

I Can See it Now

Bushnell Trophy TRS-25 Ultra Compact Red Dot Sight

Reviewed by Peter Caroline

As gun owners, we all know how one purchase can lead, sometimes unexpectedly, into other purchases. A while ago, I bought a left-hand version of Ruger's Gunsite Scout .308 carbine. At the same time, I also ordered the appropriate Leupold Intermediate Eye Relief scope, plus rings.

Shortly afterwards, Dillon cataloged a Bushnell TRS-25 red dot sight. Because of its compact size, light weight and unlimited eye relief, it seemed quite appropriate for the new rifle, so I ordered that, too. When it arrived, I mounted it on the Scout and headed off to the range.

When I first looked through the TRS-25, I thought, "Damn...there's something really wrong with this sight!" Where there should have been one red dot, there were three, all barely touching each other. I showed the scope to my shooting buddies, and they all swore there was clearly just one dot visible. Actually, they weren't quite that polite. The most plausible explanation was...my vision was out of whack.

Now, I've worn bifocals for several years. But, for shooting, I rely on a pair of drugstore reading glasses. The 1.75 magnification is all I need to see iron sights quite clearly. Obviously, something else was going on, so I made an appointment with my ophthalmologist. To make a long story short (too late!), I needed a correction for



astigmatism. One week and several hundred dollars later, I had two new pairs of glasses...one bifocal for everyday use, and the other one set up just for shooting. The result, only one dot on the red dot sight, and no more guessing about which dot was the real one.

The next time out at the range, I benched the Gunsite Scout with a Harris bipod, and test fired it with some Winchester 150-grain Power Points. The Bushnell sight needed just three clicks left windage and one click up for zero. I fired several small groups at 50 yards, which seemed an appropriate distance for the red dot, and then, just for fun, switched to some bargain basement Russian 140-grain soft points. The result was a three-shot cloverleaf just 3/8" across!

Dillon advertises the TRS-25 sight as being designed for use on shotguns, handguns and rifles. It's certainly small enough for use on a handgun, and it's ideal for a lightweight carbine such as the Scout. It mounts easily on any Picatinny or Weaver rail, and is delivered with the red dot in a centered position. The intensity control has eleven different ON settings, so you can easily see the 3-MOA dot under a wide variety of lighting conditions. There's no need to center the dot; it's parallax free, so wherever the dot is, that's where your bullet will hit. Best of all, the TRS-25 catalogs for just \$89.95. I wish my glasses were that inexpensive! □