

# What kind of gear; belt, holster, mag carrier do I need to get started?

My friend Jon [@jonruns](#) suggested I make a short guide for newer shooters. Several of my friends from other industries, clients, and acquaintances have asked this question. So, based on Jon's suggestion, here are some of my thoughts and suggestions.

In my opinion, there are three top priorities (safety being omnipresent) when shooting: 1) The ability to get your gun into action. 2) The ability to hit what you're shooting at. 3) The ability to manage recoil. We'll be talking about number 1, getting your gun into action. I'll break it down into two categories: range use and concealed carry use.

**Range use:** You should have a place for your gun to be when not shooting! The bench is not that place. You need a holster. **Characteristics of a good holster:** specific to your pistol, covers/protects trigger, reliable pistol retention, stays in place, rigid or semi rigid, functional for multiple activities. These characteristics apply to both inside the waistband (IWB) and outside the waistband (OWB) type holsters. You also need a place to carry extra magazines. The more you have readily available, the less time spent thumbing rounds into magazines, the more time you have training. And finally, you need something to attach these things to. I'm a fan of the inner/outer belt system. This system allows you to easily get your rig on and off, and it's highly modular or modifiable.

Some Belt/Holster/Pouch options that offer affordability and quality follow.

<https://blade-tech.com/products/competition-shooter-belt>

<https://blade-tech.com/products/signature-holster?variant=8169833824346>

<https://blade-tech.com/products/signature-double-mag-pouch>

<https://www.doublealpha.biz/us/daa-premium-belt>

<https://www.doublealpha.biz/us/daa-max-idpa-holster>

<https://www.doublealpha.biz/us/cr-speed-versa-pouches>

<https://www.amazon.com/KRYDEX-Pouches-Competition-Multi-Angle-Magazine/dp/B07T1BDGK8>

[https://www.amazon.com/Black-Scorpion-Gear-Competition-Right-Hand/dp/B095SZ7H54/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?crd=7QR3DXB0A3E9&keywords=Black%2BScorpion%2BGlock%2B19&qid=1677695039&s=sporting-goods&sprefix=black%2Bscorpion%2Bglock%2B19%2Csporting%2C167&sr=1-1&th=1&psc=1](https://www.amazon.com/Black-Scorpion-Gear-Competition-Right-Hand/dp/B095SZ7H54/ref=sr_1_1?crd=7QR3DXB0A3E9&keywords=Black%2BScorpion%2BGlock%2B19&qid=1677695039&s=sporting-goods&sprefix=black%2Bscorpion%2Bglock%2B19%2Csporting%2C167&sr=1-1&th=1&psc=1)

[https://www.amazon.com/Safariland-Paddle-Slide-Holster-Glock/dp/B001V2Z90C/ref=sr\\_1\\_5?crd=30DS8QP3DJJ4E&keywords=safariland+als&qid=1677695278&s=sporting-goods&sprefix=safariland+als%2Csporting%2C191&sr=1-5](https://www.amazon.com/Safariland-Paddle-Slide-Holster-Glock/dp/B001V2Z90C/ref=sr_1_5?crd=30DS8QP3DJJ4E&keywords=safariland+als&qid=1677695278&s=sporting-goods&sprefix=safariland+als%2Csporting%2C191&sr=1-5)

**Concealed carry use:** I do NOT advocate for open carry out in public! The same holster characteristics listed above apply to concealed carry with the additional characteristic of being concealable. That said, concealed carry is a lifestyle. It isn't comfortable. You will be, and should be, acutely aware that you have a gun on your waist. Depending on how you carry, it may gouge your pelvic bone and belly. If you have chosen to carry because of potential dangers in the world, comfort is secondary. The belt is equally important. It should be rigid enough to hold the weight of your gun securely. There are many, many options.

Here's a few.

<https://benstoegerproshop.com/blade-tech-ultimate-carry-belt-by-nexbelt/>

<https://www.koreessentials.com/products/x7-buckle-black-tactical-gun-belt-1>

<https://blade-tech.com/products/nano-iwb-holster>

<https://safariland.com/collections/iwb-holsters/products/species-iwb-holster>

<https://tenicor.com/collections/aiwb-holsters/products/velo4-aiwb-holster-for-glock>

These are just a very few, generic options. You can start here and run any of this gear with confidence. As you progress into one discipline or another, you can purchase or refine gear to fit specific needs. Feel free to ask questions, I'm happy to help you find a solution.

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