

# HOLSTER COMPARISON CHART

Material · Retention · Carry Position · Comfort · Price

Everything the "carbon fiber" label won't tell you before you spend \$150.

Compare 10 holsters across 7 key performance variables so your next purchase fits your carry system, not just your wallet.

From GunCarrier.com · Responsible Carry, Plain English.

**What this chart covers:** Material type (Kydex / carbon overlay / hybrid) · Retention level · Best carry position · Summer comfort rating · Drawstroke accessibility · Women's fit notes · MSRP range

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Comfort and Draw Access rated 1 to 5 (5 = best). DTC = direct-to-consumer; not available on Amazon. ● = filled ■ = empty

HOLSTER	MATERIAL	RETENTION LEVEL	BEST CARRY POSITION	SUMMER COMFORT	DRAW ACCESS	WOMEN'S FIT NOTE	PRICE
<b>BUDGET TO MID   \$25 to \$65   Standard Kydex and Carbon Overlay Kydex</b>							
<b>Concealment Express Rounded IWB CF Kydex</b>	Carbon overlay Kydex .08"	Level 1 Posi-click	AIWB / IWB Strong side	●●●●■	●●●●■	Test ride height; neutral cant default	\$37-45
<b>Concealment Express Tuckable IWB CF Kydex</b>	Carbon overlay Kydex .08"	Level 1 Posi-click	AIWB / IWB Tucked shirt	●●●●■	●●●●■	Clip sits high; check waistline	\$40-50
<b>Alien Gear Cloak Tuck 3.5 IWB</b>	Kydex shell + neoprene backer	Level 1 Adjustable	IWB strong side 3-4 o'clock	●●●●■	●●●●■	Soft backer reduces dig	\$45-60
<b>MID-RANGE   \$60 to \$100   Precision Gun-Specific Kydex</b>							
<b>Vedder LightTuck IWB Kydex</b>	Gun-specific Kydex .080"	Level 1 Posi-click adj.	AIWB / IWB All positions	●●●●■	●●●●●	30 deg cant adj.; test ride height	\$60-75
<b>Vedder ProDraw OWB Kydex</b>	Gun-specific Kydex .080"	Level 1 Adjustable	OWB strong side Range / open carry	●●●●●	●●●●●	Good for range and open carry	\$60-80
<b>Tulster Profile+ AIWB / IWB</b>	Precision Kydex	Level 1 Posi-click	AIWB primary; IWB compatible	●●●●■	●●●●●	Slim profile; check hip geometry	\$65-85
<b>MID TO PREMIUM   \$80 to \$175   DTC Precision Systems (buy direct from manufacturer)</b>							
<b>PHLster Floodlight AIWB</b>	Precision Kydex	Level 1 Adj. screw	AIWB optimized; not for OWB	●●●●■	●●●●●	Claw included; test cant for fit	\$80-110 DTC only
<b>Tier 1 Concealed Xiphos AIWB</b>	Precision Kydex	Level 1 Posi-lock	AIWB / IWB Mod-wing ready	●●●●■	●●●●●	Adj. wing; better hip curve fit	\$100-130 DTC only
<b>Tenikor Velo 5 AIWB</b>	Precision Kydex; integ. wedge	Level 1 Wedge-assisted	AIWB optimized; low profile	●●●●●	●●●●●	Built-in wedge; good for curves	\$110-140 DTC only
<b>COMFORT-FIRST   \$25 to \$40   Friction and Hybrid Options</b>							
<b>Sticky Holsters Universal IWB</b>	Foam-rubber universal	Level 1 Friction only	AIWB / pocket Ankle	●●●●●	●●●●■	No clip; friction only; slower draw	\$25-40

<b>LEGEND</b>	●●●●● Excellent ●●●●■ Good ●●●●■ Average ●●●●■ Below average ●●●●■ Poor	DTC = Direct-to-consumer. Not on Amazon. Buy at manufacturer's website.

**Key takeaway:** Most holsters labeled "carbon fiber" are Kydex with a texture overlay, not true composite material. Shell fit, cant angle, and Level 1 retention matter more than material. A foam wedge (\$15 to \$30) solves appendix carry comfort better than a material upgrade in most cases. Run any holster through the five-day carry test before deciding.