



Spartan Firearms Training Group, LLC

Tip of the Week—December 15, 2025 Combat Accuracy Beats Perfect Accuracy

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When you're carrying a firearm for personal protection, the goal is not tight groups or paper targets. The goal is to stop a violent threat as fast as possible under real-world conditions. That's where combat accuracy comes in.

A combat-accurate hit is any shot that lands in a vital area that significantly stops the attacker's ability to continue the fight—even when you're moving, stressed, and far from perfect.

WHAT COMBAT ACCURACY IS...

- Hitting vital zones, not bullseyes
- Shooting fast enough to matter, not slow enough to look good (we sometimes see the "slow enough" in our live-fire range training)
- Making hits while under pressure, not relaxed at your favorite gun range
- Accepting that your sights, stance, and grip may be imperfect—and shooting anyway (using a flash sight picture)

In a real encounter, your heart rate spikes, your hands shake, and your fine motor skills degrade. Combat accuracy recognizes reality and trains for it. (We have a unit of instruction in our wear and carry course about how stress affects people).

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WHAT COMBAT ACCURACY IS NOT

- Shooting one-hole groups at 15 yards
- Waiting for a “perfect” sight picture
- Freezing because the shot doesn’t feel ideal
- Training only in calm, controlled conditions

Those skills have value—but they don’t carry the fight by themselves.

WHERE COMBAT-ACCURATE HITS COUNT MOST

Focus your training on:

- High-center chest (heart, lungs, major blood vessels)
- Central Nervous System (head shots) when necessary (you really need to train a lot to make these low probability hits. The high-center chest is your primary target).
- Pelvic girdle as a mobility-stopping option. (A hit here will drop the assailants to the ground, but be warned, they can still shoot you.)

These zones are large enough to hit under stress and important enough to matter.

A SIMPLE COMBAT ACCURACY STANDARD

Ask yourself this:

Can I draw from concealment and put every round into an 8-inch vital zone, at realistic distances, fast enough to stop the threat?

If the answer is yes, you’re building defensive skill, not just range skill.

A common benchmark:

- 3–10 yards
 - 8-inch vital zone
 - 1.5 to 3 seconds from concealment
 - All hits count
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How to Train This Week

- Stop chasing tiny groups—start chasing reliable hits
- Add movement (even a single step matters)
- Work from concealment, not low-ready (many ranges don't allow drawing from the holster. The Guntry Club does, but you must complete their draw-from-the-holster training. An alternative is to use dry practice--unloaded gun, no ammo in the room.)
- Train with a timer to introduce urgency
- Accept “good enough” sight pictures and press the trigger cleanly (as General George Patton once said (paraphrased) a good enough decision right now is better than a perfect decision later).

You're teaching your brain and body what acceptable looks like under pressure.

BOTTOM LINE

In a fight, no one cares how tight your group is. They care whether your hits ended the threat. Train for combat-accurate hits, and you'll be preparing for the world as it is—not the range as you wish it were.

We teach our wear and carry students this principle: Train the way you fight (that is, shooting while moving, drawing from concealment, shooting under stress); don't fight the way you train (that is, standing still with a perfect stance, perfect sight alignment, perfect grip, perfect trigger press while shooting at paper targets that don't shoot back).