

Home Defense Rifle Battery



You have to admit that these are trying times we are living in, especially with the Covid-19 Pandemic. Its times like these that gets you to wondering, what if I have to really defend my family for an extended time period. This is something all gun guys do, they speculate and think of what exactly they would want or need if the SHTF in their life time.

So I am going to give you my two cents, actually three cents, on what I think I need in the way of Tactical firearms, more rifle calibers at this time rather than handguns. The handgun segment will have to be a whole other discussion. So for now let's discuss just the rifle caliber aspect, to fend off the zombie hords.

As most of you know you can get the most popular tactical rifle calibers in short barrel AR style firearms that are considered pistols, or **other** firearms. I mention this aspect because I really like shooting the shorter barrel AR15 style firearms. By this I mean barrels shorter than 16 inches. I pretty much settled on the 10.5 or 12 in barrel length as my preferred length. You can get both the pistol AR15 variant with an arm brace on the end or an (OTHER) firearm designation with the adjustable arm brace. If you took a regular AR15 rifle and replaced the barrel with say a 14 in barrel and left the regular adjustable stock on the end it would be considered a SBR.... Short Barreled Rifle. You would then need to apply for a special license to own it, approximately \$200 for a SBR approved stamp from the ATF where allowable.

So for me after years and years of playing around with different calibers from .22's to .470 Nitro express, I choose just three different rifle calibers for my home defense Tactical battery. You see I am putting the word tactical in there because, these are NOT hunting calibers per se, even though you can use them as such. These are the calibers I would use for sustained firepower, using multiple magazines, for ease of carry and reloading.

My first choice is the 5.56 Nato round, or, 223 Remington, they are basically the same round. Usually the military 5.56 designation is a bit hotter, sustaining higher firing pressure within the cartridge and a little higher velocity. This is the round I used in the service in the M16's, it was deadly then, and it is deadly now. Plus every ammo manufacture under the sun makes this caliber ammo. You can get bullet weights from 45 grain to 75 grains, different weight bullets, and different terminal velocities. The usual is a 55 grain bullet around 3200 FPS. I choose the 5.56 round over the .308 because of actual bullet weight and recoil. I trained with the M14 in .308 aka 7.62X51 mm NATO. Shoot over 100 rounds of this and your eyes start to get crossed.

The firearm..... You can get these short barrel AR15's in many, many different brands, you can go High End like Daniels Defense, Sig Sauer, middle of the road like Windham Weaponry, Troy, or even Inter Ordnance I.O. I have been playing around with a Windham and a Troy with a 10 in barrel and really like the way it handles and shoots. But I will probably just build one of my custom AR15's in 5.56 just for kicks. Even if you put a suppressor on the end of a standard 5.56 it is still going to be LOUD. Remember you are shooting a 55 grain bullet at over 3000 FPS. You are breaking the sound barrier at which is approximately 1000 FPS. That is what is causing the boom or crack coming from the rifle. A suppressor is not going to quiet that sound much until you get to or below 1000 FPS. Another major plus of the 5.56 round is it light recoil, and ease of carrying multiple magazines.

Thus my second choice of caliber, the 300 Black Out. This caliber was made for short barreled rifles with suppressors. Remember the sound barrier of 1000 FPS, well to achieve that velocity you have to slow your bullet speed down. The easiest way to do this is increase you bullet weight. Instead of shooting a 55 grain bullet, you will be shooting an approximately 208 grain bullet at 1000 FPS. Now add a ACC suppressor and this is a real pleasure to shoot. It still goes bang, but at much less decibel level. The .300 Black Out has obtained a considerable following, and many ammo manufactures are making bullets in the 200 grain plus weights.

When I first started Hunters Hut over nine years ago, I was buying and selling AR15 rifles by Miltac. They were an excellent AR15 at a price that was a bit higher than the standard ARs. The picture above is my 10.5 inch barrel in .300 Black out, dark bronze cerakote finish, chrome lined barrel, with a nickel boron bolt carrier. I have it topped with a quick release 1X6 lighted reticle tactical scope. I have a quick disconnect ACC suppressor on the end. And I love this setup and this rifle. When Miltac switched how they were wholesaling their AR15's I sort of lost track of them. I know they still make them but they are on the upper end of costs. Usually over \$2K.

So there you have my first two choices. So what is my third and final, well no other than the 7.62X39 caliber? Yes the AK47 round that is usually cheap and very plentiful. This round is loud, and has a little more recoil than the 5.56. In my opinion it hits harder than the 5.56. You are shooting a 124 grain bullet at approximately 2400 FPS. When this round was invented with the AK47 it changed the face of warfare around the world. Its action is simplicity personified.

Now the firearms. Remember we are talking 2020 today's market. There are still many AK47's available from around the world. But I have found the older used battle rifles have been long dried up in the American marketplace. One high end 7.62X39 rifle manufacture is Arsenal, great rifles but you are going to pay well over \$1K for these better made rifles. There are still some Russian, Bavarian, and even Chinese AK47's around. Prices will vary on the condition of the firearm. Right now the Century Arms makes a decent AK47 in 7.62 X 39 in the VSKA & WASR10 models. They even come with wooden stocks. Again the main advantage of the AK47, very simple design, easy to disassemble, and a million and one parts available for them. And most importantly they ALWAYS seem to go bang no matter what.

So there you have it. Remember this is just my humble opinion of a Tactical Rifle Battery. You can go bigger or smaller or even in between. So if you don't have one already, start building your Tactical Rifle battery today. You never know when the next zombie attack or Pandemic will hit.

Stay Safe.... Stay Armed.....Shoot Straight

Hunters Hut JCP....