

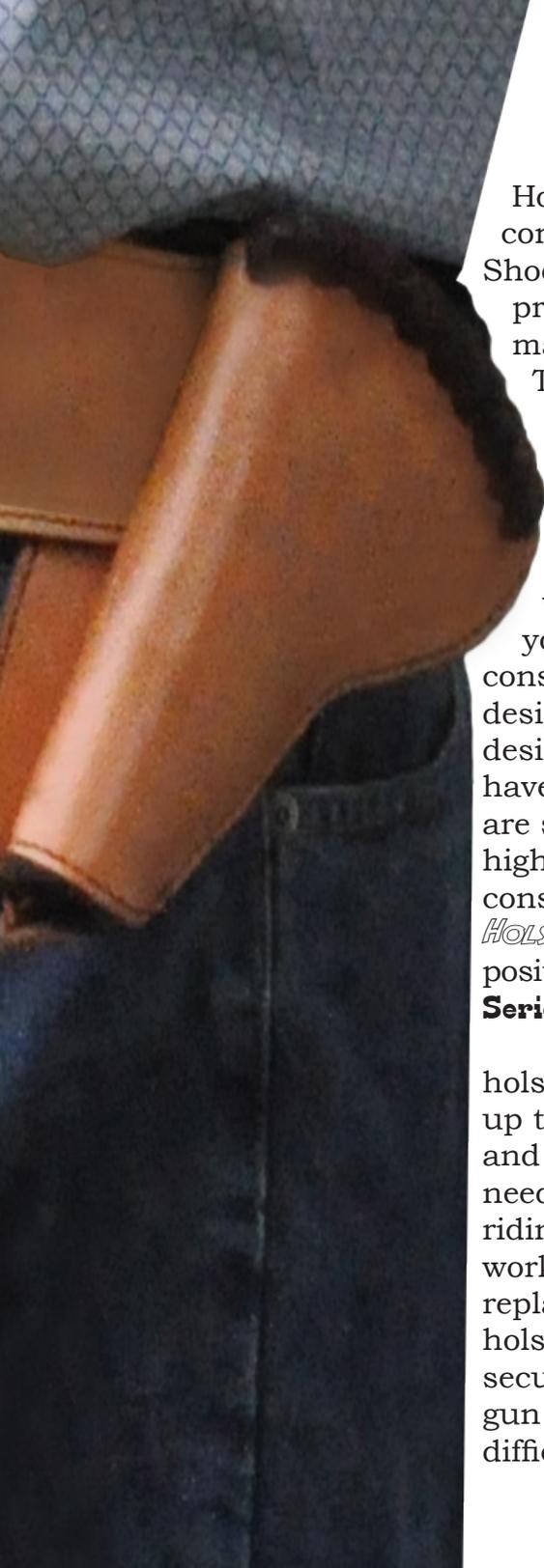
FOR STEERS

**MOUNTED
SHOOTING**

FOR



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General Overview

Holsters are an essential component of Mounted Shooting. The type you will prefer will largely be a matter of personal choice.

The regulations in the sport stipulate that they be leather. The configuration you choose should take into consideration your chest, waist size, your height and your riding style. One other consideration is your saddle design and particularly horn design (angle & height). If you have a large waist/chest or are short waisted and have a high saddle horn, you might consider either *POMMEL HOLSTER*(s) and / or side (hip) positioned holster(s) (**Ranger™ Series**).

In choosing the type holsters, you will want a set-up that provides the flexibility and freedom of body motions needed in mounted shooting riding. A configuration that works best in drawing and replacing the guns, and holsters that hold the guns securely, but that still allow gun removal without undue difficulty.

Finding what works best for you is not done in one step. The process entails trying several different configurations. Most mounted shooters will be glad to offer their preferences and recommendations. Be mindful that as in any sport, ask the same question to ten people, you will get ten different answers.

It narrows down to determining what works best for you, before you spend \$500 for a custom rig.

One way to proceed is to purchase a relatively inexpensive basic and simple setup, such as a double or single pommel holster and a single side holster

[Ranger™ Single]

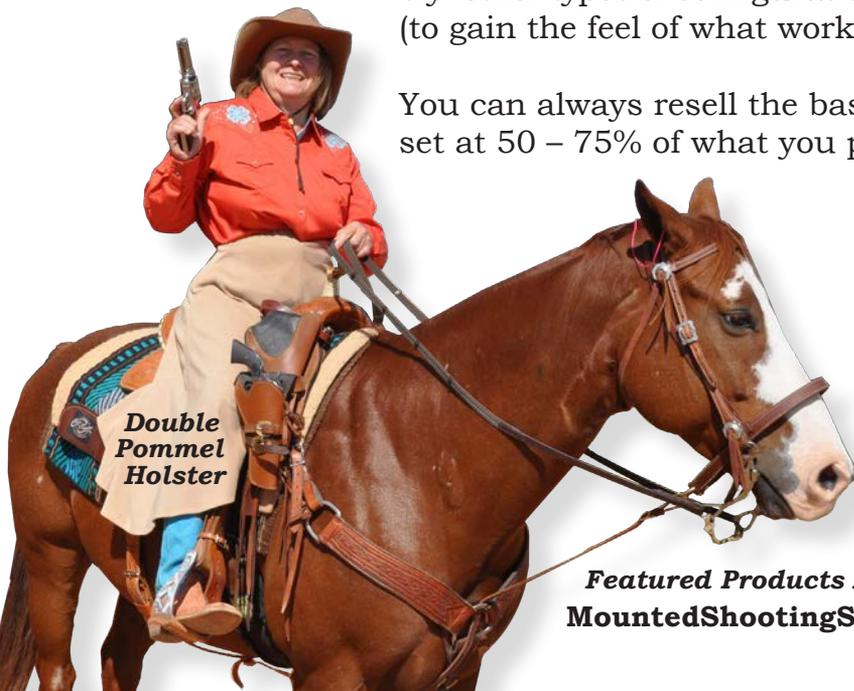
and use these to start.



Ranger™ Single & POMMEL SINGLE

When the moment presents itself, try other types of configurations (rigs) (to gain the feel of what works best.

You can always resell the basic set at 50 – 75% of what you paid.



Double Pommel Holster

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Shooting Stars

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Depending on your riding & shooting capabilities, a fancy set of holsters isn't going to be your highest priority in the Mounted Shooting Learning Curve. If new to competition riding, your first priority will be:

Mounted Shooting riding skills (60% of the equation) then gun handling & shooting skills (20%) & course management (20%).

The point at which you might want to buy a custom rig is likely after some

significant practice & competition. Certainly after you are riding the patterns in a smooth, coordinated manner and shooting 90% "Clean".

When starting Mounted Shooting and still trying to get it together with the horse, shooting & course navigation, the type of holsters are not a major factor in the results.

1. Start with a basic no-frills holster setup
2. Get your "Game Together".
3. Progress your skills to the point where you are competitive.

At the point of a class move-up, may be a great time to decide if something different in holsters will make a difference.





Waist Rig

The waist dual front holster rig is the most prevalent in Mounted Shooting. The frequent

reason cited is; by wearing the guns on your body, you have an intuitive feel for the exact location of the holsters and guns, at all times during the dynamic motions of riding. If the rig constrains you (For whatever reason) from riding in the manner that you ride & shoot best, then “cool” looks aside, you may want to consider other setups. Typically, the waist rig consists of a wide belt, straight or with back support and single center or double side buckles. Generally, the belt design



provides some flexibility in the position of the holsters from front to side. There are endless options for the customization of the rig, including belt & embroidery,



pattern inlays (tooling), conchos, stitching or “exotic” hides (Cow, Gator, Ostrich or other materials). The fancier, the more it costs. So, make sure it’s right for you before spending \$500 - \$750.

THE MOST IMPORTANT TECHNICAL POINT - BE SURE THE HOLSTERS FIT YOUR GUNS.

Look for some kind of non-slip lining and an opening that is flared and reinforced to help the gun enter the holster correctly for fast re-holstering and alleviating the need to look down to re-holster (Bad habits are hard to break!).



If you are short waisted and using a saddle with a high horn, be especially mindful of the possibility of conflict between the holsters/guns/reins with the saddle horn in dynamic maneuvers. Knowing exactly where the guns are during vigorous competition riding isn't a plus if you encounter interference and limitations on your movements and agility as needed for competition.



POMMEL DOUBLE HOLSTER

The *POMMEL DOUBLE HOLSTER* is attached to the saddle, with a strap through the gullet and a lower “tie-down” connected to the lower ring on the saddle. The *POMMEL DOUBLE HOLSTER* holds two guns, one above the other. The upper holster has a larger opening and the gun locates deeper in the holster. The bottom holster opening is lower cut, exposing more of the gun and holds the gun tighter, more securely. Riding with a *DOUBLE POMMEL*, start with the upper gun first. The wide and deep holster enables the first gun to be re-holstered quickly (virtually dropping it into the wide opening) and then reaching down slightly to “pull” the second



gun. This works great, as you start the run you can have the first gun already pulled and in-hand. Then the second gun- you don't have to re-holster until you have completed the run. One unique consideration regarding the *POMMEL DOUBLE HOLSTER* setup is that some horses might interpret your slight weight shift- when changing guns- as a command cue and slow down or change gait. When just starting, this may not seem that significant, but might become a factor when you are more competitive. The

DOUBLE POMMEL is the **most inexpensive** way to start. Later you can resell the rig or keep it for your friends to use.

POMMEL SINGLE & **Ranger™ Single**

Combined Set



For riders with some experience in mounted shooting or who find a waist rig constraining, the *POMMEL SINGLE HOLSTER* combined with a **Ranger™ Single Side Holsters** is the best choice.

The Pommel holster is **big** and **deep** allowing the first gun to literally be ‘Tossed’ back into the holster and then in a natural motion, swipe the gun hand up the leg to pull the second gun from the side holster.



This technique produces gun changes that are fast and is used by a number of world champions.

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Double Holster Sets

Ranger™

The **Ranger™ double** configuration is great for those who do not prefer center front guns but feel that knowing (feeling) where their guns are located on their body is helpful. The rig consists of a wide belt with center buckle, enabling the rider to position the holsters from the front to the sides. This setup will have one-gun facing forward and the other facing back. The decision of which is the number one and number two guns is up to the rider.



BANDERA™

Features:

- Double Side Buckles
- Back Support Design
- Flexible holster positioning
- Tooled Design on Belt and Holsters
- Available Right or Left Handed



Rio™

Features:

- Double Side Buckles
- Back Support Design
- Flexible holster positioning
- Available Right or Left Handed



Products Available at

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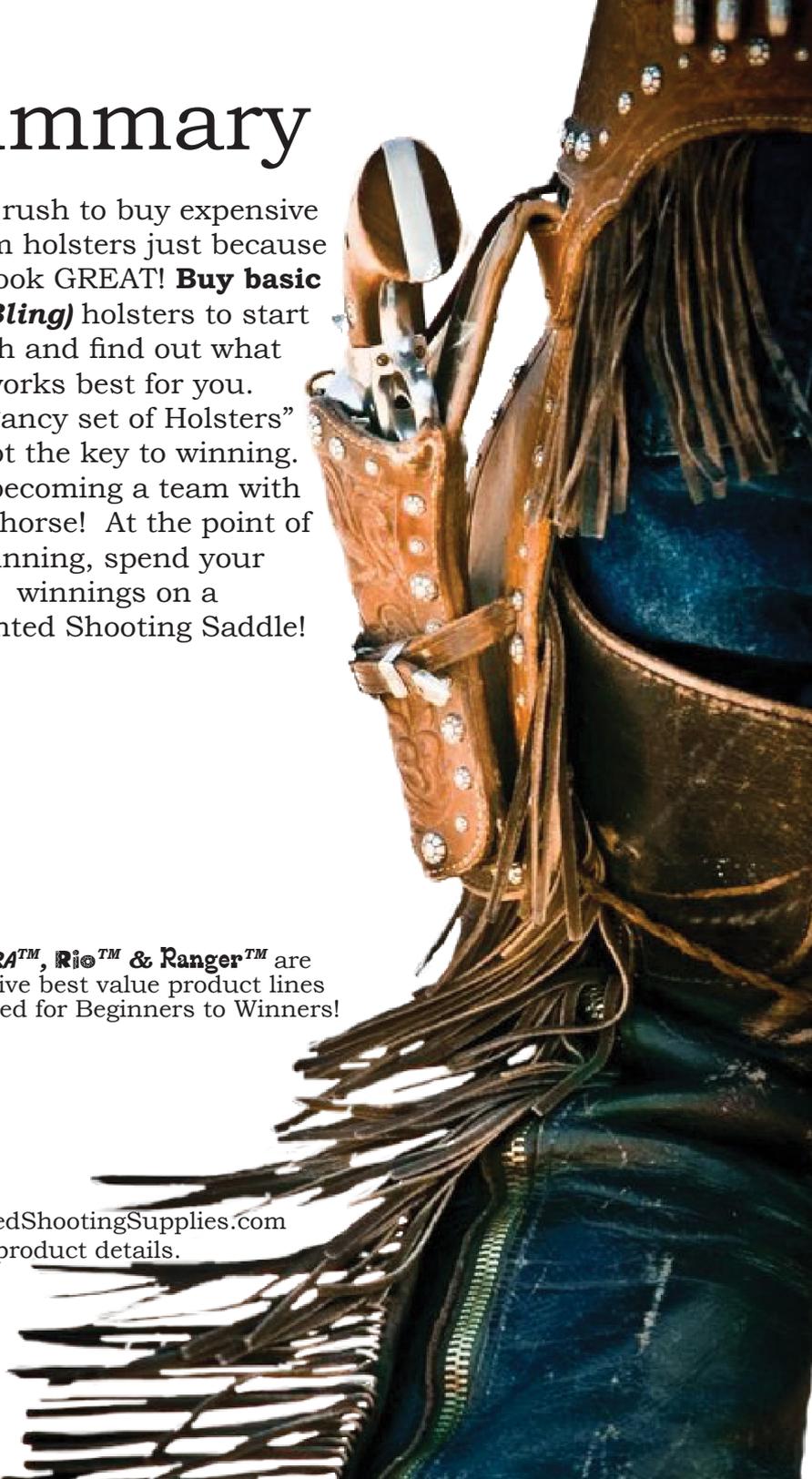
Summary

Don't rush to buy expensive custom holsters just because they look GREAT! **Buy basic (No Bling)** holsters to start with and find out what works best for you.

A "Fancy set of Holsters" is not the key to winning. It's becoming a team with your horse! At the point of winning, spend your winnings on a Mounted Shooting Saddle!

BANDERA™, Rio™ & Ranger™ are exclusive best value product lines designed for Beginners to Winners!

Go to
MountedShootingSupplies.com
for product details.





***** No Cowgirl or Cowboy ever won a belt buckle for a clean house!***

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The ideas expressed are meant to enlighten the Beginner and *Jog* the mental process of the seasoned shooter in order to help support the beginner. Printing or distributing this publication is the sole right of MountedShootingSupplies.com unless otherwise expressed.

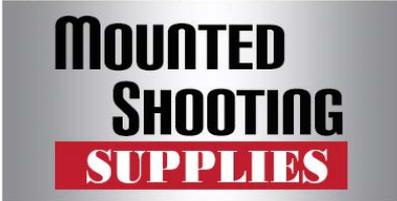
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Supporting the Mounted Shooter
From Beginner to Winner!