One reason shooters and hunters are flocking to the AR-15 in ever-increasing numbers is due to its modularity. No other rifle comes close to the versatility of Stoner’s magnificent amalgamation of metal. Aside from dominating the plinking yard, 3-Gun and highpower match competition, ARs are the combat rifle by which all others are compared, and they are more than capable of taking down animals ranging from squirrel to Sasquatch. Like a LEGO kit for gun nuts, the AR platform allows shooters to assemble the ideal rifle for their use. Regardless of how you plan to accessorize, the most critical component for repeatable, consistent accuracy is a quality trigger.

MOSSBERG MMR
STOCK TRIGGER: 8 lbs., 9 oz.
Scattergun powerhouse Mossberg recently added its name to the list of companies building modern sporting rifles. In 2011 it introduced the Mossberg Modern Rifle, aka MMR. I was part of a test team that evaluated the MMR at the Gunsie Academy before it started hitting shelves last spring. Present were enough rifles to fill a 55-gallon drum and enough Winchester ammunition to fill in the gaps. After that event, I simply had to own one. Being a hunter, I chose the camo-dipped MMR Hunter version for predator use.

Like all Mossbergs, the MMR Hunter performs well beyond its price tag. But business is business, and affordable factory rifles can’t be expected to ship with the fit, finish or performance of high-end custom guns. To reduce costs, Mossberg chose to install a standard Mil-Spec trigger in the MMR. You know the one: gritty and heavy. So after a few dry fires, I pulled the stock trigger faster than a reserve parachute and opted to install the Tactical Trigger Unit (TTU) by Wilson Combat.

A true drop-in unit, the TTU is a self-contained module that

While this stock trigger may be serviceable, attaining the level of precision this Mossberg MMR is capable of demands a much better result.


Lighten Up!

For more information visit wilsoncombat.com

Price: $270

The TTU by Wilson Combat is four to five times better than the stock trigger. I’d wager the TTU is superior. I’d choose for this swap. Installation was a breeze, and the pull weight went from an atrocious eight pounds, nine ounces to a breeze, and the pull weight went from a spritely four pounds, 13 ounces.

While the numbers show a nearly 50 percent reduction in pull weight, in use the trigger is superior. I’d wager the TTU is four to five times better than the stock trigger. The TTU by Wilson Combat ranks up with the best triggers available and is sure to increase accuracy and shootability.

Price: $270
For more information visit wilsoncombat.com

1. Insert the Wilson Combat TTU unit into the lower receiver.
2. Insert the punch through the receiver and TTU trigger pin hole to slave the assembly in place.
3. Insert the trigger pin from the opposite side.
4. Drive out the punch by installing the trigger pin into the receiver and through the TTU with a hammer.
5. This punch is used to line up the holes between the receiver and TTU so you insert the trigger pin. To protect the finish of your rifle, use the nylon side of this hammer as you near complete installation of the pin.
6. Insert the punch through the receiver and TTU trigger pin hole to slave the assembly.
7. Insert the hammer pin from the opposite side of the receiver.
8. Drive out the punch by installing the hammer pin with a hammer. A punch can be used to line up the holes between the receiver and TTU so you insert the hammer pin. Same warnings apply to process down and forward on the cocked hammer with the support hand thumb as you push the hammer pin through the receiver and trigger unit. As previously suggested, protect the finish of your rifle by using the nylon side if you choose to use a hammer to complete installation of this pin.
9. With the hammer cocked, insert the safety selector from the left side of the receiver with the selector in the “SAFE” position.
10. Rotate the receiver upside down, and insert the safety selector detent (point down).
11. Insert the safety selector detent spring into the hole of the grip.
12. Reinstall the grip, ensuring that the safety selector detent spring is lined up with the safety selector detent hole in the receiver. Be sure that the spring does not kink or bend during this process.
13. With the grip pensioned on the lower receiver, place the lock washer over the grip screw and place the screw on the driver bit.
14. Insert the screw through the grip, and engage the threaded grip screw hole in the receiver.
15. Tighten using a long shaft driver with the appropriate size bit.
16. Test that the safety functions properly by placing the selector on “SAFE” and attempting to pull the trigger to release the cocked hammer. If the hammer does not fall forward with the selector set to the “SAFE” position, the safety is functioning properly. Flip the selector to “FIRE,” and with your thumbs, place downward pressure on the hammer and pull the trigger to ease the hammer forward. (To prevent damage to the lower receiver, do not let the hammer fall completely forward while under spring tension.) With the trigger pulled to the rear, rotating the hammer and slowly ease out the trigger to test its reset. Pull the trigger again, and ease the hammer forward with your thumbs.
17. With the trigger functioning properly, reinstall the upper receiver and reinstall the “SAFE” and “FIRE” functions. Installation of the Wilson Combat TTU is now complete.

Opposite page, from left to right

1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17.