

GUN TESTS VALUE GUIDE: 45-CAL HANDGUNS (1911 & OTHERS, UNDER \$900)

GUN NAME	ISSUE	GRADE & COMMENTS
Springfield Armory XD45 Compact Tactical XD9655HCSP06, \$619	July 07	Grade A (Our Pick): Would excel as a police sidearm versatile enough to go undercover with the 10-rd mag in place. Our team preferred the Tactical's longer sight radius.
Springfield Armory XD45 Compact XD9645HCSP06, \$589	July 07	Grade A: Most versatile pistol in the matchup. Concealable and easy to control. Fun-to-shoot workhorse.
S&W Model 625-3, apprx. \$900	Sept 08	Grade A: Fine revolver, but out of production as the 625; however, it's similar to current Jerry Miculek model.
S&W M&P45, \$619	Jan 08	Grade A-: Interchangeable grips, great sights, ok trigger.
FNH-USA FNP45 47938, \$780	April 09	Grade A-: Simple takedown, big 15+1 capacity.
Springfield Armory Mil-Spec Full-Size Stainless 1911A1 PB151LP, \$785	Oct 08	Grade A-/B: As a retro gun, we have it high marks. Very reliable with hollowpoints. But we didn't like the sights, and we'd rather not be limited to a low grip.
Springfield Armory XD45 Service Mod. w/Thumb Safety No. XD9661HCSP, \$571	July 08	Grade A-: Not designed for discreet carry, this is a high-capacity 45 suitable for shooters with medium to large hands. Thumb safety was eminently usable.
Glock 38 45 GAP, \$685	Jan 09	Grade B+: Shooters on a budget shouldn't pass this up.
Taurus Tracker 455SS4, \$500	Sept 08	Grade B+: Out of production 5-shooter; good used buy.
Glock 21SF, \$637	Jan 08	Grade B+: Short smooth trigger stroke. Boxy feel.
S&W M457 No. 104804, \$711	Sept 07	Grade B: Complicated controls, but great hand fit.
Taurus PT24/7 Pro 45-BP-12, \$503	July 07	Grade B: Superb ergonomics. But we graded it down for its long and vague trigger.
CZ USA 97B 01401, \$779	April 09	Grade B: Big, handsome workhorse, but heavy.
S&W M&P45 109107, \$743	July 08	Grade B: Shot well enough and was reliable.
Glock G36, \$620	Sept 07	Grade C+: Heck of a hideout gun, but trigger is heavy.
Kahr TP4543, \$697	Sept 07	Grade C: Long trigger eventually becomes tiresome.
Taurus PT1911, \$617	Mar 07	Grade D: Yours might be perfect. Ours needed better mags.
Taurus OSS 24/7, \$623	July 08	Grade F: Malfunctions and inconsistent lockup spoiled it.
Kahr PM4543, \$855	Feb 09	Grade F: Lots of jamming doomed this smaller piece.

Log on to GunReports.com or Gun-Tests.com to read complete reviews of these products. Some grades include comments in parentheses that reflect original recommendations.