

Open Carry vs. Concealed Carry

Factor	Open Carry	Concealed Carry
Visibility	Firearm is visible	Firearm is hidden
Attention	Attracts attention	Generally unnoticed
Deterrence	May discourage some criminals	No visible deterrent
Tactical Advantage	Potentially identifies you as armed	Maintains surprise if needed
Public Reaction	May cause concern or questions	Usually avoids social friction
Comfort	Often more comfortable	Requires concealment-friendly clothing
Everyday Practicality	Varies by environment	Preferred by many carriers

Why Many People Prefer Concealed Carry

- Keeps the focus off you.
- Avoids unnecessary attention or confrontation.
- Preserves tactical uncertainty.
- Works well in most public settings.

Why Some People Choose Open Carry

- Greater comfort, especially in hot climates.
- Easier access to the firearm.
- Personal preference or philosophical support for visible firearm ownership.
- Common in some rural or outdoor environments.

Bottom Line

For most civilian self-defense situations, **concealed carry is generally considered the more practical and versatile option**. Open carry can make sense in certain settings, but concealed carry typically provides more privacy and fewer social or tactical drawbacks.

Given that you're in Arizona, where both methods are generally legal, many experienced carriers choose to **conceal whenever practical and open carry only when there is a specific reason to do so**.