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## Best progressive reloading press for pistol

If your entry level single step transhipment pressure simply doesn't cut the mustard anymore, it may be time to look at upgrading to a progressive transhipment pressure. Progressive presses produce a completed batch of ammo every time the lever is pulled and can produce anywhere from 500 to several thousand rounds per hour! Progressive presses are much more expensive and more complicated than other types, but if you've spent enough time on a single step press to learn the basics and get the hang of things, you shouldn't have any trouble going over to a progressive press. While there are many brands and models of progressive presses available, this article will break down some of the more valuable features and key points to look for, as well as take a more in-depth look at some of the top progressive recharging presses in 2020. Short on time? Here is the Bulleted List\*\*Below are our more detailed reviews. Click on the links above to see current prices or read customer reviews on Amazon. What to look for in a progressive Press Quality of Materials Like all products, some progressive presses are just simply made cheaper than their more expensive counterparts. This may not always be a bad thing though, because not everyone really needs a press machined from a solid block of steel, and simple cast aluminum will do the same job at a much cheaper price point. Quality becomes much more complicated when it comes to comparing progressive presses however, as they contain a lot of tinier moving parts and are much more prone to interference, failure, and breakage. Also, if you've already decided to invest in a progressive press, odds are you already know you're going to drop a decent chunk of change. While the cost-to-quality ratio is something that each individual has to decide for themselves, when it comes to progressive presses, you are usually much better biting the ball and buying a quality pressure the first time. You will probably find that you will save yourself a lot of headaches along the way. Completed Round Production If you are considering a progressive reload press, then your completed round production is probably already at the top of your list of requirements. While progressive reloading presses are among the fastest producing presses on the market, they are not all created equal. Some progressive presses are much faster than others, and even the same brand of press can make several different models, each with different levels of production. One of the most important ways a progressive press can increase production is with an auto-indexing function. Similar to tower presses, some progressive presses require a manual indexation of the scale plate between each spin of the lever, while some index it automatically. Obviously, automatic indexing greatly increases your round production. However, with the increased round production Cons. This feature makes the press much more complicated and has more moving parts, all of which reduce reliability and make the press more prone to errors. While the decrease in reliability is very small, it is something to consider when looking at buying your press. Another thing that can change your outcome is how long it takes to change the calibers in your press. If you don't plan to buy a separate progressive reloading press for each caliber that you reload for, you will find yourself replacing the dies and tools at some point. Depending on the pressure, this can be a very exhausting and time-consuming task. If you think you will change caliber configurations on a regular basis, you may want to choose a model that makes this task much easier. Optional accessories Optional accessories are a big part of it that sells a certain amount of pressure over another, and each company has a myriad of products that can both make the transhipment process much easier, as well as increase your round output. In many cases, the optional accessories are what end up being the final sale of one press over another. Component feeders are a great accessory that will go a long way towards making your life much easier. Various manufacturers make component feeders for primers, cases, bullets and powders that will automate as much of the transhipment process as possible. Some models of component feeders will also orient the components for you so that all you have to do is fill up a hopper, and let the machine do the rest! If you are really into automation, some manufacturers are selling kits that will fully automate the reloading process for you! These machines typically have a speed adjustment that allows you to set how many rounds per hour it produces, and with the right equipment, some can produce several thousand rounds per hour! These machines are very expensive, but if you really want to produce a high volume of ready-made ammunition, then this can be a valuable feature for you. If you're looking to make wildcat rounds, or convert brass to another caliber, some manufacturers offer a case trimmer that will suit their press as well. This happens to be a very popular item for reloaders who want to convert .223 brass to .300blk brass. Although this accessory is noisy and expensive, it can be much easier than doing all the work yourself. These trimmers can also be handy when it comes to increasing the accuracy of your hand-laden cartridges. If you require the greatest possible accuracy of your reloads and require each case to be exactly the same length, this accessory can help automate your process and reduce your time spent on the task. Best Progressive Reloading Presses on the Market in 2020 Best Mid-Road Progressive Press: Hornady Lock N' Load The Hornady Lock N' Load Reloading Press is one of the simplest progressive presses that you can buy. Its auto indexing 5 station feature allows the job of reloading easily and efficiently. The EZject System of Hornady Lock N Load Auto-Progressive ensures that each cartridge is ejected when it is ready. Its large hopper can also accommodate many rounds so you don't have to empty it often, in sharp contrast to other models that hold fewer amounts of cartridges if any at all and slow down your working hours. The case activated powder drop will not release any powder unless there is a case on the holder to receive it. It also has a universal bullet case spring holder that keeps cases while in the process of reloading. This spring makes it easier for the reloader to remove a specific case even in intermediate steps. But what really makes the job easy on this Hornady Lock N Load Auto-Progressive, especially when it comes to changing your dies, is its Quick Change system. The Lock N Load bushing design makes it easier to change dies with just a slight twist. This is ideal if you have several calibers that you work with. There are other accessories that you can add to your Hornady Lock N Load Auto-Progressive Reloading Press that will make the job just smoother: an automatic powder measure, case feeder, and a priming system that is already included and works on both large and small primers. Read the full review here. Pros: Good mix of quality and affordabilityAutomatic indexingTalk change die system Cons: May be prone to jammingNot the cheapest option Learn more on Amazon Best Budget Progressive Press: Lee Loadmaster Progressive Press If you are looking for a good budget transhipment press that will not break the bank, then Lee Precision Loadmaster progressive press may be for you. This particular press contains many features available on the more expensive presses at a much cheaper price point. For example, this press contains everything you need to get started with charging .223 ammo and can be purchased in other configurations for different calibers. All dies are attached to a quick change tool head, which makes changing calibers much easier. You can also use this to load ACP cartridges. The press is made of cast aluminum, which makes it cheaper and lighter, but the average reloader may not even notice the quality difference. This particular press has some quality issues that are not as common on the more expensive presses. This pressure is more prone to interference and is slightly harder to clear when it happens. It has also caused some people problems with the priming process, but they are usually solved by starting the process of cleaned and swaged primer pockets. Another nice feature of this press is that it both automatically and manually index. This is a nice feature for when you get everything set up and ready to go. This allows you to walk and focus on each step set up properly, while still being able to switch to automatic indexing once you get started to really speed up the process. Lee Loadmaster also includes 5 stations, allowing you to perform up to 5 functions at once. While you may not find yourself needing all 5 stations all the time, it's nice to have that option when charging more labor-intensive cartridges such as magnum rifle loads. Pros: Low costHas good accessories and aftermarket supportKeep many features available on more expensive presses Cons: More prone to jammingProblem seating primersCast aluminum is not as durable as steel Learn more on Amazon Best Progressive Press With Manual Index: Dillon RL 550C Dillon Precision Progressive Press is an average machine; it is a 4 station transhipment press that works at all stages to produce finished cartridges in no time. The first station works in 3 ways. The first station sizes, deprimers, and primes your cases; the second station loads the powder, and the third station seats and crimps the bullets to complete the process. This special Dillon progressive press includes a large and small pickup tube for your primers, making it easier to load them into the primer system while also ensuring that the right side is always loaded. There is also a low primer alarm to signal if the tube is about to take on primers, something that many other progressive reloading presses don't have. A powder measure is also included to save time loading powderwhile making sure that the measurement is always consistent no matter which cartridge is reloaded. The Dillon Precision RL550C 4 Stage Progressive Reloading Machine sports a manual indexing feature, which means you have to reverse shell cases every time you shift to another stage, but since it works on different cases and dies at the same time, it won't stop you from producing 500 rounds per hour that you'll be able to produce with a progressive reloading pressure. A large catch container is also attached to the press to keep your loaded shells in one place. The Dillon Precision may not be the cheapest progressive reloader that you can find on the market, but the trade-off is that it is a very durable and versatile product that also offers a lifetime warranty with every print you buy. Read the full review here. Pros: High QualityBest Warranty in the IndustryMore easy to use Cons: PriceManual indexingOnly 4 stations Learn more on Amazon Best Progressive Press for Reloading Handgun Ammo: Dillon Square Deal B 9mm Just like the other progressive reloading pressure from Dillon Precision, Square Deal B 9mm Progressive Machine offers a lot of advantages. The Square Deal B is a powerful transhipment press that has 4 stations that do everything from sizing to collect the transhipped cartridges in a box. A particularly neat feature of the Precision 20104 Square Deal B is that it has auto indexing, eliminating the need to turn the plate every time you move to the next step. This package also contains almost all the things that you need to be able to start reloading, so the number of additional accessories that you need to buy is kept to a minimum. Each Dillon Precision transhipment press has a separate stage for pressing as this is one of the most important parts of transhipment. After pressing, the loaded brass will then be thrown directly into the collection box where you can collect them. Other parts included in Dillon Precision include the priming system that has the pickup tubes for both small and large primers, as well as the powder measurement with both small and large powder rods for more accurate measurements. Read our full Dillon reloading press review here. Pros: Already set up for loading 9mmAutomatic IndexingGreat for Gun Loads Cons: Learn more on Amazon Best Progressive Press For lots of ammo: Dillon 650XL .223 If producing as many loaded rounds as possible is the name of your game, and you're not afraid to release a serious piece of change, then you might want to look into the 650XL from Dillon. This is such a high quality press, in fact, that many professional reloaders who sell their remanufactured ammunition choose to use this particular press. The quality, warranty, and customer service you will get from Dillon is second to none, and there is a very good reason why they are considered the industry leader in transhipment equipment. As expected, this pressure has a lot of really nice features and the kind of aftermarket support you would expect on a pressure in this price range. Obviously it has quick change tool heads and automatic indexing. It also offers a wide range of accessories and component feeders to make boring jobs much easier. In fact, due to the high quality and reliability of this press, Dillon presses are the most popular choice to automate. While this process is expensive and time consuming to get set up, it is possible to kick your output up to several thousand rounds per hour! The main selling point for this press, however, is the potential round count you can produce with this pressure. Reaching speeds of 500 to 800 rounds per hour is easy to achieve with a little practice, and you can even get aftermarket accessories for this press that will increase your round count even higher! One thing is for sure, with the 650XL from Dillon, you will leave all your friends in the dust when it comes to round production. Pros: High qualityHigh round outputGood warranty Cons: Learn more on Amazon Best Progressive Reloading Press Final Thoughts Let's face it: if your basic single step or tower pressure just can't keep up with your trigger finger, you're going to have to switch to one press. If you want the best progressive press to fit needs, you will need to find one that has all the features that you want and is the perfect balance between quality and affordability. Although all the presses listed above will more than likely fit the bill, I think the Lock N Load from Hornady will give you everything you need, at a price that you can afford. Now that you have all the information you need, it's time to ramp up your ammunition production today! In addition, although you should have practice transhipment with a single step reloader be for you move on to a progressive press we highly recommend having some of the best reloading books so that you have reference material. Thank you for Reloadingpresso.com. If you like any of the equipment you see in this article, please click on one of the buy now buttons to make your purchase on Amazon. As an Amazon affiliate, we make a small commission of all purchases made from a click through from our website, which is how we are able to provide you with these informative articles. You won't pay more on Amazon by clicking through our website because the price is the same as if you go to Amazon directly. If you are looking for more than what you see here, please review our Best Transhipment Kit Buyers Guide and our other Press Buyer guides. Dan is an avid outdoorsman and shooter who developed a passion for firearms at an early age. When you can't find him in the field chasing birds or big play, you can find him at the range shooting various competitions such as 3-gun, IPSC, and IDPA. He also enjoys making his own ammunition, as well as both working on, and building his own firearms. Dan has many years of firearms experience, and enjoys helping people find the right gear and share his extensive firearms knowledge. report this ad ad

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