



MEMBERS UPDATE

May 2022

TOP 20 DOGS FOR PREPPERS

**WW2 Weapons Reproduced In
Semi-Auto For The Civilian Market**

How to Survive: Bears, Wolves, and More

**History and Review of Various Past and
Present Guns - M1 Garand Edition**

NEXT ISSUE: *Gun Legislation in 2022: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly*

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CONTENT



02

History and Review of Various Past and Present Guns - M1 Garand Edition

General George Patton once called it the greatest battlefield implement ever devised. “It operated with no mechanical defects, and when used in foxholes, did not develop stoppages from dust and dirt.” Even though 86 years have passed since the U.S. Military first took delivery of these awesome weapons, the statements concerning the M1 Garand still hold water today and though weaponry has advanced technologically, this is one rifle you’ll want to have occupying space in your gun safe right now, at this very moment.



07

WW2 Weapons Reproduced In Semi-Auto For The Civilian Market

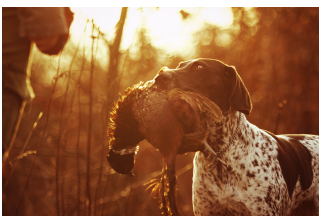
Out of the 41.4 billion rounds of small arms ammunition produced for the U.S. military during World War II, it has been estimated that 50,000 of those rounds were needed to kill just one enemy soldier, mostly because of covering fire or shots fired in anger. I have good news for everyone that has been itching to get their hands on the most famous battlefield weapons of the “Big One”. The fully auto sub machine guns and their heavy counterparts that achieved victories for the United States and Germany can now be had in semi-auto, thus saving you on ammo and paying respect to those that designed and used these amazing fighting implements.



12

How to Survive: Bears, Wolves, and More

If you spend a significant amount of time in the Great Outdoors, the odds are good that you’ll have at least one encounter with a highly dangerous animal. Rather than simply trying to scare the beast away, we’re also going to look at what will help you survive in each individual instance. As you’ll see below, there’s no such thing as a one size fits all approach with these kings of the forest.



16

Top 20 Dogs for Preppers

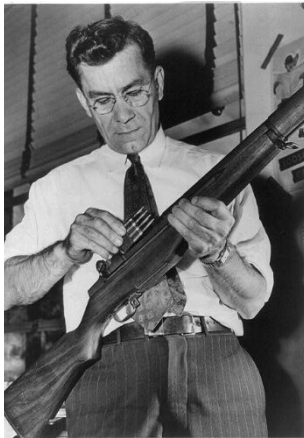
It’s no secret that man has always been fascinated with canines. The history of man and dog is as old as the hills, and it’s hard to imagine life without them. We’ve rounded up a list of “good dogs” that will help you survive in times of plenty and times of scarcity.

NEXT ISSUE: Gun Legislation in 2022: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly



History and Review of Various Past and Present Guns- M1 Garand Edition

By Eric Austgen



John Garand: The Man And His Gun

General George Patton once called it the greatest battlefield implement ever devised. Speaking of its service in the Philippines, General Douglas MacArthur raved saying, “It operated with no mechanical defects, and when used in foxholes, did not develop stoppages from dust

and dirt.” Pretty sound endorsements from two tough as nails warriors and leaders who possessed more integrity and guts in their little finger than the shameful bunch who currently have stars gracing their politically oriented shoulders. Even though 86 years have passed since the U.S. Military first took delivery of these awesome weapons, the statements concerning the M1 Garand still hold water today and though weaponry has advanced technologically, this is one rifle you’ll want to have occupying space in your gun safe right now, at this very moment.

In The Beginning

The man whose name is eternally entwined with his design, John C. Garand was born in Quebec, Canada in 1888. A scant ten years later, he and his family moved to Connecticut, where he found employment in a textile mill a year after arriving. He received an instructive education from the mill’s machinists and was promoted to a position as such not long afterward. From there, he quickly moved into a very important trade of the day, tool making. With this newfound skill, Garand combined his love of target shooting and weapons design, tinkering with the design aspect in his spare time. It was when Uncle Sam came calling, in 1917, for a light machine gun design that Garand sought to get in on the action. He had made a deal with another firearms designer, John Kewish, to work on and help develop his design. By the summer of 1918, it had been demonstrated to famous gun designer Hiram Maxim’s brother Hudson, who suggested that it be shown to the Naval Consulting Board. The NCB suggested that Garand and his partner demonstrate it to the Army War College, who in turn passed the

buck to the Ordnance Department, where it died the predictable bureaucratic death. The National Board of Standards put both partners on the payroll and allowed them the use of the machine shop to work out the kinks that got the original design relegated to the trash can. Garand and his partner started work in August of 1918 and had a finished design by the following year. Even though the war was a year in the rearview, the U.S. Army was impressed by his determination and talent that they made him a consulting engineer at the Springfield Armory, and later he rose to the position of Chief Civilian Engineer. It was also at this time that he became a naturalized American.



Spring Steel En-Bloc Clips With Cartridge Belt

The Roaring Twenties And Interwar Years

By 1921, the U.S. Military was looking to replace its low rate of fire and heavy recoil bolt action 1903 Springfield rifle with a new completely semi-auto alternative that could handle the heavy hitting Springfield .30-06 round. The Ordnance Department was looking for a lightweight, economically and quality built, and well balanced weapon that could be adapted to shoulder firing. In addition, the weapon needed to eliminate the problem of premature unlocking of the bolt and be magazine fed from a clip or charge. The gas operated design being toyed around with at the time seemed to be the cat's pajamas. With Garand's design, there was a port towards the end of the barrel that would catch the gas driving the bullet, pushing it into a small cylinder underneath the barrel, and driving the operating rod back. The operating rod twisted and pulled back the bolt,

ejecting the spent casing, with a self contained spring inside the rod pushing the bolt forward, chambering a fresh round, and returning to its forward ready position. An eight round, spring steel En-bloc clip for the internal magazine was designed by Garand to eliminate the need for a detachable magazine that could easily be lost and get gunked up by dirt and other debris. The clip ejected along with the last shell producing the well known "M1 Ping". The bolt locked open after ejection allowing for a new clip to be seated in the magazine and the operator to, in theory, safely pull the bolt back with the charging handle, releasing, and letting the bolt slam forward, chambering a round. This sequence of events sometimes did not play out as envisioned, resulting in a few smashed thumbs and blue streaks cursed; this, of course, is the really well known affliction of "M1 Thumb." Garand's design met the requirements set forth by the Ordnance Department, but it was complex and added a bit of weight. The proving grounds at Aberdeen experimented with various lighter materials, such as the early plastic bakelite, in order to reduce the weight and "ping" ejection sounds, but ultimately decided to stick with steel spring due to its obvious strength in handling this new heavy duty firing action. Design kinks were not the only headaches Garand dealt with at Springfield, as with all things pertaining to the feds, bureaucratic nitwittery and ego soon became unnecessary roadblocks on the way to firearm perfection. The latter part of the Twenties into the early Thirties provided these things in spades, as different calibers were bandied about before finally settling back with the seemingly inexhaustible supply of .30 caliber Ball ammo just sitting around. Another problem to be had was the Ordnance Committee, made up of officers from the army's main branches, all of whom were clamoring for a rifle designed to their specific branch, which at that time was infantry, cavalry, and tank corps. Garand soldiered on, catering to the fickle insanity that comes with an armed forces commission, and in 1933, had his final design accepted and designated as the US semiautomatic rifle, M1. Initial production and delivery of the M1's were slower than molasses in wintertime and it wasn't until it hit summertime real quick with Pearl Harbor that the molasses started flowing faster.



M1 Garand And Soldier In The Field

From The Proving Grounds To The Real Thing

A month after the attack on Pearl Harbor, 600 rifles were being produced daily, with Springfield reporting a 4,000 daily yield when manufacture was at its peak. By the end of 1942, the army considered itself to be well equipped with the rifle, however, it was still produced into the latter part of 1945. For all of you interested taxpayers, the initial run of M1's ran about \$200 per rifle but eventually dropped to \$26 by the end of the war. A little over 4 million of these rifles were built between the Springfield Armory and civilian contracts awarded to International Harvester and Harrington & Richardson. A sniper version was produced and designated as the M1C and M1D. The M1C was introduced at the same time as the invasion of Europe as a replacement for the bolt action Springfield 1903A4. Both models are basically M1's with the receiver drilled and tapped for a mounted scope and a leather cheek pad laced to the stock. These were standardized in 1944, but their moment in the sun didn't come until the Korean War some six years distant. Considering that the combined nations fighting for the axis forces were equipped and trained with bolt action rifles, the introduction of the M1 was a supreme game changer when it came to the war they had been waging. Frontal assaults and charges were a thing of the past when faced with a weapon spitting that much rapid firepower and with faster reloading capabilities. In fact, it was found that the Garand did the job of three guys armed with the old 1903 Springfield. Due to this powerful weapon's debut on the world stage kicking ass and taking names, the enemy powers ratcheted up their own research and development in these matters in order to match or beat this superior

force, it also lit a fire under our allies to step up their weapons contributions to the fight. Given the words of admiration and respect conferred upon the Garand from combatants on both sides of the conflict, the U.S semiautomatic rifle, M1 did its job well.



Oversized M1 Classroom Trainer From World War II

A Short Respite Before Returning To The Breach And Beyond

At the conclusion of the Second World War, existing inventory was refurbished or repaired, with some arms being sold off or given to U.S. allies and former enemies, great and small. Even though existing surplus stores were being disposed of, another 1.5 million rifles were produced from 1945 until 4 years after Korea became another cold war within an existing cold war. The M1 was still the top dog rifle of choice for all of our ground warriors and continued to serve with the same distinction it had earned in the last war. Although there were some M1D models produced, few saw any use and the M1C became the standard sniper weapon of the army and Marine Corps. Following the cease fire, the M1 served as the primary service rifle until its replacement by its direct descendant, the M14, in 1957. Both weapons are visually the same, however, the only differences are the addition of a 20 round detachable box magazine and its chambering for the 7.62mm round. The M1 did not totally disappear from the inventory as it was needed for national defense until the change over to the M14 was complete. It saw service in early years of Vietnam, as well as the M1D sniper model, and was fully replaced in combat by the M14 around the mid-sixties. The reserve and guard units scattered across this great land, even the navy, used the Garand up until the seventies. The countries that were sold or given M1's after the Second World War were still using them into the late 90's, a great testament and tribute to a man and gun design that revolutionized the way wars were fought.



M1C Sniper Rifle

Ballistics And Range, Two Very Important Items To Contemplate

Now that we have a little historical background on the M1, let's take a look at why this rifle and its chambered caliber is so effective and still a viable competitor when it comes to its original intended purpose. The weapon's effective range is up to one thousand yards, which is just a bit more than a half mile in distance. At an all boys weekend in the mountains one year, we experimented with the Garand at various distances with surplus M2 ball and tracer rounds, scoring devastating hits on the menacing milk jugs used as targets, even out to the max range of the rifle. The bullet weight and powder charge will always dictate how well placed your groupings will be and how lethal it is for whatever the cartridge's application. Lighter weight bullets in the 125-130 grain range are appropriate if you are looking for a round with less recoil but can still deliver a greater shock and wounding capability to game sighted out to 400 yards. Medium weights of 150-168 grains are exceptional for downing light to medium sized game hanging out at a 650-800 yard distance. These rounds will have a higher velocity and downrange killing power effectively used in long range and backwoods hunting. If you are looking for a bit more oomph with your ammo, bullet weights between 180-220 grains can best be used against larger targets. Couple that with a mid range velocity, provided by a medium powder charge, and you will have a deeper penetrating round. Although this round will not produce the same wounding and depth capabilities as a heavy bore rifle such as .50 caliber or higher, you can still bring down your prey with patience and well placed shots. You may also consider using frangible bullets in the 178-210 grain range as these rounds will give you a wide wounding effect on light to large game up to 900 yards and will deliver death to your large bodied targets at long ranges. The type of cartridges you decide to use will vary, however, you can still count on a comfortable recoil when scope eye relief

and the stock of the weapon are factored into the equation. If these variables are not considered, you may have a lousy time shooting, developing a flinch, and a general aversion to high powered centerfire cartridges. In short, the .30-06 cartridge is a great all round hunting and combat projectile that, when combined with the Garand, will make you the most well armed marksman in the neighborhood, should future events dictate your need to call them back to active duty, whatever the reason may be.



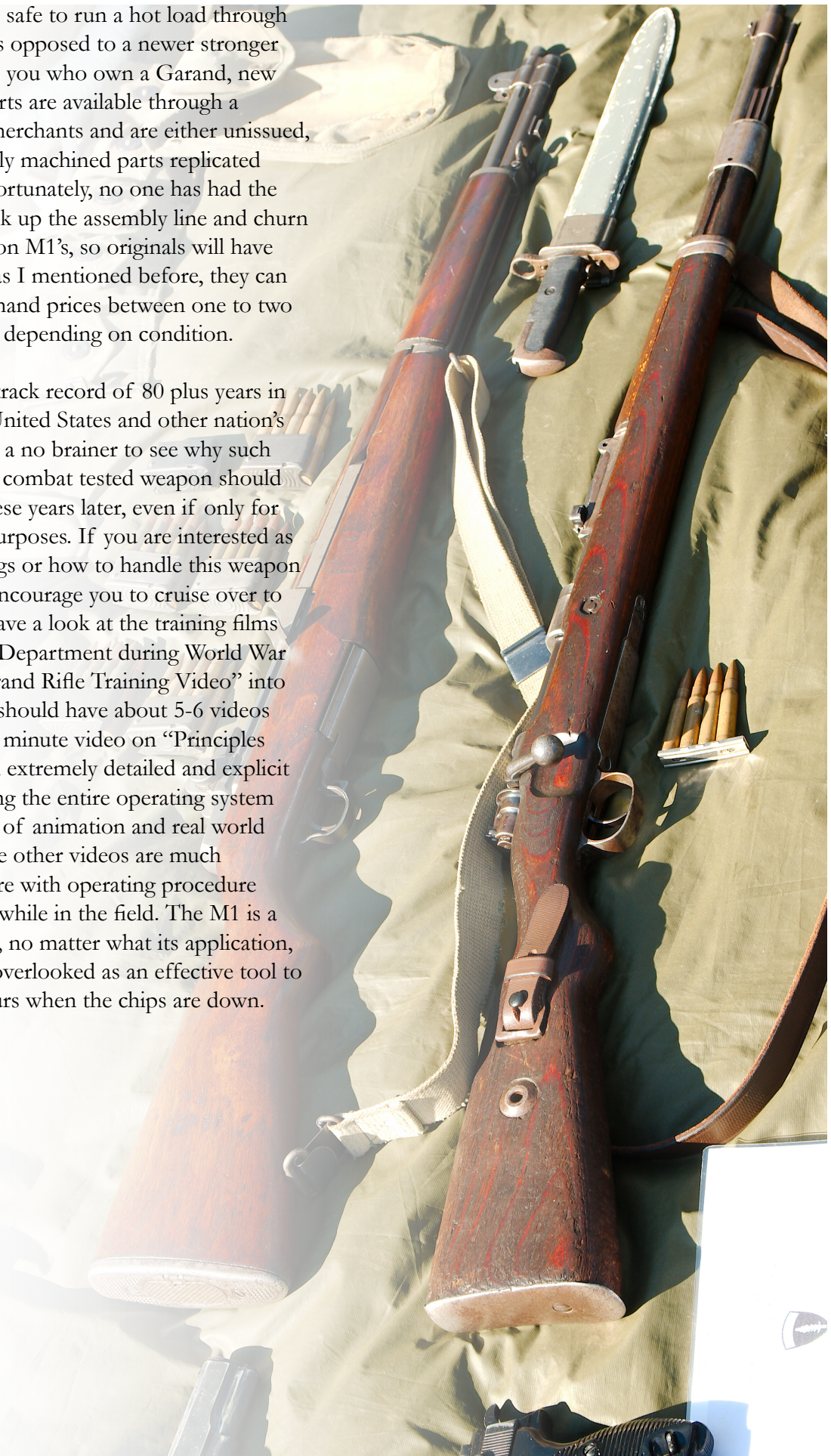
En-Bloc Clip Loaded And Ready For Magazine Insertion

So, Where Do I Find One?

When it comes to the task of finding an M1, the obvious choice is to climb on the internet and stalk gun selling sites such as ArmsList and Guns America. If you are fortunate to live in a place where people don't have seizures and speak in strange tongues when guns are present, your best bet is the local gun show. Out in my neck, The Tanner Gun Show has damn near anything and everything you would need to build your arsenal, and the last time I attended, I counted at least two dozen M1's for sale all of which were in pretty good condition. Another source for this incredible weapon has always been the Civilian Marksmanship Program, and has, for a great many years, supplied the general public access to not only M1 ownership but also to safe gun practices and marksman training. Currently the only rifles available through the CMP is an expert grade weapon that has had a new barrel and stock added to existing USGI parts, and chambered for the standard .30-06 and another for a round that is no slouch itself, the .308 Winchester. This grade of weapon is selling for a cool grand with the added bonus of free shipping and handling. If you decide to purchase a Garand, I would advise you to inquire of the seller as to the appropriate .30-06 cartridge to

use as it may not be safe to run a hot load through an original barrel, as opposed to a newer stronger barrel. For those of you who own a Garand, new old stock (NOS) parts are available through a handful of online merchants and are either unissued, refurbished, or newly machined parts replicated from originals. Unfortunately, no one has had the wherewithal to crank up the assembly line and churn out newer production M1's, so originals will have to do for now, but as I mentioned before, they can be found and command prices between one to two thousand smackers, depending on condition.

With a remarkable track record of 80 plus years in the service of the United States and other nation's militaries, it is really a no brainer to see why such a well designed and combat tested weapon should remain in use all these years later, even if only for drill and auxiliary purposes. If you are interested as to the inner workings or how to handle this weapon the "army way", I encourage you to cruise over to the YouTube and have a look at the training films put out by the War Department during World War II. Punch "M1 Garand Rifle Training Video" into the search and you should have about 5-6 videos pop up. The fifteen minute video on "Principles of Operation" is an extremely detailed and explicit presentation showing the entire operating system with a combination of animation and real world demonstration. The other videos are much longer and deal more with operating procedure and marksmanship while in the field. The M1 is a formidable weapon, no matter what its application, and should not be overlooked as an effective tool to protect you and yours when the chips are down.





WW2 WEAPONS REPRODUCED IN SEMI-AUTO FOR THE CIVILIAN MARKET

BY ERIC AUSTGEN

Out of the 41.4 billion rounds of small arms ammunition produced for the U.S. military during World War II, it has been estimated that 50,000 of those rounds were needed to kill just one enemy soldier, mostly because of covering fire or shots fired in anger. It has also been determined that only about 15-20 percent of our ground forces in all theaters of combat operations had actually fired their weapon in combat, likely due, in part, to death silencing these brave men before they could even squeeze off a round. Even though this “waste” of ammunition is perfectly acceptable in a wartime situation, for civilian gun owners, that kind of waste is abhorrent and detrimental to our continued long term safety, especially with ammo becoming more scarce day after day. Like many who purchase AR-15s for their look or distinguished pedigree, I have good news for everyone that has been itching to get their hands on the most famous battlefield weapons

of the “Big One”. The fully auto sub machine guns and their heavy counterparts that achieved victories for the United States and Germany can now be had in semi-auto, thus saving you on ammo and paying respect to those that designed and used these amazing fighting implements.



Grandad, On The Left, With His Buddies In Italy, Circa 1944

AN EASILY RECOGNIZABLE ICON

It matters not what you wish to refer to it as, the “Chicago Piano”, “Chicago Typewriter”, “Trench Broom”, or “Tommy Gun”, one thing is absolutely certain, the Thompson SMG is as American as mom and apple pie, and had quite a reputation, even before it was taking down enemies on foreign shores. John T. Thompson was a U.S. Army Ordnance officer during the “Great War” where he had become aware of a friction-delayed blowback firing action patented in 1915 by John B. Blish. At the time, he was trying to figure out a devastatingly effective way to clear enemy trenches, since the infantry rifles used by belligerents involved in the conflict, though fine weapons for accuracy and distance, were too long and due to the rifle’s low rate of fire, didn’t cut the mustard when it came to close quarters combat. Thompson decided on a design that was not only shorter in length, but also shorter in its effective range. To compensate for this, he chose to chamber the weapon in .45 ACP because of its lethality at close range and it was a readily available round due to the M1911A1 being the official service sidearm and chambered for the same round. The war ended before Thompson had finished his prototype, but continued working on it, finally patenting it in 1920. At first, the military declined wholesale purchases of it, but the Mob and heartland America bank robbers of the Prohibition and Depression sure did love ‘em, and regularly proved the gun’s intended purpose. The army finally adopted it in 1928 and designated it as the M1928 with the 50 or 100 round drum, the 20 and 30 stick mags coming later. This warrior was so popular and effective that it stayed in the military’s inventory up until 1971. Today, Kahr Arms/Auto Ordnance out of Worcester Massachusetts offers their version of the Thompson with the 1927A1 and M1 models. The 1927A1 comes with either a 16.5 or 18 inch barrel with Cutts compensator, complete with the pistol foregrip, although one model comes with the horizontal foregrip. It is also the only model that will accept both the drum and stick magazines. The M1 version has a 16.5 inch barrel with the Cutts compensator switched out for the more appropriate military front iron sight found on the World War II Thompsons. The original “Tommy Gun” weighed in

at ten pounds fully loaded, the modern counterparts offered here can run two to three pounds heavier and one pound lighter than that. The drum mags accommodate ten, fifty, or one hundred rounds and the stick mags hold ten, twenty, and thirty rounds. Prices vary between \$1200 and \$4500, depending on the material used in construction, magazine(s) supplied with the firearm, and type of finish. All models are chambered in .45 ACP except for the one made for all the 9mm fans out there.



Kahr Arms/ Auto Ordnance .45 ACP M1 Thompson

ANOTHER JOHN BROWNING DESIGN PUT TO GOOD USE

The Thompson may not have had its chance to shine in the First World War, but the Browning Automatic Rifle certainly did. When it looked likely that the United States would enter the war, Browning took his recently finished full and semi-auto rifle, chambered in .30-06 Springfield, to Colt for testing. A year later, in 1918, it was demonstrated for the army and the first American units in France took delivery of it in June of that year, and, unlike the Thompson, saw combat a mere month and a half before the end of the war. After the war, the various kinks inherent with a rushed production item were worked out and the BAR saw service with the U.S. military all over the world during the interwar years. A civilian version of the BAR called the “Colt Monitor” was available during this time and was used by both lawmen and badmen all across the country. By the time World War II rolled around, the BAR had been modified to fire only as an automatic with a slow fire rate of 300-450 rounds per minute and a fast rate of 500-650 rounds. Rifles that had been sent to the British during Lend-Lease did not have this modification and both the original 1918 model and the 1918A2 served with distinction on the battlefields in which they were used. Like the Thompson, the BAR also proved to be a popular and effective weapon that was also kept in the military’s inventory until the early seventies. Ohio Ordnance Works did the civilian world a huge favor and produced the

Model 1918A3 SLR (self loading rifle). The nifty thing about these weapons is that they have been built with some of the original First and Second World War parts alongside newly machined ones. The A3 is virtually identical to the A2 in respect to the length, weight, 20 round detachable magazine, chambering, and gas-operated system. Where it deviates is that it fires from a closed rather than an open bolt system used on the A2. The standard package includes walnut/bakelite furniture, 2 20 round mags, web sling, tripod, carry handle, flash hider, bolt open device, cleaning kit, manual, magnet, and a field stripping and cleaning guide. There, of course, will be a restriction on the magazine capacity and flash holder in some states, therefore, two 10 or 15 round magazines will be sent instead of the 20 and the flash hider will be modified at the factory before shipping. Now I want you to take a deep breath, have a seat, if you are not seated already, and get ready for some sticker shock. This beast is currently retailing between \$5600 and \$5800, but when you factor in the extra goodies that come with it and the positive customer reviews concerning the weapons range and accuracy, this should definitely be a bucket list item for anyone that likes to conserve ammo and excels in marksmanship.



Ohio Ordnance Works Standard BAR Package Sans Magazines

MA DEUCE AND HER POWERFUL PUNCH

While we are hanging out with Ohio Ordnance, I would like to direct your attention to their semi-auto version of the M2 .50 BMG machine gun that has laid a considerable amount of hurt on our enemies from the thirties to the present. Used mainly on vehicles, as naval anti-aircraft, and on our fighters and bombers, this machine gun is a force to be reckoned with, so much so that many nations militaries around the world have adopted it for the same wartime applications. Fortunately, civilians

can now add this fantastic weapon to their private arsenal. With the exception of its semi-auto status, this weapon is close to the original in all aspects, including the hard hitting .50 caliber cartridge. The M2 package includes a custom hard case, 200 links, users manual, wire carrying handle, flash hider, cleaning kit, headspace gauge set, broken cartridge extractor, and a wrench. The tripod, pintle, and transverse and elevation mechanism are sold separately, running close to \$2000 due to the fact that they are in like new but surplus condition. Now, if you thought the BAR price would give you the vapors, the price on this beauty will give you a coronary. The manufacturer's price is at \$16,400 for the basic package, throw in the tripod and you will be looking at plunking down about eighteen grand and some change. While it would be cool to own and would certainly be a conversation starter at your range outings, the price is a bit much for most gunners, and availability of ammo would present a problem unless one undertakes the art of reloading; however, it is included here so that you, dear reader, are aware of its awesome existence.



Ohio Ordnance Works M2-SLR Fully Assembled

WHAT WILL YOU BRING WHEN THEY HOST THE NEXT BLITZKRIEG?

I will be completely honest with you, this next weapon has been a favorite of mine since I was a kid and it may sound as if I have a bias towards it, I do, however, this bias has to do with nothing more than the technical aspects of its role as an effective combat firearm. Many people erroneously refer to it as a "Schmeisser" and every movie made about fighting in the European Theater would have the average viewer believe that it was issued to every soldier in the Wehrmacht and SS, along with ammo pouches used for the bolt action Mauser Kar98K rifle. In reality, the weapon was designed by Heinrich Vollmer at the ERMA Werke, and where the confusion lay is that the MP41, designed by Hugo Schmeisser at the rival

firm of Haenel, featured the lighter MP40 upper receiver paired with the heavier lower receiver of the MP28. This ultimately led to Vollmer suing Schmeisser and Haenel for patent infringement. The MaschinenPistole 40 was primarily issued to infantry squad and platoon leaders, Luftwaffe Fallschirmjäger (paratroops) and Panzer troops, along with two pouches that could each hold three 32 round stick magazines. The predecessor to the MP40, the MP38, was discontinued due to the expense of production and lack of safety for the bolt. The old drawing board was revisited and from it sprang a newer weapon made completely from pressed metal, the frame and parts being joined with a combination of spot welding and brazing, and the addition of a safety catch. Both the 38 and 40 dropped the heavy wooden buttstock found on previous submachine gun designs, instead, incorporating a forward folding skeleton stock that could be extended out for accurate long distance shooting or folded to rest along the bottom of the foregrip for close quarters and on the run combat situations. Allied troops had a collective pucker factor going on whenever faced with this weapon and its 500 round per minute rate of fire, nicknaming it the “Burp Gun” due to the distinctive sound it made when fired. The modern semi-auto MP40 is currently being produced by German Sport Guns, headquartered in, yes you guessed it, Germany. There are two calibers available, .22LR High Velocity and the traditional 9mm, along with factory modifications to skirt the unconstitutional gun laws that would otherwise keep these excellent replicas out of civilian hands. The .22 model has a barrel extension added to it so that the folding stock can be included making the OAL fall within the confines of legality. The 9mm version conforms to the original weapons outer design dimensions and is sold without the stock, so as to maintain its status as a pistol and get around the short barreled rifle definition of the insanely unconstitutional National Firearms Act of 1934. The stock may be purchased separately, around \$269 retail, but your firearm will require a Class 3 ATF stamp if applied to your gun or even if you own the stock and it hasn’t been mounted, meaning you’ll be out a couple hundred bucks and now have your gun illegally registered with the equally illegal alphabet agency. This newer MP40 has three different safety features built into it. There is a safety switch on the

10 bottom of the foregrip, located in the same place

as the original’s breakdown knob, a notch in the receiver to rest the charging handle when the bolt is pulled back, and the charging handle is removable for added safety and security. Like the original design, it is not advisable to hold the stick mag while firing the weapon, as it will interfere with proper ammo feed and cycling. You would do best by holding it by the pistol and fore grip, in combination with the buttstock or employing a sling, if you have the 9mm, as this combination will give you greater control and better accuracy. The .22LR model comes with either a 23 or 10 round detachable magazine and retails for about \$450, while the 9mm can be had with a 25 or 10 round mag for a price that varies between five and seven hundred smackers, depending on where you purchase it.



German Sport Guns 9mm MP40

INSPIRATION FOR THE AK-47 OR BLATANT RIP-OFF?

It is well known among those that are serious students of history that the Soviet Union was hard pressed to come up with an original idea of their own, resorting, instead, to the reverse engineering of captured enemy and allied weaponry and aircraft during the war. The idea that Kalashnikov dreamed up the weapon that would eventually be named after him is a load of bunk and nothing more than a bunch of Soviet propaganda. In fact, the AK-47 is an evolutionary concept rather than a revolutionary one, contrary to what has been reported by the Ivan Tellalie’s of the propaganda ministry. The SturmGewehr (StG) 44 is considered to be the first true “assault rifle” and is, without a doubt, the inspiration for the latter Soviet weapon. It is true that Hugo Schmeisser was captured and put to work by the Russians, which would explain some similarities between his StG design and that of the AK. It was produced by 4 different companies during the late stages of the war, Erfurt, ERMA, Haenel, and Mauser, using the readily available 7.92 Kurz (short) rifle round and featured a switch to change between semi and full-auto function.

Once again, German Sport Guns come to the rescue with their replica of this vaunted piece of weaponry, chambering it in .22 LR High Velocity, and finishing them in your choice of Standard, Sand, O.D. Green, U.S. Tan, or parkerized. They are supplied with either a 25 or 10 round detachable “banana” shaped box magazine. This fun head turning plinker is reasonably priced anywhere between \$350 and \$450, however, again, that will be entirely dependent on where it is purchased.



German Sport Guns .22LR StG44

MODERN BUILDS OF SCHICKLGRUBER'S BUZZSAWS

I would be remiss in my duties as the finder and reporter of totally radical weaponry to not include a quick mention of the semi-auto versions of the MaschinenGewehr 34 and 42. There are a couple of companies that offer a marriage of original parts with modern machined semi-auto receivers to produce a unique and expensive shooter. There are a couple of itty bitty problems to contend with if you are serious about owning one or the other. First is finding and maintaining a steady supply of 8mm Mauser to run through them, but the bigger problem you will face is the finite amount of original parts left in the world to build them, and, as of this writing, those parts are disappearing at an extremely rapid rate. Perhaps one day a firearms company like GSG will come along and figure out a way to make a visually accurate quality reproduction that is economically manufactured and keeps you from selling your firstborn just to own one.



The MG-34

As much fun as it is to flip the giggle switch and empty your mag in no time flat, one must realize that outside of an actual combat zone, fully auto fire is a sloppy alternative to well aimed and placed shots, thus conserving your ammo and improving accuracy with each trigger squeeze. Just because these weapons are semi-auto, it in no way diminishes their lethal effectiveness and if things continue to slide in a southerly direction, you will be comforted in knowing you have a reliable means of self defense, descended from a Grand-Daddy that was tried and tested in some of the most desperate and fierce battles of the Second World War. So, until next time, dear reader, stay safe and let's be careful out there.





HOW TO SURVIVE; BEARS, WOLVES, AND MORE

If you spend a significant amount of time in the Great Outdoors, the odds are good that you'll have at least one encounter with a highly dangerous animal. Rather than simply trying to scare the beast away, we're also going to look at what will help you survive in each individual instance. Animals have many different reactions to humans, depending on what type it is. As you'll see below, there's no such thing as a one size fits all approach with these kings of the forest.

SURVIVING A BEAR ATTACK

North America has three types of bears: brown bears, black bears, and polar bears. The one that you really hope not to run into is a brown bear, as it is the most aggressive. Be aware of grizzlies, and do not go anywhere near a bear's cubs.

The good news is that there are only about 40 bear attacks worldwide in any given year, with about 10 of them happening in North America. In other words, you probably won't need to know the following information, but you'll be glad you read it if you become one of the rare few that a bear chooses to attack.

12 If you ever see a bear, especially in an area that humans inhabit, you should stop and simply enjoy it.

Of course, this must be done from a safe distance. Do not, under any circumstances, try to get close enough to take a selfie or give any food to the animal. You can make some noise to alert the bear to your presence. In most cases, the bear will run away after it spots you.

Safety comes with distance, so never, ever come closer than 50 yards (about half a football field). To be on the safe side, Yellowstone Park has a rule that all humans must be at least 100 yards from any bear. This will prevent most possible bear attacks.

The most dangerous activity you can engage in while near a bear is hiking. In fact, 88 out of 279 bear attack victims were hiking. This likely comes from getting too close to a bear without knowing it.

Other things that increase your odds of a bear attack include scavenging or picking mushrooms or berries (64 out of 279), camping (31 out of 279), fishing (18 out of 279), and jogging (17 out of 279). Hunters were involved in 20 percent of attacks, while people who work outside accounted for approximately 25 percent.

The bigger your hiking group, the better you can improve your odds of steering clear of a bear. The most important thing for a bear is to never be surprised. When your group has four or five people in it, for instance, the bear is much more likely to hear you coming. You should also avoid hiking at dawn, dusk, and during the nighttime.

One thing you shouldn't try is wearing bear bells. Although it seems like a good idea, they're actually not loud enough to alert most bears to your presence. Instead, talk loudly and occasionally slip in a loud "whoop." You can also blow a whistle or periodically clap or sing loudly. Remember: the best way to avoid a bear attack is to steer clear of them.

If a bear does try to attack you, pull out your bear spray. Using this when a bear is about 20-30 feet away has an extremely high success rate. In fact, bear spray leaves only a 2 percent chance of injury. Meanwhile, using a gun leaves a 50 percent chance of injury. Therefore, be smart and stock up on bear spray before you head into the woods.

Once you spot a bear in the distance, pay close attention to the signals it is giving you. If, for instance, it's grazing, then it most likely has no idea that you're nearby. You can either keep moving or slowly back away in this scenario, and you've got a good chance that it won't notice you.

If, on the other hand, the bear is on its hind legs, it's probably caught your scent. You'll also want to avoid a bear that's stressed, which is showcased by swinging its head from side to side, stomping its feet, or yawning. In these scenarios, move backward slowly and calmly, and get your bear spray ready, just in case.

Once a bear spots you, it's integral that you DO NOT run. Unless you're just a couple of feet from safety, running is going to simply rile up the creature. And once that happens, you're done. After all, a bear attack will come in at 30 miles per hour (44 feet per second), and the fastest a human being has ever been clocked is at 27.5 miles per hour. Oh, and your idea about climbing a tree? Unless you can get at least 60 feet off the ground before the bear reaches you, they can and will pull you out of a tree.

So, what should you do if a bear is charging you and you don't have bear spray? Hope that it's a bluff and stand your ground. You should also wave your arms over your head and speak sternly but calmly to it.

When it comes down to it, the type of bear will have a major impact on how you should react to an actual attack. If it's a black bear, you should fight for all you're worth. Use any weapon at hand, including rocks, sticks, your legs, and your fists. Be sure to aim at the bear's muzzle and face.

In the instance of a brown bear attack, do the exact opposite. Lie as still as possible and try to avoid making any noises. Be sure to lie on your stomach and keep your hands clasped behind your head. Hopefully, you'll be wearing a backpack, too, as this will protect your spine and vital organs. Next, open your legs to make it harder for the bear to roll you over. Once the bear leaves, wait at least 10 more minutes before you attempt to move.

Keep in mind that the bear's coat won't always tell you what type of bear you're facing. Instead, you need to look for the characteristics of a brown or black bear.

A brown bear has small, rounded ears, a shoulder hump, long claws, a dish-shaped or concave facial profile, and blond hair tips.

A black bear's fur may be black, cinnamon, dark brown, or yellow-brown. The small-eyed black bear has a long brown snout, a short tail, rounded ears, and ranges from four to seven feet long. Another clue is that a black bear may be seen in most areas, while a brown bear is typically only in Alaska and Canada.

SURVIVING A WOLF ATTACK



The best way to avoid a wolf attack is to steer clear of any places where wolves have previously been spotted. If a wolf spots you anyway, maintain eye contact, don't turn your back to it, and back away slowly. The absolute worst thing you can do is run, so be sure you don't give in to your panic.

Make sure to keep the pack in front of you. Don't let any of the members come up from behind. When a wolf or wolf pack approaches, be loud and aggressive. Yell, clap, and generally make a lot of noise. The idea is to scare them off because you probably won't fare well if the wolves actually attack.

If, despite doing these things, the wolf full-on attacks you, it's imperative to fight back. Put a tree at your back and use rocks, sticks, bear spray, or any other weapon to try to fend off the attack. DO NOT curl into a fetal position or attempt to hide in plain sight.

Once you manage to drive the creature off, you'll need to climb a tree or a boulder. Or, even better, get to a nearby building or into your car. Don't let your guard down as a hungry wolf may try to attack you again.

Ideally, you'll be with a group of people if a wolf pack tries to attack. Put everyone who is young and/or injured in the center of your group. Make sure everyone on the front line has a large stick. Do not split your group up. You must take a stand and be willing to fight it out.

When you're camping, light a big fire. The smoke and fire will scare the wolves away. You could also try creating a defensive shelter and being loud, including singing campfire songs. The worst thing you can do is imitate a wolf's howl. This may send them running to you, so don't try it.

If you've ever seen the horror film *Frozen* or the Showtime series *Yellowjackets*, then you already have a pretty good idea of how deadly and brutal a wolf attack can be. These canines are NOT like your family's dog, and you should never treat them as such.

SURVIVING A MOUNTAIN LION ATTACK



A mountain lion attack may be rare, but they have the ability to kill you if they so choose. The first tips we can provide are that you should always hike in a group and keep your dog on a leash. Don't wear earbuds while you're on the trail. You can also keep an eye out for scat, cat tracks, and carcasses, along with looking for any nearby sheep or deer (their favorite food).

When a mountain lion is nearby, be sure to do the following:

- **Remain Calm** - Stand upright, facing the lion. Back away slowly, but be sure to hold your ground.
- **Don't Approach the Creature** - It's important to give the mountain lion room to escape. In most cases, that's exactly what it will do.
- **Don't Run** - Running would be a huge mistake. Instead, stand and face the mountain lion. Keep everyone in your group from running, too, especially children.
- **Don't Bend Over or Crouch** - As long as you're standing, a mountain lion isn't likely to see you as prey. Bend over or crouch down, however, and it's game on for the mountain lion.

You've tried all of the above, but the mountain lion is acting aggressively and/or moving in your direction. The next thing you can do is make yourself appear as intimidating as possible. It's time to appear larger than you are, so stand up tall and open up your jacket. Slowly wave your arms and speak in a very loud voice. Clap your hands, yell, and bang your hiking sticks together.

Unfortunately, even with everything you've done, the mountain lion may still move in your direction. Now, it's time to get even more firm. Throw things at the mountain lion, but be sure you don't crouch or bend over to grab rocks. You can also use bear spray on the creature. If all else fails, fight back. Aim for its head with your fists, a rock, a stick, or a knife. At the same time, try to protect your throat and neck.

SURVIVING A RATTLESNAKE ATTACK



We usually think of big animals when looking into how to survive an attack. However, rattlesnakes are the #2 top killer in the U.S. every year. Most of the tips for avoiding a rattlesnake bite will keep you clear of them altogether, which is exactly what you want to do.

First off, whenever you're walking in the woods, be sure to wear thick socks that cover your ankles, along with boots. Don't veer off the trail, as that's a great way to scare a rattler. You also should never put your feet or hands near any crevice that you can't see into.

You should never step over a large rock or fallen tree. Instead, step onto the debris. This should give you enough room to clear the rattlesnake's hiding place, which will be at the edge of the rock or tree. Additionally, whenever it's time to collect firewood or rocks, roll it toward yourself before picking it up. This also applies in the water as rattlesnakes swim quite well.

Before you sit down on a stump, log, or large rock, always check it out very closely. You should also shake out your sleeping bag before attempting to use it. Finally, don't provoke a snake. According to the Arizona Poison and Drug Information Center, approximately 70 percent of all snake bites occur after the animal was provoked by a human.

Don't rely on the sound of a rattlesnake to tell you that one is near. Some rattlers have broken off, which means a deadly snake could be right next to you and you'd probably never know it. There are also other types of snakes that imitate the sound of a rattler.

If you do hear the sound of a rattlesnake, though, back away from the area slowly and don't make any sudden moves. Even if the snake appears to be dead, never risk it. After all, freshly killed snakes are still able to bite and inject venom.

Once you've been bitten, you'll start to experience symptoms almost immediately. It's possible to experience blurred vision, difficulty breathing, nausea and vomiting, eyelid drooping, weakness, numbness, extreme thirst, and paralysis.

If you've been bitten, it's vital that you DO NOT:

- Make incisions over the wound to "let the poison out"
- Apply a tourniquet to keep the venom from spreading
- Apply cold items or ice to the bite
- Suck the poison out
- Drink or eat anything, including alcohol or caffeine

Instead, what you should do is:

- Keep the bite below your heart
- Stop moving the bitten area (consider using a makeshift splint)
- Remove any watches, jewelry, etc. before you swell up
- Wash the bite with soap and water
- Get to an emergency room immediately

FINAL THOUGHTS

This list contains six of the top eight deadliest animals in America (brown bear, black bear, polar bear, wolf, mountain lion, and rattlesnake). The two other animals are sharks and alligators, so let's take a quick look at them, too.

If an alligator tries to come after you, the best thing you can do is run! They can only move at up to 11 miles per hour, and they can't keep it up for long. However, if it catches you, fight back by smacking the gator's snout and trying to gouge out its eyes.

When a shark goes into attack mode, you'll need to maintain eye contact and don't panic. You'll want to appear as big and threatening as you can (or if the shark is simply wandering by, roll into a ball). Remember not to play dead and try to keep the shark in front of you. You can also back away slowly, avoiding splashing and thrashing. If worst comes to worst, fight back! Hit the gills and eyes repeatedly and as hard as you can.

Now that you know how to avoid the most dangerous creatures in America, you should have a much safer wilderness adventure. Remain alert, and put these tips into usage whenever necessary.



We've rounded up a list of "GOOD DOGS" that will help you survive in times of plenty and times of scarcity.

It's no secret that man has always been fascinated with canines. The history of man and dog is as old as the hills, and it's hard to imagine life without them.

And now, in these uncertain times where we're all wondering if we'll be able to survive anything from an economic collapse to an alien invasion— what better pet to have than one that will help you hunt your food or protect your home?

That's why this month we're focusing on the top 20 dogs for preppers and survivalists.

WHERE DID DOGS COME FROM ORIGINALLY?

The first domesticated canines originated around 27,000-40,000 years ago in the Middle East, China and Eastern Europe. And although you may wonder about all the strange shapes, sizes and behaviors of modern dogs, all of them are direct descendants of the gray wolf.

As humans began to migrate, they took their dogs with them, and the breed became diversified, according to geographic location and breeding practices.

Believe it or not, most dog breeds were originally bred for hunting, a skill that is going to be very important in uncertain times when you really need a good meal on your table. And today, they have evolved to become man's hunting companion and protector.

WHY ARE THEY CONSIDERED TO BE MAN'S BEST FRIEND?

Dogs are loyal to a fault almost, and many people consider them a big part of the family. There have been stories of dogs that have saved their owners from a fire or protected them during an attack. They were even used to carry messages in battle!

There's actually scientific evidence that supports them being "man's best friend" too. Studies show

that when humans look into each other's eyes, they bond and release a chemical called oxytocin. When people and dogs look into each other's eyes, they also release oxytocin.

TRAITS OF THE BEST DOG BREEDS FOR SHTF SCENARIOS

Dogs that are good to have during a survival situation need to be able to do many things—from hunting and fighting off predators, guarding your property or camp, providing companionship and calming you down when the going gets tough. They also don't need too much grooming or care.

The best dog will be one that is easy to train, has strong protective instincts and can easily adapt to any location or climate since they are used to living outdoors without shelter.

They also need a lot of exercise, so make sure your pooch isn't hyperactive if there's no place to run around.

In addition, the best dogs for this type of scenario are ones that have been bred to work on farms, hunt and go into dangerous situations.

YOU MAY NEED MORE THAN ONE DOG

With all that in mind, there isn't one breed that is the best for every situation; it's important to know what you have access to before the SHTF.

Of course, there are many breeds of dogs to choose from that can be used as hunting companions and protection for your family. The best dog breed will depend on how you want them to protect or hunt, as well as their ability to learn new skills.

As you probably know, this doesn't have to be just one dog. Of course, the more dogs you have, the more they will use up resources. So if one dog has multiple survival traits, they will be extremely valuable, indeed.

So without further ado- here are the top 20 breeds for survivalists.

20 HUNTING DOGS FOR SURVIVALISTS

1. Bullmastiffs- These good boys and girls can be used as guard dogs to keep you and your family safe at night. They are known for having a gentle nature, which makes them great with children too. Their muscular build and big bones make them very strong and able to physically protect you if the need arises.

2. Rottweilers- Train them well, and they will be your best friend for life. Rotties are known for being very loyal to their owners, which is why they were originally used as herding dogs in Germany. This breed has a natural instinct of protecting its territory from trespassers, making it an ideal dog for keeping strangers away while you're trying to make your family feel safe in uncertain times.

3. German Shepherds- Their intelligence makes them very easy to train, and they're known for being the number one breed of service dog around the world. They are also great herding dogs, making them a perfect choice if you have any livestock that needs constant tending. Their loyalty and "never say die" attitude makes them great for hunting and protecting. However, East German Shepherds are better for work and West-German Sieger dogs are better as a family dog.

4. Beagles- Their small size is deceiving since they can be used as hunting dogs and will move swiftly through brush with ease to find the prey you're looking for. They have a fantastic sense of smell, making them very good at finding your dinner before it gets away! Don't let their small stature fool you either- they will protect your home and family if necessary.

5. Scent Hounds (Bloodhounds, Beagles, Foxhounds)- Originally developed in France during the Middle Ages to hunt large game such as deer and boar. But really, this breed's usefulness comes down to one thing—their keen sense of smell. These expert sniffers make perfect hunters of quarries and lost humans. They have a strong build, which makes them great for protection, too.

6. Curly-Coated Retrievers- This breed was originally developed in the United Kingdom to

retrieve shot waterfowl and upland game from marshes and wetlands while their owners were on horseback. That means they are very fast runners that can get to your prey before it gets away. They are also very intelligent and easy to train which makes them great for hunting too, especially when you're trying to teach a puppy new skills.

7. Border Collies- If their intelligence was on the same level as humans, they would be one of our greatest scientists or philosophers since they can learn up to 200 words with a strong work ethic that makes them very easy to train. Their herding instincts make them great for protecting livestock, and they also have a keen sense of hearing—which helps you locate prey if hunting is your thing too.

8. Labrador Retrievers- This breed is the most popular one in America today, and many people have adopted them as family pets because of their intelligence, gentleness and loyalty. They are great with kids and will protect your home from harm if needed- all while being a fantastic swimmer! Their love of water makes them an excellent hunting companion too, making this breed one of the most versatile dogs you can find to keep your family safe in uncertain times.

9. Huskies- These fellas' and ladies' fast running abilities and endurance has made them great hunting and sled dogs in places like Alaska and the Arctic. They have a thick, water-resistant coat which keeps them warm in harsh climates where they originally came from, so you can trust that they will protect your body heat if needed to. However, huskies can be difficult to train due to their independent spirit and strong prey drive. As such, they will challenge first time owners. Also, be wary of the known husky temperament to run away when bored or given the opportunity. Work with a specialized trainer when it comes to training huskies, and you will have a good survival dog for navigating cold terrain.

10. Australian Cattle Dogs- Originally developed to herd cattle by running them down, this breed makes it on our list of dogs for survivalists since they are very intelligent and easy to train, making them an easy breed to teach basic commands. They have a strong build with tough skin which will

help protect their body from predators while out in the field. While they aren't a "herding dog" per se, their herding instincts still make them great for protecting your livestock from predators- whether it be canine or human!

11. Pointer Dogs- These dogs have been used as hunting companions since the 16th century and are known to have an incredible sense of smell—which helps you find your prey as well as a strong build that makes them great for protecting you from other predators. They also have been known to bond with the children in their family, making this breed another good choice if you're looking for a dog that can be used both inside and outside of your home.

12. Pit Bull Terriers- This breed is often misunderstood due to their infamous reputation for being aggressive and violent, which stems from the history of dogfighting in England where they were bred. However, if you can get past that, it's not hard to recognize how loyal and intelligent this breed really is. Their loyalty also makes them great for protecting your family, while their intelligence makes training easy so they can be used for hunting and herding too.

13. Doberman Pinschers- These dogs were originally developed in Germany to herd and protect livestock, however, they quickly became popular companions among the wealthy during Victorian times because of their loyalty and intelligence. They still make great hunters today with strong senses of smell, as well as a tough build that can stand up to any predators they encounter.

14. Newfoundlands- These pups are incredible swimmers which make them great companions for water-based hunting. But they are also very intelligent and easy to train, so you can use them as either a herding dog or just a regular old companion. Their large build means that they have an innate sense of protection with their size alone being enough to scare off predators from your property.

15. Shiba Inus- These dogs are known to be one of the most intelligent and easy to train breeds in Japan where they originated, making them a great

choice for hunting or herding with their ability to follow commands. They have an alert bark which makes them good watchdogs even though they aren't typically aggressive towards humans.

16. Great Danes- Known to be the tallest breed in existence, Great Danes make great protectors of your family since they can intimidate people or other animals just by their size alone. They also have a thick coat that keeps them warm even during harsh winters making this breed another good choice for hunting and herding if you live in areas with colder weather.

17. Komondors- This breed doesn't make it on our list for their intelligence or easy training, but they do have a very useful coat that will protect them from harsh climates in the field and keep them warm. Plus, they are known to be extremely loyal which makes them great watch dogs as well as companions when you're out in the wilderness.

18. Malinois- These dogs originated as herding and cattle protection animals but they are also used for police work today because of their high level of intelligence which makes them easy to train. They have an inner instinct that will keep them alert towards any potential danger making this breed good for both home security as well as hunting.

19. Tibetan Mastiffs- This regal breed has an incredibly thick coat which makes them very cold tolerant. They were originally bred to be companions for monks in Tibet, but have since become popular pets around the world because of their loyalty and gentle nature. Despite being large dogs they are known to be quiet so your family won't always know they're around.

20. Corgis- Known for being companions to Queen Elizabeth of England, this breed is perfect for herding livestock because of their high intelligence and easy-to-train nature. Plus, they are very loyal companions that will follow your family around everywhere you go- which makes them great for hunting because they have a strong sense of smell just like most herding dogs do.

WHAT ABOUT MUTTS?

You might be thinking about adopting a mutt as

a survival pet (after all, Old Yeller was a mutt and a very good boy). These hybrid dogs make great companions and some have fewer health problems than a purebred pooch. However, bear in mind that their temperament can be unpredictable. You don't know if they are going to have the same level of intelligence or instincts as a purebred dog, so make sure you test them out before officially adopting one since it would be unfortunate for your family's safety if the mutt didn't turn out to be an asset when needed most.

SOME BREEDS THAT MAY NOT BE GOOD FOR SHTF SITUATIONS

Although they are cute, Bulldogs, Poodles, or Shih Tzus aren't going to be much help most of the time when the going gets rough.

- **Bulldogs-** this breed does not do well in hot climates and can easily overheat if left outside for too long since they don't sweat like other breeds.
- **Poodles-** while known to be very intelligent dogs that are easy to train, their coats require a lot of maintenance which can be a problem in the long-term when you're trying to keep your dog alive.
- **Shih Tzus-** these dogs are very small and don't have much strength or protection from predators, making them not good for hunting or protecting yourself from harm since they aren't intimidating at all. They also require a lot of grooming which can be a problem if you don't have access to the proper tools and supplies.
- **Cane Corsos-** This breed is descended from Roman war dogs. They make the list of "maybe nots" because they can get up to 110 pounds, have a bite pressure of 700 PSI and are definitely not suitable for a household with small children due to their large stature. In addition, they make the news a lot for fatal attacks. To be fair, the dogs involved are usually abused or are Cane Corso mixes.

Did you notice we said these dogs may not be good for SHTF situations? Bulldogs were bred for herding hogs and cattle, and the need might roll around for them to do it again. Some small dogs like poodles and rat terriers were bred to go underground and kill prey such as rats in their dens. This makes them, and

cats for that matter, suitable for controlling vermin on homesteads.

Shih Tzus, unfortunately, will probably not cut it as a good survivalist dog. They were bred to be indoor dogs, and their tendency to overheat, sturdy short legs and breathing concerns mean they are not suited to be sporting dogs. As such, they are better suited to your lap than they are to the field.

Lastly, Cane Corsos have a really good temperament and are very trainable. Marauders will think twice before raiding your homestead if you have one or more of them guarding it.

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DOG FOR WHEN YOU NEED THEM MOST

First, you need to know that dogs are pack animals and like structure- they don't do well if there aren't guidelines for their behavior or consequences for not following the rules. So make sure your dog knows what is expected of him before anything goes wrong in a survival situation where he might act out due to fear or anxiety.

Training will also require patience and time. This might not be something you're used to having in abundance during times of strife.

Also bear in mind that in times of apocalypse, there probably won't be any trainers nearby that you are used to seeing. There definitely won't be any YouTube videos to see how to train your new dog.

There may be a compound that has everything you need to survive and train your dog, and may even have a veterinarian that is able to work on both humans and canines.

START TRAINING NOW AND EARLY IN YOUR DOG'S LIFE

As with all things regarding prepping and survivalism, it's best to be prepared. That being said, it's best to learn how to train your dog well before when you'd actually need it.

This means that you will be training them yourself with the basics: Come, sit, stay and heel. It may take

make sure that there is always a leash on them and be persistent with your training.

There are many in-person and online training options for creating your perfect survivalist canine.

It's also a good idea to go to specialized training clubs and breeders for help in teaching dogs non-standard commands to perform prey retrieval. These people are also good to talk to for the type of dog you need for the work they will be doing.

Just remember with all breeds it's best to start training your pup young. Start training now and early, so you can instill good habits and behavior into them and any future dogs you'll own.

THE TAKEAWAYS

If you take away anything from this article, it's that dogs are a must-have during a SHTF situation. Your survival stock will go way up with their assistance, as they can be trained for protection, hunting and even as livestock guardians if they're big enough to do it—not to mention the moral support they give.

If it's bad enough for dogs to go feral or wild while scavenging for food, you may need to pick out one that has strong hunting instincts.

Although small dogs might not cut it at the end of days because of their fragility, some breeds were bred specifically for going underground or into holes that rats may be hiding in.

If the dog you have is too weak for an attack or if they are scared of their surroundings, then it might be best for them to become a house pet since there will probably be more shelter than outside when SHTF. A house dog can be a source of solace for scared family members.

Training your dog to be obedient and well trained before it's necessary is important, as the world might not have trainers or YouTube videos available during a crisis!



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