

heroes and bad guys carrying two guns. Hey, if the Lone Ranger does it, it's got to be good, right? This is the only system allowing a directional draw from both holsters, *i.e.* both guns can be drawn and reholstered with no requirement to turn the body to avoid breaking the safety plane.

The shortcoming to this approach is the same as for Double Butts Forward: you have to draw one gun with the off-hand. With Double Butts Rearward, this is all that's possible even for women. You then have to either switch the gun to the shooting hand or fire with the off-hand. Again unless you're ambidextrous – and most of us aren't – neither option is as positive as drawing both guns with the shooting hand. It's very important, when switching the gun from hand to hand, you wait until the changeover is complete to cock the gun. Actually SASS rules forbid juggling a cocked revolver from hand to hand. Doing so will draw at least a safety violation.

ONE CROSSDRAW, ONE BUTT REARWARD:

This is by far the most popular way to carry two guns in CAS. When you examine its virtues, it's easy to see why. Both guns may be drawn and reholstered with the shooting hand, with no requirement to switch the gun between hands before firing. This is both faster and far safer than the previous two systems.

If you're a concealed gun carrier, you start out with an immense advantage in this system. Most people carrying a gun on a daily basis do it in a strongside belt holster. Thus they can tap into muscle memory already developed for drawing their carry gun, for one-half of their draws.

DOUBLE CROSSDRAW:

Both guns are on the belly, butts angled for a shooting hand draw, one holster on the left side of the belt buckle, one on the right. With practice (emphasis on WITH PRACTICE) this system probably allows the greatest speed.

With this rig, it's not the speed of draw that's the advantage, but the speed of switching from gun to gun. With other holster set-ups it's necessary to put the gun away with your firing hand before drawing the second piece. With Double Crossdraw it's possible to holster Gun #1 with the off-hand while simultaneously drawing Gun #2 with the other. A really good shooter can get his shot-to-shot speed between guns down to about a second and a half.

When reholstering the first gun in a Double Crossdraw rig, depending on course design, you may have to rotate your hips slightly to avoid breaking the safety plane. However in many cases it's possible to begin the stage standing angled sharply enough that further body movement during the gun changeover is unnecessary.

The weak point to Double Crossdraw is that your gun changeover becomes a high dexterity operation requiring an immense amount of practice to ensure proficiency. Not a lot of people want to work that hard.

SUMMARY

Any of the holster set-ups discussed above can be used safely, though some are more inherently safe and fast than others. With any system the key to both safety and speed is dedicated practice.



Mernickle Holsters/ Evil Roy "Wild Bunch" 1911 Holster & Mag Pouch

This holster/mag pouch was designed by World Cowboy Action Shooting Champion Gene "Evil Roy" Pearcey and World Fast Draw Champion Bob Mernickle when SASS introduced the "Wild Bunch" category for Cowboy Action Shooting.

When these two champions put their heads together, they created a holster and mag pouch that look like they were made at the turn of the century, yet feature state-of-the-art speed and accuracy. The holster is hard molded so as not to lose its shape even after thousands of draws. It spaces the pistol's grip frame away from your body so you'll get a full combat grip, and the holster includes the T-nut lock system to ensure that it stays in place during a draw.

The mag pouch spaces the magazines so when you grab one mag, the second isn't in your way; above the belt line so the belt doesn't interfere with the draw; and at the max depth required by the sport – and no more – so you'll get a full grip and the ability to index with your forefinger for a rapid mag well insert.

1911 Holster	G66-19947	\$139.95
Magazine Pouch	G66-19946	44.95

