

Crossbow Report

By Jace Bauserman

Parker Concorde

The past 14 years have been some of the most innovative and exciting in Parker Compound Bows' distinguished history. During this time span Parker has released more than 40 novel products, several of which were crossbows.

In 2002, Parker took a keen interest in the ever-expanding crossbow world. And being a company that pays attention to the wishes and demands of the consumer, it launched a new line of high-performance crossbows. Currently, Parker sits near the top in crossbow sales, and its lineup of balanced, technology-driven crossbows is favored by many.

In 2010, Parker hit the crossbow industry with a jolt. The release of the Enforcer 160 delighted crossbow enthusiasts. This compact, lightweight crossbow boasted plenty of power and accuracy. Its airy stock and balanced, vented forearm provided hunters with an ideal form-fit that was awfully tough to ignore. The Enforcer 160 handled well in the depths of the backcountry and out of towering

importantly, it gives hunters with physical ailments an opportunity to take to the woods. The heartwarming stories from disabled hunters have poured into Parker at an astonishing rate. One in particular really captured my attention. It was the story of a young man who had several physical issues, but after just a few bolts from the Concorde, he told his father that he could now take to the woods alone. That's awesome! This amazing innovation has given numerous hunters a chance to get back in the field, and that's something we should all tip our hats to.

Parker's groundbreaking Quick Draw System makes loading and unloading the crossbow incredibly simple. The Quick Draw System features a CO₂-powered internal cocking mechanism. Just pushing the cocking button that is recessed into the rear of the butt stock easily activates the crossbow's flawless operating system. The instant the button is pushed, the Concorde automatically draws the string into the fully cocked position. No pulling. No tugging. Just push the button. Better yet, it accomplishes this feat in about two seconds. Plus, it draws with a smooth stealth that even the savviest buck in the woods won't detect. Could it get any easier?

Un-cocking the crossbow is equally as simple. Remove the arrow from the barrel and make sure the safety lever is down with the green dot exposed. Then press and hold the cocking button while moving the safety to the fire position. Now pull in the trigger and release the cocking button.

How It Shoots

Being that cocking this crossbow is such a snap, it didn't take me long to start flinging bolts at my targets. To properly cock the Concorde, make sure the bow is in a vertical position with the butt of the stock facing skyward. If you try to cock the crossbow in a horizontal or angled position, you run the risk of allowing liquid CO₂ to leak out and freeze the internal mechanisms. You manually move the carrier handle all the way forward so the string carrier is in front of the string. Then—you guessed it—just

push the button. The 175-pound limbs sweep back with a smooth, controlled ease. Releasing the cocking button allows the CO₂ to bleed off, which produces only the barest whisper of noise. The carrier handle will automatically move into the ready position, and the safety lever will instantly move to the safe position.

To effectively load the bolt, make sure the odd-color fletch is at six-o'clock and placed down in the flight groove. Next, be sure the capture nock is in line with the

string and slide the bolt back into the trigger assembly, making full engagement with the string. This will ensure a perfect shot sequence every time the crossbow is fired.

Now it's just a matter of shooting, and shooting I did. In fact, I was having so much fun I managed to drain both of my CO₂ bottles. Throughout my shooting escapades I obtained exactly 80 shots in all. Now all I had to do was drive to my local paintball store and get my tanks filled. The great thing about the Concorde is the fact that the CO₂ tanks are identical to those used by popular paint guns, making them easy to get filled.

One of the many positive things that struck me about the Concorde was its overall balance. Many pieces of the crossbow aid in this area. The stock and pistol grip ensured a consistent and comfortable feel, while the forearm created a steady platform. And what can I say about the legendary G2 Trigger? It's simply fantastic. It pulls with a controlled ease, which really boosted my downrange accuracy.

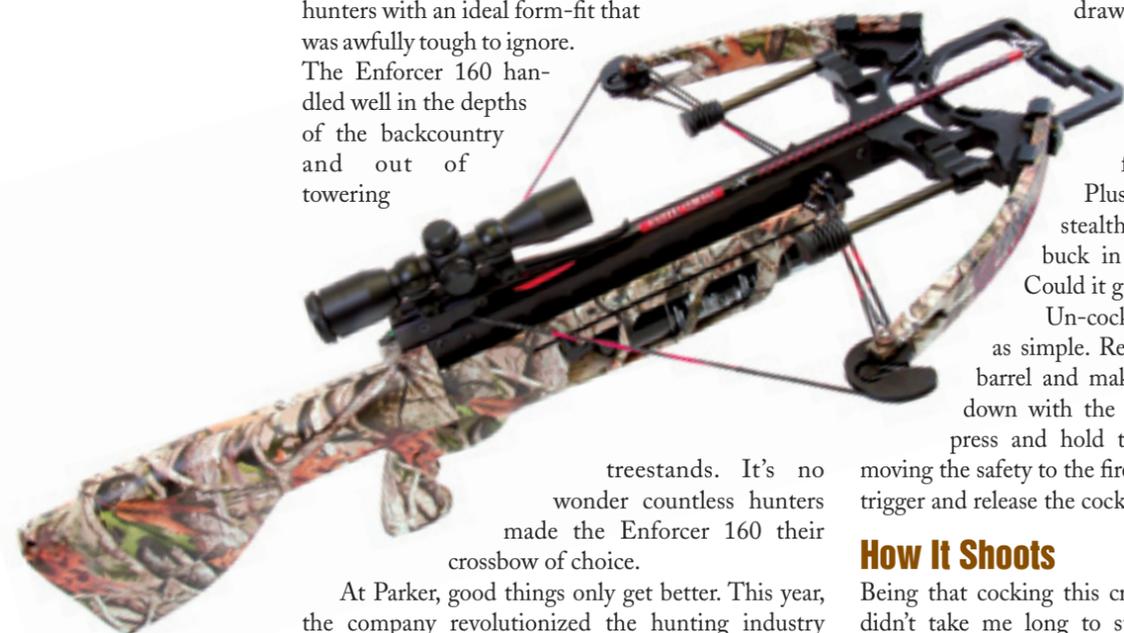
Most impressive to me was how quiet and shock-free the Parker Concorde was at the shot. Generally, most crossbows produce small recoil, which is often accompanied by noise and hand-shock. The Concorde didn't. At the shot the Concorde made minimal noise, and the vibration was virtually nonexistent. This is due in great part to the Dual String Suppressors that extend from the bow's riser to catch the speeding bowstring. The smooth shot made for hours of relaxed, enjoyable shooting.



Parker has truly revolutionized the ease of cocking a crossbow. Its easy-to-use cocking button can be found at the butt-end of the stock. A simple push of the button triggers the crossbow's Quick Draw System.

During my field-testing I fired the Parker Concorde from a variety of different shooting positions, and due to its compact design, it performed flawlessly. Accuracy with the Concorde can be achieved with or without a shooting rest. I fired the Concorde off-hand, balanced on my knee while in a sitting position and prone. The results spoke for themselves—downrange accuracy that hunters are going to love. This crossbow's compact design and balanced shooting platform make it an optimal choice for any crossbow fanatic.

Although the Red Hot/Hawke Illuminated Multi-Reticle Scope produced pinpoint accuracy out to 60 yards, my



treestands. It's no wonder countless hunters made the Enforcer 160 their crossbow of choice.

At Parker, good things only get better. This year, the company revolutionized the hunting industry with the introduction of the Parker Concorde. The Concorde boasts a patented, industry-first Quick Draw System. Crossbow fanatics are going to go absolutely bonkers over this feature. I know I did. With the Concorde all you need to remember is just one simple phrase: "Push the button."

The ease of use this crossbow provides is phenomenal. It's a perfect choice for any hunter, but more

Parker Concorde

Quick Notes

STOCK ERGONOMICS - Pistol grip and airy forearm are balanced and inviting.

EASE OF COCKING - Just push the cocking button. It doesn't get much simpler.

SAFETY - Easy to reach and clearly identified red and green marks. Also incorporated is the carrier handle, which must be set in the ready position.

TRIGGER PULL - Virtually no creep with about 4 pounds of pull.

SIGHTING SYSTEM - Red Hot/Hawke Illuminated Multi-Reticle Scope provides spot-on accuracy and unparalleled brightness.

SHOT NOISE/VIBRATION - Dual String Suppressors hush noise, and vibration is minimal.

ACCURACY - Dead-on. This bow is a real killer.

Arrow Speed

20-Inch Test Arrow - Parker Carbon Arrow

Arrow Weight - 413 grains

Kinetic Energy - 81.5 ft. lbs.

Arrow Speed - 298 fps

Specifications

Axle-to-Axle Width	18.75 inches
Stock Length	34.5 inches
Power Stroke	9.6 inches
Draw Weight	175 pounds
Finish	Next "Vista" with Soft Touch finish

For more information, log onto parkerbows.com or call Parker Bows at (540) 337-5426.



These two beauties extend off the bow's riser to catch the speeding string. Together this duo crushes noise and vibration.

Crossbow Report • Parker Concorde

Continued

favorite feature was its illumination capability. I tested this scope over and over again in low-light conditions. Turning the light turret forward provided five green brightness settings while turning it backwards provided five red brightness settings. Regardless of the light conditions, I was able to acquire my target and make kill shots at extended distances. This is a feature hunters are going to love.

Key Features and Benefits

Quick Draw System • The Quick Draw System is quick, efficient and very reliable. Using a 9-ounce CO₂ bottle, hunters can expect to get between 40 and 50 cocks and un-cocks in temperatures ranging between 60 and 70 degrees. When the temperature plummets, you can expect about 20 cocks and un-cocks.

Composite Stock and Pistol Grip • The Composite Stock on the Concorde is both light and comfortable, and the pistol grip is balanced. This stock also sports an aggressive comb height, which creates an ideal sight picture.

Parker G2 Trigger • This technologically enhanced trigger is the core of the Parker Concorde Crossbow. It pulls with ease and delivers



Accuracy and amazing target acquisition are two features the Red Hot/Hawke Illuminated Multi-Reticle Scope provides. It's also compact to minimize weight and add to the crossbow's overall condensed package.

a noticeable no-trigger-travel shot. The trigger system is also safe and very tough.

Trigger Safety • The trigger safety sports two elements to better minimize any accidents. First is the safety lever. When the safety lever is pushed down, a green dot becomes visible to show that the trigger is blocked and incapable of firing. When moved up, a red dot is exposed to show the trigger is now active. The second safety feature is the carrier handle. This handle must be in the ready position, which is clearly marked by a red triangle that reads "Ready." At Parker, safety comes first.

Anti-Dry-Fire Restraint • This feature is incorporated into the string carrier and Quick Draw System. Should you accidentally discharge the crossbow without an arrow in place, the string carrier will catch the speeding string and the Quick Draw System will let it down with much less force. Dry-firing should be avoided at all costs, as it can still damage the crossbow and in some instances void the lifetime warranty.

Dual String Suppressors • Noise irritates me. The Dual String Suppressors on the Parker Concorde work in unison to virtually eliminate any noticeable ruckus created after the arrow is released. The dead-in-hand feel and lack of noise make the Parker Concorde a perfect hunting companion.

Red Hot/Hawke Illuminated Multi-Reticle Scope • Not only is this high-tech scope a breeze to sight-in, it's also very bright. The Red Hot Light Adjustment on the left-hand side of the scope quickly illuminates the circular dots inside the scope. A forward turn colors them green while a backward turn makes them glow red.

Get a Package • Most crossbow companies offer accessory packages at the time of purchase. I highly recommend them. Spending a few extra dollars means you'll get a crossbow that is ready for the field. Parker's most coveted package is the Perfect Storm. This package is both economical and high-tech. It includes the Concorde Crossbow, Illuminated Multi-Reticle Scope, six Red Hot Velocity Arrows, one Red Hot Roller Rope Cocker, six Red Hot Crosspro 100 Broadheads, six 100-grain match-weight field points, one Red Hot Crossbow Sling, one Red Hot Wax and Lube Kit and one Red Hot Soft Crossbow Case. That's a pile of great gear available at a great price.

A Few Things to Remember • Be sure to use only Red Hot or Parker Hunter Arrows in Parker Crossbows. The arrows should also be equipped with Moon Nocks or Capture Nocks. The use of other arrows and nocks can hinder the performance of your Parker Concorde and void your warranty. 🏹



The carrier handle ensures safety, as it must be in the ready position to fire. This unique mechanism also works in unison with the string carrier when the Quick Draw System is activated.



A 9-ounce CO₂ tank screws easily into the bow's stock through the crossbow's open forearm. Depending upon temperature, a tank of CO₂ provides between 40 and 50 cocks/un-cocks.

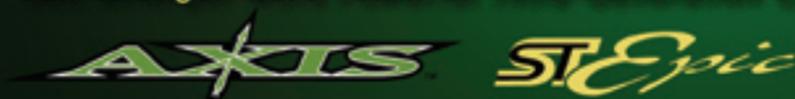
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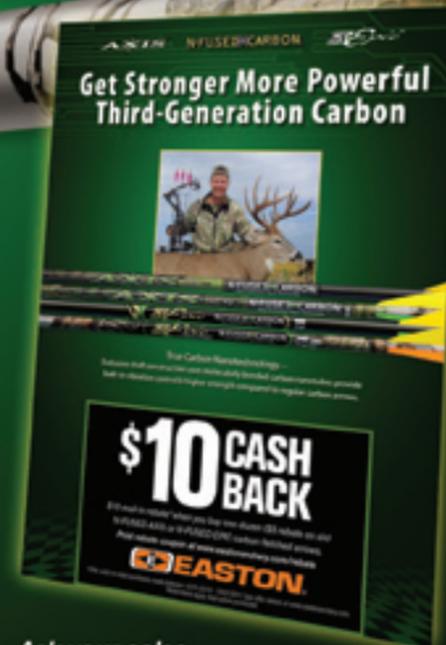
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