

9 x 21mm

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: EEA Witness

Barrel Length: 5.2"

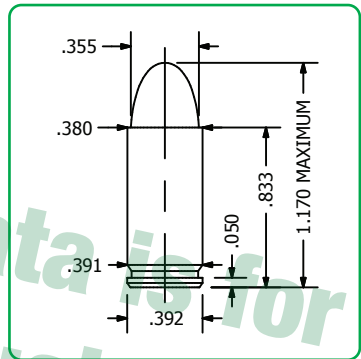
Twist: 1 x 9.8"

Components:

Case: Starline

Trim-to Length: 0.830"

Primer: CCI 500






Remarks:

The 9x21mm, a variation of the standard 9mm Luger, is a rule breaker. That is what it started out as in Europe, and that is what it has continued to be here in the United States. Originally, the cartridge was developed to get around Italian regulations that prohibited civilian ownership of military calibers, such as the 9x19mm. Here in the U.S., the 9x21 evaded the regulations imposed by the United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA), which specified the use of the 9x19mm cartridge to make "major" power factor. This practice came about from shooters attempting to gain the advantages of the high magazine capacity of several 9mm pistols, while still making major like the 38 Super. The problem was that to achieve this level of performance from a 9x19mm required that SAAMI pressure levels be exceeded. The USPSA leadership, after some volatile internal debates, decided that promoting unsafe reloading practices was not in the best interests of the game. As a result, the 9x19 was banned from being scored as a major caliber here in the U.S.

Enter the 9x21mm. Since no U.S. arms makers have ever chambered pistols for the 9x21mm, and no ammo makers have loaded for it, no SAAMI pressure specifications existed. Therefore, how could the reloaded ammunition be unsafe if they did not exceed a nonexistent SAAMI pressure limitation? As in Europe, the 9x21mm thrives on its ability to get around a rule preventing use of the common 9x19mm. European pressure standards for the 9x21mm are higher than those of the 9x19mm. But there is a catch. Since most of the European firearms chambered for the 9x21mm were originally designed for the 9x19mm, the maximum OAL of both cartridges is the same; 1.169" inches. When both are loaded to the same OAL, case capacity is virtually identical. This is a fact that must be borne in mind when loading for the 9x21mm. Our test pistol, a compensated EAA Witness, is a good example. Its magazine length prevents loading cartridges longer than the 9x19mm maximum of 1.169" OAL. In an M1911 pattern pistol, where the cartridges can be loaded out to around 1.270", a real capacity advantage is gained. In this situation, the 9x21mm will rival the 38 Super in performance.



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	Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#8100	.355"	90gr.	JHP	1.100"
	#9990	.355"	90gr.	JHP V-Crown	1.100"
	#8105	.355"	95gr.	FMJ Match	1.100"

Powder ▾	Velocity >	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550
Bullseye		5.4	5.6	5.9	6.1	6.4
HP38		5.5	6.1	6.4		
Univ. Clays			6.0	6.3	6.6	6.8
Unique			6.1	6.7		
A #5		7.1	7.4	7.6	7.8	
Power Pistol		7.1	7.4	7.7	8.0	
HS 6		8.2	8.6	9.0	9.4	9.7
Viht 3N37			7.0	7.4	7.8	8.2
A #7		9.2	9.6	10.0	10.4	10.8
Energy Ft. lbs		364	392	420	450	480






Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	Viht 3N37	7.4	1450	420
Hunting Load	Viht 3N37	7.8	1500	450

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	Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.		
	#8110	.355"	115gr.	JHP	1.155"		
	#8115	.355"	115gr.	FMJ Match	1.165"		
Powder ▾	Velocity >	1100	1150	1200	1250	1300	1350
Bullseye		4.6	4.9	5.1	5.4	5.7	6.0
231			5.0	5.3	5.7		
HP38				4.8	5.2	5.6	6.0
Univ. Clays		5.0	5.3	5.6	5.9	6.2	6.4
Unique			5.5	5.9	6.3	6.7	
A #5		6.3	6.7	7.0	7.3	7.6	
Power Pistol			6.0	6.3	6.6	6.9	7.2
HS 6		6.8	7.2	7.6	8.0	8.4	8.7
Viht 3N37		6.0	6.3	6.6	6.9	7.3	7.6
A #7				8.2	8.6	9.0	9.3
Energy Ft. lbs		309	338	368	399	431	465
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb			
Accuracy Load	Univ. Clays	5.9	1250	399			
Hunting Load	Viht 3N37	7.3	1300	431			

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Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#9924	.355"	124gr. JHP V-Crown	1.160"
	#8125	.355"	125gr. JHP	1.160"
	#8120	.355"	125gr. FMJ Match	1.165"
	#9925	.355"	125gr. JHP V-Crown	1.160"
	#8345	.355"	130gr. FMJ Match	1.165"

Powder	Velocity	1100	1150	1200	1250	1300	1350
Bullseye		4.5	4.8	5.2	5.5	5.8	
231		4.7	5.0	5.3	5.6		
HP38		4.2	4.7	5.2	5.7	6.2	
Univ. Clays		4.9	5.2	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.4
Unique		5.4	5.8	6.1	6.5		
Power Pistol		5.8	6.1	6.4	6.7	7.0	
HS 6		6.6	7.0	7.4	7.7	8.1	8.5
Viht 3N37		5.7	6.1	6.4	6.8	7.1	7.5
A #7			8.0	8.4	8.8	9.2	
Energy Ft. lbs		336	367	400	434	469	506

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	231	5.0	1150	367
Hunting Load	Viht 3N37	7.1	1300	469