

Review Anschutz 1727 APR

Ben Long

Having recently acquired this rifle, and having shot the Summer Open with it, I have been asked to share some information.

To be fair, a few weeks ago I didn't know of the existence of the model. By chance I saw it featured on YouTube and made some investigations into cost and availability. Of course, it's best to be sitting down before reading the price tag. It is designed chiefly for PRS competition, with the Fortner straight-pull action. I don't shoot PRS, but I figured it must also be consistent enough to shoot for pure accuracy up to 500 yards.



As you may know, the chassis is partially alloy, with the forward part made of steel to impart extra weight. On some, this part is black, and some of them red to (more or less) match the red anodised alloy rear part. As I didn't want the OCD to kick in, I looked for one in the all-red livery, and found one with [Messrs Livens, of Burton on Trent](#).

Rifle

On first inspection, knowing it was a pretty heavy piece of kit, being close on 20lbs without a scope, the weight still took me a bit by surprise. I also bought the sprung loaded bag rider as well, three or four bits of metal and a spring for a price similar to a fairly decent second-hand rifle. But in for a penny. The Anschutz comes in a very luxurious solid plastic case, luckily fitted with wheels and a handle for pulling it along as the rifle and scope in the case must be something close to 35lbs.



Scope

I returned home in high hopes. I fitted the rifle with a DiscoveryOpt XED 6-36x56 FFP scope, with adjustable height mounts. The scope in my opinion very good value. It has a 35mm tube, giving 120 moa of internal vertical adjustment, albeit at the extremes of its travel the image isn't brilliant, but otherwise the optics are perfectly acceptable. I use the adjustable mounts, and put the scope elevation at about 10 moa (slightly smeary image, but ok at this range) from its

bottom setting, then lifting the rear mount to zero the shot at 100 yards, the minimum distance I shoot. There is then more than 100 moa remaining, in order to shoot up to 500 yards without using any holdover. The Anschütz comes fitted with a 30 moa Picatinny rail, but with fixed mounts this isn't enough for that distance. Of course, an adjustable rail would solve all that, but I've yet to try one.

First Shots

The rifle comes with test shot card of course, with a reassuring 5-shot group of under ½ moa, at 100m. Surprisingly, the test ammunition fired was Lapua, rather than the expected Eley Tenex. Also comes with no less than two 10-shot steel magazines. In operation, the magazines must be loaded rather more roughly than I would like, being more used to snicking them into place. Similarly, the ejection of the case and chambering of the round with the Fortner system is a bit of a savage and noisy affair, but of course without needing to relax or change the shouldering of the rifle. The chassis also has an adjustable comb and butt pad, but the latter has only vertical movement. Length of pull is adjusted by moving the whole rear end part of the chassis. Tools for this are included of course. The barrel is a chunky 28mm diameter (contributing to the overall weight) and is threaded for a moderator but with a bit more unusual thread size of 18mm x 1mm pitch. Maybe to make you buy an Anschütz mod, one of which I saw for sale at £550 (!) so decided against one. Actually, in operation it is quite quiet with subsonic ammunition, presumably due to the barrel dimensions. The trigger is of course the supremely good one we would expect from Anschütz. It's the two-stage 5022 APR, and although it comes from the factory a bit heavy for my liking, it takes a few seconds to adjust through an aperture in the trigger guard with the tool provided. I also fitted a butt hook (just because I like them).

Cutting to the chase. After roughly zeroing the scope, the first 5 round group at 100 yards (in near perfect conditions) was pretty impressive. The first, cold bore shot, was an inch or so off, but the following 4 made one ragged hole. It still remains to be seen how good it will turn out to be, with more range time and with a variety of ammunition. Watch this space...

Chairmans Comment

Well Ben shot the rifle at the LRRFC Summer open and on a very windy day shot a 50 out of 75 placing him 3rd at 400 yards. Looking good.