

Ammo from the bench was Winchester's 230-grain full metal jacketed ball ammo, the aforementioned Black Hills 185 JHP, and Black Hills 200-grain lead semi-wadcutter.

We'd like to point out that the Black Hills products used from the bench were factory new (red box), and the 185s in the rapid-fire test were factory reload (blue box). None of the pistols were completely happy about digesting the 200 LSWCs, but they shot the softest.

### Sig Sauer P245

**Our recommendation:** Although the most accurate from the bench, this \$845 Sig was tough to shoot standing at any distance. But if you are partial to DA/SA guns or to Sigs, this gun may be for you.

Our first impression of the P245 was that we would have difficulty controlling this pistol because the steel slide looked too big for its abbreviated grip.

The base pads with the supplied mags include an extension to the front-strap, which can be helpful. We liked the sights initially because they stand tall and well defined atop the slide. The luminous three-dot night sights were adequately visible inside a dark room but in the bright sunlight in which we shot our 10-yard rapid fire test, the front sight reflected too much glare and put the P245 at a decided disadvantage. We have yet to see a set of night sights that covers all bases. We'd like to see luminous sights mounted in a lined or undercut front blade to prevent glare.

Controls for releasing the slide and de-cocking the hammer are mounted cleanly along the left side of the gun so that the right hand thumb has immediate access to the slide release and the left thumb can easily operate the de-cocker positioned just ahead of it. Ergonomically, this is one of the best designs we've seen.

Continuing with a defensive scenario where the gun has been rendered into the hammer-back single-action mode, the pistol can remain mounted or trained upon a suspect and be returned to double action

**SIG SAUER P245**
Price....\$845

**Our recommendation: Conditional Buy.** You may not have time to keep up the training necessary to successfully shoot this gun.

**SPECIFICATIONS**

WARRANTY ..... 1 year

SLIDE FINISH ..... Black

FRAME FINISH ..... Black

FRAME MATERIAL ..... Steel

WEIGHT ..... 27.5 oz.

CAPACITY ..... 6+1

GRIP MATERIAL ..... Plastic

ACTION TYPE ..... Double/Single

TRIGGER PULL ..... 11 lbs. DA  
..... 6 lbs. SA

without disturbing one's grip or creating a moment of vulnerability.

Bringing the P245 into action can be achieved a number of ways. Its primary design dictates that it be carried with one round in the chamber and six in the clip. The de-cocker can then be activated to render the first shot double action.

We noted that the transfer from DA to SA was one of the smoother in our test, but the single action was particularly vague. This was the pistol that benefitted the most from our use of the hold and reset "click" technique we mentioned. With this technique we managed some very tight

shots (0.80-inch) but also suffered one big one at 3.7 inches.

Dropping the low and high in this category still resulted in an average of 1.7 inches. But we wondered what kind of group could be produced under the stress of fire. Checking the results of our rapid-fire test, where it scored a lowest hit factor of only 19 out of 50 shots in the black, we theorize that groups would likely measure toward the larger end of the scale.

Two other rapid deployments can be used to bring the pistol immediately to single action. The "GI swipe" starts with the chamber empty and is accomplished by racking the slide on