

# HANDGUNS

• MASSAD AYOUB •

## ADVANTAGE SIGHTS

A new handgun sighting concept offers promise.

**A**ll sorts of gunsight concepts come and go. They promise super speed, surgical accuracy or even both. Some deliver, some don't. Now comes Advantage Tactical, a sighting concept patented by Richard Nasef. He and his partner in Wren Tech Industries LLC, Mike Ballard, are both seasoned competitive handgun shooters.

The rear sight is pyramidal in shape. It's a wide-based isosceles triangle whose base is black, blending into the black gun and ceasing to be readily visible in action. What comes to the eye are the congruent angles on the sides, which are brightly colored and stop just short of meeting at their peak. The tiny gap between their upper ends is filled with the front sight, also brightly colored, and the two together form the apex of a triangle as seen by the shooter's aiming eye. When properly installed and adjusted, point of aim/point of impact (POA/POI) coordinates put the shot right above the top point of the triangle. It's a whole lot easier to look at than to describe, so I'm glad we have the pictures here.

Nasef notes these sights are at their best in fading light, between the pitch black in which Tritium night sights rule, and high noon on the pistol range where the sight picture of conventional post-in-notch sights are at their best. I dunno, I found the Advantage sights pretty good at high noon, too.

Each kit comes with a front and a rear



*Each unit comes with five different color inserts each for front and back giving you 25 color combinations to choose from, and shims to adjust for elevation. The pistol is a Glock G17.*

sight, and five rear and five front inserts of different colors. You can pick your own preferred color combo among 25 combinations. Colors are green, orange, red, yellow and white. Nasef suggests the sights be installed by a gunsmith. I pulled one of the Glock 17s out of my gun safe, and Glock armorer Steve Denney installed them, nailing the alignment on the first try. I chose yellow inserts for the rear sight and red for up front. It was time to head to the range.

### No Squares Allowed

We are all so accustomed to square Patridge front sights and 3-dot sight pictures today, we can forget how precise a knife-blade front sight can be. The Advantage unit reminded me a bit of the trapezoidal sight picture designer Willi Bubits put on the Steyr M9. The first five shots from 25 yards, with generic

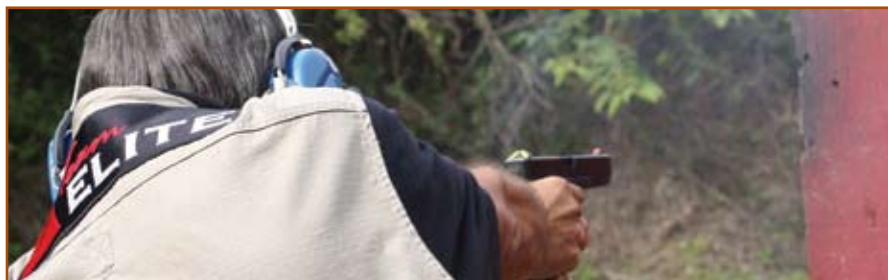
Remington-UMC 147-grain 9mm full metal jacket, all landed in a satisfying cluster inside the head box of an IPSC target. I was pleasantly surprised.

I started working for speed next, at 15 yards and in. I was hesitant at first with the unfamiliar sight picture, taking too long to verify. It took about a 100 rounds on buff-colored cardboard targets and the 6" steel disks of an Action Target Dueling Tree to gain confidence in the new sight image. It did seem to be somewhat faster.

The November IDPA match in Jacksonville, Florida, was coming up, and I decided to shoot it with the G17 and the Advantage sights. The pistol had already proven itself to be snag-free with these sights out of Ted Blocker leather and an FIN Kydex scabbard. I wore the latter for the match. In concealed carry, the only possible downside I noticed was the forward-slanting bright-colored "V" of the rear sight would draw an observer's eye to the gun if the concealing garment inadvertently came open. Good concealment keeps that from happening, though, and the EoTac vest I was wearing revealed the Advantage-equipped Glock only when I intentionally drew the pistol.

The sights came instantly to the target, glaringly bright enough they showed up well even in secondary focus during "target focused" shooting on the closer targets. At the closest ranges, all I

*Mas won an IDPA match using the new Advantage pyramidal sights on a Glock G17 9mm. He felt it "amped up" his speed.*



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*The sights (above) show up well in ordinary outdoor light. The Advantage Tactical sight picture (below) showing the red front topping the triangle started by the yellow bars.*



had to do was put the bright front sight (which, when not indexed with the rear, is a pentagonal shape) where I wanted to hit, and that was where the 147-grain Remington bullets landed.

There were also some long shots, 20 yards or a little more. That was no problem. I focused on the red tip of the "pyramid" in the sight alignment seen in the Advantage Tactical ads, and got the hits. Once the scores had been tallied up, I had won the match overall against some pretty tough competition. One of the guys on the list of "men to beat" at Jacksonville is gun writer and long-time competitor Chris Christian. He came in second overall with a Smith & Wesson M&P and LPA conventional sights and, shooting on the same squad, watched my Advantage-sighted Glock with interest. Sure enough, he has since ordered a pair of Advantage sights for one of his own pistols.

For me, the question was answered. Advantage sights definitely are an advantage, unless you're in the dark. Nasef has patents pending for a night-sight version of the Advantage concept.

At only \$99.95 per set for Glock, SIG, and Springfield Armory XD, and another 10 bucks for adjustable sight K-, L-, or N-frame Smith & Wesson revolvers, these are very much worth trying, especially if aging eyes have caused any deterioration in your handgun skills. One satisfied user, J. Kallaher of Florida, wrote to the Advantage Tactical website, "I have 20/600 vision in both eyes and can still see them without glasses." **GUNS**

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