

Pocket Pistol “Mouse Guns” (Pro And Con)

with Buck Greene for www.ModernCombatAndSurvival.com

Tiny Pocket Pistols Are Very Popular

Lots of people are carrying tiny pistols and revolvers, sometimes called “mouseguns” (because they’re so small they look like something you’d use to hunt mice). What are the pros and cons of carrying such a pocket pistol?

1. Very Concealable

Pocket pistols are extremely concealable because of their small size, BUT...

- They can be very hard to control during shooting because they’re so lite.
- The smallest ones may want to pop up out of your hand, so you have to choke the life out of them to shoot them.

2. Light Enough For Hot Weather

CCW is difficult in warmer weather, so a pocket pistol is often ideal, BUT...

- The sight of a pocket pistol might not even register on a crook’s brain.
- This means you’re giving up any potential deterrent, really.

3. Many Shoot Cheap, Common Ammo

Before the Great .22 Shortage in the United States, pocket pistols that shot .22 or other common small calibers were cheap to feed, BUT...

- Small calibers are not great stoppers.
- The very short barrel of a pocket pistol also does not take full advantage of the ammo’s ballistic capabilities.

4. Great For Small Hands

If you have smaller hands, a pocket pistol may be more comfortable for you to shoot, BUT...

- If you have larger hands, you won’t be able to get a proper grip on the gun.
- If your hands are unusually large you may find them almost impossible to shoot well.

5. Easy To Use In Close Quarters

A pocket pistol is very small, so it’s extremely maneuverable in tight quarters... and it’s small enough not to be as deafening in those tight spaces, BUT...

- Pocket pistols are extremely inaccurate at anything but “kissing distance.”
- They’re extremely difficult to reload, too.

Conclusion

Given all the drawbacks, NO ONE likes to get shot at all, even with a .22. Though it doesn’t have a lot of stopping power, the .22 is said to kill more people than any other caliber... and has long been the choice for close-quarters work (such as by Mossad).

You should always carry as large a weapon as you can comfortably conceal and handle. If it’s a situation where you’re challenged in concealment, or you need a smaller gun for control, pocket pistols can be very useful.

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