



SMALL ARMS EVALUATION TEAM

MARCH 2020

PSL: SCOPED SELF-LOADING SNIPER RIFLE (7.62x54MMR)



PSL with LPS TIP 2 sight.

The PSL (c. 1974) – Pușcă Semiautomată cu Lunetă – is a Kalashnikov type rifle designed at RATMIL Cugir for Romanian designated marksmen and snipers and is based on the RPK light machine gun (essentially an upscaled AKM).

It was designed to use the full power 7.62x54mmR round used in the PKM general purpose machine gun and sniper rifles like the SVD Dragunov and the Mosin-Nagant M91/30.

Although not as accurate as a dedicated sniper rifle, it is very reliable and easy to maintain, just like the RPK and the AKM rifle the former is based on.

It is an excellent self-loading rifle for designated marksmen and markswomen due to its combination of reliability,

durability, robustness, firepower, penetration, and ease of maintenance and repair.

Steel magazines are the strongest and most durable, and we would recommend against using polymer magazines as they do not have much of a track record so are best avoided.

The AK selector/safety lever is poorly located, which can be addressed by fitting a Mark VI Enhanced AK Selector Safety Lever from Krebs Custom; while the Fuller rear sight mod from Rifle Dynamics will make aiming easier and faster.

A civilian version of the PSL has been imported to the US by a number of companies.

The LPS 4x6° TIP2 telescopic sight was developed for this rifle and is essentially a simplified

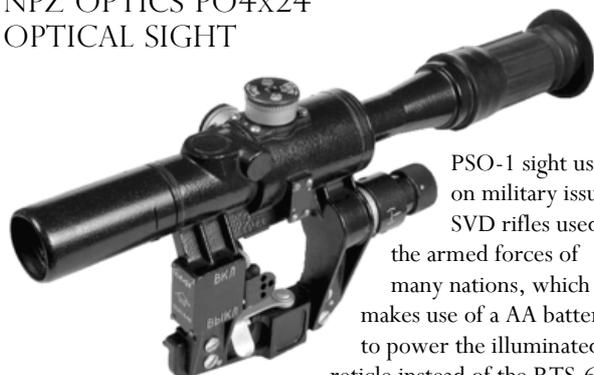
variant of the Russian PSO-1 sniper sight that uses Tritium instead of a battery to power the illuminated reticle, which must be replaced every 8 to 12 years.

We recommend an improved version of the PSO-1 by NPZ Optics called the PO4x24, which uses a AA battery (ideally long life lithium) rather than an obscure Russian battery.

If you want to use conventional optical sights we recommend the mounts from RS Regulate, which also offers the BM-1 Accessory Mount for attaching a tactical light or laser.

The PSL is intended for use with light ball rounds like the 7N1 and 7N14 with bullets that weigh around 150 grains, so it's best to avoid heavy ball rounds (typically 180 grains).

NPZ OPTICS PO4x24 OPTICAL SIGHT



The PO4x24 Optical Sight from NPZ Optics is an improved version of the

drop compensating (BDC) turret for the 7.62x54R round (ideally the 7N1 or 7N14 rounds designed for sniping).

When zeroed for 100 m with the top chevron as the aiming mark the lower chevrons serve as aiming marks for 200 m, 300 m and 400 m respectively.

The Tigr mount on the PO4x24 is designed for use with the SVD type base on the SPL, whereas the Saiga mount (on the PO4x24-1) is designed for the shorter AK type base found on AKM assault rifles.



RECOMMENDED ACCESSORIES

Handbook

AK Handbook.
[Blackheart International]

Log Book

Firearm Usage & Maintenance Log Book.
[Blackheart International]

Maintenance Video

AKS - MAK90 - AKS 47 Semi-Auto Rifles. [AGI]

Cleaning Kit

AK-47 Cleaning Kit.
[Strike Hard Gear]

Cleaner/Lubricant

Slip 2000 725 / Slip 2000 EWL.
[Slip 2000]

Broken Shell Extractor

7.62x54R Broken Shell Extractor.
[C.J. Weapons Accessories]

AK Hi-Vis Front Sight

XS AK 24/7 Tritium Stripe.
[XS Sights Systems]

Telescopic Sight

PO4x24 Optical Sight (SVD mount).
[NPZ Optics]

Dry Fire Rounds

A-Zoom 7.62x54 Russian Snap Caps.
[Lyman Products Corporation]

Ear Plugs

EarPro EP3 or EP4. [SureFire]

Sling

Tactical Sling (TAS-AK).
[Eagle Industries]

HOT TIP

Training magazines can suffer metal fatigue to their springs so don't use them for combat.