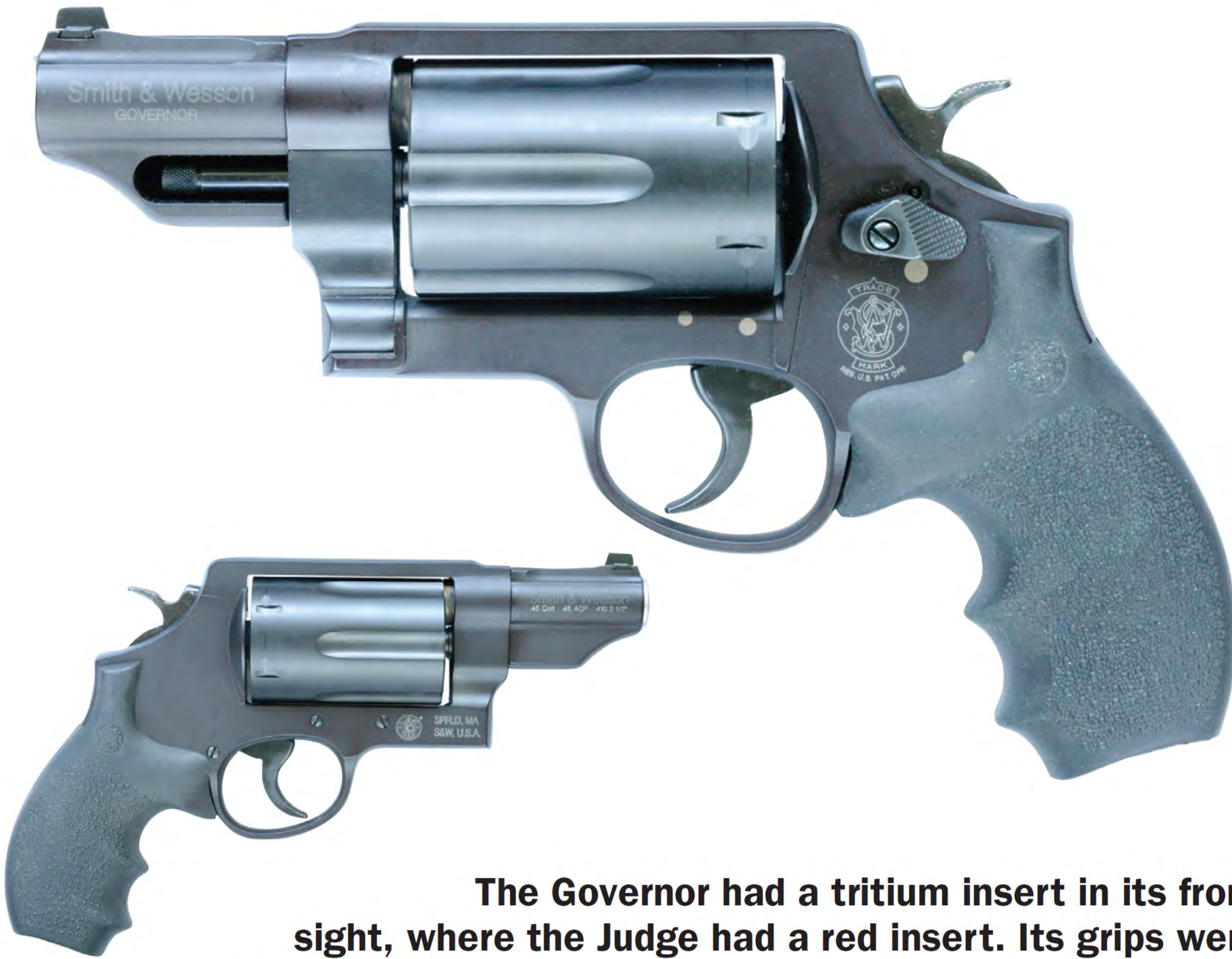


S&W GOVERNOR, 45 ACP, 45 LC, 410/2.5 INCH, \$679

GUN TESTS GRADE: A-

The innards of the S&W Governor were just as good as always. There were no obvious cuts made in the quality of this gun to get its price down to just a nudge more than the cost of the Judge. Neither the hammer nor the trigger were case colored. This solid design goes back many decades.



SPECIFICATIONS

Overall Length	8.9 in.
Overall Height	5.4 in.
Barrel Length	2.7 in.
Sight Radius	5.1 in.
Front Strap Height	2.1 in.
Back Strap Height	3.8 in.
Weight Unloaded	30 oz.
Weight Loaded (6 rds. 250-gr.)	35 oz.
Capacity	6
Maximum Width	1.7 in.
Grip Thickness (max)	1.23 in.
Grip Circumference (max)	5.2 in.
Frame	Matte Black Alloy
Cylinder	Steel
Barrel	Steel Insert
Grip	Black Rubber Hogue
Trigger Pull Weight Single Action	4.3 lbs.
Trigger Pull Weight Double Action	14 lbs.
Trigger Span Single Action	3.0 in.
Trigger Span Double Action	3.5 in.
Warranty	1 Year
Telephone	(800) 331-0852
Website	www.Smith-Wesson.com
Made in	USA

The Governor had a tritium insert in its front sight, where the Judge had a red insert. Its grips were less effective in controlling recoil, but the greater weight of the gun made up for that. The DA pull was stiff, but the SA pull was excellent.



The Governor had a cut into the rear of its cylinder to accommodate the moon clips that held 45 ACP cartridges. Although we thought the additional cartridge was a boon for the design, the velocity was very low from metallic cartridges, worse than from the Judge.



The 625 S&W (left), which handles 45 ACP or 45 Auto Rim ammunition, is the same overall length as the Governor. The 625, however, has a 4-inch barrel, but it won't take 410 shotshells. We liked the Governor's grips.

Right: The arrow points to the spring-loaded ball detent that keeps the front of the Governor's crane secure in the frame.

