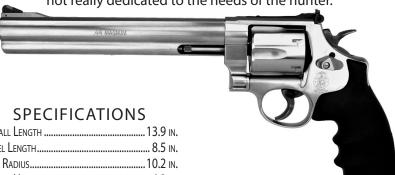
SMITH & WESSON 629 CLASSIC 163640 .44 MAGNUM, \$964

Gun Tests grade: B

A consistent shooter with good DA and SA trigger. But, the 629 was not really dedicated to the needs of the hunter.



Overall Length	13.9 IN.
BARREL LENGTH	8.5 IN.
SIGHT RADIUS	10.2 IN.
OVERALL HEIGHT	6.2 IN.
FRONT STRAP HEIGHT	2.2 IN.
BACK STRAP HEIGHT	4.3 IN.
WEIGHT UNLOADED	53.5 oz.
CAPACITY	6
MAXIMUM WIDTH	1.7 IN.
GRIP THICKNESS (MAX)	1.2 IN.
GRIP CIRCUMFERENCE (MAX)	5.3 IN.
FRAME MATERIAL/FINISHSTAINLESS S	TEEL/SATIN
c	
Stainless	

The gun's supplied grip (right) exposed the backstrap. This design was more suited to a carry gun, so we used a Hogue Full Size Conversion grip, left, to protect our hands. After firing a just a few shots offhand, we decided to replace the Hogue Compact grip. The Conversion grip met the same mounting requirements of the Compact grip, but filled out the back strap and covered the frame. It also changed the contour of the base of the grip to mimic a square-butt design.



Another feature better suited for concealed carry was the front sight. The plastic insert created glare and made fine accuracy difficult. Other than its long barrel the 629 Classic offered little else to accommodate the long-distance shooter.







629 Classic showed first-rate machining. We could barely see where the crane swung out of the cylinder.