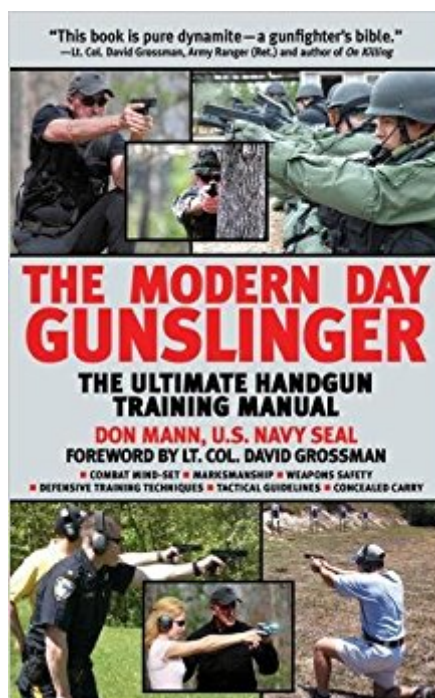


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# The Modern Day Gunslinger: The Ultimate Handgun Training Manual



## Synopsis

A result of twelve years of research, *The Modern Day Gunslinger* was written to meet the needs of the gun owner, the experienced shooter, those who own a weapon strictly for home and self-defense, and for the military member who wants to become a better shooter in defense of our country. It's also for the law enforcement officer who risks his or her life going against the thugs of our society, and for anyone interested in learning the defensive and tactical training techniques from some of the best and most experienced shooters in the world. The shooting skills taught in this book carry broad application in civilian, law enforcement, and military contexts. Common criminals, terrorists, assailants—the enemy and threat—all will find themselves outgunned in the face of a properly armed and trained gunslinger. Members of the armed services, government and law enforcement agencies, as well as civilians, will find that the close-range shooting methods addressed in this book can provide a decisive advantage. An all-encompassing manual that addresses safety, equipment, tactics, and the best practices for all shooters, *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is the most all-encompassing book on shooting ever published. It's a book that, in the words of senior special agent and U.S. government senior weapons and tactics instructor Dick Conger, “will save lives.”

## Book Information

Paperback: 435 pages

Publisher: Skyhorse Publishing; 1st edition (August 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1602399867

ISBN-13: 978-1602399860

Product Dimensions: 6 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 165 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #330,560 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #211 in Books > Sports & Outdoors > Hunting & Fishing > Shooting

## Customer Reviews

Don Mann's impressive military biography includes being a decorated combat veteran; corpsman; SEAL special operations technician; jungle survival, desert survival, and arctic survival instructor; and Survival, Evade, Resistance, and Escape instructor; in addition to other credentials.

This review is based upon a response that I had made to another review that closely matches my feelings about this book. I've been involved in shooting sports for over 30 years to some degree or another, and bought this book with the intention and hopes of gleaning new information that would increase my skill set and enjoyment of the sport and hobby, along with practical information in the area of personal defense. Did this book help meet my expectations? Sort of... The one thing I think this book is trying to accomplish is an all-encompassing view of handgun use and marksmanship. Some aspects I felt that were presented well, but others were lacking. Personally I think that one area that the book succeeded at was breaking down the mechanics of the gunfight itself... meaning what to expect, typically what kind of range such an incident is likely to occur, terminal ballistics, etc. It also works through the various pros and cons of the various types of carry, weapon selection, and so forth. Finally it covers various drills on actual use and practice of handgun marksmanship. While I would agree with some of the others that there isn't a whole lot of new material covered here, it never hurts to look at any subject from different perspectives. If I could have left this review here, I probably would have given the book 4 or 5 stars. HOWEVER... This book does have a few negative aspects to it as well unfortunately. Some of the other criticisms against this book are that the material is poorly organized and doesn't seem to follow a logical order. On this I have to agree. Also, to me it is very clear the author's biases coming through... for example I very much get the feeling that he doesn't have much regard for the 9mm Parabellum round while not really explaining why or covering the advantages. Cost of ammo, pistol capacity, and risk of overpenetration are factors that should be taken into account. Simply saying that the troops in Afghanistan were very dissatisfied with their 9mm pistols really doesn't cut it. Yes, this is a personal subject based very much on the individual shooter's needs, and as such I think that taking a more "subject neutral" approach here would be more useful. One aspect that I found slightly annoying is that that he also engages in some political grandstanding that I felt was unnecessary, and makes me question exactly who the target audience is supposed to be? For example, how is the War on Terror or a rant about the effects of violent video games on desensitizing children directly relevant to my needs as a civilian to defend my home and loved ones? Not to mention that some of it (i.e. video games) is highly debatable, and not really pertinent to the subject at hand. Another criticism that has been leveled at this book, and again one that I agree with is that it seems to be pushing Lt Col Dave Grossman's works. Certainly I came away feeling like it was some kind of a mutual admiration society. That's all good and well, but again not the reason I purchased the book in the first place. Perhaps another point worth adding is that if the book is going to talk about the combat mindset, the appropriate use of force, and/or "battlefield conditions", there should likewise be a

discussion about the consequences of what happens if using a gun becomes necessary and dealing with the fallout. Maybe not so much for the military and law enforcement since that is part of their training, but most certainly for the civilian "sheepdog" who might be forced to draw his pistol in self defense. Arguments and bravado in favor of an armed population aside, essentially the point I'm trying to make here is that carrying a gun is a **SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY** with **SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS** should the owner ever be in a position to use deadly force! I feel that books such as this that covers the other topics such as the appropriate use of force are doing their reader a disservice by not discussing what happens following a shooting... like it or not, it is part of the "total package". I agree with some of the others that there are better books out there covering some of the more specific aspects. For someone new who is planning to get their CWP and or using a pistol for self defense, I would say that Massad Ayoob's book "In the Gravest Extreme" is a **FAR** superior starting point. Gabe Suarez's book "The Tactical Pistol" covers much of the same material in this book, but is much more cogent and to the point. For those who are looking to shoot in competition, Brian Enos' book "Practical Shooting" is very highly regarded. Verdict: I'm giving this book three stars since I consider it to be a mixed bag... some of the information is good and useful, while at the same token it also contains opinion and other fluff that may or may not be of any use to the reader. While I certainly wouldn't consider it to be a "bad" book or a total waste of money, it wouldn't be my first choice on the subject either.

I have read and reviewed numerous books on the martial arts, police tactics and gun handling. I must admit that this giant book (The Modern Day Gun Slinger: The ultimate handgun training manual by Don Mann, U.S. Navy SEAL) is one of the best manuals on handgun handling I have ever read and reviewed. This short review cannot do this book justice. Whether you are a novice or an experienced gun user this book is one you will want to check out. The instructions are very simple and easy to follow and the large black and white photographs are clear. The forward is written by the well-known LT.Col. David Grossman, who wrote two of the best books (On Killing and On Combat) for law enforcement and military people. This great manual is organized into twenty four sections and cover an enormous amount of material with hundreds of photographs. Some of the material covered include the following: Weapon and range safety, dry fire practice, use of force, living in a battlefield, combat mind-set, shooting competence, handguns, defensive handgun ammunition, marksmanship, stance, basic kneeling positions, ready positions, grip and trigger control, visual techniques and sight alignment, multiple shots, shooting drills and many other vital tips for anyone who wants to improve their handguns skills. This fantastic book will increase your

skill in using the handgun for combat but like any psychomotor skill, you must put in a lot of practice time to insure the best results. If you are interested in improving your handgun knowledge and skills this book is for you, Rating: 5 Stars. Joseph J. Truncale (Author: The Samurai Soul: An old warrior's poetic tribute).

Mr. Mann is obviously knowledgeable of the subject matter and appears to be a highly qualified instructor, yet the text leaves much to be desired. The writing is disjointed and awkward. The material is presented primarily through short paragraphs and bulleted lists. Being over 400 pages, I found it lacking clear, concise detail. Sentence structure is weak, on level with high school writing. Though the book has numerous photos, most are grainy, low quality, and lack captions to go with the technique being discussed. I found myself flipping pages back and forth trying to figure out which photos go with what I was reading. And then there is the editing ...it comes across as draft material with numerous grammatical errors and misspellings, not to mention the poor sentence structure. Definitely not something ready for publishing ('Ken Hackaworth' ..really?). Mr. Mann credits several individuals for helping edit his manuscript - I think he was duped. Any nonfiction instructional book that begins with SIX PAGES of accolades from 24 of the author's friends and peers saying how awesome his book is, is suspect in my opinion. Good writing will stand on its own. This is no masterpiece. Pass on it until the revised edition comes out.

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