STOEGER 2000 12 GAUGE NO. 31515, \$435

■ GUN TESTS RECOMMENDS: BUY IT ■

A solid functioning firearm, this model may not have the look and feel of the higher-priced guns, but for a price tag of less than five Benjamin Franklins, we think it is worth a try. We would like to recommend that the manufacturer work on a smoother and easier bolt-release system.

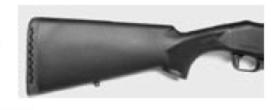


SPECIFICATIONS

UVERALL LENGTH	49.25 IN.
BARREL LENGTH	28.0 IN.
DROP @ COMB	
DROP @ HEEL	2.5 IN.
LENGTH OF PULL	14.5 IN.
WEIGHT (UNLOADED)	
CAPACITY	
ACTION TYPE	Semiautomatic
0 0	0.75 0

CHOKE TUBES	
Riв Wioтн	3/8 IN.
ACTION FINISH	MATT BLUE STEEL
BARREL FINISH	MATT BLUE STEEL
Ѕтоск	BLACK SYNTHETIC
FOREARM	BLACK SYNTHETIC
TRIGGER PULL WEIGHT	4.25 LBS.
WARRANTY	ONE YEAR
TELEPHONE	(301) 283-6300
WEBSITE OR EMALW	WW.STOEGERINDUSTRIES.COM

Although this is just a basic synthetic stock, we found recoil was nearly the same as the higher priced Franchi. We liked the way the pad fit into the shoulder and the slim feel of the grip.



A plus for this model was the number of chokes included in the package, including the turkey choke. The modified choke produced a 60-40 pattern at 30 yards with our target loads, which is acceptable for most shooting situations.



The Franchi and Stoeger were similar and very easy to take apart and reassemble. We particularly like the quick access to the firing pin and bolt spring for easy cleaning.



The synthetic forearm offered a good, firm gripping surface and helped with the balance, but was not as attractive



to some of our test team as the wood forearms of the other two test shotguns. We would like to see the manufacturer adjust the bolt release for a smoother function, as quite a bit of force was needed to close the action.