

How We Tested

AFTER WE PURCHASED THE TWO rifles, we assembled and cleaned them thoroughly, and also conducted initial function checks. At this point, we also weighed and measured the critical physical aspects of both rifles and photographed them.

At the range, we took great pains in giving each gun a chance to shine in accuracy testing. Using a set of Weaver see-through rings, into which we fitted a Leupold Vari-X III 6.5-20X adjustable objective, variable scope, we fired 15 chronograph rounds per ammo lot.

We used an Oehler 35P proof chronograph and a printer to record the data. After chronographing a given round, we moved to accuracy testing for that ammo lot, shooting three five-shot groups per lot per gun. On average, we shot about 20 chronographing and sight-in rounds before we began each accuracy-testing run. This mimics a real-world match condition of firing fouling (warm-up) rounds and then sighting shots before beginning record strings.

Between ammo brands, we thoroughly cleaned the rifle bores with a bronze brush and Hoppe's No. 9, and then swabbed the bores dry with cloth patches.

We fired the accuracy runs on Speedwell's Police Rifle Shot Log/Targets. We used a Ransom rifle rest with Protektor bunny bags for the bench testing. We fired identical lots of Eley Tenex, CCI Green Tag Competition, Dynamit Nobel's RWS R50, Lapua Dominator, and Federal's Gold Medal Match rimfire ammo. We measured the groups to the nearest one-tenth inch using a Neil Jones Custom Products target measuring fixture (which is reviewed later in this issue).