

inch groups with that ammo at 50 yards and a best group of 0.43-inch. These accuracy readings were in marked contrast to the gun's factory proof target, which showed that it shot 0.40-inch groups with R50 at 50 yards. The 82C's barrel was free-floated in the stock, and the action was pillar bedded, which likely helped the gun's accuracy. The company says its 82C barrels are air-gauged match-grade tubes which are screwed into the receiver. The bottom line on accuracy showed the Kimber had a wafer-thin edge in accuracy over the 541-T and the Ruger, and a slightly larger advantage over the KFS gun.

In this quartet of guns, the Kimber clearly had the best trigger set-up. As it came from the factory, the 82C's trigger was nearly competition ready. It had a crisp break at 2.5 pounds. With the barreled action out of the stock, we turned one screw on the trigger to take the pull down to the 2-pound lower limit for silhouette shooting. It would have been just as easy to adjust the weight down further, should the shooter so choose, or higher, if the shooter wanted to make the gun "safer" in terms of adding more force before the gun fired. We noticed that even at heavier weights, we could adjust the trigger so that creep was eliminated and the sear-engagement break was clean and positive. Also, the 3/8-inch-wide, polished steel trigger shoe offered a positive gripping surface for the trigger finger, we thought.

We recorded half a dozen misfires with the Kimber when R50 was used. In all these instances, the firing pin didn't strike the rim of the cartridge hard enough initially. Recocking the bolt and pulling the trigger again did fire the rounds, however. The single-column magazine accepted rounds easily and went into battery and released smoothly and consistently. The action fed rounds from the magazine flawlessly.

KFS NS 522

Retail Price...\$299.95

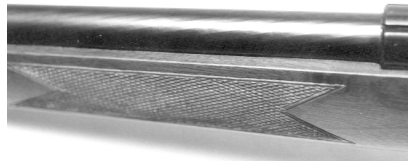


SPECIFICATIONS

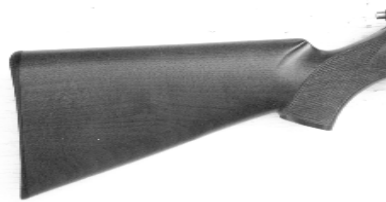
Warranty: 1 year

METAL FINISH	Blued	MAGAZINE CAPACITY	5 rds.
WEIGHT (EMPTY)	7.5 lbs.	TRIGGER PULL Wt.	4.5 lbs.
OVERALL LENGTH	39.5 in.	RINGS INCLUDED	No
BARREL LENGTH	21 in.	STOCK MATERIAL	Walnut
RIFLING TWIST	1-in-16	LENGTH OF PULL	14 in.
SIGHT RADIUS	NA	DROP @ COMB	1.25 in
MAGAZINE TYPE	Clip	DROP @ HEEL	1.5 in

Our Recommendation: Good value for the money. Though we believe the other guns in this test are better, this gun's price tag/performance ratio makes it attractive.



Above: The 522's spiral barrel treatment adds distinctive styling to an otherwise utilitarian shooting tool.



The KFS's stock had 1.5 inches of drop at the heel and 1.25 inches of drop at the comb, which allowed our shooters to mount the gun comfortably.



The KFS NS 522 shot RWS R50 very well, as the flying chicken silhouette demonstrates.

Below: A downside—The 522's magazine area makes an uncomfortable platform. The sharp edges of the magazine and the well dig into the supporting hand. Upside: The Allen head screws allow shooters to torque-tune the action for best accuracy.

