

"The biggest advantages of a lever are its lightness and maneuverability and it won't get tangled in the brush and briars."

The majority of the respondents feel that they can operate a lever action rifle faster, thereby being able to get the second shot off faster:

"I prefer a lever because it fires quicker and holds the aim better."

"I use a lever because it fires more rapidly without losing its target."

"A bolt action takes more time to get the second shot off."

"Bolts are notoriously slow."

There is a definite John Wayne/"Rifleman" type mystique about a lever action rifle which many attribute its popularity to:

"When you were a kid you'd always see John Wayne using a lever action rifle."

"Cowboy movies when you were young definitely stick with you."

Consumers find bolt action center fire rifles to be more accurate and to have longer range capabilities, due to the higher-velocity, higher energy cartridges they can handle, the greater range and accuracy of its cartridges. Because it is a heavier and more cumbersome gun than the lever action, it is predominantly considered best suited for wide, open country and greater (shooting, not walking) distances in contrast to the brush: