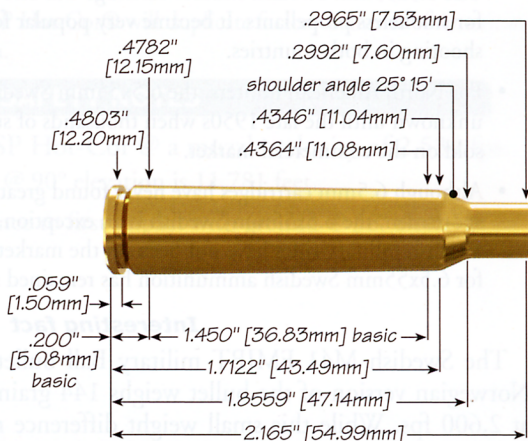


# 6.5x55 SWEDISH

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6.5x55 SWEDISH

<b>Alternate Names:</b>	6.5 Swedish Mauser, 6.5 Swede, 6.5x55mm Swedish
<b>Parent Cartridge:</b>	8x57mm Mauser
<b>Country of Origin:</b>	Sweden
<b>Year of Introduction:</b>	1894
<b>Designer(s):</b>	Swedish/Norwegian Joint Military Commission
<b>Governing Body:</b>	SAAMI/CIP



## CARTRIDGE CASE DATA

<b>Case Type:</b>	Rimless, bottleneck		
<b>Average Case Capacity:</b>	58.6 grains H <sub>2</sub> O	<b>Max. Cartridge OAL</b>	3.150 inch
<b>Max. Case Length:</b>	2.165 inch	<b>Primer:</b>	Large Rifle
<b>Case Trim to Length:</b>	2.155 inch	<b>RCBS Shell holder:</b>	# 2
<b>Current Manufacturers:</b>	Norma, Remington, Nosler, Winchester, Hornady, Federal, Sako, Lapua, Sellier & Bellot, RUAG (RWS)		

## BALLISTIC DATA

<b>Max. Average Pressure (MAP):</b>	51,000 psi, 46,000 CUP - SAAMI (military actions only)	<b>Test Barrel Length:</b>	24 inch
<b>Rifling Twist Rate:</b>	1 turn in 8 inch (SAAMI), or 1/8.66 inch (military)		
<b>Muzzle velocities of factory loaded ammunition</b>	<b>Bullet Wgt.</b>		<b>Muzzle velocity</b>
	140-grain		2,650 fps
	Muzzle velocity will decrease approximately 20 fps per inch for barrels less than 24 inches.		

## HISTORICAL NOTES

- The 6.5x55mm Swedish Mauser cartridge was adopted as the military service cartridge for both Sweden and Norway in 1894. This cartridge remained in front line Swedish military service until the early 1970s when it was replaced by the 7.62x51mm NATO cartridge. Military ammunition was loaded in both countries for their respective military organizations.
- The original full metal jacket round nose 156-grain bullet was updated in the late 1930s with a 139-grain sharply pointed boat tail design called the M41.
- Chamber pressure of the 6.5x55mm Swedish Mauser cartridge is higher than other



- 6.5mm military cartridges, but still modest by present standards.
- The 6.5x55mm Swedish Mauser cartridge was one of the first sporting cartridges for smokeless propellants. It became very popular for both hunting and competitive shooting in both countries.
  - For North American hunters, the 6.5x55mm Swedish Mauser cartridge was virtually unknown until the late 1950s when thousands of surplus Swedish Mauser rifles were sold on the commercial market.
  - Although 6.5mm cartridges have never found great favor with North American sportsmen, the 6.5x55mm Swedish is an exception. Although supplies of surplus Swedish military rifles have not been on the market for several decades now, demand for 6.5x55mm Swedish ammunition has remained strong.

### ***Interesting fact***

The Swedish M41 FMJBT military Ball bullet weighs 139 grains while the Norwegian version of the bullet weighs 144 grains. Muzzle velocity is the same at 2,600 fps. While this small weight difference may seem trivial, it is a major problem for shooting clubs in both countries. For Swedish government-sponsored club matches, the heavier 144-grain Norwegian bullet is not allowed. So the Norwegian shooting teams must fire 139-grain bullets when competing in Sweden.

### **BALLISTIC NOTES**

- The 6.5x55mm Swedish Mauser cartridge is well known for its accuracy and excellent ballistic performance. For this reason, many shooters regard this cartridge as the best 6.5mm cartridge ever designed.
- Armchair ballisticians have often dismissed the 6.5x55mm Swedish with its 139 to 156-grain bullets as being too light for hunting large game such as moose. However, in the field, hunters have found the long, sleek 6.5mm bullets can be relied on to penetrate deeply for clean kills on most North American game.
- The low recoil of the 6.5x55mm Swedish makes it an ideal caliber for novice hunters.

### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

- Chamber pressures of military rifles designed in the late 1890s were modest. In the case of the 6.5x55mm Swedish Mauser, MAP was limited to 51,000 psi which was normal for that time. SAAMI has adopted this MAP limit in deference to the large number of surplus military rifles in this caliber in use by American sportsmen.
- Loading data listed first is for military rifles (M94 & M96 Mauser) or sporting rifles with military actions.
- European ammunition makers have developed "sporting" 6.5x55mm SE loads with 27% higher maximum average pressures for improved ballistic performance. These loads are designed for use only in strong (M98 Mauser), commercial actions. These loads are listed in the next section.

### **HANDLOADING NOTES**

- Swedish Mauser rifles have long throats to accommodate the original 156-grain round nose bullet.
- Lighter, pointed bullets may be seated out to take advantage of the maximum overall loaded length of 3.150 inches. However, test to make sure the seated bullet does not contact the rifling.
- We recommend neck sizing to reduce trimming chores and potential head separations.



- With its large case volume, the 6.5x55mm Swedish can be loaded with medium and slow burning propellants.
- The Speer 140-grain Spitzer SP Hot-Cor® will duplicate factory ballistics of American made 6.5x55mm ammunition.

### SAFETY NOTES

SPEER 140-grain Spitzer SP Hot-Cor® @ a muzzle velocity of 2,534 fps:

- Maximum vertical altitude @ 90° elevation is 11,781 feet.
- Maximum horizontal distance to first impact with ground @ 36° elevation is 5,536 yards.



# 6.5x55 SWEDISH (MILITARY ACTIONS)

## 90 GRAINS

### DIAMETER

.264"

### SECTIONAL DENSITY

0.184



### 6.5mm TNT® HP

<b>Ballistic Coefficient</b>	0.281
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<b>COAL Tested</b>	2.850"
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<b>Speer Part No.</b>	1445
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Propellant	Case	Primer	Starting Charge		Maximum Charge	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Hodgdon H414	Remington	CCI 250	48.0	3155	50.0	3278
Accurate 2700	Remington	CCI 250	47.0	3121	49.0	3244
Alliant Reloder 16	Federal	Federal 210	47.2	3152	49.0 C	3243
Alliant Reloder 17	Federal	Federal 210	45.1	2986	49.1	3240
IMR 4064	Remington	CCI 200	42.0	3105	44.0	3238
Hodgdon H4350	Remington	CCI 200	48.0	3098	50.0	3223
Alliant Reloder 15	Federal	Federal 210	40.1	2965	44.1	3215
Hodgdon Varget	Remington	CCI 200	41.0	3084	43.0	3193
IMR 4895	Remington	CCI 200	41.0	3051	43.0	3185
IMR 4350	Remington	CCI 200	48.0	3048	50.0	3178
IMR 3031	Remington	CCI 200	39.5	3038	41.5	3169
Accurate 4350	Remington	CCI 200	49.0	3029	51.0 C	3149
Alliant AR-Comp	Federal	Federal 210	36.0	2931	39.9	3143
Accurate 5744 (reduced load)	Remington	CCI 200	19.0	1841	21.0	2018

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



**140 GRAINS****DIAMETER**

.264"

**SECTIONAL DENSITY**

0.287

**6.5mm Spitzer SP Hot-Cor®**

<b>Ballistic Coefficient</b>	0.498
<b>COAL Tested</b>	3.000"
<b>Speer Part No.</b>	1441

Propellant	Case	Primer	Starting Charge		Maximum Charge	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant Reloder 26	Federal	Federal 210	37.7	2371	41.5	2534
Alliant Reloder 17	Federal	Federal 210	35.0	2309	38.6	2490
Alliant Power Pro 4000-MR	Federal	Federal 210	36.6	2368	38.7	2462
Alliant Reloder 22	Remington	CCI 200	38.0	2382	40.0	2461
Alliant Reloder 23	Federal	Federal 210	35.6	2293	39.3	2450
Alliant Reloder 19	Remington	CCI 200	38.0	2312	40.0	2399
Hodgdon H4831SC	Remington	CCI 200	37.0	2288	39.0	2379
Hodgdon H4350	Remington	CCI 200	34.0	2257	36.0	2350
IMR 4831	Remington	CCI 200	34.0	2254	36.0	2339
IMR 4350	Remington	CCI 200	34.0	2254	36.0	2337
IMR 4064	Remington	CCI 200	31.0	3193	33.0	2300
Hodgdon Varget	Remington	CCI 200	31.0	2165	33.0	2276

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



# 6.5x55 SWEDISH (STRONG COMMERCIAL ACTIONS)

Increased pressure load data below for use ONLY in strong, commercial actions.

## 90 GRAINS

DIAMETER

SECTIONAL DENSITY

.264"

0.184



### 6.5mm TNT® HP

Ballistic Coefficient 0.281

COAL Tested 2.850"

Speer Part No. 1445

Propellant	Case	Primer	Starting Charge		Maximum Charge	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant Reloder 17	Federal	Federal 210	45.1	2986	52.3 C	3443
Hodgdon Varget	Remington	CCI 200	45.0	3193	47.0	3410
Alliant Reloder 15	Federal	Federal 210	40.1	2965	47.2	3409
Hodgdon H414	Remington	CCI 250	50.0	3278	52.0	3401
Accurate 2700	Remington	CCI 250	49.0	3244	51.0	3385
IMR 4350	Remington	CCI 200	51.0	3243	53.0 C	3373
IMR 4064	Remington	CCI 200	44.0	3238	46.0	3371
Hodgdon H4350	Remington	CCI 200	50.0	3223	52.0 C	3348
Alliant AR-Comp	Federal	Federal 210	36.0	2931	43.5	3339
IMR 4895	Remington	CCI 200	43.0	3185	45.0	3320
IMR 3031	Remington	CCI 200	41.5	3169	43.5	3301
Alliant Reloder 16	Federal	Federal 210	47.2	3152	49.0 C	3243

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



Increased pressure load data below for use ONLY in strong, commercial actions.

## 140 GRAINS

### DIAMETER

.264"

### SECTIONAL DENSITY

0.287



### 6.5mm Spitzer SP Hot-Cor®

**Ballistic Coefficient** 0.498

**COAL Tested** 3.000"

**Speer Part No.** 1441

Propellant	Case	Primer	Starting Charge		Maximum Charge	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant Reloder 26	Federal	Federal 210	37.7	2371	46.4	2744
Alliant Reloder 17	Federal	Federal 210	35.0	2309	42.1	2666
Alliant Power Pro 4000-MR	Federal	Federal 210	36.6	2368	43.2	2664
Alliant Reloder 23	Federal	Federal 210	35.6	2293	44.2	2658
Alliant Reloder 22	Remington	CCI 200	43.0	2579	45.0	2655
Alliant Reloder 19	Remington	CCI 200	43.0	2529	45.0	2616
Hodgdon H4831SC	Remington	CCI 200	41.0	2464	43.0	2558
IMR 4831	Remington	CCI 200	39.0	2467	41.0	2551
IMR 4350	Remington	CCI 200	39.0	2462	41.0	2545
Hodgdon H4350	Remington	CCI 200	38.0	2444	40.0	2531
Alliant Reloder 16	Federal	Federal 210	34.0	2330	38.4	2528
Hodgdon Varget	Remington	CCI 200	35.0	2390	37.0	2498
IMR 4064	Remington	CCI 200	34.0	2351	36.0	2462

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