

30-378 WEATHERBY MAGNUM

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Weatherby MK5

Barrel Length: 26"

Twist: 1 x 10"

Components:

Case: Wby

Trim-to Length: 2.903"

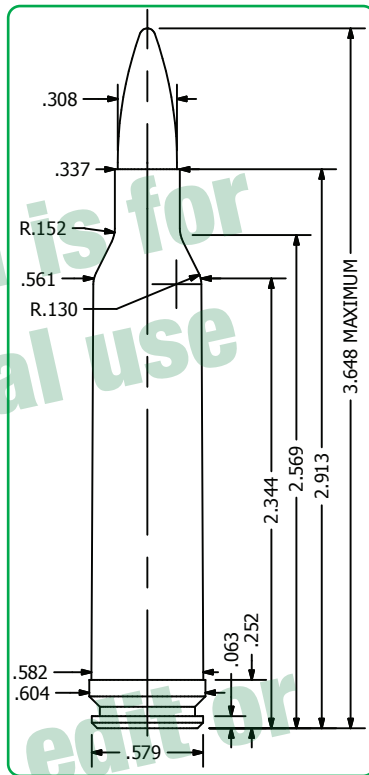
Primer: Federal 215

Remarks:






As the name implies, the 30-378 is a standardized version of the 378 Weatherby case necked down to accept 30 caliber bullets. Weatherby has traditionally tried to attain the highest velocities of any factory cartridge in any given bore diameter. When their 300 Magnum was recently knocked out of this spot by newer developments, they responded by offering what had until then been a highly specialized wildcat: the 30-378 Magnum. The largest of Weatherby's 30 caliber offerings now puts them pretty much at the top of the velocity heap, at least among mainstream offerings. The 30-378 is about as far as one can reasonably push the 30 caliber envelope.

Such performance comes at a price. In hunting weight rifles, recoil can be vicious. Barrel life is extremely limited, and muzzle blast is downright unpleasant. In most cartridges, some of these characteristics can be moderated by using reduced loads for practice and other less demanding applications. Here again, such extreme case designs have a problem; they aren't nearly as flexible as smaller, better balanced cartridges. There are a very limited range of powders that give acceptable performance in such a large capacity, small bore cartridge. These powders generally don't lend themselves to reduced loads without inducing other problems. A reduction in bullet weight is frequently an option to cut down recoil, but here again, we have problems. Lighter bullets give up most of the larger cases' advantage over the smaller 300 magnums, essentially giving the same level of performance while using considerably more powder.

The 30-378 has made a name for itself in the sphere of 1000 yard benchrest competition. Given the weight of the guns involved in this type of shooting, recoil is not an issue. Barrels on bench guns can be long enough to get the most out of a cartridge like this when portability isn't an issue. With Sierra's heavy weight MatchKing bullets, the 30-378 has proven to be a stellar performer in this arena. This combination has been used to set a number of 1000 yard accuracy records.








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		Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.			
	#2145	.308"	165gr.	SBT	3.648"				
	#2140	.308"	165gr.	HPBT	3.648"				
	#4665	.308"	165gr.	TGK	3.730				
	#2200	.308"	168gr.	HPBT MatchKing	3.730"				
	#7768	.308"	168gr.	TMK	3.730"				
Powder	Velocity	3000	3100	3200	3250	3300	3350	3400	
RE 22		88.5	91.0	93.5	95.0	96.5			
A 8700		107.2	110.7	114.2	115.9	117.6	119.3	121.0	
H1000		95.0	97.5	100.0	101.2	102.5	103.8		
H870			105.0	110.0	112.5	115.0	117.5		
Viht N170				97.0	99.0	101.0	103.0		
Energy Ft. lbs		3297	3520	3751	3869	3989	4111	4235	
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity	fps	Energy	Ft. lb			
Accuracy Load	Viht N170	101.0	3300		3989				
Hunting Load	H870	117.5	3350		4111				

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Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#2275	.308"	175gr. HPBT MatchKing	3.730"
	#7775	.308"	175gr. TMK	3.730"
	#2150	.308"	180gr. SPT	3.648"
	#2160	.308"	180gr. SBT	3.648"
	#2220	.308"	180gr. HPBT MatchKing	3.730"

Powder ∨	Velocity >	3000	3100	3200	3250	3300
RE 22		84.0	87.0	90.0	91.5	
A 8700			108.0	112.0	114.0	116.0
H1000			95.0	98.0	99.5	
H870		98.2	103.8	109.4	112.2	115.0
Viht N170			94.5	97.8	99.5	
Energy Ft. lbs		3497	3734	3978	4104	4231



Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	H870	112.2	3250	4104
Hunting Load	A 8700	116.0	3300	4231


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Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.			
	#2210	.308"	190gr. HPBT MatchKing	3.730"			
Powder	Velocity	2900	3000	3100	3150	3200	3250
RE 22	79.0	83.0	87.0	89.0			
A 8700		104.0	109.0	111.5	114.0		
H1000			93.8	95.4			
H870		100.0	105.0	107.5	110.0	112.5	
Viht N170			95.0	96.5	98.0		
Energy Ft. lbs		3547	3796	4054	4185	4319	4455
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb			
Accuracy Load	Viht N170	98.0	3200	4319			
<i>Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.</i>							

Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.			
	#2165	.308"	200gr. SBT	3.648"			
	#2230	.308"	200gr. HPBT MatchKing	3.730"			
Powder	Velocity	2800	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100
RE 22	78.0	81.4	83.1	84.8	86.5		
A 8700			106.0	108.5	111.0		
H1000			90.0	92.0	94.0		
H870		98.0	100.0	102.0	104.0	106.0	
Viht N170				90.0	92.3	94.5	
Energy Ft. lbs		3481	3734	3864	3996	4130	4267
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb			
Accuracy Load	Viht N170	94.5	3100	4267			
Hunting Load	H870	106.0	3100	4267			

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Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.				
	#2240	.308"	220gr. HPBT MatchKing	3.730"*				
	#2180	.308"	220gr. RN	3.615"				
*requires 1 x 10" twist or faster twist								
Powder	Velocity	2700	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000	3050
RE 22		76.0	79.5	81.3	83.0			
A 8700					101.0	105.0	109.0	
H1000			86.0	87.0	88.0			
H870					97.0	100.0	103.0	106.0
Viht N170					88.0	89.5		
Energy Ft. lbs		3561	3829	3967	4108	4250	4396	4543
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	H870	103.0	3000	4396				
Hunting Load	H870	106.0	3050	4543				

Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.				
	#9245	.308"	240gr. HPBT MatchKing	3.730"*				
*requires 1 x 9" twist or faster twist								
Powder	Velocity	2600	2650	2700	2750	2800	2850	2900
RE 22		76.0	78.0	80.0				
A 8700				96.0	99.0	102.0	105.0	
H1000			83.0	84.5	86.0			
H870						96.0	99.0	102.0
Viht N170				83.0	85.0			
Energy Ft. lbs		3602	3742	3884	4029	4177	4328	4481
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	H870	99.0	2850	4328				
<i>Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.</i>								