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INTRODUCTION

There are many positive aspects of concealed-carrying a pistol. Chief among them is a lowered profile/visibility to the outside world and the **tactical advantage** of being discreetly armed.

Carrying a firearm concealed, though, brings major responsibilities and additional requirements for training and equipment. Many factors must be considered.

- **CONCEALMENT METHOD** Concealment makes the gun socially acceptable, because people can't see it. But concealment works in opposition to speed and access to the pistol. There are a variety of ways to carry a concealed firearm, and in this e-book I explain and demonstrate the concealment draw from an inside-the-waistband (IWB) holster with a loosely fitting cover garment.
- **EQUIPMENT** Endless options are available when it comes to carrying a concealed pistol. My preferred carry set-up is a full-size 1911 in a leather IWB holster. This combination has proven the best balance of function and comfort for my lifestyle.
- **PERFORMANCE** Consistency and reliability are the most important factors of the concealed draw. Factors such as holster type, holster placement and covering garments will affect the speed and ease of the concealed draw. Proper training and practice will allow you to develop a safe and efficient presentation of the firearm.
- **SECURITY** Firearm retention/security works against speed, in one form or another, but is mandatory for a handgun carried in a defensive role. Security, however, is a product of concealment, mindset and situational awareness not just equipment.

So what about the concealed draw stroke? Presenting a pistol from concealment uses the same basic steps as drawing a gun that is carried in the open. The only additional requirement is that the covering garment needs to be moved in order to gain access to the holstered pistol.

Follow my step-by-step guide for a safe and effective method of drawing from concealment. With repeated dry-fire practice, followed by live-fire training at the range, you should be able to develop the consistent and reliable draw that is vitally important when carrying a concealed pistol.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jason Burton is the owner-operator of Heirloom Precision, a builder of high-quality, handcrafted firearms. During his tenure as a custom 1911 builder, Jason has had the opportunity to work with and build pistols for private citizens, as well as law-enforcement/military personnel.

His knowledge of 1911 pistols has made him a very sought-after master craftsman.

Jason has always had a passion for fine weapons and their everyday applications by civilians and law-enforcement personnel. This passion extends to his lifelong pursuit of firearm training and seeking out the best possible tactics for firearms-related scenarios. As a result, Jason has had the opportunity to train with and refine these skills with some of the most respected individuals and schools in the nation, including Thunder Ranch[®], International Training Consultants, Vickers Tactical, Rob Leatham, Trident Concepts, EAG Tactical and others.

Jason has built a network of training partners who are like-minded in their ideas on how to prepare for and survive armed confrontations.

Because of his dedication to his field and his passion for teaching, Jason was invited to be an adjunct instructor for Thunder Ranch[®] and has taught at both the Oregon and Texas facilities. And in 2010, Jason became involved with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office in Arizona, where he has focused on teaching handgun techniques to the office's personnel, as well as consulting on assorted firearms-related subjects.



UNIVERSAL FIREARM SAFETY RULES

PMODY

- ➤ Treat every firearm as if loaded.
- Keep the gun pointed in a safe direction. Never point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to destroy.
- Keep your finger off of the trigger and out of the trigger guard until pointed at the target and ready to shoot.
- Be certain of your line of fire, the target and what's behind and beyond your target.
- ▶ Keep the gun unloaded and locked until ready to use.
- Store your firearms safely and out of reach from children and unauthorized users.
- Get quality instruction from a professional firearms instructor before beginning to shoot.

*These are just the **basic** rules of firearm safety. There are many additional rules regarding personal actions, the specific firearm, ammunition, holsters, targets, safe storage, transportation, etc. Please reference Springfield Armory®'s Safety web page, the NRA or the NSSF for more-detailed firearm safety rules.

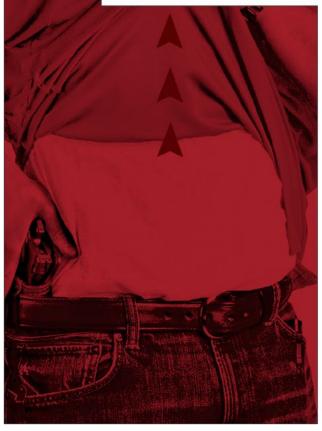


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READ AND FOLLOW THE MANUAL FOR YOUR FIREARM.



CHAPTER 1 > Concealed Carry Draw





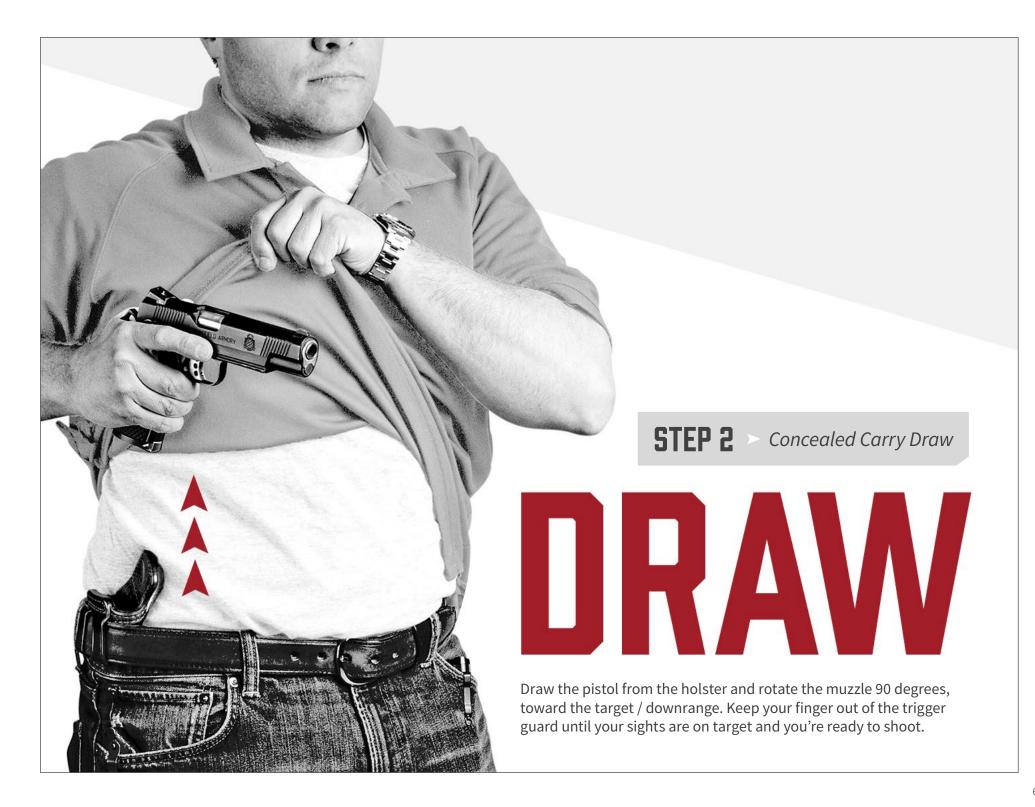


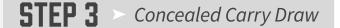


GRAB &

Moving your hands simultaneously, use your support-side hand to grab the bottom of the shirt lifting it as high as possible to clear the covering garment and expose the holstered pistol.

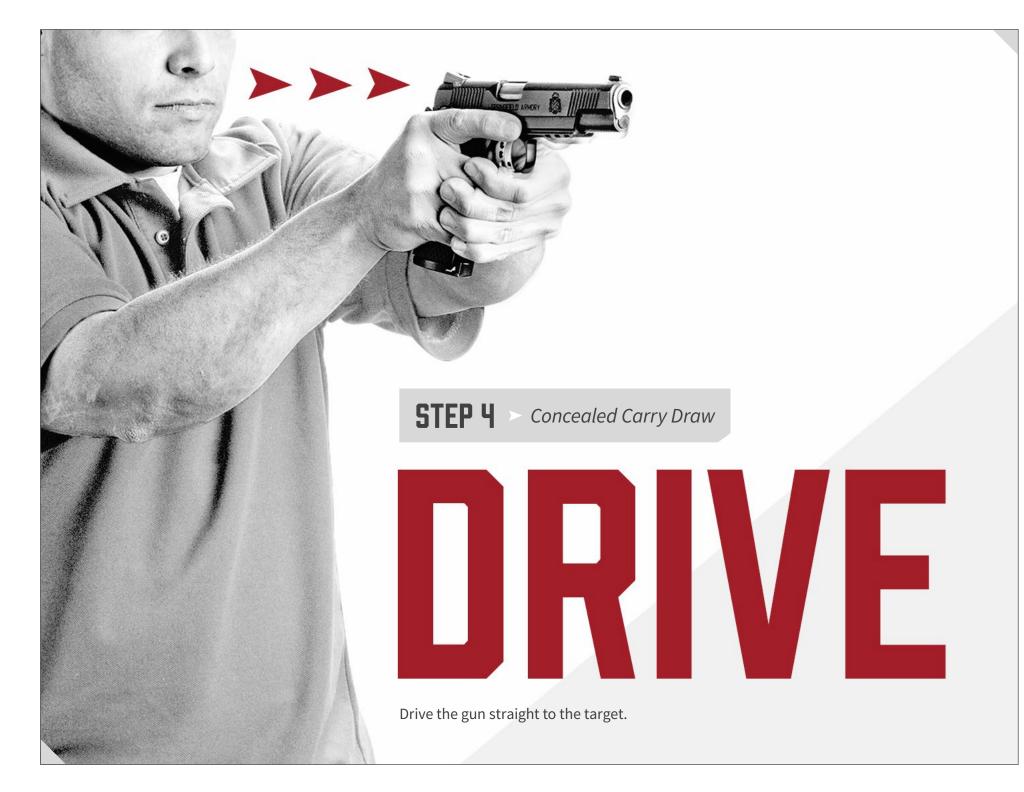
While keeping your support-side hand near your centerline to keep the covering garment clear, acquire a firing grip on the pistol with the strong hand.





HANDS TOGETHER

With the muzzle still pointed downrange, bring your hands together in the centerline of your body. As your support-side hand indexes the pistol, finalize your two-handed shooting grip.







CHAPTER 2 > Concealed Carry Re-Holster

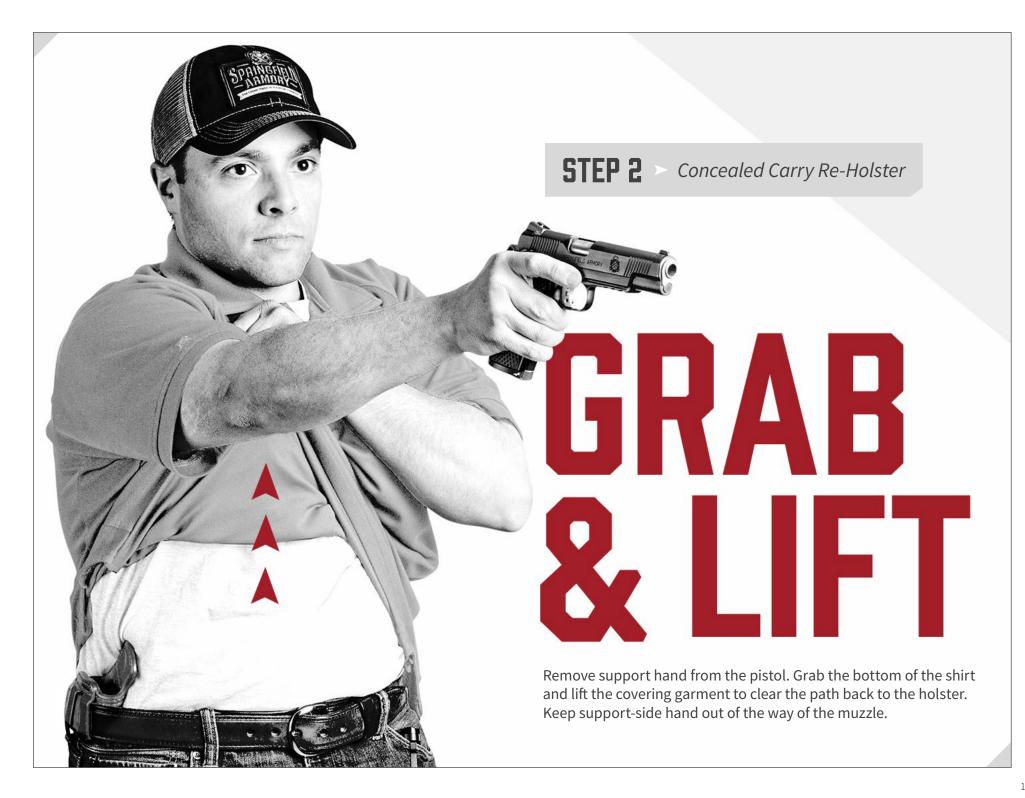




STEP 1 > Concealed Carry Re-Holster

FINGER STRAIGHT, SAFETY ON

With the muzzle pointed downrange and the gun extended away from your body, straighten your finger (remove trigger finger from trigger guard) and engage the safety or de-cock the pistol as applicable.



STEP 3 > Concealed Carry Re-Holster

TRACK BACK

Keeping the muzzle pointed downrange, track the pistol straight back to your centerline.





CHAPTER 3 > Concealed Carry One-Handed Draw

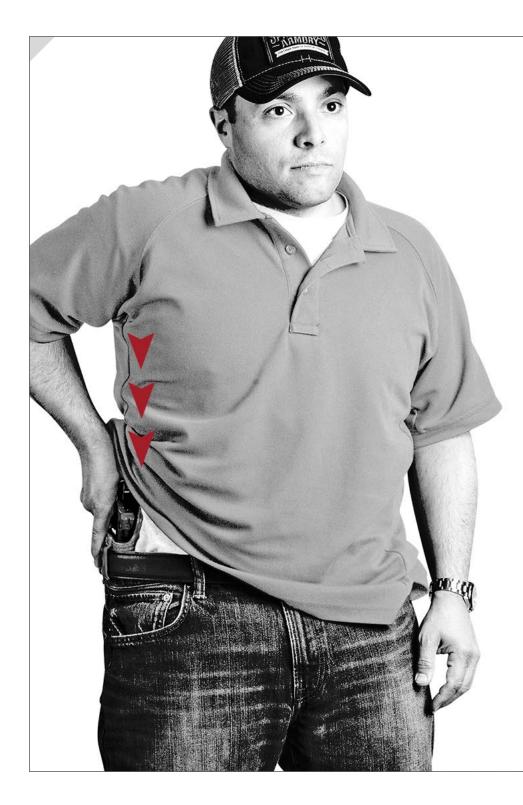




STEP 1 > Concealed Carry One-Handed Draw

HOOK, LIFT & SWEEP

Using your strong-side hand, hook the bottom of your shirt at the front with your thumb and lift the covering garment out of the way. Simultaneously sweep your hand around your torso (toward the holster) to clear the gun.



STEP 2 > Concealed Carry One-Handed Draw

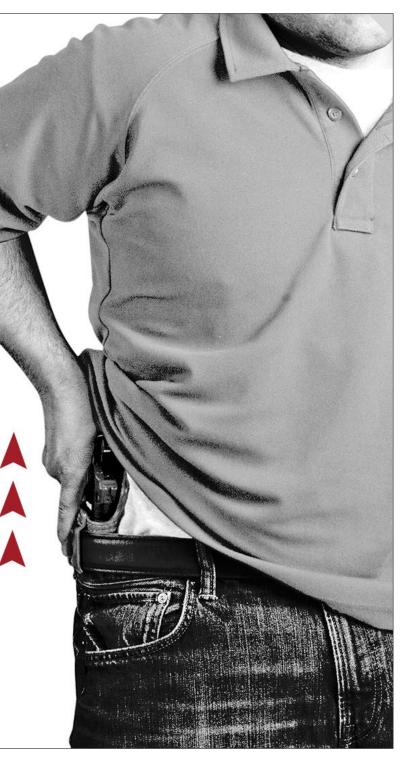
GRIP

Acquire a firing grip on the pistol with the strong hand. Keep the support-side hand away from the muzzle.

STEP 3 > Concealed Carry One-Handed Draw

DRAW

Draw the pistol from the holster and rotate the muzzle 90 degrees, toward the target / downrange. Keep your finger out of the trigger guard until your sights are on target and you're ready to shoot.







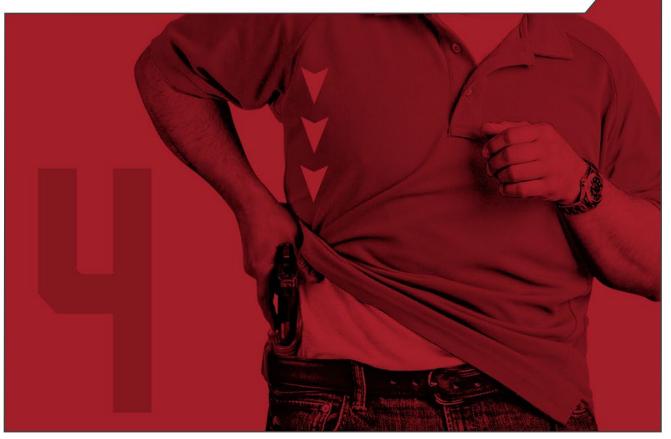




CHAPTER 4 >

Concealed Carry One-Handed Re-Holster





STEP 1

Concealed Carry One-Handed Re-Holster

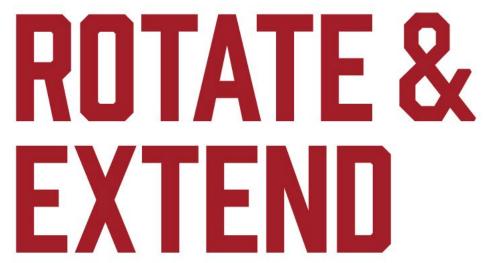
FINGER STRAIGHT, SAFETY ON

With the muzzle pointed downrange and the gun extended away from your body, straighten your finger (remove trigger finger from trigger guard) and engage the safety or de-cock the pistol as applicable.

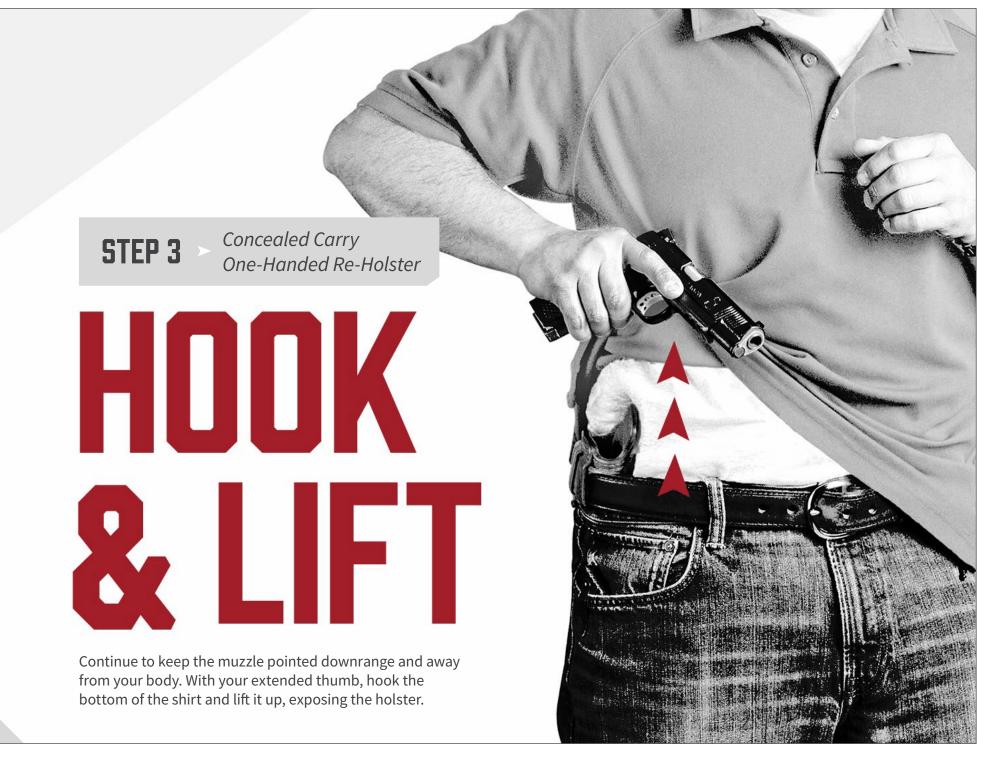


STEP 2

Concealed Carry One-Handed Re-Holster



Rotate the butt of the pistol outward and away from your body. Extend the thumb of the shooting hand.





CONCEALED CARRY PISTOL



XD[®] MOD.2[®] 3" SUB-COMPACT



The XD[®] Mod.2[™] is the refinement of a classic, a distillation of greatness. Those things that made the XD[®] what it is remain and are amplified, revised or improved in order to bring you the next step in the evolution of the polymer framed pistol.

When picking up the Mod.2[™], shooters will find that critical aspects of the design have been fine-tuned. Mod.2[™] ergonomics are a next-level experience that you have to feel to believe and understand. The entire interface between the shooter and the gun has been updated, while retaining the Point-and-Shoot characteristics that made it famous. Key features have been tweaked and enhanced to further enable effortless shooting. And you'll find that the overall package is now more concealable as well.

If you are looking for the best solution to shooting comfort, concealability and increased magazine capacity, you'll want to pick up the new XD[®] Mod.2[™] Sub-Compact.

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/xd-mod-2-series/

XD° 3" SUB-Compact



The XD[®] 3" Sub-Compact from Springfield Armory[®] is designed to bring you the most in a concealed carry pistol. Its superior ergonomics, reliable performance, and astonishing capacity combine to put more into a concealable pistol than you will find anywhere else.

The XD[®] 3" Sub-Compact has all the same features found in the standard XD[®] line, but in a smaller package. The barrel is 3" and the frame is a short, compact size that will let the pistol nearly disappear when you carry it. Like other XD[®] pistols, the XD[®] 3" Sub-Compact gives you great versatility when it's used with X-Tension[™] magazines. Enjoy 13+1 rounds of 9mm, (9+1 of .40SW) with standard flush-fitting magazines. Or throw in an X-Tension[™] magazine and enjoy the feel of a full size frame and 16+1 rounds of 9mm (12+1 of .40SW.) You'll find everything on the XD[®] 3" Sub-Compact that make Springfield's XD[®]'s easy to use and safe to handle. The striker status indicator, loaded chamber indicator, grip safety, Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) Action Trigger System[™] and internal firing pin block bring the safety and usability to the XD[®] 3" Sub-Compact that you're used to with every other XD[®].

If you're looking for a concealable pistol, but don't want to sacrifice capacity, reach for an XD[®] 3" Sub-Compact. It's an excellent choice for concealed carry, and it is equally in its element at the range.

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/xd-sub-compact-9mm/

XD[®] 4" Compact



XD(M)° 3.8" COMPACT



If you're looking for a pistol to carry and you want something that delivers uncompromising firepower and unusual capacity, look no farther than the XD[®] 4" Compact. The XD[®] 4" Compact has the same superior ergonomics, reliable performance, and features that make the XD[®] easy and intuitive to use in a slightly abbreviated big-bore (.45 ACP) package.

The XD[®] 4" Compact has a four inch barrel mated with a shortened compact frame. When combined with the versatility of X-Tension[™] magazines, the XD[®] 4" Compact is ready for daily carry or a day on the range. Put in an X-Tension[™] magazine, and you have a 13 round full-sized .45 ACP pistol. Use the flush-fitting 10 round magazine, and you have a Compact. Of course, the XD[®] 4" Compact has all the features that make Springfield's XD[®]'s easy to use and safe to handle. The striker status indicator, loaded chamber indicator, grip safety, Ultra Safety Assurance (USA) Action Trigger System[™] and internal firing pin block bring the safety and usability to the XD[®] 4" Compact that you're used to with every other XD[®].

If you want a gun for your inside-the-waistband holster and a gun for your range bag, but you only want to buy one gun, try the XD[®] 4" Compact. You'll be amazed at how controllable it is to shoot and how easy it is to conceal. It's two guns in one.

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/xd-compact-service-model-45-acp/

If you're looking for a versatile carry pistol that is packed with features, has amazing capacity, and performs flawlessly, look no farther than the XD(M)[®] 3.8" Compact. The XD(M)[®] 3.8" Compact is the smallest of the XD(M)[®] line, but it's by no means the least. It boasts the same superior ergonomics, reliable performance, and features that make larger XD(M)[®]'s easy and intuitive to use in a slightly abbreviated package. And you'll be amazed at how fun it is to shoot.

The XD(M)[®] 3.8" Compact has a 3.8 inch barrel mated with a shortened compact frame. When combined with the versatility of XD(M) Gear[®] X-Tension[™] (USPAT7191556) magazines, the XD(M)[®] 3.8" Compact is ready for daily carry or a day on the range. Put in an X-Tension[™] (USPAT7191556) magazine, and you have a 19 round full-sized 9mm pistol (16 rounds in .40SW, 13 rounds in .45ACP). Use the flush-fitting 13 round magazine, and you have a Compact (11 rounds in .40SW, 9 rounds in .45ACP). Like all XD(M)[®]'s, the XD(M)[®] 3.8" Compact comes with three interchangeable backstraps, dovetail sights, mega-lock frame texturing, an ambidextrous magazine release, a multi-position frame rail, and a match grade barrel. You'll also find all the safety features that make the XD(M)[®] a safe pistol in responsible hands.

If you want a gun for daily carry as well as a trip to the range, but you only want to buy one gun, try the XD(M)[®] 3.8" Compact. You'll be amazed at how controllable it is to shoot and how easy it is to conceal. It's two guns in one.

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/xdm-compact-40-cal/

XD-S° 3.3" SINGLE STACK



Can a pistol small enough to carry every day have all the features, performance and power you would find in a full size handgun? Can the ergonomics be so superior that range time is a pleasure rather than a chore? Could you actually look forward to shooting your carry pistol?

The XD-S[®] Single Stack from Springfield Armory[®] has forever changed what you can expect out of your daily carry pistol. Now all the features and power you're used to in the XD[®] and XD(M)[®] lines can be had in the shockingly slim XD-S[®] Single Stack – a pistol that packs so easily you'll forget it's there.

The XD-S[®] is the first and only single-stack XD[®] from Springfield Armory[®]. In addition to the inherently slim nature of the design, the frame is a short sub-compact style, and the barrel is just 3.3 or 4.0 inches. The XD-S[®] Single Stack seems to disappear when you carry it, and pretty soon you'll forget it's even there.

The XD-S[®] Single Stack consistently astonishes and delights shooters on the range. Its comfortable ergonomics – complete with two interchangeable backstraps – allow it to work without punishing your hands. The fiber optic front sight and white dot rear sight align quickly and provide a clear sight picture for accurate shooting. The trigger on the XD-S[®] Single Stack feels more like it belongs on a target pistol than a carry piece. Shooters who are used to difficult, heavy triggers on deep concealment pistols will be astounded at the smooth, crisp XD-S[®] Single Stack trigger.

Choosing a handgun for concealed carry doesn't have to be a series of compromises anymore. You don't have to settle for a larger gun to gain shooting comfort. Nor do you have to sacrifice features for power. And you certainly don't have to carry a gun to the store that you'd rather not carry to the range. Put an XD-S[®] Single Stack in your hand today, and you'll want to shoot it. Put it in your holster, and you'll find that it's Noticeably Unnoticeable™.

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/xd-s-3-3-45-acp/

EMP®



Innovation can take many forms. Sometimes it's a brand new idea – like the XD[®]. Other times innovation is the fine-tuning of a classic – like the EMP[®].

How could the enduring design that is the 1911 be improved? Springfield Armory[®] answered that question in 2007 with the introduction of the Enhanced Micro Pistol[™]. The EMP[®] changes what a compact 1911 can be.

The action of the EMP® is 1/8 inch shorter than that of the original 1911. This translates into several concrete advantages for the shooter. The shorter grip radius produces a shockingly comfortable shooting experience. You have to shoot the EMP® to believe how controllable it is. The shorter dimensions also work to increase reliability – something that's crucial in a concealed carry pistol. And of course, the overall dimensions are one of the smallest 1911s out there.

The good news doesn't stop with the innovative design. The EMP[®] comes loaded with all the features you expect in a 1911 of this class – like low profile 3-Dot tritium combat sights and a match grade fully supported and ramped barrel. And with 9+1 rounds of 9mm or 8+1 rounds of .40 SW, the EMP[®] packs an amazing amount of punch in one of the smallest 1911s ever.

If you're looking for a 1911 to carry with you every day, look no further than the Springfield Armory[®] EMP[®]. Sometimes innovation changes everything.

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/1911-emp-9-mm/

RANGE OFFICER[®] COMPACT



RANGE OFFICER® CHAMPION



LOADED LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPION[®] OPERATOR[®]



If you want a competition grade 1911 that conceals better than a full-sized pistol, the Range Officer[®] Compact from Springfield Armory[®] offers finely tuned performance in a smaller package. The Range Officer[®] Compact brings the precision of a competition pistol in a small and straightforward configuration.

The Range Officer® Compact has the same quality forged national match frame and slide as the Trophy Match[™] and TRP[™] 1911s. It gets the same precision fit as these pistols, too. Add in the same match grade steel barrel, and you have a pistol that shoots well beyond its price tag. The Range Officer® Compact is topped with a fiber optic front sight and a low profile combat rear sight, so you have maximum visibility. The beavertail grip safety, extended lightweight trigger and flat mainspring housing allow the pistol to sit in your hand comfortably for long periods of time at the range. The single-sided thumb safety keeps things simple and functional. It all adds up to a pistol that will let you seriously compete in a variety of matches.

The Range Officer[®] Compact means that your favorite range pistol is now easier to carry. Are You Ready?™

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/1911-range-officer-compact-45-acp/

If you want a very high quality full featured 1911 that conceals better than a full-sized pistol without sacrificing capacity, the Range Officer[®] Champion[™] from Springfield Armory[®] offers finely tuned performance in a smaller and easier to shoot package. The RO Champion[™] brings the precision of a competition pistol in a shortened and lighter-recoiling configuration.

The RO Champion[™] is topped with a fiber optic front sight and a low-profile combat rear sight, so you have maximum visibility in any situation. The single-sided thumb safety keeps things simple and functional. The beavertail grip safety, extended lightweight trigger and flat mainspring housing, along with a lightweight aluminum frame add to the list of RO Champion[™] features. A fully supported ramped hammer forged barrel allows for no worries for premature wear that would be of concern from alloy frames. Our barrels feed ramps are bullet to barrel not bullet to alloy. The Range Officer[®] Champion[™] adds up to a versatile pistol that is great for an everyday carry or home defense pistol.

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/1911-range-officer-champion-9mm/

Springfield Armory[®] was the first 1911 manufacturer to offer a frame that included an accessory rail as part of the forging. The Champion[™] Operator[®] mates this forged Operator[®] frame with a shorter slide and a 4 inch barrel. This results in a pistol that is suitable for concealed carry or operating where a light is needed – and it doesn't sacrifice any capacity.

Pick up a Champion[™] Operator[®], and you'll find that it's a feature-loaded expression of the classic 4 inch 1911. The beavertail grip safety, flat mainspring housing, Lightweight Delta[™] hammer, extended ambidextrous thumb safeties and extended trigger give you all the ergonomic advantages you want in a carry pistol. The 3-Dot tritium combat sights mean that the Champion[™] Operator[®] is ready for any conditions. A carry gun also has to be reliable. Thanks to the lowered and flared ejection port, fully supported ramped match grade barrel and proprietary dual-captive recoil system, the Champion[™] Operator[®] is guaranteed to perform when you need it most. And the Armory Kote[™] finish will keep it performing for years to come.

You can carry the Champion[™] Operator[®] with you all day, appreciating its smaller size and standard capacity. Then slide your favorite tactical light on the rail, and put it on your nightstand. When you need a feature-packed 1911 for night and day, reach for the Champion[™] Operator[®].

For more information: http://www.springfield-armory.com/products/1911-champion-operator-lightweight-45-acp/