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THE BIG PUSH

Taking the recoil (sting)
out of that short,
handy, Mil-Surp rifle

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It's interesting to me that short, or carbine length Mil-Surp rifles, chambered for a cartridge that originally came in a full-length arm, always seem to fetch a higher price than their longer barreled brethren. Is it the handiness of the abbreviated arm? Or, perhaps, some sense that the shorter rifle is more business like? No, wait, I've got it!

Mil-Surp shooters must simply *enjoy* the heavy recoil. Yes, getting kicked in the shoulder by a steel buttplate; with the subtlety of an antisocial mule, is surely the measure of a man. Why, the roaring of a fierce muzzle blast is music to their ears! Yeah, that's just *gotta* be it!

Both the above stated effects are part and parcel of the short-barreled rifle. I know fellows who own both long and short barreled Russian & British arms. Seems they shoot the long barreled versions a lot more than the short ones. "Recoil & muzzle blast" is the most often cited reason for leaving the carbine in the gun locker.

Headphones or earplugs protect the hearing from muzzle blast. The only way to *truly* reduce recoil though is to shoot a lighter load. A lighter load simply has less kinetic energy. A lighter bullet, less powder, or, less of both will do the trick. However, while shooting the service load there *is* a way to at least reduce the *effects* of recoil.

Of course everyone is thinking: a rubber butt pad. True enough. A slip-on rubber butt pad is the easiest to install, and does not modify the rifle. Also, a slip-on rubber butt pad does add length-of-pull to the Mil-Surp rifle. Most Mil-Surp rifle's could benefit from an added length-of-pull. Most Mil-Surp's were originally made for smaller persons. But, all slip-on rubber butt pads are not created alike. **Pachmayer®** is a name well known in the gun industry. Over 20 years ago Pachmayer®, a division of Lyman Products, www.lymanproducts.com developed a synthetic material they dubbed "**Decelerator®**"

The Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on recoil pad is simply an amazing product! Its ability to absorb recoil is far beyond that of simple rubber or pliable plastic materials. Pachmayer® began making Decelerator® pads in the 1980's to their standard configurations. That is, one bought a pad slightly larger than needed, and attached it to the butt stock of their rifle. Lastly, the excess material was ground off so it to fit the shape of the butt stock.



Figure 1
Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on recoil pad

Medium Brown
Part # 04417

On Target Fast
Speed-Mount Insert

No other slip-on has Pachmayr's Patented, Speed-Mount insert for fast, snag-free gun mounting.

Magnum Recoil Reduction

This pad's exclusive Decelerator material and internal recoil chamber design deliver unequalled comfort.

How To Determine Size: Simply measure the length & width at the end of your butt stock. Then refer to the charts below.
NOTE: STOCK DIMENSIONS MAY VARY.

SMALL

Small will fit any stock with these dimensions including models shown below.
Stock Dimensions: 1-1/2" to 1-5/8" wide x 4-3/4" to 4-7/8" long

Beretta: 391 Field, Xtrema
Browning: BLR & A-Bolt models
Marlin: 336, 444, 1895, 450
Mossberg: 500 (Small size stocks including Youth, Bantam, Synthetic (Pre-99), 9200/9300 models)
New England Firearms: Partner & Handi-Rifle
Remington: 870 Wingmaster, 870 Police and Youth models, 1100 Semi-Auto, 700 ADL/BDL (Stock sizes of 4-7/8" or smaller. For larger stocks use medium.)
Ruger: M77 Mark II Synthetic (Pre-2001) (Post-2001 use medium), M77 Compact, Mini-14
Savage: 110 wood stock
Winchester: 1200, 1300, Super X2, 70 Classic, Carbine, Featherweight Models, 94 wood stock

MEDIUM

Medium will fit any stock with these dimensions including models shown below.
Stock Dimensions: 1-1/2" to 1-3/4" wide x 5" to 5-3/16" long


Beretta: 391 Synthetic
Benelli: Super Black Eagle & SBEII, NovaL, M1, Montafeltro (All above field models only)
Browning: BAR, Citori
Mossberg: 500 Synthetic (Post-99), 835, 935
Remington: 870 Synthetic (Post-99), 1187 synthetic (Post-99), 700 ADL/BDL (Larger stock sizes), Model 7
Ruger: No. 1, M77 & 77 All Weather Synthetic (Post-2001), Red Label 12 & 20 ga.
Savage: 110 Synthetic Stocks
T/C: Encore, Omega Muzzleloader, Black Diamond
Winchester: 1400/1500 Semi-Auto, Super X1, Model 70 Black Shadow/Classic Stainless (Pre-99)

LARGE

Large size will fit any stock with these dimensions including models shown below.
Stock Dimensions: 1-3/4" to 1-7/8" wide x 5-3/16" to 5-7/16" long

Beretta: 686, 687 Field models, 302, 303 Semi-Auto
Browning: Citori with English Stock

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Figure 2
Card on the back lists many rifles the pad fits



Figure 3

Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on recoil pad. Note interior compartments, a nice touch, my shoulder will need it!



Figure 4

FN Moroccan carbine's 17.38 inch barrel makes it more compact than the Czech CZ 24 with its 23.5 inch barrel. Recoil and muzzle blast is also much more pronounced in the Moroccan carbine.

Recently, Pachmayer® has introduced a slip-on pad made of Decelerator®. Not only is it made of Decelerator®, but, has a compartmented interior for maximum recoil absorption.

I decided to try out a Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad, and see just how much of a difference it made. The only question was: which Mil-Surp in the gun safe would give it the best test? I passed on the "long-tom" Turks with their 29 inch barrels, and even decided a U.S. 03/A3 had much too long of a barrel, even with its 30/06 cartridge, for a real test of the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad.

Wait! 30/06, 30/06, yes, that *will* do! I happen to have a 30/06 Mil-Surp rifle that makes the hearts of even the stoutest men hesitant. A bolt gun in 30/06 caliber with a barrel **less than** 18 inches should do to give the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad a proper test.

After WWII, Fabrique Nationale (FN) in Belgium, was still producing weapons of model 98-type (licensed by Mauser), and actually had been doing so for decades. They sold these contract weapons to countries on virtually every continent. After the war, Belgium adopted the FN 49 semi-auto rifle in 30/06 as their main battle rifle. Belgium knew it would be quite awhile until all their troops could be supplied with the complicated Model

49 rifle.

So, Belgium adopted a model 98-type rifle in caliber 30/06 (with a 23.5 inch barrel) as substitute standard for units not yet outfitted with the semi-auto Model 49. The new 30/06-caliber bolt rifle was given the model designation 1950.

Morocco ordered a small quantity of Model 1950 rifles in caliber 30/06 from FN. However, the Moroccan version was a carbine. My Moroccan Model 1950 carbine is a **true** carbine, with a 17.38 inch barrel. Now, *that* arm should make an excellent test deck for the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad!



Figure 5

FN Moroccan butt plate is corrugated steel, rough on the shoulder.



Figure 6
Korean 30/06 Mil-Surp ammo.



Figure 7

Now that my shoulder has been properly “conditioned” by the corrugated steel buttplate, the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad is slipped on.

I have some Korean 30/06 Mil-Surp ammo. That ammo, and the Model 1950's corrugated steel butt plate will “condition” (beat the tar out of) my shoulder so I can compare and contrast how it feels once the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad is installed.



Figure 8

The compartmented Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-

on pad adds both cushion and length to the short stock.

Off the bench; the Korean 30/06 Mil-Surp ammo was down right ugly to shoot with the abbreviated Moroccan Mauser. In the off-hand position, it wasn't quite as bad, but was still somewhat uncomfortable.



Figure 9

Your author testing the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad from the off hand position.

From the off hand position, the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad made the shooting downright pleasant! I could have shot all day like that. With the steel buttplate, fatigue would have set in very fast after very many rounds.

I found the Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pad a very useful item. It absolutely took the 'bite' out of shooting the short, 30/06 caliber Moroccan Mauser.

It also added length to the stock. For the man with rather long arms, that would be an additional plus.

Pachmayer® Decelerator® slip-on pads come in 3 sizes, small, medium and large. I used a medium pad on the Moroccan Mauser.

Midway Product #: 546531 (size medium)

<http://www.midwayusa.com>

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