

# .223 Remington

My first experience with this excellent round came during my exposure to it in Southeast Asia in 1966. With my first look, it appeared to be more suited for ground squirrels and rockchucks than for a military cartridge. I had immediate plans to take a closer look upon my return to "The World."



.223 Remington

After years of high-volume sniping of distant targets with a .22-250 Remington, it became clear that for a varmint who did not want to rebarrel his pet varmint rifle every other year or so, I must rethink the caliber of choice. Thinking the .222 Remington was not really enough power for what I needed, and that the .22-250 was a trifle much for my needs, the .223 seemed perfect, so I purchased a used Sako L-461 Vixen .223 Remington.

During a recent outing to South Dakota on a prairie dog quest, I had the fortunate pleasure of being offered the new Barnes VLC bullet in both 40- and 50-grain weights loaded in Norma brass by Black Hills and chambered in my favorite varmint caliber, the .223 Remington.

The Barnes VLC bullets grouped at exactly the same point of impact as my own handloads. The accuracy of the Barnes/Black Hills loads was almost identical to my own handloads! I also noted less fouling as a result of the Barnes coating, which enabled more shooting between cleanings — a big factor when the dogs are up, the sun is shining, and you have plenty of ammunition on the bench.

— Rick Vecqueray  
Varmint Masters Shooting Benches

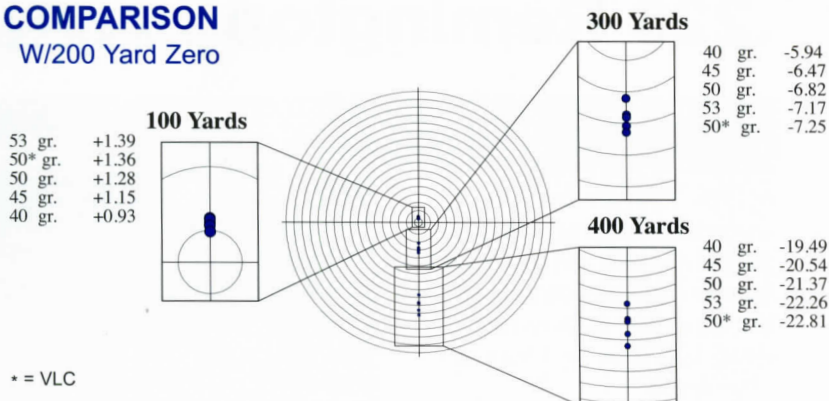


*Case:*  
Winchester  
*Primer:*  
Win Small Rifle  
*Barrel:*  
24"

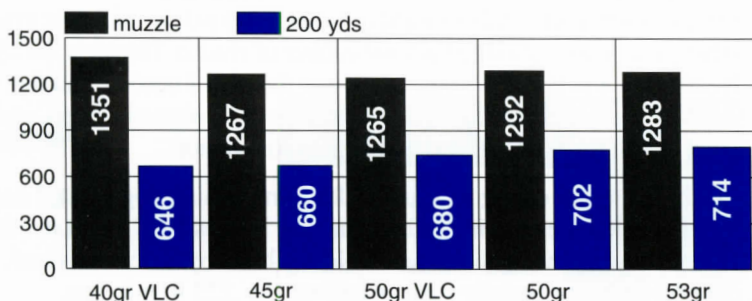
*Parent Case:*  
.222 Remington  
*Trim To:*  
1.750"

# BULLET DROP COMPARISON

W/200 Yard Zero



## BULLET ENERGIES



40-grain VLC

S.D. .114 B.C. .175

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
XMR 2015	24.0	3320	28.0	3873
RL 7	21.0	3242	25.0	3860
Benchmark	26.0	3342	30.0	3856
H335*	27.0	3425	31.0	3932
IMR 4198	21.0	3295	25.0	3923
X-Term*	26.0	3322	30.0	3833
VIT N120	20.0	3168	24.0	3802

XLC Coated X-Bullet data cannot be used with other bullets, including non-coated X-Bullets.  
Maximum loads should be used with caution - Always Start With Minimum Loads.

\* Recommended powder

## .223 Remington



### 45-grain Solid

S.D. .128 B.C. .212

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
XMR 2015*	21.5	3007	25.5	3566
RL 7	19.5	2919	23.5	3518
RL 12	24.0	3102	28.0	3619
H322	21.0	3000	25.0	3572
H335*	22.0	3059	26.0	3615
Varget	22.5	3019	26.5	3556
IMR 4198	18.5	2929	22.5	3562
IMR 3031	21.5	2994	25.5	3551
IMR 4895	23.0	3004	27.0	3527
Win 748	24.0	3017	28.0	3520



### 45-grain XLC BT

S.D. .128 B.C. .203

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
XMR 2015*	21.5	3054	25.5	3622
RL 12	24.5	3088	28.5	3592
H322	22.0	3037	26.0	3589
Benchmark	23.0	2982	27.0	3501
H335	23.0	3033	27.0	3560
Varget	24.5	3059	28.5	3558
IMR 3031	22.5	3001	26.5	3535
IMR 4895	24.0	2997	28.0	3497
X-Term	23.0	2995	27.0	3516
Win 748*	25.0	3015	29.0	3497

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\* Recommended powder

# **.223 Remington**



## **50-grain XFB**

S.D. .142 B.C. .220

Suggested Bullet Use



## **50-grain Solid**

S.D. .142 B.C. .235

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
XMR 2015*	20.5	2844	24.5	3399
RL 7	19.0	2829	23.0	3424
RL 12	23.0	2904	27.0	3409
H322*	20.5	2850	24.5	3406
H335	22.0	2918	26.0	3448
Varget	22.0	2895	26.0	3421
IMR 4198	18.0	2788	22.0	3407
IMR 3031	21.0	2854	25.0	3398
IMR 4895	21.5	2849	25.5	3379
Win 748	24.0	2934	28.0	3423



## **50-grain XLC FB**

S.D. .142 B.C. .220

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
Benchmark	22.0	2811	26.0	3322
H322*	21.5	2834	25.5	3361
H335	22.5	2860	26.5	3368
Varget	24.0	2862	28.0	3339
IMR 3031	22.0	2830	26.0	3344
IMR 4895	23.0	2795	27.0	3281
Win 748	24.5	2939	28.5	3419
XMR 2015	20.5	2784	24.5	3327
RL 12	23.0	2874	27.0	3374
X-Term*	21.5	2780	25.5	3297

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\* Recommended powder



## .223 Remington



### 50-grain VLC

S.D. .142 B.C. .217

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
XMR 2015	21.0	2806	25.0	3340
RL 12	23.0	2889	27.0	3391
H322	22.0	2860	26.0	3380
Benchmark*	22.5	2837	26.5	3341
H335*	23.0	2871	27.0	3370
Varget	24.5	2895	28.5	3368
IMR 3031	22.5	2856	26.5	3364
IMR 4895	23.5	2854	27.5	3340
X-Term*	22.0	2820	26.0	3333
Win 748	25.0	2948	29.0	3420



### 53-grain XFB

S.D. .151 B.C. .231

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
XMR 2015	20.0	2736	24.0	3283
RL 12	23.0	2855	27.0	3351
H322	20.0	2720	24.0	3264
H335*	21.0	2794	25.0	3326
Varget	21.5	2785	25.5	3303
IMR 4198	17.5	2681	21.5	3294
IMR 3031	20.5	2772	24.5	3313
IMR 4895	21.0	2761	25.0	3287
Win 748*	23.5	2820	27.5	3300



### 53-grain XLC FB

S.D. .151 B.C. .231

Suggested Bullet Use



Powder	Charge Weight (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Maximum Load	Velocity (fps)
XMR 2015	20.0	2723	24.0	3268
RL 12	22.5	2819	26.5	3320
H322*	21.0	2771	25.0	3299
Benchmark	21.5	2743	25.5	3253
H335*	22.0	2793	26.0	3301
Varget	23.5	2811	27.5	3289
IMR 3031	21.0	2784	25.0	3314
IMR 4895	22.5	2738	26.5	3225
X-Term	21.0	2706	25.0	3222
Win 748	24.0	2911	28.0	3396

XLC Coated X-Bullet data cannot be used with other bullets, including non-coated X-Bullets.

Maximum loads should be used with caution - Always Start With Minimum Loads.

\* Recommended powder