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Wild West Guns .457 (MAG)

Suggested Handloading Data & Instructions

WARNING

APPROACH MAXIMUM LOADS WITH CAUTION! ALWAYS FOLLOW SAFE RELOADING PRACTICES! DO NOT SUBSTITUTE COMPONENTS!

THE LOADS SHOWN HERE ARE DESIGNED ONLY FOR THE GUNS FOR WHICH THEY WERE DEVELOPED. WILD WEST GUNS SPECIFICALLY DISCLAIMS ANY LIABILITY FOR INJURY RESULTING FROM THE USE OR MISUSE OF THIS DATA.

All jacketed bullet loads use either CCI-200 or CCI-BR2 primers; cast bullet loads use R-P 2½ primers.

Do not substitute primers under any circumstances – ballistic results of such substitutions are unpredictable and can create gun wrecking and potentially dangerous pressures.

All loads use properly prepared nickel-plated WWG .457 cases.

Case Preparation Steps:

- 1) Trim cases to a uniform length between 2.205 and 2.210 inches
- 2) Deburr case mouth, both interior & exterior
- 3) Remove all residues from primer pocket

Optional Potentially Beneficial Case Preparation Steps:

- 1) Deburr flash hole
- 2) Uniform primer pocket

(Although Forster's new outside neck turning tool makes it feasible to outside neck turn these cases, owing to limited neck wall thickness, this is not recommended – assuring adequate neck tension is more critical than obtaining the last modicum of neck wall uniformity.)

Loading process:

- 1) Properly lubricate and resize case in a conventional 45-70 sizing die or, preferably, in a custom Lee *WWG* .457 sizing die – remove all traces of lubricant
- 2) Expand case mouth using an expander ball that is between 0.453 & 0.454-inch diameter – adjust stem so that a modest amount of case bell mouthing occurs (sufficient only to ease bullet seating)

- 3) Using a quality hand priming tool, seat primer fully to bottom of primer pocket until you can feel the anvil pressing into the pellet

NEVER USE ANY CARTRIDGE WHERE THE PRIMER IS NOT SEATED
WELL BELOW FLUSH WITH HEAD OF CASE

- 4) Install correct powder charge, either directly from powder measure or by slowly pouring charge through a funnel
- 5) Start bullet by hand so that it is properly aligned with case
- 6) Adjust bullet seating die so that no crimping occurs, then seat bullet fully into case so that only the extreme front portion of cannelure is visible and so that cartridge overall length matches the specified length, as indicated in the table on the opposite side of this sheet
- 7) Crimp case mouth separately, using *WWG .457 Lee Factory Crimp Die*, adjusted so that the four collet "fingers" fully close around the case mouth when the press ram is fully raised
- 8) For ammunition that might see application in dangerous-game hunting, seal case mouths and primer pockets – *George & Roy's primer sealant* is a superior product for this application

SUGGESTED LOADING DATA

Use primers of recent manufacture: jacketed bullets, CCI-200 or CCI-BR2; cast bullets R-P 2½

Use only nickel-plated cases headstamped as *Wild West Guns .457*, trimmed to between 2.205- and 2.210-inch length

Overall Cartridge Length as specified in table, or as required so that specified bullet is seated to allow normal crimping into cannelure and so that loaded round will properly function through specially-chambered and modified Wild West Guns rifle

For H4227, H322 & H4198 loads, use only Hodgdon's new *Extreme* powders – never use filler in any load

For jacketed bullet loads, use only specified bullet of recent manufacture

Whenever cartridge overall length exceeds 2.65-inches, the handloader should verify feeding and functionality.

After firing 45-70 ammunition in a 457 WWG rifle, thoroughly remove all chamber residues before firing 457 ammunition.

**CAUTION: NEVER USE THESE LOADS IN ANY RIFLE NOT SPECIFICALLY CHAMBERED FOR THE
*Wild West Guns .457***

All loads have bullet seated to approximately the middle of the cannelure groove. This data was developed using custom Lee *WWG .457 MAG* Dies; Expander ball diameter, 0.4535-inch +/-0.0005-inch; Crimping, *Lee Factory Crimp Die* adjusted so that jaws completely close at top of crimping stroke.

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300 R-P, JHP @ 2.66-inches overall length, CCI-BR2 (practice shooting & hunting of lighter big game species through mule deer size)												
	Minimum			Suggested			Maximum			Foot		
Powder	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Pounds	Comments	
H4198	54.2	2220	35.0	56.8	2308	40.0	59.0	2390	45.0	3805	Can overstress bullet	
H322	60.7	2195	35.0	62.8	2307	40.0	65.1	2420	45.0	3900	Can overstress bullet	
350 ABW, Bonded Core, Standard Jacket @ 2.66-inches overall length, CCI-BR2 (lighter & non-dangerous North American big game)												
	Minimum			Suggested			Maximum			Foot		
Powder	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Pounds	Comments	
H4198	50.5	2030	35.0	52.6	2111	40.0	54.2	2185	45.0	3710	Extreme expansion	
H322	57.2	2070	35.0	59.3	2148	40.0	60.9	2222	45.0	3835	Extreme expansion	
350 ABW, Bonded Core, Heavy Jacket @ 2.66-inches overall length, CCI-BR2 (dangerous North American & smaller dangerous African game)												
	Minimum			Suggested			Maximum			Foot		
Powder	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Pounds	Comments	
H4198	49.9	2022	35.0	52.0	2103	40.0	53.6	2177	45.0	3685	Very consistent	
H322	56.6	2062	35.0	58.7	2140	40.0	60.3	2214	45.0	3810	Very consistent	
405 BCS, Cast, moly-resin plated Flat Point @ 2.65-inches OAL, light crimp (informal target practice & hunting of smaller game)												
				Suggested								
Powder				Charge	fps	CUP					Comments	
H4227 Ex				27.0*	1422	24.0					See Note	
XMP574 4				30.0**	1408	23.5					See Note	
*4227: Adjust charge, as necessary, to achieve good accuracy. Necessary charge and velocity level depends critically upon hardness of specific bullet used.												
**5744: Adjust charge, as necessary, to achieve good accuracy. This usually occurs when pressure is adequate to eliminate significant unburned powder (visible in bore after firing). Harder bullets require												

higher pressure. Avoid getting unburned powder in the action, as this can foul the works. A similar approach generates a good load with most appropriate hard cast bullets of similar weight. Use no filler.

405 R-P, JFP @ 2.66-inches overall length, CCI-BR2 (larger non-dangerous North American big game through elk size)											
	Minimum			Suggested			Maximum			Foot	
Powder	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Pounds	Comments
H4198	47.7	1890	35.0	49.4	1955	40.0	51.0	2015	45.0	3650	Excellent elk load
H322	51.3	1850	35.0	54.6	1960	40.0	57.6	2075	45.0	3870	Excellent elk load
405 ABW, Bonded Core JFP, Heavy Jacket (only) @ 2.65-inches overall length, CCI-BR2 (All non-dangerous African game, smaller African dangerous game and the largest North American game)											
	Minimum			Suggested			Maximum			Foot	
Powder	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Charge	fps	CUP	Pounds	Comments
H4198	41.6	1735	35.0	45.0	1850	40.0	48.8	1975	45.0	3510	Excellent Grizzly load
H322	50.1	1835	35.0	52.1	1917	40.0	53.6	2000	45.0	3595	Excellent Grizzly load

ABW = Alaska Bullet Works BCS = Bear Creak Supply R-P = Remington Peters

Ballistic predictions based upon a 22-inch, *Wild West Guns* test barrel. Typical velocity difference is +/- 20 fps per inch difference in barrel length.

Unavoidable gun-to-gun velocity variation typically runs at up to +/-50 fps. Limited testing suggests that the ported barrel might suffer as much as a 25-fps velocity deficit.

(CUP = pressure in thousands of CUP units)

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