

THE BIG TEST

ON THE FIRING
LINE THIS MONTH:
WEIHRACH HW 110
KARBINE

The Test Of Time

I thought I'd do something a little different this month, by reviewing my good friend Roger Cooling's .177 Weihrauch HW 110 Karbine rifle. Roger and I have been shooting together for just over a year now, on various permissions up here in Lincolnshire, and he has been shooting rabbits consistently with his HW 110 K during that time. He rarely misses a shot, and has customised the basic rifle with a bipod and camo tape, but the bare bones underneath are just your regular 'off the shelf' Weihrauch. We planned a day out together to see if there were any rabbits or pigeons on one of our permissions, so that I could get to grips with the rifle myself and discover why he loves it so much.

COMPACT PACKAGE

Just like in the world of optics, manufacturers are constantly finding ways of cramming 'big quality' into

smaller and smaller packages, and the HW 110 K is no exception with a 3.8-inch shorter barrel and ½-inch shorter reservoir than the original HW 110 rifle. The result is a rather compact sporter, which offers both accuracy and manoeuvrability in close-quarters situations.

PLASTIC FANTASTIC!

Don't jump to conclusions! Whilst designing the HW 110, Weihrauch decided to ditch their metal action block in favour of a polymer one. The result is a huge saving in terms of both weight and retail price, and this moulded action has stood the test of time since its inception over four years ago.

It took a few months for the world of airgunning to come to terms with this new concept, but once people realised the benefits and the fact that the new polymer block is rock-solid, sales of the HW 110





Dave Barham gets down and dirty in amongst the rough stuff with his friend's HW110 Karbine

*It's perfect for
getting stuck into
the rough stuff*





went through the roof! It's still a massive seller for them today, and will continue to be one of the most popular carbine sporters on the market for years to come, I'm sure.

TRIGGER AND 'MAGS

I love Weihrauch triggers, and especially this one. It's infinitely adjustable for both travel and pull weight, and it delivers a crisp release – you know exactly where you are at all times, and there's very little needed in terms of 'getting used to' it.

Moving on to the magazine system, there's no mistaking the futuristic

about when loading them. Removing the mag' from the rifle is simple – pull back the cocking lever, then raise the smaller lever underneath to release the locking mechanism and pull the mag' out. With the larger hole side facing you, simply push each pellet into its little hole. To reinsert the mag', just lift the little lever again and push the mag' back in. Sliding the cocking lever forward pushes the mag' into place and you're ready to start shooting.

Talking of cocking the rifle, the sidelever makes this almost effortless, and is super-smooth and quiet in

STOCK AND RAILS

Weihrauch has taken a slightly different approach with their rails on the HW 110 K. There's a Picatinny rail on top to house your optics, plus a shorter one underneath at the end of the stock to take a bipod. This second rail is removable via a couple of Allen screws, and if you rarely need to shoot off a pod, then I suggest you remove it because it's smack bang where your hand would normally rest on the fore grip.

The stock is extremely well finished with a soft-touch coating over hard wood. I know 'all black' rifles aren't everyone's cup of tea, but this one really does look smart and it feels great.

TEST TIME

I've taken half a dozen shots with Roger's rifle in the past in his back garden during one of our plinking sessions, but I hadn't really paid that much attention to it. So, when

"I became more and more infatuated with it, and I began to understand why Roger, like so many other HW 110 K owners, dotes on it."

Weihrauch mag's. They look like some kind of space-age device, but they are infallible. Each mag' takes ten pellets, and there's no messing

operation, to boot. The manual safety lever is situated under the end of the cocking lever for easy access, and that too, is quiet in operation.



The fill port plug is well placed and secure



Fill pressure is 200 bar



There's Picatinny on top and underneath



The unmistakable Weihrauch graphics

we swapped rifles for the day on the farm for this test, I knew roughly what I was getting. However, with my 'test head' firmly on, as the day progressed I became more and more infatuated with it, and I began to understand why Roger, like so many other HW 110 K owners, dotes on it.

As I became more and more confident throughout the session, taking standing, kneeling, sitting and even 'lying down in the mud' shots, I became aware of just how accurate and functional this little rifle is. For a start, it weighs a little under 8lbs with the scope and bipod attached, so carrying it around for six hours didn't make my arms heavy. As we moved through a small copse and then fields, looking for some suitable quarry to shoot, I also realised just how much more manoeuvrable the shorter length makes the rifle. It's perfect for digging into thick scrub or in amongst trees, and it's also ideal for shooting out of a truck – so it makes a great lamping rifle, too.



Roger's taped-up HW 110 K certainly looks the part in the field

Although Roger had covered his rifle in camo tape, I was aware that it had one of Weihrauch's silencers fitted, and I'm impressed by just how quiet this rifle is when being shot. It's no wonder he does so well on the rabbits, often taking two at a time, by dropping one, reloading and getting a second shot off before the rabbits realise what's going on. I've witnessed him doing this on more than one occasion, even getting a hat-trick, one evening!

CONCLUSION

I must say that I really enjoyed the seamless shooting of the HW 110 K; it's an absolute joy to use and a real hunting sporter. The shorter length is perfect for scrambling through undergrowth and digging yourself in amongst brambles and branches – and it's the perfect 'hide rifle' for a



Operating the sidelever is effortless



This manual safety lever is well placed

"The shorter length is perfect for scrambling through undergrowth and digging yourself in amongst brambles and branches"

roost shoot, in my opinion.

Accuracy-wise it's very impressive, too. I regularly placed pellet-on-pellet at 25 metres, and that's testament to Weihrauch's engineering, not

necessarily my shooting ability. This lightweight sporter is the perfect rifle for both newbies and seasoned hunters, and at a very reasonable price point, too. ■

SPECIFICATION

Model: HW 110 Karbine

Manufacturer: Weihrauch

Type: PCP, multi-shot rotary mag'

Stock Material: Ambidextrous, soft-touch wood

Cocking: Sidelever

Trigger: Two-stage, adjustable

Safety: Manual

Calibres: .177 and .22

Overall Length: 876mm

Barrel Length: 310mm

Weight: 3kg (6.7lbs)

without scope

Fill Pressure: 200 bar

Shots Per Fill: 60 (.177), 80 (.22)

Energy of Test Rifle:

Avg 11.4 ft.lbs. over 20 shots

Variation (20 shots): 11fps

Website:

www.weihrauch-sport.de

RRP: £684



Just one of the hundreds of rabbits the HW 110 K has accounted for