

Reloading The .357 Magnum

Loads for .357 Magnum:

(Note: These are near maximum loads, you should use 10% less to start.)(2009 Note: Some of these loads are from 1996 and in the passing years the powder companies have reduced their maximum loads particularly ones that have been around a long time like Unique. The loads are not updated yearly.)

(See note on Powders below or read all about various Powders.)

Bullets are .357" for jacketed and .358" for lead in diameter. Due to different barrel lengths, type of bullet, seating depth, primer type and other factors, you may not get near the FPS charted. It is just a guide and the reason you should start under these charges and work up.

(There are some loads for a 90 gr. cast, but bullet is unstable and not recommended)

(you can try 3.3 gr. Clays OR 5.0 gr. of TrailBoss)

(Note H110 & W296 are the same as of 2008 as is HP-38 & W231)

(IMR 4227 is same as H-4227 if made in Australia)

110 grain JHP (Jacketed Hollow Point)

Bullseye	7.0 gr.	1,343 FPS
Bullseye	8.7 gr.	1,403 Max
Unique	9.0 gr.	1,545
Unique	9.7 gr.	1,447 Max
2400	19.5 gr.	1,670 max
Universal	7.5 gr.	1,465 start
Universal	8.0 gr.	1,536 max
HS6	10.6 gr.	1,612
HS6	11.5 gr.	1,776 max
HP38/W231	7.9 gr.	1,414
HP38/W231	8.0 gr.	1,541 start
HP38/W231	9.0 gr.	1,652 max
No. 2	8.8 gr.	1,324
No. 5	10.8 gr.	1,340
231	8.8 gr.	1,575
H-4227 1,774 start	18.9 gr.	1,774 start
H-4227	21.0 gr.	1,900 max
W-296	22.0 gr.	1,992 start
W-296	23.0 gr.	2,078 max
Zip	7.7 gr.	1,373 start
Zip	8.6 gr.	1,525 max
True Blue	10.3 gr.	1,347
True Blue	11.3 gr.	1,475

True Blue 12.1 gr. 1,583 max

125 grain Lead RNFP (.358")

Unique	6.9 gr. ~ ~ light load
Universal	4.8 gr. 1,046 Hodgdon start
Universal	6.8 gr. 1,401 Hodgdon max
HP-38 & W231	4.6 gr. 1,052 start
HP-38 & W231	5.5 gr. 1,185 max
Trail Boss	3.5 gr. 874 start
Trail Boss	5.3 gr. 1,035 max
Titegroup	4.0 gr. 1,055 start
Titegroup	5.4 gr. 1,274 max
Clays	3.5 gr. 984 start
Clays	5.3 gr. 1,260 max
Autocomp	6.5 gr. 1,311 start
Autocomp	7.5 gr. 1,456 max

125 grain JHP or JSP (Jacketed Hollow or Soft Point)

Bullseye	8.4 gr.	1,550 FPS (this is very hot)
Unique	9.6 gr.	1,585 MAX (not recommended)
2400	17.5 gr.	1,409 max
Universal	7.1 gr.	1,394 start
Universal	7.6 gr.	1,453 Max
HS6	9.8 gr.	1,493 start
HS6	10.0 gr.	1,542
HS6	10.9 gr.	1,629 max
HP38/W231	7.0 gr.	1,267
HP-38 & W231	7.3 gr.	1,335 start
HP-38 & W231	8.5 gr.	1,514 max
Titegroup	6.8 gr.	1,425 start
Titegroup	7.5 gr.	1,497 max
No. 2	8.2 gr.	1,312
No. 5	10.6 gr.	1,446 max
No. 5	10.1 gr.	1,322
No. 5	9.6 gr.	1,273 start
No. 7	10.9 gr.	1,278 start
No. 7	12.0 gr.	1,236
No. 7	12.1 gr.	1,453 max
No. 9	14.1 gr.	1,370 start
No. 9	15.6 gr.	1,567 max
231	8.1 gr.	1,460

H-4227	18.0 gr.	1,692 start
H-4227	20.0 gr.	1,839 max
W296*	18.5 gr.	1,800
W296	21.0 gr.	1,881
W296	22.0 gr.	1,996 MAX
Zip	7.1 gr.	1,276
Zip	7.9 gr.	1,418 max
True Blue	9.4 gr.	1,168 in Hornady JHP
True Blue	10.4 gr.	1,226 is Max in Hornady JHP
True Blue	11.3 gr.	1,262 +P for some bullets
True Blue	11.5 gr.	1,472 max
Enforcer	16.2 gr.	1,483
Enforcer	17.0 gr.	1,567 +P max for some bullets

* use magnum primers (standard is OK)

135 grain LRNFP (lead)

Universal	4.8 gr.	986
Universal	6.5 gr.	1,314 max
HP-38 & W231	4.1 gr.	946
HP-38 & W231	5.3 gr.	1,027 max
Titegroup	3.5 gr.	906
Titegroup	5.2 gr.	1,186 max
Clays	3.4 gr.	914
Clays	5.1 gr.	1,207 max

135 grain Speer Gold Dot HP

Unique	7.8 gr.	1,185 max
PowerPistol	9.6 gr.	1,291 max
2400	16.0 gr.	1,377

140 grain JHP or JSP (Jacketed Hollow or Soft Point)

Power Pistol	8.2 gr.	1,125
Power Pistol	9.5 gr.	1,288 max
Unique	8.0 gr.	1,185 max
2400	15.1 gr.	1,298 max
H-4227	16.2 gr.	1,541
H-4227	18.0 gr.	1,685 max
W-296 & H110	17.1 gr.	1,597
W-296 & H110	19.0 gr.	1,762 max
Universal	6.5 gr.	1,218
Universal	7.0 gr.	1,299 max

HP-38 & W231	6.5 gr.	1,219
HP-38 & W231	7.7 gr.	1,378 max
AA #9	14.0 gr.	1,305
AA #9	14.9 gr.	1,358 max
Titegroup	6.3 gr.	1,262
Titegroup	7.0 gr.	1,376 max
Enforcer	14.4 gr.	1,311
Enforcer	16.0 gr.	1,457 max
True Blue	9.3 gr.	1,250
True Blue	10.3 gr.	1,389 max

146-148 grain LWC (Lead Wad Cutter)

Bullseye	5.7 gr.	1,475 FPS (max – hot)
Unique	6.4 gr.	1,465 (very hot – max)
Universal	3.5 gr.	880
Universal	4.0 gr.	989
HP38 & W231	3.0 gr.	845
HP38 & W231	3.4 gr.	908
Titegroup	2.9 gr.	830
Titegroup	3.3 gr.	909

(bullets seated deeper = higher pressures) (I don't recommend lead at over 900 FPS) (unless at least using a Gas Check) (with pure lead wadcutters, do not use hot loads)

158 grain LSWC or LRN (Semi-Wad Cutter or Round Nose)

Bullseye	4.8 gr.	939 max with plain lead bullet
Bullseye	5.8 gr.	1,102 FPS MAX
Clays	3.2 gr.	867
Clays	4.6 gr.	1,079 max
Unique	6.0 gr.	1,034
Unique	6.8 gr.	1,295 max
Universal	4.0 gr.	890
Universal	6.2 gr.	1,247 max
Universal	6.7 gr.	1,297 max +P
PowerPistol	7.4 gr.	963
TrailBoss	3.2 gr.	754
TrailBoss	4.2 gr.	865 max
Titegroup	4.5 gr.	1,028
Titegroup	5.0 gr.	1,108 max
No. 2	5.8 gr.	1,074
No. 5	8.2 gr.	1,239
No. 5	8.0 gr.	1,100

No. 5	9.0 gr.	1,220 max
No. 7	9.1 gr.	1,041 start
No. 7	10.1 gr.	1,183 max
No. 9	11.2 gr.	1,104
No. 9	12.4 gr.	1,255 max
HP38 & W231	3.9 gr.	846
HP38 & W231	3.4 gr.	796
HP38 & W231	5.0 gr.	1,109 max
2400	14.5 gr.	1,178 good load
2400	14.9 gr.	1,232 near max
231	6.7 gr.	1,275 +P max
231	6.1 gr.	1,075 (plated, actual in 7" bbl revolver)
296*	14.5 gr.	1,560 * use magnum primers
ZIP	6.3 gr.	1,176
ZIP	7.0 gr.	1,307 max
True Blue	8.8 gr.	1,176
True Blue	9.8 gr.	1,307 max (Enforcer load below is SWC + GC)
Enforcer	13.5 gr.	1,295 Hi=1360, Lo=1249, ES=110

158-160 grain JHP or JSP (Jacketed Hollow or Soft Point)

Bullseye	6.8 gr.	1,250 FPS (high pressure)
Unique	7.7 gr.	1,040
Unique	7.8 gr .	1,280 max (high pressure)
PowerPistol	8.5 gr.	1,078 max
2400	14.8 gr.	1,265
2400	15.2 gr.	1,535 max
Lil'Gun	17.0 gr.	1,254 max in one manual
Lil'Gun	18.0 gr.	1,572 MAX (WARNING on this one)
Universal	5.8 gr.	1,026
Universal 6.3 gr.		1,133 max
Titegroup	5.4 gr.	1,135
Titegroup	6.1 gr.	1,229 max
HP38	5.4 gr.	1,020
HP38 & W231 1	6.2 gr.	,108 (as of 2008 HP38 & W231 are the same)
HP38 & W231	6.9 gr.	1,220 max
W231	6.1 gr.	1,013 (Actual in 7" bbl revolver)
HS6	9.0 gr.	1,240
HS6	9.5 gr.	1,370 MAX
H4227	14.5 gr.	1,402
H4227	16.0 gr.	1,520 max
AA #2.	6.9 gr	1,088

AA #5	8.6 gr.	1,084
AA #5	9.7 gr.	1,256 max
AA #7	10.5 gr.	1,139 max
AA #9	12.4 gr.	1,202 start
AA #9	13.8 gr.	1,367 max
W296 & H110	15.0 gr.	1,418
W296 & H110	16.6 gr.	1,610 MAX a Commercial JSP load averages 1,503 fps
True Blue	8.1 gr.	1,164
True Blue	9.1 gr.	1,262 max
Enforcer	12.5 gr.	1,206
Enforcer	12.7 gr.	1,148
Enforcer	14.2 gr.	1,320 MAX

180 grain JFP (Jacketed Flat Point)

Bullseye	6.3 gr.	1,135 FPS
Unique	7.0 gr.	1,125
H4227	12.7 gr.	1,247
H4227	13.0 gr.	1,240
H4227	13.7 gr.	1,308 max
W296 & H110	13.0 gr.	1,352
W296 & H110	13.5 gr.	1,396 max
Lil'Gun	13.0 gr.	1,279
Lil'Gun	15.0 gr.	1,422 max
Titegroup	5.0 gr.	948
Titegroup	5.5 gr.	1,020 max
2400	12.5 gr.	1,300
AA No.5	8.0 gr.	1,040
AA No.7	8.2 gr.	980 start
AA No.7	9.2 gr.	1,100 max
AA No.9	10.8 gr.	1,059 start
AA No.9.	12.0 gr.	1,202 max
296*	14.1 gr.	1,380 max * use magnum primers
Enforcer	11.4 gr.	1,075
Enforcer	12.7 gr.	1,190 max

180 grain Lead + Gas Check

ZIP	5.6 gr.	1,042
ZIP	6.2 gr.	1,158 max
Lil'Gun	15.1 gr.	1,193
Lil'Gun	15.3 gr.	1,219 max
True Blue	7.6 gr.	1,046

True Blue 8.4 gr. 1,162 max
No.9 10.4 gr. 1,008
No.9 11.6 gr. 1,145 max
No.7 8.3 gr. 938 start (LCFP, no gas check)
No.7 9.2 gr. 1,067 max (LCFP, no gas check)

187 grain Lead FN + Gas Check

Enforcer 12.3 gr. 1,208 Hi=1244, Lo=1179, ES=65 (good load)

200 grain LEAD (SWC or RN)

231 5.5 gr. 1,060
296* 12.4 gr. 1,335 max
* use magnum primers

Discussion: Universal and Unique are good for lighter bullets, but if you want a slower burning powder, I suggest H-4227, Lil'Gun, W-296,2400, HS6 or No. 7. Several of these can also be used in rifle cartridges, so it's good to have for the magnum pistol loads and for rifle. I prefer the Unique or Universal as all purpose, and I also use them for .38 special, just less of it. If you have a lightweight .357 or older gun, you may want to start with 13% less than amounts listed above (but not where it says "start" load), and work up to the full loads. — — — Below, are three loaded rounds. The armor piercing round was bought commercially (in the 70's). It has a steel core and will pierce an engine block.

For any loads over 900 FPS, I suggest using a jacketed bullet. Jacketed bullets create a bit more wear on the bore, but it's better than trying to wire brush out a bunch of lead build up. At the VERY least, use a copper Gas Check lead bullet or a copper plated bullet. There is also the issue of lead vapor to breathe if on an indoor range. Full copper plated bullets are a good idea for .357 loads instead of plain lead. Just depends on what kinds of loads you plan to shoot.



* Bullseye, Unique and 2400 are products of Alliant (formerly Hercules) Powders. Clays, Universal, HP38, HS6 and H4895 are products of Hodgdon Powders. IMR TrailBoss are products of IMR (formerly DuPont) Powder Company.

No. 2, No. 5, No. 7, #2230, and #2460 are products of Accurate Arms Company WMR, 760, 748, 231, 296 and 540 are products of Winchester, Components Div.

Note: Hodgdon as of 2009 controls IMR and Winchester Powders.

References: 2009 Hodgdon Website .357 Magnum loads Accurate Arms Co. 1996 Reloading booklet — — Alliant Powder Co. Reloaders' Guide (1995) — — Hodgdon's Basic Reloaders Manual (1996) — — Speer Reloading Manual, #12 — — Winchester Reloading Components Manual, 14th edition — — Lyman Piston & Revolver Reloading Handbook, 2nd edition. — — VihtaVuori Oy Company, reloading booklet (1995) — — Numerous magazine articles on reloading special calibers and personal loads where noted.



357 Magnum

.357"	38
	GDHP SB
Weight (grains)	135
Ballistic Coefficient	0.141
Sectional Density	0.151
COAL Tested	1.590"
Speer Part No.	4014

Propellant	Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Hodgdon H110	Speer	CCI 550	17.5	1313	18.5	1387
Winchester 296	Speer	CCI 550	17.5	1264	18.5	1377
Alliant 2400	Speer	CCI 500	15.0	1219	16.0	1377
Accurate No. 9	Speer	CCI 500	14.5	1234	15.5	1345
Alliant Power Pistol	Speer	CCI 500	8.6	1192	9.6	1291
Vihtavuori 3N37	Speer	CCI 500	7.7	1093	8.7	1185
Alliant Unique	Speer	CCI 500	6.8	1082	7.8	1185

WARNING: Improper handloading practices can result in serious personal injury and/or property damage. Refer to the current SPEER® Reloading Manual for handloading instructions. Be thoroughly familiar with those instructions before using these loads. As Vista Outdoor Operations LLC has no control over individual handloading practices or the condition of firearms in which the resulting ammo may be used, we disclaim all liability for any damages that may result from the use of this information.

Maximum loads should be used with CAUTION • C = Compressed Load



357 Magnum

.358"	38 LSWC	38 LSWC HP
Weight (grains)	158	158
Ballistic Coefficient	0.123	0.121
Sectional Density	0.176	0.176
COAL Tested	1.570"	1.575"
Speer Part No.	4624	4628

Propellant	Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant Unique	Speer	CCI 500	5.5	970	6.0	1034
IMR SR 7625	Speer	CCI 500	4.8	926	5.3	1021
Hodgdon Hi-Skor 700-X	Speer	CCI 500	4.5	904	5.0	1002
Winchester 231	Speer	CCI 500	4.9	897	5.4	989
Alliant Bullseye	Speer	CCI 500	4.3	848	4.8	939
Hodgdon HP-38	Speer	CCI 500	4.5	839	5.0	932

WARNING: Improper handloading practices can result in serious personal injury and/or property damage. Refer to the current SPEER® Reloading Manual for handloading instructions. Be thoroughly familiar with those instructions before using these loads. As Vista Outdoor Operations LLC has no control over individual handloading practices or the condition of firearms in which the resulting ammo may be used, we disclaim all liability for any damages that may result from the use of this information.

Maximum loads should be used with CAUTION • C = Compressed Load



357 Magnum

.357"	38 TMJ® FN	38 JHP	38 DCHP	38 JSP
Weight (grains)	158	158	158	158
Ballistic Coefficient	0.173	0.163	0.168	0.164
Sectional Density	0.177	0.177	0.177	0.177
COAL Tested	1.570"	1.570"	1.575"	1.570"
Speer Part No.	4207	4211	4215	4217

Propellant	Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant 2400	Speer	CCI 500	13.8	1128	14.8	1265
Vihtavuori N110	Speer	CCI 500	13.5	1102	15.0	1253
Hodgdon H110	Speer	CCI 550	13.9	1151	15.5	1217
Winchester 296	Speer	CCI 550	13.2	1089	14.7	1185
Accurate No. 5	Speer	CCI 500	9.0	1032	10.0	1152
Accurate No. 7	Speer	CCI 500	10.5	1015	11.7	1140
Accurate No. 9	Speer	CCI 500	12.3	1052	13.7	1136
IMR 4227	Speer	CCI 500	15.0	1003	17.0	1126
Alliant Power Pistol	Speer	CCI 500	7.5	963	8.5	1078
Vihtavuori N350	Speer	CCI 500	7.7	958	8.6	1072
Hodgdon HS-6	Speer	CCI 550	8.7	925	9.7	1040
Alliant Unique	Speer	CCI 500	6.9	978	7.7	1040
Hodgdon H. Universal	Speer	CCI 500	6.5	904	7.3	1015

WARNING: Improper handloading practices can result in serious personal injury and/or property damage. Refer to the current SPEER® Reloading Manual for handloading instructions. Be thoroughly familiar with those instructions before using these loads. As Vista Outdoor Operations LLC has no control over individual handloading practices or the condition of firearms in which the resulting ammo may be used, we disclaim all liability for any damages that may result from the use of this information.

Maximum loads should be used with CAUTION • C = Compressed Load



357 Magnum

.357"	357
Weight (grains)	170
Ballistic Coefficient	0.185
Sectional Density	0.191
COAL Tested	1.590"
Speer Part No.	4230

Propellant	Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant 2400	Speer	CCI 500	13.9	1100	14.5	1166
Vihtavuori N110	Speer	CCI 500	13.2	1046	13.8	1132
Hodgdon H. Li' Gun	Speer	CCI 550	14.8	1100	15.4	1121
IMR 4227	Speer	CCI 500	16.1	1037	16.7	1084
Hodgdon H110	Speer	CCI 550	14.4	1024	15.2	1076
Accurate No. 9	Speer	CCI 550	11.0	1030	11.7	1071

WARNING: Improper handloading practices can result in serious personal injury and/or property damage. Refer to the current SPEER® Reloading Manual for handloading instructions. Be thoroughly familiar with those instructions before using these loads. As Vista Outdoor Operations LLC has no control over individual handloading practices or the condition of firearms in which the resulting ammo may be used, we disclaim all liability for any damages that may result from the use of this information.

Maximum loads should be used with CAUTION • C = Compressed Load

Revised 10/06/2011



> Indicates most accurate load

357 Magnum

Bullet Weight: 110 gr
Bullet Style: TAC-XP
COAL: 1.630 "
Case: R-P

Case Trim Length: 1.280 "
Primer: Federal 200
Barrel Length: 10 "
Twist Rate: 1:18.75 "

S.D. 0.123
B.C. 0.156

Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load	
	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)
IMR 800X (IMR)	8.5	1507	10.0	1777
Blue Dot (Alliant)	10.9	1654	12.4	1810
A-No.9 (Accurate)	14.5	1758	16.0	1890
Enforcer (Ramshot)	18.7	1947	20.2	2099
Steel (Alliant)	11.9	1698	13.4	1862
2400 (Alliant)	14.7	1760	16.2	1878
VIT N110 (Vihtavouri)	15.5	1829	17.0	1952
Lil'Gun (Hodgdon)	19.3	1950	20.8	2096
H110 (Hodgdon)	20.5	1984	22.0	2071
Win 296 (Winchester)	20.5	1931	22.0	2036

Bullet Weight: 125 gr
Bullet Style: XPB
COAL: 1.580 "
Case: R-P

Case Trim Length: 1.280 "
Primer: Federal 200
Barrel Length: 10 "
Twist Rate: 1:18.75 "

S.D. 0.14
B.C. 0.16

Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load	
	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)
Blue Dot (Alliant)	9.1	1459	10.6	1623
A-No.9 (Accurate)	12.9	1600	14.4	1732
Enforcer (Ramshot)	15.3	1741	16.8	1871
Steel (Alliant)	9.5	1471	11.0	1677
2400 (Alliant)	12.5	1528	14.0	1679
VIT N110 (Vihtavouri)	13.3	1593	14.8	1755
Lil'Gun (Hodgdon)	15.5	1704	17.0	1846
H110 (Hodgdon)	16.5	1693	18.0	1835
Win 296 (Winchester)	16.7	1667	18.2	1806
IMR 4227 (IMR)	15.7	1589	17.2	1717

Bullet Weight: 140 gr
Bullet Style: XPB
COAL: 1.580 "
Case: R-P

Case Trim Length: 1.280 "
Primer: Federal 200
Barrel Length: 10 "
Twist Rate: 1:18.75 "

S.D. 0.157
B.C. 0

Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load	
	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)
Blue Dot (Alliant)	8.7	1374	10.2	1518
A-No.9 (Accurate)	11.7	1397	13.2	1527
Enforcer (Ramshot)	13.5	1521	15.0	1669
Steel (Alliant)	8.1	1333	9.6	1515
2400 (Alliant)	11.3	1371	12.8	1530
VIT N110 (Vihtavouri)	11.9	1403	13.4	1596
Lil'Gun (Hodgdon)	13.5	1513	15.0	1669
H110 (Hodgdon)	14.5	1477	16.0	1610
Win 296 (Winchester)	14.9	1513	16.4	1633
IMR 4227 (IMR)	14.3	1457	15.8	1587
