

Pry My Snub-Nose Out Of My Cold Dead Hand

In the time of high-tech guns, many wise shooters still cleave to the revolver as a base-line home-defense weapon. If you've chosen a revolver to protect the safety of your family, there are some sub-sets to the selection process. Size, for example.

The conventional wisdom used to be that a "snub-nose .38" was good for concealed carry, and a 4" or 6" revolver was better for home defense. The theory was that the larger gun would be easier to shoot fast and straight, harder-hitting since it generated more velocity from its longer barrel, and would have a more intimidating appearance.

All of these can be debated. One thing you always have to worry about with a "house gun" is that you might end up in a struggle for the firearm with the intruder. I've been practicing handgun disarms and retention techniques for over a quarter century, teaching these topics for 20 years, and certifying other police instructors to teach them for a decade.

There are few absolutes in any fighting discipline, but I can tell you this much: *A short-barrel revolver with any kind of decent grips is probably the toughest handgun to take away from the person originally holding it.* Most of the leverage is in the hand that grasps the grip-frame. The disarming hand that grabs the barrel has little purchase, and if the homeowner pulls the trigger at this moment, they're probably now grappling with a home invader who only has one functional hand left.

Massad Ayoob "[Pry My Snub-Nose Out Of My Cold Dead Hand](#)". Guns Magazine.. April 2001.

Italics & underline added for emphasis. - Jeff