

Gear & Gadgets



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Not Rough at All

Heritage Manufacturing, down in Opa Locka, FL, turns out single-action revolvers that are finding an increased number of admirers. They have been making .22 rimfire models in a variety of configurations and levels of finish, including bird's head grips, fixed or adjustable sights and blued, case-hardened or stainless steel. Now Heritage is also producing centerfire handguns and their big bore single-action Rough Rider revolver recently won Gun Test's "Best Buy Award." Bottom-line with any firearm is how well it shoots, however, and how well it functions.

Here's where the Rough Rider makes major Brownie Points. It hits where you aim, time after time, and cycles ammo smoothly, whether factory rounds or reloads. This revolver has the traditional look demanded by the Cowboy Action crowd. It's made in .357, .44-40, and .45 calibers, and is available in barrel lengths of 4.75, 5.5, or 7.5 inches. Finishes offered include blue, nickel, case-hardened and stainless steel. Handsome, one-piece cocobolo grips adorn each gun.

Choose from fixed or adjustable rear sight. Models with adjustable sight have a Patridge-type front sight, while fixed-rear sight models wear a more traditional front

sight, though the blade is slightly squared off to give a clearer view. Like almost all single-action revolvers, the front sight is quite high, which causes the gun to hit low, but the tall front sight is designed so the buyer can file it down to suit her own preference or requirements. As is the case with practically any revolver, a bit of TLC by a gunsmith, to lighten the trigger and hammer pull, will make shooting it a pleasure. Components are manufactured in Italy but Rough Riders are assembled in the USA. At a retail price of \$379, Heritage's Rough Rider can allow shooters to get into Cowboy Action without breaking the bank.

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The Rough Rider is a handsome single action revolver which should please Cowboy Action Shooters, and it won a "Best Buy" Award, too.