

German WWII Marschstiefel (Tall Boots) Evaluation

Grading of the suppliers listed here is based solely on the personal judgment of Doug Strong. No insult is intended, nor does it reflect the opinions of any reenactment organization. The boots have been placed in three tiers. The list is made with US buyers in mind. All prices have been converted into US dollars at a January 2018 exchange rate.

This evaluation does not take into account makers that have changed their designs multiple times and only accounts for the newest version as pictured on their website. Some makers may also have old stock from earlier runs with which they are still filling orders. It may also be possible that companies have changed their designs and not changed the photos on their websites.

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Tier 1 boots are made by the company, seller or individual selling them and are high in both quality and authenticity.

Maker/Dealer	Country of dealer	Authenticity rank	Quality rank	Positive features	Negative features	Grade	Price
Fredericci (Facebook Only)	Poland	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off the shelf or made to order. • High standard authenticity • Excellent materials and workmanship • Included Polishing and maintenance materials. • Pre blacked • Pre dubbed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Shipping costs • Custom construction takes time • Possibly Long shipping time 	A+	\$345-374
Vlastislav Koutný	Czech	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made to order • High standard authenticity • Excellent materials and workmanship • A wide variety of tall boot styles. • Shipping costs included 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custom construction takes time • Possibly Long shipping time 	A+	\$337-405 Including Shipping
Lederarsenal	Germany	1	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made to order • High standard authenticity • Excellent materials and workmanship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Shipping costs • Possibly Long shipping time • Custom construction takes time 	A+	\$382

Tier 2 boots are primarily made by someone other than the company selling them and are moderate in either quality, or authenticity, or both.

Maker/Dealer	Country of dealer	Authenticity rank	Quality rank	Positive features	Negative features	Grade	Price
Hessen Antique	USA	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uppers appear rugged. • Has half soles • Has steel heel iron • Good looking boots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zamak (Zinc Aluminum alloy) hobnails will fall out but not as fast as others due to how they are installed. • Soles not pegged 	B+	\$179
Voenspec	Russia	2	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has half soles • Correct heel irons • Correct hobnails • Correct toe plates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shipping costs and delivery time may be high • Soles not pegged • Website is in Russian (Use Google Translate) 	B	\$143
Nestof	Poland	2	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Correct steel hobnails • Pegged soles • Natural dyeable leather • Excellent construction • Correct steel heel irons <p>Also available from Man the Line and on ebay if you don't want to order from Poland.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shipping costs and delivery time may be high • Website is in Polish (Use Google Translate) • One pair recently showed premature wear but Nestof repaired them. • Recently there has been evidence of them losing original hobnails at a high rate. 	B-	\$199

Tier 3 boots are primarily made by someone other than the company selling them and are poor in either quality, or authenticity, or both.

Maker/Dealer	Country of dealer	Authenticity rank	Quality rank	Positive features	Negative features	Grade	Price
				Because there are fewer companies producing WWI boots there are no really poor quality ones available that I have found			

My recommendation is as follows.

1 Buy from a top tier maker. Their price is VERY similar to a tier two dealer and their quality and authenticity is far superior. My recommendations would be either Fredericci, or Lederarsenal.

3. If budget is the biggest concern then consider an a tier two pair and have a skilled cobbler (such as myself or Chris Chase) fix them and make them wearable for you.

Doug Strong, the [Kompanie Schuster](#)