

### Action Length (previously Receiver/Bolt)

The Action is the combination of the receiver and bolt, together with the other parts of the mechanism by which a firearm is loaded, fired and unloaded.

*(This information came from [www.rifles.com](http://www.rifles.com). Where can we find better information?)*

Generally, rifles are broken down into three different action lengths depending on the cartridge selected. A short action length will handle cartridges such as the 223, 243, 7-08 and 308, a long action length will handle 270, 280, 30-06 and 7 magnum, and a magnum action length will handle the larger and longer magnum cartridges such as 375 H&H.

The different action lengths in the same make of rifle usually provide for different weights, so that a short action will weigh a bit less than the long, and so on. The shorter action rifles will also provide for a shorter bolt travel distance during the cycling of the arm.

*(What 'types' are you referring to in your outline?)*

### Stocks

*(Is it necessary to have a section on stocks? Do you want to describe the different types of stocks – wood, kevlar, synthetic, mannlicher? If so, please provide necessary information.)*

The stock is the wooden composite (such as nylon or fiberglass), or metal frame that holds the barrel and action. It helps put your eye quickly in line with the sights, allows you to hold your aim steady, and absorbs recoil when a shot is fired. Good stocks will have a plastic, rubber, or metal butt plate to help absorb the recoil.

### Sights

A sight is any of a variety of devices, mechanical or optical, designed to assist in aiming a firearm. There are two basic types of rifle sights: open and scopes. Both are mounted on top of the barrel.

Please click on each sight for additional information, then click the green arrow button in the control menu to continue.

#### Open sights

Open sights come in two parts. There is a blade, bead, or post at the muzzle end of the barrel. This is the front sight. The rear sight is a plate, bar, or strip of metal on the top rear of the barrel or receiver. It will have a square, "V", or "U" notch cut in its top. Open style rear sights can be moved to change where your bullet will hit the target. If you want the bullet to hit the target more right, move your rear sight to the right. Sights may also be raised or lowered on a ramp to raise or lower bullet impact. Some open rear sights are called leaf sights. These have hinges and can be raised for accurate aiming.