

Carbine/"Carbine-ness"

The term carbine is found to denote principally one idea - shortness in barrel length. Carbines are generally, but not always, thought of as being about 2 inches shorter than a regulation sized rifle, thereby making them lighter in weight. The consensus of opinion perceives carbines as mainly or strictly lever action rifles and, with their shortness of length, contributing to the lever action's advantages of lightweight, portable, and easier to handle and maneuver, making it an excellent gun for brush and woods hunting. However, as with most lever action rifles, it also has the disadvantages of shorter range capabilities and less accuracy. A majority of the sample feel that even more range and accuracy are sacrificed when compared to a regular lever action because of these lost 2 inches. Range expectations of a carbine produce a mixed reaction from 50 yards to over 100 yards. The following summarize the general attitudes toward carbines:

"Carbines are easier to use in brush, which is a very real issue here (Atlanta)."

"It's a great walking gun especially through briar brush."

"A carbine is a short gun designed to be carried on horseback."

"A carbine is a great short barrel brush gun. It won't get tangled as easily."