

6.5mm Remington Magnum

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Remington 600

Barrel Length: 18 1/2"

Twist: 1 x 9"

Components:

Case: Remington

Trim-to Length: 2.160"

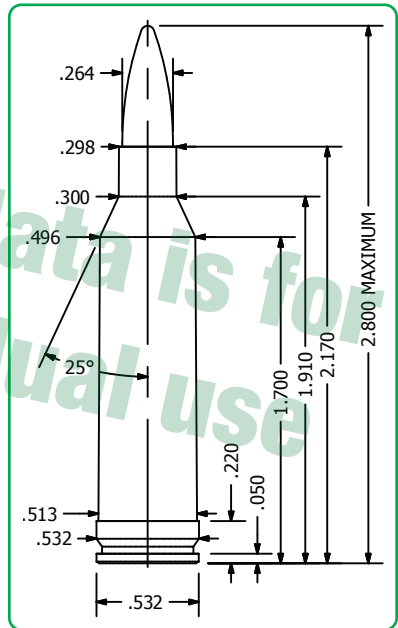
Primer: Remington 9 1/2 M

Remarks:


Introduced in 1966, the 6.5mm Remington Magnum is a necked-down version of the 350 Remington Magnum. The original concept, according to several authoritative sources, was to provide 270 Winchester performance in a light, short-action carbine. Based on this criteria alone, the cartridge is a success. The gun-buying public, however, never saw things that way. Today the 6.5 Magnum is all but obsolete.


In the field, the 6.5 Remington Magnum covers nearly the same range of applications as the 270 Winchester. With its limitations on handling heavier bullets, the 6.5 is not quite as versatile as the illustrious 270. The smaller 6.5 cartridges have earned an enviable reputation on big game, primarily through the use of heavy bullets. With their high sectional density and resulting deep penetration, they often provide killing power out of proportion with their "paper ballistics." Because Remington's 6.5mm cartridge is generally loaded with bullets of less than 140 grains, it loses this important advantage. We recommend that the 6.5 Remington Magnum's use be limited to game no larger than deer or black bear.

Although the case capacity of this short magnum is comparable to that of a 30/06, over-all cartridge length becomes a limiting factor. This cartridge's appeal is the performance it offers in a short action. This precludes the use of the heavier bullets, which encroach on powder space when seated to an OAL of 2.800". Several sources list data for bullets of 140 to 160 grains in this cartridge, but have done so by seating bullets to an OAL that will not function in a short action. Going to a longer action completely negates the original intent of the cartridge, because a longer action would allow the use of a substantially more powerful round, such as the 264 Winchester Magnum. Our testing was conducted using an original Remington 600, which would not accommodate the heavier bullet weights.





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Bullet Caliber Weight Type						C.O.A.L.
	#1700	.264"	85gr.	HP		2.800"
Powder ∨	Velocity >	2700	2800	2900	3000	3100
IMR-4064		45.9	47.5	49.0		
IMR-4320		46.4	47.9	49.4	50.9	
H380			47.5	50.5	53.5	
IMR-4350		52.4	53.6	54.8	56.0	57.2
H450		54.7	56.5	58.2	60.0	61.7
Energy Ft. lbs		1376	1479	1587	1698	1813
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb		
Accuracy Load	IMR-4350	56.0	3000	1698		
Hunting Load	IMR-4350	56.0	3000	1698		

Bullet Caliber Weight Type						C.O.A.L.
	#1710	.264"	100gr.	HP		2.800"
Powder ∨	Velocity >	2600	2700	2800	2900	3000
IMR-4064		43.0	45.0	47.0		
IMR-4320		43.1	45.0	47.0	48.9	
H380		43.4	46.1	48.8	51.5	
IMR-4350		49.4	51.0	52.6	54.2	55.8
H450		53.6	55.5	57.5	59.4	
Energy Ft. lbs		1501	1618	1741	1867	1998
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb		
Accuracy Load	IMR-4350	54.2	2900	1867		
Hunting Load	IMR-4350	55.8	3000	1998		

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		Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
		#1720	.264"	120gr.	SPT	2.800"
		#1725	.264"	120gr.	HPBT MatchKing	2.800"
Powder	Velocity	2400	2500	2600	2700	2800
IMR-4064		39.0	41.5	44.0		
IMR-4320		40.5	42.4	44.2	46.1	
H380		42.4	44.6	46.8	49.0	
IMR-4350		46.1	47.8	49.5	51.2	52.9
H450		50.2	52.3	54.5	56.6	
Energy Ft. lbs		1535	1665	1801	1942	2089
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb		
Accuracy Load	IMR-4064	44.0	2600	1801		
Hunting Load	IMR-4350	52.9	2800	2089		

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