

7.7 x 58mm JAPANESE ARISAKA

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Type 99 Rifle

Barrel Length: 25"

Twist: 1 x 9.75"

Components:

Case: Norma

Trim-to Length: 2.260"

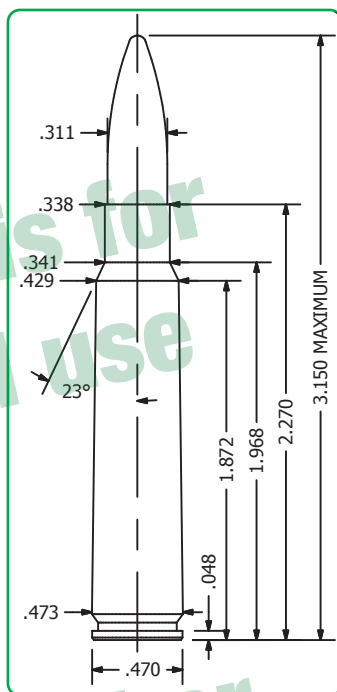
Primer: Remington 9 1/2

Remarks:


Making a major change in ordnance during a war is an extremely difficult task. This fact was driven home to the Italians when they began to replace their 6.5mm Carcanos with the ill-fated 7.35mm Carcano at the onset of WWII. In the early 1930s, these same considerations prompted our own Ordnance Corps to adopt the M1 Garand in 30-06, rather than the Garand's earlier chambering, the 276 Pederson. The Japanese Army, however, felt the need outweighed the disadvantages. Undaunted by the potential problems, the Imperial forces adopted the 7.7x58mm Arisaka in 1939.

Experiences in China showed the need for a more powerful service rifle cartridge than their existing 6.5x50mm service round. Considerations of producing more effective tracer and armor-piercing projectiles dictated a larger caliber, and the 7.7mm was deemed the correct size. This was not coincidental because the Japanese were already using a dimensionally identical 7.7mm semi-rimmed cartridge in their Type 92 heavy machine gun. Adapted to feed and function through a bolt-action rifle, the rimless 7.7x58mm Arisaka should not be mistaken for the earlier cartridge. In service, this similarity can cause serious confusion. In the case of these two 7.7mm cartridges, the Type 92 machine gun could not use the new rimless case, while the older semirimmed cartridge (intended for the Type 92 machine gun) could be used in the new Type 99 bolt-action rifle. Generating approximately 2400 fps with a 184 grain bullet, the 7.7x58mm packed more punch than the older 6.5x50mm cartridge.

The 7.7x58mm nearly duplicates the 303 British in performance. As such, it is adequate for most big game applications. Unlike many of its military contemporaries, the 7.7mm Arisaka has never been widely used as a sporting cartridge. However, it can be reloaded with very good results, and boxer-style cases are still available from Norma. Reloading dies are available from most major manufacturers, leaving no reason why a Type 99 in good condition cannot be put back into service.





7.7 x 58mm JAPANESE ARISAKA

Bullet Caliber Weight Type						C.O.A.L.
	#2300	.311"	150gr.	SPT		3.050"
Powder ▾	Velocity >	2300	2400	2500	2600	2700
IMR-3031		39.9	41.3	42.8	44.2	45.6
IMR-4895		41.4	42.8	44.2	45.6	47.0
IMR-4064		43.4	44.7	45.9	47.2	
IMR-4320		43.4	44.8	46.1	47.5	48.8
H380		45.8	47.4	48.9	50.5	
IMR-4350		49.0	50.4	51.8	53.2	
Energy Ft. lbs		1762	1918	2081	2251	2428
Special Load	Powder	Grains		Velocity fps		Energy Ft. lb
Accuracy Load	IMR-4320	47.5		2600		2251
Hunting Load	IMR-4320	48.8		2700		2428

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redistribute.

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Bullet Caliber Weight Type						C.O.A.L.
	#2315	.311"	174gr.	HPBT MatchKing		3.150"
	#2310	.311"	180gr.	SPT		3.150"
Powder ▾	Velocity >	2100	2200	2300	2400	2500
IMR-3031		37.3	39.0	40.6	42.3	
IMR-4895		38.9	40.4	42.0	43.5	45.0
IMR-4064		40.2	41.6	43.0	44.4	45.8
IMR-4320		40.0	41.4	42.9	44.3	45.7
H380		42.6	44.4	46.1	47.9	49.6
IMR-4350		45.7	46.9	48.1	49.3	50.5
Energy Ft. lbs		1704	1870	2043	2225	2414
Special Load	Powder	Grains		Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb	
Accuracy Load	H380	47.9		2400	2225	
Hunting Load	IMR-4350	50.5		2500	2414	

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