

GUN TESTS REPORT CARD



Glock G21 SF .45 ACP, \$637 GUN TESTS GRADE: B+

In July, this gun earned a B+, and we see no reason to change that grade here. Though the G21 SF had a flat, boxy feeling compared to the M&P45, the SF did the best job of handling recoil, and the gun came onto target quickly and recovered the best. Also, the Glock had a short, smooth trigger stroke. On the downside, the left grip frame caused some discomfort.

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Smith & Wesson M&P45 .45 ACP, \$619 GUN TESTS GRADE: A-

There's so much to like here, and very little to dislike. The M&P45 comes standard with three interchangeable grips, great sights, a Picatinny-style rail, frame-mounted ambidextrous thumb safety, loaded chamber indicator, ambidextrous slide stop and reversible magazine release, a decent single-action trigger, great feel in the hand, consistent accuracy across three very different ammos, reliability, and of course, a nice price. The only dings we could put on it was its difficult field-strip system and problems loading the mags to capacity.



Heckler & Koch USP Compact

Tactical USP45CT .45 ACP, \$1235 GUN TESTS GRADE: C-



We expect some questions and criticisms for this gun falling two letter grades in less than six months, but in this match-up, the USP45CT was clearly third best. Its price was a huge detriment; at more than \$1200, it had a tough hill to climb to win against two very solid competitors. Certainly, there was a lot to like about the gun: double-action fire, a superb carry case and accoutrements, and a light 5.3-

pound single-action trigger pull, to name a few. On the downside, it carried only eight rounds in the magazine, the slim grip frame was harder to shoot well than the other guns, and the sharp grip checkering was uncomfortable on unprotected hands.

Testing conducted by K.R. Huey, using evaluations from GUN TESTS team testers.
Written and photographed by GUN TESTS staff. GT