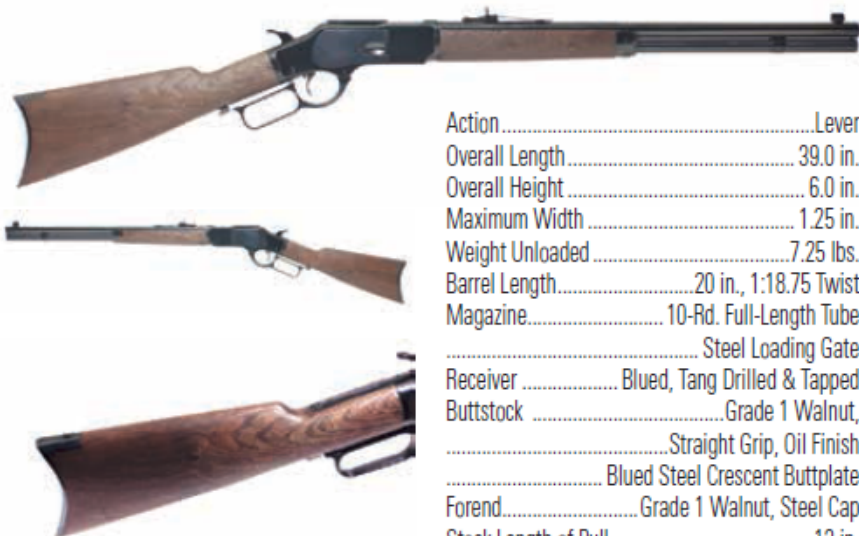


**WINCHESTER MODEL 1873 SHORT RIFLE  
NO. 534200137 357 MAGNUM/38 SPECIAL, \$1300  
GUN TESTS GRADE: C**

This Winchester looks similar to the Chiappa lever action we tested last year, with its short and sharp stock, basic furniture, and near-black bluing. Too little for the money, we think.



Action.....	Lever
Overall Length.....	39.0 in.
Overall Height.....	6.0 in.
Maximum Width.....	1.25 in.
Weight Unloaded.....	7.25 lbs.
Barrel Length.....	20 in., 1:18.75 Twist
Magazine.....	10-Rd. Full-Length Tube
Receiver.....	Blued, Tang Drilled & Tapped
Buttstock.....	Grade 1 Walnut, Straight Grip, Oil Finish
Forend.....	Blued Steel Crescent Buttplate
Stock Length of Pull.....	Grade 1 Walnut, Steel Cap
Stock Drop at Comb.....	13 in.
Stock Drop at Heel.....	1.75 in.
Rear Sight.....	Adjustable Semi Buckhorn
Front Sight.....	Brass Bead
Sight Radius.....	16 in.
Trigger Pull Weight.....	8.1 lbs.
Safety.....	Trigger Stop, Firing Pin Striker Block
Warranty.....	Limited
Telephone.....	(800) 333-3288
Website.....	WinchesterGuns.com
Made In.....	Japan by Miroku

If you want the dysfunctionality of an original design, here it is. The slick, curved metal buttplate was supposed to increase shooter control of the rifle, but ours didn't. And the sharp point at the toe was uncomfortable. Our Cowboy Action consultant said cutting the curvature off the butt and slipping on a leather buttpad would be one of the first things he did to it.



Overall fit and finish were fine. The metal-to-wood seams were tight, and the metalwork itself was smooth and consistent.



Here's the adjustable semi-buckhorn rear sight. The tang was drilled and tapped.



The top-eject action didn't throw empties in our faces.



One side of the barrel said "Winchester" and the other said "Miroku." We know why some firearms are made overseas, and normally don't mind. With this specific one, it bugged us.