

Gun Tests .22 Rifle Recommendations

Over the years, we've tested a range of rimfire rifles. To give you an idea how the two guns reviewed nearby fared against the field, I've summarized previous tests below.

— Todd Woodard

Browning BL22 .22 LR, \$471



Issue Reviewed: December 2006

Length: 36.5 in.
Barrel Length: 20 in.
Weight: 5 lbs.

Capacity: 22, 17, 15 (LR) rounds
Best Accuracy: 0.75 in. @ 50 yds.

Quick, light and easy to settle on the target, this rifle can get the job done as both a plinker and a tool for harvesting small game.

GT RECOMMENDS: OUR PICK

Henry Golden Boy .22 LR, \$425



Issue Reviewed: December 2006

Length: 38.5 in.
Barrel Length: 20 in.
Weight: 6.75 lbs.

Capacity: 21, 17, 16 (LR) rounds
Best Accuracy: 0.75 in. @ 50 yds.

Flawless function and pleasing to the eye, this Henry would be a very nice addition to anyone's small caliber collection. We were slightly disappointed in the drastic drop in the stock.

GT RECOMMENDS: BUY IT

CZ Model 456 Varmint .22 LR, \$530



Issue Reviewed: November 2006

Length: 39 in.
Barrel Length: 21 in.
Weight: 7.1 lbs.

Capacity: 5 rounds

Best Accuracy: 0.4 in. @ 50 yds.

We thought this was a well-made and well-fitted rifle with a beautiful piece of wood, and which offered all the accuracy anyone would be likely to need, short of strict target usage.

It was, untouched, superior to the Remington in trigger pull and accuracy, and of course in wood grade.

GT RECOMMENDS: OUR PICK

Remington Model Five .22 LR, \$348



Issue Reviewed: November 2006

Length: 40.5 in.
Barrel Length: 22.2 in.
Weight: 6.7 lbs.

Capacity: 5 rounds
Best Accuracy: 0.6 in. @ 50 yds.

We thought you get a little more for less money with the Remington, but you paid an accuracy and wood-quality penalty. Most of us thought the Remington looked more attractive than the CZ, but to riflemen, beauty is as beauty does.

GT RECOMMENDS: BUY IT

Kimber SuperAmerica .22 LR, \$1877



Issue Reviewed: July 2006

Length: 40.5 in.
Barrel Length: 22.0 in.
Weight: 6.5 lbs.

Capacity: 5+1 rounds
Best Accuracy: 0.6 in. @ 100 yds.

Once you get used to fully seating the magazine, this rifle functioned as good as it looked and its accuracy equaled the Anschütz. We would take a close look at the lower-quality AA or A wood models, because you might find one that looks better to you at half the cost. If that were the case, then consider the SuperAmerica a

Best Buy.

GT RECOMMENDS: BUY IT

Anschütz 1710 D KL .22 LR, 1413



Issue Reviewed: July 2006

Length: 41.5 in.
Barrel Length: 23.0 in.
Weight: 7.5 lbs.

Capacity: 5+1 rounds
Best Accuracy: 0.6 in. @ 100 yds.

This rifle lived up to Anschütz's outstanding reputation for quality and accuracy. If you are a right-handed shooter or want iron sights, definitely buy the Anschütz. Lefties should pass on this version of the 1710, however, because of the rollover cheekpiece.

GT RECOMMENDS: OUR PICK

Ruger 10/22 CRR .22 LR, \$275



Issue Reviewed: April 2006

Length: 33.5 in.
Barrel Length: 16 in.
Height: 6.7 in.

Weight: 4.5 lbs.
Capacity: 10+1 rounds

Best Accuracy: 1.2 in. @ 50 yds.

The most accurate gun in the test was also the most versatile. Any way you look at it, the 10/22CRR is a sure winner.

GT RECOMMENDS: BEST BUY

Armscor AK22 .22 LR, \$269



Issue Reviewed: April 2006

Length: 37.8 in.
Barrel Length: 18.1 in.
Height: 8.0 in.

Weight: 6.9 lbs.
Capacity: 10+1 rounds

Best Accuracy: 1.2 in. @ 50 yds.

For all its intimidating appearance, the AK 22 is simply a good, solid rimfire semi-automatic.

GT RECOMMENDS: BUY IT

Marlin 70PSS Papoose 22 LR \$218



Issue Reviewed: April 2006

Length: 33.5 in.
Barrel Length: 16.5 in.
Height: 6.5 in.
Weight: 3.3 lbs.
Capacity: 7+1 rounds
Best Accuracy: 1.4 in. @ 50 yds.

Portability is its greatest appeal.

GT RECOMMENDS: BUY IT

Henry Mini Bolt H005 22 LR \$200



Issue Reviewed: February 2005

Length: 30.25 in.
Barrel Length: 16.25 in.
Height: 6.0 in.
Weight: 3.25 lbs.
Capacity: 1 round
Best Accuracy: 0.5 in. @ 25 yds.

This gun is light, and its fiber-optic sights are the easiest to see and use of those tested. The flat bolt handle is easy to grasp and use, and the pull weight to cock the bolt is reasonable. The 1.5-pound trigger pull was fairly clean and consistent.

GT RECOMMENDS: BUY IT

Savage Arm Cub Youth .22 LR, \$152



Issue Reviewed: February 2005

Length: 33.0 in.
Barrel Length: 16.1 in.
Height: 6.2 in.
Weight: 3.75 lbs.
Capacity: 1 round

Best Accuracy: 0.5 in. @ 25 yds.

Our youth testers didn't dislike the Cub, but they clearly preferred the Mini Bolt. The sights and trigger pinch were cited as the biggest issues for choosing the Henry over this gun.

GT RECOMMENDS: DON'T BUY

Rogue Rifle Chipmunk No. 1 .22 LR, \$165



Issue Reviewed: February 2005

Length: 30.0 in.
Barrel Length: 16.0 in.
Height: 6.3 in.
Weight: 2.5 lbs.
Capacity: 1 round
Best Accuracy: 0.6 in. @ 25 yds.

Our youth testers called the Chipmunk a "kiddie" gun, and we can't disagree with that evaluation too much. It is small all over, and older kids noticed the cramped nature of the controls when the other guns laid beside it.

GT RECOMMENDS: DON'T BUY

CZ 452 Scout .22 LR. \$242



Issue Reviewed: February 2005

Length: 32.8 in.
Barrel Length: 16.2 in.
Height: 7.0 in.
Weight: 4.0 lbs.
Capacity: 1 round
Best Accuracy: 0.5 in. @ 25 yds.

The CZ has a good trigger, is well made, and it shot accurately. Though this gun didn't do everything, we think a young shooter can get plenty of valuable experience with it.

GT RECOMMENDS: OUR PICK

Taurus Model 62 Carbine .22 LR, \$279



Issue Reviewed: June 2003

Length: 32.7 in.
Barrel Length: 16.5 in.
Weight: 4.7 lbs.
Capacity: 14 round
Best Accuracy: 2.8 in. @ 50 yds.

We liked the handy feel of the light Taurus, and it worked well with Long Rifle cartridges, but its accuracy was not good. It showed some signs of promise, and a careful rifle tuner might be able to make this one shoot better.

GT RECOMMENDS: CONDITIONAL BUY

Henry Repeating Arms Pump .22 LR, \$300



Issue Reviewed: June 2003

Length: 36.6 in.
Barrel Length: 18.5 in.
Weight: 5.5 lbs.
Capacity: 15 round
Best Accuracy: 1.6 in. @ 50 yds.

The Henry had the benefit of a front-sight hood, though it was not securely held onto our test rifle. The American walnut stock had strong grain structure, and the forend and butt matched. This was the most accurate of our test trio. It also had the worst trigger, but it wasn't at all bad. This rifle didn't feed Shorts reliably.

GT RECOMMENDS: OUR PICK

Winchester 62A .22 LR, \$600



Issue Reviewed: June 2003

Length: 39.5 in.
Barrel Length: 23.0 in.
Weight: 5.7 lbs.
Capacity: 14 round
Best Accuracy: 2.4 in. @ 50 yds.

The Winchester Model 62 would be an excellent investment, if you can find one.

GT RECOMMENDS: BUY IT