



# Anschutz Model 1782 Switch-Barrel .308

The latest Anschutz Model 1782 supplants the earlier Model 1780, which in turn was a revamped Model 1770. While the basic design of the 1782 looks similar, the new rifle has many new features.

IT'S 11 years since Anschutz brought out their first new rifle action in thirty years. It formed the heart of the Model 1770, a handsome, superbly accurate centrefire sporter chambered for the .222 and .223 Remington. Not content to rest on their laurels, two years later the company introduced the Model 1780, a long-action version chambered for the .30-06, 308 Win., 8x57 and 9.3x62.

The two rifles looked similar but the resemblance was wholly cosmetic, and the basic design was entirely different. A lot of changes had to be made to convert the 1770 into a switch-barrel rifle. Like its forerunner, the 1780 had several changes made to its design which set it

apart from traditional turnbolts, now history has been repeated with the Model 1782 which has received some critical changes, particularly where the receiver is concerned.

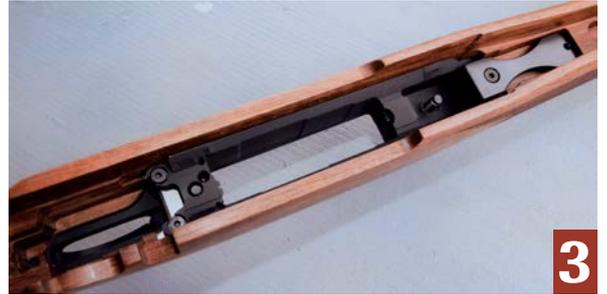
The receiver of the 1782 is machined out of chrome moly steel and blued whereas 1780's receiver was black anodized alloy, but there's other differences. The massive slab-sided receiver has the same dimensions and length of 230mm, but its top is no longer rounded, or drilled and tapped for standard scope mounts or a special full length Picatinny rail which was furnished by Anschutz. Instead, the receiver has short Picatinny bases machined integral with the

top of receiver ring and bridge which are grooved to act as dovetail bases for Weaver-type rings.

The massive receiver has a wall thickness of 7mm, a width of 33mm across the flats and a height of 40mm. The flat-bottomed action has a square-backed split lug protruding downward from the receiver ring which sits against a steel plate at the rear, while the front face of the receiver makes contact with a secondary lug at the front.

The rear of the receiver ends in a very short tang hardly worthy of the name. Rather the rear end of the receiver is angled off and contoured to be a perfect match for the streamlined bolt sleeve.

For maximum rigidity and precision, the 1782s' action doesn't just lie in the stock. Rather it is attached to a massive aluminium action carrier with additional abutment, and integral



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magazine well which evenly supports it in the stock. This rock-steady stock-action connection ensures the highest level of repeatability during barrel replacement. Even if the stock swells from getting wet or shrinks due to dry heat, the carrier stabilizes action and barrel and prevents them from shifting. The rigidity of the steel receiver combined with the extra support furnished by the carrier contributes materially to the 1782's superb accuracy.

The trigger guard which was a separate part in the 1780, is now an integral part of the carrier on the 1782. The paddle-like magazine release catch is located in front of the trigger guard and tensioned by a powerful spring in the rear of the magazine well which holds it back against the front of the guard. Pushing the catch forward releases the magazine to drop out into the hand.

In the previous 1780 the action carrier was held to the

stock by four hex head screws; in the 1782 it has two screws at the rear and the front is secured by the single screw that holds the secondary recoil lug in place.

The detachable magazine is as ruggedly constructed as the rest of the 1782. The walls are made of pressed metal and it has a polymer follower and alloy floorplate that sits almost flush with the bottom of the stock. It carries the logo "Anschutz" in white letters and holds four cartridges in a dual column.

The barreled-action is held to the carrier by a pair of captive action screws. The front action screw is threaded into a steel plate held in the split recoil lug by the two set screws which retain the barrel in the receiver ring. After I'd wound out the front screw, the barrel lifted out of the forend and it took me a while to find the rear action screw where it was accessed through a hole in the base of the magazine release catch, behind the spring. When removing the

stock, I'd recommend removing the rear screw first to prevent the barrel rising out of the forend and replacing the screws in reverse order.

Anschutz has done away with the semi-circular ejection port milled in the right side of the receiver wall which was of minimum length and width (85mm long and 15mm wide) making it impossible to thumb an extra round into the top of magazine should the magazine run empty and another shot be needed in a hurry. The 1782's receiver has been completely reconfigured by removing much of the top metal between the receiver ring and bridge. This opened up the ejection, allowing plenty of room to thumb a cartridge down into the magazine if necessary. The action of the 1782 is long enough to take .30-06 length cartridges.

Full-diameter construction eliminates the necessity of broaching long raceway channels in the receiver, and a rounded roof combined with a longitudinal groove in the bolt body engages a rail on the left sidewall. Operation is bolstered by having another rail on the right side to fully support the bolt and ensure it travels smoothly back and

forth. Since the locking lugs don't extend beyond the outer diameter of the bolt, three additional grooves in the bolt body seem to serve no useful purpose. When the bolt is cycled there's not the slightest trace of any sideplay or wobble.

The hefty bolt is the same as that of the 1780, a one-diameter affair some 200mm long with a diameter of 20mm and the bolt body has four flutes on the upper half. A multiple-lug locking system is used in an unsymmetrical dual row array which doesn't protrude beyond the diameter of the bolt body.

### ON THIS SPREAD

**1** Anschutz Model 1782 features a combination of Germanic mechanical design and American-style classic stock.

**2** The rear end of the bolt is contoured to blend with the shape of the bolt sleeve. Cocking piece protrudes when rifle is cocked.

**3** Action carrier has integrated magazine well and trigger guard. Screw in secondary recoil lug at front and two screws at rear retain the carrier in stock.

**4** Paddle-shaped magazine release catch located in front of trigger guard is tensioned by stout spring in rear of magazine well.



**“Overall, the 1782 is a handsome sporter that balances nicely and handles well.”**



The 1782's low 60 degree rotation stems from having multiple lugs with the front lugs larger than the second row. The lugs are on exact 120-degree centres and are efficiently patterned. The bolt face is deeply recessed and houses a plunger-type ejector at 2 o'clock directly opposite a T-shaped claw extractor carefully designed for breech integrity and set into the face of the right lug. The wide claw extractor sits closely around the inside of the bolt face counterbore, but gets a firm grip on a fired case. It is tensioned by a round spring which extends back through a hole in the two righthand lugs before being wrapped about halfway around a groove in the base of the bolt head.

The bolt handle is slightly swept back and a large round knob is level with the front of the trigger. I don't care for the way it sticks out to the side to bruise the shooter's hip when he's carrying the rifle on his left shoulder. I'd like to see it bent down more and sit closer to the stock.

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**5** Massive steel receiver has large top ejection port and integral Picatinny rails for solid scope mounting.

**6** Anschutz bolt is fluted with dual row of six asymmetrical locking lugs. Bolt face has deep counterbore with T-slot extractor and plunger ejector.

The breeching pattern is straightforward. The cartridge base seats in the counterbored breech face, which is broken only by narrow 2.45mm slot and contains a plunger ejector. The tiny extractor is spring-urged slightly forward of the bolt nose, but cams flush during lock-up, so as not to interfere with the close breech fit.

The smooth-shanked barrel slips into the receiver ring and is oriented by a small stud. Replacing or installing a different barrel is easy. Simply align a gas vent in the side of the chamber with a hole in the side of the receiver whereby it is indexed by a small lug entering a transverse dovetail slot. The face of the barrel has a short counterbore, followed by a shallow feed cone leading into the chamber. Cams milled on the locking lugs advance the bolt about 1.5mm during closing. A powerful leverage is achieved, yet, as with the Weatherby Mark V, this camming is a bit short and balking results unless the bolt is slammed forward hard. The six lugs lock into the rear end of the barrel and the relationship between the flat-nosed bolt and the squared-off barrel face forms a very effective breeching system. Evidently, Anschutz decided against having the bolt lock up against seats inside the steel receiver ring, which wasn't

possible with the 1780's alloy receiver. It was to their advantage to use the same barrels.

The 1782 has a one-piece firing pin with a defined stop area to prevent damage from dry firing. Its tip is quite long and needlelike but fits too closely in the firing pin hole to allow any bending or jamming. Firing pin fall is short and fast - only 4.83mm. Dismantling the bolt is easy. Uncock it, push the bolt body toward the sleeve, pull the bolt handle out of its recess in the body and withdraw the firing pin and spring. To reassemble, carry out these steps in reverse.

The blued steel bolt sleeve has a large lug on its right side which enters a groove in the right side of the receiver to prevent it turning as the rifle is cocked. It also helps guide the bolt during the final stage of its travel. Bolt lift cams the cocking piece into a holding notch to lock the firing pin against accidental uncocking. The 1782 has a pair of cocking cams just like the 1780, so that on the uplift of the handle - the cocking stroke - compresses the mainspring coaxially and the downstroke of the handle completes the cocking cycle. But despite dividing up the work and friction between a pair of cocking cams rather than using just one with a steep angle, the 1782's bolt lift is very

**✓ SPECS**

**Anschutz  
Model 1782**

**Manufacturer:** J.G Anschutz GmbH & Co. KG, Ulm Donau, Germany

**Model:** 1782

**Type:** turnbolt repeater with dual-row 6-lug bolt

**Calibre:** .243, 6.5 Creedmoor, .308 Win. (tested), 8x57, .30-06 and 9.3x62.

**Barrel length:** 56cm

**Overall length:** 109cm

**Weight:** 3.2kgs

**Magazine:** detachable box holds 4 rounds

**Trigger:** single stage set to 1200 grams, setting range 600 to 1800 grams; can be altered to two-stage

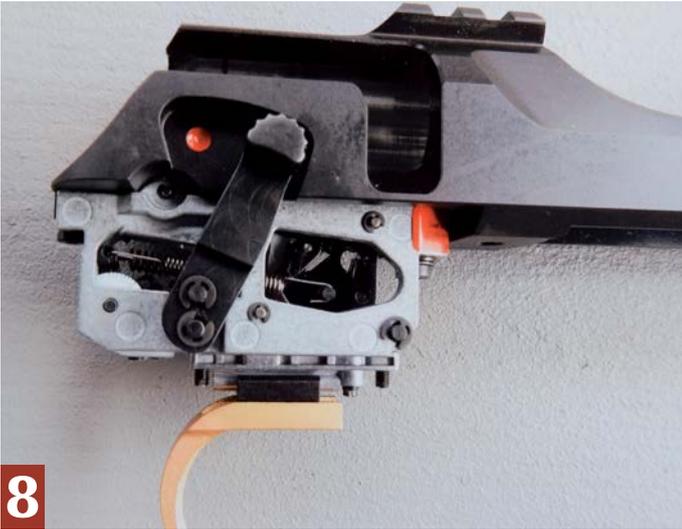
**Sights:** none. Integral Picatinny rail front and rear

**Stock:** American classic oil-finished, checkered walnut

**Price?** Ask at your LGS

**Trade enquiries:** Nioa.  
**Website:** [www.nioa.com.au](http://www.nioa.com.au)

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heavy thus eliminating any chance of a fast repeat shot without removing the rifle from the shoulder. This is puzzling because the 1780's bolt handle was much easier to lift!

A sliding two-position safety working fore and aft in a recess in the side of the tang lifts the firing pin when engaged and raises an integrated bolt lock which prevents the bolt handle from being raised accidentally. Operation of the 1782's safety is easy and silent, with no metallic clicks to alert game.

The 56cm barrel has a

graceful contour. It measures 30mm at the front of the receiver and tapers off gradually over the chamber before commencing a straight taper to reach 18mm at the dished muzzle. Barrels are manufactured using the same special button-rifling process Anschutz uses for their world-renowned match target barrels. Unlike its predecessor, the 1782's barrel is sans sights - as slick as a sow's ear.

When the 1782 is cocked the rear end of the cocking piece extends from the rear of the bolt sleeve where it is easily

seen or felt. In the event of a pierced or blown primer most escaping gas will be entrapped and controlled inside the receiver ring and vented through a port in its right side. Gas entering the firing pin hole is blocked by the head of the firing pin and allowed to escape through a hole in the bolt head between the two rows of lugs which aligns with the hole in the receiver ring.

The 5780 D trigger of the Model 1780 has been replaced with an entirely new more intricate single-stage unit attached to the rear end of the receiver. The trigger breaks cleanly but offers the option of being set to a two-stage let-off. The housing is open which lets you see the mechanism. The trigger blade can be adjusted in length by 0.610" to accommodate different hand sizes and finger lengths by a loosening a screw in the centre of a slot the forward section of the blade. Two smaller screws, one on each side of the larger centre screw allow weight of pull to be adjusted between 600 and 1800 grams, but is factory set at 1200 grams. Unlike with the 1780, all trigger adjustments can be made through the trigger guard without removing the stock.

In a welcome departure from the 1780's Germanic-type stock which had a hogsback comb and Bavarian-style cheekpiece, the latest iteration, the 1782, has gone American classic. The nicely figured walnut stock has a high straight comb with minimal drop at heel and a hand-filling rounded forend.

The pistol-grip is tightly curved with a palm swelling on the right side. Panels of fine checkering in a borderless point pattern adorn grip and forend. The butt has no cheekpiece, is capped with a thin black WEGU recoil pad and a pair of sling swivel bases are fitted. Overall, the 1782 is a handsome sporter that balances nicely and handles well from all field positions.

For testing the Anschutz was fitted with a Zeiss Conquest 3-9x42 scope in Leupold Backcountry medium ring mounts. The rifle was sighted in with Federal Vital Shok ammo loaded with the 165gn Sierra GameKing bullet at a nominal muzzle velocity of 2700fps and then checked for accuracy with both it and a variety of factory ammo and selected reloads. The accuracy results are listed in the table.

In assessing a new rifle, there are several functional details count a great deal. Does it load and feed easily? Does the bolt cycle smoothly? If the magazine is detachable, is it easy to remove and replace? Does it hold a constant point of impact? Is accuracy consistent? The answers to all these questions is an emphatic "yes".

Anschutz are not the least expensive rifles kicking around, but they offer several features and a degree of accuracy that has to be seen to be believed. While there are many less expensive rifles on the market, none of them offer such high quality of manufacture as the prestigious Anschutz 1782. 

**ACCURACY RESULTS ANSCHUTZ MODEL 1782**

Ammo	Bullet (gns)	Velocity (fps)	Energy (ft/lbs)	Average Group (inches@100yds)
Fed' American Eagle	130 JHP	2945	2504	0.995
Fusion	150	2880	2763	0.802
Power Shok	150 SP	2817	2643	0.827
Gold Medal	185 Berger	2572	2718	0.680

*Notes: Accuracy results are average of five 3-shot groups at 100yds from benchrest. Velocities are averages of 20 rounds measured at the muzzle with MagnetoSpeed chronograph.*

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**7** A pair of screws through the recoil lug retain the barrel and secure front action screw

**8** Trigger attached to rear of receiver incorporates the safety and is adjustable for length, weight and single or double pull.