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HOLOSUN'S SCS CARRY-GR

Your EDC Elevated

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Holosun introduced the SCS CARRY-GR sight in January 2024 at Shot Show in Las Vegas. Their intended market for this outstanding optic is the compact pistol owners, specifically those who carry sub-compact pistols and welcome the convenience and benefit that accrue to solar-charging technology. In this review I paired the SCS CARRY-GR with GLOCK's 48 MOS.

I'll get through the acronyms first where SCS stands for Solar Charging Sight, and you may have already guessed that the GR stands for Green. Now on to my review.

I have never been a huge fan of red dot sights on conceal carry platforms, a position that has changed with Holosun's introduction of the SCS Carry-GR.

Red dot sights add height to the slide, making the pistol bulkier and potentially harder to conceal comfortably, especially for individuals with smaller builds or when wearing certain clothing. The added bulk can also snag on clothing during the draw, and some holsters are not designed to accommodate red dot sights, requiring the purchase of a new, more specialized holster.

Red dot sights rely on electronics that can fail due to various reasons. Battery life is always a consideration. While modern red dots often have long battery lives, this is still a point of potential failure that iron sights don't have.

While many red dots are built to be durable, they are still more susceptible to damage from drops or impacts than iron sights. Damage to the optic can render it unusable, and the lens can become dirty from lint, dust, or other debris encountered during daily concealed carry, potentially obscuring the dot.

Holosun specifically designed the SCS Carry with concealed carry in mind and incorporates several features aimed at mitigating the concerns associated with red dot sights on CCW platforms.

The SCS Carry is engineered to have a very low profile, allowing it to co-witness with standard height iron sights on compatible pistols. This minimizes the bulkiness and added height on the slide, improving concealability and reducing the likelihood of snagging. It is designed for direct mounting to slides with the Holosun K-series footprint but includes an adapter plate for the more common RMSc footprint.

For this review we used the GLOCK 48 MOS which required the use of the included RMSc mounting plate.

The top of the SCS Carry features a multi-directional solar charging panel. This panel is designed to capture ambient light from various angles, maximizing its efficiency in converting light into electrical energy. This solar energy directly powers the optic in sufficient lighting conditions, significantly reducing the drain on the internal battery. It works with both natural sunlight and artificial light sources. Even indoor lighting can contribute to powering or charging the internal battery.

Holosun's "Solar Failsafe" technology ensures that even if the internal battery were to completely deplete (which is highly unlikely under normal use), the reticle will remain visible as long as there is sufficient ambient light hitting the solar panel. The brightness of the reticle in this mode is automatically adjusted based on available light.

The SCS Carry houses an internal, non-removable rechargeable battery with a substantial 20,000-hour power reserve. This battery acts as a backup power source, providing continuous operation when ambient light is insufficient to power the optic solely through the solar panel, such as in low-light or no-light environments.

The solar panel constantly charges the internal battery whenever light is available. Holosun explains that in typical use, the solar charging system recharges the battery faster than it consumes power, leading to a theoretically infinite battery life. Even with minimal light exposure (e.g., daily carry with brief outdoor exposure or even occasional indoor light), the battery can maintain a sufficient charge for extended periods. Holosun suggests that even a single range trip per year could be enough to recharge a fully depleted battery under normal conditions.

The optic is designed to be left always on, eliminating the need to manually power it up in a critical situation. The intelligent power management system handles the power source seamlessly.

The SCS Carry incorporates multi-directional light sensors that automatically adjust the reticle brightness based on the surrounding light conditions. This not only ensures optimal reticle visibility in any environment but also contributes to power efficiency.

The SCS Carry-GR also features a manual brightness override function, allowing the user to temporarily increase the reticle brightness for a set duration if needed.

The SCS CARRY features 3 user selectable reticles: Circle-dot, dot only and circle only

Changing your preferred reticle on the Holosun SCS Carry is straightforward and intuitive. Located on the left side of the optic is a function button. The circle-dot reticle is set as the default. To switch to the dot-only reticle, simply perform one long press of this function button. A second long press will then transition the display to the circle-only reticle. Pressing the function button one more time will power the sight off. This simple sequence allows for quick and easy customization of your aiming point based on your preference and the specific shooting scenario.

The ability to switch between a 2 MOA dot, a 32 MOA circle, or a combination of both is a significant advantage. The dot-only mode allows for precise shots at longer distances. The circle-only mode facilitates rapid target acquisition at close range. The circle-dot combination offers a balance of speed and precision, with the large circle quickly drawing the eye to the central dot.

The sight window is compact and clear making for rapid target acquisition. The glass is clear with only a slight tinge and minimal distortion, contributing to a good sight picture.

The green reticle is a plus for me. Many users find the green reticle easier to pick up quickly, especially in bright daylight conditions where red dots can sometimes wash out. For my eyes, the green light is less fatiguing on the eyes during extended use compared to red.

Overall, my perspective on the Holosun SCS Carry-GR's optical properties is overwhelmingly positive, particularly for its clear and versatile green reticle, effective automatic brightness adjustment, and the practical considerations of its compact, enclosed design tailored for concealed carry. The green reticle is a standout feature for me, offering enhanced visibility and reduced eye strain.

Sighting in the Holosun SCS Carry-GR was a smooth and precise process. The windage and elevation adjustments offer a distinct and tactile feedback with each click. Each click translates to a 1.5 Minute of Angle (MOA) shift, providing a granular level of control over your zero. The optic offers a total adjustment range of 30 MOA for both windage and elevation, offering ample flexibility for zeroing across various distances.

Wrapping our review up from where it matters most – behind the gun.

After spending a good amount of time with the Holosun SCS Carry-GR, I've come away with a pretty firm conclusion that this optic isn't just another accessory; it's a genuine force multiplier on a compact or micro-compact pistol.

Red dots on small carry guns? For a long time, I was skeptical. It seemed like a recipe for snagged clothing, fumbled draws, and a cluttered sight picture. I was a firm believer in the simplicity and reliability of iron sights. But the SCS Carry-GR has made me reconsider my stance.

The first thing that struck me was how seamlessly it integrates with the pistol. The low-profile design, combined with its direct mounting capability on compatible slides, keeps the optic from feeling like an add-on. It becomes a part of the gun, minimizing any added bulk or snag points – a crucial factor for everyday carry. That alone addressed one of my biggest concerns.

Then there's the reticle. The green dot is crisp and clear, even in bright sunlight, and the ability to switch between the dot, circle, or circle-dot is a game-changer. For quick target acquisition at close range, the circle is both intuitive and effective. For more precise shots, the dot provides the accuracy I need. And the circle-dot combination offers a versatile sight picture that adapts to a wide range of shooting scenarios.

Zeroing the SCS Carry-GR was a breeze. The tactile feedback from the windage and elevation adjustments gives one confidence that you are making precise corrections, and the 1.5 MOA adjustments allowed me to really dial in my zero.

But the real revelation came at the range. The improved accuracy and speed I experienced with the SCS Carry-GR were undeniable. My groupings tightened up, and my target acquisition times decreased significantly. I was able to maintain a consistent sight picture, even during rapid fire. It's not just about hitting the target; it's about hitting it consistently and efficiently, and this optic delivers.

The auto-brightness adjustment is another feature that won me over. I no longer have to worry about the reticle being too dim in bright light or too blinding in low light. The optic seamlessly adapts to the changing lighting conditions, allowing me to focus on the target.

The solar charging and internal rechargeable battery combination is ingenious. It virtually eliminates the anxiety of a dead battery, a constant concern with traditional red dots. The "set it and forget it" nature of this system is a huge plus for a carry gun where reliability is paramount.

In conclusion, the Holosun SCS Carry-GR has convinced me that a red dot sight on a compact or micro-compact pistol is not just a fad but an effective enhancement. It improves accuracy, speeds up target acquisition, and enhances overall shooting performance without compromising the concealability or reliability of the firearm. For anyone serious about carrying a pistol for self-defense or everyday use, this optic is a worthy investment. It's changed my perspective, and I'm confident it will do the same for others who give it a chance.

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Manufacturer Specification

Reticle	2 MOA Dot & 32 MOA Circle
Light Wavelength	540nm
Reticle Color	Green
Parallax Free	Yes
Unlimited Eye Relief	Yes
Magnification	1x
Multi-Coatings	Yes
Power Source	Solar
Battery Type	Internal Rechargeable Battery
Battery Life (Hours)	Unlimited
Brightness Setting	Auto
Window Size	0.58x0.77
Dimension (in)	1.6x0.98x0.95
Weight (oz)	1.05
Housing Material	7075 T6 Aluminum
Surface Finish	Anodize
Adjustment per Click	1.5 MOA
W&E Travel Range	±30 MOA
Storage Temperature	-40℃~70℃
Working Temperature	-30℃~60℃
Submersion	IPX8
Vibration	5000G