

PRODUCT REVIEW

TIKKA T3X

BY RICHARD LUTZ

APRIL 2021

TIKKA T3X - BOLT ACTION RIFLE (.308W/7.62x51MM)



Tikka T3x Tac A1
16" barrel

Tikka T3x Battue Lite
20" barrel

Tikka T3x Arctic
20" barrel

The Tikka T3x (c. 2016), an improved version of the earlier T3 (c. 2003), is a push feed bolt action rifle produced in Finland which has a reputation for reliability and build quality.

The T3x has a metal bolt cover rather than one made of polymer, a recoil lug made of steel rather than aluminium, and a slightly enlarged loading/ejection port that makes it easier to single load rounds directly into the chamber (their magazines must be removed to load them).

The standard sporting rifles have a polymer magazine housing/triggerguard assembly, which is best replaced with an aluminium unit (like those from Mountain Tactical Company) as the polymer housing can twist slightly and make it difficult to remove the polymer magazines (that hold 3 or 5 rounds). The added rigidity can also improve accuracy. Tactical versions like the Arctic and Tac A1 have an aluminium magazine housing/triggerguard assembly and use steel 10 round magazines.

For general use I favor the Battue as it comes with superb high visibility iron sights. I favor the laminated wood stocks which are more stable and stronger than the polymer and conventional wood stocks.

The Tac A1 has a folding stock which makes it easier to discretely transport than a fixed stock rifle.

The .308W round (7.62x51mm) is far more versatile than the less powerful .223R round (5.56x45mm) and chambered for a wider range of T3x models.

LEUPOLD VX-R 2-7X33MM RIFLESCOPE



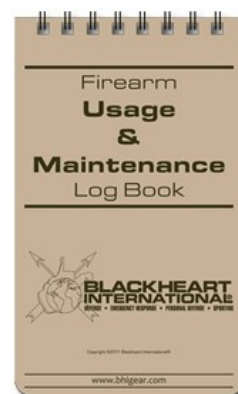
This scope is ideal for general use and can be mounted low on the T3x Battue without coming into contact with the raised rear sight assembly due to its small 33mm front objective lens.

It is best used with an anti-reflection device (ARD). I prefer the simple FireDot Duplex

reticle (illuminated).

It can be fitted with a CDS bullet drop compensation dial to match the load you use (best used in conjunction with a laser rangefinder).

I recommend Warne's Maxima Tikka 30mm QD rings (14TLM). If a rail is fitted, as on the Arctic and the Tac A1, I recommend Warne's Maxima 30mm QD rings (214LM).



RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES

Handbook

Tikka Instruction Manual.
[Tikka]

Log Book

Firearm Usage & Maintenance Log Book.
[Blackheart International]

Cleaning Kit

7.62mm Defender Series Cleaning Kit.
[Otis Technology]

Broken Case Extractor

.308 Broken Shell Extractor.
[Brownells]

Dry Fire Rounds

A-Zoom 308 Win Snap Caps.
[Lyman Products Corporation]

Sling

Quick Cuff Model M24 US Military Precision Rifle Sling.
[Precision Rifle Accessories]

IRON SIGHTS

Most models are delivered without iron sights, which are optional on some models but highly desirable. The Tac A1 can be fitted with aftermarket flip up sights like the Low Profile Micro Sights from Troy Industries (HK Front and Round Rear).

HOT TIP

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