257 ROBERTS

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Savage 12VSS

Barrel Length: 22"

Twist: 1 x 10"

Components:

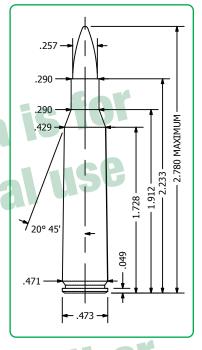
Case: Federal

Trim-to Length: 2.223"

Primer: Fed. 210M

Remarks:

The 257 Roberts was another offspring of the prolific 7x57mm Mauser and was adopted by Remington in 1934. Several early wildcatters and gunsmiths were involved in the 257's preliminary development, including Griffin & Howe, Adolph O. Niedner and F.J. Sage. During this time, the case went through several variations in shoulder angle, neck length and body taper. The driving force behind all versions, however, was Ned Roberts,



a well known gun writer of the 1930s. Originally titled the 25 Roberts, the round was quickly redubbed the 257 Roberts to reduce the confusion with earlier variations also known as the 25 Roberts.

While the 257 case has always enjoyed a good reputation for strength, the cartridge was underloaded in factory ammunition for decades. Bluntly profiled bullets were also used in factory ammunition, which sacrificed too much velocity at longer ranges. Reloading can easily correct both these deficiencies. In fact, famed gun writer and ordnance expert Col. Townsend Whelen regarded the 257 Roberts as one of the two best cartridges for North American big game hunting. Pushed out of the limelight when the 243 Winchester and 6mm (244) Remington came along, the 257 is still an excellent cartridge. Although a bit light for larger big game species, such as elk, the 257 is superior to any 6mm cartridge by virtue of its ability to handle the heavier 117 and 120 grain bullets.

Reloaders find the 87 grain Spitzer and the 90 grain Blitzking work well for most long range varmint shooting, while the 90 grain HPBT, 100 grain Spitzer and Spitzer Boat Tail give best results on deer sized game. All in all, the 257 is an outstanding cartridge and deserves its recent resurgence in popularity. Superb accuracy is quite normal with a 257 Roberts.



| | Bullet Cali | ber Wei | yht Ty | ype | | C.O.A.L. |
|-------------------|-------------|---------|--------|----------|------|----------------|
| | #1600 .25 | 7" 75g | ır. H | Р | | 2.700" |
| | #1605 .25 | 7" 70g | ır. Bl | litzKing | | 2.700" |
| Powder 🗸 🛛 Veloci | ty > 3600 | 3100 | 3200 | 3300 | 3400 | 3500 |
| IMR 3031 📄 | 36.5 | 37.7 | 38.8 | 40.0 | | |
| Benchmark | 36.2 | 37.3 | 38.4 | 39.5 | | |
| BL C(2) | 38.3 | 40.1 | 41.9 | 43.7 | | |
| IMR 4895 | 38.3 | 40.1 | 42.0 | 43.8 | | |
| Varget | 40.1 | 40.9 | 41.7 | • | | |
| IMR 4064 | 38.9 | 39.9 | 41.0 | 42.0 | 43.1 | 44.1 |
| A 4064 | 39.5 | 40.5 | 41.5 | 42.5 | | |
| IMR 4320 | -39.8 | 41.0 | 42.3 | 43.5 | 44.7 | |
| Viht N140 | 38.2 | 39.4 | 40.7 | 41.9 | 43.2 | 44.4 |
| A 2700 | 42.5 | 44.4 | 46.2 | | | |
| BigGame | 43.8 | 44.9 | 46.0 | | | |
| RE 15 | 39.2 | 40.3 | 41.4 | | | |
| H380 | 42.5 | 44.0 | 45.5 | | | |
| A 4350 | 43.8 | 45.2 | 46.6 | 48.0 | 49.4 | |
| H4350 | 44.2 | 45.5 | 46.7 | 48.0 | 49.2 | |
| Energy Ft. Ibs | 1499 | 1600 | 1705 | 1813 | 1925 | 2040 |
| Koola | | | | | | |
| Special Load | Powder | Grai | ns | Velocity | fps | Energy Ft. Ibs |
| Accuracy Load 🔍 | A 4350 | 48.0 | | 3300 | | 1813 |
| Hunting Load | IMR 4320 | 44.7 | | 3400 | | 1925 |
| | | | | | | |



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| | Bullet Cali | ber Wei | ght Ty | pe | | | C.O.A.L. |
|----------------|-------------|---------|--------|----------|-------|----------|----------|
| | #1610 .25 | 7" 87 | gr. SP | T | | | 2.775" |
| | #1615 .25 | 7" 90 | gr. HP | РВТ | | | 2.775" |
| Powder ∨ Veloc | ity > 2800 | 2900 | 3000 | 3100 | 3200 | 3300 | |
| IMR 3031 | 33.7 | 35.0 | 36.2 | 37.5 | 38.7 | 40.0 | |
| BL C(2) | 34.2 | 36.3 | 38.4 | 40.4 | 42.5 | | |
| IMR 4895 | 35.3 | 36.7 | 38.1 | 39.4 | 40.8 | | |
| Varget | 36.8 | 38.1 | 39.4 | 40.7 | | | |
| IMR 4064 | 36.1 | 37.3 | 38.5 | 39.7 | 40.9 | 42.1 | |
| A 4064 | 36.7 | 38.1 | 39.5 | 40.9 | | | |
| IMR 4320 | 36.5 | 37.9 | 39.3 | 40.7 | 42.1 | | |
| Viht N140 | 35.6 | 37.1 | 38.6 | | | | |
| A 2700 | 40.0 | 41.7 | 43.3 | | | | |
| BigGame | | | 41.2 | 42.4 | | | |
| RE 15 | 36.2 | 37.6 | 39.0 | 40.4 | | | |
| H380 | 39.3 | 41.0 | 42.6 | 44.3 | 45.9 | | |
| Viht N150 | 35.3 | 37.0 | 38.8 | 40.5 | | | |
| H4350 | 41.1 | 42.3 | 43.5 | 44.7 | 45.9 | 47.1 | |
| A 3100 | 43.1 | 44.8 | 46.5 | 48.2 | | | |
| Energy Ft. Ibs | 1514 | 1624 | 1738 | 1856 | 1978 | 2103 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Special Load | Powder | Gra | ins \ | Velocity | fps l | Energy I | t. Ibs |
| Accuracy Load | Varget | 39.4 | 4 3 | 3000 | | 1738 | |
| Hunting Load | RE 15 | 40.4 | 4 3 | 3100 | | 1856 | |
| | | 20 | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |



| | Bullet Cali | ber Weigh | t Type | | C.O.A.L. |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| | #1620 .25 | 7" 100gr. | SPT | | 2.775" |
| #1625 .257" 100gr. SBT | | | | | 2.775" |
| #1628 .257" 100gr. HPBT MatchKing | | | | | 2.775" |
| Powder 🗸 🛛 Veloci | ity > 2500 | 2600 2 | 700 2800 | 2900 | 3000 |
| IMR 3031 | 29.4 | 31.1 32 | 2.8 34.6 | 36.3 | 38.0 |
| BL C(2) | | 33.6 3 | 5.2 36.8 | 38.4 | |
| IMR 4895 | 31.5 | 33.1 34 | 1.6 36.2 | 37.7 | 39.3 |
| Varget | | 35 | 5.3 37.1 | 38.9 | |
| IMR 4064 | 31.4 | 33.0 34 | 1.6 36.3 | 37.9 | 39.5 |
| A 4064 | | 35 | 5.7 37.3 | 38.9 | 40.5 |
| IMR 4320 | 32.7 | 34.5 36 | 6.2 <u>38.0</u> | | |
| Viht N140 | | 32.6 34 | 1.5 36.4 | 38.3 | |
| A 2700 | 36.9 | 38.4 40 |).0 41.5 | 43.0 | |
| RE 15 | | 33.5 35 | 5.2 36.9 | 38.6 | 40.3 |
| H380 | 35.4 | 37.1 38 | 3.8 40.4 | 42.1 | |
| Viht N150 | 32.1 | 33.7 35 | 5.4 37.0 | 38.6 | |
| H4350 | 36.1 | 37.7 39 | 9.3 40.9 | 42.5 | 44.1 |
| RE 19 | | | 2.8 44.1 | 45.4 | |
| H4831 SC | 37.6 | | 1.2 42.9 | 44.7 | 46.5 |
| Energy Ft. Ibs | 1388 | 1501 10 | 618 1741 | 1867 | 1998 |
| | | | | | |
| Special Load | Powder | Grains | Velocity | fps l | Energy Ft. Ibs |
| Accuracy Load | H4350 | 42.5 | 2900 | 1 | 1867 |
| Hunting Load | H4831 SC | 46.5 | 3000 | | 1998 |
| | | | | | |



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| | Bullet Cali | ber Weight | Туре | C.O.A.L. |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|--------------|----------------|
| | #1630 .25 | 7" 117gr. | SBT | 2.775" |
| | #1640 .25 | 7" 117gr. | SPT | 2.775" |
| | #1650 .25 | 7" 120gr. | НРВТ | 2.750" |
| Powder 🗸 Veloci | ity > 2300 | 2400 25 | 00 2600 27 | 00 2800 |
| IMR 3031 | 27.2 | 29.2 31 | .2 33.2 | |
| BL C(2) | | 29.4 32 | | |
| IMR 4895 | 28.6 | 30.4 32 | .2 34.0 35 | .8 |
| Varget | 29.3 | 31.2 33 | .1 35.0 36 | .9 |
| IMR 4064 | 28.6 | 30.5 32 | .3 34.2 36 | .0 |
| IMR 4320 | 27.0 | 29.9 32 | .9 35.8 | |
| A 2700 | 32.8 | 35.1 37 | .3 39.6 | |
| BigGame | | | 37.0 38 | .2 |
| H380 | 30.0 | 32.5 35 | .0 37.5 | |
| Viht N150 | 28.7 | 31.3 33 | .8 36.4 | |
| H4350 | 33.4 | 35.1 36 | .8 38.5 | |
| IMR 4350 | 31.2 | 33.2 35 | .2 37.2 39 | .2 41.2 |
| RE 19 | 36.0 | 37.5 39 | .0 40.5 42 | .0 43.5 |
| Viht N160 | 32.0 | 33.9 35 | .8 37.7 | |
| A 3100 | 36.2 | 38.0 39 | .8 41.6 43 | .4 |
| RE 22 | 34.9 | 36.7 38 | .5 40.3 42 | .1 43.9 |
| Energy Ft. Ibs | 1374 | 1496 16 | 23 1756 18 | 94 2036 |
| | | | | |
| Special Load | Powder | Grains | Velocity fps | Energy Ft. Ibs |
| Accuracy Load | H4350 | 38.5 | 2600 | 1756 |
| Hunting Load | RE 22 | 42.1 | 2700 | 1894 |
| | | | | |

