

AMT Skipper



Basically a chopped M1911A1, the AMT Skipper magazine still will hold seven .40 S&W rounds.

THE latest in AMT's ever-growing product line is, like many of the firm's other pistols, mainly made of stainless steel investment castings.

The M1911-inspired Skipper is chambered for the newly popular .40

extended slide stop, oversize thumb safety, full-length recoil spring guide and an extended magazine release.

Accuracy Results				
Five Consecutive 5-Shot Groups at 25 Yds. Fired From Sandbags				
.40 S&W Cartridge	Vel. @15' (f.p.s.)	Smallest (Ins.)	Largest (Ins.)	Average (Ins.)
Federal No. 40SWA 180-gr. Hydra-Shok	983 Avg. 10 Sd	1.91	3.74	2.71
Remington No. R40SW2 180-gr. JHP	942 Avg. 15 Sd	3.09	4.36	3.72
Winchester No. X40SWSTHP 155-gr. Silvertip HP	1210 Avg. 28 Sd	3.35	4.40	3.80
Sd (standard deviation)		Average Extreme Spread 3.41		

S&W as well as .45 ACP and is quite similar in size to the Colt Officer's ACP. It has such features as a wide trigger with adjustable stop, ribbed slide, white-dotted Millett adjustable sights,



The magazine well is beveled for rapid reloading.

As the Skipper's essentials are those of the M1911, explanations of operation and field stripping can be omitted with one exception. The Skipper is equipped with a full-length recoil spring guide and a necessarily different recoil spring plug.

Disassembly requires that the plug be slightly depressed as is customary, but the rod makes it a bit difficult to do this with the finger. The flat of a screwdriver blade works quite well.

The Skipper was test-fired with a variety of factory ammunition and hand-

The short grip places the little finger where it can get rapped by the magazine floorplate. Curling it underneath works.

loads. When testing began, there were several instances of feeding failures, and when these findings were reported to Irwindale Arms, we received two new magazines. When these were used, no further malfunctions were encountered in approximately 300 rounds.

Even though the pistol is relatively small, it weighs 34 ozs., and this is helpful in moderating the recoil of the .40 S&W cartridge. Although perception of recoil is highly subjective, it is a valid concern for small defensive pistols. We found the recoil, while substantial, unobjectionable.

The new 155-gr. .40 S&W loads from Winchester and Hornady produced more than 1200 f.p.s.

from the Skipper's 4¼" barrel and considerably more recoil than the Federal or Remington loads.

While the recoil wasn't punishing, it grew noticeably with the lighter bullet weights.

The gun's small size contributes to another recoil-associated observation. Since the grip area is shorter, most shooters will find that the little finger will encounter the magazine floorplate. Shooting will provide a painful reminder to curl your little finger under the magazine.

The Skipper proved an accurate and reliable compact pistol that offers, as standard equipment, features that cost extra on many other models.

AMT SKIPPER

Manufacturer: Arcadia Machine & Tool, 6226 Santos Diaz, Irwindale, Calif. 91702
Mechanism Type: recoil-operated semi-automatic pistol
Caliber: .40 S&W (tested), .45 ACP
Overall Length: 7½"
Barrel Length: 4¼"
Weight: 34 ozs.
Magazine Capacity: 7
Trigger: single-stage, 6 lbs. pull
Sights: Patridge front, open rear adjustable for windage and elevation
Price: \$449