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You can't go wrong with EOTech. They are one of the most renowned manufacturers of weapon sights, and their products always come with superior quality. In this article, we will help you choose between EOTech 512 vs 518, which are holographic weapon sights with essentially the same functionality. However, there are distinctions in the design, ergonomics, and reticle options. Below, you can find out more about: - The size and weight of each holographic weapon sight here - The controls, ergonomics, and battery life - Which holographic weapon sight that is more recommended Size and Weight First of all, let's take a look at the dimensions of the two holographic weapon sights. The differences aren't dramatic, but still noticeable. If you want to equip an additional scope for long-range shooting, you may need to consider carefully the length of the weapon sight of your choice. See also: EOTech 512 vs 552. EOTech 512 is very popular because of good reasons. For sure, it is an ideal choice when you need speed and versatility. It is compared to EOTech 518, this model is slightly smaller, as the width is only 2 inches and height 2.5 inches. With this model, you can easily maneuver and navigate through any terrain. EOTech 518 is basically an evolution of EOTech 512. It retains the good improvements where necessary. It has the same length, which is 5.6 inches. However, it is slightly heavier at 13.8 oz. This isn't a big deal, though, as the weapon sight is still quite lightweight. Nevertheless, EOTech 518 is slightly bulkier. The width is 2.2 inches, and the height is 2.9 inches, In most cases, you don't need to worry about the increased dimensions. You can still maneuver easily with this sight. However, if you really want to get the most compact and lightweight option, EOTech 512 is the way to go. Design The biggest difference between EOTech 512 vs 518 is the ergonomics. EOTech 512 is not really good in this aspect because you can't keep your eyes on the optics when making some adjustments. Apparently, the company is aware of the issue, so EOTech 512 has one quirk: the buttons are placed on the rear of the optics. Perhaps the good thing about this design is that it is ambidextrous; you can use either hand to access the buttons. However, you cannot do so while keeping your eyes on the optics. This is very inconvenient when you already have a good aim but need to make just a simple adjustment. EOTech 518 has side-mounted controls. So, you can access the controls while keeping your eyes on the optics. This is definitely much better than EOTech 512 has black and camo color options. There are Mossy Oak Obsession and Realtree APG camo patterns available, so you can choose the one that suits your weapon best. On the other hand, EOTech 518 is only available in black without any camo option. Reticle options. EOTech 512 vs 518 is that they come with different reticle options. EOTech 512 vs 518 is that they come with different reticle options. EOTech 512 vs 518 is available with -0 and -2 reticle options. The -0 reticle pattern is the most popular choice, so there is no surprise that EOTech 512 comes with it. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. 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This reticle pattern has a 1 MOA dot that is surrounded by a 68 MOA ring. 200 yards (medium range), while the lowest part of the ring is accurate for 7 yards (close range). With a shotgun, the ring can be used to determine the shot pattern, but you can also get the sight with the -2 reticle pattern. This reticle pattern is identical to the -0 pattern, except for an additional dot under the center dot. The additional dot is useful for long-range shooting. With a load of .223 cal, 62 gr, 2,900 vel, it is accurate for 500 yards. Brightness and Performance EOTech 512 and EOTech 518 are identical in terms of brightness and performance. Each of them has 20 brightness settings. The overall brightness is excellent; you can increase or decrease it as needed. When in normal daylight, the nominal setting 12 is good. Note that these models do not have night vision. If you need an NV-compatible unit, you should consider either EOTech 552 or EOTech 558. The lenses are obviously of high quality. They provide bright and crisp images. You can see objects and identify patterns from far away, thanks to the excellent sharpness. The center dot is small enough to allow precision aiming without blocking your view of the target. Battery Life EOTech 512 and EOTech 518 also have identical battery life. Each of them works with two 1.5V AA batteries. You can use alkaline, lithium, or rechargeable batteries. The batteries at the nominal setting 12 and in room temperature. However, note that higher brightness levels may consume more power, and environment temperatures may also affect the batteries, you can get about 600 continuous hours, also at the nominal setting 12 and in room temperature. EOTech 512 Vs 518 - Holographic Weapon Sight- Holographic Sight designed- Requires 2 AA batteries - 518 w/68/1 MOA QD mount Blk Conclusion These two models have identical performance and batteries. They both have excellent image quality and great battery life. However, EOTech 518 comes with improved ergonomics. It has side-mounted controls so that you can make adjustments without losing your sight. EOTech 518 is also available with more reticle patterns. There is the -2 reticle pattern, which is great for long-range setting. So, EOTech 518 is more recommended. Gunbough.com is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising fees by advertising and linking to Gunbough.com (amazon.com, amazonsupply.com, or myhabit.com) CERTAIN CONTENT THAT APPEARS IN THIS SITE COMES FROM AMAZON SERVICES LLC. THIS CONTENT IS PROVIDED "AS IS" AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR REMOVAL AT ANY TIME. Lunde Studio is reader-supported. When you buy through links on our site, we may earn an affiliate commission from Amazon at no extra cost to you. Learn more. If you are a gun enthusiast, hitting the target is probably your main goal. Even if you kave tons of gun collections, there is no use, especially if you can't reach the prey. Remember, the accuracy of any gun is affected by the sight you use. That is the reason why you need to have an appropriate holographic weapon sight (HWS). The EOTech holographic sight is one of the prominent weapons that is being sold in the market. It comes with different models, so this might be confusing, especially if they have similar features. In this article, we will understand which holographic sight works for you best and select between EOTech 512 vs 518. About EOTech 5ince 1995, the company has been manufacturing as well as designing and marketing various electro-optic systems and products such as holographic sight weapon accessories for security, law enforcement, defense, hunting, and even for recreational purposes. Aside from HWS, it also offers thermal vision devices, night vision devices, and tactical lights and lasers. EOTech uses forefront technology to ensure each product is made of high-quality materials to obtain an optimal result. All items are battle-tested too, so it is a good choice for hunting and sport shooting. Since then, it has been producing a more modular and compact design for military and law enforcement use. EOTech 512 ReviewIf you want to try the EOTech 512. ProsIt is cheaper compared to 518Water-resistant so it is submersible with a depth of 10 feetComes with 20 brightness settingsSupports AA batteries whether alkaline, lithium, or rechargeableWeighs only 11.5 ouncesComes with an EOTech MOA dot reticle and 68 MOA ringConsNot compatible with night visionThis sight weapon is designed for a recreational and tactical shooter as well as for personal defense. With buttons placed on the rear, you can easily access it, whether you're left or right-handed shooter. This can be used from dawn to dusk as it has 20 brightness settings, just an ideal choice for competitive shooting and hunting! The 512 is designed to reach the target with accuracy and reliability. This is a good idea for serious precision shooters as it is constructed and engineered to meet their rough demands. Weighing only 11.5 ounces, you can use this with ease, making it compact wherever you may go. Not to mention, it is water-resistant too, so you can submerge it with a depth of up to 10 feet. This weapon can certainly be used in different settings, whether wet or dry. Anyway, the multiple brightness setting is to ensure fast adaptability in various shooting situations. If you use a lithium battery, you can get around 2,500 hours of continuous usage. On the other hand, using an alkaline battery can make you use it around 2,500 hours. You only need AA batteries - whether alkaline, lithium, or rechargeable. Anyway, this can be mounted with 1" MIL-STD 1913 Rail and Weaver. On AR with EOTech, there is a difference between 1/3 co-witness manifests the alignment of the red dot sights and iron sights. Since the riser mount is 1", it uses a lower 1/3 co-witness. EOTech 518 ReviewIf you want to obtain the features of EOTech EXPS2 and the 512 in one rugged model, you may opt for the 518, although it comes with a detachable leverA good idea for G33 Magnifier with its side button operationWater-resistant up to 10 feetHas 20 brightness settingsCan be powered by AA batteriesConsQuite a heavy weighing 13.08 ouncesDoes not have night-visionThis is made to be a tough one so you can use it for a longer time, given its service life. Just like the others, it can be used by AA batteries, so there is no way you will run out of power. Perhaps, the most amazing feature of this model is its compatibility with G33 Magnifier. This will enable you to reach your target, even from behind. As you can make an EOTech 512 recall, the HWS can reliably and quickly obtain your target. Since it is created to meet the tough demands of gun enthusiasts, especially those who are serious about shooting, it may be a good choice for you. But then, just like the 512, it does not feature night-vision too. This comes with different brightness settings from dark to bright, so you will be able to use it in various shooting conditions. Even if the sight window is partially covered by mud or snow or partly broken, you will not lose the fight since the HWS can still give you pinpoint accuracy, though reticle appears fuzzy. That is why until now, EOTech is still trusted by elites in the US. Since the EOTech red dot and ring do not enlarge when magnified, you will be ensured of precision and accuracy at any scope. The EOTech rediction and accuracy at any scope. compare them according to the following aspects: With a size of 5.6" x 2" x 2.5" and a weight of 11.5 ounces, the 512 is lightweight and compact compared to the 518 with a size of 5.6" x 2.2" x 2.9" and a weight of 13.8 ounces. Although the width, height, and weight make the difference, it is not really dramatic. However, it is worth noting that smaller width and height can help you to navigate and maneuver different kinds of terrain with ease. On the other hand, if you want long-range shooting capability, you should consider a higher length of the HWS. Although 518 is slightly heavier than 512, this is not really a big deal. When it comes to ergonomics, the 512 is not favorable because you cannot make adjustments if you are keeping your eyes on the optics. The good thing is that 518 is made with side button operations. Why is it a big deal? Having side-mounted controls can allow you to access them even if your eyes are on the optics. So if you already have a nice target, you can make simple adjustments without removing your focus. The 512 only has a single dot, meaning its reticle pattern is only -0. On the other hand, the reticle pattern growides additional dot that is utilized for long-range shooting, the reason why the 518 features such. Brightness and PerformanceWhen it comes to brightness, both models can be adjusted with 20 settings. The 512 and 518 have no night vision capability too. If you want the night-vision feature, then you should opt for EOTech alternatives such as the 552 and 558. Anyway, the lenses are all made of high-quality, so you expect bright images. If you want a lightweight and compact selection, then 512 is a good idea. On the other hand, 518 is a perfect option for long-range shooting. And since the controls are side-mounted, it will be more comfortable for you to use this model. Depending on your preference and purpose, either choice may work for you. Frequently Asked QuestionsWhy is EOTech so expensive? EOTech products are made of high-quality materials. Plus, they are tested to be tough not only when it comes to recreational purposes but also for the use of law enforcement and the military. Read this article and get more reflex sight options on a budget. Did EOTech fix their problems? Yes. According to the EOTech 512 review, it does not come with side button operation since it is located in the rear of the optics. This made it hard for users to focus and adjust it at the same time. But with the 518, the buttons are already mounted at the sides, making it comfortable to adjust them while keeping your eyes to the optics. Is EOTech made in the USA? Yes, EOTech made in the U water-resistant? Yes. All HWS is water-resistant though the depth to which it can be submerged differs, depending on the model. What are the benefits of HWS in a close quarter battle? HWS provides the fastest sight, thereby allowing speed. It maintains your peripheral vision as well as leads to outstanding accuracy, giving you confidence in your shooting ability. In short, this sight can offer you the ease of use, vision, and speed. Final VerdictHopefully, after you have read through both HWS are quite similar, each has its pros and cons. Depending on your preference, either option may be good for you. Choose one that can give you the utmost benefits.

