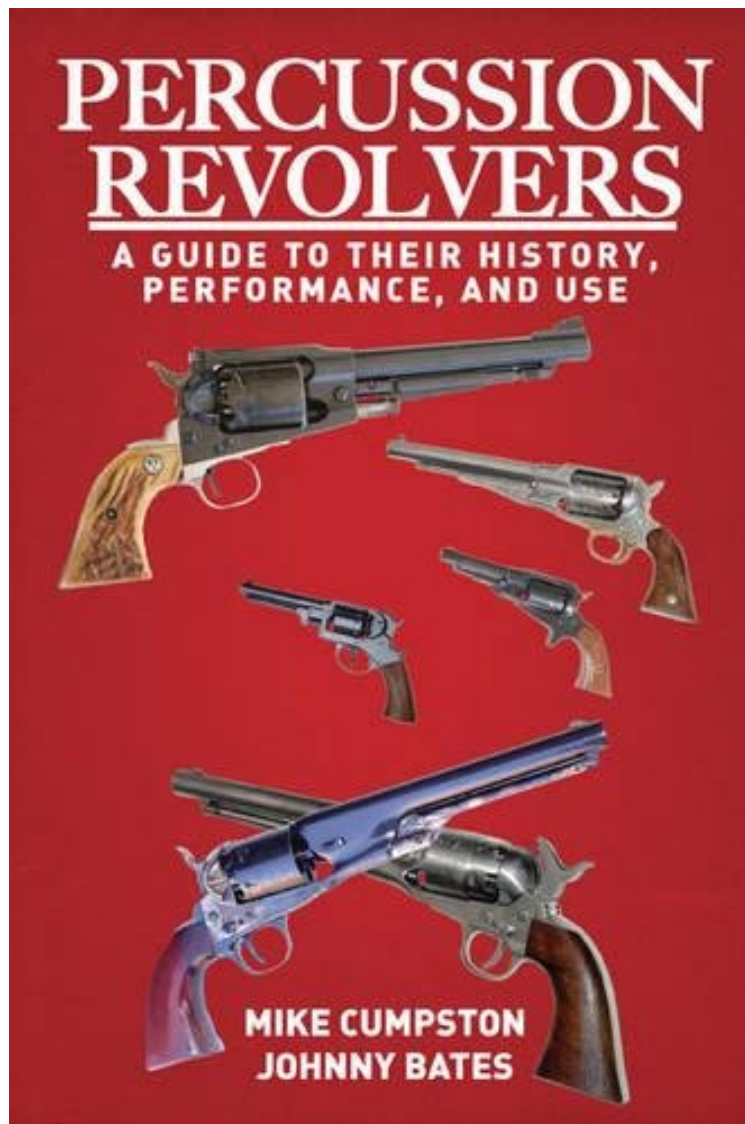


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Percussion Revolvers: A Guide to Their History, Performance, and Use

Mike Cumpston, Johnny Bates
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Mike Cumpston, Johnny Bates : Percussion Revolvers: A Guide to Their History, Performance, and Use before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Percussion Revolvers: A Guide to Their History, Performance, and Use:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Destined to Become a Standard Reference for the Care and Handling of Percussion Revolvers By John G. Taylor I've had time to carefully read Cumpston and Bates' new book cover-to-

cover and it's already full of underlinings and my own margin scribbles...early signs of a reliable and well-used reference volume for my library! I was fearful that it would encourage me to accumulate some additional percussion revolvers - but so far, it has only encouraged me to shoot the one I've got a lot more. I've had recent opportunities to acquire a couple of reproduction Lemats and several bargain-priced Starr repros, and if anything...the chapters on these two reinforced my suspicions and reluctance to buy. I might still need to find a nice Cimarron-Uberti M-1861 Navy as a companion to the M-1851 Navy....? Unlike previous authors who have provided only the standard, traditional loads for each revolver type, Cumpston and Bates provide a myriad of load and chronograph data comparisons utilizing various brands and granulations of REAL black powder, black powder substitutes, balls vs. bullets, over-powder wads, compression, etc. Some results were surprising...and counter-intuitive. There's plenty of knowledge to be acquired by reading their book - some great stories in there, too. As an example...I never knew that 19th Century revolver manufacturers recommended FFG instead of 3F for all but their tiny .31 cal. pocket revolvers. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A good overview for the black powder neophyte By J. Keyser The first questions likely to occur to the experienced shooter contemplating adding a replica percussion revolver to his collection are "Do any of the makers of replicas turn out firearms of decent quality?" and "Would it be worth all the fiddling with measuring, loading, capping and cleaning?" Cumpston and Bates address both of these issues in sufficient depth to satisfy the reader on both issues. (Yes, there are good quality replicas to be had, and there is, indeed, a good deal to be done in preparing a percussion revolver for action and keeping it functionally clean through an extended shooting session.) Cleaning is especially an issue for those using black powder, the residues of which are copious, corrosive and hard to remove. Fortunately, there are modern alternatives that are less troublesome. Readers undeterred by those considerations are provided a survey of the major designs and models of cap-and-ball revolvers, detailing the good and bad characteristics of both both the originals and their modern counterparts. Detailed information is included on black powder and alternative loads, projectile performance and ballistics. The authors wrote reviews for the book declaring it stillborn because of some proofreading issues--notably repeated misspellings of the name of the Starr revolver. In fact the book is in stock on and well worth its price, typos and all. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An excellent resource for those new to or curious about modern reproducaiton BP antiques By L.A. Biker Fairly thorough overview of the CB black powder percussion-fired revolver pantheon. It has become a bit dated now [~15 years after publication], with multiple defunct urls listed throughout the text: many of the smaller/better/more specialized vendors didn't survive GFM 2008, and hence, only the biggest are still around [but for how long? Cabela's is about to be folded into Bass Pro, the latter having a much poorer presence (significantly higher prices!) in the BP revolver field.] My biggest question with any Kindle book: how come you don't fix the myriad and egregious spelling errors during the conversion process? [sigh] Fortunately, its the same recurring words being misspelled, so you get used to just mentally skipping the errors when they show up, but it is puzzling how these simple errors could be bypassed at the best possible time to fix them. It is, after all, one of the great advantages of e-books, in that you don't have to wait for a 2nd printing [that may never come because of poor sales] to make corrections. The book is by no means lavishly illustrated, but when there is one, it is usually of adequate or better detail, and very pertinent to the discussion; they spent their graphics budget wisely! If it wasn't for the spelling errors outdated links, I'd have given this 5 stars, w/o question. Well worth the \$10 [at present] price for the Kindle version!

A fascinating look at the history and development of the revolver. Highly detailed and informative, Percussion Revolvers explores the advent, development, and use of precartridge revolvers during the middle years of the nineteenth century. The percussion revolver emerged in the 1830s and remained state-of-the-art until metallic cartridge revolvers came into common use in the mid-1870s. Through the use of modern replicas, shooting enthusiasts Mike Cumpston and Johnny Bates investigate the capacities and limitations of the original revolvers, providing insight into their accuracy, utility, and ballistic performance. Chapters include: Replicas: The Good, the Bad, and the Awful Early Revolvers, 1836-47: The Paterson and the Walker Colts The Dragoons Colt Revolvers of Midcentury: The Pocket and Navy Models Holsters, Belts, and Sashes The Later Years: The Last of the Colt Percussion Designs A Hail of Lead: The Confederate LeMat Bates and Cumpston discuss the development of the precartridge arms, placing them in their proper historic context. They also take a look at modern replicas, including detailed information on selection, maintenance, and shooting, while delving into both the positive and negative realities that can be encountered when using these firearms. A valuable reference for students, fiction writers, and active shooters, Percussion Revolvers is an in-depth and comprehensive exploration of caplock handguns and their modern replicas.

About the Author Johnny Bates and Mike Cumpston live in central Texas and are lifelong shooting enthusiasts. Bates has many years of experience tuning and repairing original and replica revolvers for collectors and living history groups. Cumpston is a field editor for the highly respected GUNS magazine.