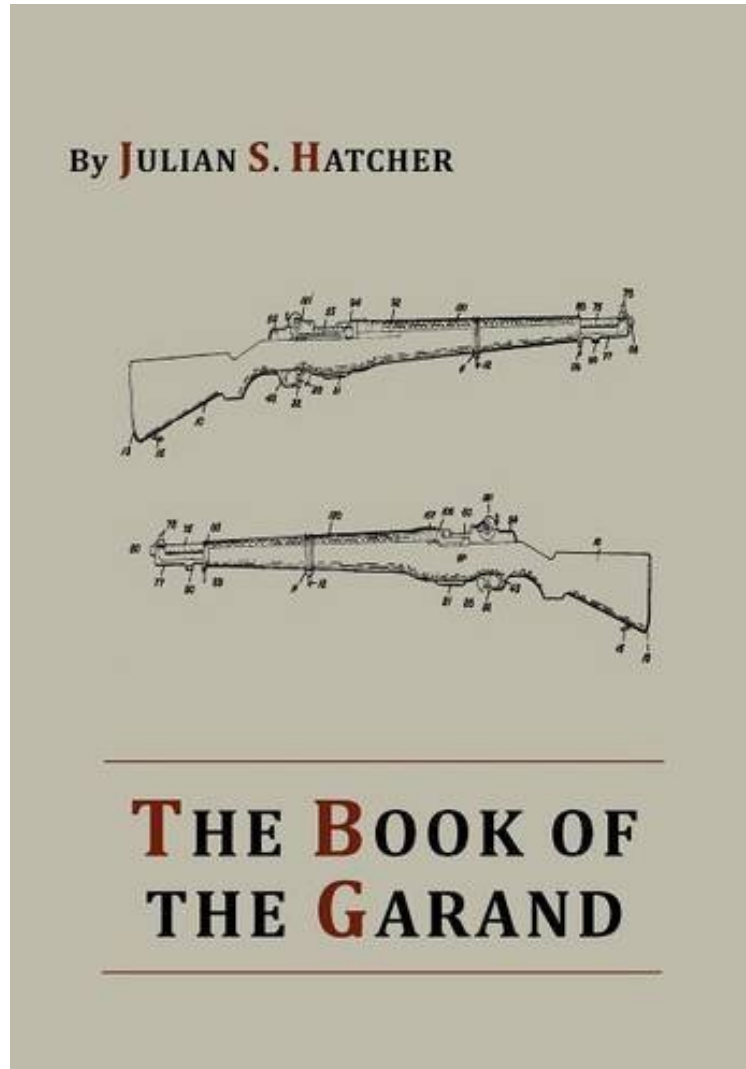


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Julian S. Hatcher

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[E-BOOK] The Book of the Garand

The Book of the Garand

Julian S. Hatcher : The Book of the Garand before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Book of the Garand:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. "The Book of the Garand," by Julian S. HatcherBy D. HarmonThis is a 2012 reprint of the original 1948 book by one of the developers, a retired Army Major General. It is interesting and divided into three parts: "History," "Operation" and "The Garand in Action." Page count is 293 and coverage is thorough. Reviewers often comment "must have" in describing this book for M1 owners. If you own a Garand, it probably is an essential if you are interested in the development and history of this fine weapon. Other books on the M1 Garand typically concentrate more on maintenance and fine technical points of operation. The version I bought from was a large-format paperback, with the paper covers of especially heavy, durable stock. At \$13.50 for a brand-

new reprint, the price was fair. The only disappointing thing about this book is that it is reprinted with the same ugly, hard-to-read typeface of the 1948 original and the same fuzzy, gray, unattractive photos. I am not a printer, but presume that the book was reprinted by some sort of process that photocopied the original 1948 book, and did a poor job. Some of the photos are so bad that they look like they were reproduced with a 1960's-era photocopier. The effect of this shoddy printing is that the book is hard to read as well as displeasing to the eye. If that is unimportant to you, you will enjoy reading the book and be pleased to have it as a good historical reference.

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A masterpiece of historical review

By H. Fox

Mr. Hatcher's *Book of the Garand* is not only a must-have for Garand owners and collectors, it's a must-have for anyone with an interest in learning the methods used by military forces to adopt a new weapon. Though gladly the anastheticized pigs have been replaced with ballistics gel, every test the M1 Garand endured, every adopted weapon today faced during testing. Mr. Hatcher was directly involved in the adoption process, so his insights are personal and professional observations, not made after the fact. His writing style is fluid and engaging, and he only quotes interesting reports, excising useless information, which really helps the flow. As the title suggests, this is a treasure trove of Garand information, such as "bugs" that were worked out in the design process, such as the vexing "7th round stoppage" and the interesting effects that small changes to parts geometry had on operation, which further cements Mr. Garand's status as a genius. His design contained such brilliant subtle details that any deviation from them had interesting (and detrimental) results, which when resolved resulted in what Patton dubbed "the greatest battle implement ever devised." The book also gives a fascinating look at actual battlefield reports on the M1 Garand. The Marines armed with Springfield rifles would trade, steal or ghoulishly acquire Garands from corpses due to its incredible advantages over the Springfield. Another great thing it covers is the weapons that were tested that didn't make the cut, including the Pedersen and Johnson rifles, as well as the Danish Bang rifle which inspired the original "gas-trap" M1 Garand that was adopted by the US military. The topic of the book is covered so completely and such great detail that I assure you, you will not be disappointed in adding it to your bookshelf. I highly recommend acquiring Mr. Julian Hatcher's other famous book, appropriately named "Hatcher's Notebook". The two books as a pair really are the foundation of a solid reference library.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great M-1 Garand Reference Book

By Loren E. Wilson

This is a very thorough book written after WWII by retired Gen. Julian S. Hatcher. The book goes into the background of development, various design changes during production and history of use during WWII. Great source of information about this famous battle rifle.

2012 Reprint of 1948 Edition. Exact facsimile of the original edition, not reproduced with Optical Recognition Software. Julian Sommerville Hatcher was a noted firearms expert and author of the early twentieth century. He is credited with several technical books and articles relating to military firearms, ballistics, and auto loading weapons. His premier works are "Hatcher's Notebook" and "Book of the Garand." He was also a pioneer in the forensic identification of firearms and their ammunition. Hatcher retired from the United States Army as a Major General. Afterward, he served as Technical Editor of the National Rifle Association's "American Rifleman" magazine. Hatcher's "Book of the Garand" is the definitive chronicle of the rifle General George S. Patton called "the greatest battle implement ever devised." Hatcher follows the evolution of the M1 Garand from the first semiautomatic hunting rifles to the devastating U.S. infantry weapon of WWII.