

338-06 A-SQUARE

Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: Custom Springfield

Barrel Length: 25"

Twist: 1 x 10"

Components:

Case: Winchester (reformed)

Trim-to Length: 2.485"

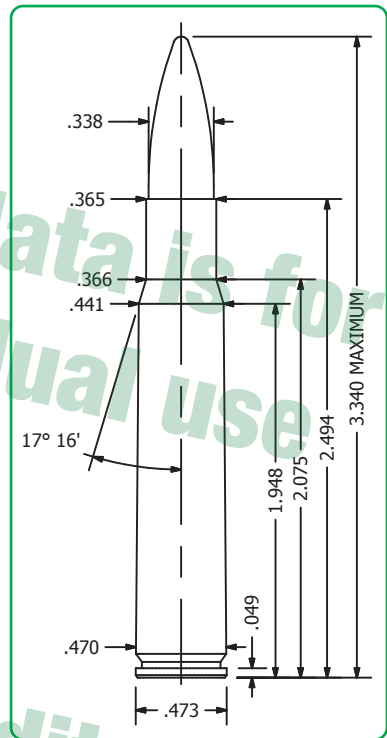
Primer: Remington 9 1/2"

Remarks:


The 338-06 might best be described as an updated version of the old 333 OKH. Developed by Charley O'Neil, Elmer Keith and Don Hopkins, the 333 OKH was simply the 30-06 case necked up to accept the then available .333" diameter KYNOCH bullets. The 333 OKH was intended to improve on the ballistics of the old 333 Nitro Express, an English cartridge that had proven itself on both African and Asiatic big game. While it accomplished its goals, few American companies ever produced .333 diameter bullets, limiting the OKH's popularity. Today, .333" diameter bullets for reloading are extremely difficult to find.



With the introduction of the 338 Winchester Magnum, and the ready availability of .338" diameter projectiles, it was only natural to see the 30-06 case necked up to accept the larger bullets. This has proven to be a very successful combination, providing a good balance of power, trajectory and manageable recoil. Using a heavily constructed bullet such as the 250 grain SBT, the 338-06 is perfectly adequate for the largest North American big game. Sierra's 215 grain Spitzer boat tail and 225 Spitzer extends the cartridge's usefulness down to the smaller big game species, such as deer and black bear.

Considering the popularity the 338-06 achieved as a wildcat, the real surprise was that it hadn't been legitimized sooner. A Square stepped up to the plate to remedy the situation and adopted the 338-06 into their line. The cartridge, now known as the 338-06 A-Square, remains virtually identical to the most common version of its wildcat predecessor. Since there are still many rifles in circulation built before the cartridge was standardized, due caution should be exercised in regards to firing factory ammo in older rifles. This is not a comment on the strength of an older rifle, but its dimensional similarity to the now standard A-Square version of the 338-06. A chamber cast and a quick check with a set of headspace gages should provide the answer.



338-06 A-SQUARE

Bullet Caliber Weight Type		C.O.A.L.						
	#2610 .338" 215gr. SBT	3.340"						
Powder ∨	Velocity >	2400	2450	2500	2550	2600	2650	2700
IMR 4895		49.1	50.1	51.1	52.1	53.1	54.2	
IMR 4064		48.0	49.0	50.0	51.0	52.0		
A 2520		46.7	47.8	48.9	50.0			
IMR 4320		49.7	50.8	51.8	52.9	53.9	55.0	
760		54.9	56.4	57.8	59.3	60.7	62.2	
H414		54.9	56.3	57.7	59.2	60.6	62.0	
IMR 4350		56.0	57.0	58.0	59.0	60.0	61.0	62.0
RE 19		58.1	59.4	60.7	61.9	63.2	64.5	65.8
A 3100		58.2	59.5	60.7	62.0			
Energy Ft. Lbs		2749	2865	2983	3104	3227	3352	3480
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	RE 19	59.4	2450	2865				
Hunting Load	RE 19	65.8	2700	3480				

Bullet Caliber Weight Type		C.O.A.L.						
	#2600 .338" 250gr. SBT	3.340"						
	#2650 .338" 250gr. HPBT MatchKing	3.340"						
Powder ∨	Velocity >	2300	2350	2400	2450	2500	2550	
IMR 4895		47.0	48.4	49.8	51.3			
IMR 4064		46.3	47.3	48.4	49.4	50.4		
A 2520		46.2	47.0	47.7				
IMR 4320		47.3	48.2	49.1	50.0	51.0		
760		52.1	53.3	54.5	55.7	56.8		
H414			52.0	53.2	54.4	55.6	56.8	
IMR 4350		53.1	54.2	55.3	56.4	57.5		
RE 19		55.0	56.2	57.4	58.7	59.9	61.2	
A 3100		55.7	57.1	58.5	59.8			
Energy Ft. Lbs		2936	3065	3197	3331	3469	3609	
Special Load	Powder	Grains	Velocity fps	Energy Ft. lb				
Accuracy Load	IMR 4064	47.3	2350	3065				
Hunting Load	RE 19	61.2	2550	3609				