



Off-Body Concealed Carry

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Understanding Off Body Carry

Off body carry is an option that many people may consider based on lifestyle and dress.

- Off body carry is not only a viable option, but may be the only option in some situations.

What To Consider When Choosing Off Body Carry

Take a principle-based approach to your carry system across multiple platforms.

- Think of your bag no different than a holster.
- It must have a sturdy, secure, dedicated pocket for the gun, with nothing else in that pocket.
- The trigger guard should be completely covered.
- The bag must be mobile. Backpacks are not ideal compared to messenger bags and purses.
- Choose a bag over which you can maintain positive control.

Other Off Body Carry Considerations

Avoid bags that are too large, heavy, or over-filled (the "big momma syndrome"). Carry other personal defense gear, including...

- Ammo
- Medical gear
 - Tourniquet
 - Gauze
 - Pressure bandage
 - QuickClot
 - Personal data (on a USB)
- Communications
- Flashlight
- Cutting tool/Glass Breaker

Deploying From Off Body Carry

There are multiple deployment considerations:

- Know your gear well.
- Maintain positive control of the bag when you draw.
- After you get control, open the bag.
- When the bag is open, get a good firing grip.
- Bring the gun straight up, clearing the bag, and orient the muzzle toward the threat.
- Extend the gun and, while extending, release the bag to take a two-hand grip.

Off Body Carry Training Tips

Create opportunities to compartmentalize training your skills and techniques, especially with new gear.

- Get a training gun.
 - Airsoft
 - SIRT laser pistol
 - Rubber/Resin trainer gun
- Get familiar with the bag, using your training gun to test it and work with it.
- Get very familiar with your grip.
- Wear the bag and get comfortable with working with it.
- When you're comfortable with your optimal deployment, try working with it from less optimal positions.
- Pressure test your techniques to make sure you can apply them under stress and under threat. This involves force-on-force training with training partners you can trust.
- You need a training weapon and a training environment that includes an active resistor.
- Sensory overload is an important factor to pressure-testing and training.