

Summary of 22lr options

I am looking to purchase a 22lr option for fun shooting. I really enjoy my other rifles, but I am finding that if I had a cheaper ammo option I would shoot a lot more. Since I already own a 5.56 (.223) suppressor I was looking into 22lr rifles that have threaded barrels. Boy, I didn't realize the options out there.

Complete Kits

The complete kits look great. I am uncertain as to exactly how much "plastic" is in the weapons. Clearly they do NOT contain the same level of material that the standard rifle does, but that doesn't mean they are not well made. They are what they are. Even in an example like the new Colt rifle, the actual partner they are using in the production of their 22lr is an AIRSOFT manufacturer. Certainly not cause to dismiss the rifle, simply something to consider. Unfortunately some of these kits do not seem to have threaded barrels, one of my main factors in consideration of a purchase.

22lr Uppers

The more I look at this topic, the more I consider getting away from the "complete" weapon systems in favor of a more tried-and-true upper receiver. Granted, I am no expert shooter, but I shoot enough to realize that a "simplified" system made for the general public may not quite be rugged enough or have enough accessory options.

With the uppers you have to have your own lower (or buy one separately).... So there is some assembly and loss of convenience with buying an "upper" only. Several people mentioned that with a 22lr upper you may not want to fowl your lower used for your standard M4. If you do buy a 22lr upper, plan on spending some \$300 or so for a LOWER, especially considering that..... some people have a lot of trouble getting their 22lr upper to work with their lower. I have read a lot of stories about struggles with tweaking to get everything to work right for timing, blowback, hammer strike, etc. That kind of scares me. Other people have no trouble whatsoever, so that is something to consider.

Bolt Replacement

There are options where you can simply replace the bolt assembly in a standard M4 or M16, but that scares me a whole lot more than buying a 22lr upper. Besides, that is a whole lot more screwing around to swap out all the time. Furthermore, I don't wish to "disturb" my Colt M4 weapon system in 5.56 every time I want to shoot 22lr. Swapping lowers is bad enough. Having to swap bolts is a whole additional concern.

Other Options

There are also many kinds of kits that work with existing rifles like the Ruger 10-22s that allow you to make them into different tactical rifles. Many people suggested this. Specifically, Skipm of 22tactical.com suggested "*stocks from Tapco, Christies, and Nordic just to name a few. There are also adapters so that standard AR accessories can be fitted onto a 10-22. Not to mention that many people have modded air-soft stocks to fit the 10-22 and Marlin model 60 rifles.*" I do not consider these viable options for my purposes here. I think I am looking for a weapon system that looks and feels like an M4, MP5, or SIG 556.

Summary

So I am looking for a 22lr "tactical" rifle for myself. I do have a buddy of mine turning 40 this year. I am considering buying him one of the same rifles for his birthday. I probably would definitely get one of the "complete" systems for him.... as he is not an avid shooter.

May 2009 Update



I DID end up purchasing a GSG5 PK and getting the thread adapter from www.mygsg5.com. Here it is:

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I think I am still in the market for an AR15 style 22lr from colt for me, and one for my buddy... assuming they are priced around \$500.



Weapon	Cost	Released	Barrel	Notes
SIG SAUER - SIG522 	\$543	Fall 2009	No threads on barrel, doesn't look to me like it can be modified to have threads.	A different look, I like it. Some Polymer/plastic parts.
Smith & Wesson M&P15-22. 	\$ 500	Release within a year	No threads on barrel. Not sure about the possibility to thread barrel.	Almost Looks like a standard AR. Some Polymer/plastic parts.
German Sports Guns GSG-5 and related 	Around \$ 500 depending on style and availability	Various models on market, can be a hard weapon to find in stock	No threads on rifle version. Versions sold as pistols (P and PK) do have after-market adapters that convert to standard threading.	MP5 kind of look to it. Looks like a lot of variants on the market from pistol to rifle setups. Some Polymer/plastic parts.
Kel-Tek SU-22CA 	unknown	Nice looking rifle, but not what I am looking for.		
Colt / Umarex M4 Carbine 	Unknown, saw listed for \$595 but could be as much as \$700?	Release is scheduled for May 2009	Looks like it might take the standard A2 flash hider. Need to confirm this.	Several models. If threaded barrel, this is the one to get. Umarex is an airsoft company. Too much plastic?
Tactial Solutions 866-333-9901 	\$610	Out of stock, if you put your name in now (March 09) then available in May 09.	Threaded barrel so this would work perfectly. Standard hand-guard and front sight	More expensive than items above. Check if fit with my lower. Magazines? Metal AR parts, so costs a bit more.
Walther G22 	unknown	I didn't look into this option since I didn't care for the look of the rifle.		
Model 1 Sales 903-546-2087 	About \$525	Seems like a pretty good mix of price and quality. Every time I call this number it is busy. Quality AR parts, so costs a bit more.		

Spikes Tactical 407-928-2666 A3 Flat top	 A black rifle with a flat-top receiver, shown against a red background.	\$600	In stock	Threaded barrel, even has flat top gas block.	More expensive than items above. Check if fit with my lower. Magazines? Metal AR parts, so costs a bit more.
CMMG, Inc.	 A black rifle with a flat-top receiver, shown against a gravel background.	\$595	In stock? I don't know.	Not many options, no flat top gas block option.	Same concerns

SIG SAUER - SIG522



<http://www.sigsauer.com/Products/ShowCatalogProductDetails.aspx?categoryid=66&productid=249>

The Look and Feel of the Classic SIG556™ in Affordable .22 Rifle SIG SAUER, Inc., the leading manufacturer of commercial, law enforcement, and military firearms fuels the demand for the legendary SIG556 performance but in an affordable .22 LR caliber with the new SIG522 semi-automatic rifle. Featuring SIG556 parts including a Swiss type folding stock and polymer forend on a durable metal receiver with integral Picatinny rail, and a Mini Red Dot sight. The SIG522 provides the avid sport shooter plenty of action on a classic military style platform that give the look, feel and dependability of our full size SIG556.

Item Number SIG522001

Caliber .22 LR

Overall Length 29.8 in

length w/Stock Collapsed 29.1

(something is wrong with he 29.1 length, must be an error)

Barrel Length 17 in

Rifling 1 in 7 in

Sight Radius 14.4 in

Forearm Polymer

Stock Type Swiss Type Folding



My question: Can this be threaded to accept the standard M4/M16 flash hider? The photo below looks like it might, but you can't really tell. Doesn't look like it receives the standard M4 style flash hider.



Smith & Wesson M&P15-22

<http://www.smith-wesson.com>

No link found on the site.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (January 19, 2009) - Smith & Wesson Corp., the legendary 157-year old firearms maker, announced that it would expand its Military & Police (M&P) Rifle Series with the introduction of a new tactical rifle chambered in .22 LR - the M&P15-22. The dedicated .22 LR platform offers the fit and feel of the company's popular M&P15 rifle, while being chambered in the more economical ammunition.

Engineered on a high strength polymer upper and lower receiver, the M&P15-22 benefits from reduced weight while retaining the looks and operating features of the standard M&P15 rifle. The new semi-automatic rifle features a 16-inch barrel with a twist of 1 in 15 inches. The M&P15-22 is standard with a six-position collapsible stock to accommodate a variety of shooters and shooting positions, an A3 style flat top upper receiver with a quad-rail handguard for easily mounting optional accessories and an A2 pistol grip for improved firearm control.

The new tactical rifle also features a fully functional charging handle, an AR-15 style magazine release, bolt catch and a two-position receiver mounted safety. The M&P15-22 is complete with a removable 25 round magazine along with a removable A2-style front post sight, an adjustable A2-style rear sight and a single stage trigger. An optional barrel shroud is also available.

"In designing the new M&P15-22, our engineers pulled out all of the stops to develop the ultimate .22LR platform," said Tom Kelly, Vice President of Marketing for Smith & Wesson. "The rifle's operating features, functionality and durability are exactly what you would expect from any of Smith & Wesson's tactical rifles. By remaining true to the standard AR-15 design while offering all of the preferred features found on the M&P Rifle Series, the M&P15-22 is well suited for a variety of recreational shooting applications while also being an extremely viable training firearm for law enforcement and military personnel. Shooters will find the M&P15-22 to be a great firearm for multiple uses with the reduced recoil and economical .22LR caliber ammunition."



The M&P15-22 has an unloaded weight of approximately 5 pounds. The rifle measures a compact 31 inches with the stock collapsed and 34 inches with the stock fully extended. The M&P15-22 is designed to accept all 1913 Mil. Std. rail adaptable accessories, Mil-Spec carbine stocks and most standard after-market AR-15 pistol grips.

The rifle features:

- * A3 style flat top upper receiver
- * A2 front post sight
- * A2 rear sight
- * M4 style collapsible stock
- * Quad rail handguard

Specs:

- Barrel length:** 16"
- Magazine capacity:** 25 rounds
- Barrel twist:** 1:15
- Upper Receiver:** A3
- Weight:** 5 lbs (unloaded)
- Length:** 31" (stock collapsed)

UPDATE: The MSRP is \$499

My question: Can this be threaded to accept the standard M4/M16 flash hider? The photo below looks like it might, but you can't really tell. Doesn't look like it receives the standard M4 style flash hider.

German Sports Guns GSG-5 and related

<http://www.gsg5rifle.com/>

The new GSG-5 .22 caliber semi-auto rifle from American Tactical Imports is an exact replica of H&K MP 5 sub-machinegun aside from the caliber. Ergonomics and handling are identical to that of the MP 5 with an overall length of 33.5" and a weight of 6.6 pounds which makes it an ideal training tool for Law Enforcement, Military personnel or civilians. 22 long rifle offers an immense savings over 9mm/40/45 caliber ammunition allowing extensive range time with the GSG-5 at a minimal cost to the user.



Barrel length on the GSG-5 rifle is 16.25 inches including the faux suppressor which surpasses federal requirements making it legal to own by anyone. The GSG-5 utilizes either a 22 or 10 rd detachable box magazine that releases with an H&K style paddle magazine release. The charging handle on the GSG-5 is located on the left side of the receiver and is non-reciprocating just like the H&K MP5 series.



The GSG-5 comes standard with a conventional MP 5 style stock and forend but American Tactical Imports also offers several different style stocks and tactical forends including a side-folding stock like the H&K MP5k-PDW and a retractable stock as offered on the H&K MP5A3. The GSG-5 comes with a standard H&K style forend but is upgradeable to a tactical railed forend that accepts tactical grips, lights and lasers.



The GSG-5 utilizes the H&K style Drum sight that is windage and elevation adjustable. Accessories available for the GSG-5 include a claw mount with picatiny rail allowing just about any optic from a tactical or hunting scope to a Close Quarters Battle optic like a red dot sight to be mounted on the receiver. In addition to extra magazines ATI also offers a tactical magazine coupler for joining 2 magazines together making for a faster reload. American Tactical Imports also offers an MP5SD style barrel/faux suppressor that looks exactly like the original. Whether you are looking for a low cost tactical trainer or a fun plinker the GSG-5 rifle is a winning choice.

GSG5 rifles cannot be modified for a suppressor unless you pay the \$200 tax and file all the proper paperwork to have the barrel cut.

The GSG5-P and GSG5 PK have after-market parts you can get so that you have standard threading on the end for attachments like flash hidere and suppressors. The GSG5-P's thread adapter ties in to the FRAME and not directly on the barrel. I don't care for that, but I assume it works well. The GSG5-PK's thread adapter attaches directly to the

BARREL so that is what I am probably going to get. With a tie-in to the barrel I have full confidence that everything will be aligned in the suppressor to prevent strikes.

Oh, and remember in the USA it is illegal to add a stock or foregrip to a GSG5 pistol. You have to file the proper forms and pay the \$200 tax to do that.

Other kits and options



Kel-Tek SU-22ca

The SU-22 rifle is chambered for the popular and economical .22 Long Rifle cartridge (.22LR). It is based on the 5.56mm NATO chambered SU-22 rifle and shares many parts including the grip and front and rear sights. The SU-22 is not a simple conversion kit, it is a standalone firearm chambered for the .22LR and is designed for target shooting, plinking, or small game hunting.



The PLR-22 and SU-22 operate by blowback action and have a 4140 steel bolt that rides on steel guide rails inside the polymer receiver. The ejector is attached to one of the guide rails and the recoil spring is located above the barrel. The cross-bolt safety and magazine release operate identically to the PLR-16 and SU-16.

The PLR-22 and SU-22 will accept many of the same accessories as the PLR-16 and SU-16 including the slings, stocks, and compact forend. The rear sight is adjustable for windage and the front sight is adjustable for elevation. An integrated picatinny rail on top will accept a multitude of sighting options. The muzzle end of the barrel is threaded ½"-28 to accept standard attachments such as a muzzle brake. A 26 round semi-transparent magazine is included and it will accept magazines designed for the Atchison M-16 conversion.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Caliber :	.22LR
Weight unloaded :	4.0 lbs
Length Open :	34"
Barrel Length :	16.1"
Twist :	1:16"
Magazin Capacity :	26 rounds or Atchison M-16

Can these be threaded to accept the standard M4/M16 flash hider? It doesn't look like there is much barrel there to do sit to me.

Colt / Umarex M4 Carbine

.22 Tactical Rimfire AR-15

Colt and Umarex have teamed up to produce the Colt M4 .22 Tactical Rimfire. This is probably the only real "Colt M4" you will ever be allowed to own!

I am not 100% sure they are in fact AR-15s. [UMAREX USA](#) uses well known brand-names such as Beretta, Ruger and Walther to sell their airguns. This could easily be a AR-15 patterned rifle much like the [.22 GSG MP5](#) or [GSG AK](#).

There will be four different models.

Colt M4 Carbine

- * 16" Barrel
- M4 collapsible style stock
- A4 flat top upper receiver
- detachable carry handle
- A2 flash hider
- A2 pistol grip
- 30 round magazine
- Weight: 5.95 lbs

Colt M4 OPS (includes the following extras):

- * Rear BUIS (Backup iron sight)
- * Free floated aluminum picatinny rail handguard

Colt M16 (includes the following extras):

- * 20" barrel

Colt M16 SPR (includes the following extras):

- * 20" barrel
- floated aluminum picatinny rail handguard
- * Flip up rear and front sights

Fake suppressors will also be available as seen in the above photo.

It will be officially announced at SHOT Show 2009. (The 2009 shot show is over,

Is this threaded to accept the standard M4/M16 flash hider? If so, this is my best option.

<http://www.thefirearmblog.com/blog/2009/01/13/colt-umarex-m4-carbine-22-tactical-rimfire-ar-15/>



available at:



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Tactical Solutions

866-333-9901

22lr AR-15 M4 Upper Receiver/Barrel

SKU: TS_AR15_M4

Weight: 6 lbs 8 oz

Features: - Standard A4 Flat-Top - Heat Treated 416 Stainless Steel Bolt - Tool Steel Bolt Rail - High Quality Chrome Moly Barrel Blank - 16.1" Barrel length - 1 in 16" Twist - 1/2-28 Threads - M4 Contour - A1 Flash Hider PLEASE CALL 866-333-9901 TO ORDER More details...

Price: \$610.00



Availability: Typically ships within 120 days. As of March 19, 2009 currently out of stock. If ordered now will come in by May. First come, first served.

INCLUDES threaded barrel so that is perfect for what I am looking for. Standard hand-guard so functions like standard M4. A bit pricey for just an upper if you ask me. Should consider if a custom trigger might interfere with operation, but I doubt it. The system has its own "spring" in the bolt area so it does not use the lower's spring system when firing.

This is threaded so it WILL accept the standard M4/M16 flash hider! This is certainly a valid option.

<http://www.tacticalsol.com/store/pc/viewPrd.asp?idcategory=27&idproduct=877#details>

One other civilian model option shown at right. No threaded barrel.



Walther G22

I didn't look into this much as I didn't care for the rifle's aesthetics.



Model 1 Sales

903-546-2087

These guys seem to have some good options. From about \$425 to \$575+ based on options.

Here is the 22lr upper M4 for \$525

Every time I call this number it is busy.

.22LR M4 16" Upper Half



A2 upper

All US Made Parts

- Dedicated .22LR Upper with M15 bolt assembly
 - Complete 16" .22LR M4 barrel assembly, manganese phosphate finish chrome moly, 1-16" twist
 - Threaded muzzle with A1 or A2 flashider
 - Forged front sight base with lug
 - A2 or A3 forged hardcoat anodized upper with mil-spec Teflon coating
 - Rear sight (A2 only)
 - Aluminum delta ring
 - M4 handguard with heat shield
 - Ejection port cover
 - Forward assist assembly
- Also includes charging handle and depending on local laws, (1) 30 rd clear mag or (1) 10 rd mag

No FFL Required - Void where prohibited by law

<http://www.model1sales.com/catalog-list.cfm?Category=15&Subcat=%2E22LR%20Upper%20Halves&storeid=1>

Spikes Tactical

407-928-2666

Spikes Tactical has a lot of 22lr uppers, but their picture databank is awful. Prices range from \$650 to \$800 depending on what you want.

In Stock!

http://www.spikestactical.com/z/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=26&products_id=122



Are the magazines proprietary?

Extra cost for front sight post?

CMMG, Inc.

CMMG M4 Dedicated .22LR Upper

New CMMG M4 dedicated .22LR upper receiver. This kit is based on our standard .22 drop in conversion kit. Barrel is a 1/16" with our WASP finish. Barrel OAL is 16". Compatible with BDM, Ceiner or similar mags. Magazine not included.

SKU Number:U-160422

Price: \$595.90

<http://cmmginc.secure-mall.com/shop/?cart=1577116&cat=38&>



Other links

<http://www.calguns.net/calgunforum/showthread.php?p=1899996>

<http://www.ar15.com/forums/topic.html?b=6&f=41&t=244309>