

## WEAPON GUIDE

# BARRETT M99

SMALL ARMS REVIEW TEAM

## BOLT ACTION ANTI-MATERIAL RIFLE (.50 BMG)



Ronnie Barrett's single-shot bolt action M99 (c. 1999) is a less expensive version of the [discontinued] magazine fed M95 (c. 1995), which is lighter and cheaper than the self-loading M82 (c. 1982) and M107A1 (c. 2003).

The noisy muzzle brake substantially reduces recoil, though the best option would be to fit a Barrett sound suppressor which reduces both recoil and muzzle blast.

A telescopic sight is needed for long range use but are not a replacement for iron sights which are far more robust and essential for backup use if the scope is damaged.

A tough variable power scope like the Burris noted below is recommended to maximize the effectiveness of this rifle, though a fixed power scope with 6x, 8x or 10x magnification is adequate for most uses. Anything more than 10x in a fixed power scope is not desirable as it takes too long to find close range targets.

The reticle on scopes used on these heavy recoiling rifles should either be made of tape or etched onto the glass, not weaker wire that is prone to breaking.

For anti-material use the Raufoss Mk 211 Mod 0 is best (green on white painted

tip). This HEIAP round is ideal for use against unarmored and lightly armored vehicles.

The black tip M2 AP round and the silver tip M8 API round with tungsten steel cores are better for sniping as they tend to be more accurate and have better penetration than the Raufoss round.

The high velocity M903 SLAP round with a sub-caliber 7.62mm tungsten bullet in an amber sabot (M962 tracer variant uses a red sabot) has about twice the penetration of the non-SLAP AP rounds but is not as accurate so is unsuited to long range sniping.

### RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES

**Log Book**  
Firearm Usage & Maintenance Log Book. [Blackheart International]

**Cleaning Kit**  
Otis .50 Caliber Rifle Cleaning Kit (FG-250). [Otis Technology]

**Firearm CLP**  
Beak Free CLP. [Safariland]

**Broken Shell Extractor**  
.50 Cal cartridge type broken shell extractor. [SARCO, Inc.]

**Dry Fire Rounds**  
A-Zoom Snap Caps. [Lyman Products Corporation]

**Ear Plugs**  
EarPro EP3 or EP4. [SureFire]

## BURRIS 4.5-14X42 FULLFIELD E1 RIFLESCOPE



This scope is double spring tensioned for reliability and has an etched reticle rather than wire that can break under heavy recoil.

It has a focus wheel for parallax adjustment (from 50 yards to infinity) and two reticle

options with the Ballistic Plex E1 and the Long-Range MOA. We favor the later reticle which stays the same size relative to the target no matter what the magnification, which makes rangefinding easier and faster.

It is best fitted via the Burris AR-P.E.P.R Quick-Detach mount so one can quickly replace it with a red dot sight or use the iron sights.

### SPECIFICATIONS

Weight: 10 kg (23 lb)  
Length: 120 cm (47 in)  
Barrel Length: 74 cm (29 in)  
Action: single-shot bolt action

### HOT TIP

Training magazines can suffer metal fatigue to their springs so don't use them for combat.