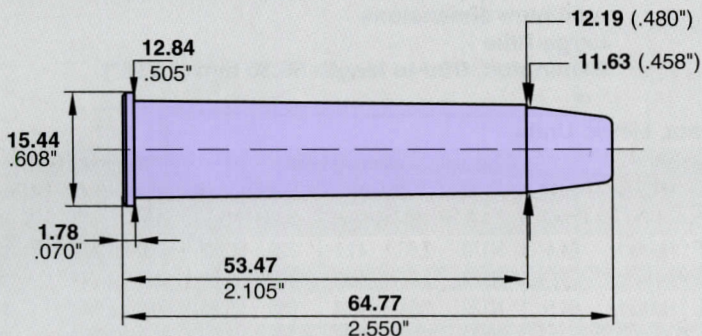


.45-70 Government

CIP max. dimensions in millimeters (inches)



Country of origin:	USA
Year of introduction:	1873
Max. bullet diameter:	11.93 mm (.458")
Max. cartridge length:	64.77 mm (2.550")
Max. case length:	53.47 mm (2.105"), trim to 53.30 mm (2.098")
Max. CIP piezo pressure:	220 MPa (31900 psi)

The .45-70 Government was adopted by the U. S. Military in 1873 with the single shot "Trapdoor" Springfield rifle. It survived as the official service cartridge for the following 19 years until being replaced by the .30-40 Krag. "Old soldiers never die", and perhaps neither do old military cartridges. Even though the major American cartridge companies dropped the .45-70 Government as a rifle cartridge in the 1930's, it has staged a major comeback in popularity. Today modern lever action rifles for the .45-70 Government are available e. g. from Marlin and Ruger, and many bolt-action rifles has been chambered for it, like Siamese Mausers and Model 1891 Mosin-Nagants.

The .45-70 Government has been with us more than 125 years and it is still well and alive. As a short-range brush or woods cartridge for anything beginning with deer-sized game, the .45-70 Government will do the same as most of the more modern cartridges. The trajectory of this oldie is, however, very curved, which makes it to a real marksman's job to place the bullet beyond 150 m (yds) with certainty.

Unfortunately there are lot of old black powder rifles, Springfields, old Marlins and so on, which won't stand chamber pressures over 175 MPa (25000 psi). This limits the loads of factory loaded ammo. If the cartridge is used in a modern rifle, e. g. Ruger #1 or some bolt action designs it can be loaded to deliver impressive knockdown power enough for the heaviest game available in North America and Europe.

.45-70 Government

TEST COMPONENTS:

Test barrel: 560 mm (22"), 1 in 20" twist, manufactured to meet CIP minimum dimensions.

Primers: Large Rifle

Cases: Remington, trim-to length 53.30 mm (2.098")

WARNING: These loads are to be used only in modern lever and bolt action rifles manufactured to meet CIP/SAAMI recommendations. They must NOT be used in old rifles with weaker actions like Trapdoor and old Marlin mod. 1895. The listed maximum loads do not exceed 195 MPa (28100 psi).

Reloading Data, Metric Units:

Bullet				Powder	Starting Load			Maximum Load			
Weight [g]	Type	Mfg.	C.O.L. [mm]	Type	Weight [g]	Velocity [m/s]		Weight [g]	Velocity [m/s]	Pressure [MPa]	
19.4	HP	Hornady	64.5	N120	2.63	40.6	568	2.92	45.0	618	194
				N130	3.16	48.8	594	3.38	52.1	637	194
				N133	3.81	58.7	624	4.10	63.2	683	190
19.4	HP	Sierra	64.1	N120	2.52	38.9	558	3.01	46.5	624	194
				N133	3.74	57.6	627	3.89	60.0	667	194
				N135	3.80	58.6	604	4.00	61.7	650	194
25.9	SP	Speer	64.7	N120	2.06	31.7	444	2.32	35.8	489	194
				N133	3.02	46.6	517	3.33	51.4	565	194
				N135	3.02	46.6	490	3.34	51.6	543	194

Reloading Data, English Units:

Bullet				Powder	Starting Load			Maximum Load			
Weight [grs]	Type	Mfg.	C.O.L. [in.]	Type	Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]		Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]	Pressure [psi]	
300	HP	Hornady	2.539	N120	40.6	1864		45.0	2029	28100	
				N130	48.8	1947		52.1	2090	28100	
				N133	58.7	2048		63.2	2242	27600	
300	HP	Sierra	2.524	N120	38.9	1832		46.5	2047	28100	
				N133	57.6	2057		60.0	2187	28100	
				N135	58.6	1982		61.7	2134	28100	
400	SP	Speer	2.547	N120	31.7	1455		35.8	1604	28100	
				N133	46.6	1695		51.4	1854	28100	
				N135	46.6	1609		51.6	1783	28100	

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE WITH CAUTION!

LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED