

this category of rimfire pistols under \$225, we still wish that what we consider to be the best attributes of each gun could be combined into one pistol. Perhaps we'd call it the Browning 22A/45, or the Ruger & Wesson BuckMark. If we could load all three into a cauldron of boiling oil and pull out only one, we'd like a pistol with the Ruger's

barrel, but the Smith's top strap/scope mount combination. We'd ask for the Ruger's undercut patridge front sight but go with S&W's wide, wall-like rear blade, even if we had to make the notch a little wider. Then we'd mix in the Browning's Hi-Power-like grip and breech slide serrations. Maybe we could take the Browning's slide safety

and ride it like an IPSC gun, but the nifty mag-release button on the 22/45 is too much fun to leave out. For anything but Bullseye we'd favor the S&W's Speedy Gonzalez trigger. Last, we liked the reduced glare of the Smith & Wesson's matte-black finish. Alas, none of the three has all the elements we'd like to see, but we do like two of the guns well enough to buy them:

✓ **Ruger 22/45, \$199.** If accuracy like the 22/45 showed isn't proof enough, you need to reexamine your motives. Buy it.

✓ **S&W 22A, \$209.** The trigger makes it a lot of fun to shoot, and making use of the built-in scope mount should make it deadly. While the grip is not for everybody, the gun's overall appearance is handsome, in our view. Buy it.

✗ **Browning BuckMark Camper, \$219.** Pass. Don't be seduced by the gold trigger or outstanding grip. This gun was finicky about what it shot well and showed careless interior design and manufacturing flaws, in our opinion. ●

Accuracy & Chronograph Data

	S&W Model 22A	Ruger 22/45	Browning BuckMark
CCI Pistol Match 46-grain LRN			
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	890 fps	861 fps	820 fps
Standard Deviation	24 fps	11 fps	23 fps
Smallest Group at 25 yds.	1.1 in.	0.7 in.	0.9 in.
Largest Group Size	1.2 in.	1.8 in.	1.4 in.
Average Group Size	1.1 in.	1.1 in.	1.2 in.
PMC ScoreMaster 40-gr. LRN			
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	990 fps	956 fps	922 fps
Standard Deviation	29 fps	6 fps	16 fps
Smallest Group at 25 yds.	0.8 in.	0.7 in.	1.1 in.
Largest Group Size	1.3 in.	1.2 in.	2.1 in.
Average Group Size	1.0 in.	0.9 in.	1.6 in.
Winchester Super X 40-gr. LRN High Velocity			
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	1,046 fps	1,053 fps	1,021 fps
Standard Deviation	10 fps	20 fps	17 fps
Smallest Group at 25 yds.	0.8 in.	0.6 in.	1.2 in.
Largest Group Size	1.6 in.	0.8 in.	1.3 in.
Average Group Size	1.2 in.	0.7 in.	1.2 in.
Federal Gold Medal (UM1) UltraMatch 40-gr. LRN			
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	985 fps	956 fps	960 fps
Standard Deviation	10 fps	21 fps	10 fps
Smallest Group at 25 yds.	0.7 in.	0.6 in.	0.7 in.
Largest Group Size	0.9 in.	0.8 in.	1.1 in.
Average Group Size	0.8 in.	0.7 in.	0.9 in.
Remington Viper HyperVelocity 36-gr. LTC			
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	1,154 fps	1,163 fps	1,129 fps
Standard Deviation	17 fps	30 fps	20 fps
Smallest Group at 25 yds.	1.6 in.	0.9 in.	1.8 in.
Largest Group Size	2.6 in.	1.8 in.	2.4 in.
Average Group Size	2.1 in.	1.4 in.	2.0 in.

Data collected from five five-shot groups fired from pistols set in a Ransom Rest.

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