

**S&W SW99**

Price.....\$735



**Our recommendation:**  
**Conditional buy. We did see some malfunctions, but this was the most accurate gun in the test.**



**SPECIFICATIONS**

WARRANTY .....	Lifetime
SLIDE FINISH .....	Black Steel
FRAME FINISH .....	Black
FRAME MATERIAL .....	Polymer
WEIGHT .....	24 oz.
CAPACITY .....	10+1
GRIP MATERIAL .....	Polymer
ACTION TYPE .....	Double/Single
TRIGGER PULL DA .....	10.25 lbs.
TRIGGER PULL SA .....	6 lbs.

*The SW99's first-shot trigger had a short take up to a catch, then a long take up and "bang." The first-shot trigger action on the P99 lacked the mid-stroke pause.*



*Good feature: an ambi trigger-guard mounted magazine release.*



ting the forward lip of the mag body. The Sigma mags contain a-follower of unique design that can prove stubborn when trying to load the first round.

The Sigma trigger area measures 1 inch from the top of its trigger to the bottom of the trigger guard (inside diameter). The trigger is a full 180-degree arc, which opens moves back about 30 degrees when pulled. This double-jointed action deactivates the safety (did anyone say SafAction?). The biggest drawback of double action on the semi-auto is finding the breaking point of the trigger. First shots generally prove to be the most important, and to date we haven't had a crisp break in any DA-only auto-pistol. But the Enhanced Sigma is getting pretty close. We liked the Sigma trigger the best because it was easiest to find the breaking point of the trigger and activate it briskly.

**Walther P99  
 S&W SW99**

**Our recommendations:** These two pistols are very similar. The Walther carries an MSRP of \$799, and the SW99 runs \$735. Like the Sigma, the SW99 pistol showed an unwillingness to feed, but on a smaller scale, in the neighborhood of 3 percent. Certainly no amount of malfunction is acceptable, but along with a minor rough spot in the trigger, it would seem this is a fixable annoyance. We're never quick to give up on a gun that wins the accuracy part of a test. If you plan to buy this gun, be sure to check its functioning thoroughly.

As tested in the December 1998 GT, the Walter P99 displayed some feeding problems as well. This latest-issue P99 ran flawlessly and drew praise from our test team, including IPSC shooters and members of a municipal SWAT team. Buy it.

The grip areas of these guns are identical save for a difference in