



LEVER ACTION RIFLES

Say 'Hello' to the Next Generation of 'Cowboy Guns'



Recent technological advances have given new life, and additional range to the lever-action rifle. Already a favorite among many shooters and hunters, the lever-action is making new friends and earning greater respect than ever before.

Shooting at big game over greater distances no longer requires a bolt-action rifle and a cartridge designed for such a rifle. Today's lever-action rifle has leaped once again to the front of the development curve, with new bullet designs that work very well in lever-actions and extend their range considerably.

Over the past couple of years, new ammunition breakthroughs – developed as a cooperative effort

between Marlin Firearms and Hornady – allow the traditional lever-action with a tubular magazine to step up to the challenge of shooting effectively at longer ranges.

Spire-point bullets with soft but ballistically-efficient synthetic tips that prevent the kind of accidental discharges that have precluded the use of such projectiles in tubular magazines until now are giving new life to a rifle design that dates back

to the Old West. Oh, what cowboys and settlers could have done with these rifles!

But whether the range is long, or very short, the lever-action has been the choice for generations of outdoorsmen and women from the deep woods of Northern Maine to the craggy peaks of the Rockies and Cascades. It is fast, sleek, relatively lightweight and very reliable under all kinds of conditions.

SIMPLE OPERATION

The lever-action rifle is one of the easiest firearms to operate. The very first lever-action firearm was actually a pistol, but the design was to find its true destiny in the rifle realm. Initially chambered for a rather mild cartridge, lever-action rifles eventually were designed to handle calibers stout enough to take deer, black bear, elk and even moose and bison.

Ideal for hunting in brushy or wooded environments, the lever-action of today is a combination of 19th Century tradition and engineering genius and 21st Century materials and technology.

No longer merely a "saddle gun" with a rather plain wood stock featuring a punishing curved steel butt plate, today's lever-action rifle might boast a stainless steel barrel and solid receiver that is drilled and tapped for scope mounts, and a stock that might be synthetic or a handsome laminate that is impervious to moisture. Recoil pads are now typical, to soak up the punch of such cartridges as the .45-70, .450 Marlin and .444 Marlin.

The most common cartridge for which lever-action rifles are chambered is the .30-30 Win., which was once the most popular

cartridge among American deer hunters.

The common denominator among cartridges for which lever-action rifles have traditionally been chambered is that the bullet has either a flat or round nose. This was done specifically to prevent those accidental discharges mentioned earlier when cartridges are inserted into a tubular magazine with the tip of one bullet touching the primer of the cartridge ahead of it.

STURDY RIMFIRES

In addition to centerfire rifles, there are numerous lever-action rifles chambered in .22 Long Rifle. These are designed for small game hunting, varmint and predator control, plinking, target shooting and other recreation.

They feature the same rugged designs and engineering found in their large-caliber siblings. They are also superb choices for teaching young shooters about marksmanship, muzzle control and other safety rules.

LEVER 'EVOLUTION'

During the past couple of years, led by developers at Hornady, ammunition for lever-action centerfire rifles has taken a giant leap forward. Appropriately calling their new line of cartridges "LeverEvolution," this cartridge family features the spire-point bullet with the synthetic tip. Such cartridges are able to extend the effective range of the lever-action well beyond 200 yards.

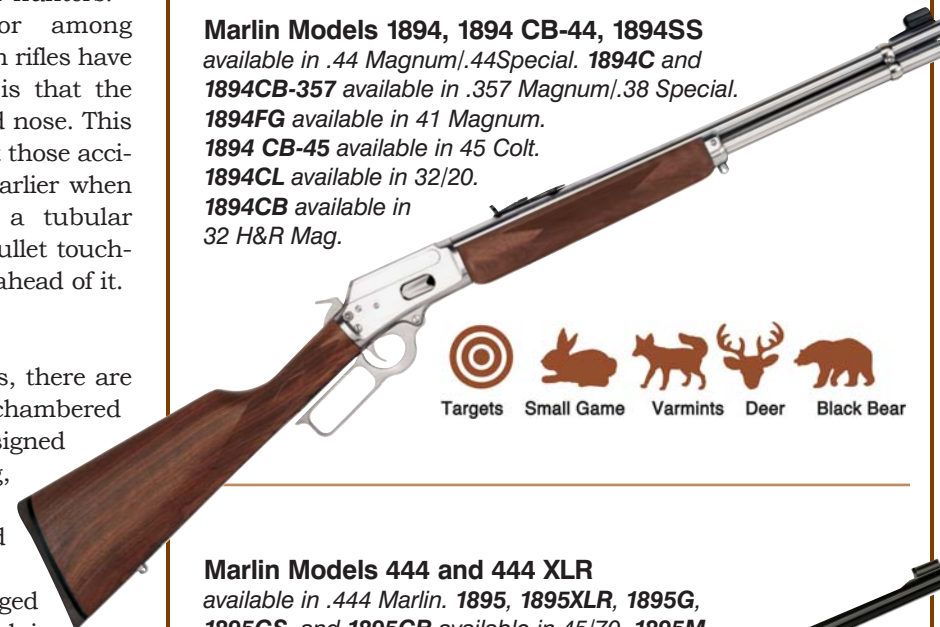
In the future, even your grandfather's .30-30 becomes something of a plains rifle, and larger lever-action calibers are on par with some of the more potent bolt-action big game rounds.

Lever-action rifles designed with side ejection offer the advantage of easy scope mounting, and also flip empty cartridges out and away from the action. But even with traditional metallic sights, or newer fiber-optic sights that gather in lots of light for a sharp sight picture even in heavy cover, it is far too early to be retiring the lever action to the corner.

From all indications, it appears the surface has just been scratched with these new cartridge developments, and a rifle that seemed as though it had seen its last sunset now has new horizons to conquer.

For more info: Circle #12 on Action Insert Card

Marlin Models 1894, 1894 CB-44, 1894SS available in .44 Magnum/.44Special. **1894C** and **1894CB-357** available in .357 Magnum/.38 Special. **1894FG** available in 41 Magnum. **1894 CB-45** available in 45 Colt. **1894CL** available in 32/20. **1894CB** available in 32 H&R Mag.



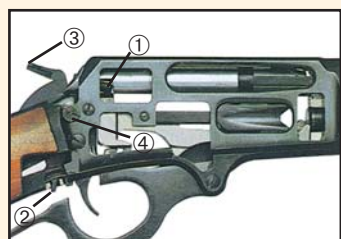
Marlin Models 444 and 444 XLR available in .444 Marlin. **1895, 1895XLR, 1895G, 1895GS, and 1895CB** available in 45/70. **1895M, 1895MXLR** available in 450 Marlin.



Marlin Model 336, 336C, 336Y, 336SS, 336W, 336XLR available in .30-30 Winchester. **Model 336C** available in .30-30 Win and .35 Rem.



Be Safe • Be Responsible



LEVER ACTION SAFETY FEATURES

Every Marlin centerfire lever action made since 1983 has these safety features:

1. Two-piece firing pin. The rear part of the pin drops out of alignment with the front until the locking bolt is fully engaged.
2. Trigger block. This device prevents the trigger from being pulled until the lever is closed.
3. Half-cock hammer position. This is the traditional lever action safety position.
4. Hammer block safety. When engaged, it prevents the hammer from striking the firing pin, even if the trigger is pulled.