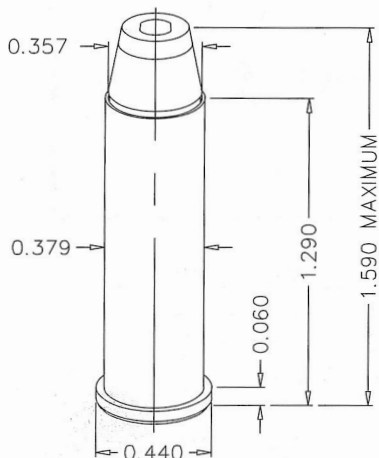


# 357 Magnum



## Test Specifications/ Components

**Firearm Used:** Colt MKIII Trooper

**Barrel Length:** 6"

**Twist:** 1 x 14"

**Case:** Starline

**Trim-to Length:** 1.285"

**Primer:** CCI-550

## Remarks:

The .357 Magnum is the oldest and most popular of our modern magnum revolver cartridges. Introduced in 1935, the .357 Magnum is a logical extension of Smith & Wesson's .38/44 Outdoorsman and .38/44 Heavy Duty revolvers. These massive N frame revolvers were designed to use a high

pressure version of the standard .38 Special cartridge. Today, the high pressure .38 Special loads intended for these revolvers would be known as +P or +P+ loadings. In 1930, when they were introduced, they were marketed as .38/44 S&W Special cartridges. These should not be confused with the .38/40, which is a completely different cartridge altogether. While these high velocity loadings provided an increase in the capabilities of the .38 Special, the heavy revolvers chambered for them gave experimenters the added strength to push the cartridge even further.

The .357 Magnum came about as a result of work done by Phil Sharpe, using extremely heavy loadings in a pair of .38/44 Outdoorsman revolvers. Sharpe, a respected gun writer of the period, had the chance to demonstrate the effectiveness of these loads during a hunting trip with Colonel Douglas B. Wesson, then vice-president of Smith & Wesson. While Sharpe modestly declined to take credit for the new cartridge, Col. Wesson was highly impressed. Plans were made to introduce a new revolver built around the new round, now known as the .357 Magnum. Winchester collaborated in this effort, producing a case some .135" longer than the .38 Special. The extra length was to prevent the magnum from being chambered in the older .38 Special revolvers, and was not intended to increase capacity. The .357 achieves its increased performance by a tremendous increase in operating pressure. At the time of its introduction, the .357 Magnum was the most powerful commercial cartridge ever chambered in a revolver, an honor it retained until being upstaged by the .44 Magnum some twenty years later.

The .357 is a tremendously versatile cartridge. Today, it is one of the most popular choices as a duty round for police officers, as it offers an excellent balance of stopping power and controllable recoil. It has also gained a

# 357 Magnum continued

respectable reputation as a hunting cartridge, being used for game as large as white tail deer. While the .357 is at its best with large charges of slow burning powders, it is an easy cartridge to load for. Faster burning powders, such as Unique and 231 allow much milder loads to be used for practice and plinking. In addition to the lighter .357 Magnum loads, standard .38 Specials can be fired in any .357 revolver as well. The .357 is an excellent all-around cartridge, and will undoubtedly remain with us for many years to come.

**#8300 .357" 110 gr. JHC Blitz**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



Powder + Velocity →	1250	1300	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550
Bullseye	7.1	7.5	7.9	8.4			
231	8.0	8.4	8.8	9.2			
AA-No. 2	7.5	7.9	8.3	8.6			
Unique	7.5	8.3	9.1	9.8	10.6		
AA-No. 5	10.4	10.9	11.4	11.8			
Herco	9.8	10.6	11.4	12.2	13.0		
AA-No. 7			13.4	13.9	14.4		
Blue Dot				13.5	14.5	15.4	
AA-No. 9				15.9	17.5	19.1	
2400					18.2	18.7	19.3
Viht N110	13.7	14.3	14.8	15.4	15.9	16.5	17.0
H110			18.5	18.9	19.3	19.7	20.4
296					21.0	21.7	22.4
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>587</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Unique	9.8	1400	479
Hunting Load	H110	19.7	1500	549

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION  
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

**357 Magnum** continued

**#8310 .357" 125 gr. JSP**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



**#8320 .357" 125 gr. JHC**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



Powder:/Velocity→	1200	1250	1300	1350	1400	1450	1500
Bullseye	7.4	7.9	8.3				
231	8.1	8.5	8.9				
AA-No. 2	7.4	7.8	8.2				
Unique		7.6	8.2	8.7	9.3		
AA-No. 5	10.5	11.0	11.5				
Herco	9.6	10.6	11.5				
AA-No. 7		12.5	13.1	13.7			
Blue Dot			13.2	13.8	14.4	14.9	
AA-No. 9			15.5	16.3	17.1	17.9	
2400			16.2	16.9	17.6	18.3	19.0
Viht N110	13.1	13.6	14.2	14.7	15.3	15.8	16.4
H110			17.6	18.4	19.1	19.8	
296			18.6	19.3	20.0	20.7	21.1
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>624</b>

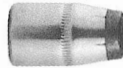
	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	AA-No. 7	13.1	1300	469
Hunting Load	296	20.7	1450	583

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION

LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

# 357 Magnum continued

**#8325 .357" 140 gr. JHC**  
**C.O.A.L. 1.585"**



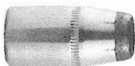
<b>Powder/Velocity →</b>	<b>1150</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>1250</b>	<b>1300</b>	<b>1350</b>
Bullseye	7.5	7.8			
231	8.0	8.5			
AA-No. 2	7.5	8.0			
Unique	8.2	8.6	9.0		
AA-No. 5	10.0	10.4	10.8		
Herco	8.6	9.1	9.5	10.0	
AA-No. 7	11.5	12.1	12.7	13.2	
Blue Dot	11.1	11.8	12.4	13.0	13.6
AA-No. 9			12.8	14.5	16.2
2400	15.5	16.2	16.8	17.4	
Viht N110	12.2	12.8	13.4	14.0	14.7
H110	17.6	18.3	18.9	19.5	
296		17.9	18.5	19.1	19.6
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>566</b>

	<b>Powder</b>	<b>Grains</b>	<b>Velocity</b>	<b>Ft. lbs.</b>
Accuracy Load	Blue Dot	12.4	1250	486
Hunting Load	296	19.1	1300	525

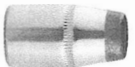
INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION  
 LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

# 357 Magnum continued

**#8360 .357" 158 gr. JHC**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



**#8340 .357" 158 gr. JSP**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



Powder/Velocity→	1050	1100	1150	1200	1250
Bullseye	6.2	6.7	7.2		
231	7.0	7.4	7.7		
AA-No. 2	6.6	7.1	7.5		
Unique	7.7	8.2			
AA-No. 5	8.9	9.4	9.9		
Herco	7.8	8.4	9.5		
AA-No. 7	10.2	10.8	11.4	12.0	
Blue Dot			11.6	12.1	12.6
AA-No. 9		12.7	13.4	14.1	
2400				14.0	15.0
Viht N110	11.8	12.0	12.2	12.4	12.7
H110			13.3	14.8	16.3
296			15.9	16.6	17.3
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>548</b>

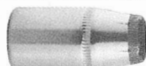
	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	AA-No.7	11.4	1150	464
Hunting Load	H110	16.3	1250	548

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION

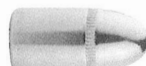
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

# 357 Magnum continued

**#8365 .357" 170 gr. JHC**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



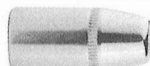
**#8350 .357" 170 gr. FMJ Match**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



Powder↓/Velocity→	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100
Unique	5.8	6.1	6.4	6.7	7.0	
AA-No. 5	7.3	7.8	8.3	8.7	9.1	
Herco	6.1	6.5	6.9	7.3	7.7	
AA-No. 7			8.8	9.6	10.4	11.2
Blue Dot					9.6	10.3
AA-No. 9				11.0	12.0	13.0
2400					13.1	13.9
Viht N110	10.3	10.5	10.7	10.9	11.1	11.3
H110				13.6	14.3	14.9
296				14.5	15.0	15.5
IMR-4227				14.5	15.1	15.6
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>457</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Herco	7.3	1000	377
Hunting Load	AA-No. 9	13.0	1100	457

**#8370 .357" 180 gr. FPJ Match**  
C.O.A.L. 1.585"



Powder↓/Velocity→	800	850	900	950	1000	1050
Unique	5.2	5.6	6.0	6.3	6.6	
AA-No. 5	7.1	7.5	7.9	8.3	8.7	
Herco	5.9	6.1	6.4	6.7	7.0	7.2
AA-No. 7			9.1	9.6	10.1	10.6
Blue Dot	7.4	7.7	8.0	8.3	8.6	8.8
AA-No. 9			10.8	11.4	12.0	12.6
2400				10.1	10.8	11.5
Viht N110	10.1	10.3	10.5	10.7	10.9	11.1
H110			10.6	11.4	12.1	12.8
296				12.0	12.7	13.4
IMR-4227				13.3	13.8	14.2
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>441</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Blue Dot	8.0	900	324
Hunting Load	296	13.4	1050	441

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION  
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.