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# SUDDENLY, IT'S REMINGTON MO



## Reviewed by Peter Caroline

Yes, it's *déjà vu* all over again; Remington is once again making a Model 1911. This will undoubtedly be met with yawns and screams of protest from the "Oh, God, not another one!" crowd. But let's face facts, scores of successful companies are manufacturing 1911 clones and variants because people will happily buy them. This Browning design has been a consistent seller for a century because it works, and because millions of shooters love the way it works. So, when a firearms manufacturer wants to replicate a classic design that has a good chance of sales success, the 1911 is probably a more sensible choice than, for example, a Nambu.

The new Remington Model 1911 R1 is fairly close to the original Government Model, with some noticeable differences. Its fit and finish are quite impressive, tighter and smoother than the war-production originals. The grips are checkered wood, double-diamond style, and very handsome indeed. The white-dot front and rear sights are larger and squarer than G.I., and are dovetail-mounted into the slide.

Although the frame is 1911A1-style, the main-spring housing is a flat 1911 configuration, minus the lanyard loop. The barrel is a stainless match-grade unit, with a bushing fitted tight enough to

require the use of included bushing wrench. Other non-G.I. features include a flared and lowered ejection port and a beveled magazine well. The hammer, grip safety and thumb safety are pretty much standard G.I. To satisfy Left Coast requirements, there is a chamber indicator slot at the rear of the barrel and Series 80-style firing pin block safety. Much of the above will give the purists among us a case of the vapors, but in all honesty, I can't name any post-WWII 1911 that exactly duplicates the issue model. And that's not all bad.

While I was stationed at Ft. Belvoir, VA, back in the late 1950's, I competed on the post pistol team. We were issued rack model 1911A1's, totally innocent of any special tuning or gunsmithing. The sights were tiny and atrocious, the trigger pulls varied all over the lot, and the guns rattled when you shook them. Given issue ball ammo, they predictably went "bang" every time you pulled the trigger. Today's competition or casual shooters expect more.

Remington's very thorough owner's manual (RTFM!) specifies the use of G.I.-type 230-grain, round-nose, metal-jacketed, standard velocity (835 fps) ammo. No +P's, no Flying Ashtrays. With this in mind, I went to the range with a 100-pack of Winchester white-box 230 gr. FMJ's. I wasn't about to get creative; the pistol was on loan from a