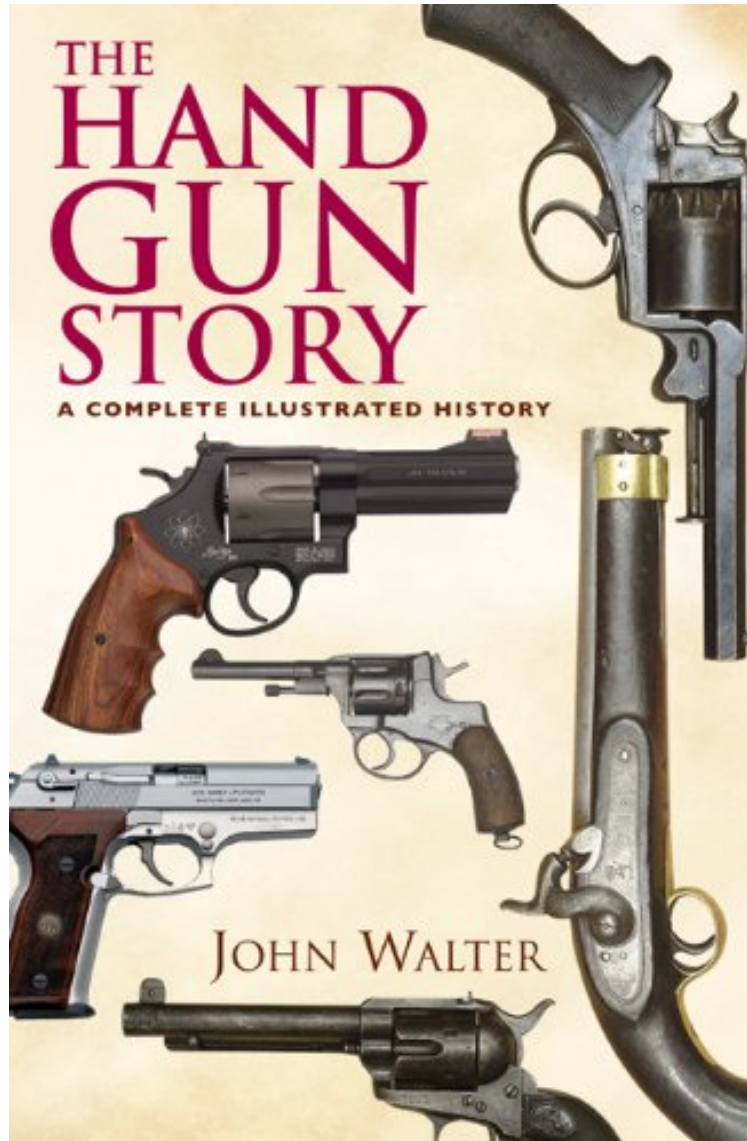


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Hand Gun Story

John Walter

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John Walter : Hand Gun Story before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hand Gun Story:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy donexcellent0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Handgun StoryBy Sam AdamsAs in Walter's earlier book The Rifle Story (see my review) this book is a technical history and presumes knowledge of firearms nomenclature. This is not a complete history. Revolvers of the 19th century by Colt, Smith and Wesson, and Remington are not covered, for example. Nor are any details given on

the development of the Browning designed semi-automatics. Leaving out attention to well-known handguns allows Walter to write more on others. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A key guide for any interested in hand guns By Midwest Book Review THE HAND GUN STORY: A COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED HISTORY traces the history of the 'one hand gun' from its 14th century origins to modern times, surveying changing technology, techniques, and design. Libraries strong in gun history or appealing to gun users will find this packed with diagrams, history and black and white photos: a key guide for any interested in hand guns.

The Handgun Story traces the fascinating history of the 'one hand gun' from its crude fourteenth-century origins to the sophisticated products of today. As technology has progressed, handguns have got smaller and deadlier, to be carried in holsters, pockets and even lady's mufflers. Today they are the weapons of choice for undercover agents and would-be assassins; ideally suited for both attack and self-defense. The earliest pistols had a tendency to misfire, but this was cured by the cap-lock. Cap-lock revolvers proved a massive success in the American Civil War with hundreds of thousands used on each side. Self-contained metal-case cartridges were to bring a fundamental change to handgun design: not only by allowing the introduction of revolvers that ejected automatically or were easily reloaded, but also by paving the way for the automatic pistol. World War I provided the handgun with a proving ground. At the end of the hostilities, with so much surplus weaponry, work on the handgun could have ceased; instead, a new developmental phase was begun by the nations that had emerged from the crumbling Imperial empires. During World War II the efficiency of well-established designs was confirmed and new designs, such as the Walther P. 38, showed their potential. The emergence of the submachine-gun in 1945 reduced the status of the handgun – but only temporarily. The need for efficient self-defense shows no signs of lessening; and the rise in shooting for sport, particularly with the revolver, has sharpened the quest for efficiency. The never ending search for advanced production techniques shows that the handgun has as much a future in the twenty-first century as it had in the heyday of the Wild West, or in the trenches of Passchendaele.