

# LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

## A SMALL TACTICAL FLASHLIGHT SHOULD ALWAYS BE INCLUDED IN YOUR EDC GEAR

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STEVEN PAUL BARLOW

I carry a handgun for defense every day and hopefully I'll never need it. On the other hand, I also carry a knife (usually two) and a flashlight every day and I use them almost every day.

I remember when a friend of the family was astonished as I pulled a small flashlight out of my pocket one evening. Her reaction was that the average, normal person didn't just produce a flashlight out of his pocket.

Of course, we're all conditioned by

Hollywood that when it's dark, you take out your trusty Zippo lighter for illumination. It's perfectly normal and believable to have a Zippo in your pocket in a movie, because in the movies everyone smokes cigarettes. Incidentally, I don't smoke, but I usually do carry a Zippo because I spend lots of time in remote areas and I like to have several ways to make fire.

But to light my way, I always have a flashlight. And why not? Gone are the days when you need to stuff five D cells into a metal tube a foot and a half long with a spare bulb in the tail

cap. Many of today's flashlights are truly pocket-sized. They are powerful, often feature multiple brightness modes and come with LED bulbs that last a lifetime. These lights might run on AA or AAA alkaline batteries or stubby CR123A lithium batteries that, unlike several years ago, are very common these days. Some can be fueled with rechargeable batteries to make them even more convenient and cost efficient.

Night and day, I find reasons to carry a flashlight. I might need to look under my car seat to find something I've dropped or under my hood to find out why my car won't start. I might have to look in a dark drawer or a dark corner of my garage, closet or basement. I might need it when scanning the floor for that tiny pin or spring that I need to reassemble one of my guns. Outdoors, maybe I need to see what my dog is chasing (hopefully not a skunk again) or to find the trail back to camp after a day's hunt.

In self-defense situations, obviously it's important to positively identify possible threats, to differentiate friend from foe. News networks love to air stories on wrongful shootings as their way to condemn firearms ownership. While time and distance don't always allow for it, it's better to be able to click on a flashlight first before deciding to pull the trigger. Once a threat is confirmed, your flashlight will provide an excellent sight picture as your handgun's sights will be perfectly silhouetted against the brightly light target.

A flashlight can come in handy too if you find yourself in a darkened building and you need to find paths to retreat, to locate items you can use as improvised weapons or to signal rescuers. So, what should you consider in a tactical light?

**1. On and off the gun. Should you get a weapon-mounted light or a handheld light?** It's better to have both. A separate handheld light is great to shine on things you might not want to cover with your

gun's muzzle. Practicing techniques for using a flashlight with a handgun is a must, but none of them is ideal. Simply put, it's harder to shoot well while holding both a gun and a light. For that reason, sometimes while traveling I'll carry a rail-mount weapons light separately. I can use it as a separate light if needed. When I reach my destination for the evening, I can attach it to my handgun. Even then, I'll still have a handheld light available.

**2. Power to spare.** While AA and AAA alkaline batteries are still more common, CR123A lithium batteries provide for a longer run time—important because on their brightest settings, powerful flashlights drain batteries quickly. Better yet is to get a model that allows the use of either conventional lithium batteries or rechargeable battery packs. Some models allow you to charge the batteries either in or out of the light.

**3. A quality switch.** The majority of lights feature a push-button on/off switch on the tail cap, some have a switch on the side of the tube, and some have both. Your light shouldn't require a complicated sequence to switch modes. If a cheap light fails, chances are the switch will be to blame. Leave the \$5 bargain light in the kitchen utility drawer and carry a quality light.

**4. Brightness modes.** You don't need to go lumen-crazy. Some lights will put out 1,000 or more lumens on high, but 200 to 300 is sufficient for most defense-related

uses. However, it is useful to have a light with several brightness modes because most times you don't need or want a really bright light. Save your night vision and your battery power for when you need them most.

**5. Momentary-on capability.** You never want to be an easy target. Your light switch should allow for momentary-on operation so you can "flash and dash," use a quick flash of light to check for threats and obstacles before moving more safely in darkness.

**6. Two-way clip.** Some lights feature a two-way clip allowing you to clip the light inside your pocket lens down or to the brim of your hat for hands-free use.

**7. Roll your own?** Some lights feature a bezel with flat sides so that the light won't roll away from you if you drop it or set it down. With a wholly round light tube, you can purposely roll the light across an open doorway to scan a room without exposing yourself to possible gunfire, but this might be an unwise and outdated technique.

**8. Bump with the bezel.** Many tactical lights come with a crenelated bezel (think rook on a chessboard.) Basically, it's a jagged front end to increase striking effectiveness should you need to use your light as an impact weapon. **CC**



Today's tactical lights are small, powerful and reliable. Carrying one regularly comes in handy for a variety of uses, not just defense.

The author often carries this Crimson Trace CMR-208 Rail Master weapons light separately when traveling and attaches it to his handgun (Ruger American Compact .45 ACP) when he reaches his destination.





# BRIGHT IDEAS

**TODAY'S FLASHLIGHTS  
HAVE MORE FEATURES  
THAN EVER BEFORE**

BY CCH STAFF  
PHOTOS FROM THE MANUFACTURERS

**F**lashlights are like pocket knives in that you can never have too many. And there is no shortage of models to choose from for everyday carry. Today's lights are more compact, more powerful and more reliable than ever. And, when you consider many of them take rechargeable batteries, they become more cost efficient to run too. Here are a few of our favorite lights. **«**



01

03

02

04



05

07

06

08

## 01. Streamlight Microstream USB

The Streamlight MicroStream USB is the perfect EDC flashlight. It's just 3.87 inches long and just 0.61 inch in diameter, making it about the size of your pinky finger. That small size, together with a weight of just 1.2 ounces, means there's no reason not to have it with you always. Yet, for such a small light, it puts out significant light at 250 lumens on high and 50 lumens on low. The light has a runtime of one and a half hours on high and three and a half hours on low. Pull out the sleeve at the front of the light and a micro USB port is revealed, allowing you to charge the light's rechargeable lithium-ion battery without removing it. A charge cord is included; there's no need of a separate charger. It charges in about four hours. The light comes with a two-way pocket clip that allows you to attach the light to the brim of a hat for hands-free use. A lanyard is included, too.

Website: [www.Streamlight.com](http://www.Streamlight.com)  
MSRP: \$52.50

## 02. Streamlight Protac 1L-1AA

Streamlight's ProTac 1L-1AA is another great flashlight that makes sense for everyday carry. For this light, the company devised an ingenious automatic spring-loaded adapter inside the flashlight that allows it to be powered by either one short, fat CR123A lithium battery or one longer, slimmer AA alkaline battery. This light provides 350 lumens for one and a half hours on high with a CR123A battery installed. On low, the light puts out 40 lumens for 14 hours. It has a removable and reversible two-way pocket clip so you can attach it to your pocket or to the brim of your hat for hands-free use. This light makes use of Streamlight's Ten Tap programmable tail cap switch. You can set the light for high/strobe/low settings; high only; and low/high sequences.

Website: [www.Streamlight.com](http://www.Streamlight.com)  
MSRP: \$71.40

## 03. Streamlight Protac 90

Like the Protac 1L-1AA above, the Streamlight Protac 90 can be powered by either one CR123A lithium battery or a single AA battery (lithium or alkaline). This light is just 3.78 inches long and features an angled head and removable clip so that it can be attached to MOLLE gear such as the shoulder strap of a pack for hands-free use. It has a maximum output of 300 lumens on high with a runtime of one and three-quarter hours. On low, it has an output of 40 lumens with a 14-hour runtime. It features the company's Ten Tap programmable tail cap switch, that you can set for high/strobe/low; high only; or low/high mode sequences. Aside from attaching it to a shirt pocket or the strap of a pack, we've found that the angled head is great when setting the light upright on a table for a studying a map or a late-night card game in camp.

Website: [www.Streamlight.com](http://www.Streamlight.com)  
MSRP: \$68

## 04. Streamlight Protac HL-X USB

The Streamlight Protac HL-X USB comes with the company's rechargeable 18650 lithium-ion battery. There's a micro USB charging port right on the battery. Charge it with the included cord; there's no need for a separate charger. The light can also be powered by two CR123A batteries. While this is a slightly bigger light at 5.43 inches long and weighing 6.2 ounces, it also provides bigger performance. It features three brightness modes, plus a strobe. The light puts out 1,000 lumens on high for one and a half hours. On medium, the output is 400 lumens for three and a half hours. On low, you get 65 lumens of light for 23 hours. It comes with Streamlight's Ten Tap programmable system so you can choose among three switch sequences. Its aluminum body features an anti-roll bezel. It has a two-way pocket clip and comes with a nylon belt holster.

Website: [www.Streamlight.com](http://www.Streamlight.com)  
MSRP: \$189

## 05. Coast HP5R

The Coast HP5R is a great little light that comes with all the accessories you could ever want. The light runs on either one rechargeable lithium battery pack or one AA battery. Two battery packs are included (along with one AA). The rear of the light twists open to reveal a mini USB charging port. Each battery pack has a mini USB port, too, so you have the choice of charging the battery pack while it's in or out of the flashlight. AC and DC chargers are included, along with a wrist strap, nylon holster, belt clip and wall mount. The push button on the tail cap gives you high, strobe and low modes. Partially depressing the button provides momentary-on capability. The light provides 185 lumens on high—plenty of light for most needs. Low power output is 19 lumens. Sliding the head changes the focus from a wide beam to a spotlight.

Website: [www.CoastPortland.com](http://www.CoastPortland.com)  
MSRP: \$79

## 06. Coast TX1R Flashlight

Coast TX1R, at 5 inches long and weighing 5.1 ounces, is a rechargeable light in a handy size that can be carried conveniently. It's powered by a rechargeable lithium-ion battery pack. Two are included, so you can charge one while using the other. There is a micro USB charging port in both the tail of the light and in the battery packs themselves, so you can charge the batteries either on-board or separately. There's also an included adapter pack that allows the light to be powered by three AAA alkaline batteries. The TX1R has three operating modes: high, providing 460 lumens of light for a four and a half-hour runtime; low, providing 45 lumens for a 14-hour runtime; and tactical strobe. With the twist of the bezel, you can change the beam from wide-angle flood light to a precise, focused spotlight. Both AC and DC charge cord adapters are included.

Website: [www.CoastPortland.com](http://www.CoastPortland.com)  
MSRP: \$89

## 07. Crimson Trace CWL-300

The Crimson Trace CWL-300 is a very compact tactical light at an affordable price that has everything you need and nothing you don't. It measures just 3.5 inches long and has two brightness modes, accessed through the push-button tail cap switch. On high the light puts out 200 lumens. On low, the output is a very usable 50 lumens. Runtimes are two hours on high and eight hours on low from the single CR123A battery. The light features crenelated strike bezel and a two-way pocket clip for securing in a pocket or attaching to the brim of a hat for hands-free use. The light is waterproof to 1 meter.

Website: [CrimsonTrace.com](http://CrimsonTrace.com)  
MSRP: \$49.99

## 08. HDS EDC Tactical

The HDS Systems EDC Tactical features the usual push-button on-off switch at the rear of the light. But what separates this light from others is that the whole rear portion of the light's barrel is a rotary dial that controls the brightness settings. Turn the dial all the way clockwise and you have momentary-on high. Back it off slightly gives you momentary-on strobe. From all the way counter-clockwise, you have a series of constant-on brightness settings. You can adjust the brightness while the light is on or preset it when the light is off. From any of the constant-on settings, pressing and holding the power button takes you instantly to full brightness, momentary-on. Release the button and the light goes back to your previous lower brightness constant-on setting. So, if you are in a lower mode and something comes out of the darkness at you, you can light it up instantly with full brightness, without fumbling with controls or remembering confusing switch sequences. The barrel of this light is aluminum, but the bezel is steel. It's available with either a 325- or 250-lumen maximum output. This light is professional quality in every way.

Website: [www.HDSSystems.com](http://www.HDSSystems.com)  
MSRP: \$314 (325 lumens); \$284 (250 lumens)

**09****10**

## 09. Powertac Cadet-G2

The Powertac Cadet Gen II is an excellent small light. It runs on one CR123A lithium battery or one RCR123 lithium-ion rechargeable battery. It has a maximum output of 492 lumens on high. As with many Powertac lights, the Cadet Gen II has the power switch in tail cap and a separate, handy button switch on the barrel of the light to change between the three brightness levels and strobe mode. Runtime is one hour on high, just over two and three-quarter hours at 149 lumens on low and 82 hours with one lumen on Firefly mode. It features a pocket clip and a belt holster.

Website: [www.Powertac.com](http://www.Powertac.com)  
MSRP: \$69.95

## 10. Powertac E5R

The Powertac E5R is a high-powered everyday carry light with a maximum output of 1,000 lumens on its highest brightness setting. There are five brightness settings in all, giving you just the right amount of power when you need it. Runtime varies from almost two and three-quarter hours on high—nearly twice that of comparable lights—to up to 32 hours on Firefly mode. The push-button tail cap switch turns the light on and off. A separate button on the barrel of the light is used to change between output modes. The light is powered by one 18650 lithium-ion rechargeable battery. Under a protective flap near the back of the light is a micro USB charging port, allowing you to charge the light without removing the battery. The light is just over 5 inches long and has a reversible pocket clip. It comes with one rechargeable battery, charge cord, AC adaptor, polyamide holster, lanyard, spare O-ring and spare tail cap rubber boot. An optional kit is available for mounting the light on a weapon. Red, green and blue filters are also available.

Website: [www.Powertac.com](http://www.Powertac.com)  
MSRP: \$99.95

**11****12**

## 11. Crimson Trace CMR-208

The Crimson Trace CMR-208 Rail Master Universal Tactical Light mounts on the accessory rail of your firearm. It runs on one CR123A battery and provides high (420 lumens), low (110 lumens) and strobe operation modes from the paddle switches on either side of the unit. Tap quickly for constant on or hold slightly for momentary on. Runtime is one hour, five minutes on high and one hour, 50 minutes on low. Aluminum construction. Weighs 4.1 ounces. Fits most pistols, rifles and shotguns with at least 1 inch of rail between recoil lug and trigger guard.

Website: [www.CrimsonTrace.com](http://www.CrimsonTrace.com)  
MSRP: \$89

## 12. Fenix E18R

The Fenix E18R is just 2.36 inches long and weighs only 1.17 ounces, but it provides 750 lumens of light on its brightest “Turbo” setting. The E18R has four brightness settings in all. The light is powered by either a single 16340 rechargeable battery (included) or one CR123A. The light features a magnetic tail for attaching the light to a metal surface for hands-free use. A single side switch on the barrel turns the light on and off and cycles it through its brightness settings. A lockout function keeps the light from turning on accidentally in your pocket or pack. There’s a battery level indicator too. Lanyard included. The light is set up for attaching a magnetic charging cable to the neck.

Website: [www.Fenix-Store.com](http://www.Fenix-Store.com)  
MSRP: \$64.95

**13****14**

## 13. Fenix PD25

The Fenix PD25 provides a lot of performance in a small package. It’s just 3.7 inches long and 0.8 inch in diameter and has a maximum output of 550 lumens when using a 16340 rechargeable battery. Output on high is still 400 lumens when using a CR123A battery. The PD25 offers four brightness settings as well as a strobe feature. It features a tail cap switch for momentary-on use and a side switch for selecting the output modes. It comes with a pocket clip, lanyard, belt holster and a spare O-ring. A bundle is also available that includes the light, one rechargeable battery, USB charge cord, DC adaptor and two CR123A batteries.

Website: [www.Fenix-Store.com](http://www.Fenix-Store.com)  
MSRP: \$56.95 (\$81.95 for bundle)

## 14. Surefire E2D LED Defender Ultra

Surefire has a reputation for excellence. This particular light features two brightness levels: 1,000 lumens on high for two and three-quarter hours of run time and five lumens on low for 63 hours of run time. It runs on two CR123A batteries. It features a strike bezel with a contoured barrel that allows for a firm, defensive grip. The E2D measures 5.6 inches long and 1.125 inches in diameter at the bezel. It weighs 4.2 ounces with batteries. It has a two-way pocket clip for bezel up or bezel down carry.

Website: [www.Surefire.com](http://www.Surefire.com)  
MSRP: \$199

**15****16**

## 15. Inforce TFX

Inforce is best known for its weapon lights, but the company also makes a quality handheld light that’s a great compromise between weight, size and performance. The TFX is a compact light at only 5 inches long and it weighs 3.75 ounces. It’s fed by two CR123A lithium batteries and puts out an impressive 700 Lumens on high and 60 Lumens on low. Run time is a respectable two hours on high and 12 hours on low. The TFX is activated by a tail cap switch that allows for momentary operation with a soft click and steady on with a full click. In addition to the high and low settings, a strobe setting is also available. The body of the TFX is lightweight but durable high impact polymer that is waterproof to 66 feet. Inforce lights carry a lifetime warranty.

Website: [Inforce-Mil.com](http://Inforce-Mil.com)  
MSRP: \$80

## 16. Inforce APLC

The APLC is Inforce’s compact weapons light, designed for mid-sized carry and duty pistols. The APLC comes in two versions, the basic APLC that fits a MIL-STD-1913 rail and the APLC Glock that fits Glock rails. The APLC fits flush with the muzzle of a Glock 19 or similar sized pistol. It features a 200-lumen LED light that runs for one and a half hours on a CR2 lithium battery. Battery access is via the head of the light so it can be changed without taking the light off of the weapon. The APLC is activated via dual, ambidextrous paddle switches that allow momentary and constant on options. A quarter turn of the bezel locks the light out from being accidentally activated for travel and storage.

Website: [Inforce-Mil.com](http://Inforce-Mil.com)  
MSRP: \$95

# TAKING AIM

CHECK OUT THESE  
AFTERMARKET SIGHTS,  
REFLEX OPTICS AND LASERS

BY CCH STAFF  
PHOTOS FROM THE MANUFACTURERS

**T**aking aim with your defensive handgun can be accomplished in a number of ways these days. You can swap out your factory iron sights for the latest tritium night sights or fiber optics. More and more handguns are coming with optics-ready slides, perfect for mounting the compact red dot reflex sights. Don't overlook the lasers either. Some units are available with red or green lasers only and some combine a laser with a white light. All will help you to get on target like never before. ☞



## 01. Truglo TFX Pro

The Truglo TFX Pro tritium/fiber-optic day/night handgun sights feature the best of both worlds: fiber optic tubes for high-visibility daytime use and tritium inserts for the night. (The TFX stands for Tritium/Fiber-Optic Xtreme.) They feature a front sight with a large orange ring around the green inserts that contrasts nicely with the green rear dots for fast acquisition with no misalignment. The rear has a U-shaped notch. There's a ledge on the front edge of the rear sight too for emergency, one-handed slide operation. The sights are made of CNC-machined steel protected by the company's Fortress Finish for corrosion resistance. Their low-profile, snag-resistant design also allows them to fit standard-sized holsters for your handgun. Models are available for numerous handguns.

Website: [www.Truglo.com](http://www.Truglo.com)  
MSRP: \$178.99

## 02. Hi Viz Litewave H3

With the Hi Viz Litewave H3 sights, you don't have to choose between tritium night sights or fiber optic sights. You get both in one sight. They combine both tritium inserts with the company's Litepipe fiber optic technology for excellent visibility day and night. They are made with steel construction to be durable in rough use. These sights match the height of the original factory sights, so they should shoot to the same point of aim and they will fit in standard holsters. They are available for Glock, Smith & Wesson, Kimber and Springfield Armory pistols. The LiteWave sights are available in either an all-green fiber optic and tritium set up or a green fiber optic/tritium front sight combined with an orange fiber optic/tritium rear sight configuration. The front sight in each set also has the option of a white or orange ring around the front sight insert for enhanced visibility.

Website: [www.HiVizSights.com](http://www.HiVizSights.com)  
MSRP: \$135

## 03. XS Sights DXT2

DXT2 Big Dot Night Sights from XS Sights provide excellent visibility day or night. These sights feature a large-dot front sight in either yellow or orange ahead of a V-notch rear sight. The dots are photoluminescent; they absorb available light and glow for hours. But the front sight also features a tritium insert in the center, so the sights stay visible in extended total darkness. The rear V-notch also features a vertical white stripe, also with a tritium insert so that you "dot the I" for your sight picture. They're available for a wide range of defensive handguns. DXT2 Big Dot Night Sights are backed by a 10-year warranty, no questions asked.

Website: [www.XSSights.com](http://www.XSSights.com)  
MSRP: \$132

## 04. Ameriglo Agent

Ameriglo has a wide range of aftermarket sights of nearly every configuration. The company's Agent three-dot sights, shown, feature a ProGlo green tritium insert surrounded by a wide orange outline for high visibility both day and night. The rear sight features a serrated U-notch with green tritium dots. Its Defensive Carry sights are similar, except that the front sight is also offered with a lime green outline around the tritium and the rear sight has a white outline—instead of black—around the tritium.

Ameriglo makes high sights, too, for use with a suppressor or optic mounted. The company also offers an unusual but highly effective set of night sights with a ghost ring rear sight—very quick on target. The ghost ring also has a small tritium dot on each side of the ring. For those who prefer something other than a standard three-dot configuration, Ameriglo's I-Dot sights have an outlined tritium front sight with a single dot rear.

Website: [www.Ameriglo.com](http://www.Ameriglo.com)  
MSRP: \$120 (Agent sights)

05



07



06



08

09



11

10



12

### 05. TruGlo Tru-Tec Micro Sub-Compact Open Red Dot Sight

TruGlo has expanded its Tru-Tec Micro lineup of reflex optics with three more models. Joining the original TG8100B red dot model is the new TG8100G with a high-visibility green dot. The new TG8200B is compatible with Trijicon RMR-style mounts and optics-ready pistol slides. The new TG8100BM comes with a 45-degree offset Picatinny mount for those who want to use the Tru-Tec Micro as a close-range sight on their scope-equipped modern sporting rifles. Each model includes a Picatinny mount and features a 3-MOA dot reticle with 1-MOA windage and elevation adjustments. They are constructed of aluminum and are parallax free beyond 30 yards. Each features 10 brightness settings and each runs on a single 3-volt CR2032 lithium battery.

Website: [www.TruGlo.com](http://www.TruGlo.com)  
MSRP: \$235.99 (\$261.99 with 45-degree offset mount.)

### 06. Vortex Razor

The Razor is available with either a 3-MOA red dot or larger 6-MOA red dot. It offers 170 MOA of elevation adjustments and 114 MOA of windage adjustments in 1-MOA increments. It has a side-load battery compartment for easy battery replacement. It runs on one CR2032 battery that provides up to 150 hours on the brightest setting and up to 30,000 hours on the low settings. There are nine brightness settings in all. The Razor measures 1.83 inches long, 1.16 inches high and 1.21 inches wide. It weighs 1.3 ounces. It includes a low Picatinny mount if you opt to mount it on a long gun instead of a handgun.

Website: [VortexOptics.com](http://VortexOptics.com)  
MSRP: \$499.99

### 07. Burriss Fastfire M3

Burriss has built in more features with the Fastfire M3 reflex sight. The tiny sight is just 1.9 inches long and is available with either a 3-MOA or 8-MOA red dot for fast target acquisition. The on/off button allows you to toggle through various brightness settings, including auto, high, medium and low. An automatic shut-off feature activates after nine hours of use. A single CR1632 battery inserted into the top of the sight powers the Fastfire M3 for about 5,000 hours. It can be replaced without removing the sight from the weapon.

The sight can be mounted to most handguns, rifles and shotguns as a primary sight, or atop an existing sight using Burriss mounts. The sight allows for 115 MOA of elevation adjustments and 86 MOA of windage adjustments in 1-MOA increments without tools. The sight is lightweight, too—the heaviest model weighs just 1.5 ounces—so it won't affect the balance of the firearm.

Website: [www.BurrissOptics.com](http://www.BurrissOptics.com)  
MSRP: starting at \$259

### 08. Trijicon SRO

SRO stands for Specialized Reflex Optic, and it's Trijicon's newest reflex sight. It's easily recognizable by its round shape. It features a wide field of view with its 25 x 22.5mm window size. Its easy-to-acquire, distinct red dot is available in three sizes: 1, 2.5 and 5 MOA. It features eight manual and automatic brightness settings. It is constructed of aluminum and runs on one CR2032 battery that's listed as having a three-year lifespan in the SRO. It loads from the top, so there's no need to remove the SRO from the gun to replace the battery. It's compatible with suppressor-height iron sights. It's adjustable for windage and elevation in 1-MOA increments. It's rated as waterproof up to a depth of 10 feet. The SRO measures 2.2 inches long, 1.4 inches high and 1.3 inches wide. It weighs 1.6 ounces.

Website: [www.Trijicon.com](http://www.Trijicon.com)  
MSRP: \$749

### 09. Lasermax Centerfire Light/Laser

The Lasermax Centerfire Light & Laser attaches to the trigger guard of your handgun. It features Grip Sense Activation that senses when the you take a shooting grip on the handgun to activate the light or laser automatically. You can also choose to disable the Grip Sense and activate the unit with either of the unit's ambidextrous buttons. The unit provides 100 lumens of mint green light. A green or red laser are options. They are fully adjustable for windage and elevation.

Website: [www.Lasermax.com](http://www.Lasermax.com)  
MSRP: \$189 (red laser); \$209 (green laser)

### 10. Streamlight TLR-8

Streamlight's TLR-8 is a rail-mounted weapons light/laser combo. It's available with a red laser or a green laser (TLR-8G). At just 2.15 inches long and weighing less than 3 ounces, these lights are among the smallest rail-mounted lights, but they offer big performance. Each delivers as much as 500 lumens to light up any threat. The light also features a distracting strobe mode. The units are powered by one CR123A battery for run times of about 1.5 hours. In laser-only mode, the battery will last up to 18 hours with the red laser model and about 11 hours with the green laser model. They can be mounted easily with a one-handed tool-free snap-on-and-tighten system that keeps the user's hands safely from the gun's muzzle. The lights include ambidextrous on/off switches. A locking mode keeps the lights from being turned on accidentally. The TLR-8 can be operated in light only, laser only, and light and laser modes. If you want a light only (no laser), it's available as the TLR-7.

Website: [www.Streamlight.com](http://www.Streamlight.com)  
MSRP: \$350 (with red laser); \$450 (with green laser); \$215 (TLR-7, light only, no laser)

### 11. Streamlight TLR-6 Light/Laser

Depending on the handgun, the Streamlight TLR-6 mounts either to the accessory rail or, if your handgun such as a 1911 doesn't have a rail, the front of the trigger guard. An easy-to-reach

button allows you to quickly change modes from red laser only to flashlight only to laser and flashlight together. It features a 100-lumen white light, red laser and an activation button on each side that is easy to reach with either your trigger finger or the thumb of your support hand. The unit turns off automatically after 10 minutes to save your batteries. The unit is powered by two CR-1/3 N Lithium batteries, which are included. The light has a one-hour runtime. The runtime for laser-only use is 15 hours. There is a battery door that allows you to swap out the batteries without removing the unit from the gun. Some light-only (no laser) models are available.

Website: [www.Streamlight.com](http://www.Streamlight.com)  
MSRP: \$175

### 12. Lasermax Guide Rod Laser

These Lasermax internal lasers replace the recoil spring/guide rod assemblies in select handguns. They're easily installed without tools. Having the laser mounted internally keeps it closer to the line of the bore, keeps it from protected from bumps, aligns it automatically with the bore so no sighting adjustments are needed and allows you to use conventional holsters designed for your pistol. Some models are programmable for either a steady or pulsing beam. Ambidextrous on/off switch goes in place of the gun's takedown lever. Available with either a red or green laser.

Website: [www.Lasermax.com](http://www.Lasermax.com)  
MSRP: \$239 (red laser); \$279 (green laser)

### AD INDEX

ADVERTISER	PAGE
183 Degrees	33
ADCO	75
Bradford USA Knives	75
BRAVO COMPANY	2-3
G-Code Holsters	131
Gripknife LLC	132
GTUL	83
HKS Products, Inc.	83
Hogue Grips	83
Kimber Manufacturing, Inc.	27
O.F. Mossberg Firearms	5
Sneaky Pete Holsters	7
Springfield Armory	59
TOPS Knives	9