

224 WEATHERBY MAGNUM

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Weatherby
Varmintmaster

Barrel Length: 26"

Twist: 1 x 12"

Components:

Case: Weatherby

Trim-to Length: 1.913"

Primer: Remington 9 1/2

Remarks:

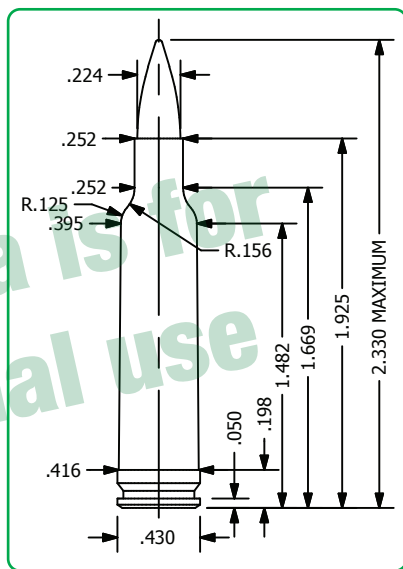
Weatherby's first large-scale entry into the field of high-velocity varmint cartridges was the 224 Weatherby Magnum. Introduced in 1963, the 224 was not, however, the first 22 caliber varmint round that Roy

Weatherby chambered in his line of rifles. Before developing the 224, Weatherby worked with an improved version of the 220 Swift, known as the 220 Weatherby Rocket. The Rocket showed little velocity gain over the standard Swift, leading to the development of the more efficient 224 Weatherby Magnum.



While something of a departure from Weatherby's normal practice of offering the highest velocity in a given bore size, the 224 was introduced in an attractive, scaled-down version of the Mark V action. Whatever the 224 lacked in velocity, it more than made up for in typical Weatherby stylishness.

With its belted case design, the 224 has some peculiarities in reloading not found in any other 22 caliber cartridge. Rather than allowing the cartridge to headspace on the belt, the sizing die should be adjusted to headspace on the shoulder, as with a conventional rimless case design. This method will result in improved case life and better accuracy. Like most of its bigger Weatherby brothers, the Varmintmaster is chambered with a long throat, or freebore. Seating bullets out close to the lands is not always an option in such chambers, and makes the concentricity of the loaded round extremely important for optimum accuracy.

Weatherby dropped the 224 from its line in 1994. Due to its odd head diameter (an original design, not based on an existing case), the 224 has never been popular as a chambering when building custom rifles. Cases cannot be conveniently formed from any other readily available case. Since the cartridge's performance can be beat by the 22-250 or the 220 Swift, the 224 Weatherby Magnum will undoubtedly fade into obsolence.




224 WEATHERBY MAGNUM

		Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type			C.O.A.L.	
			#1385	.224"	40gr.	HP			2.310"
			#1440	.224"	40gr.	BlitzKing			2.360"
Powder	Velocity	3600	3700	3800	3900	4000	4100		
IMR-4198		25.5	26.1	26.7	27.3	27.9	28.5		
IMR-3031		29.0	29.6	30.3	30.9	31.6	32.2		
IMR-4895		30.7	31.4	32.1	32.8	33.5			
IMR-4064		31.1	31.8	32.5					
IMR-4320		31.6	32.3	32.9	33.6	34.2	34.9		
Energy Ft. lbs		1151	1216	1282	1351	1421	1493		
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb					
Accuracy Load	IMR-4895	32.1	3800	1282					
Hunting Load	IMR-4895	32.8	3900	1351					





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224 WEATHERBY MAGNUM

Bullet Caliber Weight Type		C.O.A.L.					
	#1310 .224" 45gr. SPT	2.310"					
Powder ∨	Velocity >	3500	3600	3700	3800	3900	4000
IMR-4198		25.4	26.1	26.7	27.4	28.0	
IMR-3031			29.1	29.8	30.6	31.3	32.0
Norma 201			31.0	32.1	33.2	34.3	
IMR-4895			31.5	32.1	32.6	33.2	
IMR-4064		30.3	31.2	32.0	32.9		
IMR-4320		31.0	31.9	32.8	33.6	34.5	
Energy Ft. lbs		1224	1295	1368	1443	1520	1598
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb			
Accuracy Load	IMR-4895	32.1	3700	1368			
Hunting Load	IMR-4895	32.6	3800	1443			

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224 WEATHERBY MAGNUM

Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#1320	.224"	50gr. SMP	2.310"
	#1330	.224"	50gr. SPT	2.310"
	#1340	.224"	50gr. Blitz	2.310"
	#1450	.224"	50gr. BlitzKing	2.335"

Powder	Velocity	3300	3400	3500	3600	3700	3800
IMR-4198		24.4	25.2	26.0	26.7	27.5	
IMR-3031			28.3	29.1	29.8	30.6	31.3
Norma 201			29.0	30.1	31.3	32.4	
IMR-4895		28.8	29.4	30.0	30.5	31.1	
IMR-4064				30.1	31.1	32.0	33.0
IMR-4320				31.4	32.3	33.1	34.0
Energy Ft. lbs		1209	1283	1360	1439	1520	1603

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	IMR-4895	30.5	3600	1439
Hunting Load	IMR-4064	32.0	3700	1520

224 WEATHERBY MAGNUM

Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#1410	.224"	52gr. HPBT MatchKing	2.310"
	#1400	.224"	53gr. HP MatchKing	2.310"








Powder ∨	Velocity >	3200	3300	3400	3500	3600	3700
IMR-4198		23.9	24.6	25.4	26.1	26.8	
IMR-3031				28.3	29.0	29.7	30.5
Norma 201			28.2	29.3	30.4	31.5	
IMR-4895			29.4	30.1	30.9	31.6	
IMR-4064				29.9	30.8	31.6	32.5
IMR-4320			29.8	30.7	31.6	32.5	33.4
Energy Ft. lbs		1205	1281	1360	1441	1525	1611

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	IMR-4895	30.9	3500	1441

Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.

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redistribute.

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	Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#1345	.224"	55gr.	Blitz	2.375"
	#1350	.224"	55gr.	SMP	2.345"
	#1355	.224"	55gr.	FMJBT	2.375"
	#1360	.224"	55gr.	SPT	2.375"
	#1365	.224"	55gr.	SBT	2.375"
	#1390	.224"	55gr.	HPBT	2.345"
	#1455	.224"	55gr.	BlitzKing	2.375**

*requires a 1x12" or faster twist

Powder ▾	Velocity >	3200	3300	3400	3500	3600	3700
IMR-4198		23.8	24.7	25.6	26.5		
IMR-3031		26.8	27.6	28.4	29.1	29.9	
Norma 201			28.4	29.5	30.6	31.7	
IMR-4895	28.3	29.1	29.9	30.7	31.5		
IMR-4064		29.2	30.1	31.0	31.8	32.7	
IMR-4320		29.9	30.8	31.7	32.6		
Energy Ft. lbs		1250	1330	1412	1496	1582	1672

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	IMR-4895	30.7	3500	1496
Hunting Load	IMR-4064	31.8	3600	1582

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	Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.		
	#1375	.224"	60gr.	HP	2.375"		
	#1370	.224"	63gr.	SMP	2.375"		
	#1395	.224"	65gr.	SBT	2.375"*		
*requires 1 x 10" twist or faster twist							
Powder	Velocity	3000	3100	3200	3300	3400	3500
IMR-4198		23.3	24.1	24.8	25.6		
IMR-3031		25.7	26.5	27.4	28.2	29.0	
Norma 201			26.7	27.8	28.9	30.0	
IMR-4895		27.0	27.9	28.7	29.6	30.4	
IMR-4064					29.5	30.5	31.4
IMR-4320				29.5	30.3	31.2	32.0
Energy Ft. lbs		1199	1280	1364	1451	1540	1632
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb			
Accuracy Load	IMR-4895	29.6	3300	1451			
Hunting Load	IMR-4064	30.5	3400	1540			