

THE VIXEN APEX PRO HR 10X50 ARE HERE!



**Vixen
Optics**

When I got the news about the NEW Apex Pro HR 10x50 being available in the country, I was keen to see how they had been improved. The previous Apex Pro were already a well put together pair of binoculars we had previously reviewed in the 6th Edition of VDHM. I had good reports from Mike Welch of new advances in the enlarged objectives and hydrophobic coatings. These improvements were actually derived from feedback given by the Welch Family.

Vixen Co. Ltd have been producing optics since 1946. The Japanese based company specialised in telescopes and mounts. The product range has extended immensely in its 64 years of operation to Binoculars, Spotting Scopes and the recently released range of high quality Rifle Scopes. The Australian distributor of Vixen optics is Errol Mason so most gun shops have a range of Vixens available for viewing.

The Vixens arrived on the Thursday morning as promised. I had planned to take the kids out for a walk on the Saturday morning to go and look for deer, show the kids some sign and check out a few new spots. Blake and Hayden are still only little tackers (twins under three) but they enjoy time in the bush with me and at the end of the day, that's what it's all about.

I cracked open the packaging to find a case with a pair of 10x50's inside, a Crooked Horn Harness and a Spudz lens cleaning cloth. I picked up the 10x50's and was pleasantly surprised with the overall light weight, especially for a pair of binoculars with 50mm objectives.

The Vixens have an ergonomic design with balanced weight distribution for free hand steady



glassing, thumb indentations on the inner centre of each tube, palm side wraps and finger grooves on top of each barrel give a comfortable solid and secure grip, which ensures a silent non slip grip in all conditions. Both the objective and eye piece are protected by rubber covers that are supplied with each pair of binoculars.

Looking closer at the Vixen's internal design, an aluminium frame allows the Vixens to retain an overall light weight, yet still offers ruggedised qualities to meet hunter's requirements. Weighing in at just 815 grams or 29oz is an impressive

achievement for a binocular with 50mm objectives. The binoculars feature steel twist-up eye caps which slide up and down smoothly and at the final extension point, the eyecups over rotate locking them in place which prevents them sliding down during use.

The focusing wheel on the Apex Pro is exceptionally well designed offering controlled adjustment with just the right amount of resistance for smooth sharp focusing. The Dioptre is positioned on the right hand tube just below the eyecup with a generous range of + or - adjustment. The hinge design ensures interpupillary distance is maintained for your eyes once set. This is thanks to a Hinge stiffness which has been designed by Vixen to ensure performance, efficiency and reliability while

glassing. The Apex Pro can also be tripod mounted which is a must when glassing for prolonged periods or with larger optics. The central threaded mounting system accepts an aluminium tripod adaptor which fits into standard tripods. Tripod adapters made by Vixen for the Apex Pro Series are available.

The Vixen Pro HR 10x50 use BaK4 prisms which are Phase-coated. Additionally, the Vixens are also fully multi coated on all lens elements which results in a brighter, sharper, high contrast picture.