

45 COLT (S.A.A. AND REPLICAS)

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Universal

Barrel Length: 5.6"

Twist: 1-16"

Components:

Case: Starline

Trim-to Length: 1.280"

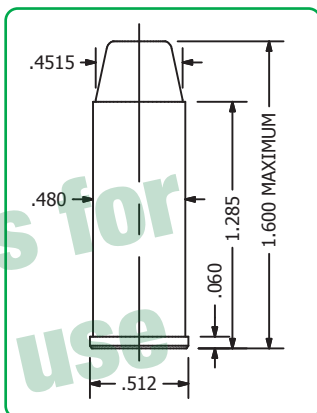
Primer: WLP

Remarks:



Few cartridges have as colorful a history as the 45 Colt. Originally developed in 1873 for use in the new Colt Single Action Army (SAA), the 45 Colt continued as our standard service cartridge (officially, unofficially and with slight variations) until the adoption of the 45 ACP in 1911. That, however, is not the whole story. Originally loaded with 40 grains of black powder and a 250 grain lead bullet, the big Colt produced close to 900 fps. These impressive figures made the 45 Colt one of the most powerful factory cartridges ever chambered in a U.S. revolver. Naturally, it quickly developed an excellent reputation on the western frontier, although much of the legendary reputation attributed to the 45 Colt was not actually earned by that cartridge.

Often incorrectly referred to as the Long Colt, the 45 Colt was one of at least two 45 caliber cartridges then in use with the U.S. military. In early 1874, the U.S. Army began testing a break-top Smith & Wesson revolver, known as the S&W Model 3 Schofield First Model. The Schofield was chambered for a shorter cartridge known as the 45 S&W. Loaded with 28 grains of black powder and a 230 grain lead bullet, the 45 S&W delivered about 750 fps at the muzzle. With its longer cylinder, the Colt revolver could use the shorter S&W cartridge in exactly the same manner as a 38 Special being fired in a 357 Magnum chamber. It is not surprising that the original 45 Colt began to be referred to as the 45 "Long" Colt to differentiate it from the shorter cartridge.



Reloading for the older revolvers and modern replicas calls for discretion and strict adherence to the reloading tables. Despite the fact that recently produced SAAs and replicas may indeed use better steel than the originals, the design itself is a limiting factor in the pressure these guns can withstand. If there is any doubt about the strength of a particular 45 revolver, we strongly recommend that it be reloaded using these tables only.





45 COLT (S.A.A. AND REPLICAS)

Bullet		Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.						
	#8800	.4515"	185gr.	JHP	1.575"						
	#8810	.4515"	185gr.	FPJ Match	1.515"						
Powder	Velocity	875	925	975	1025	1050	1075	1100			
Clays				7.2	7.6	7.9	8.1	8.3			
Red				7.3	7.7	8.0	8.2	8.4			
Clay Dot				7.3	7.7	7.9	8.2				
Target					7.5	7.7	8.0	8.2			
Tite Group				7.1	7.5	7.8	8.0	8.2			
American Select	7.5			7.8	8.2	8.6					
N320				8.1	8.5	9.0	9.2	9.5			
A#2				7.3	7.6	8.0	8.2	8.4			
Zip				9.0	9.6	10.1	10.3	10.6	10.9		
Unique				9.6	9.9	10.3	10.5	10.7	10.9		
Universal				8.7	9.1	9.6	9.8	10.0	10.2		
N330	9.6			9.9	10.2	10.5	10.7	10.9	11.0		
WSF					9.8	10.4	10.6	10.9	11.2		
N340					10.3	10.6	10.8	11.0	11.2		
True Blue				9.0	9.6	10.1	10.4	10.7	10.9		
A#5				11.2	11.8	12.5	12.8	13.2	13.5		
Auto Comp				10.3	10.8	11.3	11.5	11.7	12.0		
CFE Pistol					10.2	10.7	10.9	11.2	11.4		
N350					11.2	11.5	11.7	11.8	12.0		
Win 572					10.1	10.7	11.0	11.3			
A#7					14.9	15.3	15.5	15.8	16.0		
Energy Ft. Lbs		314	351	390	432	453	475	497			
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity	fps		Energy Ft. lb					
Accuracy Load	Target	8.2	1100			497					
Hunting Load	Clays	8.3	1100			497					


45 COLT (S.A.A. AND REPLICAS)

Bullet		Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.			
	#8825	.4515"	200gr.	FPJ Match	1.522"			
	#9820	.4515"	200gr.	JHP V-Crown	1.522"			
Powder	Velocity	800	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100
Clays					6.9	7.3	7.8	
Red			7.1	7.5	7.9			
Clay Dot		6.4	6.7	7.0	7.3	7.6		
Target						7.6	8.1	
Tite Group				6.8	7.2	7.6		
American Select				7.4	7.8	8.3		
N320			8.2	8.6	9.0	9.4	9.8	
A#2				7.3	7.7	8.1		
Zip					9.2	9.6	9.9	
Unique			9.5	9.8	10.2	10.5	10.9	
Universal							9.7	10.4
N330		9.5	9.8	10.1	10.4	10.7	11.0	11.3
WSF					9.9	10.4	10.9	11.3
N340					10.5	10.9	11.3	11.7
True Blue					9.5	10.1	10.7	
A#5						12.2	12.9	13.6
Auto Comp						11.4	11.9	12.5
CFE Pistol					10.5	10.9	11.3	
N350			10.7	11.0	11.3	11.6	11.9	12.2
Win 572							11.8	12.4
A#7						15.8	16.3	16.8
Energy Ft. Lbs		284	321	360	401	444	490	537
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	True Blue	10.7	1050	490				
Hunting Load	Universal	10.4	1100	537				

45 COLT (S.A.A. AND REPLICAS)

		Bullet Caliber Weight Type							C.O.A.L.
	#8805 .4515" 230gr. JHP								1.600"
	#8815 .4515" 230gr. FMJ Match								1.600"
Powder v	Velocity >	600	700	800	850	900	950	1000	
Clays			3.9	4.5	4.7				
Bullseye			4.2	4.8	5.2	5.5			
Target				4.7	5.0	5.4	5.7		
Tite Group				4.6	4.9	5.3			
American Select			4.3	4.9	5.2				
WST			4.4	5.0	5.3				
N320				5.1	5.4				
Zip				5.7	6.1	6.4			
Win 231	4.3	4.9	5.5	5.8	6.0				
Unique				5.5	5.8	6.1			
Power Pistol				6.1	6.5	6.9	7.2		
Sport Pistol				5.1	5.4	5.7			
Herco				5.9	6.2	6.5	6.8		
WSF				5.6	5.9	6.2	6.6		
N340				5.9	6.1	6.4	6.7		
True Blue					6.8	7.2	7.7		
A#5					7.7	8.2	8.7		
Auto Comp				6.2	6.5	6.9	7.2		
Silhouette				6.7	7.1	7.4	7.8	8.1	
A#7					9.0	9.4	9.9	10.3	
Energy Ft. Lbs		184	250	327	369	414	461	511	
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb					
Accuracy Load	Herco	6.5	900	414					
Hunting Load	Silhouette	8.1	1000	511					

45 COLT (S.A.A. AND REPLICAS)

Bullet Caliber Weight Type		C.O.A.L.						
	#8820 .4515" 240gr. JHC	1.600"						
Powder ∨	Velocity >	700	750	800	850	900	950	1000
Red				6.1	6.5	6.9		
Clay Dot			6.0	6.3	6.7	7.0		
Target				6.0	6.5	6.9	7.4	
Tite Group					6.5	6.9	7.4	
American Select	6.3	6.6	7.0	7.4				
N320		6.8	7.3	7.8	8.2			
Unique		7.9	8.2	8.6	8.9			
Universal					8.0	8.4	8.8	9.2
N330				8.3	8.7	9.1	9.5	
WSF				8.5	8.8	9.2	9.5	9.8
N340		8.4	8.7	9.1	9.4	9.8		
True Blue					8.7	9.3	9.8	
A#5					9.8	10.4	11.1	11.7
Auto Comp					9.1	9.6	10.0	
CFE Pistol					8.8	9.2	9.6	10.0
N350					9.9	10.3	10.7	11.1
Win 572			8.8	9.3	9.7	10.1	10.5	
A#7			12.7	13.1	13.6	14.0	14.5	
Energy Ft. Lbs		261	300	341	385	432	481	533
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	Win 572	10.5	1000	533				
Hunting Load	Universal	9.2	1000	533				