

PRODUCT REVIEW

SMITH & WESSON M&P9

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SELF-LOADING PISTOL (9X19MM)



M&P9 M2.0 4" Compact Thumb Safety

The Smith & Wesson M&P9 M2.0 (c. 2017) is an improved version of the original M&P9 service pistol (c. 2005).

It is essentially a Glock but with a better grip angle, better grip adjustment options with the replaceable grip inserts, a better grip texture, a better trigger, a stronger steel reinforced frame forward of the trigger to better support sighting aids like tactical lights, and safer disassembly for cleaning as the trigger does not have to be pulled, with disassembly facilitated by an easy to use disassembly lever.

Unlike Glock's, it is available with both a manual safety catch and a magazine safety, which makes it safer to use and much better for open carry when gun snatchers might try to gain control of it.

It comes standard with a key lock—the small round hole on the upper frame behind the thumb safety.

The Browning type short recoil operating system and single-action (SA) style firing mechanism used in striker fired pistols like this provides a short trigger pull for every shot, much like the heavier steel frame Browning Hi-Power, but without the need for an external hammer. The striker (firing pin) is partially cocked when the slide is moved fully rearwards, as occurs when chambering a round, while pulling the trigger completes the cocking process and releases the

striker to fire the chambered round.

M&P series pistols have a great reputation for reliability, while I recommend the Compact M2.0 4" Thumb Safety, which is big enough for service use but small enough for concealed carry. I prefer the 4" barrel variant of the Compact to the 3.6" barrel variant as it has a longer sight radius for better practical accuracy, better ballistics, balances better, and may be slightly more reliable.

Safety Options

The M&P series pistols are available with a manual safety catch (pictured) which substantially reduces the incidence of accidental discharges (ADs) when drawing or reholstering them, and will help stop gun snatchers using them. They are also available with a magazine safety so a M&P with a round in the chamber will not fire if the magazine is not seated, which helps prevent ADs and can be used to help stop gun snatchers using them by hitting the magazine release if you are losing control of it during a struggle.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The versatile M&P9 Compact is reliable, durable, robust, simple, lightweight, easy to use, compact, and uses high capacity magazines.

RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES

Manual

M&P M2.0 Owner's Manual. [Smith & Wesson]

Log Book

Firearm Usage & Maintenance Log Book. [Blackheart International]

Field Bore Brush

Hoppe's BoreSnake. [Hoppe's]

Cleaner/Lubricant

Slip 2000 725 / Slip 2000 EWL. [Slip 2000]

Dry Fire Rounds

A-Zoom 9mm Luger Snap Caps. [Lyman Products Corporation]

Ear Plugs

EarPro or EP3 or EP4. [SureFire]

High Visibility Sights

XS 24/7 Standard Dot Tritium Front and Tritium White Stripe Rear. [XS Sight Systems]

Tactical Light

XC1-B LED Handgun WeaponLight. [SureFire]

Holster

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

Flashlight

G2X Tactical. [SureFire]

HOT TIP

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