

7.62 x 39mm**Test Specifications:**

Firearm Used: Ruger Mini Thirty

Barrel Length: 18 1/2"

Twist: 1 x 10"

Components:

Case: Winchester

Trim-to Length: 1.515"

Primer: Remington 9 1/2

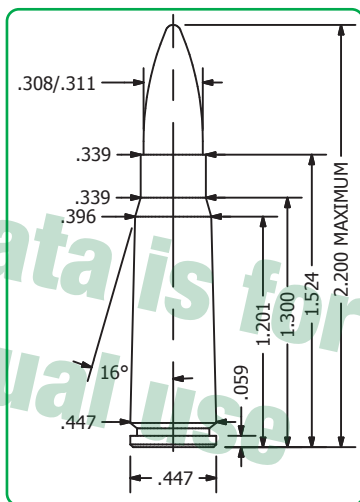
Remarks:

Adopted by the Soviet Union in 1943, the 7.62x39mm, or M43 in its military designation, came into widespread service several years after World War II. The M43 was originally chambered in the SKS semi automatic rifle and later the AK47 assault rifle. Many sources have said the Soviets developed this cartridge after their experiences on the receiving end of a similar German round, the 7.92x33mm. Our research, however, leads us to conclude that this was a case of parallel development. Both the Soviets and the Germans had come to the same conclusions regarding the viability of full sized battle rifles in modern warfare – conclusions it would take the United States another 20 plus years to fully appreciate. In either case, the M43 served the Soviet Union and other Communist bloc countries as a primary service cartridge until the mid 1980s.




In terms of power, the 7.62x39mm is frequently compared to the 30-30 Winchester. However, this is not an entirely accurate comparison. The 30-30 is not only capable of producing higher velocities but also able to use heavier bullets. The 7.62x39mm is adequate for deer at close range, but care should be taken to ensure precise shot placement. The vast majority of rifles chambered for the 7.62x39mm are military pattern autoloaders not noted for their fine accuracy. Despite this reputation, we have encountered superb accuracy in several different rifles. In a good bolt action, the round has excellent accuracy potential. It is worth noting that the 6mm PPC – considered by many to be the most inherently accurate cartridge ever developed – is a descendant of the ubiquitous 7.62x39mm.

Some unique cautions apply when loading the 7.62x39mm. Rifles chambered for this round are readily available in two distinctly different bore sizes: .308" and the original .311" diameter. Reloading equipment manufacturers have recognized this, and most now supply two expander balls with their dies. One of these will be properly sized for reloading the larger .311" bullets, while the other should be used when loading .308" diameter projectiles. As a point of interest, we tried using .311" diameter bullets in our Ruger test rifle, as well as .308" diameter bullets in a Russian SKS. Although hardly an ideal situation, both combinations performed surprisingly well.

This cartridge is now also being chambered in some AR rifles. The mixture of old and new seems to be working well. This comes as a bit of a surprise after the development and popularity of the 300 AAC Blackout.






7.62 x 39mm

Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.
	#2100	.308"	110gr. RN	1.950"
	#2105	.308"	110gr. FMJ	1.950"
	#2110	.308"	110gr. HP	2.085"



Powder	Velocity	2200	2250	2300	2350	2400	2450
Viht N120		23.6	24.2	24.8	25.4	26.0	
IMR 4227		21.8	22.4	23.0	23.6	24.2	
H4227		20.6	21.1	21.6	22.1	22.6	
A 1680		23.6	24.2	24.8	25.4	26.0	26.6
H4198		25.8	26.3	26.8			
IMR 4198		24.3	24.9	25.5	26.1	26.7	27.3
A 2015		28.5	29.0				
RE 7		25.5	26.0	26.5	27.0	27.5	
Energy Ft. lbs		1182	1236	1292	1349	1407	1466

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	IMR 4227	23.6	2350	1349
Hunting Load	Viht N120	26.0	2400	1407

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	Bullet	Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.			
	#2120	.308"	125gr.	SPT	2.185"			
	#2121	.308"	125gr.	HP Match	2.185"			
	#7725	.308"	125gr.	TMK	2.185"			
Powder	Velocity	2000	2050	2100	2150	2200	2250	2300
Viht N120		20.9	21.6	22.3	23.0	23.7	24.4	
IMR 4227		20.5	21.0	21.5	22.0	22.5	23.0	
Viht N130		24.1	24.6	25.1	25.6	26.1	26.6	27.1
A 1680		22.7	23.1	23.5	23.9	24.3	24.7	
H4198		23.5	24.0	24.5	25.0	25.5		
IMR 4198		22.9	23.4	23.9	24.4	24.9	25.4	
A 2015		26.4	27.0	27.6	28.2			
RE 7		23.3	23.8	24.3	24.8	25.3	25.8	26.3
Benchmark		27.0	27.6	28.2	28.8	29.4		
H322		26.8	27.2	27.6	28.0	28.4	28.8	
Energy Ft. lbs		1110	1166	1224	1283	1343	1405	1468
Special Load	Powder	Grains		Velocity fps		Energy Ft. lb		
Accuracy Load	H4198	25.0		2150		1283		
Hunting Load	A 1680	24.7		2250		1405		

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Bullet		Caliber	Weight	Type	C.O.A.L.	
	#7350	.308"	135gr.	SPT SSP	2.185"	
	#2124	.308"	135gr.	HP	2.185"	

Powder ▾	Velocity >	2000	2050	2100	2150	2200
Viht N120		21.7	22.3	22.9	23.5	24.1
IMR 4227		20.6	21.2	21.8	22.4	
Viht N130		24.0	24.5	25.0	25.5	26.0
A 1680		21.8	22.4	23.0	23.6	24.2
H4198		22.3	23.1	23.9	24.7	
IMR 4198		22.5	23.1	23.7	24.3	24.9
A 2015		26.2	26.8	27.4		
RE 7		23.5	24.0	24.5		
Benchmark		27.3	27.8	28.3	28.8	
Energy Ft. lbs		1199	1260	1322	1385	1451

Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	Viht N130	25.5	2150	1385
Hunting Load	IMR 4198	24.3	2150	1385


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redistribute.

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Bullet Caliber Weight Type		C.O.A.L.						
	#2130 .308" 150gr. SPT	2.200"						
Powder	Velocity	1800	1850	1900	1950	2000	2050	2100
Viht N130		21.4	22.0	22.6	23.2	23.8	24.4	25.0
A 1680		19.9	20.5	21.1	21.7	22.3		
H4198		20.5	21.1	21.7	22.3	22.9		
IMR 4198		20.4	21.0	21.6	22.2	22.8	23.4	
A 2015		23.8	24.5	25.2	25.9	26.6	27.3	28.0
RE 7		21.1	21.7	22.3	22.9	23.5	24.1	24.7
Benchmark		24.2	24.9	25.6	26.3	27.0	27.7	
H322		24.1	24.7	25.3	25.9	26.5	27.1	27.7
Energy Ft. lbs		1079	1140	1202	1266	1332	1399	1469
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	A 1680	21.7	1950	1266				
Hunting Load	RE 7	24.7	2100	1469				

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Bullet Caliber Weight Type		C.O.A.L.						
	#2305 .311" 125gr. SPT	2.185"*						
*For SKS, AK 47 or other .311 Groove Dia. Rifles								
Powder ∨	Velocity >	2000	2050	2100	2150	2200	2250	2300
Viht N120		21.4	22.0	22.6	23.2	23.8	24.4	25.0
IMR 4227			20.6	21.2	21.8	22.4	23.0	
Viht N130		24.5	25.0	25.5	26.0	26.5	27.0	27.5
A 1680		22.2	22.8	23.4	24.0	24.6		
IMR 4198		23.1	23.6	24.1	24.6	25.1	25.6	26.1
A 2015		26.1	26.8	27.5	28.2	28.9		
RE 7		24.0	24.5	25.0	25.5	26.0	26.5	27.0
Benchmark		27.2	27.9	28.6	29.3	30.0		
H322		26.0	26.6	27.2	27.8	28.4	29.0	
Energy Ft. lbs		1110	1166	1224	1283	1343	1405	1468
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	Viht N130	26.5	2200	1343				
Hunting Load	H322	29.0	2250	1405				

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