

## Recommendations for Buying a Used Perazzi Gun

You can find several used Perazzi guns on the market; in all flavors, MX8, MX8 Special, MX3, MX3 Special, DB81, Mirage TM1, TMX, et al. Finding the gun that is best for you is a very subjective thing. A gun that fits you may not fit the next person. This article is intended to help a buyer buy a quality used gun, one that is mechanically sound and one that is not in need of significant repairs.

The early single barrel (TM) guns were made with a lot of hand fitting and a few key parts went through design changes during the life of the gun. Parts are still available for the TM series guns. Most TM guns came with coil spring triggers, approximately 10% came with leaf spring trigger assemblies.

The Over/Under guns, MX. DB, Mirage, likewise went through design changes, however the last significant design change was made in 1977 (serial 51,2XX and up). Guns made subsequent to that serial number are known as the Type IV gun. Current production guns are the same design and parts set. That means that barrels and parts will fit and are readily available. There is one subset of the Type IV gun and that is the round monoblock (MX3, MX5, MX7) gun. Barrels from an MX3 will not fit a receiver made for square monoblock (and vice versa). MX guns with removable triggers usually have leaf springs powering the hammers.

Perazzi guns were designed to shoot thousands of shells a year for many years. The design is such that by replacing a few wear items, the gun can be renewed relatively inexpensively.

The list below is ordered in sequence of cost to remedy the inspection point. Items #1 and #2 are very important as they are very expensive to fix.

1. Make sure you are happy overall condition of the metal and wood, Bluing should be a deep blue, shiny with no rust. The wood should fit the metal uniformly with no stock or forearm cracks. If the gun has stock or barrel modifications, make sure they are ones you want, done by the gunsmith you prefer.
2. Hold the gun up to a light and look at the barrel/receiver joint line, you should not see any daylight. It is better to measure the headspace using on the gun using feeler gauges. Anything over 0.006" will need expensive work in the future.
3. Check the bore/choke diameters with a bore micrometer versus what they were originally. The original bore diameter will be stamped on the barrel close to the monoblock. Original bores are preferred, quality barrel work that is stamped on the receiver may be OK with you.
4. Check to make sure the side ribs on the O/U barrel are not loose.
5. Check the position of the toplever when the gun is closed, it should not be straight back toward the buttstock, but slightly to the right.
6. Make sure the forearm is tight on the gun and the gun has resistance to fall open when the toplever is moved to the right. Type IV guns have two 3mm bolts in the forearm hinge that keep the forearm tight to the gun. This model is preferred.
7. Make sure the hammer(s) do not have any small cracks starting.

All other repairs and maintenance items are relatively inexpensive. They are great guns and if the condition of 1-7 above passes, it will likely outlast you.

Once you get your new Perazzi, start of by taking it apart, grease it and start with fresh parts, about \$200 worth; (hammer springs, firing pins and their return springs, top lever spring, sear springs and ejector springs). If the toplever is to the right of the 6 o'clock position, go shoot the gun and enjoy it!