

41 ACTION EXPRESS

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Colt Gov't Model

Barrel Length: 5"

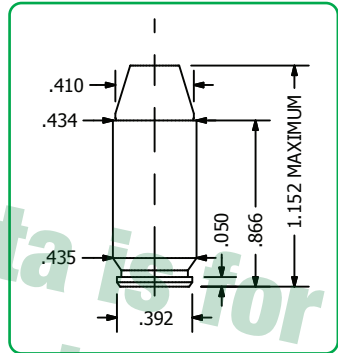
Twist: 1 x 16"

Components:

Case: Samson (IMI)

Trim-to Length: 0.861"

Primer: Federal 100




Remarks:


The 41 Action Express started out as a fine idea that has been overtaken by other events. Originally conceived as a way to provide greatly improved performance in 9mm handguns, the 41 AE utilized a novel approach to attain this increase. Designed by Evan Whildin, then Executive Vice President of Action Arms, the 41 AE uses a rebated case with the same head dimensions as the standard 9mm Luger. The case body, however, is dimensioned to accept .410" diameter bullets. This allows virtually any 9mm handgun to be rebarreled to the 41 AE, while requiring no alteration to either the slide or extractor. In most instances, the only components necessary are a new barrel, magazine, and in some cases, a heavier recoil spring.

Our test firearm was a Colt Government Model conversion with a Bar Sto barrel and a Delta Elite 10mm magazine. The test firearm, originally a 9mm Luger, demonstrates the versatility of the 41 AE cartridge. At the completion of testing, the gun was returned to its 9mm configuration simply by changing magazines and replacing the original factory 9mm barrel.

Loading for the 41 AE presents no special challenges. Component availability is probably the greatest concern, as 41 AE cases cannot be easily reformed from any existing case. Bullets in this caliber were originally designed for the 41 Magnum, but gave good results in our test pistol. While these bullets do have a cannelure, it must be disregarded for crimping purposes. Like other cartridges that headspace on the case mouth, the 41 AE should only be taper crimped enough to remove any remaining flaring of the case mouth. Although the 41 AE gave excellent results, the development of the 40 S&W has cast a dark cloud over its future.

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Bullet Caliber Weight Type								C.O.A.L.
	#8500	.410"	170gr.	JHC				1.150"
Powder ∨	Velocity >	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100	1150
231	4.5	4.9	5.3	5.7				
452AA	4.0	4.5	5.0					
Unique	5.4	5.7	6.0	6.3	6.6	6.9	7.2	
473AA	5.1	5.6	6.1	6.6	7.1	7.6		
HS 6	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.8	8.2	8.6		
Herco	5.1	5.5	5.9	6.3	6.7	7.1	7.5	
800X	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	8.5	
A #7	8.0	8.5	9.0	9.5	10.0	10.5	11.0	
Blue Dot	6.8	7.3	7.8	8.4	9.0	9.5		
Energy Ft. lbs	273	306	341	377	416	457	499	
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	Unique	6.9	1100	457				
Hunting Load	A #7	11.0	1150	499				

Bullet Caliber Weight Type								C.O.A.L.
	#8520	.410"	210gr.	JHC				1.150"
Powder ∨	Velocity >	700	750	800	850	900	950	
231	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.8				
452AA	3.7	4.2	4.7	5.2				
Unique	4.2	4.5	4.8	5.2	5.5			
473AA	4.3	4.8	5.3	5.8				
HS 6	5.7	6.0	6.2	6.5	6.7			
Herco	4.5	4.8	5.1	5.4	5.7	6.1		
800X	4.7	5.1	5.5	5.9	6.4	6.9		
A #7	6.6	7.1	7.6	8.1	8.6	9.1		
Blue Dot	5.8	6.2	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.8		
Energy Ft. lbs	228	262	298	337	378	421		
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	Herco	5.7	900	378				
Hunting Load	A #7	9.1	950	421				