

GUN TESTS VALUE GUIDE: FULL-SIZE & COMPACT 40 S&W PISTOLS

GUN NAME	ISSUE	GRADE & COMMENTS
H&K USP Compact 40 V 1 40 S&W, \$799	Dec. 2006	Grade A: Rated “Our Pick,” at this price it should be the best. Finished first in accuracy and speed.
Kahr P40 40 S&W, \$707	July 2005	Grade A: Rated “Our Pick,” we liked the look, feel, and especially the rapid-fire potential of the P40.
Smith & Wesson 4046 (DAO) 40 S&W, \$290	May 2003	Grade A: Rated “Buy It,” this police trade-in was worn but needed only a recoil spring to be ready for carry again.
Springfield XD Service Bi-Tone XD9302HCSP06 40 S&W, \$605	Nov. 2009	Grade A-: A lot of value for the money. Shot well, decent trigger, and we liked its combination of safety features.
Smith & Wesson M&P40 No. 209200 40 S&W, \$495	Oct. 2007	Grade A-: It gets a lot of things right. The beavertail, sights, and slide cuts were excellent.
Kahr PM40 No. 4043 40 S&W, \$786	Oct. 2009	Grade A-: Not a blindingly fast pistol, but nevertheless precise and powerful. A best bet for ankle carry.
Heckler & Koch P30S V3 40 S&W, \$1005	Oct. 2010	Grade A-: Fastest shooter. Offers a modular grip, multiple safeties, and a refined single-action trigger.
Glock G22 Gen4 40 S&W, \$649	Oct. 2010	Grade B+: The Gen 4 grip system should make this gun more appealing to a wider variety of shooters.
SIG SP 2340 40 S&W, \$640	July 2005	Grade B+: Rated “Buy It,” we liked the SIG’s accuracy, excellent SA trigger, low felt recoil, and precision.
Glock Model 27 40 S&W, \$641	Jan. 2004	Grade B+: Rated “Buy It,” our only real complaint was its abbreviated grip. Handy as it is powerful.
Glock Model 27 40 S&W, \$616	Jan. 2001	Grade B: Rated a “Conditional Buy,” for \$10 we added a mag extension to overcome its lack of available grip.
SIGArms P229 40 S&W, \$500	May 2003	Grade B: Rated a “Conditional Buy” because of price, this police trade-in looked new but needed a new recoil spring.
Glock GL22 40 S&W, \$400	May 2003	Grade B: Rated a “Conditional Buy” because of price, this police trade-in was a good gun despite its age.
Taurus PT140 Millennium Pro 140SSP 40 S&W, \$484	Jan. 2004	Grade B: Rated a “Conditional Buy,” it would be improved with a shorter, more precise trigger backed by its safety.
Ruger KP94DAO 40 S&W, \$340	May 2003	Grade B: A “Don’t Buy” because of price, this used police trade-in pistol was still potent and mechanically sound.
Smith & Wesson SW40VE 40 S&W, \$379	July 2005	Grade C: Rated “Buy It,” it had a 12-pound trigger. If it had a decent trigger, say 8 pounds, we’d love this gun.
Kahr K40 40 S&W, \$602	Jan. 2001	Grade C: A “Don’t Buy,” we thought this was too slow to operate under the stress.

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