

on the magazine when the bolt closed, the bolt hit the back of the magazine and would not close on the last round in the magazine, causing the round to point straight up in the magazine and fail to feed. Also, the magazine protruded from the bottom of the stock, offering a poor surface on which to rest the shooter's left hand.

Kimber Model 82C Classic

Gun Tests Recommends: *The Kimber 82C Classic, \$785, was functional and beautiful and more important, was also the most accurate gun in the test, albeit by a whisker. If you can afford it, you'll likely be happy with this product.*

The Kimber Model 82C Classic, a clip-fed bolt-action .22 LR, cost \$785. It had a blued 22-inch barrel with a 1-in-16 twist. It came with swivel studs on the forend and buttstock. Rigged with optics, it weighed 7.5 pounds. The gun came with a beautiful claro walnut stock. The grip and the rounded forend featured deep and sharp 18 lines-per-inch checkering. The receiver was drilled and tapped to accept Warne two-piece scope mount bases (WAR5091). There's also a coil spring-actuated, independent bolt stop, a polished-steel grip cap, and a red rubber buttplate. We mounted a Bausch & Lomb 6- to 24-power Elite 4000 riflescope on the receiver using Weaver bases and Tasco rings. This put the line of sight about 1.5 inches above the centerline of the bore. The gun came with swivel studs. Cosmetically, the Kimber gun was beautifully finished. Its bluing was immaculate, and the walnut stock was nicely figured. The flawless satin clearcoat job had the even sheen of a hand-rubbed oil finish. Unquestionably, the Kimber was the most visually attractive fire-arm in this test, distantly followed by the Remington and Ruger, with the NS 522 bringing up the rear.

The Kimber Model 82C Classic preferred Eley Tenex, shooting 0.53-

Kimber Model 82C Classic

Retail Price...\$785

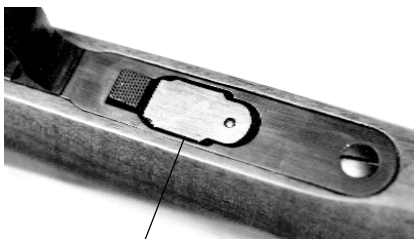


Our Recommendation: *Buy it, if you can stand the sticker shock. The Kimber did many things well: it was accurate, it was solidly and thoughtfully put together, and it was the most attractive product, we thought. It had excellent checkering, wood figure, and clearcoat work. Downsides? No significant ones other than its price.*

SPECIFICATIONS

Warranty: 1 year

METAL FINISH	Blued	MAGAZINE CAPACITY	5 rds.
WEIGHT (EMPTY)	6.5 lbs.	TRIGGER PULL WT.	2.5 lbs.
OVERALL LENGTH	39.5 in.	RINGS INCLUDED	No
BARREL LENGTH	22 in.	STOCK MATERIAL	Walnut
RIFLING TWIST	1-in-16	LENGTH OF PULL	13.5 in.
SIGHT RADIUS	NA	DROP @ COMB	0.5 in
MAGAZINE TYPE	Clip	DROP @ HEEL	0.5 in



The Kimber was comfortable to shoot on top of the fist because the magazine bottom sat nearly flush in the well.



The Kimber had excellent checkering that reached well up the grip.



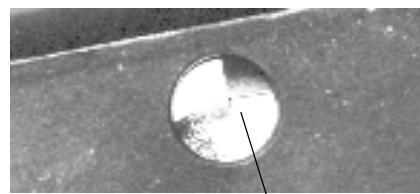
The Kimber's action is pillar bedded with aluminum tubes.



The Kimber's short, straight stock (bottom) needs more drop (like the stock above) to allow the gun to come up to natural eyeline.



The Kimber trigger group body and magazine well are made of heavy steel and are bolted to the Kimber's massive blued-steel receiver. We like the integrity of this design.



The Kimber's trigger is adjustable for sear engagement, and the company thoughtfully created a peep hole to check for it. Here you can see how little engagement there is, which allows for a crisp, quick let off.