

Sportsmen are, apparently, aware that recoil builds up as gun weight decreases and specify recoil pads to offset the increased kick. Their objective seems to be less weight to carry.

16. Concerning barrel length -

- with the findings reported below:

	<u>Barrel Length</u>	
	<u>Average</u>	<u>Median</u>
12 Gauge	28.43 inches	27.75 inches
16 Gauge	27.76 inches	27.29 inches
20 Gauge	27.44 inches	27.03 inches
28 Gauge	26.79 inches	25.86 inches
410 Gauge	27.00 inches	25.88 inches

"Gun nuts" apparently prefer slightly shorter barrels than do sportsmen of less interested "ratings":

	<u>Average</u>	<u>Median</u>
"Gun nuts"	27.00 inches	27.31 inches
Regular shooters	27.98 inches	27.47 inches
Occasional shooters	28.58 inches	27.85 inches
"Seldom" shooters	27.92 inches	27.78 inches

Shotgun barrel lengths also vary by the use for which the gun is intended:

	<u>Average</u>	<u>Median</u>
Upland game	27.92 inches	27.40 inches
Duck shooting	28.50 inches	27.72 inches
Trap shooting	28.20 inches	27.59 inches
Skeet shooting	27.12 inches	26.26 inches

Preferences concerning shotgun barrel length vary by geographic territory, with the eastern and southern shooters specifying the shorter barrels (perhaps because of heavier brush):

	<u>Average</u>	<u>Median</u>
R.I., Conn., Mass.	27.52 inches	26.94 inches
Ky., Tenn., W. Va.	27.50 inches	27.12 inches
New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh and surroundings	27.78 inches	27.17 inches
New York State, Pennsylvania (Except New York City, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, etc.)	27.60 inches	27.18 inches
Va., N.C., S.C.	27.50 inches	27.19 inches
Ga., Fla., Ala., Miss., La., Ark.	27.81 inches	27.34 inches