

## Myth busted: All model 60's are shorter than the model 65

January 1 2011 at 3:14 PM



Chuck Jordan (Login [chuckjordan2](#))  
Vintage Diana forum moderator

I've read people saying the Diana 60 is shorter for those of us small-framed AR collectors. Not 100% true.

As the pictures clearly show, some (not all) model 60's are the same length as later model 65's.

Pictured below (left to right are):

- 1) Diana 60 (finger groove) - 1967 -- note: it's a little shorter --
- 2) Diana 65 - 1968
- 3) Diana 60 - 1980(ish) vintage -- note: it's the same length as both 65's!
- 4) Diana 65 - 1972



Now, let's look at the differences on the grip and length of pull (LOP). The early model 60 (leftmost) is clearly shorter and has a longer LOP.

The late model 60 (1980-ish vintage) has the same cheekpiece placement and LOP as the model 65.



Note: I rearranged the airrifles around, please pay attention to the new order. The above picture has this order:

- 1) Diana 60 (FG) - 1967
- 2) Diana 60 - 1980-ish
- 3) Diana 65 - 1968
- 4) Diana 65 - 1972

So, unless you have an early model 60, they are not shorter. Of course this is subject to my small sample. If a Diana stockist were to set the record straight, I would accept that correction.

Chuck

This message has been edited by Afrikane on Nov 24, 2017 12:21 AM

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**Chuck Jordan**  
 (Login [chuckjordan2](#))  
 Vintage Diana forum moderator

**Who manufactured Diana stocks?** January 1 2011, 6:59 PM

In the 1960-1980 period, did Diana procure their stock from the Italian company called Sile?

Sile (Minelli) produced stock for others such as Wischo (later bought by Weirauch).

Chuck

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**Garvin**  
 (Premier Login [Garvin2](#))  
 Owner

**Thanks for posting** January 3 2011, 5:41 PM

that very interesting research on Diana 60 lengths, Chuck. I wonder if the late mod 60 being of a similar length to the 65s comes down to cost savings (ie. using up old parts stock) at a time when demand for the 60 was presumably quite weak and the mod 65/66 had been superceded by the mod 75?

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**Chuck Jordan**  
(Login [chuckjordan2](#))  
Vintage Diana forum moderator

**My thoughts on the differences**

January 4 2011, 12:14 AM

Garvin,

I thought the same, however, the model 65 is ~ 1/4" (others noted 6mm) longer than the model 60. The actions were not easily interchangeable.

My theory is another stock making company produced a run for Diana, hence my second post.

I see it in HW luftgewehr. Some HW55 stocks were made by HW and others shipped out because you notice the different checkering pattern. Sile was one of the larger stockists back then and could have assisted during peak periods.

I do need to note that I've seen about 4 Diana 66's stocks with the 60 action in them. This change requires requires a small block of wood fitted at the rear (action-side) of the stock. My take is they were conversions from gunsmiths in Germany.

Chuck

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**Heywood**  
(Login [HW3](#))  
HW3

**Honestly Chuck, it may also be based on presumption...**

February 20 2014, 3:15 PM

The Mod. 60 originally had about 50fps lower velocity (Because it only had one spring !) The two smaller internal springs were added at a later date. This is can be noted on the early exploded parts drawings, and called out by omission in absentia on the subsequent parts list. ;^)

Simple misunderstanding from a time when folks couldn't troll the internet and compare notes. The receiver tubes may be shorter but 50 fps is not a great deal of swept volume ? HTH. Prof M

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