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Chapter 1 : Rifle - Wikipedia

To understand the hunting rifle in America we might take a quick look back to examine the development of firearms in general. Gunpowder was first recorded in the writings of Roger Bacon in the last years of the 13th century.

Sample rating item 3. Weatherby Mark V near bear tracks. It comes in a number of different calibers, with the lowest being .243. The Mark V is a beautiful bolt-action rifle that is durable and reliable enough for the most dangerous hunting trips. The Mark V has been carefully engineered for quickness and durability, making it easier to make those important follow-up shots when needed. The gun also comes with a drop-box magazine that has a four-round capacity for lower calibers and a three-round capacity for the big-bore calibers. The big-bore calibers are perfect for those African safari hunts, while the .243 is perfect for those North American hunts. The Mark V has a beautiful design and the smooth lever that Marlin rifles are known for—even after their acquisition by Freedom Group. As with most Marlin models, the lever-action of the Mark V is smooth and easy to operate. The gun comes with a four-round capacity tubular magazine, making it easy to cycle through ammo in a pinch. The inside of the barrel was also given six deep-cut Ballard-style rifling grooves to ensure maximum accuracy when firing at those big game targets. What I really like about the Mark V is its comfortable design. With a weight of around seven pounds unloaded, the gun is incredibly light and easy to carry for those long-haul hunting trips. Like other big game guns, the Big Bore is a heavy hitter. For this reason, using the Mark V is a big decision. Yes, it's a big caliber. But someday, you might have to kill a T-Rex, and do you really want to settle for second best then? While there are a few different versions of this rifle, all of which support big bore calibers, the Mark V is the one to get. That means that this gun has been specially designed for dangerous, thick-skinned African game. Even though the Heavy Sporter is designed specifically for African game, it has also been successfully used in North America to hunt grizzlies and bison. Weighing in just under 10 pounds fully-loaded, the Heavy Sporter is a heavy gun that packs an incredible amount of power and should only be handled by experienced hunters. The Heavy Sporter is a bolt-action rifle that comes with a four-round capacity magazine. Since time is of the essence when hunting dangerous game, the bolt has been designed in a way that is smooth and easy to operate. In addition, since this gun uses the Heavy Sporter magazine, sometimes, one round is all you get. Going on one of these North American or African safaris is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Also, with all big game hunting experiences, make sure to book safaris through reputable companies that are ethical and follow the local and national laws. There are plenty of challenging game animals to hunt without going after threatened or endangered critters. Leave those in the wild where they belong. Do you have any big game hunting stories? Any rifles you think should be included? Let us know in the comments!

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Chapter 2 : Rifle Caliber Guide: Hands-On With the Most Popular - Pew Pew Tactical

When it comes to the best all-around big-game bolt gun, the Weatherby Vanguard Series 2 is at the top of the list. These rifles hit a sweet spot for their price, accuracy, handling, and craftsmanship.

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Names of parts of the M1 Garand rifle, World War II era, from US Army field manual Historically, rifles only fired a single projectile with each squeeze of the trigger. Modern rifles are commonly classified as single shot, bolt action, semi-automatic, or automatic. Single shot, bolt action, and semi-automatic rifles are limited by their designs to fire a single shot for each trigger pull. Only automatic rifles are capable of firing more than one round per trigger squeeze; however, some automatic rifles are limited to fixed bursts of two, three, or more rounds per squeeze. Modern automatic rifles overlap to some extent in design and function with machine guns. In fact, many light machine guns such as the Russian RPK are adaptations of existing automatic rifle designs. Generally, the difference between an automatic rifle and a machine gun comes down to weight, cooling system, and ammunition feed system. Rifles, with their relatively lighter components which overheat quickly and smaller capacity magazines, are incapable of sustained automatic fire in the way that machine guns are; they trade this capability in favor of increased mobility. Modern military rifles are fed by magazines, while machine guns are generally belt-fed. Many machine guns allow the operator to quickly exchange barrels in order to prevent overheating, whereas rifles generally do not. Most machine guns fire from an open bolt in order to reduce the danger of "cook-off", while almost all rifles fire from a closed bolt for accuracy. Machine guns are often crewed by more than one soldier; the rifle is an individual weapon. The term "rifle" is sometimes used to describe larger rifled crew-served weapons firing explosive shells, for example, recoilless rifles and naval rifles. In many works of fiction a rifle refers to any weapon that has a stock and is shouldered before firing, even if the weapon is not rifled or does not fire solid projectiles e. Archers had long realized that a twist added to the tail feathers of their arrows gave them greater accuracy. Early muskets produced large quantities of smoke and soot, which had to be cleaned from the action and bore of the musket frequently, either through the action of repeated bore scrubbing, or a deliberate attempt to create "soot grooves" that would allow for more shots to be fired from the firearm. This might also have led to a perceived increase in accuracy, although no one knows for sure. True rifling dates from the mid 17th century,[citation needed] although military commanders preferred smooth bore weapons for infantry use because rifles were much more prone to problems due to powder fouling the barrel and because they took longer to reload and fire than muskets. In the early 18th century, Benjamin Robins, an English mathematician, realized that an elongated bullet would retain the momentum and kinetic energy of a musket ball, but would slice through the air with greater ease. Their greater range was also considered to be of little practical use, since the smoke from black powder quickly obscured the battlefield and made it almost impossible to target the enemy from a distance. Since musketeers could not afford to take the time to stop and clean their barrels in the middle of a battle, rifles were limited to use by sharpshooters and non-military uses like hunting. Due to the high cost and great difficulty of precision manufacturing, and the need to load readily from the muzzle, the musket ball was a loose fit in the barrel. Consequently, on firing the ball bounced off the sides of the barrel when fired and the final direction on leaving the muzzle was unpredictable. Due to the lack of accuracy, soldiers were employed in long lines thus Line infantry and fire at the opposing forces. Precise aim was thus not necessary to hit an opponent. Muskets were used for comparatively rapid, imprecisely aimed volley fire, and the average soldier could be easily trained to use them. Compared to the more common Brown Bess, they had a tighter bore, no room between bullet and barrel, still used balls instead of conical bullets, but the balls were smaller, allowing the production of more rounds for a given amount of lead. They also had longer barrels, allowing more accuracy, and were rifled with a helical groove. These first started appearing sometime before, one early

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examples being made by Jacob Dickert, a German immigrant. By there were a number of such manufacturers in the area. The longer barrel was a departure by local gunsmiths from their German roots, allowing frontiersmen to carry more rounds and for bullets to achieve a higher speed as the burning gunpowder was contained longer before emerging from the barrel. Because of a slower loading time than a musket, they were not adopted by the whole army. A shorter length made a handier weapon in which tight-fitting balls did not have to be rammed so far down the barrel. Many rifles, often referred to as rifled muskets, were very similar to the muskets they replaced, but the military also experimented with other designs. Breech-loading weapons proved to have a much faster rate of fire than muzzleloaders, causing military forces to abandon muzzle loaders in favor of breech-loading designs in the late s. In the later part of the 19th century, rifles were generally single-shot and breech-loading, designed for aimed, discretionary fire by individual soldiers. Then, as now, rifles had a stock, either fixed or folding, to be braced against the shoulder when firing. In the early part of the 20th century, soldiers were trained to shoot accurately over long ranges with high-powered cartridges. Rifles derived from military designs have long been popular with civilian shooters. During the Napoleonic Wars the British army created several experimental units known as "Rifles", armed with the Baker rifle. These Rifle Regiments were deployed as skirmishers during the Peninsular war in Spain and Portugal, and were more effective than skirmishers armed with muskets due to their accuracy and long range. Muzzle-loading rifle Gradually, rifles appeared with cylindrical barrels cut with helical grooves, the surfaces between the grooves being "lands". The innovation shortly preceded the mass adoption of breech-loading weapons, as it was not practical to push an overbore bullet down through a rifled barrel, only to then try to fire it back out. The dirt and grime from prior shots was pushed down ahead of a tight bullet or ball which may have been a loose fit in the clean barrel before the first shot, and loading was far more difficult, as the lead had to be deformed to go down in the first place, reducing the accuracy due to deformation. Several systems were tried to deal with the problem, usually by resorting to an under-bore bullet that expanded upon firing. The original muzzle-loading rifle, with a closely fitting ball to take the rifling grooves, was loaded with difficulty, particularly when foul, and for this reason was not generally used for military purposes. In Delvigne, a French infantry officer, invented a breech with abrupt shoulders on which a spherical bullet was rammed down until it caught the rifling grooves. However, the area around the stem would clog and get dirty easily. When fired, the skirt would expand from the pressure of the exploding charge and grip the rifling as the round was fired. The better seal gave more power, as less gas escaped past the bullet, which combined with the fact that for the same bore caliber diameter a long bullet was heavier than a round ball. Springfield and the British Enfield of the early s, featured prominently in the U. Civil War, due to their enhanced power and accuracy. Cartridge design evolved from simple paper tubes containing black powder and shot, to sealed brass cases with integral primers for ignition, while black powder itself was replaced with cordite, and then other nitro-cellulose-based smokeless powder mixtures, propelling bullets to higher velocities than before. March Main article: Primitive chamber-locking mechanisms were soon replaced by bolt-action mechanisms, exemplified by the Chassepot in Breech loading was to have a major impact on warfare, as breech-loading rifles can be fired at a rate many times higher than muzzle loaded rifles and significantly can be loaded from a prone rather than standing position. The higher accuracy and range, combined with reduced vulnerability generally benefited the defense while making the traditional battle between lines of standing and volleying infantry men obsolete. Colt began experimenting with revolving rifles in the early 19th century, and other manufacturers like Remington later experimented with them as well. The Colt Revolving Rifle Model was an early repeating rifle and the first one to be used by the U. Government, and saw some limited action during the American Civil War. Revolvers, both rifles and pistols, tend to spray fragments of metal from the front of the cylinder. Repeating rifle[edit] The Winchester repeating rifle was invented in the mids. An operator pulled on a lever to reload the rifle with a stored cartridge. The Spencer repeating rifle was a breech-loading manually operated lever action rifle that was adopted by the United States. Over 20, were used during the American Civil War. It marked the first adoption of a removable magazine -fed infantry rifle by any country. The design

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was completed by Christopher Spencer in 1860. When the magazine was empty, it could be exchanged for another. The Russian Mosin-Nagant Model 1891. However, following the advent of more powerful smokeless powder, a shorter barrel did not impair accuracy as much. As a result, cavalry saw limited, but noteworthy, usage in 20th century conflicts. The carnage of World War I was perhaps the greatest vindication and vilification of the rifle as a military weapon. Typically, the application of accurate, long-range fire is the domain of the marksman and the sniper in warfare, and of enthusiastic target shooters in peacetime. The modern marksman rifle and sniper rifle are usually capable of accuracy better than 0.

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Chapter 3 : Hunting Facts - National Hunting and Fishing Day

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Running moose , popular in Scandinavia both as a sport and hunting exercise. Competitions in Sweden are held at 80 meters. Practical shooting[edit] Practical shooting , also known as action shooting or dynamic shooting , is a generic term applicable to shooting sports where speed is of equal importance as precision. Many of the disciplines involve movement, and when using handguns they are often drawn from a holster. IPSC is sometimes considered the "Formula One" of shooting sports, and is shot with handguns, rifles and shotguns. IPSC was developed by former police and civilian marksmen and later used as a basis for modern military and police exercises. It is a variation where the shooter often moves during shooting, and hits scored and shooting time are equally important. Stage procedure is generally not dictated freestyle and the shooter is allowed to determine the order and manner in which he or she engages the targets. International Defensive Pistol Association IDPA is an action shooting sport that uses semi-automatic handguns and revolvers with a strong emphasis on concealed shooting. Many aspects of stage engagement are dictated to competitors and penalties are given to competitors whom the safety officer determines attempted to gain a competitive advantage or engaged in a forbidden action with a "guilty mind" - that he knowingly failed to do right. Steel Challenge is a speed shooting championship solely about shooting steel targets as fast as possible, and is governed by the Steel Challenge Shooting Association SCSA. There are eight standardized courses of fire, and a special "stop plate" must be shot last to stop the timer. The ranges, paper targets and poppers are scaled down to suit airsoft, and the sport enjoys popularity in countries such as Taiwan , Hong Kong , and Japan where civilian ownership of real firearms are either illegal or extremely difficult to obtain. Bowling pin shooting primarily shot with handguns has the competitors race against one another to knock standard bowling pins from a table in the shortest elapsed time. ActionAirgun is an indoor action shooting sport using semi-automatic airsoft pistols and courses of fire downloaded from a central hub. Shooters upload shooting times to a website to resolve competitions. An Open division practical pistol shooter during a stage. Long range[edit] Long range shooting is a term used to describe shooting disciplines held at such distances that sight adjustment based from judging atmospherical conditions become critical. Fullbore target shooting is concerned with shooting at targets at ranges of   yards. Similar disciplines called bullseye and field shooting are popular in Scandinavia, although fired at shorter distances. Palma is an ICFRA fullbore competition format that dates from , featuring long-range rifle shooting, out to 1, yards. The first Palma match was contested by teams from the U. The matches continued to the late s, and the trophy was eventually lost in Washington DC around the outbreak of WW2. The match was revived in the modern era in in Canada, and continues between teams from around the world. This is a fast-growing variant of Fullbore Target Rifle. Precision Rifle Competitions , a relatively new long range competition format which seeks to find a balance between speed and precision, often involving movement and shooting from unusual positions with a time limit, at both known and unknown distances. National Rifle League NRL is a c 3 non-profit organization dedicated to the growth and education of precision rifle shooting in the United States. Their match format allows any caliber between. Since its debut in , currently 11 clubs from eight states are involved in the league. It was established to address the fact that most localities do not have access to yard ranges, but nearly all localities have yard ranges and most shooters own. Their championship match consist of minimum rounds fired in at least 15 individual stages. Practical sniping with precision rifle systems is a shooting sport, which gains tremendous popularity worldwide over a short period of time. It concentrates on shooting onto static or dynamic targets of various distances known and unknown , from different positions, under artificially created, but realistic stressful circumstances. It proves to be extremely interesting both for implementation and

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observation, due to its demanding level of difficulty. The International T-Class Confederation ITCC is a non-profit organization, which is founded in for the purpose of promotion of the T-Class shooting sport internationally, with headquarters residing in Bulgaria. Palma shooting in Canada in Benchrest[edit] Benchrest shooting is concerned with shooting small groups with the rifleman sitting on a chair bench and the rifle supported from a table. Of all shooting disciplines, this is the most demanding equipment-wise. A BCM Europearms single shot benchrest rifle. Metallic silhouette[edit] Metallic silhouette competitors shoot at animal-shaped steel silhouettes chickens, pigs, turkeys and rams that must be knocked down to score. Banks of 5 targets are placed at up to meters, with distance and size of target determined by firearm class. Handguns used in the Unlimited Categories are rifle-like in appearance; Thompson Contender , Remington XP , and other pistols are chambered in rifle calibers with the power, aerodynamic efficiency, and external ballistics required for precise shooting at meters. There are silhouette categories appropriate for virtually all types of adjustable sight pistols and rifles, only excluding high-velocity armor-piercing rounds that would damage targets. Targets for open sighted guns are placed between 25 and meters, and are designed to provide a usable size of the hit zone of about 1. Cut cardboard targets of the same shape and sizes which are used for IHMSA metal targets in metallic silhouette shooting. Chicken, pig, turkey, and ram. The different targets are placed at different distances, and in this image the targets are scaled to how they would appear to the shooter in angular sizes mil or moa. Mere act of shooting itself is not enough. Competitors must choose and go by a cowboy nickname or alias and are required to look the part by donning authentic cowboy and cowgirl garments. Cowboy mounted shooting , also called Western Mounted Shooting or simply Mounted Shooting, is a competitive equestrian sport involving the riding of a horse to negotiate a shooting pattern. Rule sets vary between shooting sport organizations, it can be based on the historical reenactment of historic shooting events held at Wild West Shows in the late 19th century. Modern events use blank ammunition instead of live rounds, certified to break a target balloon within twenty feet. The Range Officer to the left is holding a shooting timer to measure the time. Scenery in a Western scenario. The shooter uses different firearms during a stage. In this stage revolvers were used at the close range blue targets and a lever action at the red targets furthest away. Muzzleloading are concerned with shooting replica or antique guns. Competitor shooting at yards Paralympic shooting first appeared in the Summer Paralympics at the Toronto Games. Para shooting is internationally governed by the International Paralympic Committee. To help establish fair competition, a shooting classification called Para-shooting classification in place for the Paralympic Games. Para shooting with a rifle sitting in a wheelchair.

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Chapter 4 : Shooting sports - Wikipedia

FN America expanded its SCAR rifle lineup with a purpose-built precision option in the form of its all-new SCAR 20S.

There are many options, perhaps too many these days. How do you select the right one? People new to hunting fall into two categories: Hunting Rifles for the Novice Shooter Novice shooters are often youngâ€”pre-teens or teenagers. Although some adults take up shooting and hunting later in life. The two most important factors when selecting a rifle for a novice shooter are easy operation and tolerable recoil. Types of Rifle Action Novices need a gun which is simple to load, unload, and clean. This narrows the action type choices down to two: The first photo shows a bolt-action rifle. The second photo shows a break-action rifle. Notice how simple it is to verify whether the break-action rifle is loaded or not. Bolt-action rifle with action open Source Break-action with action open. Source Single-shot rifles, in either action type, are best for pre-teens since they preclude accidentally feeding a live round after removing the one in the firing chamber. Single shots are not an impediment to hunting in an adult supervised environment since with proper marksmanship, one shot is enough to drop a game animal humanely. Novice teens and adults can, under normal circumstances, learn to use a magazine fed weapon safely. The military trains eighteen year-olds to do so every day. Still, bolt actions are the best choice for these individuals as well, since they are easy to maintain and use under stress. However, mastering a lever, pump, or semi-automatic rifle is possible with additional diligence by both student and teacher. Novices often start with deer, the most common big game animal in North America. Deer are not very robust animalsâ€”hard recoiling, powerful magnums are unnecessary. At two hundred yards or less the most common hunting range , the ubiquitous. This cartridge has killed more deer over more time than any other caliber. If ranges are beyond two hundred yards, often the case in the western states, the. If a magazine rifle is the only option available, get one with a detachable magazine. These guns are easily converted to single shot by just removing the magazine. Once the novice gains enough experience and demonstrates the ability to handle the extra responsibility, the magazine can be reinserted into the rifle. For larger animals such as elk and moose, the. Some other calibers to consider are:

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Chapter 5 : Best Large-Bore Hunting Rifles []: Big Guns & Big Game - Pew Pew Tactical

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Chapter 6 : Consent Form | Outdoor Life

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