

OPTICS TRADE

Straight Spotting Scopes

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STRAIGHT SPOTTING SCOPES FOR HUNTING

- The preferred choice among hunters who hunt in the **flatlands** and on the **field**
- Not the best choice for hunting in the **mountains**
- Not generally used with a tripod



STRAIGHT SPOTTING SCOPES FOR BIRDWATCHING

Birdwatching

Activity that involves a more extensive group of people participating at the same time

- Great choice for **one-person** use
- Generally done with a **tripod**
- Not the best choice for birdwatching in a **group** → much harder to adjust the tripod to the right height

STRAIGHT SPOTTING SCOPES FOR DIGISCOPING

- **Phone** or a **camera** connects with a spotting scope

Straight spotting scopes vs. Angled spotting scopes

- Straight spotting scopes are much **easier** to **use** when digiscoping
 - **Supporting rails** installed to straight spotting scope are more significant and bulkier
 - No difference in the **quality** of the **material** between angled and straight spotting scopes
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- Used in birdwatching, landscape photography, sports photography



FOCUSING MECHANISM ON STRAIGHT SPOTTING SCOPES

Most of the angled spotting scopes have **one** rotating knob for focusing
→ located on the top of the body



More expensive models have a **two-piece** focusing knob:

- first part is for fast and rough settings;
- the second part is for finer adjustments.



- Some spotting scopes have focusing ring **around the entire body**
- Example: [Swarovski Spotting Scopes](#)



WATERPROOFNESS OF STRAIGHT SPOTTING SCOPES

- Most spotting scopes are waterproof and filled with either **nitrogen** or **argon**
- The only weakness is the **bayonet mount** (part of the most premium angled spotting scopes)
- More affordable spotting scopes have fixed eyepiece → better protection against water intrusion
- **No permanent damage** if the water comes in the middle space (it can be **dried**)
- **The problem:** removing eyepiece while exposed to **rain** (unclear images)
- **Recommendation:** fixing the eyepiece somewhere in a **dry** space

RED DOT SIGHTS ON STRAIGHT SPOTTING SCOPES

- One or more small Picatinny rails are used as a platform for mounting a **red dot sight** on the spotting scope
- Straight spotting scopes are better at **locating** the target → not such common use with a red dot sight



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