

**CHIAPPA  
RHINO**



**Revolver Revolution**

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# History

When the name “Rhino” was chosen in 2002, nobody could imagine that it would be perfect to reflect not only its solid and compact shape, but the sturdy character of a rhino as well. This is the story of the Rhino revolver.

In the summer of 2000 Emilio Ghisoni had already sold his company Ma.te.ba with all the relevant patents, however his passion for firearms was never extinguished, and he was anxious to be again part of the world which had given him a place in the history of firearms. After innovative projects such as Mtr8, 2006, autorevolver and other semiautomatic pistols with “co-axial” feed, what Ghisoni now had in mind was a revolver with 7 chambers, new mechanics and a low barrel, as was his style. He needed to be financed for this project, so he submitted the idea to his friend and architect Antonio Cudazzo, inventor of the FAR system.

Cudazzo liked the project but was concerned that it would be a direct competitor with other Ma.te.ba products, as the concept was very similar to former models developed by Ghisoni. He was nevertheless very interested in this innovative firearm, and after a few days returned to Ghisoni, with a project modified according to his previous reflections on ergonomics and a compact shape for revolvers. He proposed to Ghisoni some drawings for a revolver for personal defense.

Ghisoni was pretty perplexed on all the issues brought up by his friend, and in particular he was very skeptical on the clasp of this weapon, which was pushing the point of contact between the top of the palm and the hilt very far forward, well beyond the hammer. The animated discussion between the two technicians was circular: even drawings were not enough to explain a concept which was very simple in Cudazzo’s mind, but was in fact miles away from what was universally accepted for firearms. Cudazzo did not give up, he carved a model in wax and presented it to Ghisoni a few days later. The wax model was like Cupid’s arrow, Ghisoni fell in love with the idea, and focused all of his ability in the development of the new project. He jealously preserved the wax model from the summer heat in his fridge.

An agreement was immediately found between the two friends: Ghisoni was to take care of the development and production, while Cudazzo was to finance the project, would own the patents and be responsible for the sales through his company “Far League”, founded with his friend Maurizio Piccolo exclusively for the Rhino project.

# ... history

The concept of the Rhino revolver represented the apex of the joint genius of Ghisoni and Cudazzo, and developed day after day thanks to their steady efforts, cooperation and collection of ideas.

In 2006 the first working samples were produced; unfortunately, Emilio Ghisoni fell seriously ill and died on April 24th, 2008. Now missing the essential support of Ghisoni, Far League had to find a supplier capable of continuing the development and production of the new revolver.

This task was not easy, and more than one attempt for cooperation with manufacturers of firearms turned into a waste of time and efforts, postponing the launch of the project.

The turning point and a milestone in Rhino's history was the encounter of Cudazzo with Rino Chiappa, proprietor of the Chiappa Group and ingenious firearms manufacturer and mechanical technician. Chiappa immediately realized the brilliance of the Rhino concept, and became very excited about a project which represented a completely new challenge for him (Chiappa Firearms specializes in fine replica firearms).

Chiappa Firearms, a forward thinking firearms company, was the ideal production partner: the factory in Azzano Mella (in Northern Italy) is managed with impeccable organization, equipped with the latest in cutting edge machinery and technology which guarantees machining with minimum tolerance (all Rhino metal parts are manufactured in the factory, milling solid blocks of steel).

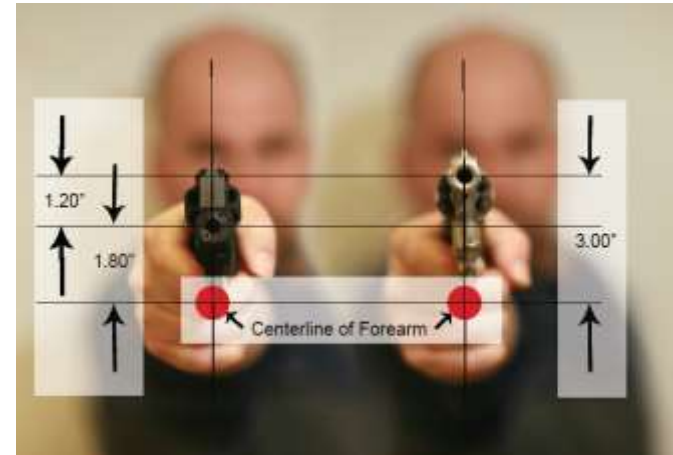
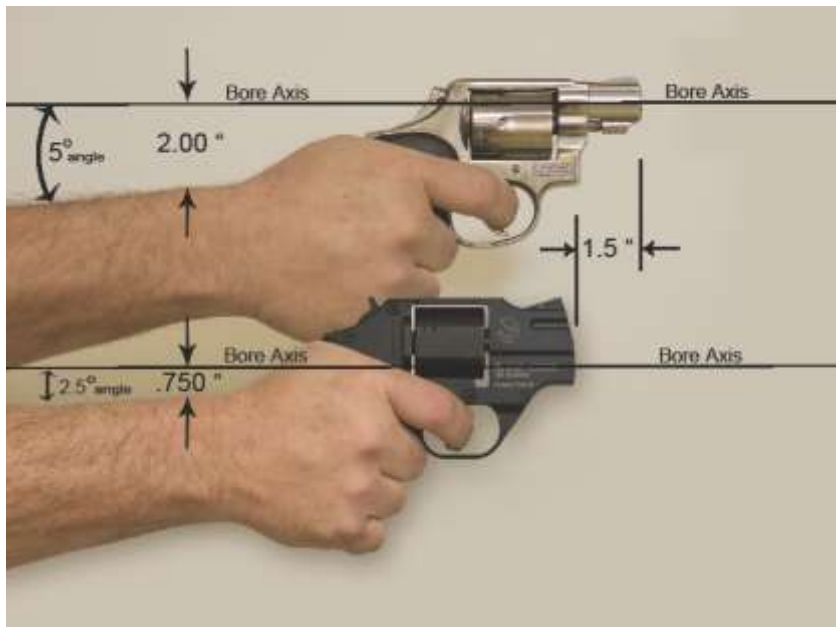
With great technical skill and experience, and an extraordinary ability to translate ideas from paper and thought into an industrial production layout, Rino Chiappa created the first prototypes in record time. He furthermore gave new impulse to the project: together with Cudazzo the 2" barrel revolver was redesigned, plus the 4", 5" and 6" barrel versions were added for target and competition applications.

The Rhino Revolver, from ingenious idea and futuristic design, becomes a real firearm for today.

The rhino is in full charge, because its goal is extremely ambitious: revolutionize and redefine the very concept of revolver.

# Instinctive shooting

With any handgun, you must be able to position the firearm while looking at either the target or threat area. This alignment - real or ideal in case the rear sight is missing - forces you to rotate the wrist upwards – a position which, though acquired from muscle memory with training, is very uncomfortable.



The Rhino's barrel is the ideal prolongation of your index finger. This allows you to be in a correct shooting position naturally, and pointing the weapon becomes as easy as pointing your finger, while your wrist remains virtually straight with the axis of the bore in line with your forearm.

# An unprecedented performance

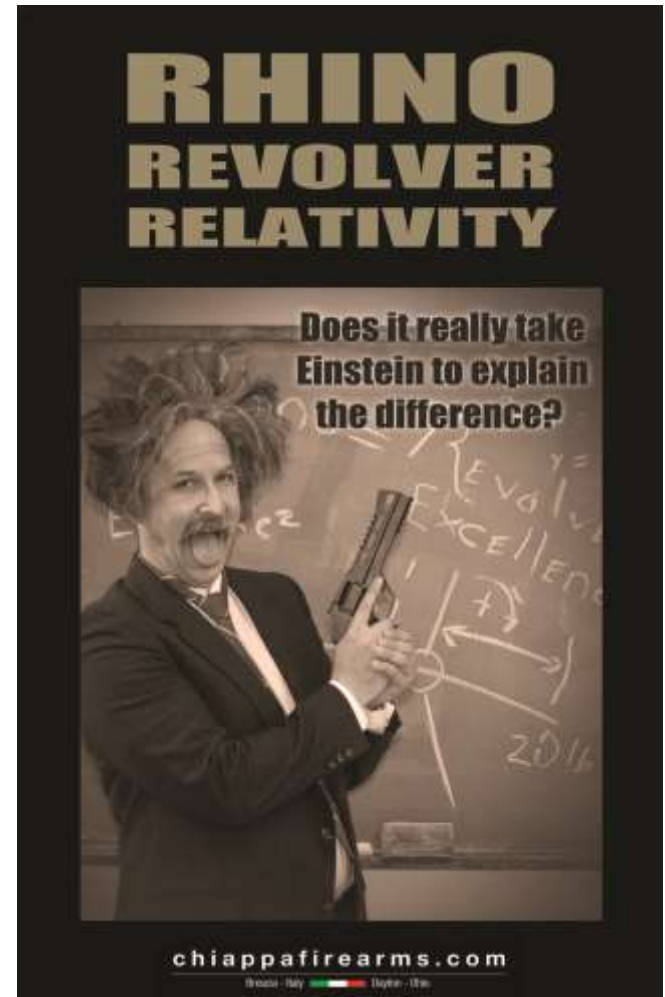
## A dramatic reduction of recoil

As the wrist is almost straight, the recoil is discharged on the straight arm. To give an explanation according to the laws of physics, the "arm of the lever" is very small, and this nearly eliminates the "dynamic moment" which follows the shot in all handguns. Basically, the dynamic moment becomes a static moment, nullifying the amplification of the reaction to recoil which generates on the top of the hand.

## Lack of flip-up effect

The strong pressure generated by a powerful caliber usually causes a muzzle flip effect after shooting (dynamic moment), which is proportional to the lever angle created by the high position of the barrel and consequent angle of the wrist. The muzzle flip effect has two negative consequences: one is the physical strain, both when you bear the knock and when you counterbalance it, pushing your hand with equal power into the opposite direction to regain the initial position. The second is the time you lose while your arm and hand are travelling up and down, which is obviously taking time on the sequence of shots.

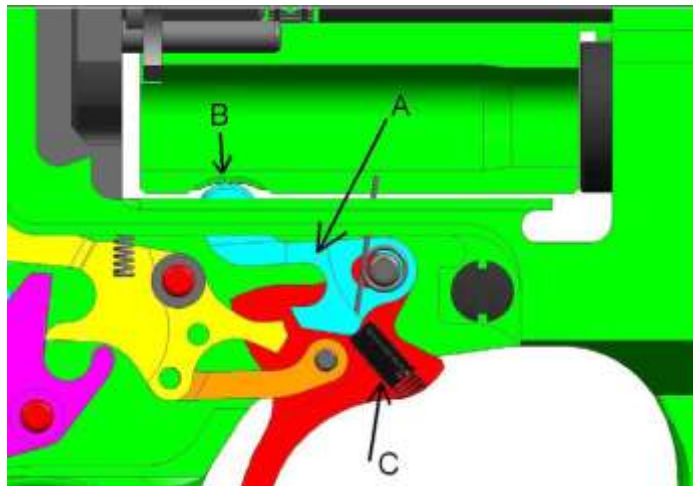
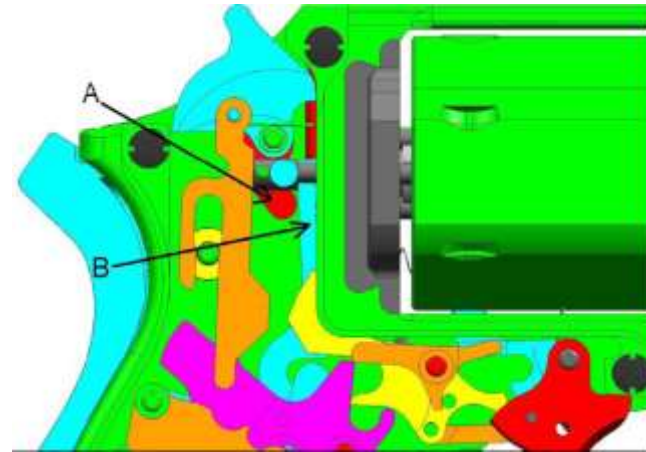
Rhino revolver requires a wrist angle near to zero, thus minimizing muzzle flip and related consequences: subsequent shots on a target are all in the center, and do not tend to slide upwards.



# Safeties

## 1st SAFETY (Cylinder / Hammer):

The Cylinder / Hammer safety works when the cylinder is not properly or incompletely closed; in this case the firing mechanism is blocked. The drawing shows that if the cylinder is not closed, the red lever "A" rotates anticlockwise up to interfere with lever "B" which cannot proceed its movement and blocks the firing mechanism.



## 2nd SAFETY (Cylinder Rotation Safety):

The Cylinder Rotation Safety will work when the cylinder does not reach the correct position while rotating, cylinder stop "A" will not engage the cylinder notch "B". Set screw "C" in this case lays on lever A not allowing the trigger to ride completely and release the hammer. This safety will avoid any shots being fired while the cylinder is not fully aligned with the barrel, thus preventing lead splatter or timing issues.

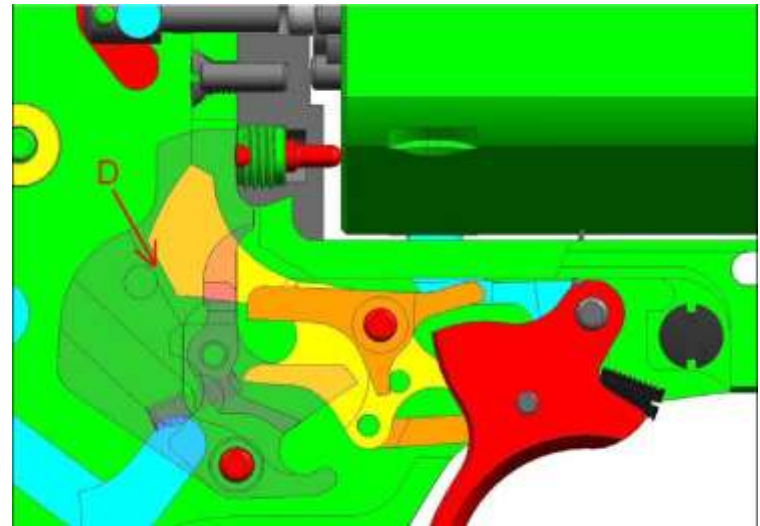
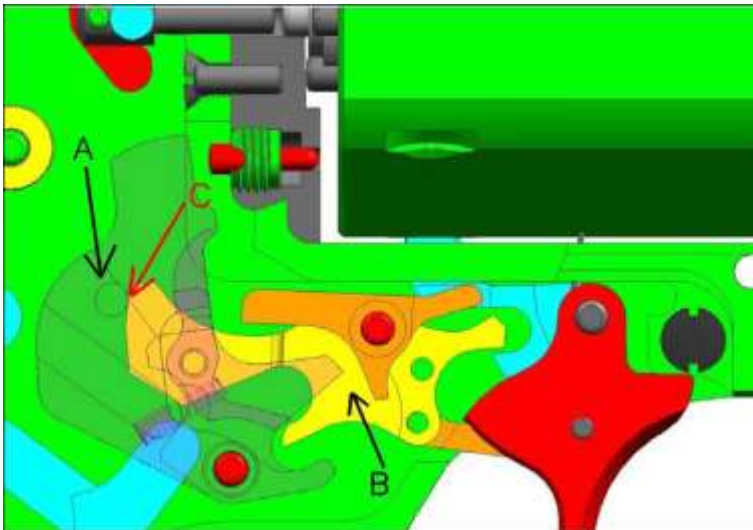


# ... safeties

## 3rd SAFETY (Hammer Block Safety) :

The Hammer Block Safety is the most important safety; this safety will not mechanically allow the hammer to hit the firing pin in case of an accidental release in single or double action mode. The internal hammer is without any doubt safer compared to any revolver with an external hammer. The design of the Rhino internal hammer can reach the firing pin only when the trigger is completely depressed and at the end of the double action cycle, if this does not happen, the Rhino design features a mechanical interference between the hammer ("A" pawl) and "B" trigger distributor.

Only if the trigger is pulled (see image 4) the trigger distributor "B" will move to allow the hammer to drop onto the firing pin. Mechanical interference between the hammer and the trigger distributor is noted with "C". "D" position is showing that when the trigger is pulled there is no interference between hammer and distributor allowing the revolver to fire.

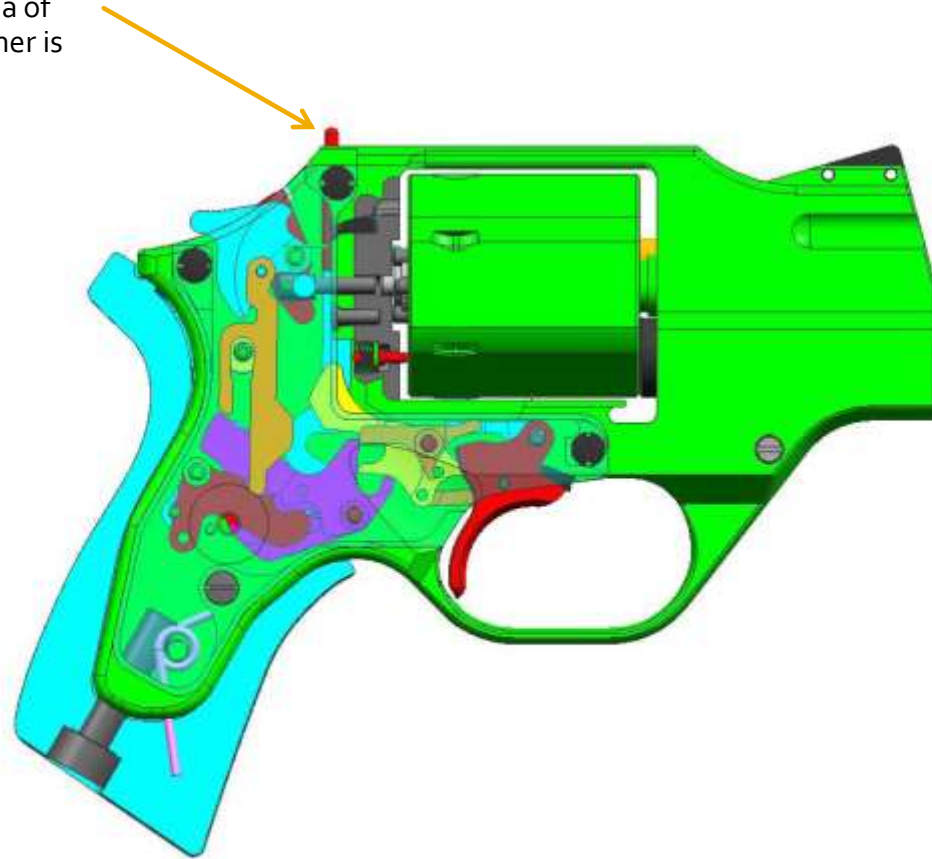




# ... safeties

## 4th SAFETY (Single Action Cock Indicator):

If the hammer is cocked in single action mode, a red indicator will appear in the upper area of the frame warning the user that the hammer is cocked.



# Materials and finish

The frame is made of Ergal 7075 T651, an excellent, high resistance light aluminum alloy.

Rhino's special feature is that the breech bottom is made of steel and is mounted to the frame through a dovetail insert.

Barrel and cylinder are made of steel 42NiCrMo4

All internal parts are made of steel, machined with leading-edge NC machinery, following a fully computerized process



## Black finish:

The black finish consists of an anodizing process of the frame, which is made of aluminium alloy. The cylinder and other steel parts are blued.

## Steel finish:

Rhino's steel finish consists of an exceptional "hard chroming", as it is informally called.

The special coating contains ruthenium, a rare metal of the platinum group; a polyvalent, hard white metal which gives the surface an outstanding resistance and an elegant matt finish.



# More plusses – RHINO 2" Barrel



Defense revolvers, due to their reduced size and weight, are unpleasant to use. The hilt is often very thin, the muzzle flip is strong as the fulcrum is relatively high. The negative consequence is that those who use this type of handgun for personal defense, mostly neglect training.

Rhino gives a new dimension to revolver ergonomics: its compact shape is not comparable to any other handgun of the same caliber and class. The cylinder has a hexagonal section, so you will always have a flat surface against your body, for maximum comfort. The cylinder release is designed to allow you to open the cylinder easily with one hand.

Rhino's unusual shape makes it difficult to recognize as a weapon. Even when it is carried in a pocket of light fabric, it is not easy to identify it as a revolver. Thanks to innovative mechanical attributes, Rhino is 1.5 cm shorter than any revolver of equivalent caliber and barrel length. The Rhino is perfect to wear concealed regardless if it is under the arm, belt, or even with an ankle holster.

# More plusses – RHINO Competition

The dramatic differences between a “standard” competition revolver and a Rhino is that the Rhino will feel incredibly lighter when you shoot. The recoil is felt like by a much smaller caliber, and the physical effort and fatigue are reduced accordingly. Flip up is virtually eliminated, so consequent shots will all be on target instead of “climbing up”. The very low aim point allows for a rapid and instinctive shooting style, with a rapidity which has nothing to envy to automatic pistols and offers far greater stability and precision.

The large space between frame and cylinder reduces the risk of cartridge cases being stuck, granting also a speedier, clean loading.

The rotation of the cylinder is made through steel pins which are inletted in the cylinder and not, as usually happens, in the rotation star; therefore the alignment of the cylinder will be perfect even after years of use.



# Accessories - GRIPS



- 
- 970.324 Laminate grip, SMALL
  - 970.325 Laminate grip, MEDIUM
  - 970.326 Laminate grip, LARGE
- 



- 
- 970.321 Olive wood grip, SMALL
  - 970.322 Olive wood grip, MEDIUM
  - 970.323 Olive wood grip, LARGE
- 



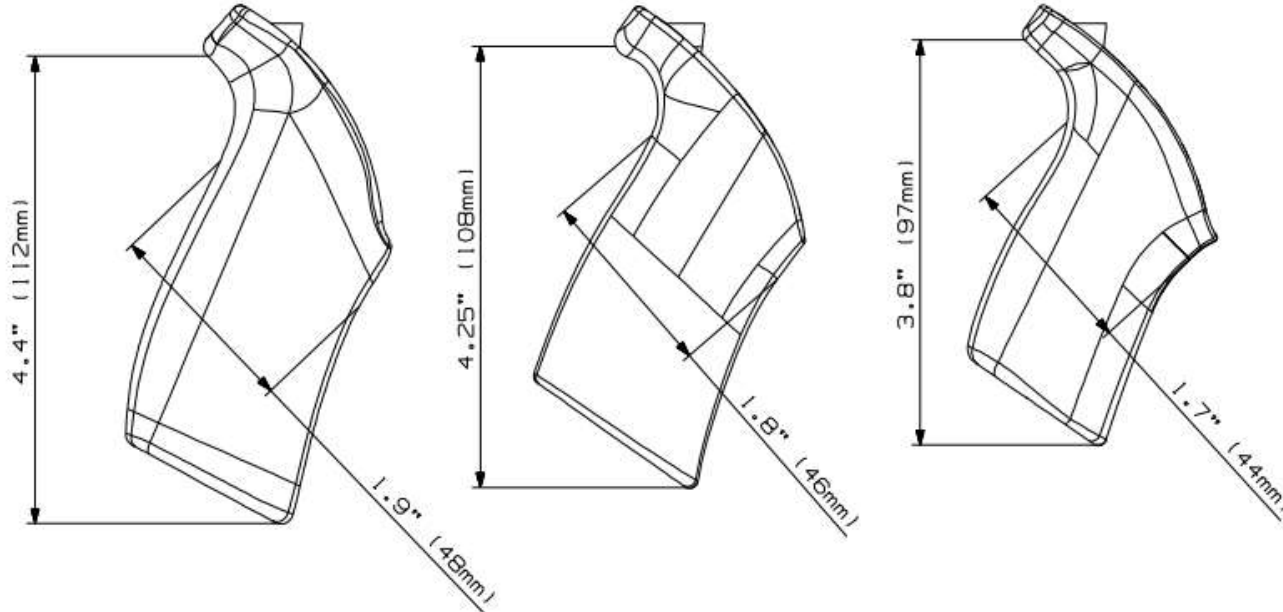
- 
- 970.318 Walnut grip, SMALL
  - 970.319 Walnut grip, MEDIUM
  - 970.320 Walnut grip, LARGE
- 



- 
- 970.327 Neoprene grip, SMALL
-

# Accessories - GRIPS

- The standard model with 2" barrel is supplied with black neoprene small grips, the perfect choice for a defense gun.
- All other versions (4", 5" and 6" barrel) are supplied with medium walnut grips.
- All grip types and sizes are fully interchangeable.



# Accessories - SIGHTS

## Front and rear sights

The Rhino 2" barrel versions do not have a rear sight, while the 6" barrel versions (and also the 4" and 5" in the future) feature a fiber optic front and rear sight adjustable for windage & elevation. Spare standard sights and the special "Fluo Target" fiber optic sights are available as accessories.



2" barrel Rhino sights



Rhino standard rear sight



Fiber optic sights

770.485	Rhino standard front sight
770.515	Fiberoptic front sight, RED
770.568	Fiberoptic front sight, GREEN
270.056	Rear sight RHINO TXT01-07
270.059	Fiberoptic rear sight, Rhino TXT02-F



# Accessories – TRIGGER KIT

## Trigger pull

The trigger pull system of all contemporary revolvers is an evolution of the systems designed in the 19th century, which were based on a manual adjustment of each single weapon. By modern revolvers, the impossibility of manual adjustment highlights all the conceptual defects of the old mechanics.

Rhino is the first revolver with a truly modern trigger system, designed for a serial, industrial production. The cocking of the single action is made through a pin and not through the hammer, whose position is very low (like no other handgun). This pin moves a lever which never interferes with the trigger pull and goes back in its original position after cocking the hammer. Each single component of the trigger system is designed to obtain greater fluidity, lightness and steadiness when shooting.



Trigger  
Performance Kit  
code 970.291

# Accessories – TRIGGER KIT

## TRIGGER ASSEMBLY KIT

We have developed a trigger kit yielding a different performance depending on the assembly of the three components. The trigger kit increases Rhino's performance to the greatest degree enhancing both double action pull and single action release.

The conversion kit includes three main components which may be combined with the same elements of the standard version:

- Hammer lever: the standard version entails a heavier trigger pull than the modified version
- Return Lever: the modified version entails a quicker trigger return than the standard version
- Main spring : the standard version entails a heavier trigger pull than the modified version

It is possible to purchase the special Trigger Assemblies and have it assembled by the manufacturer when purchasing the revolver, or by an authorized service center at a later stage. Please note that due to the lighter pull obtained, some of these kits may not be suitable for defensive purposes and should not be utilized in a "Duty" revolver.

COMBINATION NUMBER	APPLICATION	HAMMER LEVER	RETURN LEVER	MAIN SPRING	WEIGHT	PERFORMANCE	ADVISED PRIMER
1	STANDARD	Standard	Standard	Standard	Kg. 4,60	Standard	Commercial
2	DEFENCE	Modified	Standard	Standard	Kg. 4,00	Rather light trigger pull, standard trigger return	Commercial, not hard
3	TARGET SHOOTING	Standard	Modified	Modified	Kg. 3,20	Light trigger pull, quick trigger return	CCI type or lighter
4	TARGET SHOOTING	Modified	Modified a	Modified	Kg. 2,80	Very light trigger pull, quick trigger return	Federal only
5	TARGET SHOOTING	Modified	Standard	Modified a	Kg. 2,50	Extremely light trigger pull, standard trigger return	Federal only

# Accessories - HOLSTERS



Thermo formed nylon holster, ideal for concealed carry. Excellent for police, military and sport (IDPA, IASC). With three screws you can change the accessory for paddle or belt hook. Two versions are available: one for 2" barrel and one for 4", 5" and 6" barrel

Leather holster for 2" barrel Rhino, available in brown, black or suede



The IPSC "Ghost International" holster is provided with belt and under-belt, both available in several color and sizes. It is adjustable in all directions (the front support with the barrel centering pin is for 4" model, the revolver is hold simply from a sphere inside the trigger guard and centered in the barrel. There's the possibility thanks to a specific lever, to block the sphere to avoid that the revolver be disengaged from the holster (this is useful when the revolver is carried out of the competition time). In the same box there is another support, replaceable, that will accept 5" and 6" models.



Leather holster for 6" barrel Rhino. Available in two versions, for wearing at waist or chest.




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270.060 Kydex convertible holster for Rhino 2"  
 970.328 Kydex convertible holster for Rhino 4"  
 270.061 Kydex convertible holster for Rhino 6"  
 270.062 Rhino competition holster Super Ghost Ultimate

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791.011 Holster for mod. 20 and 200DS-D, suede  
 791.012 Holster for mod. 20 and 200DS-D, brown leather  
 791.013 Holster for mod. 20 and 200DS-D, black leather  
 791.015 Rhino 6" Shoulder Style Brown Leather Holster  
 791.017 Rhino 4" Brown Leather Holster  
 791.014 Rhino 6" Sportsman Brown Leather Holster  
 970.338 Rhino 5" Kydex Convertible Holster

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# Packaging



Rhino models with 2" barrel include a brown leather holster in the box



All Rhino models include three moonclips, a key for the regulation of the rear sight (not supplied by 2" barrel models) and a special cylindric tool to remove spent cartridges from the moonclip. .357MAG models can be used both with or without moonclips

# Model Range – Technical chart

Code	Model	Caliber	Barrel length		Total length		Grooves and twist rate		Weight		Shots	Finish
			IN	CM	IN	CM			KG	LBS		
CF340.217	200D (USA)	357 Mag	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
340.084	200D	357 Mag	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
340.055	200DS	357 Mag	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
CF340.216	200DS (USA)	357 Mag	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
340.056	200DS	357 Mag	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Steel - rubber grips
CF340.218	200DS (USA)	357 Mag	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Steel - rubber grips
CF340.244	40SAR (USA)	357 Mag	4"	10	8"1/2	21,5	6	1 X 19 in	850 gr	1,87	6	Black - rubber grips
CF340.245	40SAR (USA)	357 Mag	4"	10	8"1/2	21,5	6	1 X 19 in	850 gr	1,87	6	Steel- wooden grips
340.219	40DS	357 Mag	4"	10	8"1/2	21,5	6	1 X 19 in	850 gr	1,87	6	Black - wooden grips
340.222	40DS	357 Mag	4"	10	8"1/2	21,5	6	1 X 19 in	850 gr	1,87	6	Steel- wooden grips
340.220	50DS	357 Mag	5"	12,7	9"1/2	24	6	1 X 19 in	895 gr	1,97	6	Black - wooden grips
340.223	50DS	357 Mag	5"	12,7	9"1/2	24	6	1 X 19 in	895 gr	1,97	6	Steel- wooden grips
CF340.246	50SAR	357 Mag	5"	12,7	9"1/2	24	6	1 X 19 in	895 gr	1,97	6	Black - wooden grips
CF340.247	50SAR	357 Mag	5"	12,7	9"1/2	24	6	1 X 19 in	895 gr	1,97	6	Steel- wooden grips
340.221	60DS	357 Mag	6"	15,2	10"1/2	26,6	6	1 X 19 in	936 gr	2,06	6	Black - wooden grips
340.224	60DS	357 Mag	6"	15,2	10"1/2	26,6	6	1 X 19 in	936 gr	2,06	6	Steel- wooden grips
CF340.248	60SAR	357 Mag	6"	15,2	10"1/2	26,6	6	1 X 19 in	936 gr	2,06	6	Black - wooden grips
CF340.249	60SAR	357 Mag	6"	15,2	10"1/2	26,6	6	1 X 19 in	936 gr	2,06	6	Steel- wooden grips

# Model Range – Technical chart

Code	Model	Caliber	Barrel length		Total length		Grooves and twist rate		Weight		Shots	Finish
			IN	CM	IN	CM			KG	LBS		
CF340.226	200DS (USA)	40 S&W	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 16 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
CF340.231	200DS (USA)	40 S&W	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 16 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Steel - rubber grips
340.110	200DS	40 S&W	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 16 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
340.131	200DS	40 S&W	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 16 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Steel - rubber grips
CF340.227	200D	40 S&W	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 16 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Steel - rubber grips
340.228	40DS	40 S&W	4"	10	8"1/2	21,5	6	1 X 16 in	850 gr	1,87	6	Black - wooden grips
340.232	40DS	40 S&W	4"	10	8"1/2	21,5	6	1 X 16 in	850 gr	1,87	6	Black- rubber grips
340.229	50DS	40 S&W	5"	12,7	9"1/2	24	6	1 X 16 in	895 gr	1,97	6	Black - wooden grips
340.233	50DS	40 S&W	5"	12,7	9"1/2	24	6	1 X 16 in	895 gr	1,97	6	Steel- wooden grips
340.230	60DS	40 S&W	6"	15,2	10"1/2	26,6	6	1 X 16 in	936 gr	2,06	6	Black - wooden grips
340.234	60DS	40 S&W	6"	15,2	10"1/2	26,6	6	1 X 16 in	936 gr	2,06	6	Steel- wooden grips
CF340.236	200DS	357 Mag/ 9 Luger	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
CF340.237	200D	357 Mag/ 9 Luger	2"	5	6"1/2	16,4	6	1 X 19 in	700 gr	1,5	6	Black - rubber grips
340.238	40DS	357 Mag/ 9 Luger	4"	10	8"1/2	21,5	6	1 X 19 in	850 gr	1,87	6	Black - wooden grips

# Model Range – Technical chart

Barrels are not interchangeable

"DS" Models = Double and Single Action;

"D" Models = Double Action;

"SAR" Models = Single Action only





# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS:

## Opening the Cylinder



Push down the lever on the upper left side of the grip



The cylinder is now released.  
Push it fully to the left to  
access the cartridge chambers.  
The cylinder rotates clockwise

A unique characteristic of the Rhino revolver: the rotation star does not include the rotation pins. These are substituted by steel studs which are inserted directly in the cylinder frame. This technical solution allows for minimum wear of the rotation star, and consequently a perfect rotation of the cylinder even after a very long use



# OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS:

## Cocking and decocking

1 : Cocking the external hammer



2: Pulling the trigger



3: Releasing the external hammer



One of Rhino's main features is that the hammer is internal to the frame, and in its usual place we find instead a cocking lever.

The cocking lever operates the internal hammer through a link system.

This allows for a very comfortable grip, though the hammer is actually in a very low position.

Furthermore, accidental shooting is virtually impossible.

The position of the internal hammer is indicated by the red flag, which can be easily seen and felt

# WARNING: GRIP INSTRUCTIONS



## **WRONG GRIP**

Always make sure that you keep your hands and fingers away from the cylinder and the gap between cylinder and frame. In particular, your fingers should never be in front of the cylinder chambers as the gas escaping from the gap between barrel and cylinder could hurt your fingers.



## **PROPER GRIP**

Hands and fingers well away from cylinder gap



# Press Review



# Videos

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kPXogSNNByI>

6 shots in 1 second with a Chiappa Rhino Revolver  
Miculek.com- The Leaders in Gun Control!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ry-VQereHPo>

Chiappa Rhino 40DS & 60DS Recoil Comparison to  
Other Handguns - Fitty% TACTICAL

The Rhino is certainly a revolutionary firearm, with an intriguing appearance and a long list of solid issues to demonstrate its technical superiority.

But you can't have a proper opinion about it until you have the Rhino in your hands and shoot!