools to take it apart, and that has no easily lost small parts.



Excellent investment casting forms the receiver of the Encore. The New England rifle also had this construction. Both rifles locked up very well with no rattling.



This bottom view of the Encore forend shows its poor fit. In several places it was easy to see light through the huge gaps. This is not a good idea for a rifle that will see mud, snow, rain, and general dirt, we thought.

