

Accuracy/Chronograph Data

Remington 125-grain Pointed Soft Point	Winchester Model 70 Ranger	Remington Model 700 ADL	Howa Lightning 1500	Savage Model 111F
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	3,232 fps	3,196 fps	3,164 fps	3,251 fps
Standard Deviation	9 fps	31 fps	22 fps	23 fps
Muzzle Energy	2,902 ft-lbs	2,837 ft-lbs	2,781 ft-lbs	2,936 ft-lbs
Smallest Group at 100 yds.	1.50 in.	2.00 in.	2.00 in.	0.75 in.
Largest Group Size	2.00 in.	2.63 in.	3.00 in.	1.25 in.
Average Group Size	1.75 in.	2.28 in.	2.45 in.	1.03 in.
Federal Premium 150-grain Boattail Soft Point	Winchester Model 70 Ranger	Remington Model 700 ADL	Howa Lightning 1500	Savage Model 111F
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	3,088 fps	3,040 fps	3,020 fps	2,842 fps
Standard Deviation	14 fps	16 fps	28 fps	7 fps
Muzzle Energy	3,179 ft-lbs	3,081 ft-lbs	3,040 ft-lbs	2,692 ft-lbs
Smallest Group at 100 yds.	1.50 in.	2.00 in.	2.13 in.	1.38 in.
Largest Group Size	2.00 in.	2.50 in.	2.50 in.	2.00 in.
Average Group Size	1.68 in.	2.25 in.	2.30 in.	1.60 in.
Winchester 165-grain Pointed Soft Point	Winchester Model 70 Ranger	Remington Model 700 ADL	Howa Lightning 1500	Savage Model 111F
Average Velocity at 10 ft.	2,947 fps	2,896 fps	2,866 fps	3,079 fps
Standard Deviation	20 fps	23 fps	11 fps	10 fps
Muzzle Energy	3,184 ft-lbs	3,075 ft-lbs	3,012 ft-lbs	3,476 ft-lbs
Smallest Group at 100 yds.	2.00 in.	2.25 in.	2.50 in.	1.00 in.
Largest Group Size	2.50 in.	3.00 in.	3.25 in.	1.25 in.
Average Group Size	2.25 in.	2.67 in.	2.90 in.	1.13 in.

Accuracy testing consisted of five consecutive 3-shot groups with each load.
fps=feet per second. ft-lbs=foot-pounds

for frugal shooters.

Though the Model 111F cost less than the other rifles in this test, it was clearly the most accurate. Its best five-shot average groups, 1.03 inches at 100 yards, were produced with Remington 125-grain pointed soft points. Winchester 165-grain pointed soft points likewise yielded admirable 1.13-inch groups. Federal Premium 150-grain boattail soft points managed 1.60-inch groups.

When we measured these groups, we patted ourselves on the back because they were recorded under duress: We felt the Model 111F's worst feature was its extremely heavy trigger. After a minor amount of creep, the pull released with 8 pounds of rearward pressure, followed by a

moderate amount of overtravel. We felt this major shortcoming should have been caught and corrected long before the gun left the factory.

Elsewhere, we found only minor faults with this Savage's operation. It digested the three kinds of commercial ammunition we tried without malfunctioning. The bottom of the bolt rubbed against the back end of the internal magazine's black plastic follower, but there was no binding or stiffness in the bolt's movement. Like the Remington Model 700 ADL Synthetic in this test, the Model 111F had an internal magazine with a fixed floorplate. Top-loading cartridges into the magazine through the ejection port in the right side of the receiver was

easy enough. However, the only way to unload the magazine was to repeatedly cycle the action, which was a slow and inconvenient process.

In our opinion, the Savage's controls were the easiest of the test to reach and operate. The manual safety, a three-position slide on the tang, could be readily manipulated with the thumb of the shooter's firing hand. The cocking indicator, a large steel lever in front of the bolt handle on the right side of the receiver, raised when the action was cocked. Also, depressing this lever and pulling the trigger allowed the bolt to be removed from the receiver. Weighing at least a half pound less than the other rifles in this test, the Model 111F was the