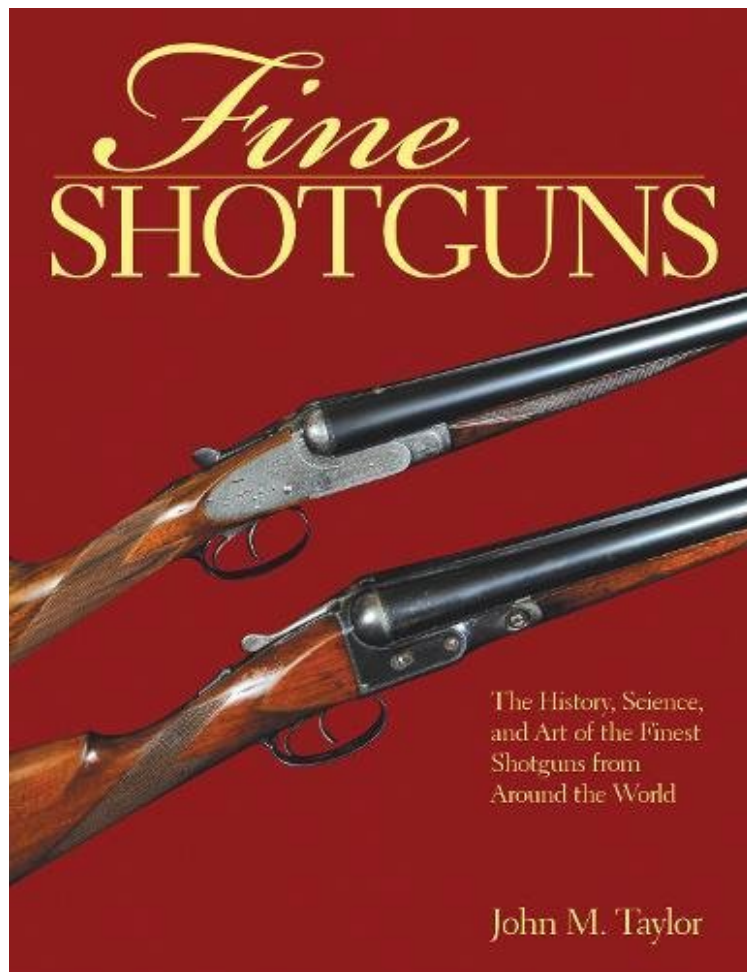


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Fine Shotguns: The History, Science, and Art of the Finest Shotguns from Around the World

John M. Taylor

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John M. Taylor : Fine Shotguns: The History, Science, and Art of the Finest Shotguns from Around the World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Fine Shotguns: The History, Science, and Art of the Finest Shotguns from Around the World:

7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. DisappointingBy CharvetI was excited when I read the preview for this book, excited when I received it and saw the table of contents, and pleased when I initially thumbed through it (many pictures of some wonderful subjects, although often the newer pictures of cased guns were not taken with enough light to see details), but once I started reading the text, my excitement turned to disappointment.My impression is that the author knows guns, but doesn't know fine guns well enough to write such an ambitious treatise. Sure there is

some good information, but nothing new or more complete for double gun aficionados. The same information is available in other better written books. "Fine Shotguns" is full of opinions, strange segues (in the section on pairs and garnitures, the author tells us that his dentist ordered two different pairs of guns, and that had he requested it, the manufacturer would have gladly supplied two sets of three), and constant name-dropping . . . to the point where you are rolling your eyes, and the text gets awkward (the author mentions seven or eight different people by name on page 159). Although many manufacturers are listed as important, the vast majority of the book concentrates on only a small group of products that the author seems devoted to. If you're like me and you just have to buy every book that comes out on double guns, go ahead, there are enough interesting photos of the manufacturing process to justify it, but if you're smarter about your money, take a pass or wait until the price comes down to reflect the quality. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Roland Smith Great coverage. 3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Nice Overview of What Makes a Shotgun "Fine" By Marco Antonio Abarca I must confess that I am one of those people who walk into a high end gunroom and are shocked by the very high prices that some fine shotguns are able to command. Just what is it about those shotguns that makes them so special? What are the collectors looking for and what shapes their aesthetics? John Taylor's "Fine Shotguns" answers those questions and a lot more. Like any good introductory book, Taylor begins with the history of the modern shotgun and then moves onto the key manufacturers who have shaped the development of the shotgun. His book then proceeds to highlight the most famous gunmakers from the United States and Europe. He concludes with the more mundane aspects of purchasing and maintaining a high end shotgun. John Taylor is a knowledgeable writer with a graceful style. The photographs are interesting and this book is printed on high quality paper. However, it is important to emphasize that "Fine Shotguns" was not written for the hardcore shotgun expert. The target market for this book are people like me who are considering stepping up from the world of mass produced shotguns to a higher quality shotgun. I thought this book was a good value and I recommend it.

In *Fine Shotguns*, expert John M. Taylor offers a global view of shotguns using photographs and descriptions of guns from the United States, Britain, Germany, Austria, France, Spain, and Italy. Here are all types of shotguns: single barrel, double barrel, combination guns, hammer shotguns, paired shotguns, special-use guns, small-bore shotguns, shotgun stocks or shotguns with metal finishes, and bespoke shotguns. This all encompassing guide includes sections on how to care for and storage your weapon, what accessories are available for your model, and how to choose the perfect traveling case. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade imprint, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in history--books about World War II, the Third Reich, Hitler and his henchmen, the JFK assassination, conspiracies, the American Civil War, the American Revolution, gladiators, Vikings, ancient Rome, medieval times, the old West, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.