

The Power of the Pyramid

ATS sights may look odd, but they allow fast target acquisition

Traditional black matte post-and-notch handgun sights can deliver excellent accuracy and are favored by those trying to chew the X-ring out of a 50-yard NRA bull's-eye target or drop a 200-meter metallic silhouette ram.

Getting that level of accuracy, however, demands that the shooter has the time to achieve perfect sight alignment. He also needs good lighting conditions in order to crisply define the sights. When maximum speed needs to be matched with "acceptable" accuracy, especially under varying lighting conditions, many shooters find traditional sights slow to acquire and properly align.

One way to boost sight-acquisition speed is by adding eye-catching colors to the sights in the form of dots, fiber optics, or tritium inserts. That makes the sights easier to see, but doesn't solve the problem of quickly aligning the front post within the rear notch.

Advantage Tactical Sights (ATS) offers a different solution. It provides bold, eye-catching colors, but dispenses with the traditional post-and-notch in favor of a pyramid shape. The ATS sights look strange, but they work.

The ATS sights (SRP: \$89.95; \$79.95 for Glock) are currently available for Glock, SIG (with the exception of the 250 and 1911), Springfield Armory and Kimber 1911s, and S&W's M&P

and newer SD series. They consist of a front and rear sight (constructed of steel) that replaces the factory sights in the existing dovetails without gunsmithing. You can install them yourself, but a gunsmith with the proper dovetail drifting tool can do it more quickly. User-interchangeable plastic inserts in red, orange, green, yellow, and white provide the color for both front and rear sights, and all are included in the basic sight kit. Shooters can mix or match the colors to determine the combination they see best.

Bright Sights

The rear sight insert features two boldly colored lines that rise at about a 45-degree angle to form an almost-pyramid. The front sight is a bright, pointed pyramid that slips into the rear notch to complete the pyramid shape. The rear sight is adjustable for windage by loosening a locking set screw and sliding it right or left. The front sight is adjustable for elevation by adding supplied inserts to its base. Once the sights are zeroed, they stay zeroed.

When the sights were first



The rear sight insert of the ATS features two bold lines; the front sight is a bright pyramid.

introduced, they were only available for Glocks, and I installed a set on my G29 10mm. I quickly discovered that the bright pyramid is much easier for shooters with poor vision to quickly acquire. The pyramid leaps into your visual field.

Although I have been a competitive handgun shooter for more than 40 years and am very familiar with traditional sights, I adapted to the ATS very quickly, feeling that it was a faster system. But it wasn't until this year, when the company offered sights for the S&W M&P, that I found out just how fast they were.

I installed a set on one of my 9mm M&P competition guns, and two weeks later shot an IDPA match with 80 other shooters. I pushed hard for

pure speed, letting "sights on target" dictate the pace, and allowing the gun flow at its own pace. The sights just seemed to find the target on their own, and though I had never before shot the pyramid sights competitively, I won the match (High Overall) by a significant margin. Despite the speed, they were also extremely accurate. Out of the 55 rounds fired in the match, I only missed the perfect 0 Zone three times! When it comes to fast and accurate, whether in a pistol match or a personal-defense situation, the ATS is Good Stuff. **(310-316-6413; advantagetactical.com)** 