

A GERMAN GEM

Mark Camoccio examines the Weihrauch HW95K Adjustable, an air rifle that will appeal to hunters and competition shooters alike



KEY SPECS

MODEL: HW95K
Adjustable

MANUFACTURER:
Weihrauch, Germany

TYPE: Break barrel,
spring-piston powered

CALIBRE:
.22 tested,
.177 available
.20 special order

WEIGHT: 7.8lbs

LENGTH:
45.25in silencer

BARREL: 12.25in,
Weihrauch's own,
threaded

STOCK:
Beech sporter

TRIGGER: Two-stage
adjustable Rekord unit

**VELOCITY/
ENERGY:**
Over 10 shots using:

**AIR ARMS
DIABOLO FIELD**

HIGH: 578fps
LOW: 573fps
AVE: 576fps
TOTAL SPREAD: 5fps
ENERGY: 11.8ft/lbs

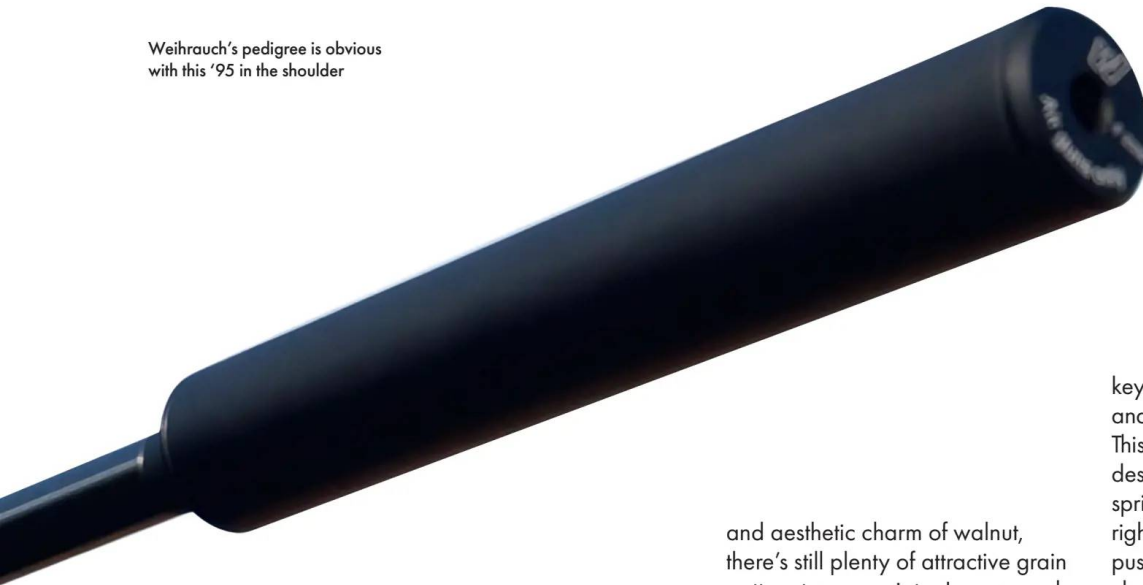
WASP PELLETS

HIGH: 591fps
LOW: 578fps
AVE: 583fps
TOTAL SPREAD: 13fps
ENERGY: 11.4ft/lbs

RRP: From £615

CONTACT: Hull
Cartridge Company
weihrauch.co.uk

Weihrauch's pedigree is obvious with this '95 in the shoulder



Weihrauch is one of those manufacturers that commands a loyal fanbase, so when word of a new model or development gets around, it's a fair bet that X (formerly Twitter) goes into overdrive. Early 2024 brought news that the famous old German brand was to launch a new version of its popular HW95K, with an adjustable stock, and that was enough for many to place orders back in March/April time. The exciting news is that this classic new addition to the Weihrauch stable has just hit the shops, and it's no surprise to find out it's called the HW95K Adjustable.

My test model came in .22 calibre. A .177 is listed, and for fans of .20, this is also available to special order. Open up the usual robust box and first impressions just scream quality. This model comes complete with the silencer as shown, and the matt black contrasts nicely with the blued barrel and action. Factor in the gold finish trigger, and it's hard not to conclude this is one attractive air rifle. Slimline yet purposeful best describes this sporting rifle, and with a host of features and detail designed in, it's time for a proper evaluation.

STOCK ISSUES

Given the stock holds the aces here, I think it makes sense to concentrate on that area first, then we can evaluate the whole. Hardwood (probably beech) is utilised, and while it lacks the visual complexity

and aesthetic charm of walnut, there's still plenty of attractive grain pattern to appreciate. Jazzy panels of stippling are laser cut over the forend and around the pistol grip, and while the patterns may not be to everyone's taste, there's no doubting the practical benefit and genuine grip afforded. The now familiar thin tapered forend is here, and with a well shaped pistol grip and rounded underside, handling feels comfortable and natural. Of course, it's the rear section where this stock really comes into its own, and I have to say, the execution is rather excellent.

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CHEEK ADJUSTMENT

Starting with the adjustable cheekpiece, here I quickly made a basic blunder, having not first read the additional instruction sheet supplied. Basically, I assumed the cheek section needed an Allen

key to loosen that side bolt — and quickly ended up holding it. This system is in fact a super slick design, incorporating that large spring-loaded push button on the right side. No tools required, just push and hold the button and the cheekpiece can be slid up or down, to one of six anchor points. It moves in 1/4in intervals: 1/4in open, 1/2in, 3/4in, 1in, 1 1/4in or 1 1/2in, snapping into position as it locates at each stage. In use, it's quick to use and pleasingly precise. Raising the cheek piece by 1 1/2 inches at its maximum may seem excessive, but it's handy if you fancy shooting field target, for example, where many competitors favour a high sight line, to either accommodate a large field target scope, or setup a less strained “heads up” position (not to mention the impact a high sight line can have on trajectory allowances).

On test, with my Hawke 3-9x40 AO Panorama scope and medium mounts in position, I needed 1/2in of cheek lift to get just the right amount of pressure/support on the face and achieved it in seconds.



ADJUSTABLE BUTT PAD ASSEMBLY

The HW95K comes with a fully adjustable butt pad assembly. "Adjustable" means the natural position of where the gun sits in the shoulder can be set for the individual. The rear rubber pad is ridged for grip, and this itself can be raised or lowered by slackening the large Allen bolt at the rear. It gets better, as Weihrauch has also designed the pad to be adjustable for angle, meaning it can be set to sit slightly off to the left or right. To go down this route, first remove the pad by unscrewing the rear bolt. The clever part of the design is now perfectly visible on the reverse of the pad. It is important to note that there is a super thin metal plate with a series of grooves cut into it. Just lift it and reposition at the angle required. It simply sits in position, but once the pad is reconnected and nipped up tight, the offset angle is set. In practise, it works a treat, and is a subtle touch to an already impressive design.

ALL THE FEATURES

Away from the detailed woodwork, all the features synonymous with this legendary German brand are here, and that includes the lengthy dovetail scope rail and arrestor holes cut into the receiver. Chemical bluing coats all the highly polished metalwork, and this is all done to the usual exemplary standard. The silencer is Weihrauch's own, and adds just under seven inches to the overall length of this model. It fastens via the standard ½in UNF at the muzzle, so alternative barrel fittings can be utilised in seconds if desired. I doubt many will bother to look elsewhere though, as Weihrauch's "moddys" are widely considered to be among the best available — and it is, of course, the perfect cocking aid.

HOW DOES IT SHOOT?

At this point, it's worth checking that Rekord trigger unit, to gauge the release point, and whether adjustment is needed. I love that classy gold finish applied to both the blade and basic adjuster bolt, and it's this bolt that can be twisted anti-clockwise, in controlled

increments to initially set the pull weight. Further more subtle tweaks, using all the adjustment screws are best left to the more experienced among us. Cocking the action is a super smooth affair, and easy to achieve. Squeeze home a pellet into that precise breech, lock up the barrel, and we're good to go. At this point, it's worth mentioning that this '95 can be easily de-cocked by depressing the safety button, holding the barrel down against the spring pressure, pulling the trigger and gently allowing the barrel to return upwards. Many rival systems prevent this, so it's nice to have the option.

Where the firing cycle is concerned, the HW95K on test, had plenty of spring "twang" as she fired, yet recoil was nothing more than modest. Chronograph testing revealed superb consistency using Air Arms Diabolo Field pellets, with a 10-shot string varying in total by just 5fps. Wasps were also fed through, and these still only clocked 13fps — great consistency in anyone's book.

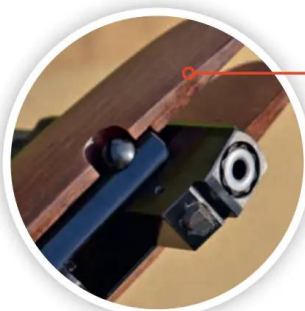
As for accuracy, I began in lazy fashion over my 30-yard range, shooting the '95 set across two range bags, and with groups just under half an inch, I could have stopped there. However, I know from experience that springers respond best when allowed to recoil free from hindrance so, adopting my over-arm field target sitting position, I tried again. This time, a single ragged hole, just ¼in c-t-c was the result, proving this classy slimline Weihrauch clearly has what it takes. Negatives? Well I would prefer socket-headed bolts rather than the slotted stock screws...and the silly text over the rear of the cylinder. I simply can't fault anything else, for this HW95K Adjustable is a beautiful addition to the range. The adjustable elements are superbly executed, and their value in performance terms should not be underestimated in any way.

VERDICT

This is a top class new addition to the Weihrauch range that elevates performance and it is worth every single penny, whether you are using it for hunting or competition work. ■

THANKS

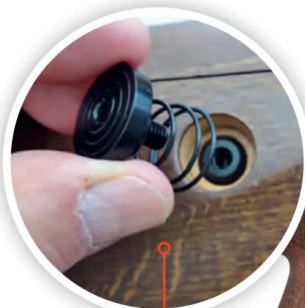
Thanks to Range & Country Shooting Supplies in Sleaford, Lincolnshire, for the kind loan of this rifle for testing. rangeandcountry.co.uk



Precision engineering at the breech brings confidence



That gold finish trigger brings an added touch of class



This is a slick push button device — so don't unscrew it

