

MG42 - Maschinengewehr 42

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MG-42 (Maschinengewehr 42) - The MG42 (shortened from German: Maschinengewehr 42, or "Machine Rifle 42") was a machine gun that was developed for and entered service with Nazi Germany in 1942, during World War II. The 7.92 mm rifle caliber weapon was developed from, and was intended to supplant the MG34 machine gun, though both would continue to be used and manufactured until the end of that war.

Hitler's Germany entered the World War 2 with the MG-34 as a major multipurpose machine gun, but it soon was discovered that MG-34 was less than suitable for high volume wartime production, being too time and resource consuming in manufacture and also somewhat sensitive to fouling and mud. The search for newer, better universal machine gun began in 1939, and in 1942 the final design, developed by the German company Metall und Lackierwarenfabrik Johannes Grossfuss AG, was adopted as a MG-42.

Machine gun - Nazi Germany In service 1942-1959 Designed 1942 Produced 1942-1945 Number built 400,000 Weight 11.57 kg (25.5 lb) Length 1,220 mm (48 in.) Cartridge 7.92 x 57 mm Mauser (8 mm Mauser)
Action Recoil-operated, roller-locked bolt Rate of fire 1200 rounds/min Muzzle velocity 755 m/s (2,475 ft/s)
Effective range 1,000 m (1,100 yd) Feed system 50- or 250-round belt Continue The Discussion

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