

**July 2006**

*I have noticed many shooters these days use step rib or raised ribs on their barrels. Can you tell me the advantages or disadvantages of these ribs?*

*Peter Anderson, Launceston, Tas*

Peter it is not really a new trend in trapshooting, particularly DTL, as these raised rib barrels have been very popular in the United States for many years. I have tried several shotguns with raised ribs from time to time with varied results. The main advantage of the raised rib is that it allows the shooter to shoot with a more erect head on the comb of their stock. A more erect head will give the shooter better vision as their eyes will be more parallel to the target instead of dipped slightly downward thus causing the shooter to look for the target through the top of their eyes as opposed to the centre of them. This is a huge advantage.

The main disadvantage is the raised rib can add a lot of extra weight to the barrel and if the rib is too high it can cause some dis-orientation between the sighting plane ( rib ) and the actual barrel of the gun.

*My club shoots some of its events at night time under pretty good lights. What are the best color lenses to wear at night?*

*Tony Grech, Penrith, NSW*

That's an easy one Tony. Clear lenses. There is no color that will enhance any target at night.

**Questions: [russell@russellmark.com.au](mailto:russell@russellmark.com.au)**