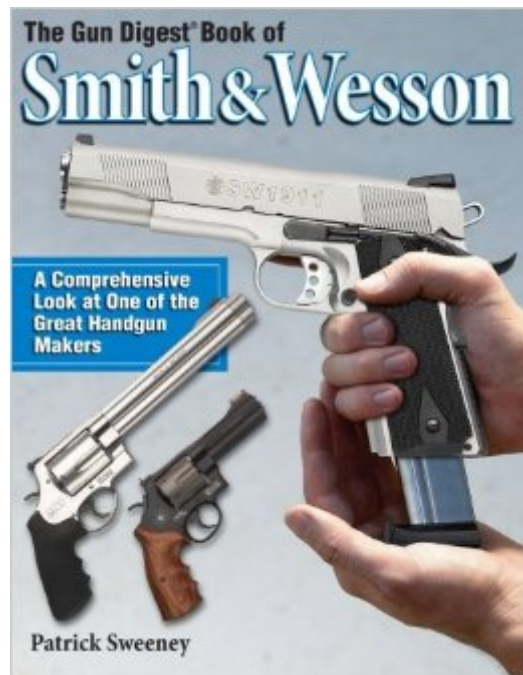


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# The Gun Digest Book Of Smith & Wesson



## Synopsis

Author Patrick Sweeney leads readers through Smith & Wesson's dizzying array of handgun models and options. From plinking revolvers to the new .500 S&W hand cannon, Sweeney reviews S&W models inside and out for performance, function and versatility, letting the reader know which models will work best for self-defense, hunting or target shooting. With information on basic troubleshooting, testing used guns for reliability and reviews of specific models from every major S&W group, *The Gun Digest Book of Smith & Wesson* gives readers an accurate overview of the offerings of this fine American gunmaker.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a great review of modern Smith and Wesson handguns. If you're into pre 20th Century firearms this book is not for you. That said, the book is well written and full of facts but not so much so that one is bogged down in minutia. There are lots of photo's and while clear and detailed, it would be better if the author had used at least some color pictures. All in all a book well worth the price! Rob Pollick, Cave Creek, AZ.

I am a novice S&W collector and was hoping for more of a reference work covering specific models and variations of Smith & Wesson handguns. This book is biased towards current models, both revolvers and semi-autos. The material that is covered is well written, interesting, and timely.

Sections are devoted to a sampling of current models, company history, accessories, proper disassembly and maintenance, etc. However, if you are a collector looking for wider coverage of specific models this book may dissappoint. The book is better suited to people who are interested in what S&W is currently offering or how to care for their S&W guns.

Not exactly what I was looking for. It deals more with some of the more modern models and seems to be an advertising medium for the 500 S&W. I was more interested in the older models and information on them and this was a bit of a disapointment, however it does cover the models in it pretty well.

I was very disappointed with this book. It has a promising beginning, but when one peruses the Contents pages, it's clear that author Sweeney misses the greatest pistols of all time. He has no chapters on the K-frame Combat .357 magnum, or the Models 59, 459, 659, 5906, 645, 4506, 29, and the N-frame .357s and many more classics. He does include the .41 "magnum" (whoopie!), the 332,342Ti, 442, .22 Airlite, 17H, SK.22, 340 and many other comparatively insignificant pistols. He also writes with no paragraph breaks (Kindle edition), and makes spelling errors like "lead" instead of "led" and others. All in all, I'd probably buy a book on S&W pistols if he ever writes one on the guns most people are interested in. The story of the 39/59 early history and the fact that many of the guns just didn't work at first. Later, Smith fixed the problems and game out with the 459, which had a fascinating history in the U.S. military trials. The 459 came in number 2, having an average of one malfunction in an average of 952 rounds (IIRC), while the Beretta 9mm malfunctioned on an average of once every 2,000 rounds. Both were exceptional. I'd be interested in reading the inside story of the .357 round and its development, as well as Bill Jordan's role in developing the .357 Combat Magnum. What I don't care about are many of the guns Sweeney did write about. (Who cares about the 340?) I'm sure some of the new purchasers might be interested in reading about their new guns, but most want to read about the guns listed above. One chapter was about the 629.6. Point 6?? Why not just write a chapter on the 629, period? And the 20? But what's a 332? Do most S&W owners even know what a 332 is?? Sweeney just isn't up to the task of writing a book of this type. Don't buy it unless you're just fascinated by obscure models. And meantime, it's "led" -- not "lead." Lead is what the bullets are made of.

This book provides an excellent survey of handguns currently offered by Smith and Wesson. The writer has extensive pratical experience and has been assisted with test firing by a group of friends.

Very readable and lots of good photos. I would strongly recommend this book to anyone thinking of purchasing a new or near new S&W.

Patrick Sweeney has taken on the task of giving an extensive review of the available handguns of Smith & Wesson. He goes into considerable depth on the practical use of the various models and what can be expected on the range, in competition and for the very serious job of Concealed Weapons Carry. Chapters on History, Ammunition, Buying Used, and Competition round this fine effort out.

Not quite what I was expecting in this book, but is very informative on later model handguns from this great gunmaker. Will have to look further for a book with models and serial numbers.

Very informative and well written. Excellent photography and Patrick Sweeney knows whereof he speaks. I would recommend this book to a friend.

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