

## Vz24 to G.24 (t)

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Since Waffen SS divisions were outside the regular Army procurement structure, they were issued captured Czech weapons at the beginning of WW2. The German Army considered the SS to be rivals and denied them access to Army supply sources and weapons whenever they could. For this reason many collectors consider the G.24 (t) to have been an SS issued weapon even though no examples with SS proofing have been found.

There is photographic evidence ([The Waffen-SS](#), Herbert Walther), that the Waffen SS did carry Czech weapons during the invasion of France in May/June 1940, they were, however Czech Army issued VZ-24's (some of which can be found with German Waffenamts). All G.24 (t) were made in either 1941 or 1942, and therefore could not have been used during the French campaign.

The fact that every G.24 (t) reported has been Heer proofed supports evidence that they are Army rifles. No examples with Navy or Luftwaffe branch of service stamps have been reported. There are however, examples of the G24 (t) with a bolt proof of Germany's Slovak Allies (to the right), and in the book [Galicia Division](#) written by Michael Logusz there is a 1944 photo of Kampfgruppe "Beyersdorff" with stacked G24 (t) rifles. It has been suggested that the G.24 (t), since it was non-standard (not a K98k), would have been sent to the Navy or the Luftwaffe in order to save K98k 's for the Army, as with the G.29/40's but there is no evidence of this having happened.



It is known that the German arms manufacturers had plans to produce rifles in the factories of the occupied countries as early as 1938, (G.29 (O) dated 1938). The German military considered Czech weapons standards to be as good as their own and accepted their Czech weapons directly into service.

A number of VZ-24 rifles were shipped to the Mauser factory at Oberndorf in 1939. Under the supervision of Dr. Fleck (Director of Production) and Major Eiserbesk (Chief of Waffen Proof 2 of the OKH--Army High Command), prototypes were designed to bring existing VZ-24's up to K98k standards. The changes to made VZ-24's were as follows:

- The rear side sling swivel, which projected through the stock behind the wrist, was removed and the hole was plugged with a wooden dowel.
- A bolt-takedown washer was placed in the buttstock. (Sometimes the only Nazi proofing found on these altered rifles is on this washer).



The rear spine sling swivel, which was removed and the hole was plugged with a piece of wood veneer.



- Nazi test eagles and Waffenamts were sometimes put on the left side of the rear of the barrel (usually

found under the handguard).

These rifles carry either Ceskoslovenska Zbrojovka Brno or the Czech Rampant Lion mark on the top of the receiver ring. The side rails are marked Ceskoslovenska Zbrojovka, A.S., Brno VZ-24 or Vz-24 depending on the vintage of the Vz-24 rifle. They retained their straight bolt-handle and bottom sling swivels. They are often indistinguishable from the Czech Army issue VZ-24 and are often overlooked by collectors of German issue weapons. Look for the bolt-takedown washer as the identifying mark of the German conversion. Another tip off of German Issue is the Blued Bolt as the Czech Army Issue bolt assemblies were finished in the white. Undoubtedly many of these were, in fact, the SS issue rifles even though they were not so proofed. These rifles are quite distinctive as compared with the K98k.

The next variation is the prototype G.24 (t). These were assembled at the Czech factory now designated by the Germans as Waffenwerke Brunn, A.G., Werke Bystrica and given the manufacturers code "dou." They were made from parts found in the factory when the Germans took control. The modifications made to these rifles were the same as listed above but the receiver rings are unmarked or "blank" on top and show only the German test Eagle and K98k system serial numbers on the left side and WaA607 and / or WaA80 on the right side.



The side rail has the German occupation logo, of Zbrojovka, Brno, and A.S. VZ-24 (Ceskoslovenska was dropped). They are Branch of Service marked (Heer only to date) and Eagle WaA607 proofed on the right side rear of the stock and have Eagle WaA607 proofs on the pistol grip and on the bottom spine of the stock. The serial number is also stamped externally on the rear bottom spine. These proofing features are identical to those utilized on contemporary K98k's.



There are several variations of these prototype G.24 (t)'s which differed in minor details as a result of the previously manufactured parts being used up and the new standard G.24 (t) parts phased into manufacturing processes. The serial numbers of these prototype rifles entered the very early "b" letter block by 1941 when the new G.24 (t) appeared in the form, which then became standard.

The new rifle was again identical with the previous ones in that the bolt handle was straight and not bent down. The handguard extended around the rear sight base up to the receiver ring, which had a lip, which retained the handguard. The rear band was screwed on with a pin through the stock rather than a band spring. The final changes were as follows: the stock was altered to accept the standard K98k style sling with the cut-out through the rear of the stock and bottom sling swivels were deleted. The rifle was now stamped G.24 (t) on the side rail--the G for Gewehr, 24 for the initial year of production, and (t) for the first letter of the German spelling of Czechoslovakia. These rifles were coded "dou." and dated 41 on top of the receiver ring. The proofing was again "WaA607" and/or "WaA80" as in the earlier rifles and the stocks were marked as previously described. Stocks and handguards were solid wood construction as before up to the early c letter block when laminate stocks and handguards were introduced. All metal parts were of milled construction and beautifully blued. The known serial number range for the 41 dated "dou." code G.24 (t) is from 7286 to 1096j for an estimated production run of 115,000 pieces.



The "dou." coded G.24 (t) rifles dated 42 were again identical to the 41 issue in all respects except the date and the fact that the "WaA607" proof was phased out as the year progressed. The known serial number range is from 4050 to 1856 1. Therefore, production is estimated to have been 140,000 rifles.

Production of the G.24 (t) ceased in mid-1942 and the factory was converted to the manufacturing of standard configuration K98k rifles, which by the end of 1942 reached on the end of the t letter block serial number range.

With a production history of only two years (1941 and 1942) and a total on approximately 250,000 rifles, examples in excellent and all matching condition are rather difficult to find and are valued on a par or even higher with K98k's of the same time period. On the other hand there are only three main variations to seek--the early blank receiver prototype (obviously the rarest), the 41 date with solid stock, and the 42 date with laminate stock.

## G.24 (t)

The German G.24 (t) was produced at Brunn Czechoslovakia under German occupation during 1941 and 1942. These rifles were transitional production to use up remaining VZ.24 parts prior to switching to the standard 98K pattern in mid 1942. The switch over to K9Sk pattern rifles appears to have occurred in the L block of serial numbers.

Total estimated production for this rifle was 250,000.

The G.24 (t) differs from the K98k as follows.

Full length hand guard.	Front & rear barrel bands (rear w/screw).
meter scale one side of rear Sight only	Front Sight assembly
Bolt not turned down	

### Proofing & serial numbers (sample rifle dou. 42)

Receiver code    **dou.**                      Receiver proofs waf A80 (2 on side)

Side rail            **G.24 (t)**

Serial number    4 digits possible    alpha suffix

Upper band        no s/n or waf.

Lower band        no s/n or waf

Trigger guard    **circle z**    no s/n                      milled with lock screws

Bolt ribbed & blued    (Mismatched on sample gun)

Root

Gas shield

Safety waf

Cocking piece

Extractor

Extractor collar

Front sight    No hood vz24 type sight protector no waf

Rear sight    meter scale one side only no s/n

Rear sight base no s/n or waf

Stock    Laminate

Stock Markings (external reported only)

Side                      waf WaAA80 (2)                      waf eagle H (Heer)

pistol grip              waf WaAA80 (1)

Spine                      waf WaAA80 (2) & s/n

Bayonet lug              no s/n or waf

Magazine follower      no s/n or waf

**Proofing & serial numbers (sample rifle blank receiver)**

Receiver code **blank** Receiver proofs waf 607(2 on right side, one on left side)

Side rail **ZBROJOVKA, A.S. VZ.24.**

Serial number 4 digits no alpha

Upper band 4 digit non-matching, no waf.

Lower band no s/n or waf

Trigger guard **circle z** no s/n milled with lock screws

Bolt ribbed & blued (Mismatched on sample gun)

Root

Gas shield

Safety waf

Cocking piece

Extractor

Extractor collar

Front sight No hood, no waf

Rear sight standard Vz-24 rear sight with WaA607, no s/n

Rear sight base no s/n or waf

Stock Solid Vz-24 stock with takedown washer and Germans style sling slot

Stock Markings (external reported only)

Side

waf WaA607 (2)

waf eagle H (Heer)

Pistol grip

very worn nothing visible

Spine

waf WaA607 (only 1 seen) & no s/n

Bayonet lug no s/n or waf

Magazine follower Notched Czech follower no s/n or waf

**\*\* This data compliments of Bob Lukes**