

## S&W MODEL 438 BODYGUARD 38 SP., \$625

### GUN TESTS GRADE: A-

We believe S&W is going to sell plenty of these revolvers. The easy double action (compared with the two older guns) and the small grip help make this a gun anyone can handle. We thought the laser added a great deal to the package. It makes night sights unnecessary, and can add a measure of tactical advantage to the holder of this handy revolver.



### SPECIFICATIONS

OVERALL LENGTH.....	6.6 IN.
OVERALL HEIGHT.....	4.2 IN.
BARREL LENGTH.....	1.9 IN.
SIGHT RADIUS.....	3.8 IN.
FRONT STRAP HEIGHT.....	1.8 IN.
BACK STRAP HEIGHT.....	3.5 IN.
WEIGHT UNLOADED.....	14.1 OZ.
WEIGHT LOADED.....	15.7 OZ.
CAPACITY.....	5
MAXIMUM WIDTH.....	1.35 IN.
GRIP THICKNESS (MAX).....	0.96 IN.
GRIP CIRCUMFERENCE (MAX).....	4.0 IN.
FRAME MATERIAL/FINISH.....	POLYMER/STEEL/ALUMINUM
BARREL.....	STAINLESS STEEL
GRIP MATERIAL/FINISH.....	HARD RUBBER
TRIGGER PULL WEIGHT DOUBLE ACTION.....	8.8 LBS.
TRIGGER SPAN DOUBLE ACTION.....	3.3 IN.
WARRANTY.....	LIMITED LIFETIME
TELEPHONE.....	(800) 331-0852
WEBSITE OR EMAIL.....	WWW.SMITH-WESSON.COM

**Right:** The arrow points to the clever frame-mounted “star” that engages the cylinder, and also has the lone locking point for the cylinder in the form of that hole in its center. This star engages the real star on the rear of the cylinder, and as the trigger is pulled this rotates the cylinder—in the wrong direction, if you know Smiths. Note the laser’s front window in the upper left of the photo.



**Right:** The arrow points to the real star, which has slots to accept the rotating mechanism housed in the frame. The small pin in the center of the star locks the cylinder closed. Note the bevels on the chamber mouths for easier reloading. However, the ejector edges are not similarly beveled.

