Quick Review: Schrade Tactical Pen (and why you should get one)

Categories: Recommended Tools & Gear, Self Defense, Tools & Gear

Firstly I am going to stay away from any 'the pen is mightier than the sword' stuff! It's not! I'd be much happier with a bloody big sword if I was attacked. That said, carrying a sword around kind of attracts attention, unlike a tactical pen. However don't discount a tactical pen as a weapon for self-defence, as in the right hands these babies can pack a punch (they are also handy for the weekly shopping list and writing down phone numbers, which the sword is not...).

What is a tactical pen?

To put it simply, it's a rugged pen, usually made from aluminium that both writes on paper and serves as a blunt spike which is designed to inflict high impact strikes when used with a downward stabbing action (they are not designed to penetrate the flesh like knife). They can also be used to break glass for emergency escape from vehicles etc.

Why should you get one?

The beauty of a tactical pen is that it can be carried anywhere unnoticed in plain sight (many people even manage to get through customs and fly with them in their pocket) and this is the key to its usefulness - the element of surprise, you appear unarmed, but if you are attacked it can be out of your pocket and STAB, STAB, your attacker is in a state of shock (and likely in agony!) thinking WTF just happened? Meanwhile, you are off and running and home in time for Homeland.
A tactical pen is also equally as useful for men and women; it is the element of surprise which is key, not strength! You use it quickly, surprise them, and get out of there. No warnings, the words 'STAND BACK, I HAVE A TACTICAL PEN!' do NOT come out of your mouth (although if you do, your attacker might be laughing so hard, you could actually make your getaway).

**Why buy this one?**

There are loads of tactical pens on the market and they are all pretty similar, some are a bit heavier/lighter and some write better than others. So how did I choose one? Well here's the thing, tactical pens are supposed go unnoticed and hide in plain sight, so why is it then that most seem to be made by Smith & Wesson, UZI and Colt, and why are they clearly branded as such? I know it is a small thing, but I want my tactical pen to blend in perfectly, I don't want Smith & Wesson boldly branded on the clip and barrel. If there is one thing that shouts WEAPON! it is seeing Smith & Wesson or UZI on it!

So why did I choose the Schrade SCPENBK tactical pen? Sure this pen is made by Schrade and they also make knives, but two things - firstly not many people have heard of them or know they make knives (everyone knows Smith & Wesson, UZI and Colt make guns); secondly this Schrade pen has pretty low-key branding which is largely unnoticeable. It is also more pen-like than many tactical pens and it writes very well so serves its dual purpose well. I guess to summarise, this Schrade tactical pen is just a bit more 'everyday' and pen-like than many other tactical pens, yet it is still capable of packing a punch as a last line of defence.

**Check it out here:** [Schrade SCPENBK Tactical Pen](Schrade SCPENBK Tactical Pen)

**Specification:** Schrade SCPENBK Tactical Pen (currently selling around $22-$25)

- 5.7" overall length
- CNC machined 6061 aircraft aluminum
- screw-on/off cap
- Hauser Parker ball point pen cartridge included
- Matte black finish