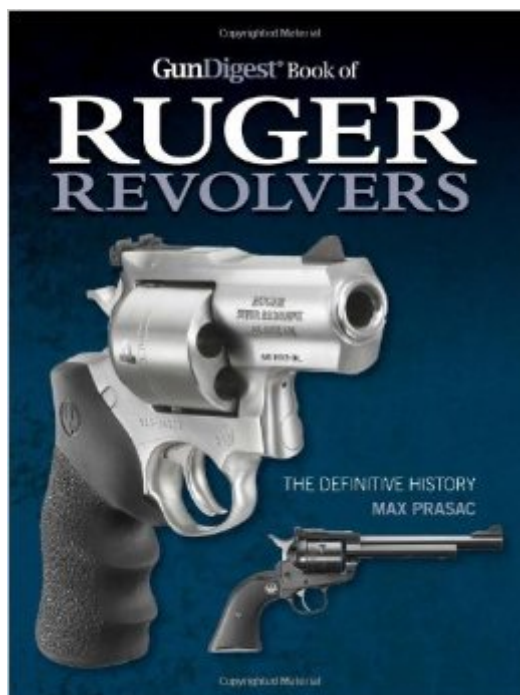


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Gun Digest Book Of Ruger Revolvers: The Definitive History



Synopsis

Every Man's Revolver It's a youngster compared to Colt's and Smith & Wesson, but Sturm, Ruger & Company has left a mark on the world of firearms that's undeniable. Now, author Max Prasac shares how the firm's famed revolvers became stronger, more durable and safer than any of their competition in "Gun Digest Book of Ruger Revolvers." Inside you'll discover: The stories behind Ruger's fast-step to fame. Single-actions, double-actions, custom jobs and rare pieces. How Ruger's technologies changed the modern revolver. Plus much, much more! Beautifully illustrated with hundreds of full-color photographs, Prasac and contributing author David Bradshaw provide a behind the scenes look at the men and the company producing some of the strongest guns on the planet, and the innovations that keep those firearms accessible to every gun owner who wants one. This truly is the story, as Prasac puts it, of "Every Man's Revolver."

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Customer Reviews

The subtitle calls this 'the definitive History' of Ruger Revolvers. It most emphatically is not. To his credit, the author states it is not a chronology, but a "celebration" of Ruger revolvers. Like most Gun Digest Books, it has many photos, gun porn for those inclined. The writing focuses upon the single action models and the Red Hawk. I bought the book to learn more about the GP-100 and the SP-101. While there are several pages of color photos of those models, the GP-100 rates 2 paragraphs, while the SP-101 merits a single paragraph. The author writes clearly, but the topics are about customizing, shooting, the Ruger innovations and Pine Tree Castings. The actual

manufacturing history, is scant to non-existent. I credit the misleading subtitle to the publisher, since the author is clear on what he is writing. Had I looked at the book in a brick and board book store, I would have passed. As it is I will keep it for what it is; my last Gun Digest book. And I am still looking for a history of the later years of production and models.

Excellent book on Ruger revolvers! Max has clearly done his homework and enlisted the help of industry legend David Bradshaw. All bases are covered from Ruger's beginnings with the Single Six to the thoroughly modern Super Redhawk and everything in between. All the photos are color and there are a lot of them. I'm particularly fond of the chapter on custom guns. This book is a must for any serious revolver shooter, handgun hunter or sixgun fancier.

This easy to read history of Ruger revolvers is absolutely outstanding. It follows the manufacturing of these revolvers from the mid 1950's through today and supplements the information with many excellent and applicable photographs. The author's vast and personal knowledge of the many different revolver models makes this book most interesting and a true reference work. After reading it I have gone back to this book numerous times to obtain additional information on specific models that simply was not available prior to the publication of this book. The section on custom models made from Ruger revolvers is especially well documented with some gorgeous photographs. This is a comprehensive and complete history of a great US made handgun. Leave it on your desktop and not in your bookcase because you will be referring to it continuously.

If you, like myself, have owned many Gun Digest publications over the years you know what to expect; sloppy editing, poor reproduction of photos, some of which began as lousy, poorly lit amateur efforts. This volume on Ruger revolvers is no exception. That's the bad news. On a positive note the book is reasonably priced and there is much good information particularly on the single action models. Extensive coverage of custom single actions was appreciated as it's a major interest of mine. The author is a competent writer who definitely knows the subject. Overall I'd say it's worth the price despite the deficiencies I've noted.

I like this book a lot, but I really wish there'd been some more thought that went into the graphics layout. Some two-page color photos have the relevant point that is the focus of the photo buried in the crease of the spine - who did the design? And some of the photos chosen to take up large swaths of page - the two-page spread at 14-15 of the author holding a revolver with a light on it, a

variety of scent-masking products used by the author - well, why take up all that space with something so uninteresting where there are plenty of interesting points from the text that could be illustrated? The text is largely interesting, though it falls a little flat in some areas (the painfully stilted language of the first chapter, where's the discussion of the .480 Ruger, for instance, and do I really need to hear and see so much about Bill Ruger's handbuilt cars in a revolver book?) for my taste. While some sections are a little uneven (with more notably detail being given to some guns than others) and disjointed and some appear to have been adapted without much change from Prasac's earlier Big-Bore Revolvers book (count how many photos are recycled from that one), nevertheless there's some writing here that is just outstanding (the .454 section) and totally worth the price of the book to a gun guy. Summary is that I like the book - but it could have been better. This feels like the Gun Digest people had a formulaic book in mind, and tried to force the material into their template. How about next time you just turn Prasac loose on writing about neat stuff and print that - it'll be really interesting and THAT will ensure sales of the book. Oh, and don't let the graphics designer just phone it in - use someone who understands what the photo is trying to convey and who is able to place it in an intelligent context on the page.

A great book for a Ruger Collector or anyone wanting some history and knowledge of Ruger Revolvers. I do think Gun Digest mislabeled the title as this is not the "Definitive History" but more of a story of the authors travels through the Ruger Revolver world, but that is not the authors fault and should not preclude the purchase of the book. I purchased the book in written form and the Kindle version and am happy with that decision. Max struck a real chord with me as I also grew up in San Gabriel, CA and spent way more time and money than I should have at the Lock, Stock n' Barrel gun shop in San Gabriel (I am sad that the gun shop has closed it's doors, it was a great place). As I said this is not a "Ruger" history but more of a story of Ruger's Revolvers and the many and varied custom guns with pictures based on Ruger's offerings. I had trouble finding places to stop reading, there was always just one more section I wanted to read. That is one thing that makes a book worth owning and reading. I will be reading this book again several times. Thank you Max for a great book, CHJ

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