

# Bushnell Engage

REVIEWED BY ~ GREG DULEY

**Bushnell have a new range of rifles scopes targeted at the varmint hunter, precision hunter or lightweight tactical market**

Called the Engage, they are a range of 30mm tube side focus scopes ranging from a 2.5-10x44 up to a 6-24x50, none of which are overly large or heavy – even the biggest is only 23.7 ounces (672 grams). Ampro sent us the mid ranged 4-16x44mm model which we fitted to the new Ruger AR 556 also testfired this issue.



Reliable mechanics are the most important feature of any rifle scope in my opinion, optics come second. So let's have a look at the mechanical features of the new Engage scopes. Firstly, they have a resettable, lockable target turret – you pull it up to turn it, then push it back down to lock it. There is 63 MOA of total elevation available, 15 MOA per revolution, and 30 MOA numbered each way of total windage (much more than the info on Bushnell's website, which is certainly a good thing!) On the test jig, the adjustments tracked accurately and proved repeatable with no significant backlash or second focal

Reticle	Deploy MOA
Turret style	Tactical
Elevation travel MOA	63
Windage travel MOA	60
Travel per revolution	15 MOA
Parrallax (yds)	10 to infinite
Tube Size	30mm
Focus	Side
Eye relief	3.5"
Field of View	28'-7" @100yds
Weight	20.1oz/570gms
Length	14"
Series price range	\$349.99 - \$969.99
RRP	\$859.99

plane reticle shift when zooming. The adjustments are pretty much true MOA, with 4 clicks moving 1.04" at 100 yards. The new Deploy MOA reticle is also true MOA, with hash marks every 1 MOA, and larger hashes every 5 MOA on both the horizontal and vertical crosshairs. There is 20 MOA available each way on the horizontal crosshair, 5 MOA above the centre cross, and 30 MOA below. The reticle calibrated true MOA at maximum 16 power, which is where you'd want it for a scope of this magnification. Even with a level ring/base mounting system, you'll have 30 odd MOA up from the 100 yard zero and another 30 MOA in the reticle, so you've got 60 MOA of up which is plenty for anything you'd be likely to be using this scope for. The side focus seems pretty accurately calibrated, with the parallax



largely eliminated at the marked range graduations. The fact it focuses down inside 10 yards would make it an ideal air rifle scope for example.

Optics come next, and the Engage also scored well here, with a nice image across the field of view with good resolution and minimal residual aberration. The eye relief proved to be a constant 3.5 inches, which is a little less than the average. Conversely the Field of View is very good for this magnification range – this is one of the perennial compromises – the simple law with scope optics is you can't have a lot of both of them! The twilight performance was good, and flare from looking into a low angle light like the setting sun was well controlled.

As I said earlier, we mounted the Engage on the Ruger AR 556, and it certainly performed well under this high rate of fire situation, even though the recoil wasn't significant. Overall there was very little I could fault the Engage on, especially for the money. My one query was why did Bushnell not include a zero stop feature in what would seem to be a very good, entry level dial-up scope?



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