

derived from what we think is a successful attempt to emulate the tactile experience of shooting a 1911-design pistol. The 1911 is predominant in at least two different shooting disciplines, Bullseye and Practical Shooting or, IPSC. Towards which game does the Ruger lean as a training piece? Despite the rapidity with which the mag can be dumped and reloaded, it is the trigger that tells the tale. Indeed, the hinged trigger offers a free-swinging take-up and meets a solid wall of resistance with only the slightest hint of creep. This is a textbook setup for a Bullseye gun. An IPSC trigger would feature a short take-up, perhaps a small intermediate compression and crisp let-off. The idea here is to make the 22/45 a rim-fire battery-mate to the 1911 used in the centerfire portion of a Bullseye match. After the shot breaks on the Ruger, it is necessary to release the trigger completely by moving the finger forward until it is off the face of the trigger completely.

As we mentioned above, the Ruger proved to be the most accurate gun overall, and it also performed without a single malfunction.

Smith & Wesson Model 22A

Our recommendation: Buy this \$209 product if you like to shoot fast. Bonus: A built-in scope mount.

When the 22A first appeared on the market in 1998, it came with a beautiful wood-grain target grip. However, this grip proved too cumbersome for all but the largest and meatiest of hands. In 1999 the grip that adorns the 22A is a two-piece polymer affair that includes a beavertail profile and sports an opening on the front strap through which the mag release is operated. Looking at the 22A, it's easy to take pleasure in the heavy flat top-strap that not only integrates an adjustable sight but reminds one of the Bo-Mar PPC sight rib. This rib also

Smith & Wesson M22A

Retail Price...\$209



SPECIFICATIONS

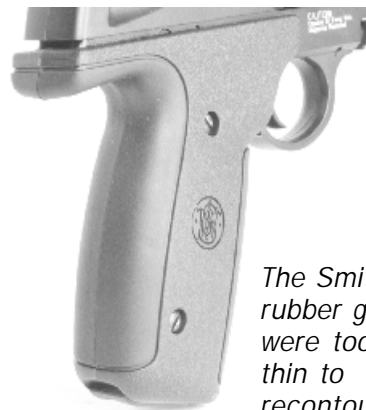
Warranty: 1 year

METAL FINISH	Blued	SIGHT RADIUS	8.4 in.
WEIGHT (EMPTY)	35 oz.	CAPACITY	10+1 rds.
OVERALL LENGTH	9.5 in.	GRIP MATERIAL	Polymer
OVERALL HEIGHT	5.5 in.	ACTION TYPE	SA
MAX. WIDTH	1.3 in.	TRIGGER PULL WT. SA ..	3.2 lbs.
BARREL LENGTH	5.5 in.	TRIGGER REACH	2.6 in.

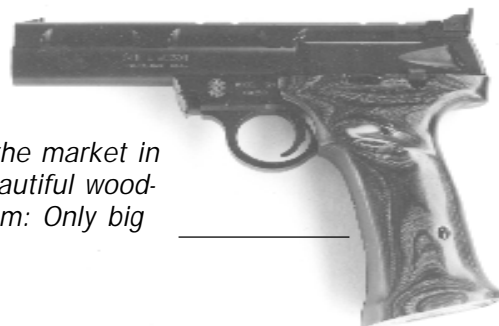
Our recommendation: Shot faster, but not quite as accurately, as the 22/45. Worth a look, nonetheless.



Bonus: The built-in sight/scope ramp is a big positive on the M22A. It would be simple to shoot iron sights then switch to a handgun scope.



The Smith's rubber grips were too thin to recontour.



When the 22A came on the market in 1998, it shipped with beautiful wood-grain target grips. Problem: Only big hands could use them.

doubles as a scope mount, making the already frugal price tag seem even smaller. The 22A comes with two mags and a key-operated lock

that covers the trigger guard.

Initially, the grip may be a "love it or hate it" affair, but stay tuned. While accuracy tests revealed some