

Scope Specs Table

For 5-30x

Bottom Magni. = 5x or lower

Top Magni. = 30x or higher

with 10y-Side Parallax

Exposed Turrets

Holdoff Reticle

Under \$500

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Requirements for this Table (a few exceptions are included)

Bottom magnification = 5x or lower

Top magnification = 30x or higher

Minimum Parallax = 10 yards or less

Side Parallax Adjustment

Turrets = Exposed

Reticle = Holdoff reticle (evenly spaced hash lines or dots for aiming with holdoff/ holdover)

Price = under around \$500

Abbreviations in the Table

Green is a good thing... – e.g.: a very good warranty, a shorter size or lighter weight than average for this magnification range, a larger than average elevation adjustment range, a very wide field of view (FoV), or some additional feature (bubble level, zero stop, turret turn counter, numbers on the hash lines of the reticle), etc.

Red is less of a good thing... – e.g.: a not so great warranty, a longer size or heavier weight than average, a smaller than average elevation adjustment range, a very narrow field of view (FoV), or some other negative or limiting feature, like: a small exit pupil (reducing the eye box), a min. parallax longer than 10y, a reticle without illumination, capped turrets, an FFP reticle without thick outside posts, or a price higher than the max. price that was set for this scope table), etc.

Orange is a caution flag, a marginal feature or characteristic... – e.g.: warranty limitations, a marginal FoV, a smaller objective diameter for (supposedly) less light than average for the magnification range, an uneven number of mils or moas per turret turn (not multiples of 5mil or 10moa), a 34mm tube (somewhat limiting scope mount choices), a price so low as to shed doubt on the quality of the scope, etc.

SFP vs. **FFP** = table starts with **SFP** (*second focal plane*) scopes, then *first focal plane* (**FFP**)

Thick O/S Posts [for **FFP**] = thick black outside posts, i.e., 3 or 4 of the crosshairs are thick toward the outside (the posts are not hollow rectangles, but filled in with black), which allows seeing the crosshairs easily even when at low magnification

10x [or 16x, or another number] [for **SFP**] = the magnification at which the holdoff hash lines or dots have been calibrated, i.e., where 1 moa indicated on the reticle actually is 1.047" in reality at 100 yards

Price \$ Low = lowest prices in US dollars I found in 2019 (some 2020) [additional price separated by a *comma* , – and separated by a *semicolon* ; from the manufacturer's price]

Price Mfctr.'s = manufacturer's price [last price in that field, after the semicolon ;]

No. = the manufacturer's product or parts number; helpful to identify the scope at a seller's page as some scopes are very similar and the seller's description is either misleading or insufficient to identify the scope with certainty; also for shopping for the lowest price it helps to enter the number in the search

Discont. = product has been discontinued (but still could be purchased used)

Warranty Info: **Life** = life time warranty | **5y** = 5 years warranty | **OOwn** = warranty only for the original owner | **Unlmt** = unlimited warranty | **Anyb.** = warranty applies to any owner, anybody (e.g., even if you bought it used) | **NoRec.** = no receipt (proof of purchase) required | **Rec.** [*or: R.*] = receipt (proof of purchase) required

FoV = Field of View (in ft at 100y): A large FoV at the bottom end of the magnification range is important for *hurried close range shooting*, as the large FoV helps rapid target acquisition. Note that a wide FoV is not critical for *unhurried target shooting*. The color coding is based on my very personal, unabashedly subjective estimation that *for my kind of hurried close range shooting* I'd like to have a FoV of at least 3ft at 10y (which translates to 30ft @100y in the scope specs, color coded black). The color coding is applied irrespective of the scope's magnification, so naturally 6-24x scopes for example don't usually get a green rating, but orange or red. Note however that there are significant differences in FoV between scopes with the same magnification range.

42ft or more | **41-36ft** | 35-30ft | **29-23ft** | **22-17ft** | **16ft or less**

IR = illuminated reticle [Y = yes | **NO**]

Reticle, Ret.: **D** = "dots" = enough dots or hash lines on the crosshairs for holdoffs

N = "numbers" = the dots or hash lines are numbered for quicker holdoffs

Grid = the reticle is a grid style ("Christmas tree style"), for simultaneous elevation *and* windage holdoffs

BDC = bullet drop compensating reticle, meaning that the spacing between the hash lines is uneven and therefore not usable for holdoffs unless shooting the ammo the reticle was calibrated for

Capped Turrets! **BUT Clickable** = means that though the turrets are capped, when uncapped they are finger adjustable, the numbers are visible from behind the rifle, and the zero can be reset

in 2019	Price \$.	War-ranty	Spring-ger-Rated	Magni- fication	FoV = Field of View @ 100y (ft)	Obj. Dia (mm)	Exit Pupil (mm)	IR N	Max. Elev. (MOA)	1 Click =	1 T. Turn =	Turrets in:	Reticle in:	Holdoff Reticle	Dimensions	Misc. + Reviewers' "Comments"
Brand: Series	Part No.	Low; Mfctr.'s														
SFP Scopes																
Vector: Atlas No. SCOL-04	399; ?	5y, Rec.		5-30x	25-4	56	11-1.9	Y	80	1/8 moa	15 moa	MOA ≠	≠MIL	SFP	D, N	? 35 35.3 14.8" 1000g 38c
MTC: Viper Pro Tactical	520; ?	Life ^{30d} R. 0.Own		5-30x	24-4	50		Y	42	1/4 moa	10 moa	MOA ≠	≠MIL	SFP	D	? 30 25.8 16.4" 732g 42c not customizable
MTC: Viper Pro	570; ?	Life ^{30d} R. 0.Own		5-30x	24-4	50		Y	42	1/4 moa	30 moa	MOA ≠	≠MIL	SFP	D	? 30 30.7 16.4" 869g 42c Customizbl. Turrets Magnifier Cap
Nikko: C-More X10 Discont. No. NSCM33056	507; ?	Life, 0.Own		3-30x	31-3	56		Y	50	1/8 moa		MOA ≠	≠MIL	SFP	D	? 30 34.2 15.3" 970g 39c
FFP Scopes																
Vector: Taurus No. SCFF-14	?; 449	Life, NoRec.		5-30x	20-3	56	11-1.8	Y	40	0.1 mil	6 mil	MIL =	=MIL	FFP ¹⁴ No Thick Posts	D, N	? 30 28.7 15.6" 813g 40c Parallax 17y (20y stated)
Discovery: HD/34mm: 5-30x56 SFIR No. 170114	?; 392	3y		5-30x	23-3	56	11-1.9	Y	70 (or 50?)	0.1 mil	6 mil	MIL =	=MIL	FFP ³ No Thick Posts	D, N, Grid	? 34 31.8 15.6" 903g 40c Parallax is 10y. Locking Turrets
Swampfox (US): Kentucky Long	467; 599	Life (50000 rounds)		5-30x	20-4	56	9-1.7	Y	80	0.1mi 1/4mo	6 mi 15mo	MIL = or MOA =	=MIL or =MOA	FFP ²² Thick O/S Posts	D, N, Grid	? 30 31.8 15.5" 902g 39c Parallax 15y Locking Turrets
Hi-Lux (US): Phenom 5-30x56 FFP	507; 599	Life, Rec.	No	5-30x	22-4	56	10-1.2	Y	90	0.1 mil	12 mil	MIL =	=MIL	FFP Thick O/S Posts	D, N, Grid	.05 ^{mi} .17 ^{mo} 34 32.0 14.7" 907g 37c Locking Turrets
Falcon (UK): S30 No. S3001 *S/H incl. from Cyprus	377*, 423; -	10y, 0.Own		5-30x	24-5	56	11-1.9 capped	N	57	0.1 mil	10 mil	MIL =	=MIL	FFP Thick O/S Posts	D, N	.04 ^{mi} .14 ^{mo} 30 32.5 15.8" 920g 40c T Turn Counter
Vector: Continental 34mm No. SCFF-30	?; 900	Life, NoRec.		5-30x	25-4	56	8-1.8	Y	86	0.1 mil	10 mil	MIL =	=MIL	FFP Thick O/S Posts	D, N, Grid	? 34 28.6 15.4" 810g 39c Zero Stop Locking Turrets
in 2019	Price \$.	War-ranty	Spring-ger-Rated	Magni- fication	FoV = Field of View @ 100y (ft)	Obj. Dia (mm)	Exit Pupil (mm)	IR N	Max. Elev. (MOA)	1 Click =	1 T. Turn =	Turrets in:	Reticle in:	Holdoff Reticle	Dimensions	Misc. + Reviewers' "Comments"
Brand: Series	Part No.	Low; Mfctr.'s														
SFP Scopes																
FFP Scopes																

Footnotes: Links for Views/ Videos of FFP Reticles at Different Magnifications

Note on more detailed reticle diagrams:

- Athlon: Each scope on their homepage includes detailed diagrams: <https://athlonoptics.com>
- Discovery: many scopes reticles are listed here: <https://discoveryoptics.co.uk/reticles/>

² Vector: Taurus: 5-30x56 FFP: Reticle at all magnifications: @ 10:04min:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xV6m6OUR33c>

³ Discovery: HD/34mm: 5-30x56 FFP: Illuminated Reticle at all magnifications, but no non-illuminated view: @ 1:23min:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=31y22fzGb1M>

¹⁴ Vector: Taurus: 5-30x56 FFP: Reticle at all magnifications: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQ82hBoSwdw>

²² Swampfox Kentucky Long 5-30x56 FFP: MOA Reticle: Reticle at all magnification: @ 3:16min:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=riYsEFSXYyw>