





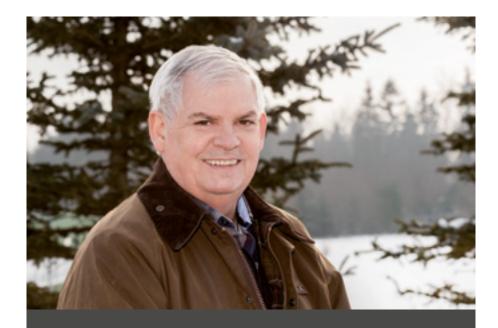
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#### **HUNTING MAGIC MOMENTS**

120 years young.

Merkel and its hunting magic moments.

We are celebrating a milestone jubilee. It has been 120 years since the Merkel Brothers founded a factory to produce fine hunting guns here in Suhl. The brand Merkel was born. In the best Suhl tradition, the three brothers – who were gunsmiths and stock makers – produced traditional hunting rifles, which they kept enhancing with new construction principles and skilled artistry.

The old weapons city of Suhl still has worldwide renown and the hunting rifle manufacturer, Merkel is the last large-scale brand in the city, continuing to demonstrate the skill and expertise for which it is famed. For centuries, Suhl and at the foremost point of this gunsmithing tradition, Merkel – stands for the combination of tradition and innovation, for new ideas which have often resulted from the classic principles of gunsmithing.

Our drop-barrel guns, described in this magazine, have experienced a renaissance: a renaissance in style, aesthetics as well as function. These noble hunting guns are more than just a tool for hunting – they reflect a standing. When hunting for Magic Moments, with a Merkel you are perfectly equipped with both the best of Suhl's gunsmithing tradition and Merkel's design expertise.

Your

OLAF SAUER Managing Director

Merkel Jagd- und Sportwaffen GmbH



# RECEIVER FROM DAMASCUS STEEL

#### Jubilee rifle - limited to 120 pieces

In the middle ages, Suhl was called the "German Damascus" - in regards to the skillfull gunsmiths. For the 120th anniversary Merkel commemorates this with the "Damaszener" rifle K120 - with a Damascus steel receiver. The characteristic pattern of this steel awards the jubilee edition a special finish. The rifle is limited to 120 pieces; with a serial number laid in gold. Next to this unique bascule, the rifle offers finest wood and technical finesse. The stock in wood class 6 with

Bavarian cheek piece with double rabbet and hogsback comb is equipped with ebony finishes on the pistol grip and the fore-end. The 560mm barrel is produced with an octagonal profile. The barrel is locked using a tilted block and comes with a hand-cocking system. The rifle is intended for practical hunting: the precision shot while stalking, hide or mountain hunting. Even with a steel receiver, the rifle only weighs approximately 3,1 kilogram with a handy overall length of 97cm.







# ROEBUCK HUNTING IN THE LAND OF THE GAULS

# Merkel K3 in action: The light beauty is doing well on the stalk.

Hunting is deeply anchored in the genes of the French people: Almost 1,3 million hunters are present in the country – more than in any other European region. The majority of hunters are from wide, agriculturally characterized regions. One, who knows more than almost anyone about hunting in France, is Philippe Jaeger. Being a hunting journalist and photographer, he has travelled all around the world, but also explored almost every area of hunting in France. One of the favourite destinations of the Alsatian is the department Tarn-et-Garonne, a piece of western France, not very developed for tourism, situated between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic. We are accompanying him and his K3 on a stalk.

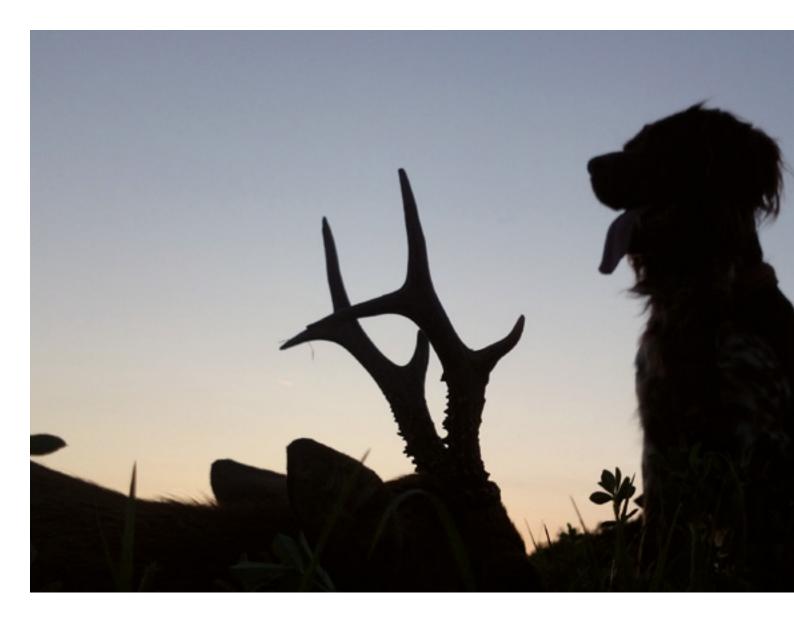
There are hunters who know the area like the back of their hand, there are hunters who know the flora and fauna and there are those who are excellent shots. Then there are people like Philippe Jaeger, who opened up to hunting with thought and intuition. You get the feeling, that this strong, trained person who is in his prime could be dropped with a parachute, his rifle (and his small Münsterländer Oryx) anywhere in the world – together they would find their way and prey. A complete hunter.

The department Tarn-et-Garonne is a large, park-like terrain with oak forests, meadows, fields surrounded by field walls and hedges. In-between, there are far-flung farmsteads and the characteristic houses and pigeon towers made from field boulders. To summarise: a paradise for roebucks. As everywhere else in Europe, ...

### PERSONAL PROFILE

Philippe Jaeger has worked as a hunting journalist, hunting photographer, author and translator. On the right: Oryx. AGE: 48-years-old. RESIDENCE: Alsace, France. FAVOURITE GAME SPECIES: everything that runs and flies, as long as it is difficult to hunt. HUNTING GUIDING PRINCIPLE: Respect nature





... these horned fellows are in the rut during the middle of the summer. Hunting time! The air is shimmering in the summer heat of 35 degrees.

The French hunters are organised in local associations; every association has its own shooting plan, which is

undisturbed) opulent trophies through the forests and meadows. The reason for this might be, that the French colleagues, in the tradition of Obelix the Gaul, are mainly interested in wild boars - and happily and cheaply sell the licenses for roe deer to the hunting tourists.



strictly controlled by the authorities – there are hunting police present and every shot animal has to be marked straight away. Whoever is caught with a shot animal that is not marked with a band between tendon and leg is risking a lot: hunting license, expensive equipment – possibly even the car he used to get into the hunting area. It may be the difference in philosophy that makes these hunting grounds so attractive to German hunters: Bucks here carry (seemingly

"It is light and very precise, even at great distances. And it is so beautiful, a classic."

Far and wide no "Mirador", that's how they call the high seat here: The preferred hunting method here is stalking and the Merkel K3 single-shot rifle is an ideal companion



out of leather. Soundless movement is one of the top priorities for a hunter.

## "K3 and stalking fit well together"

"K3 and stalking fit well together" says the hunter. Nonetheless the flexible shooting stick allows the strengths of the rifle on the steady rest to be played out: the one, single precise shot. Late at noon an old king, with a 530g heavy crown, fell right after the shot. Shot distance: far! More than 200 meters. France is a far land. •

for this. Philippe Jaeger: "It is light very precise, even at great distances. And it is so beautiful, a classic." The single shot rifle is built from wood and steel around an aluminium bascule. The locking mechanism of the steel tilted block goes back to the Suhl gunsmith Franz Jaeger. The tilted block locks the barrel at the top in an over-hanging groove and at the bottom with a pin. Using this, the tilted block absorbs the force of any cartridge without straining the aluminium bascule. The tilted block is a key element of this handy, light-weight construction, which does not weigh more than 2,9kg and is easily carried through woods and meadows. Philippe Jaeger uses it in combination with the calibre .270 Win. A special feature of this rifle is the in three stages variable weight of the finely tuned trigger - to do this, a small lever is located on the trigger guard. General rule: the farther the shot, the lower the weight.

Jaeger carries a wooden caller. And you quickly realize that he has mastered this difficult, musical art excellently. In any case he will get attention every time when a buck crosses his stalking path. The deceptive trick of Jaeger: The caller imitates the call of a fawn – the buck knows, that the doe cannot be far away from it. Philippe's equipment is completed by lightweight 8x32 binoculars and a shooting stick made from carbon, for which he fashioned a sound damper







## **JENNY GOES HUNTING**

## Better a late calling – than never: Jennifer Reichelt and her K3

What differentiates men from women when hunting? The answer to this question is often that women are hunting in a more self-controlled, cooler and often more disciplined way than their male colleagues. People who know Jennifer Reichelt can confirm this. The 39-year-old is no less of a hunter than any man – and sometimes she is even a step ahead of them.

In her youth, she was a vegetarian - out of love for animals. It needed a hunting terrier mix from the animal shelter to get her on track. The little one had an established hunting drive and infected his owner with it. Her rifle - a K3 single shot rifle as Stutzen, fits all the prejudices of female hunters. One shot is enough for the 39-year-old to take down even strong and resisting game - firing away is not her style. She ordered the rifle with a Lady DS stock. This special stock is adjusted

to female anatomy. The difference? "The butt stock is shorter, the pistol grip is steeper and has less volume, the butt plate is softer and has a different form, the stock comb is higher and straighter – than a stock for a "male fellow". Jennifer Reichelt smiles, as she always mocks a little bit, when the gender difference in hunting is the topic. No wonder: In the woods and meadows, females are still outnumbered - but they are catching up. And they are in no way inferior to male hunters – without







#### PERSONAL PROFILE

Nail polish and single-shot
Stutzen are a good mix: Jennifer
Reichelt, deputy manager of
a home for assisted living is a
hunter out of conviction.

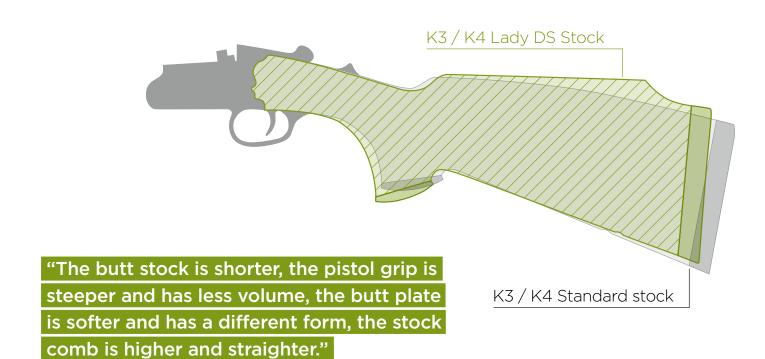
AGE: 39 years RESIDENCE: in
Mecklenburg-Western Pommeria, Germany. PREFERED GAME
SPECIES: Wild boar. HUNTING
GUIDING PRINCIPLE: Whoever
is a real hunter can be seen on
special signs; he lowers his rifle at
many an animal, even if he could
reach it.

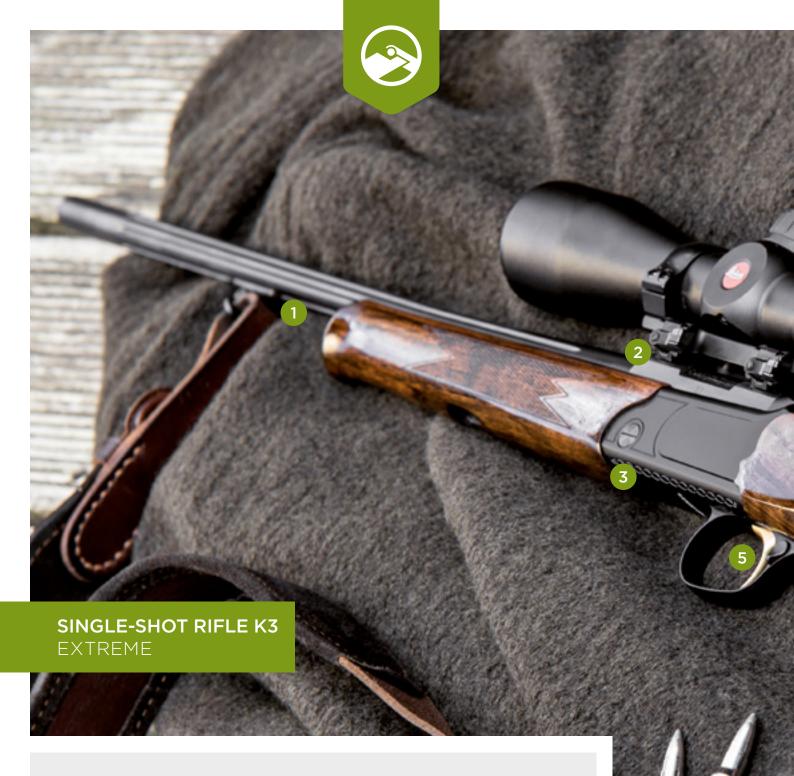


denying the femininity. No, the attractive brunette from Swabia, living in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, is truly no mannish woman. She openly confesses: It was the best decision in her life to get a hunting licence.

.308 Win. is her calibre and the K3 is such a wonderfully light and handy rifle, that you could sometimes almost forget, that it is made for shooting. "I do not like to carry too much around with me; my equipment is, if possible,

perfectly adjusted to the hunting task." The things she values about the light-weight single-shot rifle is the combination of a straight stock and the universal calibre – both together ensure a moderate recoil: "It is known, that light-weight rifles like to kick ..." No, her K3 does not kick and looks, in the Stutzen version with the full length fore-end, like a real, beautiful and traditional hunting rifle. A good team and each carved from a special piece of wood: dog, Jenny – and the K3. •

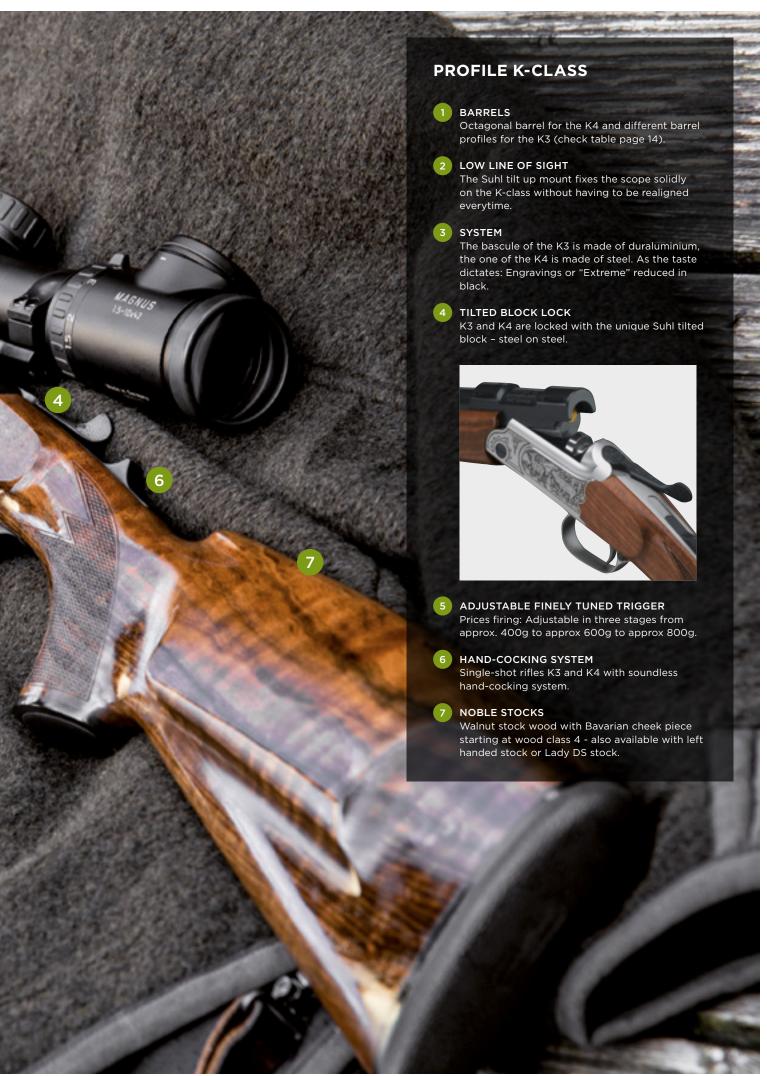




## **EXTREME PRECISION**

#### The rifle as a statement for hunting

There is almost no rifle that gets to the heart of hunting like this single-shot rifle. We have christened it "Extreme" as it combines hunting principles with aesthetics, elegance and functionality, precision and tradition. As it is extremely light-weight (2,4kg), extremely handy (overall length. 92cm), comes along as extremely reduced with its black aluminium bascule. Whoever holds it in their hands, immediately knows, that this rifle combines extremes in a singular point that it sets accents and still never appears as a toy. The K3 Extreme is a scalpel under the hunting rifles – blessed with the Suhl gunsmith genes: the golden finely tuned trigger is adjustable in three stages, the golden tilted block locks the system steel on steel and the Suhl tilt up mount is extremely low. This rifle is a statement. Nonetheless a statement for hunting.





#### THE MERKEL K-CLASS



**EDITION EXTREME / BLACK:** Tilted block and golden trigger, woodclass: starting at 4



**EDITION JAGD:** Plates with animal engraving, different motives available, woodclass: starting at 4



**EDITION JENA:** Hand-engraved with two animals of choice, Woodclass: starting at 5



**EDITION WEIMAR:** Hand-engraved with two animals (raised) of choice, stock with fine stock carving, woodclass: starting at 6



**EDITION ERFURT:** Hand-engraved with up to four animals of choice, stock with fine stock carving, woodclass: starting at 6



**EDITION SUHL:** Hand-engraved with up to four animals (raised) of choice, gold boarder inlay, stock with fine stock carving, woodclass: starting at 7

		BARREL OVERVIEW K3					
	BARREL LENGTH >	500 mm	510 mm	550 mm	600 mm	600 mm	650 mm
	BARREL PROFILE >	round, with sights, without threaded barrel	semiweight fluted, without sights, threaded barrel	semiweight, with sights, without threaded barrel	round, with sights, without threaded barrel	octagonal, with sights, without threaded barrel	round, with sights, without threaded barrel
MINI	.222 Rem.		○ ▲				
	.223 Rem.		○ ▲	0	•		
STANDARD	.243 Win.				•		
	6,5x55		○ ▲	0			
	6,5x57R	-	○ ▲	0	•	0	
	.270 Win.	-	○ ▲	0	•	0	
	7x57R	-	○ ▲	0	•	0	
	7x65R		O <b>A</b>	0	•	0	
	.308 Win.	-	O <b>A</b>	0	•	0	
	.30-06 Spring.	-	○ ▲	0	•		
	.30R Blaser				•		
	8x57IRS	•	0 🛦	0	•	0	
	9,3x74R				•		
MAGNUM	7 mm Rem.Mag.				0	0	•
	.300 Win.Mag.				0		•

- standard
- O optional
- only available for K3 Stutzen
- ▲ standard for the K3 Extreme



CALIBRE: Check table BARREL LENGTH: starting at 51 cm OVERALL LENGTH: approx. 101 cm at 60 cm barrel length WEIGHT: starting at 2,5 kg WOODCLASS: starting at 4. The image shows a K3 single shot rifle Edition "Jagd".



starting at 2,4 kg WOODCLASS: starting at 4. The image shows a K3 single-shot Stutzen Edition "Black".



 $\textbf{CALIBRE:} \ 6.5 \times 65 \text{R, } 7 \times 57 \text{R, } 7 \times 65 \text{R, } .308 \ \text{Win., } .30 \text{-} 06 \ \text{Spring., } .30 \text{R Blaser, } 8 \times 57 \text{IRS, } 9.3 \times 74 \text{R, } .300 \ \text{Win. Mag., } 7 \text{mm Rem. Mag.} \\ \textbf{BARREL LENGTH:} \ 60 \ \text{cm} \ (\text{standard calibre}) \ / 65 \ \text{cm} \ (\text{Magnum-calibre}) \ \textbf{OVERALL LENGTH:} \ \text{approx. } 101 \ \text{cm} \ \text{at } 60 \ \text{cm} \ \text{barrel}$ length WEIGHT: approx. 2,8 kg WOODCLASS: starting at 4. The image shows a K4 single-shot rifle Edition "Suhl".





# BERGSTUTZEN IN THE FLATS OF LAPLAND

# "Dreispross" looking for moose and capercaillie in Sweden

Andreas Barth, better known as hunting blogger "Dreispross", follows up on two dreams of hunters at once in the Swedish province Lapland. With his Merkel Bergstutzen B4 with large and small bullet he went hunting for moose and capercaillie not far of the Finnish border. The moose was a success.

The area is called Tornedalen and is a wide valley, which is traversed by the Torneälv. The approximately 6000 hectares large hunting area, not far from Finnish boarder counts as one of the core moose areas – you can assume that it can be counted on, that there is a moose present every 1000 hectares here. So, statistically seen, six on 6000 hectares – it cannot be said, that the largest stag on earth can be found around every corner and is waiting to topple over Swabian middle class cars. Moose are very rare – and very secretive.

"Birch trees that are moving are no birch trees"

### PERSONAL PROFILE

Andreas Barth is a member of the police and documents his hunting passion in an internet blog – with his own movies as well. (www.dreispross.de)

AGE: 42 years-old RESIDENCE: in northern Germany PREFERED GAME SPECIES: Wild boar HUNTING GUIDING PRINCIPLE: It is a privilege to be as close to nature as we hunters are.



The message, therefore, is very clear: moose have very good hearing and a very good sense of smell. "Birch trees that are moving are no birch trees" is a Swedish saying, meaning that a moose is, in spite of its size, often only seen when it starts moving. Without the brave and never tiring moose dogs, nothing would be possible in this expanse. Thanks to barking on the trail and GPS navigation, the guides and hunters know where the dog is hunting the moose – or if it still looking for it. The potential to hear is priority in the expanse of Swedish Lapland – silence is heavy, having neither road noise, overhead noise nor humans.

The Bergstutzen has been carefully chosen by Dreispross. The name is a little bit misleading - the gun has not a lot in common with a normal Stutzen with a long fore-end and short barrel. The Bergstutzen is an over-and-under double rifle with two different calibres, one large and one small rifle bullet. In Sweden, where the number of rifles a hunter can own is limited, it is

actually an ideal because universal rifle. The Bergstutzen always has double triggers, in order for the shooter to be able to select which barrel he fires. The rifle has for two calibres and two triggers only one lock – this is a safety argument – after the shot, the gun has to be re-cocked with the cocking lever on the bascule. Living while hunting is very close to nature. Using a flint and birch bark, the campfire is lit, the thirst is quenched with water from rivers and lakes on the way, cooking is done outside in the Muurikka, a Swedish cooking pan, which is not available at IKEA. Swerros and Knotten are annoying – the always present little blood suckers are called like this in Swedish Lapland. Still there is the indispensable Scandinavian comfort in every hut: cool beer and hot saunas.

After they had not seen a moose on the fourth day, a sobering effect can be felt in between the hunters and the guides. Andreas is following his hunting guide in an especially silent stalk through the thicket. ...







... Foot by foot are set down carefully. Bill, the Norwegian moose dog is freely checking around the hunters. The guide is imitating the nasal contact call of a moose. Finally, attracted by this, a three-years-old female moose comes out of the birch trees. The shot is good, but the female runs off and Andreas gives off a follow-up shot with the small bullet. The moose is said to be very tough – but the hunt ends well: The reward of the hunt are 130kg of the best meat at about 230kg living weight.

To get the animal out of the forest, the hunters are using a Pulka, a heavy tarpaulin, which they fix to the back of the quad. This way they can cover longer distances without devaluing the meat. In the game collecting centre, the animal is skinned - the two guides and their German helpers need a couple of hours for this. The aging is done without any refrigeration - it is cold

enough. The moose is almost completely used up by the hunting association in northern Sweden. The hunters will enjoy the moose liver later that night.

On the following day, Volker is also getting his moose: A guide had shot a young bull and the Swedes are getting the quad and the Pulka to collect the bag. The Norwegian moose dogs accompany on the return and of course find a moose and follow its tracks. After a two hour stalk and a lot of supporting dog work, Volker bags his bull, a six pointer. A very emotional moment, even for the experienced hunter: "It is my first moose – and maybe my last." Relaxation in paradise. You should always quit when it cannot get better. But what about the capercaillie? This is why the B4 has the small rifle calibre after all. This has been pushed to the next adventure up in the high north. •









## AT HOME IN THE WOODS

With the O/U combination gun in the "a little of everything" area



Andreas "Andi" Maurer has been hunting since childhood, always with his family: previously with his father and brothers - today with his wife, children and friends in the family owned hunting grounds. These are located in the natural reserve Swabian-Franconian forest. In the deep woods the Maurers have a little hunting cabin which has been refitted for weekends and children with a lot of charm and a little comfort. Here, close to Schwäbisch Hall, the family manages a typical German "a little of everything" area. This influences his choice of his favourite tool - the over-and-under combination gun B3. Andreas Maurer: "This is a good compromise out of "always having the right equipment with you" and "light-weight and handy". Next to hares and foxes, there is a lot of wild boar and roe deer. Also crow hunting is another alternative in this wonderful landscape. They are hunting on fields, Meadows and in the woods: in the plains, but also in the ,blades', which is what the rugged grooves that have been cut into the Keuperberg land by rivers during flood, are

## PERSONAL PROFILE

Andreas Maurer has alway been hunting; works for Merkel as Head of Sales. AGE: 34-years-old. RESIDENCE: in Baden-



**PREFERED GAME SPECIES:** be it fox, roe deer, wild boar or hare – it has to be diverse.

**HUNTING GUIDING PRINCIPLE:** When in autumn the dogs are happily to hunting set, this finest melody, even in my final days, never shall I forget ...

called. Andi Maurer: "Hunting here is still authentic. We are living in the middle of the hunting area, in the middle of nature and we can go hunting whenever we want." •



#### THE MERKEL B-CLASS



- 1 BARREL ADJUSTMENT
  - B3 and B4: horizontally and vertically adjustable lower rifle barrel
- MOUNT
  B3 and B4: Suhl tilt up mount
- SYSTEM
  B4: Single-lock with hand-cocking system
  B3: Double-lock with hand-cocking system



The tilted block lock: The steel block locks when closing the bascule at the top into a barrel groove, without torque and highly durable. The barrel is locked steel-on-steel.

#### 4 TRIGGERS

COMBINATION GUN B3: Double trigger with set trigger DOUBLE RIFLE B3: Single trigger or double trigger with set trigger COMBINATION GUN B4: Double finely tuned trigger BERGSTUTZEN B4: Double finely tuned trigger



Different calibre and calibre combinations are available. Spare barrels create a versatility and flexibility in the guns of the B3- and B4-class.



**EDITION EXTREME:** Tilted block and trigger golden, woodclass: starting at 4



**EDITION JAGD:** Plates with animal engraving, different motives available, woodclass: starting at 4



**EDITION JENA:** Hand-engraved with two animals of choice, Woodclass: starting at 5



**EDITION WEIMAR:** Hand-engraved with two animals (raised) of choice, stock with fine stock carving, woodclass: starting at 6



**EDITION ERFURT:** Hand-engraved with up to four animals of choice, stock with fine stock carving, woodclass: starting at 6



**EDITION SUHL:** Hand-engraved with up to four animals (raised) of choice, gold boarder inlay, stock with fine stock carving, woodclass: starting at 7



**CALIBRE:** Rifle calibre: .222 Rem., .223 Rem., .243 Win., 5,6x50R, 5,6x52R, 6,5x55SE, 6,5x57R, 7x57R, 7x65R, .270 Win., .30-06 Spring., .30R Blaser, 8x57IRS, 9,3x74R / Shotgun calibre: 12/76, 20/76 **BARREL LENGTH:** 60 cm **OVERALL LENGTH:** 102 cm **WEIGHT:** approx. 3,1 kg **WOODCLASS:** starting at 4. The image shows a B3 O/U combination gun Edition "Suhl"



**CALIBRE:** .30-06 Spring,, .30R Blaser, 8x57IRS, 9,3x74R **BARREL LENGTH:** 55 cm **OVERAL LENGTH:** 97 cm **WEIGHT:** approx. 3,2 kg **WOODCLASS:** starting at 4. The image shows a B3 O/U double rifle Edition "Black"



**CALIBRE:** small bullet: .222 Rem., .223 Rem., 5,6x52R / large bullet: 6,5x57R, 7x57R, 7x65R, .308 Win., .30-06 Spring., .30R Blaser, 8x57IR, 9,3x74R **BARREL LENGTH:** 55 cm **OVERALL LENGTH:** 97 cm **WEIGHT:** approx. 3,3 kg **WOODCLASS:** starting at 4. The image shows a B4 Bergstutzen Edition "Weimar".



**CALIBRE:** Rifle calibre: .222 Rem., .223 Rem., .243 Win., 6,5x55SE, 6,5x57R, 7x57R, 7x65R, .308 Win., .30-06 Spring., .30R Blaser, 8x57IRS, 9,3x74R / Shotgun calibre: 12/76, 20/76 **BARREL LENGTH:** 60 cm **OVERALL LENGTH:** 102 cm **WEIGHT:** approx. 3,1 kg **WOODCLASS:** starting at 4. The Image shows a B4 combination gun Edition "Jagd".







## **SUCCESS IN LAYERS**

# Contemporary and traditional materials combine in one apparel system

A new professional system of apparel and equipment: Merkel's all-round layer system is suitable for the entire hunting spectrum, from high seat hunting to more demanding mountain stalking all over the world.

The hunting apparel is the only thing between the hunter and the environment. A hunt is held whether the temperature is very low or very high. Irrespective the conditions, the hunter must be able to move silently and without restriction – especially when taking aim. There is a lot of hunting apparel and hunting equipment to choose from – in all price categories. Merkel Gear aims to combine an excellent price-quality ratio with exceptional functionality and a sustainable value chain. Typical Merkel: Traditional and trusted materials are combined with the latest brand membranes to a system. The result is a year-round, all-in-one system with previously unknown versatility from infinite combinations.

textile for sport. Unique in the world: this technology encompasses all the layers in the system and not just the outer membrane. The clothes are manufactured wherever possible in accordance with the principles of sustainability (ecology, economy, social). They are made to last and generally to workwear standards, an almost unique situation in the field of hunting apparel. Load-bearing seams are at least double - if not threefold - and sewn with heavy duty thread. We also use only brand names such as YKK for applications such as stoppers and zippers. Merkel Gear is synonymous with products in which hunters take much pleasure for many years. Products throughout the entire year. The system can be combined in any number of ways making it universally functional. Whether for the more passive high seat hunting or the arduous mountain stalking.

## System apparel by experts for practical use

The Merkel Gear hunting apparel system consists of several thin, compatible layers. Each of the up to five layers has a special place in the system. Only the best: Merkel Gear trusts in 37.5 Technologie™ by Cocona, which has established itself in the field of functional







