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Streamlight's TLR-7® Weapon Mounted Light

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At Shot Show 2018, Streamlight, a Pennsylvania based global manufacturer and supplier of lighting products, including tactical lighting, introduced the TLR-7 and TLR-8 weapon mounted lights. The addition brings the company's TLR line to approximately 25 models. The TLR line has found broad market acceptance with military and law enforcement globally. Streamlight's success rests with excellent design, a wide array of mounting options, robustness and a tremendous value proposition. The line gives budget strapped departments and agencies tremendous value without compromising professional grade performance.

Streamlight's TLR-7 is the light-only version of the company's new offerings. Like its laser equipped sibling, the TLR-7 has a number of features to get excited about.

First on my list is its modern and compact form factor. The TLR-1 as you recall, is a relatively large light. They work well on shoulder fired weapons and large frame pistols but they're not so hot on compact and subcompact platforms common in the conceal carry market. Simply stated, bulky lights like the TLR-1 don't work with conceal carry weapons.

Streamlight took note and responded with the TLR-7 in 2018.



With their smaller footprint, a tad over 2 inches in overall length, the TLR-7 works extremely well on frames like the Glock-19, my test platform, and a variety of other market offerings like the SIG Arms MHS XM18.



Streamlight uses a low profile ambidextrous switch on the TLR-7; doing away with the familiar paddle switch.



The TLR-7 has two modes of operation, light and strobe.

The light can be activated momentarily by pressing and holding down the ambidextrous activation switch, or continuously by pressing and releasing the switch.

If you are used to the familiar Streamlight paddles you'll want to spend some time acclimating yourself with the TLR-7 controls. However, if you can get over not having paddles what you gain is compactness and a near perfect fit on virtually any compact frame.

The streamlined TLR-7 should also be easier to holster, particularly when carried concealed in an IWB configuration. Holster manufacturers have already started producing IWB and OWB holsters for a couple of Glock/TLR-7 packages, and Streamlight's web site will have holster availability information for you as well.



One of the challenges weapon light users struggle with all too frequently is the accidental activation of the light while in storage, or unwanted activation during tactical situations requiring light discipline. Streamlight addressed that concern by including a run/safe switch. To lock out the light and prevent accidental activation, simply rotate the head counterclockwise to its detent position, it's a great feature available only on the TLR-7 and

TLR-8 weapon lights. A secondary benefit of the run/safe feature is enhanced battery life during storage.



The head houses the LED electronics that drive the TLR-7 to 500 lumens of well collimated white light. The light beam retains the characteristic well defined hotspot with an abundance of peripheral lighting that illuminates and average size room corner to corner.



The TLR-7 features a strobe which is disabled at the factory. The end-user can activate the strobe by starting from the "Off" position, tapping either switch very rapidly 9 times (within $\frac{1}{4}$ second per tap) then holding down on

the 10th time until the light turns off. To use the strobe, press either switch, then release and immediately re-press. You're now strobing.

Streamlight's TLR-7 runs on a single CR123A lithium battery which powers its 500 lumens for 1.5 hours.



Installing fresh batteries requires removing the light's head from its housing to expose the battery compartment. The head which also functions as the battery cap is O-ring sealed to provide an IPX7 water resistance rating.

The TLR-7 ships with a number of rail keys to support a number of host weapons. The light's owner's manual and included documentation will help you select the appropriate key to use.

- **GLOCK®**
 - MOST MODELS UP TO GEN 4
 - 17, 19 GEN 5
- **SIG SAUER®**
 - 320 COMPACT & 1911 GSR
 - 320 CARRY & FULL SIZE
 - P200 SERIES (220, 2022, etc.)
- **SMITH & WESSON®**
 - TSW (With Riveted Rail) & 99
 - M&P® (All Sizes)
- **BERETTA®**
 - 92/96 A1 MODELS

- 90TWO
- APX (Loosely front to back)
- PX4 STORM SUBCOMPACT (Loosely front to back)
- **SPRINGFIELD ARMORY®**
 - XD® (9, 40, 45, 9(M), & 9 MOD. 2)
- **1913 PICATINNY RAIL**
 - TLR-7® and TLR-8® will fit many other guns with Universal or 1913 (Picatinny) style rails.

Several other platforms are supported and for a complete list refer to www.streamlight.com website for the latest TLR-7® and TLR-8® compatibility list.

Wrapping things up, the TLR-7 is a continuation of everything you've come to expect from Streamlight. The offering adds breadth to Streamlight's TLR line.

The TLR-7 is ideally suited to the modern compact Conceal Carry platform. If you carry a Glock 19, or similar platform, the TLR-7 is just what the doctor ordered; it fits your Glock 19 like a glove. I have no doubts that you'll love Streamlight's newest weapon mounted light. Check it out!

–SP

Manufacturer Specification

- High Lumens: 500
- Run Time: 1.50 hours
- Beam Distance: 131 meters
- Max Candela: 4,300
- Battery Type: CR123A Lithium
- Battery Quantity: 1
- Length: 2.15 inches(5.46 centimeters)
- Weight: 2.4 ounces (74.84 grams)
- Colors: Black
- MSRP: \$215 (lower at retail prices)