

# Control Accuracy Group

Limitations on accuracy in .22 WMR guns has usually been traceable to ammunition. We wanted to see how a special, tight-chambered barrel made for a Thompson/Center Contender by Fred Smith at Bullberry Barrel Works in Hurricane, Utah, would shoot our test ammo and compare the results to the factory guns with standard chambers and barrels. Smith believes .22 Magnum ammunition is more accurate than most rifles that shoot the ammo, and he claims his barrels routinely shoot under 1-inch groups with Winchester factory ammunition at 100 yards, and that half-inch groups at that range are not uncommon under ideal shooting conditions. Our tests validated his claim.

Here's how a Bullberry-barreled Thompson/Center Contender carbine with a tight match-type chamber performed with some of our test ammo:

Ammunition	Average Group Size	Smallest Group Size	Largest Group Size
Federal Premium 30 grain HP	0.6 in.	0.4 in.	0.98 in.
Winchester Super-X 40 grain HP	0.6 in.	0.4 in.	0.8 in.
CCI Maxi-Mag 40 grain HP	0.8 in.	0.4 in.	1.3 in.
Federal Classic 50-grain HP	1.0 in.	0.8 in.	1.1 in.