



WORKMAN FIREARMS · RANGE 42 · MEDINA, OHIO

The 2A Deals Cheat Sheet

Real price bands for ammo, optics, safes, range gear, and EDC —
how to spot a fake discount, and the one email that does the hunting for you.

2026 EDITION · PRICES VERIFIED OCTOBER 2026

Companion to the Rapid Fire Deals daily email · workmanfirearms.com/deals

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How to use this sheet

Each category page shows what an item **typically costs**, what a **good deal** looks like, and the **drop-everything** price. Bands are market observations from October 2026 — prices drift with the news cycle and election season, so treat the bands as calibration, not quotes. When a deal lands, run it through the checklist on page 12 before you buy.

This guide pairs with the free **Rapid Fire Deals** email — hand-picked 2A-adjacent deals, filtered through these same price bands, delivered every morning (06:00 ET). Signup is on page 13.

CHAPTER 01

The price-band method

Most people overpay not because deals are rare, but because they have no idea what "normal" costs. A 20% discount on an inflated number feels like a win. This sheet fixes that with three numbers per item.

Three numbers, every item

- **Street** — what the item actually sells for most weeks. Ignore MSRP entirely; it is marketing fiction for most 2A products.
- **Good** — the price at which you should stop comparison shopping and buy. Roughly the 25th percentile of observed offers.
- **Stock-up** — rare sale or clearance pricing. Appears a few times a year on consumables (ammo, mags, targets) and around major sale events for everything else.

How the bands were built

Price bands in this edition were compiled in **October 2026** from live retailer listings, ammo price indexes and per-round trackers, 2026 optics and gear buyer's guides, and manufacturer MSRP/direct prices (Magpul, Sig Sauer, Vortex, Burris, Spyderco, Benchmade, Hornady, Valttek, Liberty and comparable catalog data). Where sources disagreed, we anchored to the median of observed offers, not the single lowest outlier.

Why bands beat "best price ever" claims

Ammo and gear pricing swings with demand — post-election cycles, shortages, and import costs move street prices 20–40% within a year. A band tells you whether *this week's* offer is genuinely below normal, without needing to remember what you paid in 2023.

Unit-price discipline

Always reduce a deal to its smallest unit before judging it: **\$ per round** for ammo, **\$ per magazine**, **\$ per target**, and for optics or safes, price **including the required accessories** (mount, batteries, dehumidifier, delivery). A "\$200 LPVO" that needs a \$90 mount is a \$290 LPVO. A case of 9mm that looks cheap until \$28 hazmat-style shipping is not cheap.

A note on timing: 2A retail runs predictable sale waves — Memorial Day, July 4th, Black Friday/Cyber Monday, and post-Christmas clearance. Outside those windows, "good" prices in this sheet are still the right bar; they just require more patience to hunt down.

CHAPTER 02 · PRICES VERIFIED OCTOBER 2026

Ammo — pistol & rimfire

Ammo is the purest unit-price game: judge everything in **dollars per round (CPR)**, shipping included. Bands below reflect bulk-case pricing observed October 2026.

9mm (115–124gr, brass FMJ — range/plinking)

BAND	PRICE PER ROUND	WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE
Street	\$0.28–\$0.35	Typical online case pricing, 500–1,000 rd
Good	\$0.20–\$0.25	Stop shopping; buy
Stock-up	≤ \$0.18	Flash sales; historically the floor sits near \$0.14–0.15

50-ct boxes run \$10–15 at retail — fine for the range bag, wrong vehicle for volume buying.

9mm defensive JHP (HST, Gold Dot, Critical Duty class)

BAND	PRICE PER ROUND	WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE
Street	\$0.90–\$1.40	20–25 rd boxes at retail
Good	\$0.70–\$0.85	Buy a couple of carry rotations

.22LR — bulk plinking (500+ rd)

BAND	PRICE PER ROUND	WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE
Street	\$0.09–\$0.13	Remington Thunderbolt-class, 500 rd ≈ \$45–60
Good	\$0.06–\$0.08	Blazer/Federal bulk packs, 500–1,600 rd
Stock-up	≤ \$0.055	Clearance bricks; buy years' worth

Hunting/target .22LR is a different animal

CCI Mini-Mags, Stinger, and match-grade .22 run \$0.12–\$0.30+ per round and don't drop often. If you see bulk-plinking prices on premium .22, check the listing twice — mixed-stock photos are the most common bait.

Bands compiled October 2026 from live per-round trackers and retailer aggregators. Steel-cased imports typically run 20–30% under these brass bands — budget accordingly if your range allows it.

CHAPTER 03 · PRICES VERIFIED OCTOBER 2026

Ammo — rifle & shotgun

5.56×45 / .223 Rem (55gr FMJ, brass)

BAND	PRICE PER ROUND	WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE
Street	\$0.50–\$0.65	Typical 2026 case pricing
Good	\$0.42–\$0.48	PMC, Fiocchi, Federal-class 500–1,000 rd
Stock-up	≤ \$0.40	M193-class cases near \$400–440/1,000

Steel-cased .223 and remanufactured runs land \$0.32–\$0.40 — fine for blasting, verify your rifle's (and range's) stance on steel and reman first.

12 gauge

LOAD	STREET	GOOD	STOCK-UP
Target / birdshot (#7.5–8, 2¾")	\$0.45–\$0.65	\$0.30–\$0.40	≤ \$0.28
00 buckshot (9-pellet, 2¾")	\$0.90–\$1.40	\$0.65–\$0.85	≤ \$0.55
Rifled slugs (Foster, 2¾")	\$1.50–\$2.20	\$1.10–\$1.40	≤ \$1.00

Defense-optimized buck (FliteControl wads) and sabot slugs run 40–80% above the plain loads — judge them as defensive ammo, not bulk.

.308 Win / 7.62×51 (147–150gr FMJ)

BAND	PRICE PER ROUND	WHAT THAT LOOKS LIKE
Street	\$0.85–\$1.10	Typical 2026 case pricing
Good	\$0.65–\$0.80	Full metal jacket battle-pack/case pricing

Shipping is part of the price

Ammo is heavy. A case that's \$0.03/round cheaper but ships \$25 worse is a worse deal. Compute CPR after shipping — and note some retailers now ship ammo free over a threshold; that alone can be the best deal in town.

Compiled October 2026 from retailer case pricing and ammo price indexes. Election-year demand spikes can push rifle calibers 10–20% above street within weeks — the stock-up bands are your anchor when they do.

CHAPTER 04 · PRICES VERIFIED OCTOBER 2026

Optics — dots, LPVOs, hunting scopes

Optics is where fake discounts bite hardest: MSRP-to-street gaps are enormous and permanent. Judge against **street**, never the sticker.

Pistol & AR red dots

BAND	PRICE	THE CLASS
Entry (AR/hostile-to-nothing)	\$100–\$150	Sig Romeo5 Gen II ~\$120, Vortex Crossfire ~\$150
Solid mid	\$170–\$250	Vortex StrikeFire II, Holosun 407/507 series (~\$225–250)
Duty/reference	\$400–\$700	Aimpoint, Trijicon, enclosed-emitter Holosun EPS

LPVO (1-6x / 1-8x for AR platforms)

BAND	PRICE	THE CLASS
Bare floor	\$100	ADE Gen2 1-6x — real glass, honest limitations
Best value band	\$200–\$350	Sig Tango MSR 1-6x (~\$229, mount included), Vortex Strike Eagle 1-6x, Burris RT-6, PA SLx Gen IV (~\$340)
Mid-tier	\$600–\$900	Vortex Viper PST Gen II 1-6x, Swampfox Arrowhead
Duty premium	\$1,200+	Sig Tango6T, Vortex Razor HD Gen II-E, Nightforce NX8

Hunting scopes (bolt-gun glass)

BAND	PRICE	THE CLASS
Entry	\$150–\$300	Vortex Crossfire II, Leupold VX-Freedom
Sweet spot	\$350–\$600	Vortex Viper HD, Leupold VX-5HD-class

The mount rule

A \$229 LPVO with its cantilever mount included (Tango MSR) beats a \$199 LPVO needing a \$90 mount. Price the package. And beware "premium optic" listings under \$80 from brands with no warranty footprint — at 1x you'll be staring through that glass for a decade.

Compiled October 2026 from manufacturer MSRP and 2026 optics-guide street pricing. Warranty matters: Vortex VIP and Sig's Infinite Guarantee are no-fault — a used-market find with warranty transfer can be the real bargain.

CHAPTER 05 · PRICES VERIFIED OCTOBER 2026

Safes & secure storage

Safes rarely go "on sale" honestly — list prices are inflated and discounts are permanent furniture. Buy on **construction and ratings**, then negotiate delivery.

Long-gun safes & cabinets

CLASS	PRICE	WHAT YOU GET
Welded cabinet (no fire rating)	\$100–\$250	Keeps kids/thieves honest; not fire protection
Entry fire-resistant (10-gun)	\$380–\$550	Union Safe, Winchester-class; 30-min fire claims
Fire-rated 18–24 gun	\$350–\$650	Value pocket: Winchester/Redfield 18–24 gun units
Name-brand 24–30 gun	\$1,100–\$2,300	Liberty, Remington Express-class; 60-min fire ratings, better locks
Premium/heavy	\$3,000+	Thicker steel, composite doors, real security ratings

Quick-access pistol safes (nightstand class)

BAND	PRICE	THE CLASS
Budget biometric	\$90–\$130	Onnais Iron SE ~\$90, Awesafe ~\$99, SentrySafe QAP1BE ~\$130 (CA DOJ)
Mid	\$160–\$230	Langger slider, Hornady RAPiD 2700, SnapSafe GlideVault ~\$230
Premium	\$250–\$300	Vaultek VS20i ~\$290, Fort Knox PB1 ~\$299 (mechanical, no batteries)

What "good deal" means for a safe

Free or flat-rate delivery and haul-away beat a 15% discount — white-glove delivery on a 500-lb safe costs \$200–\$400 otherwise. Also check the fire rating's *test standard*, not just minutes: UL-classified beats "fire resistant" marketing copy. For pistol safes, CA DOJ certification is a useful floor for build quality.

Compiled October 2026 from retailer catalog pricing (Sportsman's Guide, OpticsPlanet, manufacturer direct) and 2026 safe buyer's guides. Safe "list prices" are routinely 2x street — the discount % you're shown is noise.

CHAPTER 06 · PRICES VERIFIED OCTOBER 2026

Range gear

Hearing protection

ITEM	STREET	GOOD	NOTES
Walker's Razor Slim (electronic)	\$45–60	\$30–40	NRR 23; sale floor near \$25
Howard Leight Impact Sport	\$60–85	\$45–55	NRR 22, stereo mics, 350-hr battery
Walker's Razor Quad	\$75–100	\$55–65	MSRP \$120 almost never paid
3M Peltor Sport Tactical 500	\$180–220	\$150–170	Bluetooth; indoor-range pick
Foam plugs / double-up (SureFire EP3/EP7)	\$10–25	—	Always double up indoors

Magazines, cans & bags

ITEM	STREET	GOOD	NOTES
Magpul PMAG 30 (AR-15, Gen M3)	\$15–18	≤ \$13	\$15.95 direct from Magpul; 10-packs ≈ \$14/mag; ≤\$11 is stock-up
PMAG pistol mags (Glock/S&W)	\$14–20	≤ \$13	Model-dependent
50-cal ammo can (MTM polymer / steel)	\$20–30	\$13–18	Sportsman's Guide Club pricing shines here
Range bag (GPS/5.11/Savior class)	\$60–120	\$40–55	Black-Friday bundles are the real deals
Paper targets (bulk 100)	\$15–40	≤ \$0.15/target	Split a 500-count with a buddy
Steel targets (AR500, ⅜", 10")	\$60–120	\$40–55	Factor hanging hardware
Cleaning kits / solvent / lube	\$25–60	≤ \$20	Buy lube on sale; it keeps

Ear pro is the best \$50 upgrade in shooting

Electronic muffs amplify conversation and range commands, then clamp gunshots instantly. At \$30–55 the Walker's Razor Slim or Howard Leight Impact Sport are the highest-value purchases in this whole guide — and they go on sale constantly.

Compiled October 2026 from 2026 ear-pro roundups (GunUniversity, OutdoorLife, Recoil), Magpul direct pricing, and retailer club/coupon listings.

CHAPTER 07 · PRICES VERIFIED OCTOBER 2026

Knives & EDC

Knives have honest price tiers — steel and country of origin explain most of the spread. Buy the tier, not the logo.

Folders

TIER	PRICE	THE CLASS
Starter / beater	\$20–\$45	Opinel No. 8 (~\$23), Kershaw 8Cr13MoV-class
Value sweet spot	\$50–\$65	Civivi Elementum (D2, ~\$63) / Mini Elementum (14C28N, ~\$50)
Mid-tier (Japanese steel)	\$110–\$140	Spyderco Dragonfly 2 (~\$110), Delica 4 (~\$132), Para Military 2 (~\$130–145)
Premium USA	\$175–\$200	Benchmade Mini Bugout (S30V, ~\$175), Bugout 535 (~\$200), Spyderco Para 3 LW (~\$186)

Fixed blades & multitools

ITEM	STREET	GOOD	NOTES
Fixed blade (ESEE/Cold Steel class)	\$80–\$150	\$50–70	ESEE-3/4-class warranty is forever
Leatherman Skeletool	\$80–90	\$60–70	Light EDC multitool
Leatherman Wave+ / Charge	\$110–120	\$85–100	Sale cycles run 3–4×/yr (REI, Amazon)
Victorinox Classic SD	\$25–30	≤ \$18	The backup in the bag

Watch the steel, not the price drop

Under \$50 you're getting 8Cr13MoV/D2 — fine, just maintain it. \$50–65 buys 14C28N/D2 with real fit and finish. \$110+ buys VG-10/CTS BD1N; \$175+ buys CPM-S30V. A "\$60 off!" sticker on an unknown-brand \$90 knife with 9Cr steel is a fake discount: the honest competition is a \$63 Civivi.

Compiled October 2026 from manufacturer-direct pricing (Spyderco, Benchmade, Leatherman, Victorinox) and 2026 EDC guides. Know your local carry laws — blade length limits vary by state and city.

CHAPTER 08

Spotting fake discounts

2A retail runs on inflated list prices and permanent "sales." Eight red flags, in order of how often they'll cost you money:

- 1 The phantom MSRP.** "Save 29% — MSRP \$699!" when the item has sold for \$499 everywhere for two years. Always judge against the street band in this sheet, never the crossed-out number. (Real example, Oct 2026: Vortex Strike Eagle 1-8x FFP — \$699.99 "MSRP," \$499 at every authorized dealer.)
- 2 MAP-priced "deals."** Many manufacturers set minimum advertised price (MAP), so no authorized dealer can advertise lower — the "deal" is just MAP with a coupon code. MAP is a floor, not a discount. If every store shows the same price, hunt the code, not the store.
- 3 Per-unit math games.** Case prices quoted per-box, 500-rd "bricks" compared to 100-rd boxes, "as low as" pricing that requires a club membership, or a \$0.03/round win eaten by shipping. Compute the full unit cost — shipping included — before you judge.
- 4 Undisclosed refurb & grey market.** "Factory second" optics, imported no-warranty electronics, and serial-number-removed items sold at near-new prices. Grey market isn't always bad — but the discount must acknowledge what you lose: warranty and service. Undisclosed = walk away.

Continued on the next page →

CHAPTER 08 · CONTINUED

Spotting fake discounts (cont.)

- 5

Expired-coupon theater. Countdown timers, "only 2 left!" banners, and coupon codes that quietly re-apply after expiry. If a timer is real, the price history will show it — and price history is exactly what you check next.
- 6

Old-generation clearances sold as new deals. Fine if intentional: Gen 2 PMAGs, previous-gen Romeo5, pre-2023 safes. Not fine when priced like current-gen. Verify the generation in the SKU — and treat honest clearances of the prior gen as some of the best buys in the market.
- 7

Bundled junk. "Value bundle" adding a \$12 generic case and no-name lube to justify \$40 more. Price the item alone; bundles are only wins when every line is something you'd buy anyway.
- 8

Copycat brands. A \$90 "Holosun-style" dot from a brand with no service footprint is not a discounted Holosun — it's a different product. The price band tells you what the real item costs; the fake discount hopes you don't know it.

Price trackers & verification

TOOL	USE FOR
CamelCamelCamel / Keepa	Amazon price history — is today's "deal" below the 90-day low?
gun.deals / wikiarms	Cross-retailer price search for ammo, guns, mags — fastest street-price check
Retailer email alerts	Set a target price (from this sheet's bands) and let stock-watchers do the waiting
Manufacturer direct	Magpul, Sig, Leatherman, Victorinox — MSRP here is often the good price, with warranty included
Slickguns / deal aggregators	Community-vetted historical lows — calibrate your stock-up expectations

The 10-second test

Unit price after shipping → price history → generation/authenticity → warranty terms. If all four pass, it's a deal. That's the whole test — page 12 turns it into a printable checklist.

CHAPTER 09 · PRINT THIS PAGE

The deal-evaluation checklist

Run every purchase through this before clicking buy. If any line fails, the deal isn't one.

Price reality

- ☐ Checked against this sheet's **street band** — not the crossed-out MSRP.
- ☐ Unit price computed (**per round / per mag / per target**), shipping and transfer fees included.
- ☐ Price history checked (CamelCamelCamel/Keepa or cross-retailer search) — offer is at or below the band's "Good" line.

Authenticity & condition

- ☐ Generation/SKU verified — not a prior-gen unit priced like current (or it *is* prior-gen and priced like it).
- ☐ New vs. refurb vs. grey market is disclosed, and the discount reflects it.
- ☐ Seller is an authorized dealer or reputable — no serial-removed, no mystery-brand electronics.

Ownership costs

- ☐ Warranty terms read (Vortex VIP, Sig Infinite, Magpul, Benchmade LifeSharp, ESEE) — and I know who honors it.
- ☐ Accessories priced in: mount, batteries, dehumidifier, delivery/haul-away, FFL transfer fee.
- ☐ Return policy understood — restocking fees and final-sale ammo/serialized items noted.

Timing & discipline

- ☐ It's on my list — I'm buying the plan, not the adrenaline.
- ☐ Stacking checked: manufacturer rebate + retailer code + club pricing (where allowed).
- ☐ If ammo/mags: buying at **stock-up** band or better; otherwise waiting is the correct move.

The one-line version

"Below the good line, from someone who'll stand behind it, priced all-in, and on my list." Four checks — no deal survives a single 'no'.

CHAPTER 10 · FREE

The Rapid Fire Deals email

This entire sheet is the rubric. **Rapid Fire Deals** is the hunter that applies it for you — every morning, free.

What you get

- **Daily hand-picked deals** (06:00 ET) — five or fewer, not a firehose. If it didn't survive the price bands, it didn't make the cut.
- **Every deal scored against the rubric in this sheet** — real street-price bands, honest per-round math, no phantom MSRPs.
- **2A-adjacent, not just guns:** ammo, optics, safes, range gear, knives and EDC — the same categories as this guide.
- **Links you can act on** — direct to the retailer, with affiliate disclosure in every issue (commissions help keep the email free; costs you nothing).

How to sign up

- ☐ **Web:** visit workmanfirearms.com/deals and enter your email.
- ☐ **Confirm:** click the confirmation link (keeps the list clean and spam-free).
- ☐ **Calibrate:** your first issues arrive with deals pre-filtered through the bands in this sheet — watch how they score, and you'll internalize the rubric in a week.

Why free, and what we don't do

Rapid Fire Deals is run by Workman Firearms (2323 Pearl Rd, Medina, OH) as a service to the shooting community. We never sell your address, and every issue carries a one-click unsubscribe — MailerLite handles it, no hoops. Deal selection is filtered by published quality gates before anything is sent; if a day has no good deals, you simply hear less from us.

Pairing tip: keep the checklist on page 12 next to your inbox. When a RFD deal lands, it should pass all four lines in ten seconds — if you ever find one that doesn't, that's exactly the feedback that keeps the rubric honest.

SOURCES, METHOD & DISCLAIMER

About this edition

Method

Price bands were compiled in **October 2026** from live retailer listings and case pricing, ammo per-round price indexes, 2026 optics/ear-pro/EDC buyer's guides and manufacturer-direct pricing (Magpul, Sig Sauer, Vortex, Burris, Primary Arms, Spyderco, Benchmade, Leatherman, Victorinox, Hornady, Vaultek, Liberty/Union/Winchester-class safe catalogs). Bands reflect observed street offers, anchored to the median — not the lowest outlier. Prices drift; treat bands as calibration for judging deals, not as quotes.

Disclaimer

This guide is general information for consumers, not legal advice. Firearms, ammunition, magazines, and knives are regulated — know and follow all federal, state, and local laws before purchasing, and verify any item's legality where you live. Nothing here is an offer to sell; Workman Firearms and Range 42 are training and range facilities. Product names and prices are trademarks of their respective owners and were observed October 2026. Always confirm current pricing and stock with the retailer. Some links in Rapid Fire Deals are affiliate links; we may earn a commission at no additional cost to you, and every issue discloses this.

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