



Real World CARRY GEAR

COLUMN BY: DUANE A. DAIKER

Ross Sporting Goods Glocksmithing, Heine Sights, Crimson Trace Lasergrips for Glock, DeSantis Scorpion and KKM Barrel

The ubiquitous Glock. Some people love them, some people hate them, and there are few who don't have an opinion. One thing is certain. A lot of people carry Glocks. I have owned my fair share, and I have certain gear that I find particularly useful with the Glock platform. This issue will cover my favorite Glock related gear. I always like to hear from readers, so if you have some favorite carry gear you would like to see featured here, whether new, cutting edge stuff or old favorites, please send me an e-mail at:

daiker@realworldcarrygear.com

Ross Sporting Goods Glocksmithing

As good as the Glock platform is, there is a lot of room for improvement and personalization. The basic Glock can definitely benefit from some attention by a quality gunsmith. Unfortunately, there are a lot of people out there who think that owning a Dremel tool qualifies them to start grinding plastic off of your G-17. While searching for a truly qualified Glocksmith, I found Cope Reynolds at Ross Sporting Goods in Farmington,

G-17 showing chopped and reduced grip, rounded trigger guard, and Heine rear sight.



New Mexico. Cope's work is top-notch, and he can transform your basic Glock into a tailor-fitted carry gun.

One of the most universally criticized features of the Glock is the grip size and angle. The factory grip has never fit me properly. My first request for Cope was to do a grip reduction on my Third Generation Glock 17. Although my hands are large, I never cared for the feel of the standard Glock grip, including the pronounced curvature of the backstrap and the finger grooves that never quite fit me. The full grip reduction by Ross Sporting Goods eliminates the finger grooves, and removes the backstrap palm swell, much improving the grip angle. As part of this process, you can also have the frontstrap and backstrap stippled for better grip and control. This grip change made my Glock's fit much better for me, and it has a great appearance too. Some Glock grip reductions can be hideously ugly, but not this one.

I also opted for the grip shortening (having my Glock 17 grip chopped to the Glock 19 size). I had never heard of anyone doing this before, but now I am sold on it. The grip is the hardest part to conceal, and a Glock 19 grip with the full length Glock 17 barrel and corresponding sight radius is a great combination for

concealed carry. The grip shortening has a near factory appearance, and now fits Glock 19 magazines perfectly! If you already have a Glock 19, you can chop the grip to accept Glock 26 magazines.

Ross Sporting Goods also did their signature oval shaped mag release, which is easier to operate than the normal extended mag release, offering a much larger surface area. I had them finish off the frame work by rounding off the trigger guard, a modification that is partly cosmetic and partly to make reholstering easier. I did not opt for any trigger work, but I have no doubts that the work would be top-notch.

I highly recommend the Glocksmithing services at Ross Sporting Goods. The work I had done was very reasonably priced, and the turn-around time is usually about two weeks. How can you beat that for quality gunsmithing? Details on these services and others offered by Ross Sporting Goods, together with pricing, can be found at: www.rosssportinggoods.com or by calling (866) 886-8753.

Heine Sights

Another known weakness of the Glock design is the very basic plastic sights. Sights are an obvious area for

Continued on page 28



ELITE SHIRTS

Concealed utility pockets
Ventilated Back
Professional appearance
Available in short and long sleeve



WWW.ROGUEELITE.NET



ELITE VESTS

Pockets for all your utility needs
Available in Black, Khaki and Sage

See our website for the new
Lightweight vests, shirts and pants

ALL PRODUCTS AND SIZES LISTED ON WEBSITE ARE IN STOCK

*The New Standard in
Concealed Carry
Apparel*



ELITE PANTS

Twelve strategically placed pockets
Option for additional lower leg pocket
Available in Black, Khaki and Sage

WOOLRICH® ELITE SERIES

improvement on the factory design. Of course, handgun sights are like shoes; I can't tell you what will fit you. However, I have found that serious Glock shooters gravitate toward Heine sights. Heine Specialty Products makes a wide variety of handgun sights in a variety of styles. The Heine Slant Pro sights offer a great no-snag profile together with a good sight picture.

If you prefer night sights, Heine offers the Slant Pro in a "Straight Eight" model with two self-luminous tritium dots, one on the center of the rear sight and one on the front sight. To line up the sights in the dark, you just put one dot on top of the other, like an "8." I like the "Straight Eight" system, and much prefer it to the standard three horizontal dot system seen on so many sights.

Heine also offers the option of a "race cut" rear notch that is a bit wider than the standard notch. This permits a little bit of light to show on either side of the front sight, and tends to make a quick sight picture easier to obtain. I prefer the race cut rear notch on all my guns, including my carry guns.

Heine sights are reasonably priced, and Heine will install them for you if you send in your slide. For more information on Heine sights, visit www.heine.com or call 1-877-SIGHTS1.

Crimson Trace Lasergrrips for Glock

Crimson Trace makes Lasergrrips for a wide variety of handguns with removable grip panels. I have extolled the virtues of Lasergrrips on many prior occasions. However, the polymer framed Glock has always posed a particular challenge for Crimson Trace since there are no grips in which to mount the laser unit. Although there were earlier models for Glock that required permanent modifications to your gun, Crimson Trace now has a user-installed Glock model.

The Lasergrrips for Glock are a hard plastic, wrap-around unit that melds



into the existing curves of the grip. The Lasergrrips are secured with a single frame pin and the end result is nearly seamless. While the grips change the feel of the Glock grip to some degree, it is not an unpleasant change. In fact, the additional girth of the Lasergrrips actually makes the sub-compact guns a little easier to hold onto.

Finally, the advantages of Lasergrrips—like ease of installation, use of standard holsters, intuitive activation, and a laser adjustable for windage and elevation—are available for most Glock models. For information on Crimson Trace Lasergrrips, visit www.crimsontrace.com or call 800-442-2406.

DeSantis Scorpion

There is no shortage of holsters for the Glock. Almost everyone who makes holsters makes Glock holsters. Finding the right holster may take some time. However, I have one particular model that I like for concealed carry. To me, plastic guns work best in plastic holsters, so I tend toward Kydex holsters for my Glocks. My current choice for an inside-the-waistband holster is the Desantis Scorpion.



The Scorpion is not your typical Kydex IWB design. The belt attachment points are spread out to the front and rear of the holster to reduce the width of the holster, to increase the stability and to help distribute the weight. The molding is very rigid, so the holster keeps its shape and offers easy one-handed reholstering.

This holster is designed to be worn behind the strong side hip, and has a natural curvature to bend around your body. I find this style of holster to be very comfortable for extended periods. This design is not tuckable, but works very well for all day concealment under a cover garment. Unlike some of the other kydex designs, the belt clips on this holster are replaceable in the event of breakage.

I enjoy carrying my Glock 17 in the Desantis Scorpion, and you are also likely to if it fits your body and your carry methods. For more information, simply visit www.desantisholster.com or call (800) 424-1236. Desantis has very reasonable prices, and can ship most holsters within just a few days of your order.

KKM Barrel

The Glock factory barrel works very well, but the octagonal rifling is not recommended for use with lead bullets. Since lead is inexpensive to shoot, many people opt for a replacement barrel. Alternatively, some people are looking to increase accuracy with a better quality barrel. KKM Precision has been a leader in drop-in replacement barrels for many years. KKM Precision offers a variety of aftermarket Glock replacement barrels.

I had an opportunity to test a KKM barrel in my Glock 17. The KKM barrel is a drop-in part that requires no fitting. The barrel features KKM's unique "button rifling" that appears to be the secret behind KKM's well-known accuracy. The barrel also adds a nice look to your Glock, replacing the standard black finish with an attractive matte stainless.

My KKM barrel fit well, and functioned flawlessly with a variety of ammunition. I am probably not qualified



to assess the differences in accuracy or ballistics between the factory barrel and the KKM replacement barrel, but the accuracy seemed to be noticeably improved. If you have a need or desire for an aftermarket barrel, the KKM products won't disappoint you. For more information or to order, visit www.kkmprecision.com or call 775-246-5444.

Duane A. Daiker is a Contributing Editor for CCM, but is otherwise a regular guy, not much different from you. Duane has been a lifelong shooter and goes about his life as an armed, responsible, and somewhat opinionated citizen. Duane can be reached at: Daiker@RealWorldCarryGear.com Additional RWCG columns can be viewed at: www.RealWorldCarryGear.com