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## **TIPS FOR PURCHASING A FIREARM**

### **Not sure what to purchase....**

- **Solicit recommendations of firearms from friends or Google best concealed carry firearms**
- **Always shoot firearms before you make a purchase.**
- **Shoot at least 20 rounds of ammo through each firearm.**
- **Decide which caliber you want to test out.**
- **Determine whether the size of the gun is just right in your hand as you test out firearms.**
- **Did the firearm feel smooth or raggedy during the shooting experience?**
- **Do not purchase a used gun (what if it has been recalled, did the gun get cleaned regularly, do you know the “history” of the gun)**

### **You know which gun you want....**

- **Decide on the caliber size (.380, 9mm, 40 or 45 caliber)**
- **Google the firearm maker & model to check for recalls.**
- **Check YouTube for reviews by gun testers (Hitchcock is a reputable tester/reviewer)**
- **Shop around for deals (Cabela’s, Gun broker, Range USA, Eagle, Sporting Arms, etc.)**
- **Decide whether you want to purchase from an local IL gun store or from an online site.**
- **Select a Federal Firearm License (FFL) dealer to have your gun shipped, if you purchase online or from Cabela’s in Indiana.**
- **Use this link to find an FFL <https://www.atf.gov/firearms/listing-federal-firearms-licensees>**



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### **ADDITIONAL BEST PRACTICES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ✓ **9mm guns are recommended for everyday carry because this caliber is the most popular and was mass produced during the pandemic. Also, when ammo was flying off the shelves during the shutdown, gun owners had a hard time finding .38, 40 or 45 caliber ammo.**
- ✓ **Do not let anyone recommend a .22 caliber gun (especially for women) as a starter firearm. The bullets are too small to stop a threat.**
- ✓ **Subcompact firearms are recommended for everyday carry.... some have up to 10 rounds per mag. A double stack magazine (11 rounds or more) is a heavier gun.**
- ✓ **The best times to purchase a firearm are during the Christmas and New Year holiday season, veterans' day, Memorial Day, and Black Friday.**
- ✓ **Google Form 4473 which is the firearm form you will complete in the store after your purchase your gun. It's best to review the form beforehand to ensure that you do not make ANY MISTAKES.**

**ALWAYS DO YOUR OWN  
RESEARCH**

**If you desire a one-hour private shooting lesson with six 9mm concealed carry size firearms, call 773.217.0488 or visit [jmddefense.com](http://jmddefense.com) for further information.**