

I just purchased a new 700 Custom KS Mountain Rifle in .280 Remington. I don't...

Discussion Thread

Response (TONYA) 1/30/2002 12:54:57 PM

At 01/30/2002 11:39 AM we wrote -

Dear Mr. Bloss:

Thank you for your support of our products. The Custom Shop firearms offer a higher grade of firearms. The Custom Shop offers button rifling which increases barrel life. The Kevlar reinforced fiberglass stock is lighter than wood and is very strong and durable. Each Custom Shop firearm is individually produced. The triggers are hand assembled and carefully tested. Accuracy is guaranteed 1 1/2" at 100yds. Remington manufactures the barrels. To see the markings you must remove the stock. The markings are hidden.

Customer (George Bloss) 1/24/2002 6:36:58 PM

----- 01/24/2002 06:36 PM -----

I just purchased a new 700 Custom KS Mountain Rifle in .280 Remington. I don't have the serial number with me here at my office, or I'd include that. This rifle has the matte carbon steel action and barrel.

My question is basically this: what does the Custom Shop do to these rifles which differs from a synthetic stocked over the counter Mountain Rifle?

I wanted the 24 inch barrel and wanted a .280 I have two other .280's, a Model 725 (getting rare, especially in .280) and a late 60's 742. I have extensive reloading data for both rifles and continue to believe that the .280 is the best all-around cartridge for North America. But the only way to get the longer barrel was a Custom Shop gun. I had heard good things from others about their Custom Shop guns and wanted something different than what people buy off the shelf.

I notice that the barrel has no name on it - only a stamp designating the cartridge for which it is chambered and another proof stamp. Is this a different barrel than normally fitted on the mountain rifle? Is this a Remington barrel or manufactured by someone else?

Is anything special done to the action, such as hand fitting to the stock, "truing", or "blue-printing" the action, lapping of the barrel, special attention to the trigger, etc.

This rifle grouped .70" at 100 yards with 140 grain handloaded Nosler ballistic tips behind 56 grains of Reloader 19, your cases and primers - this is 2950 +/- fps in that barrel. That was the very first group for size shot after the scope was sighted in. (Leupold LPS 2.5x10 in Talley TNT QD rings and bases). I am very happy with this for a right out of the box new rifle with a sporter contour barrel.

I think it might do even better, but before I go giving attention to anything, I'd like to know what you guys have already done first. So, my question is what is different from a production run Mountain Rifle in .280 other than two more inches on the barrel?

Trigger pull seems a bit heavy, although it is crisp, with very little overtravel or creep. I have not actually measured it yet, but in comparison to several other of my bolt rifles which have 2 1/2 - 3 lb triggers (Remington, Winchester and Sako, it is probably going to be in the 5 lb range.

I don't want to pay a gunsmith to do something you guys have already done,

but would like to see if I can get this thing down to 1/2 inch groups with a little tuning and with some handload variations. For instance, with my other two .280's IMR 4350 usually gives a bit better accuracy with max or near max loads, while Reloader 19 produces a little better velocity.

I just need some baseline info on anything already done at your end, so that I know what not to repeat. Also, friends are bound to ask what makes this gun "Custom" and I'd like to give them an accurate answer.

Thanks for your tolerance in putting up with my long letter.

Regards,

George Bloss
Gulfport, Mississippi

----- 01/25/2002 06:57 PM -----
Serial number on the rifle: E 6766376
Sorry for earlier omission