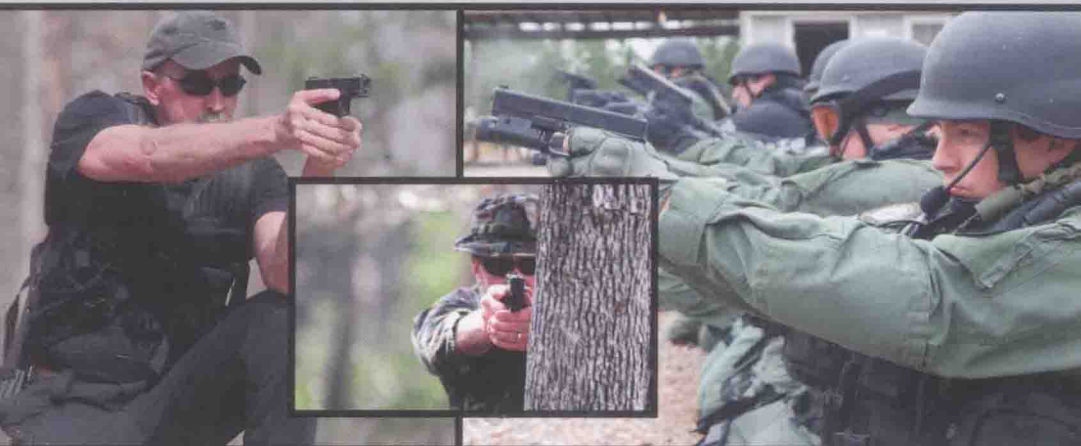


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—Lt. Col. David Grossman, Army Ranger (Ret.) and author of *On Killing*



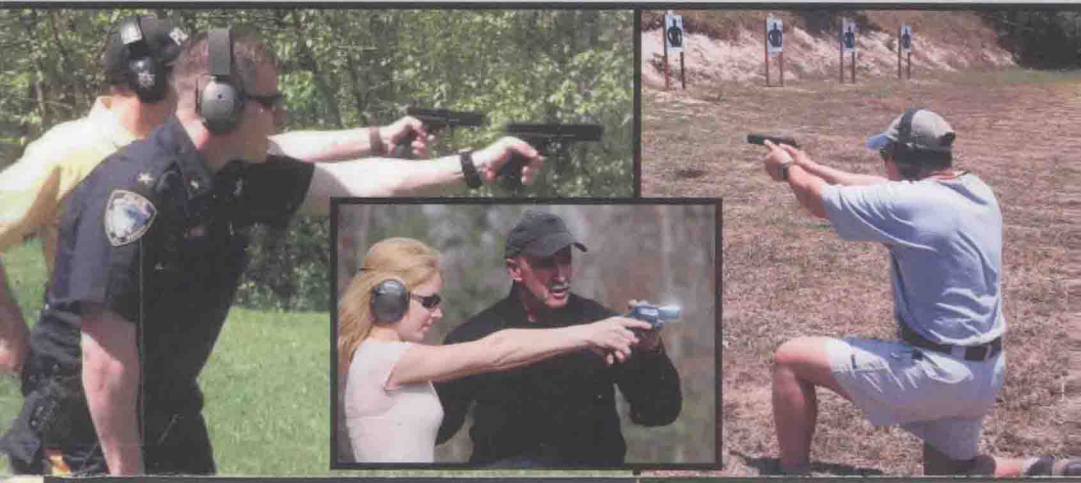
THE MODERN DAY GUNSLINGER

THE ULTIMATE HANDGUN TRAINING MANUAL

DON MANN, U.S. NAVY SEAL

FOREWORD BY LT. COL. DAVID GROSSMAN

■ COMBAT MIND-SET ■ MARKSMANSHIP ■ WEAPONS SAFETY
■ DEFENSIVE TRAINING TECHNIQUES ■ TACTICAL GUIDELINES ■ CONCEALED CARRY



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"*The Modern Day Gunslinger* is pure dynamite—a gunfighter's bible. With a fundamental, broad-based foundation of resources, it incorporates the best contributions of the great minds and great trainers in this field. A 'must' for the beginner, the master, or (perhaps most of all) the trainer."

—Lt. Col. David Grossman, author of the Pulitzer Prize-nominated book *On Killing* and former Army Ranger

"*The Modern Day Gunslinger* should be every shooter's bible! It delivers a straightforward approach to what we all know or knew or should know, setting it straight *as it should be* and serving as a daily reminder of the natural bad habits we all have. It deserves to be on the bedside nightstand to peruse regularly—especially if you don't get to shoot often enough."

—Dick Marcinko, aka Rogue Warrior, Commanding Officer, SEAL Team SIX, Red Cell (Ret.), and author of over 20 books including *The New York Times* bestseller *Rogue Warrior*

"Great book! *The Modern Day Gunslinger* should be read by everyone who owns or is considering owning a firearm. Don Mann calls upon his vast experience as a 'shooter' to cover all aspects of shooting but most importantly the mental aspects. He correctly stresses that anyone can shoot at a paper target but not everyone is prepared to shoot at another person in self-defense. This is the best and most concise compendium on weapons defensive tactics I've seen!"

—Robert Gormly, Commanding Officer (Ret.),
SEAL Team TWO and SEAL Team SIX

"*The Modern Day Gunslinger* incorporates real-world survival principles and today's high-speed competition shooting techniques—I highly recommend it to everyone, from novice to seasoned pro. Even if you don't own a firearm, the personal awareness section justifies its purchase."

—Brian Enos, NRA Bianchi Cup and Sportsman's Team Challenge National Champion Steel Masters Champion, and author of *Practical Shooting—Beyond Fundamentals*

"I've been both a student and an instructor of firearms safety, marksmanship, and tactics for almost 40 years. During all those years, all those venues, and all the courses attended and conducted, I've never encountered anything that comes as close to saying it all as *The Modern Day Gunslinger* does. I know there will be

instructors and students who will be reading MGD for decades to come. This book will save lives.”

—Dick Conger, Senior Special Agent (Ret.), U.S. Customs Service, and USG
Senior Weapons and Tactics Instructor

“This is the most all-encompassing book on shooting I have ever seen. The complete breakdown of every aspect of combat shooting is meticulously discussed, giving the shooter the concrete fundamentals necessary for fully-developed gunslinger skills. Many how-to manuals try to walk a fine line between covering every detail without boring the reader and trying to hit only the high points to keep the information flowing. Don’s writing style has changed the rules altogether. Not only is there a fantastic level of detail, but the facts are presented in a crystal clear fashion, illuminating the fine points in a dynamic approach that allows the reader to enjoy the process and not be intimidated by dry prose. I recommend this book for everybody, whether you are a local shooting champion or a novice who has never held a gun before. If you are even thinking about improving your tactical shooting ability, put all the other books back on the shelf: You have found everything you need in *The Modern Day Gunslinger*.”

—Dan Bolchoz, Sergeant Major (Ret.), Delta Force

“Don Mann’s book, *The Modern Day Gunslinger*, is a must-read for law enforcement officers, security professionals, military, or civilians wanting to improve their combat firearms skills. Superbly written, comprehensive, and easy-to-understand, this book is a no-nonsense approach to firearms handling, marksmanship, and tactics. Although there are many firearms-related resources on the market, *The Modern Day Gunslinger* contains the most up-to-date and current information in the ever-changing world of combat firearms. I consider this book to be essential reference material and will highly recommend it to my students without reservation.”

—Jimmy B., Senior Firearms and Tactics
Instructor, USG

“A comprehensive, defensive tactical training guide has been long overdue. Don Mann has filled that gap. *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is an all-inclusive manual that addresses safety, equipment, tactics, and best practices for all shooters. Don and I served together at two different SEAL Commands. I owned an indoor shooting range in Tucson, Arizona, for 10 years and only wish that Don had published this manual then. As an NRA instructor and Arizona Concealed Carry Weapons instructor, I can state emphatically that this manual would have been the only reference my instructors and I would have needed. It would have been mandatory reading for all students.”

—Dan T. Coulter, Commander Navy SEAL Team (Ret.)

"As an FBI agent, I have instructed government agents in small arms and tactics from all over the world. *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is an invaluable resource to the FBI and other U.S. government agencies. I have taught firearms, hostage rescue, tactics, and street survival to every level of law enforcement and this book is the only manual that covers every detail of today's gun-fighting issues."

—Roger D. Browning, Special Agent (Ret.),
Federal Bureau of Investigation and USG Senior
Weapons and Tactics Instructor

"Don Mann is an outstanding example of the military men this nation produces, and a top-notch tactical operator and instructor. *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is designed for the novice and expert alike, whose needs range from home defense to government and military missions. It is a very interesting read, chock full of information that may save your life or the life of another. It will have a special place in my library."

—Edward J. Pollard, Assistant Director (Ret.),
Protective Operations, United States Secret Service

"During my 25-year career I worked and trained throughout the world as a government weapons and tactics instructor with the CIA, and as an undercover law enforcement officer. Until now, there has not been a single comprehensive training manual that references all the defensive training and shooting procedures currently taught to the world's most elite military and law enforcement units. *The Modern Day Gunslinger* unlocks the fundamental training secrets in a clear and concise manner, and illuminates a tangible approach to the world of defensive and tactical shooting."

—Jon F., Senior Tactics and Weapons Instructor,
USG

"Don Mann has produced a true quality, top-notch product with his book *The Modern Day Gunslinger*. Don lays it out in layman's terms and covers the whole gambit of shooting skills that build and develop sound shooting techniques from novice to top-notch shooters. Utilizing Don's guidance and skills related in this book, shooters will be able to achieve that higher ability of shooting perfection that will allow them to save lives and be able to return to their loved ones. This is, without a doubt, the most comprehensive, easy-to-read, and understandable instructional shooting book I have ever seen. This is the type of book that will be the milestone on which books on shooting, shooting skills, marksmanship, defensive use of weapons, practical combat applications of weapons, and mind-set will be measured in the future."

—Jim G. Master, Sergeant (Ret.), Special Forces/Ranger/LEO

"Finally, a one-stop source for weapons tactics, techniques, and procedures. I've spent a career in Special Operations, conducting overt, covert, and clandestine operations, learning this all the hard way. Now someone has finally made it simple. Don Mann is a true Quiet Professional. Thanks to him you can simply learn from the best, skip the trial and error, and start concentrating on putting rounds on target."

—Major Luther Papenfus, Major, U.S. Army Special Forces (Ret.)

"A wide-ranging, detailed compendium of the art and philosophy of shooting, written by an experienced SEAL and student of both. This is a *must read* for anyone wishing to understand or master that art."

—Dan'l Steward, Commanding Officer (Ret.), SEAL Team One

"As a chief of law enforcement and firearms instructor, witnessing Don Mann speak and instruct is an extremely motivating experience. His professional, calm, and confident demeanor is a quality that sets Don apart from other weapons and tactics instructors. Students listen and learn—knowing every word spoken is from years of real-world operational experience. I know of no other person who has mastered his craft more expertly, and I know of no better defensive training manual than *The Modern Day Gunslinger*."

—Jan Wright, Chief of Police, Hamburg,
New Jersey, Police Department Rc5

"I trained and deployed overseas with Don Mann and have known him well for over 25 years. Don is a world-class weapons and tactics instructor and *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is a testament to Don's knowledge as a weapons instructor. *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is an excellent resource for everyone that has an interest in weapons training—from the military or law enforcement weapons instructor to the novice interested in home defense."

—Randy Goodman, U.S. Navy (SEAL) Captain (Ret.)
and Naval Special Warfare Group Commander

"Don Mann is a true warrior. He speaks from a place of knowledge and experience, and has truly 'been there, done that.' By writing *The Modern Day Gunslinger*, he has done an incredible service to the law enforcement, military, and private security communities, not to mention the everyday warriors who understand today's reality: that each one of us is responsible for our own survival."

—Niki Anderson, Counterintelligence Advisor, Centre
for Counterintelligence and Security Studies

"During the last 45 years, I have carried a variety of weapons as a combat Marine, a Secret Service Law enforcement Officer, and a USG security contractor. There can be grave legal consequences for anyone improperly carrying or discharging a firearm. My recommendation would be that no one pick up a firearm until they read what Don Mann has written. *The Modern Day Gunslinger* will assist all levels

of shooters by presenting clear-cut information covering every aspect of firearm safety and training.”

—Bill Wamsley, Deputy Chief (Ret.), U.S. Secret Service

“I personally learned so much from *The Modern Day Gunslinger*, which I consider to be a complete instructional manual for defensive shooting. More importantly, it clearly addresses the responsibility and accountability issues for using a weapon in self-defense. Don Mann addresses the mental aspects that are fundamentally most important in the use of a handgun for self-defense. This book is a terrific tool for beginners and veteran handgun owners who may someday be called to act with a handgun to preserve life, as well as take it. Quite frankly, I found it difficult to put down.”

—Dr. Raymond Fritz, Navy SEAL Commander

“The USMC taught me how to use firearms effectively in combat situations. *The Modern Day Gunslinger* builds in depth on this knowledge and experience by clearly discussing safe and effective use of weapons and tactics in civil society, home and personal protection, as well as unusual circumstances. Don Mann’s devotion to practicing and teaching these techniques makes this outstanding book a classic in the field. Not only a must-read, but an essential study for any shooter.”

—William Davis, PhD, USMC

“*The Modern Day Gunslinger* is a versatile and effective compilation of range safety practices, marksmanship techniques, and combat tactics that will benefit both novice and advanced shooters in many arenas.”

—Paul F. Kelly, Firearms Instructor, Special Agent (Ret.),
U.S. Secret Service

“*The Modern Day Gunslinger* is a realistic, practical, easy-to-comprehend manual of the small arms tactics, techniques, and procedures used successfully by our professional and military gunfighters. I recommend this book as an essential reference to anyone committed to perfecting their firearms handling skills.”

—John Stann, Captain, USMC

“Don Mann’s *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is a concise, practical book on defensive tactical shooting. It is an essential read for anyone from the gun owner interested in home protection to the seasoned military or law enforcement professional. The techniques presented from mind-set and ‘survivor’s awareness’ to marksmanship and then on to tactics is, without doubt, the clearest presentation of defensive shooting I have ever read. This book is highly recommended to anyone interested in seriously improving their shooting skills!”

—Norm Creel, Command Master Chief, SEAL Team Eight

"I believe *The Modern Day Gunslinger* to be an ideal handbook for all shooters. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced shooting professional, there are many lessons and references from which we can all gain. I strongly recommend you pick up a copy of *The Modern Day Gunslinger* for your library; it's well worth it. I give *The MDG* my strongest endorsement."

—Steven W. Bailey, Master Chief, Navy SEAL, USG
Weapons and Tactics Program Manager

**THE
MODERN DAY
GUNSLINGER**

DISCLAIMER

Check your state and local laws before carrying a handgun, concealed or otherwise. Laws vary widely from state to state. Some states allow concealed carry without a permit, some require a permit, and some states do not allow concealed handgun carry at all. All states put restrictions on where and how handguns can be carried legally. In addition, several states outlaw particular modes of concealed carry. Your local law enforcement department or district attorney's office should know the details.

This book is not designed to take the place of a qualified and competent instructor; rather, it is a resource designed to supplement quality training.

FOREWORD »

Don Devereaux Mann is the real thing, the “right stuff” . . . a Navy SEAL, a combat veteran, and a special operations operator and trainer who has worked, fought beside, and trained the best-of-the-best. Now he has combined his experience and skills to produce a remarkable book, a true gunslinger’s textbook . . . a definitive and vital resource.

In the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks Americans have risen to the challenge. Many states have established concealed carry laws. Millions of Americans are buying and carrying guns. And if you believe (as I do) that every trained, armed citizen makes America a safer place, then you must believe in this book. Let me say that again: every *trained*, armed citizen. It is not enough to just buy and carry the gun. Now you must train in the use of this vital, lifesaving tool: the handgun. You must strive to become a *Modern Day Gunslinger*.

Consider:

- What is the single most heinous, horrendous international terrorist act in history? What is the single greatest body count, in a single incident, ever achieved by any non-governmental agency not in time of war? The World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 . . .
- What is the single most heinous, horrendous domestic terrorist act in American history, the single greatest body count ever achieved in a terrorist act on American soil by an American Citizen? Oklahoma City . . .
- What is the highest body count of any criminal act on a college campus? Virginia Tech . . .

- What is the single greatest body count ever achieved by any juvenile mass murderer in history? Columbine High School . . .

. . . Not some ancient history. Not some distant land. Us. Now.

There is a new twist to terrorism: It's called body count. Whether the perpetrators are school killers, workplace killers, or international terrorists, they are not interested in negotiating; their only goal is to kill as many people as humanly possible.

Shaken awake by the horror of these events, our citizens and our warriors will no longer sit by as innocent men, women, and children die in helpless mobs. We saw this new thinking on September 11, 2001, when Americans on the fourth airplane, Flight 93 over Pennsylvania, fought back. Americans have determined that they will not be victims!

This is America! Faced with a challenge like this we don't take away rights. We give our citizens more rights! The right to arm and protect ourselves and our loved ones. And, along with that right (as with *any* right) comes responsibility. The responsibility to train and prepare for that fateful day.

It will be extremely difficult for a terrorist to hijack another airplane and fly it into a building. Not just because of all the new security measures, but primarily because any idiot with a box cutter, or any fool who tries to set his shoe on fire, is going to have a plane-load of passengers hopping up and down on his body. And if they *do* succeed in hijacking a plane, it will immediately be shot out of the sky by the U.S. Air Force.

No, they will probably not be able to use another plane as a weapon of mass destruction, but what they can do to us is what they have been doing in the Middle East for decades: active shooter strikes. In the Luxor massacre, at the Egyptian tourist site, a handful of armed Islamic extremists gunned down a bunch of tourists. The result was that they shut down the tourism business in Egypt for a year, costing that nation billions of dollars. *This* is the power of the

terrorist, be they international or domestic: the ability to shut down a nation with just one strike.

The only viable response to a threat like this is to legally empower, physically arm, and properly train our citizens. *We have been here before.* Take the case of Massachusetts. In 1636, a frustrated General Court of the Massachusetts Bay Colony unanimously passed an ordinance that said:

“Whereas many complaints have been made to this Court, of the greatest neglect of all sorts of people of using the lawful and necessary means for their safety, especially in this time of so great danger from Indians, it is therefore ordered that no person shall travel above one mile from his dwelling without arms; upon pain of twelve pence for every default.”

Being unarmed was considered negligent! Self-protection was not just a personal responsibility, it was a duty to the community! And for over a century after the danger from hostile Indians was eliminated, there was no suggestion that this ordinance be repealed. A century and a half later, those people were the leaders of the armed rebellion that created the United States!

Today Massachusetts has strayed far from its roots. But, as J. R. R. Tolkien put it, in *The Lord of the Rings*:

All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost;
The old that is strong does not wither,
Deep roots are not reached by the frost.

Now, in this dark hour, let us tap the strength that is drawn from those deep roots that have endured the bitter frost, let seek out the old that is strong and does not wither, the old ways, the ways of the pioneer and the gunslinger, in order to answer the challenge of the age.

Our forefathers knew that it is not enough to just have a gun, it is also vital to be *trained* in the proper use of that weapon. In 1349, King Edward III of England told the citizens of London that their “skill of shooting” was being neglected, and he proclaimed that “every one of the said city, strong in body, at leisure times on holidays, use in their recreation bow and arrows, or pellets or bolts, and learn and exercise the art of shooting . . . that they do not, after any manner apply themselves to the throwing of . . . handball, football, cambuck, or cockfighting, nor suchlike vain plays which have nor profit in them.”

Teddy Roosevelt said, while he was president, that: “We should establish shooting galleries in all the large public and military schools, should maintain national target ranges in different parts of the country, and should in every way encourage the formation of [shooting] clubs throughout all parts of the land . . . It is unfortunately true that the great body of our citizens shoot less and less as time goes on. To meet this [challenge] we should encourage . . . practice . . . by every means in our power. Thus, and not otherwise, may we be able to assist in preserving the peace of the world. Fit to hold our own against the strong nations of the earth, our voice for peace will carry to the ends of the earth. Unprepared and therefore unfit, we must sit dumb and helpless to defend ourselves, protect others, or preserve peace. The first step—to avert war if possible, and to be fit for war if it should come—is to teach our men to shoot.”

It bears repeating: our ancestors knew that *it is not enough to just have a gun*, it is also vital to be *trained* in the proper use of that weapon.

And that is what *The Modern Day Gunslinger* is all about. Here, in your hands, is one of the finest defensive weapons training resources available. If you have doubts about the things recommended in this book, simply try them yourself. I have, and I can tell you that they work.

A true master, a world class shooter, operator and weapons and tactics trainer has turned his remarkable skills toward teaching you to properly employ defensive handgun tactics when required. I strongly recommend that you not just read but study and apply this excellent book.

—**Dave Grossman**

Lt. Col., U.S. Army (ret.)

Author of *On Killing* and *On Combat*

President, Warrior Science Group (www.WarriorSci.com)

Cogito, ergo armatum sum.
I think, therefore I am armed.