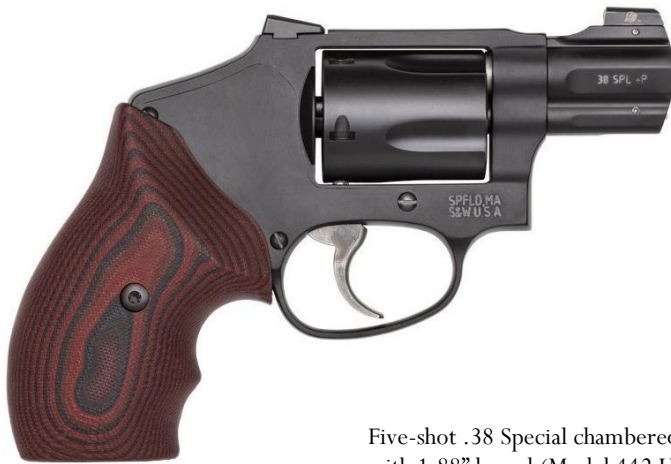


WEAPON GUIDE

S&W MODEL 442

SMALL ARMS REVIEW TEAM

POCKET REVOLVER (.38 SPECIAL)



Five-shot .38 Special chambered Centennial with 1.88" barrel (Model 442 Ultimate Carry).



Bianchi Speed Strips



HK5 Speedloader Model 36-A

The Smith & Wesson Model 442 "Centennial" (c. 1990) is a variant of the original Centennial, the Model 40 (c. 1952), which are notable for their internal hammer.

Unlike most pistols, revolvers will fire when the barrel is pressed against an attacker, while internal hammer revolvers will also fire from inside a jacket or vest pocket in an emergency thanks to the internal hammer that will not catch on the lining of a pocket. They are also faster to draw from a pocket as there is no external hammer to catch on something.

As the Centennials were designed for pocket use they are available with light aluminium and scandium alloy frames, though this results in heavy recoil when used with .357 Magnum ammunition (many people use lower power .38 Spl loads in .357 Mag revolvers).

The Centennials have long, heavy trigger pulls, which make them safe for pocket carry, though the Ultimate Carry variants are better than most in this regard.

The No Internal Lock variant is best as the Internal Lock is prone to failure, and when they fail they lock the gun up.

If you want to lock it when in storage then simply place a padlock through the frame or use a Master Lock Gun Lock.

The .38 Special round is best in a small frame revolver as it has the best mix of stopping power and controllability, with a huge range of loads to choose from, including shotshell loads for defense against venomous snakes.

We recommend the Hornady 38 Special 90gr FTX Critical Defense Lite load and (for the recoil sensitive) the Federal Personal Defense 38 Special 110 Grain Hydra-Shok Low Recoil load.

SUMMARY

Ideal for jacket pockets and a great choice for inside waistband (IWB), waistpack, bellyband and crotch holsters.

ACCESSORIES

Log Book

Firearm Usage & Maintenance Log Book.
[Blackheart International]

Cleaning Kit

BoreSnake Soft Sided Cleaning Kit (34002).
[Hoppe's]

Speedloader

HK5 Speedloader Model 36-A.
[HK5]

Dry Fire Rounds

A-Zoom Snap Caps.
[Lyman Products Corporation]

Ear Plugs

EarPro EP3 or EP4.
[SureFire]

Grip

Secret Service Grips (the same type of boot grip used on the Ultimate Carry models).
[Eagle Grips]

IWB Holster

Workman.
[Mitch Rosen]

Waistpack Holster

Stealth Pac.
[Coronado Leather]

Tactical Flashlight

G2X LE.
[SureFire]

HOT TIP

Line a jacket or vest pocket with leather if you intend to carry the LCR inside it.