



Elegance and Clay

A FULL-BODIED GUN FOR A
LIFETIME OF SHOOTING

By RICHARD VENOLA | Photography by SEAN UTLEY





Redhead Deluxe 103 DE



Most folks who shoot birds, both clay and feathered, seem to end up using an over-and-under shotgun. For those of us who want a lifetime-quality gun but don't want to put a second mortgage on the house, CZ is importing Turkish-made Huglu shotguns made on state-of-the-art CNC machines.



With CNC tight tolerances, fit and finish on the Redhead is second to none.

There is nothing new or innovative about the design, except the unusual combination of quality vs. price.

The Redhead as tested was a solidly built gun with a ventilated barrel, ribbed with a front bead. It's designed for modern American shooters in that it comes with five screw-in chokes, a barrel selector, non-automatic safety

and single trigger.

Blessedly, the action cocks both hammers. If you want extraction on a clays course, open the action gently. If you want ejection in the field, open it with vigor. Both shells landed within a few inches of each other. Both trigger pulls were at just under six pounds and clean.

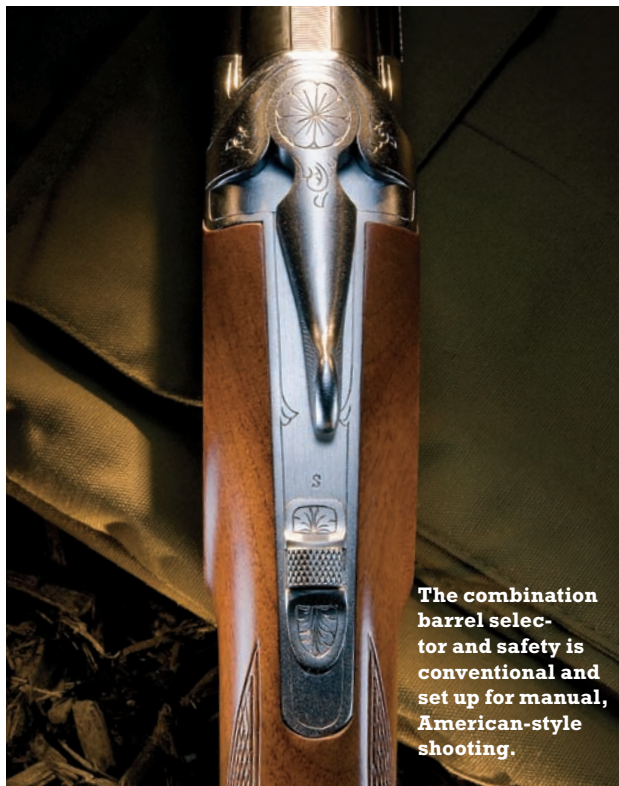
As usual, I took the gun to my club range and asked a number of veteran shooters to take it through a round of skeet or trap. It's definitely a field gun,

"It comes up naturally where I want the gun to shoulder," said waterfowler Phil Guidera of the CZ Redhead.

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Twin Improved chokes set up the gun for Skeet, but it comes with five choices.



The combination barrel selector and safety is conventional and set up for manual, American-style shooting.

and it shot low on the trap field unless the bird was almost covered by the bead. We have a sediment break behind our skeet field, and patterns

can be viewed with ease. At roughly 40 yards, the barrels patterned within a couple inches of each other using a pair of Improved chokes.



The classic boxlock and CAD/CAM manufacturing combine to produce a smooth, tight action.

Everyone was impressed with the fit, finish and forward balance of this quality fowling piece. It has all the features you need, including a nicely rounded buttpad, and none that you don't. The modest, understated engraving is pleasing to the eye and adequate to retain some surface oil. The action was quite tight without roughness or binding—just right for a gun you'd like to outlast you. Application of grease quickly improved its workings.

Phil Guidera, one of our club's most ardent skeetsmen and waterfowlers, agreed to take the Redhead through its paces. I shot up the action with a syringe of Tipton grease, tossed him a box of Federal paper shells and grabbed my camera. When the round of skeet was over and the purists were squabbling over the paper hulls, I asked Phil what he thought. "I'm a Beretta man, but I really like this gun



CZ's Redhead is an excellent value for North American sportsmen who want a classy working gun.

and how it fits. It comes up naturally where I want the gun to shoulder, and it's heavy enough to swing well and soak up some recoil. How much

can I get one for?" His question was echoed by everyone who shot it.

Every wine connoisseur wants to find a vintage that has finally ma-

tured but that he can get for the old "pre-discovery" price. We live in a golden age in which the Turks are producing first-rate guns on state-of-the-art machinery but their reputation hasn't yet allowed a marked increase in price.

Traditionally, a shotgun that is what most of us consider affordable was called a brother-in-law gun, as somehow not something you'd want if you could just get something a little better. In the age of hand-fitting and piece-by-piece machining, that was true because price very closely reflected quality regardless of working wood or lack of engraving. Today, for less than the cost of a good chainsaw, CAD/CAM technology allows us to get a gun with the metallurgy, tempering, fit, finish and longevity that 20 years ago would have set us back a year's tuition at a state college. ☺



SPECIFICATIONS

MODEL: CZ Redhead
TYPE: Topbreak over and under
GAUGE: 12 (3-in.)
CAPACITY: 2
BARREL LENGTH: 26 in.
PULL: 14.5 in.
WEIGHT: 7.7 lb.
FINISH: Nickel/blue
STOCK: Wood
SIGHTS: Front bead
MSRP: \$965

There is nothing new or innovative about the Redhead, just that it uses state-of-the-art technology to produce a lifetime-quality shotgun at an affordable price.