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TM

WIN
KAHR ULTIMATE
CCW PACKAGE

WINCE

9mm Luger



Cylinder & Slide

SUPREMACY
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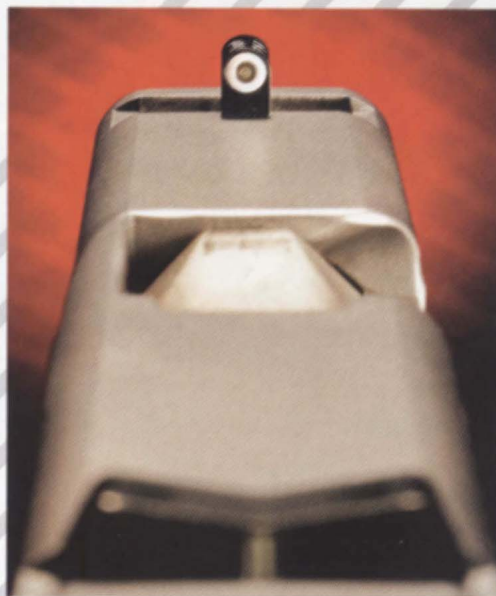
C&S CUSTOM KAHR

The debate on what makes a great backup or off-duty carry gun has gone on for years. It has to be small but not too small. It should be lightweight but still controllable. It must be easy to shoot, allowing you to make solid hits at a reasonable distance. Finally, it should be in a caliber as large as the platform can accommodate. In my early days of working the road, the choices were a small frame revolver such as a Chief's Special or a .380 Walther such as the PPK/S. Well, times have changed and there's a new king of the hill.

Kahr Firearms has been producing quality compact pistols for more than 12 years. Their first line of all stainless steel pistols set the market on fire due to their size and great shooting characteristics. In 1998, NYPD authorized the K9 9mm for officer carry. While the K9 is compact, about the size of a Walther PP, Kahr went a step further when they introduced the MK9 Micro. It's slightly longer than 5" with a height of only 4" — just the right size for ankle or pocket carry. In the minds of many, the K9 and MK9 rendered most, if not all, .380 and .32 ACP autos obsolete. The only problem with both of these pistols was they were constructed of all stainless steel. For a small pistol, they weighed a lot!

Now In Polymer

After several years of research, Kahr developed the "P" series of pistols featuring a polymer frame. The P9 is the full-size version while the PM9 is the polymer frame version of the MK9. To get the stats out of the way, the PM9 has an overall length of 5.3", a height of





Internal modifications included:

Re-crowning the muzzle to 11 degrees for improved accuracy

Polishing the barrel feed ramp and throat for improved reliability

Deburring any rough surfaces

Radiusing and tensioning the extractor for positive extraction

Internally working the trigger/sear surfaces to both smooth and lighten the trigger pull

External modifications consisted of:

Performing a complete carry bevel on all edges

Beveling the magazine well

Polishing and radiusing the trigger to improve trigger control

Texturing the sides of the polymer grip for improved gripping surface

Radius the edges and brightly polish the slide stop and slide stop shaft

Brightly polishing the slide cocking serrations

Glass beading the slide for reduced glare and improved appearance

Installing XS 24/7 tritium sights with a standard size front dot and express rear sight

4", and the slide is just .90" in width. More importantly, the PM9 weighs in at 14 ounces. It's striker fired with a long DAO-type trigger and, with the exception of the slide release and magazine release, is devoid of any protrusions. It's very close to the perfect 9mm pocket rocket. My experience with the stock Kahr pistols has been very positive over the years. I have found them reliable, comfortable and accurate.

However, the stock PM9, just like any stock production pistol, can be improved with the right touch. Enter Bill Laughridge and Cylinder & Slide. Bill is mostly known for his work on 1911s and Browning Hi Powers, however, he does undertake other projects from time to time. Several years ago, Bill took an MK9 and performed an astounding custom package. This past year, Bill decided to build a complete self-defense package based on the PM9 with the emphasis on "package." The Cylinder & Slide crew has taken the PM9 to an entirely different level as only a custom shop can do.

Self-Defense Package

Since this is a self-defense package, the majority of the work is



BlackHawk
Blades' Kalista

SureFire E1e Light



focused toward maximum reliability — but, aesthetics haven't been overlooked either. The bright polish on the slide cocking serrations, trigger and slide stop enhances the appearance of the pistol. As a final touch, the shop name and the famous mustache logo are etched on the slide. The result is a pistol that speaks to the good taste and seriousness of the owner.

On the range, the PM9 ran as good as it looked. I was able to run over 15 different 9mm loads through the pistol. These ranged from standard 124-grain ball to a variety of self-defense loads. Remington 115-grain Silver Tips, Speer Gold Dot 124-grain +P+, and Federal 124-grain +P+ Hydra Shok were all represented. While recoil was snappy with the hotter loads, I found it considerably easier to shoot than a Smith J-frame with +P ammo. I was happy to find the standard-velocity 124-grain loads still broke 1000 fps, ensuring reliable expansion and penetration. The XS sights are designed for speed, not precision. With a little attention, I had no trouble shooting quarter-size groups at 7 yards! After some 300 rounds, I experienced only one malfunction, a failure to feed a 147-grain Hydra Shok. This was early on when the gun was still tight and did not recur.

Custom Carry Package

You may have noticed this is a Custom Carry Package that includes more than just a pistol. Laughridge set out to put together a

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