

What's a Brass Catcher?



by Staff

To the non-shooter, the term "brass catcher" may seem strange. However, to the shooter and reloader, such items are an important part of their activities.

The first "brass catcher" of which we are aware was a wire cage mounted on a Colt 1911 pistol, during WW I. Initially, aircraft were used primarily for battlefield surveillance and were not equipped with weapons.

Naturally, both sides began using such surveillance airplanes, and it was only fitting that the pilots on opposing sides started shooting at each other with side arms.

The ejected empty cartridge cases (brass) were capable of causing more damage to one's own plane than the projectile did to the enemy's. Constructed of wood frames and cloth covering, the tail empennages were easily ripped and torn by ejected brass. Spent brass falling inside the cockpit could easily cause problems with control cables.

A "brass-catcher" constructed with a wire frame covered with screen wire, soon became standard military issue. Any such remaining catchers are sought by serious collectors of Colt 1911 items.

This brief history of brass catchers, also, reveals that the first air to air combat was done with the Colt 1911 .45! Sadly, it seems that mankind's highest achievements have always been in the science of better ways to kill each other!

In latter years, the need to save brass became well known to reloaders and those forensically enlightened.

In the early 1980's, E&L Manufacturing introduced a totally new concept of brass catchers and, shortly, became the world leader in the production of a line of "catchers" that fit nearly any weapon on the market today.



Shown above are only 6 of the 50+ "off the shelf" catchers that E&L have ready to ship. Check their website and check out their entire line of not only brass catchers but hundreds of other top of the line products!

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