

BOLT VS LEVER - PART II

Following on Part I - www.myguns.ca/Downloads. Lever-action and bolt-action rifles, each with unique features, are popular firearm mechanisms. Their different designs and features cater to various preferences and shooting situations. Here's a comparison between the two:

1. Action and Operation

- Lever-Action:
 - Operates by a lever, typically located below the trigger guard.
 - Quicker to cycle than a bolt-action rifle in some cases because the motion is more fluid and requires two movements.
- Bolt-Action:
 - Operates by manually lifting and pulling back a bolt handle, which ejects the spent casing and then pushes it forward to chamber a new round.
 - Generally slower than a lever action but more deliberate and precise in operation.

2. Accuracy

- Lever-Action:
 - Typically, it is less accurate at long ranges due to its design and the type of cartridges often used.
 - Barrels tend to be shorter, and some lever-action rifles are chambered for less powerful cartridges.
- Bolt-Action:
 - Known for superior accuracy, at all distances.
 - The action is more rigid, with greater precision.
 - Uses higher pressure cartridges for longer distances.

3. Durability and Maintenance

- Lever-Action:
 - More complex design with more moving parts, making it slightly more prone to wear and tear.
 - Maintenance can be more challenging compared to a bolt-action.
- Bolt-Action:
 - Simpler and more durable due to fewer moving parts.
 - Easier to maintain and clean, making it more reliable.

4. Cartridge Types

- Lever-Action:
 - Often chambered in shorter, lower pressured cartridges like .30-30, 35 Remington, 45-70, or pistol-caliber rounds. More popular with straight-wall cartridges
 - Ideal for hunting in thick brush or at closer ranges.
- Bolt-Action:
 - Chambered in a wide range of high-velocity cartridges, from small calibers like .223 to larger ones like .30-06, .300 Win Mag, or even .50 BMG.
 - More suitable for longer-range hunting and competition applications.

5. Capacity

- Lever-Action:
 - Often uses a tubular magazine located under the barrel, which limits the number of rounds (typically 5-10).
 - Usually, only rounded or flat-nosed bullets can be used in tubular magazines to avoid accidental ignition.
- Bolt-Action:
 - Can use detachable box magazines or internal magazines, with a capacity ranging from 3-10 rounds or more, depending on the rifle.
 - Able to accommodate a wider variety of bullet shapes and sizes.

6. Historical and Aesthetic Appeal

- Lever-Action:
 - Iconic in American history, often associated with the Old West.
 - Has a nostalgic and classic appeal for collectors and enthusiasts.
- Bolt-Action:
 - Often seen in military, competition, and hunting contexts.
 - More modern in appearance and design, although some bolt-action rifles also have a historical appeal from WWI and WWII.

SUMMARY

Each rifle type is suited to different applications, so the choice depends on your priorities—speed and nostalgia with lever action or the confidence of precision and power with bolt action.

- Lever-Action:
 - Faster cycling, shorter range, less accuracy, used in close-to-medium range scenarios.
- Bolt-Action:
 - Slower cycling, superior accuracy, ideal for long-range shooting, and more powerful cartridges.

WHATS HAPPENING

1. I will host a restricted class on Saturday 16th Nov. Please book on-line
2. Reloading kits arrived, please contact me if you want to book a reloading class.
3. If anyone would be interested in an "Introduction to ballistics" class, please let me know - I had some students who took the scope class and wasn't sure how to read ballistic charts.
4. I have three 22LR gongs to give away, please contact me to pick one up.