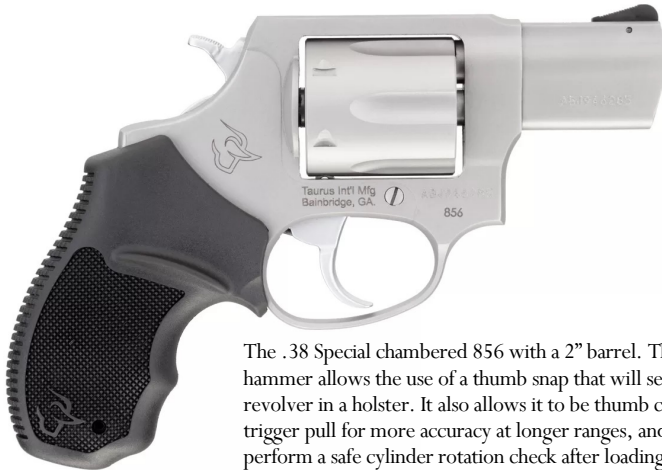


WEAPON GUIDE

TAURUS MODEL 856

SMALL ARMS REVIEW TEAM

COMPACT REVOLVER (.38 SPECIAL)



The .38 Special chambered 856 with a 2" barrel. The external hammer allows the use of a thumb snap that will securely hold the revolver in a holster. It also allows it to be thumb cocked for a lighter trigger pull for more accuracy at longer ranges, and allows users to perform a safe cylinder rotation check after loading it by simply pulling the hammer back slightly to unlock the cylinder.



Bianchi Speed Strips



HKS Speedloader Model 10-A

The Taurus Model 856 (c. 2018) is a six-shot small frame revolver with a 2" barrel based on the earlier 5-shot Model 85 (c. 1985), which was in turn based on the earlier Smith & Wesson Model 36 "Chief's Special" (c. 1950). The have an excellent reputation for reliability and durability.

If you want a pocket gun a lighter internal hammer S&W Centennial (like the Model 442 with an aluminium frame) and Ruger LCR are best, but at the cost of increased recoil. The heavier steel frame Model 856 is better suited to use with high

performance +P loads, though its weight and external hammer make it best suited to IWB or waistpack type holsters, not pockets.

In addition to being easier to shoot well, a steel frame revolver like this is inherently more robust and better suited to use as an impact weapon than aluminium and polymer frame revolvers.

The 856 comes with rubber grips which aid both control and comfort, though for concealed carry hard wood grips such as the Secret Service Grips from Eagle Grips are best as they will not grab clothing and allow your

hand to easily slide over it to quickly acquire a solid hold before drawing it from a holster like the superb BHYCS-TB holster from Black Hills Leather Store.

The .38 Special round is best in a small frame revolver as it has the best mix of stopping power and controllability, with a huge range of loads to choose from, including shotshell loads for snakes.

We recommend the Hornady 38 Special 90gr FTX Critical Defense Lite load and (for the recoil sensitive) the Federal Personal Defense 38 Special 110 Grain Hydra-Shok Low Recoil load.

SUMMARY

The strongest small frame revolver, so ideal for even the hottest .38 Special loads and an excellent choice for concealed carry in an IWB or waistpack type holster.

ACCESSORIES

Log Book

Firearm Usage & Maintenance Log Book. [Blackheart International]

Cleaning Kit

BoreSnake Soft Sided Cleaning Kit (34002). [Hoppe's]

Speedloader

HKS Speedloader Model 10-A. [HKS]

Dry Fire Rounds

A-Zoom Snap Caps. [Lyman Products Corporation]

Ear Plugs

EarPro EP3 or EP4. [SureFire]

Wood Grips

Secret Service Grips. [Eagle Grips]

Belt Holster

BHYCS-TB Inside the Waist Scabbard with Thumb Break. [Black Hills Leather Store]

Waistpack Holster

Stealth Pac. [Coronado Leather]

Tactical Flashlight

G2X LE. [SureFire]

HOT TIP

Have a gunsmith give it an action job for a smoother and more consistent trigger pull to aid accurate shooting.