

# Colt Single Action: An Enduring Legacy from Patersons to Peacemakers

The Colt Single Action Army (SAA), also known as the Peacemaker, is one of the most iconic firearms in American history. It was designed by Samuel Colt in 1873 and quickly became the standard sidearm for the US Army and law enforcement agencies. The SAA was also a favorite of cowboys and frontiersmen, and it played a significant role in the settlement of the American West.

The SAA is a single-action revolver, which means that the trigger must be pulled back to both cock the hammer and release the sear, allowing the firing pin to strike the primer of the cartridge. This design is simple and reliable, and it makes the SAA a very accurate firearm. The SAA is also chambered for a variety of cartridges, including the .45 Colt, .44-40 Winchester, and .38-40 Winchester.



## Colt Single Action: From Patersons to Peacemakers

by Matt Hart

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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The SAA was originally manufactured by Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company in Hartford, Connecticut. However, production was moved to Colt's new factory in New York City in 1884. The SAA was also manufactured under license by other companies, including the Merwin, Hulbert & Co. and the Hartford Arms and Equipment Company.

The SAA was a popular firearm for both military and civilian use. It was used by the US Army in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine-American War. The SAA was also popular with law enforcement agencies, and it was carried by many famous lawmen, including Wyatt Earp and Bat Masterson.

The SAA was also a favorite of cowboys and frontiersmen. It was a reliable and powerful firearm, and it was well-suited for the harsh conditions of the American West. The SAA was also a popular choice for target shooting and competition, and it is still used in many shooting sports today.

The SAA is a truly iconic firearm. It has been used by some of the most famous figures in American history, and it has played a significant role in the settlement of the American West. The SAA is still a popular firearm today, and it is sure to continue to be a favorite of shooters for many years to come.

### **Early Development: Patersons and Dragoons**

The Colt Single Action Army did not emerge fully formed in 1873. It had a long and complex development process that began with Samuel Colt's earliest revolvers.

In 1836, Colt patented his first revolving firearm, the Paterson. The Paterson was a single-action revolver, but it was much smaller and less powerful than the SAA. The Paterson was not a commercial success, but it did prove the viability of Colt's revolving design.

In 1847, Colt introduced the Dragoon, a larger and more powerful revolver that was designed for military use. The Dragoon was a single-action revolver, and it featured a number of improvements over the Paterson, including a stronger frame and a more reliable firing mechanism.

The Dragoon was a success, and it was used by both the US Army and the US Navy. The Dragoon also proved to be popular with civilians, and it was a favorite of many lawmen and frontiersmen.

### **The Birth of the Single Action Army**

In 1873, Colt introduced the Single Action Army, which was an improved version of the Dragoon. The SAA featured a stronger frame, a more reliable firing mechanism, and a longer barrel. The SAA was also chambered for a new cartridge, the .45 Colt.

The SAA quickly became the standard sidearm for the US Army and law enforcement agencies. The SAA was also a favorite of cowboys and frontiersmen, and it played a significant role in the settlement of the American West.

The SAA was a commercial success, and it was manufactured for over 100 years. The SAA is still a popular firearm today, and it is sure to continue to be a favorite of shooters for many years to come.

### **Famous Users of the Colt Single Action Army**

The Colt Single Action Army was used by some of the most famous figures in American history. These include:

- Wyatt Earp
- Bat Masterson
- Doc Holliday
- Buffalo Bill Cody
- Theodore Roosevelt
- Pat Garrett
- Billy the Kid
- Jesse James
- Tom Horn
- John Wesley Hardin

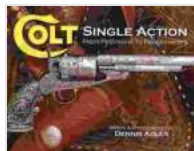
The SAA was also used by many other lawmen, cowboys, and frontiersmen. It was a reliable and powerful firearm, and it was well-suited for the harsh conditions of the American West.

### **The Colt Single Action Army Today**

The Colt Single Action Army is still a popular firearm today. It is used by collectors, shooters, and reenactors. The SAA is also a popular choice for self-defense and concealed carry.

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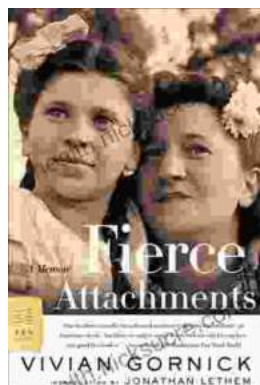
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