



## Dillon Leather Concealed Carry Gear From Mitch Rosen

By Cameron Benz

Recently, I acquired a Glock 19, my very first Glock. For many, this may not sound like a big deal, but for someone whose hand has been spending the last 10 years molding itself to the contours of a 1911, it's fairly major. Biomechanics, ammunition, and general practice aside, I also needed some way to carry this gun. All my holsters were for 1911s, so clearly I required something new. A quick perusal of *The Blue Press* netted me just the ticket. I settled on a Dillon Leather Premier-DL holster, Best Quality Belt-DL, and 5DM-DL Double Magazine Pouch, all made for Dillon by Mitch Rosen. Unless you've been hiding under the proverbial rock for the last two or three decades, I'm sure you've heard of him.

One phone call was all it took, and several days later I had the items I'd chosen. First impression? Awestruck. I've seen some nice leather gear over the years but this was my first experience with Mitch Rosen's work. Truly beautiful craftsmanship.

The holster was the first thing I pulled out of the box like a kid with a new toy at Christmas. The Premier-DL is a very nice holster. Fit and finish are topnotch. The stitching is sturdy and even. This is the first holster I've owned or used with straps that go around the belt and then snap in front. This system gives you a fairly low-profile, secure, comfortable holster that's still fairly easy to put on and take off. It beats having to do the belt loop/holster loop tango: through the holster loop, then the pants belt loop, then the holster loop again, all while trying to slide it into place.... Why didn't I go to this design years ago?

I've used several different belts over the years –

more than I should have unfortunately due to the shrinking and expanding waistline phenomenon. Belts typically come in one of three widths: 1-1/4 inch, 1-1/2 inch, and 1-3/4 inch. More often than not I've gone with the 1-1/2-inch belt since it gives good gun support while not being so wide as to dig into my hips. Dillon's Best Quality Belt-DL is another item of beauty with straight, sturdy stitching, an even finish, and a good-quality brass belt buckle. Honestly, even if you don't carry a gun, this would be a great belt to own. It would work

with slacks or jeans, and probably last you most of the rest of your natural life.

Finally we come to the mag pouch, Dillon's 5DM-DL. When I first ordered this, I wasn't too sure how I'd like it. I was a little skeptical due to the lack of a tension adjustment screw. It turns out my concern was unfounded. With just a little practice, the magazines slid in and out with only the slightest resistance. I've owned some mag pouches in the past where, after a month or so of use, the magazines fit so loosely

that I was afraid they might come out if I had to run. Running during a fight while shedding spare magazines is something I'd describe as a severe tactical *faux pas* and, with this pouch, not a concern.

Overall, I'm extremely pleased with these products. Obviously all three pieces of equipment are intended to work together as a complete concealed carry system – and they do, very well. Apparently those pretty catalogs don't just have attractive women on the covers, they actually have outstanding products offered for sale within them. Whodathunkit?