



BY APPOINTMENT TO
HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH
RIFLE MAKERS



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HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES
SUPPLIERS OF BESPOKE GUNS, SHOOTING
ACCESSORIES & COUNTRY CLOTHING

HOLLAND & HOLLAND
LONDON

THE HOLLAND & HOLLAND "ROYAL" THE CLASSIC GAME GUN



The 'Royal' side-by-side. The preferred choice of serious game shooters for many generations

Striking a perfect balance between elegance and design, the Holland & Holland "Royal" side-by-side shotgun is the classic 'Best London' game gun.

There are many reasons for the discerning customer to choose this gun for his sport, but undeniably the most important of these will be that it is built by Holland & Holland craftsmen who have earned a reputation as the finest gunmakers in the world.

Each and every Holland & Holland is a unique product individually designed for a specific customer, and over 750 hours of highly-skilled precision work will go into creating this ultimate sporting gun.

The epitome of reliability, the traditional "Royal" side-by-side enjoys a distinct advantage in the field. The Holland & Holland self-opening mechanism, widely copied by other European gunmakers, greatly assists with rapid loading. It follows therefore that a matching pair of "Royal" side-by-side shotguns in the hands of a first class shot and an experienced loader is as effective a tool against fast driven game birds as it is possible to find.

Furthermore, the side-by-side is invariably lighter in weight than other designs and with its prized balance and handling properties it is thus more responsive to the jink and turn of the driven bird. The slim profile is supremely elegant and further enhances the weapon's aesthetic qualities. In practical terms, it is comfortable both in the hands and when broken across the arm. It is no surprise to learn therefore that the "Royal" side-by-side has been the preferred choice of serious game shooters for many generations.

The trademark "Royal" was granted to the company in 1895 to describe Holland & Holland's premier quality double-barrelled guns and rifles. Both the "Royal" and "Royal" de Luxe guns may be built in any calibre for which cartridges are available, from 4-bore to .410, including all modern magnums and steel or other non-toxic shot cartridges.

Lock, stock and barrel, the art of gunmaking is the art of specialisation. The many and varied processes through which these three basic components will pass are sometimes simultaneous and sometimes sequential, and over one hundred parts in every gun will be fitted and tested to tolerances as fine as those of the watchmaker.

A barrel maker requires sixty hours to complete a pair of barrels. Bored from solid forgings of high-grade nickel chrome molybdenum steel, individual barrels are balanced, turned and drilled through to a standard length and then paired off and assigned to a customer before being silver-brazed at the breech. Longer barrels may be required by the customer with a deliberate style or for use against high birds, with short barrels preferred for snap shooting.

Next comes the time-honoured method of soft-soldering the ribs which join the barrels using pure tin fluxed with rosin, a non-corrosive and costly substance. The bores are reamed and lapped to bring their diameter to within four thousandths of an inch of the finished size. The actioner takes eight weeks to complete his part of the weapon, comprising the bolting mechanism, lock work and ejectors. The action is the heart of the gun and embodies the



A pair of side-by-sides, ideal for fast driven game



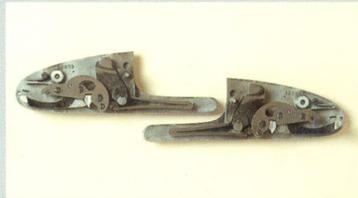
"Imaginative and creative" special commissions and individual designs, depicting the art of engraver and embellisher



Holland & Holland self-opening mechanism and the hand-detachable locks which are easily removed for inspection after a rainy day in the field. Correctly actioned, the gun will provide many years of faultless service.

The action shop is also responsible for jointing the barrels into the action to tolerances as minute as the thickness of smoke - smoke from an oil lamp. The tell-tale spread of carbon deposit will reveal the slightest irregularity in the jointing, and any high spots are painstakingly removed by hand before the assembly is sent to the London Proof House for testing.

The "Royal" will be further embellished by Holland & Holland engravers who adorn the gun with "Royal" scroll engraving, or customise it with a design especially commissioned by the owner. These individual designs are frequently imaginative and creative (see top). The customer also selects a walnut stock blank with the particular figure or colour that they find most appealing.



Walnut stocks, properly seasoned for up to 10 years, supply the stability essential for a 'Best London' gun, and in the stocking shop the stocker inlets the head of the blank with minute accuracy to receive the action and lockwork. He shapes each stock to the customer's bespoke measurements, established during a fitting at The Shooting Grounds. He takes account of length, cast and the required amount of drop or bend and then the stock is oiled and polished to reveal the distinctive lustre of its figuring.

'Finishing' the gun involves checking, subtle easing and smoothing of the working parts. Meticulous polishing is required to effect crisp trigger pulls and the effortless ejection which so much characterises the "Royal" model.

It is the pride of the Holland & Holland craftsmen that their work can be measured in a moment. The gun will be carefully regulated to produce consistent shot patterns at the Holland & Holland Shooting Grounds where, whenever possible, the customer is encouraged to shoot his new weapon before taking final delivery of the ideal game gun for testing quarry anywhere in the world. ■



*Above: Hand detachable locks easily removed for inspection
Left: Finishing the gun, required to effect crisp trigger pulls and effortless ejection*

STANDARD SPECIFICATION

The 'Royal' gun and 'Royal' de Luxe can be built in any calibre for which cartridges are available, from 4-bore to .410, including all modern magnums and steel or other non-toxic shot cartridges.

'ROYAL'

- Barrels** High grade nickel chrome molybdenum steel, 25-30" (63.5-76.0 cm), 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " (70mm) chambers, game rib, choke as required.
- Action** Constructed from high quality forged steel, self-opening side lock ejector, hand detachable locks, two triggers, automatic safety.
- Stock** Selected seasoned walnut, finished to the individual's measurements with a choice of grip styles, finely chequered and oil polished with gold oval engraved with initials or crest.
- Weight** Appropriate to calibre and cartridge load.
- Engraving** 'Royal' scroll, the safety and gun numbers inlaid in gold. Colour hardened or bright finish as required.

'ROYAL' DE LUXE

Standard specification as above, stocked with finest deluxe grade walnut. The engraving by choice and quotation, including deep floral sprays of scrolls, game scenes or requested patterns. Full carving or inlay of gold and other materials can be commissioned.

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

Optional extras can include single trigger, extra interchangeable barrels and leather gun case. Please refer to price list.

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