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Long-Range Tactical Riflescopes

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WHAT IS CONSIDERED A LONG-RANGE SHOOTING DISTANCE?

- Today, shooting **beyond 800 m** is considered long-range;
- 20 years ago, hitting a target 1 000 m away was considered an achievement but this is no longer the case – much has changed;
- 2000 m is a norm in competitive shooting;
- Competitions like **King of 2 Miles** are gaining in popularity;
- Schmidt & Bender 3–12x50 PM II was one of the first riflescopes designed for this purpose; soon, other manufacturers followed;
- With time, features such as an adjustable parallax and turn indicator were added.

GENERAL FEATURES OF LONG-RANGE TACTICAL RIFLESCOPES

- MIL/MIL or MOA/MOA – many professional shooters prefer the **MIL/MIL** version since it is much easier/natural to calculate the number of clicks;
- FFP reticle;
- Tube diameter of at least 34 mm;
- The maximum magnification is **at least 16x**;
- Tactical turrets;
- Most turrets are multi-turn (on premium riflescopes, double turn turrets are more common).

THE FEATURES OF TACTICAL TURRETS

- **0.1 MRAD** clicks (or **1/4 MOA**);

- Zero Stop;

- Locking function;

- Double-turn or multi-turn (a single turn doesn't provide enough elevation range);

- **Turn indicator**, there are three types:

- A nonmechanical turn indicator in the form of lines underneath the turret;
- A mechanical, intangible turn indicator;
- A mechanical, tangible turn indicator.

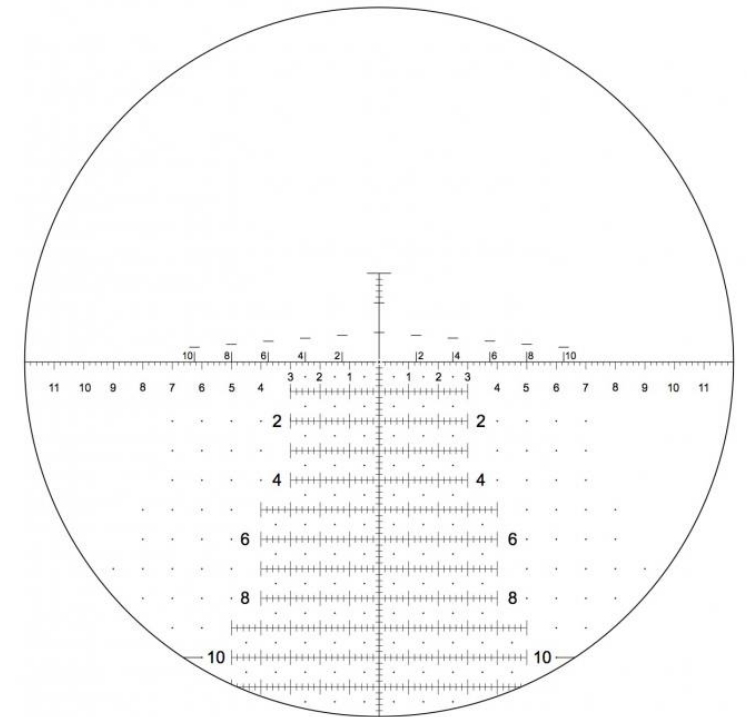
- Some S & B and Premier reticles riflescopes come with an **MTC** (More Tactile Clicks) feature.



A tactical turret on a Zero Compromise Optic 5-27x56 riflescope

TACTICAL RETICLES FOR LONG-RANGE SHOOTING

- FFP reticle;
- Christmas tree shapes are common;
- Illumination is a nice feature to have;
- The reticle is matched with the turret clicks (**MIL/MIL** or **MOA/MOA**);
- The **ability to track well** is one of the key features.



Horus H591 (Burris Optics)

TUBE DIAMETER AND MOUNTING OF LONG-RANGE TACTICAL RIFLESCOPES

- A **big elevation range**;
- Tube diameter of **at least 34 mm**, exceptions:
 - 35 mm – Leupold, Vortex, IOR;
 - 36 mm – Hensoldt, ZCO;
 - 40 mm – IOR, Sightron;
- A high-quality **aluminium monoblock** mount is the most popular option;
- Having an inclined mount (20–40 MOA) can greatly aid in long-range shooting;
- Spuhr, ERA-TAC, Tier-One – the most renowned manufacturers of such mounts.

IMPORTANCE OF OPTICAL QUALITY IN LONG-RANGE TACTICAL RIFLESCOPES

- Optical quality plays a **major role** since most shots are made when the magnification is set to high power;
- **Field of view** is also important;
- **Low-light performance** shouldn't be overlooked (the shooting can be prolonged into the evening).



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Kahles K624i 6-24x56

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EXTENDED-RANGE RIFLESCOPES

- March Genesis – a riflescope with a huge amount of elevation but not a typical tactical riflescope;
- Pairing the riflescope with **Charlie Tarac** or **Nightforce Wedge Prism**.



Nightforce Wedge Prism

BEST LONG-RANGE TACTICAL RIFLESCOPES

Produced in the US, Europe, and Japan.

- [Hensoldt](#);
- [ZCO \(Zero Compromise Optic\)](#);
- [Leupold](#);
- [Schmidt & Bender](#);
- [Kahles](#);
- [Steiner](#);
- [Nightforce](#);
- [Vortex](#);
- [US Optics](#).



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