

## 30-06 SPRINGFIELD

Aram von Benedikt

Dusk settled slowly across the high country, chasing sunlight from the ridges. A big bull elk moved from the depths of a dark timbered canyon, drifting like smoke into a hidden meadow I watched. Gulping down my jitters I settled my crosshairs, and squeezed the trigger on my old Springfield .30-06. Watching dusk's glow fade over the pines as I processed the elk, I thanked God and my rifle for a good hunt, a big bull, and a clean kill.

Introduced in 1903 and refined in 1906 (hence the name) as a military cartridge, the "Ought Six" distinguished itself as a superior battle round during both world wars. Returning home with our soldiers, it rapidly gained a reputation as a hunting cartridge. Typically chambered behind a 1-10 or 1-12" twist barrel, the .30-06 thrives best when fed 180-grain projectiles. That said, the Ought-Six cheerfully delivers any bullet from 110 to 220 grains downrange, rendering it truly versatile for hunting everything from varmints to the biggest game. Used with care, it's even adequate for the big northern bears, as evidenced by Roy Lindsley's world record brown bear taken with a .30-06 in 1952.

Velocity produced by the .30-06 is moderate, about 2,700 feet per second with 180-grain projectiles. Careful handloading can produce a bit more and will likely enable you to milk a few more fps from your rifle. For a great all-around deer and elk load, top the powder with a 180-grain AccuBond or Partition.

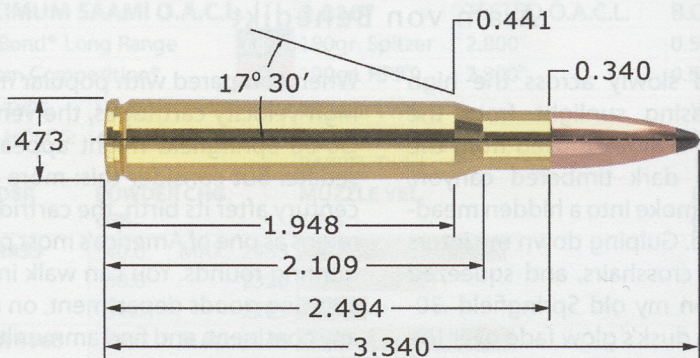
When compared with popular modern high-velocity cartridges, the venerable .30-06 Springfield might appear a bit sedate. But consider this: more than a century after its birth, the cartridge still reigns as one of America's most popular hunting rounds. You can walk into any sporting goods department, on almost any continent, and find ammunition for your .30-06. You can hunt everything from prairie dogs to moose with it. Recoil is manageable, and energy and momentum are lethal well beyond the distance most hunters should shoot at game.

Over the years I've harvested a plethora of elk, mule deer, whitetail, and Coues deer, along with a handful of African plains game, with the old 30-06 Springfield cartridge. Never once have I questioned its worthiness.



**Aram von Benedikt writes as a freelancer for *Outdoor Life*, *American Hunter*, *Sports Afield*, and others. Seeing his name in print still leaves him feeling mildly astonished.**

# 30-06 SPRINGFIELD









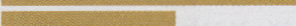
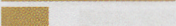



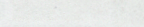
Maximum S.A.A.M.I. Overall Cartridge Length: 3.340"

## BULLET CHOICES FOR THE 30-06 SPRINGFIELD

<b>AccuBond®</b> <b>AB</b>  Grain 125 150 165 180 200	<b>Ballistic Tip®</b> <b>BT</b>  Grain 125 150 165 168 180	<b>Ballistic Silvertip®</b> <b>BST</b>  Grain 150 168 180	<b>Custom Competition®</b> <b>CC</b>  Grain 155 168 175 190 220
<b>Expansion Tip®</b> <b>ET</b>  Grain 150 168 180	<b>Partition®</b> <b>PT</b>  Grain 150 165 180 200	<b>Partition® PPT</b> <b>PT</b>  Grain 180	<b>Partition® Semi Spitzer</b> <b>PT</b>  Grain 220
<b>Varmageddon®</b> <b>VMG</b>  Grain 110	<b>Bonded Solid Base®</b> <b>BSB</b>  Grain 168	<b>AccuBond® LR</b> <b>AB LR</b>  Grain 168 190 210	<b>RDF®</b> <b>RDF</b>  Grain 168 175 210

## 30-06 Sprg - 110 grain

30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.			3.340"	TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
Varmageddon®			VMG	110gr. FB Tipped	3.130"	0.293 0.166
CASE TYPE:	Nosler		PRIMER TYPE			WLR
CASE HOLDS:	65.1	Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make			24" H-S Prec.
			BARREL Twist			1-10"
POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.		MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.		LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)	
Benchmark	54.0	MAX.	3402		90%	
	52.0		3333		86%	
	50.0 *		3263		83%	
RL15	60.0	MAX.	3418		96%	
Most Accurate	58.0 *		3299		93%	
Powder Tested	56.0		3179		90%	
IMR 4895	58.5	MAX.	3428		98%	
	56.5		3295		94%	
	54.5 *		3162		91%	
Varget	59.0 *	MAX.	3450		98%	
	57.0		3359		95%	
	55.0		3268		91%	

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The loads listed here were developed using standard commercial brass. Military brass has less case capacity because of its heavier construction, resulting in a smaller combustion chamber, and higher pressures. We recommend caution when using military brass, and suggest starting at or below the minimum loads listed. Additionally, if your brass originally had crimped primers, this crimp **MUST** be removed prior to re-priming.

BC=Ballistic Coefficient SD=Sectional Density  
 \*Most Accurate Load Tested \*\*Compressed Load

Use Maximum Loads with Caution  
 Refer to page 79 for additional safety information

## 30-06 Sprg - 125 grain

30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.		3.340"	TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
AccuBond®	AB	125gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.366	0.188
Ballistic Tip®	BT	125gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.366	0.188
CASE TYPE:	Nosler	PRIMER TYPE	WLR		
CASE HOLDS:	67.7 Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make	24" Lilja		
		BARREL Twist	1-10"		
POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.	MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.	LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)		
IMR 4831	61.5 * MAX.	3112	97%		
	59.5	3027	94%		
	57.5	2942	91%		
H414	60.0 MAX.	3138	92%		
	58.0	3033	89%		
	56.0 *	2928	86%		
IMR 4350	60.5 MAX.	3173	96%		
	58.5	3060	92%		
	56.5 *	2947	89%		
W760	61.0 MAX.	3179	94%		
	59.0	3094	91%		
	57.0 *	3009	88%		
H4895	52.5 MAX.	3200	85%		
	50.5	3110	82%		
	48.5 *	3020	79%		
N140	55.0 MAX.	3245	94%		
	53.0	3156	91%		
	51.0 *	3068	88%		
Big Game	61.0 MAX.	3257	92%		
	59.0 *	3181	89%		
	57.0	3105	86%		
N150	57.0 MAX.	3309	99%		
	55.0	3215	96%		
	53.0 *	3122	92%		
RL15	56.0 MAX.	3331	86%		
Most Accurate	54.0	3230	83%		
Powder Tested	52.0 *	3130	80%		
Varget	57.5 MAX.	3409	92%		
	55.5 *	3285	89%		
	53.5	3162	85%		

BC=Ballistic Coefficient SD=Sectional Density  
 \*Most Accurate Load Tested \*\*Compressed Load

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# 30-06 Sprg - 150/155 grain 30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.	3.340"	TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
AccuBond®	AB	150gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.435 0.226
Ballistic Tip®	BT	150gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.435 0.226
CT® Ballistic Silvertip®	BST	150gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.435 0.226
Expansion Tip®	ET	150gr. Spitzer	3.300"	0.469 0.226
Due to internal construction differences, always begin with starting loads when using Expansion Tip® products.				
Partition®	PT	150gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.387 0.226
Custom Competition®	CC	155gr. HPBT	3.320"	0.450 0.233

CASE TYPE:	Nosler	PRIMER TYPE	WLR
CASE HOLDS:	62.7 Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make	24" Lilja
		BARREL Twist	1-10"

POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.	MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.	LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)
IMR 4831	59.0 * MAX.	2862	** 101%
	57.0	2757	97%
	55.0	2652	94%
IMR 4064	52.0 * MAX.	2908	92%
	50.0	2793	88%
	48.0	2678	85%
W760	57.0 * MAX.	2912	95%
	55.0	2797	92%
	53.0	2682	89%
IMR 4895	51.0 * MAX.	2922	89%
	49.0	2837	85%
	47.0	2752	82%
N150	54.0 MAX.	2939	** 101%
	52.0	2848	98%
	50.0 *	2756	94%
IMR 4320	53.0 MAX.	2940	92%
	51.0	2850	88%
	49.0 *	2760	85%
RL19	61.5 * MAX.	2983	** 107%
Most Accurate	59.5	2880	** 103%
Powder Tested	57.5	2777	100%
IMR 4350	59.0 * MAX.	3000	** 101%
	57.0	2880	97%
	55.0	2760	94%
Big Game	58.0 MAX.	3054	94%
	56.0	2982	91%
	54.0 *	2910	88%

BC=Ballistic Coefficient SD=Sectional Density  
 \*Most Accurate Load Tested \*\*Compressed Load

Use Maximum Loads with Caution  
 Refer to page 79 for additional safety information

## 30-06 Sprg - 165/168 grain

## 30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.	3.340"	TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
AccuBond®	AB	165gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.475 0.248
Ballistic Tip®	BT	165gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.475 0.248
Partition®	PT	165gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.410 0.248
AccuBond® Long Range	ABLR	168gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.525 0.253
Ballistic Tip®	BT	168gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.490 0.253
Bonded Solid Base®	BSB	168gr. PPT	3.100"	0.350 0.253
CT® Ballistic Silvertip®	BST	168gr. Spitzer	3.320"	0.490 0.253
Custom Competition®	CC	168gr. HPBT	3.320"	0.462 0.253
Expansion Tip®	ET	168gr. Spitzer	3.300"	0.503 0.253
Due to internal construction differences, always begin with starting loads when using Expansion Tip® products.				
Reduced Drag Factor™	RDF	168gr. HPBT	3.320"	0.505 0.253

CASE TYPE:	Nosler	PRIMER TYPE	WLR
CASE HOLDS:	60.2 Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make	24" Lilja
		BARREL Twist	1-10"

POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.	MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.	LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)
IMR 4320	50.0 MAX. 2730		90%
	48.0 2620		87%
	46.0 * 2510		83%
N160	58.0 MAX. 2767		** 107%
	56.0 2664		** 103%
	54.0 * 2560		100%
N150	52.0 MAX. 2802		** 102%
	50.0 2717		98%
	48.0 * 2632		94%
IMR 4831	58.0 MAX. 2820		** 103%
	56.0 2710		99%
	54.0 * 2600		96%
IMR 4350	57.0 * MAX. 2832		** 101%
Most Accurate	55.0 2717		98%
Powder Tested	53.0 2602		94%
Big Game	55.5 MAX. 2859		94%
	53.5 2792		91%
	51.5 * 2725		87%
H4350	57.5 * MAX. 2872		** 101%
	55.5 2757		98%
	53.5 2642		94%
W760	56.0 MAX. 2879		97%
	54.0 2798		94%
	52.0 * 2717		90%
RL17	57.0 * MAX. 2909		98%
	55.0 2782		95%
	53.0 2655		91%
RL22	63.0 MAX. 3002		** 114%
	61.0 2907		** 110%
	59.0 * 2812		** 107%

BC=Ballistic Coefficient SD=Sectional Density  
 \*Most Accurate Load Tested \*\*Compressed Load

Use Maximum Loads with Caution  
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**30-06 Sprg - 175/180 grain****30 Cal. (.308")****MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L. 3.340" TESTED O.A.C.L. B.C. S.D.**Custom Competition® **CC** 175gr. HPBT 3.330" 0.505 0.264Reduced Drag Factor™ **RDF** 175gr. HPBT 3.330" 0.536 0.264AccuBond® **AB** 180gr. Spitzer 3.330" 0.507 0.271Ballistic Tip® **BT** 180gr. Spitzer 3.330" 0.507 0.271CT® Ballistic Silvertip® **BST** 180gr. Spitzer 3.330" 0.507 0.271Expansion Tip® **ET** 180gr. Spitzer 3.300" 0.523 0.271

Due to internal construction differences, always begin with starting loads when using Expansion Tip® products.

Partition® **PT** 180gr. PPT 3.210" 0.361 0.271Partition® **PT** 180gr. Spitzer 3.310" 0.474 0.271




CASE TYPE:	Nosler	PRIMER TYPE	WLR
CASE HOLDS:	63.9 Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make	24" H-S Prec.
		BARREL Twist	1-10"

<b>POWDER TYPE</b>	<b>POWDER CHG. GRS.</b>	<b>MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.</b>	<b>LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)</b>
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<b>Norma 204</b>	59.0 * MAX.	2729		**	103%
	57.0	2642			99%
	55.0	2555			96%

<b>RL17</b>	55.0 * MAX.	2732			89%
	53.0	2575			86%
	51.0	2418			83%

<b>IMR 4350</b>	56.5 * MAX.	2736			95%
	54.5	2633			91%
	52.5	2530			88%

<b>RL19</b>	60.0 * MAX.	2748		**	102%
	58.0	2665			99%
	56.0	2582			95%

<b>PP 4000-MR</b>	57.5 MAX.	2756			95%
	55.5	2653			91%
	53.5 *	2549			88%

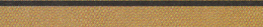
<b>H4831</b>	62.0 MAX.	2758		**	101%
	60.0 *	2675			98%
	58.0	2593			95%

<b>Hybrid 100V</b>	56.0 * MAX.	2771			90%
	54.0	2694			87%
	52.0	2617			84%

<b>W760</b>	55.5 * MAX.	2773			91%
	53.5	2685			88%
	51.5	2597			84%

<b>H4350</b>	56.5 MAX.	2774			94%
	54.5	2669			90%
	52.5 *	2565			87%

<b>RL22</b>	62.0 * MAX.	2819		**	105%
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Most Accurate	60.0	2734		**	102%
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Powder Tested	58.0	2648			99%
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## 30-06 Sprg - 190 grain

30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.	3.340"	TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
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AccuBond® Long Range	<b>ABLR</b>	190gr. Spitzer	3.340"	0.597	0.286
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Custom Competition®	<b>CC</b>	190gr. HPBT	3.330"	0.530	0.286
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CASE TYPE:	Nosler	PRIMER TYPE	WLR
CASE HOLDS:	62.7 Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make	24" H-S Prec.
		BARREL Twist	1-10"

POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.	MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.	LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)
<b>Hybrid 100V</b>	52.0 MAX.	2624	85%
	50.0 *	2536	82%
	48.0	2449	79%
<b>PP 4000-MR</b>	55.0 * MAX.	2658	92%
	53.0	2548	89%
	51.0	2438	86%
<b>H4350</b>	53.5 MAX.	2662	90%
	51.5 *	2565	87%
	49.5	2469	84%
<b>RL19</b>	56.5 MAX.	2671	98%
	54.5 *	2551	94%
	52.5	2431	91%
<b>IMR 7828 SSC</b>	59.5 MAX.	2671	98%
	57.5	2579	95%
	55.5 *	2488	91%
<b>W760</b>	53.5 MAX.	2686	89%
	51.5 *	2561	86%
	49.5	2437	83%
<b>RL22</b>	60.0 * MAX.	2713	** 104%
	58.0	2647	** 101%
	56.0	2582	97%
<b>RL17</b>	54.5 MAX.	2748	90%
	52.5	2629	87%
	50.5 *	2510	83%
<b>N560</b>	61.0 * MAX.	2749	** 108%
	59.0	2658	** 105%
	57.0	2567	** 101%
<b>Norma MRP</b>	58.5 MAX.	2770	** 103%
Most Accurate	56.5 *	2661	99%
Powder Tested	54.5	2552	96%

BC=Ballistic Coefficient SD=Sectional Density  
 \*Most Accurate Load Tested \*\*Compressed Load

Use Maximum Loads with Caution  
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## 30-06 Sprg - 200 grain

30 Cal. (.308")

## MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.

3.340"

TESTED O.A.C.L.

B.C.

S.D.

AccuBond®

AB

200gr. Spitzer

3.320"

0.588

0.301

Partition®

PT

200gr. Spitzer

3.320"

0.481

0.301

CASE TYPE: Nosler

PRIMER TYPE

WLR

CASE HOLDS: 59.4 Gr. WATER

BARREL Length/Make

24" Lilja

BARREL Twist

1-10"

POWDER  
TYPEPOWDER CHG.  
GRS.MUZZLE VEL.  
F.P.S.LOAD DENSITY  
(VOLUME)

## IMR 4320

47.0 \* MAX. 2438

45.0 2343

43.0 2248

86%

82%

79%

## IMR 4350

53.0 MAX. 2528

51.0 2443

49.0 \* 2358

95%

92%

88%

## IMR 4831

55.0 MAX. 2558

53.0 2463

51.0 \* 2368

99%

95%

92%

## H414

53.0 \* MAX. 2560

51.0 2450

49.0 2340

93%

89%

86%

## W760

52.0 \* MAX. 2568

50.0 2453

48.0 2338

92%

88%

85%

## Hunter

54.5 MAX. 2593

52.5 \* 2528

50.5 2464

95%

91%

88%

## RL19

56.0 MAX. 2620

Most Accurate

54.0 2520

Powder Tested

52.0 \* 2420

\*\* 102%

99%

95%

## N160

57.0 MAX. 2632

55.0 2544

53.0 \* 2457

\*\* 107%

\*\* 103%

99%

## RL22

58.0 MAX. 2688

56.0 2603

54.0 \* 2518

\*\* 106%

\*\* 102%

99%

## 30-06 Sprg - 210 grain

30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.			3.340"	TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
AccuBond® Long Range			ABLR	210gr. Spitzer	3.340"	0.661 0.316
Reduced Drag Factor™			RDF	210gr. HPBT	3.340"	0.707 0.316
CASE TYPE:	Nosler		PRIMER TYPE			WLR
CASE HOLDS:	59.0	Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make			24" Lilja
			BARREL Twist			1-10"
POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.		MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.		LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)	
Norma 204	55.0	MAX.	2573		**	104%
	53.0	*	2474			100%
	51.0		2375			96%
PP 4000-MR	54.5	MAX.	2576			97%
	52.5	*	2490			94%
	50.5		2404			90%
RL17	52.5	MAX.	2601			92%
	50.5	*	2485			89%
	48.5		2369			85%
IMR 4831	56.0	MAX.	2601		**	102%
	54.0	*	2508			98%
	52.0		2415			94%
AA 4350	56.0	MAX.	2608		**	107%
	54.0	*	2530		**	103%
	52.0		2452			99%
Norma URP	54.0	MAX.	2625		**	102%
Most Accurate	52.0	*	2521			98%
Powder Tested	50.0		2417			95%
Hunter	59.0	MAX.	2628		**	103%
	57.0	*	2577			100%
	55.0		2526			96%
Norma MRP	59.0	MAX.	2640		**	110%
	57.0	*	2565		**	106%
	55.0		2490		**	102%
N560	59.0	MAX.	2642		**	111%
	57.0	*	2552		**	107%
	55.0		2462		**	104%
RL22	57.5	MAX.	2652		**	106%
	55.5	*	2550		**	102%
	53.5		2447			99%

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 \*Most Accurate Load Tested \*\*Compressed Load

Use Maximum Loads with Caution  
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## 30-06 Sprg - 220 grain

30 Cal. (.308")

## MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.

3.340"

TESTED O.A.C.L.

B.C.

S.D.

Custom Competition®



220gr. HPBT

3.340"

0.690

0.331

Partition®



220gr. Semi-Spitzer

3.320"

0.351

0.331

CASE TYPE: Nosler

PRIMER TYPE

WLR

CASE HOLDS: 61.9 Gr. WATER

BARREL Length/Make

24" Lilja

BARREL Twist

1-10"

POWDER  
TYPEPOWDER CHG.  
GRS.MUZZLE VEL.  
F.P.S.LOAD DENSITY  
(VOLUME)

W760

48.0 MAX. 2395

81%

46.0 2303

78%

44.0 \* 2211

74%

N165

56.5 MAX. 2431

\*\* 101%

54.5 2353

98%

52.5 \* 2275

94%

H4831

55.0 MAX. 2478

93%

Most Accurate

53.0 2382

89%

Powder Tested

51.0 \* 2287

86%

IMR 4350

51.5 \* MAX. 2488

89%

49.5 2400

86%

47.5 2312

82%

Hunter

54.5 MAX. 2492

91%

52.5 \* 2423

87%

50.5 2355

84%

N160

55.5 \* MAX. 2503

100%

53.5 2415

96%

51.5 2327

92%

IMR 7828

56.0 MAX. 2507

96%

54.0 2412

93%

52.0 \* 2316

89%

RL19

55.0 MAX. 2507

97%

53.0 2416

93%

51.0 \* 2325

90%

RL22

57.0 MAX. 2602

100%

55.0 2512

97%

53.0 \* 2423

93%

BC=Ballistic Coefficient SD=Sectional Density  
 \*Most Accurate Load Tested \*\*Compressed Load

Use Maximum Loads with Caution  
 Refer to page 79 for additional safety information