

GUN TESTS REPORT CARD SUMMARY

Each of the sights used have some application in self-defense shooting. But defense is serious business and demands the best choices. Our team reached a consensus on combat sights.

GI Sights: Avoid them if you can.

GUN TESTS GRADE: D

Mil Spec: Little or no improvement over the GI sight, contradicting our thoughts before the test.

GUN TESTS GRADE: D

Para Ordnance: The Para Ordnance sight is smaller than others, with a more crowded sight picture. While it will do, there are better choices.

GUN TESTS GRADE: C

Trijicon: An excellent option for the price, might be the best choice for exclusive dim-light use.

GUN TESTS GRADE: B

XS Sights: Practically the hands-down choice for fast combat use in dim light conditions. The less experienced the shooter, the better they performed with XS sights. However, XS sights will not exhibit the fine accuracy of other sights at 15 yards and beyond.

GUN TESTS GRADE: B+

Heinie: Some liked the bold picture of the true custom Heinie, while the factory-license-built Hienie was less bold. For some eyes, the Hienie is an excellent alternative to the Novak.

GUN TESTS GRADE: B+

McCormick: This was a limited edition. The Kimber pistol is a fine 1911 and the McCormick sights were good ones. We recommend tritium inserts.

GUN TESTS GRADE: B+

Wilson Combat: It was universally praised and gave excellent results in all testing. If you are choosing an aftermarket sight, this is a viable design with good features.

GUN TESTS GRADE: A

Novak: The standard by which all other sights are judged. We found the Novak sights versatile in all conditions. We recommend the three-dot with tritium insert.

GUN TESTS GRADE: A

INSTALLATION COSTS

We liked the Novaks best, so we shopped around to see what installing them would cost aftermarket. We began with a GI slide. All prices include machine work but not shipping. Our team said the best buy in the Novak-style sights might be the fiber-optic unit, only \$9 more dollars than a standard black sight.

However, after extensive testing, our team recommends tritium sights.

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| Plain Black | \$167.11 |
| Tritium Night Sights | \$245.41 |
| Fiber-Optic Front | \$176.11 |
| Gold Bead Front | \$234.61 |

Written and photographed by R.K. Campbell, using evaluations from GUN TESTS team testers. GT