

AIWB Fit Checklist

XD-M Elite Compact Pistol | GunCarrier.com

This checklist exists because holster fit, not the spec sheet, is where most XD-M Elite Compact Pistol buyers run into trouble. Work through each section before you order a holster or commit to daily carry.

1. Confirm Your Exact Configuration

☐	Caliber confirmed: 9mm, .45 ACP, or 10mm (dimensions differ by caliber)
☐	OSP (optics-ready) or standard iron-sight model confirmed
☐	If OSP: optic model selected and mounting plate confirmed compatible
☐	Magwell configuration confirmed: compact (14+1) or extended (19+1) for 9mm

2. Holster Fit Checks Before You Buy

☐	Holster listing confirms your exact caliber variant, not just “XD-M Elite Compact” generally
☐	If OSP: holster is optics-cut, not a standard slide holster
☐	Belt hook or clip hardware size checked against your actual belt width
☐	Hybrid or adjustable design considered if you carry a less common caliber (.45 ACP / 10mm)
☐	Retention level and drop confirmed for your intended carry position (AIWB, strong-side IWB, OWB)

3. The 30-Day Wear Test

Comfort on the range does not predict comfort at your desk, in your car, or at dinner. Track this daily for 30 days before calling this your carry gun.

☐	Carried across at least 3 different outfit types (work, casual, formal/fitted)
☐	Carried through a full range of motion: sitting, bending, reaching, driving
☐	Printing checked in a mirror under your actual cover garments
☐	Days carried out of 30 logged honestly (target: as close to 30/30 as possible)

4. Reliability and Maintenance Verification

☐	At least 200 rounds of your actual carry ammunition fired with zero malfunctions
☐	Striker/firing pin channel kept dry per manufacturer maintenance guidance, not lubricated
☐	Magazines cycled and function-checked, including any extended or spare magazines
☐	Sights or optic zero confirmed after your reliability test, not before

5. Which Selection Framework Fits Your Situation?

If your wardrobe and climate comfortably support a compact-size platform (loose clothing, moderate weather, casual dress code), prioritize controllability: this gun's larger grip and capacity are an asset.

If your dress code or climate is print-sensitive (fitted attire, hot weather, minimal cover garments), it's reasonable to step down in frame size and close the gap with dedicated dry-fire practice instead.

A gun you don't carry protects nobody, and a gun you can't run under stress doesn't either. Work this checklist before you buy, not after.

This checklist is for general educational purposes and is not legal advice. Confirm your state and local concealed carry requirements before carrying any firearm.