

CP9 USA

MANUFACTURER	Citadel legacysports.com
TYPE	Striker-fired autoloader
CALIBER	9mm Luger
MAGAZINE CAPACITY	14 rounds
BARREL	4.0 in.
OVERALL LENGTH	6.75 in.
WIDTH	1.15 in.
HEIGHT	5.4 in.
WEIGHT, EMPTY	28 oz.
GRIPS	Integral to polymer frame
FINISH	Cerakote
SIGHTS	Drift-adjustable white-out-line rear, white-dot front
TRIGGER	6.5-lb. pull (as tested)
SAFETY	Trigger lever, internal firing pin block
MSRP	\$399



One of the new flag-finished Citadel guns from Legacy Sports is the polymer-framed 9mm CP9 USA, and it features a 4.0-inch barrel, a white-outline rear sight, a white-dot front sight, a safety-lever trigger, and a 14-round magazine capacity.

DRAPED IN OLD GLORY

LEGACY SPORTS IS PROUD TO PRESENT EXTENSIVE NEW OFFERINGS OF CITADEL AND HOWA RIFLES AND PISTOLS WITH AMERICAN FLAG FINISHES.

BY JOEL J. HUTCHCROFT

THE FOLKS AT LEGACY SPORTS ARE proud Americans. As such, the company proudly offers pistols, rifles, and accessories that wear the red, white, and blue of Old Glory. Several new red, white, and blue guns have been added to the lineup this year. Those include the Citadel CP9 USA 9mm pistol, the Citadel TRAKR USA .22 LR rifles, and the Howa Carbon Fiber Flag Chassis centerfire bolt-action rifle. Here's a quick look at four of those new guns, along with my shooting results for each one. And just in case these new guns aren't what you're looking for, Legacy Sports also offers Citadel full-size Model 1911s and Baby Model 1911s and Howa APC Steel, Mini Action EXCL Lite, and TSPX Chassis rifles, all with the red, white, and blue finish.

Citadel CP9 USA

Legacy Sports says the new Citadel Centurion CP9 USA is 100 percent made in the U.S., and it is a striker-fired, polymer-framed 9mm semiautomatic. The pistol has a 4.0-inch barrel with a twist rate of one turn in 16 inches, and the slide is machined for installing a red-dot optic. (The optic cut fits the Shield RMSc footprint.) The pistol comes with open sights, with the drift-adjustable rear sight having a square, 0.134-inch-wide notch with a white outline. The 0.174-inch-thick front sight has a single white dot.

The trigger has a smooth, 0.42-inch-wide, curved face, replete with a trigger-lever-type safety. Citadel calls the trigger mechanism the 804 kit, and my sample's trigger pull averaged 6 pounds, 8 ounces over five measurements with an RCBS trigger pull scale. It's not the worst striker-fired trigger pull I have worked with, but it is by no means what I would call a match-grade trigger. It has a fair amount of take-up, and the break is a bit spongy.

The CP9's high-carbon steel slide has wide grasping grooves at the rear and at the front, with the front grooves extending up and over the flat top of the slide. The slide has distinctive contouring, with the bottom of it measuring 1.1 inches thick and the top measuring 0.89 inch thick. The muzzle end of the slide is beveled.

The polymer frame has an integral accessory rail with a single cross-slot. The trigger guard is wide enough to allow the shooter to use gloves. And the grip area is contoured and textured. Plus, there is a recoil-absorbing backstrap.

The double-stack metal magazine fits flush with the bottom of the grip frame, and it holds 14 rounds (10-round magazines are available for those who live where the capacity is limited). The sample magazine has a removable polymer baseplate, a polymer follower, and three numbered witness holes on the right side.

As you can see from the photograph, the pistol is finished in red, white, and blue Cerakote in the style of the American flag. It's also offered with a gray-scale flag finish, as well as solid black, two-tone gray and black, OD green, bronze, and tan colors. Disassembly follows the same procedure as for a Glock pistol, and the MSRP starts at \$399.

LEGACY SPORTS CITADEL CP9 USA ACCURACY & VELOCITY

AMMUNITION	VEL. (FPS)	E.S. (FPS)	S.D. (FPS)	25 YD. ACC. (IN.)
9mm Luger, 4.0-in. Barrel				
Federal Syntech Range 115-gr. TSJ	1115	29	17	3.63
Hornady Critical Defense 115-gr. FTX	1103	32	14	3.50
Nosler Match Grade 124-gr. JHP	1040	30	13	2.00
Wilson 135-gr. HBFN	927	36	14	3.75
SIG SAUER 147-gr. JHP	977	27	11	3.38

NOTES: Accuracy is the average of three, five-shot groups fired from a sandbag benchrest. Velocity is the average of five rounds measured 12 feet from the gun's muzzle.

DRAPED IN OLD GLORY

Now for the shooting performance. During my shooting session, I fired five 9mm Luger factory loads, including Federal's Syntech Range 115-grain TSJ, Hornady's Critical Defense 115-grain FTX, Nosler's Match Grade 124-grain JHP, Wilson Combat's 135-grain HBFN, and SIG SAUER's 147-grain JHP.

Shooting over sandbags from the bench at a distance of 25 yards, all five factory loads produced five-shot group averages that measured 3.75 inches or less. Those averages were for three, five-shot groups with each load. The smallest group average was 2.00 inches, and it came with the Nosler Match Grade 124-grain JHP load. That ammo's average velocity was 1,040 fps, with an extreme spread of 30 fps and a standard deviation of 13 fps. All velocity figures are based on five rounds of each loading measured with the chronograph placed 12 feet in front of the gun's muzzle.

The accompanying chart shows how the other four loads compared to the Nosler ammo, but suffice it to say that all performed well in terms of accuracy. In addition, I am happy to report that every single round fed, fired, and ejected cleanly. I didn't experience any hiccups or malfunctions of any kind.

Oh, I should mention that Legacy Sports is offering red, white, and blue ammo cans along with the new CP9 USA pistol for customers who really want to show their American pride.

Citadel TRAKR USA

The Citadel TRAKR USA .22 LR rifles come in two types: semiautomatic and bolt action. Both have 18-inch barrels, 10-round detachable magazines, fully adjustable rear sights, and fiber-optic front sights. Both rifles have crossbolt safeties located at the front of the trigger guards, and the bolt action has a cocking indicator that protrudes from the rear of the receiver when the rifle is cocked.

The semiauto rifle is blowback operated. The bolt action has dual extractors, and the bolt handle does double duty as

the locking lug. The semiauto is 36.25 inches long, and it has a threaded muzzle. The bolt action is 35.5 inches long, and its muzzle is not threaded.

The tactical-style synthetic stocks have the red, white, and blue American flag finish. You can also get them with a gray-scale flag finish, as well as with all-black, OD green, and FDE finishes if you prefer. The sculpted fore-ends have four vents on each of the sides as well as underneath the fore-ends. The barrels on both rifles are free-floated, and the lengths of pull on both guns are fixed and measure 13.63 inches. The AR-style pistol grips are black, they have slight pebble texturing, and they are removable.

The semiautomatic rifle has a 0.21-inch-wide trigger, whereas the bolt action has a 0.34-inch-wide trigger. Both triggers are smooth. I much prefer the wider trigger of the bolt action. Using my handy, dandy .22 rimfire snap caps (because you should never dry fire a rimfire gun without a snap cap for fear of damaging the firing pin) and my RCBS trigger pull scale, I measured each rifle's trigger pull five times. The semiauto averaged 4 pounds, 6 ounces. It had some take-up but no perceptible overtravel. The bolt action averaged 5 pounds, 5 ounces. It was nice and crisp with no noticeable take-up or overtravel.

One of the unusual aspects of these rimfire rifles is their rear sights. They appear to be identical, and they have green fiber-optic rods for the two "dots" that flank the square notch. They also have a large adjustment wheel that rotates to adjust for elevation (clockwise to raise the point of impact) and a smaller knob that rotates for windage (clockwise to move point of impact to the right). The front sights have red/orange fiber-optic rods and large hoods.

The semiauto comes with a scope rail that clamps to the grooved receiver via four side screws, and without an optic in place, the rail allows the shooter to view the sights when it's installed on the receiver. The bolt action has just

TRAKR USA SEMIAUTO	
MANUFACTURER	Citadel legacysports.com
TYPE	Blowback-operated autoloader
CALIBER	.22 LR
MAGAZINE CAPACITY	10 rounds
BARREL	18 in.
OVERALL LENGTH	36.25 in.
WEIGHT, EMPTY	3.6 lbs.
STOCK	Synthetic
LENGTH OF PULL	13.63 in.
FINISH	Cerakote
TRIGGER	4.4-lb. pull (as tested)
SIGHTS	Fully adjustable rear, fiber-optic front
SAFETY	Crossbolt
MSRP	\$249



The Citadel TRAKR USA Semiauto is chambered for .22 LR and has an 18-inch barrel, a 10-round detachable magazine, a fully adjustable rear sight, and a fiber-optic front sight.



The .22 LR Citadel TRAKR USA Bolt Action has an 18-inch barrel, a 10-round detachable magazine, a fully adjustable rear sight, and a fiber-optic front sight.

the standard receiver groove for mounting a scope typical of most rimfire rifles. I used an old Weaver 1-3X scope on the bolt action and an Aimpoint H-2 red-dot optic on the semiauto for testing the guns for accuracy. I know what you're thinking. "That's an expensive red-dot optic to put on an inexpensive .22 LR plinker." And you're right, it costs considerably more than the rifle does, but it's the only red-dot optic I had on hand that would fit the scope rail. The retail prices for the rifles start at \$249.

I fired three, five-shot groups in each rifle from a benchrest at 25 yards with five .22 LR loadings. All had 40-grain bullets, and they included Aguila Super Extra High Velocity 40-grain CPRN, CCI Clean-22 High Velocity 40-grain CLRN, Federal Gold Medal Target 40-grain LRN (#711), SK Standard Plus 40-grain LRN, and Winchester Power-Point 40-grain CPHP.

As you can see from the accompanying chart, these rifles were plenty accurate for plinking and small-game hunting. The semiauto's overall average accuracy for all five loadings was 1.29 inches. Its best accuracy (1.00 inch) came with the Federal Gold Medal Match 40-grain LRN (#711) ammunition. The bolt action's overall average accuracy for all five loadings was 1.09 inches, and its best accuracy (0.95 inch) came with the SK Standard Plus 40-grain LRN ammo. Like I just said, that's plenty good for filling the stew pot and for casual shooting.

Howa Carbon Flag Chassis

The new Howa Carbon Flag Chassis rifle features the popular Model 1500 action with a machined receiver, an aluminum chassis, and a forged steel bolt that has an integral bolt handle, two locking lugs, and pressure vents.

TRAKR USA BOLT ACTION

MANUFACTURER	Citadel legacysports.com
TYPE	Bolt-action repeater
CALIBER	.22 LR
MAGAZINE CAPACITY	10 rounds
BARREL	18 in.
OVERALL LENGTH	35.5 in.
WEIGHT, EMPTY	3.6 lbs.
STOCK	Synthetic
LENGTH OF PULL	13.63 in.
FINISH	Cerakote
TRIGGER	5.3-lb. pull (as tested)
SIGHTS	Fully adjustable rear, fiber-optic front
SAFETY	Crossbolt
MSRP	\$249

The rifle has a large integral front barrel lug, an M16-style extractor, and a three-position safety. The boltface has been trued and squared to the chamber, and the rifle comes with a sub-MOA three-shot guarantee at 100 yards with premium ammunition. It's chambered for 6.5 Creedmoor and .308 Winchester (our rifle is in 6.5 Creedmoor), and the rifle comes with a 24-inch, carbon-fiber-wrapped barrel. Since ours is chambered for 6.5 Creedmoor, the twist rate is one turn in eight inches. The muzzle is threaded 5/8x24, and a four-port muzzle brake is installed. The barrel's diameter measures 0.76 inch where the muzzle brake meets the barrel.

The synthetic LUTH AR buttstock has an adjustable cheek riser, a hard plastic buttpad, a section of Picatinny rail on the underneath side, and an

LEGACY SPORTS CITADEL TRAKR ACCURACY & VELOCITY

AMMUNITION	VEL. (FPS)	E.S. (FPS)	S.D. (FPS)	25-YD. ACC. (IN.)
TRAKR USA Semiauto, 18-in. Barrel				
Aguila Super Extra High Velocity 40-gr. CPRN	1310	42	15	1.50
CCI Clean-22 High Velocity 40-gr. CLRN	1211	87	33	1.10
Federal Gold Medal Target 40-gr. LRN #711	1112	53	23	1.00
SK Standard Plus 40-gr. LRN	1057	23	10	1.25
Winchester Power-Point 40-gr. CPHP	1275	51	20	1.60
TRAKR USA Bolt Action, 18-in. Barrel				
Aguila Super Extra High Velocity 40-gr. CPRN	1315	48	25	1.40
CCI Clean-22 High Velocity 40-gr. CLRN	1214	72	26	1.00
Federal Gold Medal Target 40-gr. LRN #711	1137	56	20	0.99
SK Standard Plus 40-gr. LRN	1030	55	21	0.95
Winchester Power-Point 40-gr. CPHP	1264	76	30	1.10
NOTES: Accuracy is the average of three, five-shot groups fired from a sandbag benchrest. Velocity is the average of 10 rounds, measured 12 feet from the guns' muzzles.				

LEGACY SPORTS HOWA CARBON FLAG CHASSIS ACCURACY & VELOCITY

AMMUNITION	VEL. (FPS)	E.S. (FPS)	S.D. (FPS)	100-YD. ACC. (IN.)
6.5 Creedmoor, 24-in. Barrel				
Barnes VOR-TX 120-gr. TTSX BT	2886	43	21	1.13
Browning BXR 129-gr. REMT	2974	27	13	1.25
Federal American Eagle 140-gr. OTM	2672	86	36	1.00
HSM Tipping Point 140-gr. SST	2579	50	19	0.95
Winchester Expedition 142-gr. ABLR	2717	44	17	1.20

NOTES: Accuracy is the average of three, five-shot groups fired from a sandbag benchrest. Velocity is the average of five rounds, measured 12 feet from the gun's muzzle.

AR-style MDT pistol grip. The aluminum handguard measures 16 inches long and is ventilated, and it has M-LOK slots on the sides and underneath. The length of pull is adjustable from 12 inches to 15 inches, and overall length ranges from 44.5 inches to 47.5 inches. The rifle weighs 11 pounds, 2 ounces with a scope, rings, bases, a magazine, and a bipod installed. That's about 1.1 pounds lighter than the Howa Flag Chassis rifle with its steel barrel.

The detachable magazine is polymer, and it holds 10 rounds. We received a bipod and a scope and all the mounting accessories with our sample rifle. The bipod is by Nikko Stirling, and so is the 4-16X 50mm scope. The scope attaches easily to the Picatinny rail on top of the receiver, and the bipod goes on quickly via the M-LOK handguard.

The rifle's trigger is a two-stage match type, and the one in our sample rifle is crisp and clean. The advertised pull weight is from 2.5 pounds to 3.8 pounds, and our rifle breaks on average at 3 pounds, 6 ounces (3.4 pounds), with not a lot of variance. In fact, there was just 8 ounces of variance between five trigger pull measurements according to my RCBS trigger pull scale.

At the bench, the rifle shot incredibly well for me. I've never claimed to have match-winning shooting skills, but all five of the factory loads I test-fired averaged very close to 1 MOA at 100 yards. (Reminder: 1 MOA equals 1.047 inches.) The results of my shooting session are listed in the accompanying chart, and you can judge them for yourself, but I just have to call out the new HSM Tipping Point 140-grain SST loading. It's the newest 6.5 Creedmoor loading from HSM, and it produced a 0.95-inch average. Out of the Carbon Flag Chassis's

24-inch barrel, the load's velocity averaged 2,579 fps, measured 12 feet from the muzzle with a Competition Electronics ProChrono Digital chronograph, and that calculates to 2,067 ft-lbs of energy.

And there you have a quick look at the new Citadel and Howa flag guns from Legacy Sports. Due to this magazine's production schedule, you should be reading this issue not long after celebrating the Fourth of July holiday, so you may be feeling extra patriotic. Why not carry that feeling forward and check out these new guns at a local dealer? ST

The centerfire Howa Carbon Flag Chassis bolt-action rifle features a 24-inch carbon-fiber barrel, a synthetic stock that's adjustable for length of pull, a two-stage competition trigger, and a three-position safety.

CARBON FLAG CHASSIS

MANUFACTURER	Howa legacysports.com
TYPE	Bolt-action repeater
CALIBER	6.5 Creedmoor
MAGAZINE CAPACITY	10 rounds
BARREL	24 in.
OVERALL LENGTH	44.5 to 47.5 in.
WEIGHT, EMPTY	11.1 lbs. (with scope, rings, bases, magazine, and bipod)
STOCK	Synthetic
LENGTH OF PULL	Adjustable, 12 to 15 in.
FINISH	Cerakote
TRIGGER	3.4-lb. pull (as tested)
SIGHTS	None, Picatinny top rail
SAFETY	Three position
MSRP	\$1,229

