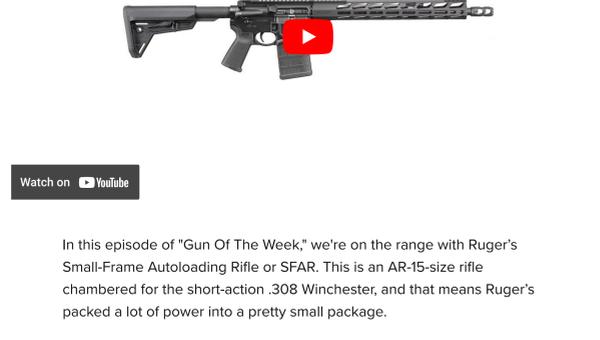


# Gun Of The Week: Ruger SFAR

by AMERICAN RIFLEMAN STAFF posted on August 18, 2023

VIDEOS NEWS NRA GUN OF THE WEEK RIFLES VIDEO SEMI-AUTO RIFLES

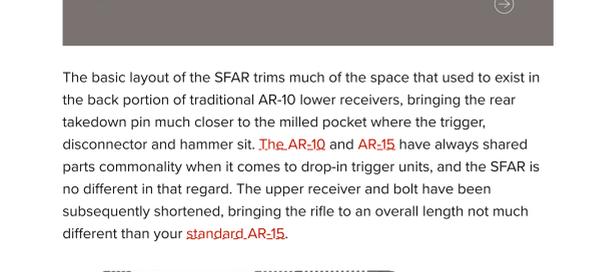
Support NRA American Rifleman [DONATE](#)



Watch on [YouTube](#)

In this episode of "Gun Of The Week," we're on the range with Ruger's Small-Frame Autoloading Rifle or SFAR. This is an AR-15-size rifle chambered for the short-action .308 Winchester, and that means Ruger's packed a lot of power into a pretty small package.

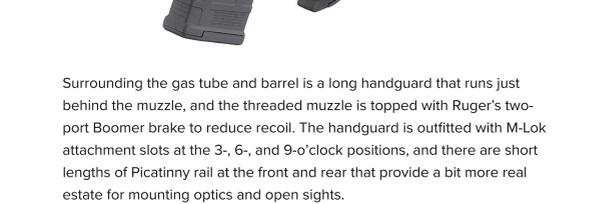
Credit where credit's due, Ruger's not the first company to come out with this rifle concept. Patriot Ordnance Factory has been out with several shrunken AR-10-style rifles over the last few years, and while these are great guns, they cost a bit more than most folks would like to spend. Ruger elected to bring the small-frame .308 semi-auto rifle to the masses with the SFAR, which is priced affordably and is still loaded with features. Watch the [video above](#) to see [the Ruger SFAR](#) in use on the range.



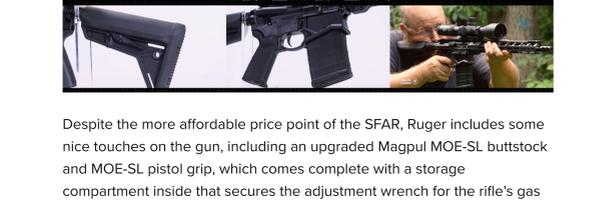
The basic layout of the SFAR trims much of the space that used to exist in the back portion of traditional AR-10 lower receivers, bringing the rear takedown pin much closer to the milled pocket where the trigger, disconnect and hammer sit. [The AR-10](#) and [AR-15](#) have always shared parts commonality when it comes to drop-in trigger units, and the SFAR is no different in that regard. The upper receiver and bolt have been subsequently shortened, bringing the rifle to an overall length not much different than your [standard AR-15](#).



In addition to the size, the weight has also been trimmed down significantly, and the 16" barreled version of [the SFAR](#) we have on the range here weighs in at just under 7 lbs. It's equipped with a mid-length gas system, and at the gas block, there's an adjustment screw that allows you to choose one of four settings to fine-tune gas flow.



Surrounding the gas tube and barrel is a long handguard that runs just behind the muzzle, and the threaded muzzle is topped with Ruger's two-port Boomer brake to reduce recoil. The handguard is outfitted with M-Lok attachment slots at the 3-, 6-, and 9-o'clock positions, and there are short lengths of Picatinny rail at the front and rear that provide a bit more real estate for mounting optics and open sights.



Despite the more affordable price point of the SFAR, Ruger includes some nice touches on the gun, including an upgraded Magpul MOE-SL buttstock and MOE-SL pistol grip, which comes complete with a storage gas block. The trigger, Ruger's Elite 452 design, is also a welcome step up, providing a clean pull that measured just under 5 lbs.



Shooting a lightweight .308 rifle is definitely an experience you'll feel, but thanks to [Ruger's included brake](#), we found the gun to be pretty manageable on the range. The 16" version was handy, easy to carry, came up on target quickly and was controllable through quick follow-up shots. All in all, we thought the SFAR is a great new addition to the market and will make a superb general-purpose rifle that's adaptable to any role.

### Ruger SFAR Specifications

**Manufacturer:** [Sturm, Ruger & Co., Inc.](#)

**Action Type:** direct-gas-impingement-operated, semi-automatic, centerfire rifle

**Chambering:** .308 Win.

**Receiver:** 7075 aluminum

**Barrel:** 16.10" 4140 chrome-moly steel, nitride-treated, 1:10" RH-twist rifling

**Sights:** none; Picatinny rail

**Stock:** polymer

**Magazine:** 20-round detachable box

**Trigger:** two-stage; 4-lb., 5-oz. pull

**Length:** 34" to 37.25"

**Weight:** 6 lbs., 13 ozs.

**MSRP:** \$1,329

In this article: [GUN OF THE WEEK, GOTW, VIDEO, STURM, RUGER & CO., INC., RUGER SFAR, SEMI-AUTOMATIC, RIFLES, AR-15, AR-10, .308 WIN., SHORT ACTION RIFLES, M-LOK, MAGPUL, RUGER ELITE 452, HOW TO, ABOUT SFAR](#)

### Related Stories

[Gun of the Week: Davidson's Exclusive Ruger 10/22 Compact Leopard](#)

[Gun Of The Week: Ruger LC Charger](#)

[NRA Gun of the Week: POF USA Revolution](#)

[NRA Gun of the Week: SIG Sauer 716i Tread](#)

[NRA Gun of the Week: SIG Sauer CROSS](#)

## More like this from around the NRA

**Sporting Clays vs. FITASC: Two Popular Shotgun Sports | An Official Journal Of The NRA**

**How to Choose a Handgun Optic | An Official Journal Of The NRA**

**This Rabbi Understands The Importance of Self-Defense | An Official Journal Of The NRA**

**Review: Franchi Momentum All-Terrain Elite | An Official Journal Of The NRA**

## Latest

**I Have This Old Gun: Mauser "Cigarette" Rifle**  
As collectors know, fine firearms can be a solid investment, but at times, firearms themselves become a commodity. In post-World War II Germany, the country's currency had devalued rapidly, and a barter economy replaced traditional money.  
[NEWS, I HAVE THIS OLD GUN](#)

**The Armed Citizen® Jan. 1, 2024**  
Read today's "The Armed Citizen" entry for real stories of law-abiding citizens, past and present, who used their firearms to save lives.  
[ARMED CITIZEN, NEWS](#)

**New For 2024: EAA Corp. Girsan MC14BDA & MC14G84**  
After debuting its MC14T early in 2023, EAA Corp. is adding two more models to its MC14 line, with the MC14BDA and MC14G84, which it says combines "rich heritage, reliability, and affordability."  
[NEWS, GUNS](#)

**Preview: Safe Life Defense Dexterity+ Gloves**  
Known mainly for its flexible handgun- and rifle-rated body armor lines, Safe Life Defense also offers its own set of quality shooting gloves.  
[NEWS, GEAR](#)

**Sporting Clays vs. FITASC: Two Popular Shotgun Sports**  
Sporting clays and FITASC are some of the fastest-growing shotgun sports. So what are they, and how do they differ?  
[NEWS, GUNS](#)

**Preview: Rite In The Rain Precision Distance Shooting Target**  
Available in 25-count packs, Rite In The Rain offers its latest all-weather target paper designed for the outdoor shooting enthusiast.  
[NEWS, GEAR](#)

**HELLCAT**  
THE WORLD'S HIGHEST CAPACITY MICRO-COMPACT  
[SEE IT NOW](#)

MORE LATEST STORIES →

## Interests

**I Have This Old Gun: Ross Mk III | An Official Journal Of The NRA**  
[ROSS RIFLE, ROSS MK III, CANADA](#)

Throwback Thursday: What's the Most Historically Important Machine Gun? | NRA Family

Throwback Thursday: The Indomitable Sgt. Alvin York | NRA Family

Throwback Thursday: "Come and Get Us" at Argonne Forest | NRA Family

**I Have This Old Gun: Ross Mk III | An Official Journal Of The NRA**  
[ROSS RIFLE, ROSS MK III, CANADA](#)

I Have This Old Gun: Ross Mk III | An Official Journal Of The NRA

I Have This Old Gun: Dreyse Needle Rifle | An Official Journal Of The NRA

I Have This Old Gun: Remington 700 BDL | An Official Journal Of The NRA

**The Armed Citizen® Dec. 29, 2023 | An Official Journal Of The NRA**  
[ARMED CITIZEN, THE ARMED CITIZEN BLOG, THE ARMED CITIZEN ONLINE](#)

NRA-ILA | NRA In Jewish Rabbi Leads Push to Arm, Train Jewish Community

NRA Women | The Armed Citizen® Reload December 15, 2023

NRA Women | The Armed Citizen® December 8, 2023

**The Most-Surprising Second Amendment Stories of 2023 | An Official Journal Of The NRA**  
[NRA, SECOND AMENDMENT, 2023](#)

NIAA Launches Picatinny Arsenal Team | An Official Journal Of The NRA

The Santa Colonel & NORAD's Santa Tracker | An Official Journal Of The NRA

"Screaming Eagles" Train On New NGSW Rifles | An Official Journal Of The NRA

SHOW MORE INTERESTS ↓

## Get the best of American Rifleman delivered to your inbox.

[SUBSCRIBE \(IT'S FREE!\)](#)

**GET IN TOUCH**  
Advertising  
Contact Us  
FAQ  
Help  
Search

**CONNECT WITH US**  
f x y @

**SECTIONS**  
News  
Reviews  
Videos  
Armed Citizen  
NRA Gun of the Week

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**  
American Rifleman Television  
NRA Institute For Legislative Action  
NRA Explore  
Armed Citizen

**NRA MEMBERSHIP**  
NRA Membership  
Exclusive Member Benefits  
Membership FAQ  
Manage Your Membership

EXPLORE MORE NRA PUBLICATIONS

**Find More Great NRA Publications Perfect For Every Interest**

**Join The NRA And Our Growing Community**

**Discover Everything That The NRA Has To Offer**

**Attend A Friends Of NRA Event Near You**