

GUN TESTS REPORT CARD



CZ USA 97B No. 01401 45 ACP, \$779 **GUN TESTS GRADE: B**

This is a big handsome workhorse of a gun. For those who prefer steel and wood, mark the grade up to B+. Firing this gun first shot double action was actually faster and more efficient than firing it from cocked hammer, safety on. But decocking required confidence and skill. The CZ 97BD, with mechanical decocker, is probably a better choice for most people. But the simplicity of the 97B's action may be the reason why the DA/SA transition was so efficient.



FNH USA FNP45 USG No. 47938 45 ACP, \$780 **GUN TESTS GRADE: A-**

We found the thumb safeties and the single-action trigger to be so efficient that we would prefer to carry this gun cocked and locked. The USG soaked up the recoil of our heaviest loaded ammunition better than the other pistols. Its 15+1 round capacity rivaled the highest capacity 9mm pistols we've tested. If it didn't shoot groups as small as the other pistols, it did nonetheless deliver groups measuring about 2.2 inches on average firing every ammunition we tried. The USG also offered the simplest takedown.



Heckler & Koch 45C 45 ACP, \$1099 **GUN TESTS GRADE: B+**

The 45C is an upgrade from the USP Compact, which, according to our interviews, is one of the least talked about and most beloved service pistols in use today. Perhaps we blundered in not testing with its bigger brother, the 10+1 round HK 45. But the 45C still managed to outshoot the other pistols in this test while giving away little or nothing in terms of velocity or power. This is another DA/SA gun we'd prefer to carry cocked and locked. The 45C offers a remarkably slim grip, so anyone with less than larger hands will prefer the Heckler & Koch 45C over the other two guns.

Written and photographed by Roger Eckstine, using evaluations from GUN TESTS team testers. GT