

## M14 NM Barrel

I understand that the barrel of the M14 National Match rifle as used at Camp Perry differs from the standard M14 barrel. Do you have any information on M14 NM barrel requirements?

**Answer:** The most significant differences in the National Match M14 barrel over the standard M14 barrel are that its bore is not chrome plated and is machined to one-half the tolerances of the standard barrel.

The bore diameter of the National Match barrel is .300+.0010" and groove diameter is held to .3075+.0010". If the bore has any taper it must be within the above limits and must diminish from breech to muzzle, not vice versa. Bore dimensions are checked with an air gauge. This extremely sensitive instrument permits inside measurements to an accuracy limit of .0001".

Attention is also given to straightness of the M14 NM bore and an optical device for measuring this has been developed at Springfield Armory. Bore straightness can be measured to within 42 seconds of arc. When checked with this instrument M14 National Match barrels must not show a deviation from straightness throughout the bore length of more than 0° 2' 23".

At Springfield Armory the largest single cause of barrel rejects has been test groups too far from the standard sight setting. However, it has been found that bore straightness is of only limited importance to the ability of the rifle to shoot good groups.—E.W.H.

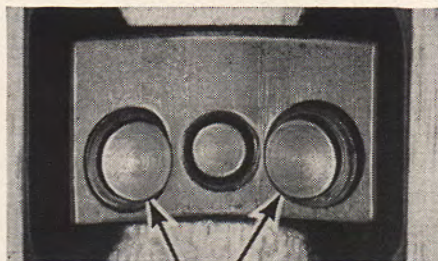
## Barrel Bedder

Some target rifles have 2 screws in the fore-end which are spaced between 1" and 2" apart and angled upward to contact the barrel. What is the purpose of these screws?

**Answer:** These are bedding screws and their function is to improve the accuracy of a target rifle by applying upward pressure against the barrel.

Upward pressure near the middle of the barrel has a dampening effect on barrel vibrations and will often improve accuracy.

Different methods are used to apply this pressure. Stockmakers can fit the fore-end so as to place pressure on the underside of the barrel. The bedding screws used on some factory-made target rifles work similarly. Through trial, the shooter can experiment to find the screw settings which give the best accuracy. Bedding screws have click adjustments which permit restoration of the correct force at any time.—E.W.H.



Bedding screws (arrows) in forearm channel of a Winchester Model 52 rifle stock.

APRIL 1966

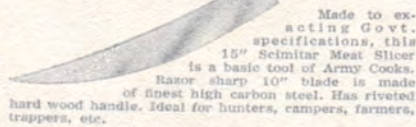
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- .30-06 Springfield

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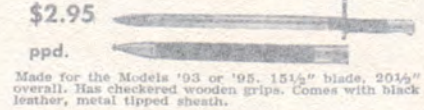
An indispensable tool for repairing gun cases, shoes, saddles, carpets, any leather or heavy fabrics. You can master it in minutes. Comes with 1 1/2 yd. black waxed thread on reel, 2 needles and small wrench, in screw-off wooden handle. 5" overall. Instructions included.

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## Brand New Army Surplus JUNGLE 1st AID KIT \$2.00 ea., ppd.

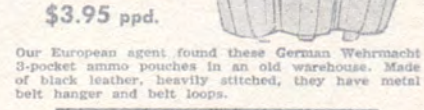


Brand New Army Surplus pistol belt 1st aid kit for scouts, fishermen, campers, etc. Made of sturdy olive drab canvas. Completely filled with necessary first aid supplies. Has double end, box for attaching to pistol belt, plus slide through loop for use on any belt. Two snap fasteners on flap. Size: 5 1/2" wide x 4 1/2" high x 2 1/4" thick.

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