

# 257 ROBERTS ACKLEY IMPROVED

## Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Savage 12VSS

Barrel Length: 26"

Twist: 1 X 10"

## Components:

Case: Federal +P

Trim-to Length: 2.223"

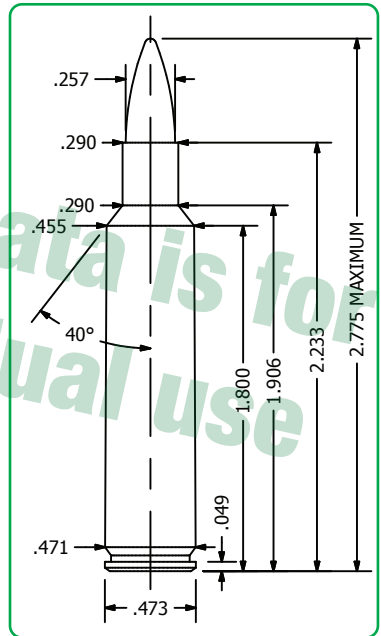
Primer: Remington 9 1/2

## Remarks:



Gunsmith Parker O. Ackley developed an entire series of improved cartridges, with most utilizing a 40 degree shoulder and a slight reduction in body taper. Ackley's version of the 257 Roberts is one of the better examples of an "Improved" cartridge, giving higher velocities than the standard. In fact, this version is far more efficient than the 25-06, producing essentially the same performance while using substantially less powder.

Generally, "Improved" refers to a case that has had its capacity increased by reducing body taper and/or increasing shoulder angle. Improved cartridges have always generated some controversy among reloaders because, after all, they are wildcats with all the attendant problems. Whether this potential increase in velocity is worth the extra effort is a personal choice. In most "Improved" cartridges, headspace dimensions remain the same as the parent case. This allows factory ammo to be fired in an improved chamber, fire-forming the standard case to its improved dimensions. However, when loading for an improved/wildcat chambering, the handloader must pay particular attention to Overall length, headspace and pressure signs as loads are worked up. Despite all this, the 257 Ackley Improved is a good starting point for the handloader who wants to experiment with a wildcat cartridge. Dies are readily available, case forming is easy, and excellent results can be obtained.

Like the 257 Roberts, the Ackley Improved serves well for everything from varmints to big game. The 75 grain hollow-point is an ideal choice for varminting to ranges of about 200 yards. For longer shots, the 87 grain Spitzer and 90 grain HPBT give flatter trajectory and less wind drift for ranges out to 400 yards or more. For deer and antelope, either of Sierra's 100 grain bullets will give outstanding performance.





**257 ROBERTS ACKLEY IMPROVED**

Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.				
	#1600	.257"	75gr. HP	2.770"				
	#1605	.257"	70gr. BlitzKing	2.770"				
Powder	Velocity	3300	3400	3500	3550	3600	3650	3700
IMR 4895		42.2	43.5	44.7	45.4	46.0		
Varget		42.5	44.1	45.7	46.5			
IMR 4064		41.9	43.4	44.9	45.6			
Viht N140		41.7	43.5	45.2				
RE 15		41.8	43.4	45.0	45.8	46.6		
760		47.1	48.7	50.3	51.1	51.9	52.7	
A 4350		48.9	50.0	51.1	51.7	52.2	52.9	53.3
IMR 4350		48.0	49.3	50.6	51.3	51.9	52.6	53.2
IMR 4831		50.5	51.8	53.1	53.8	54.4		
<b>Energy Ft. lbs</b>		<b>1814</b>	<b>1925</b>	<b>2040</b>	<b>2099</b>	<b>2158</b>	<b>2218</b>	<b>2280</b>
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lbs				
<b>Accuracy Load</b>	Viht N140	45.2	3500	2040				
<b>Hunting Load</b>	A-4350	52.9	3650	2218				




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# 257 ROBERTS ACKLEY IMPROVED

	Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.	
	#1610	.257"	87gr.	SPT	2.800"	
	#1615	.257"	90gr.	HPBT	2.790"	
Powder ▾	Velocity >	3100	3200	3300	3400	3500
IMR 4895		40.1	41.7	43.3	44.9	
Varget		40.6	42.2	43.8	45.4	
IMR 4064		40.2	41.9	43.6		
BigGame		42.9	44.6	46.3	48.0	
RE 15		40.0	41.5	43.0	44.5	46.0
760		45.3	46.8	48.3	49.8	51.3
Viht N150		40.6	42.5	44.4		
A 4350			47.9	49.1	50.3	51.5
IMR 4350			47.2	48.5	49.9	51.2
IMR 4831		48.2	49.6	51.1	52.5	53.9
<b>Energy Ft. lbs</b>		<b>1856</b>	<b>1978</b>	<b>2103</b>	<b>2233</b>	<b>2366</b>
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lbs		
<b>Accuracy Load</b>	IMR-4064	43.6	3300	2103		
<b>Hunting Load</b>	760	51.3	3500	2366		

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**257 ROBERTS ACKLEY IMPROVED**

Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#1620	.257"	100gr. SPT	2.800"
	#1625	.257"	100gr. SBT	2.800"
	#1628	.257"	100gr. HPBT MatchKing	2.800"




  

Powder	Velocity	2800	2900	3000	3100	3200
IMR 4895		36.3	38.1	39.9	41.7	43.5
Varget			37.6	39.8	42.0	44.2
IMR 4064		35.9	37.8	39.7	41.6	43.5
RE 15				39.1	41.6	44.1
A 4350				46.0	47.3	48.5
IMR 4350				45.2	46.6	48.0
RE 19				45.8	48.1	50.4
IMR 4831				47.3	48.9	50.4
<b>Energy Ft. lbs</b>		<b>1741</b>	<b>1867</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>2134</b>	<b>2274</b>

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lbs
<b>Accuracy Load</b>	IMR 4350	46.6	3100	2134
<b>Hunting Load</b>	IMR 4350	46.6	3100	2134

# 257 ROBERTS ACKLEY IMPROVED

	Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#1630	.257"	117gr.	SBT	2.800"
	#1640	.257"	117gr.	SPT	2.800"
	#1650	.257"	120gr.	HPBT	2.790"

Powder ▾	Velocity >	2600	2700	2800	2850	2900
IMR 4895		34.4	36.4	38.4	39.4	
Varget		33.5	36.2	38.9		
IMR 4064		34.4	36.7	38.9	40.0	
RE 15			35.7	38.1	38.9	
A 4350			39.8	42.4	43.7	45.0
IMR 4350			39.4	41.9	43.1	44.3
IMR 4831				44.7	45.5	46.4
<b>Energy Ft. lbs</b>		<b>1756</b>	<b>1894</b>	<b>2036</b>	<b>2110</b>	<b>2184</b>

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lbs
<b>Accuracy Load</b>	Varget	38.9	2800	2036
<b>Hunting Load</b>	IMR 4350	44.3	2900	2184

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