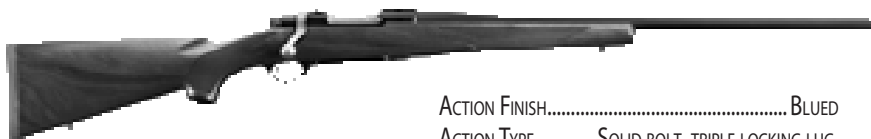


RUGER HM77R HAWKEYE 07103 223 REM., \$779

Gun Tests grade: B-

The Ruger had the nicest wood, clean lines, overall excellent build quality, and the strong Ruger 77 action. We felt the generous, down-turned bolt looked sexy. But the new trigger was overly heavy at about 4.75 pounds, the rifle felt and handled sluggishly compared to its competition, and the CZ and the Savage significantly outshot it, we thought.



SPECIFICATIONS

OVERALL LENGTH41.75 IN.
BARREL LENGTH.....22.0 IN.
SIGHTS.....NONE
LOP.....13.5 IN.
WEIGHT UNLOADED.....7.25 LBS.
CAPACITY.....5

ACTION FINISH.....BLUED
ACTION TYPE SOLID BOLT, TRIPLE LOCKING LUG,
.....60 DEGREE BOLT LIFT
BARREL FINISH MATTE BLUE
RATE OF TWIST 1:9 RH, 6 GROOVE
MAGAZINE TYPE INTEGRAL BOX
STOCKAMERICAN WALNUT
TRIGGER PULL WEIGHT..... 4.7 LBS.
WARRANTYNO WRITTEN WARRANTY
TELEPHONE (603) 865-2442

Unlike the CZ, the supplied Ruger integral rings were well-made and gave plenty of scope clearance. We mounted a Burris Signature Select 3-10x40mm scope on the Ruger with no hassle, using the supplied medium-height rings. We appreciated that the rings come with hex-head caps. Still, it wasn't enough to make up for the rest of the package.



Aesthetically, the Ruger was pleasing to the eye. The Ruger's stock had the best grade of walnut. The Ruger had a hinged floorplate and integral magazine, and the floor plate and Ruger trigger guard were nicely done.



Rapid five-shot firing with American Eagle bulk ammo gave us a vivid demonstration of representative accuracy. While perhaps adequate for some applications, the Ruger wasn't competitive with either the Savage or the CZ in shot-placement consistency.

