

SAAMI[®]

SPORTING ARMS AND AMMUNITION MANUFACTURERS' INSTITUTE, INC.

SINCE 1926

Generally Accepted Cartridge and Chamber Names

When SAAMI was founded in 1926 at the request of the federal government, it was tasked with creating and publishing industry standards for safety, interchangeability, reliability and quality within the firearms and ammunition industry. Firearms should only be used with the ammunition designated by the firearm manufacturer for use in that firearm. Markings which indicate the appropriate ammunition to be used in a firearm are usually found on the firearm's barrel but may alternately appear on the frame or receiver. The discharge of ammunition which does not match the firearm markings can be dangerous and can result in serious injury or death to the user and/or bystanders, as well as damage to the firearm.

The best way to verify that you are using the correct ammunition is to check the head stamp on the ammunition to confirm that it matches the markings on the firearm.

Some types of ammunition, most notably rimfire and cartridges produced for military use, do not have cartridge markings on the head stamp of the case. In those instances, check the original ammunition packaging to determine its proper designation. If you have any doubt about the designation of the ammunition, you should not use it until you have it examined by a qualified person.

Remember – just because a round of ammunition can fit into a firearm's chamber, barrel, or action – this does not necessarily mean that it is safe to use that ammunition in that firearm. Again, *always* verify that the ammunition to be used matches the markings on the firearm.



Firearm and headstamp markings and other references to specific cartridges and chambers may utilize the full official name, or other approved abbreviated names, as listed in the SAAMI standards. In addition, there are some cartridges/chambers with equivalent/historical names found in common use. A listing of the most common examples of these equivalent/historical names is presented below.

An Important Note About the Following Information: The Equivalent or Historical Names information provided below is for *informational use only*. The cartridge names were compiled based upon research that has revealed several obsolete cartridge designations, discontinued names, or variations upon SAAMI-standard designations. Also included in this table are certain non-SAAMI standard cartridge designations where applicable. The names listed below represent the results of this research at the time this table was created. This list is not exhaustive, and new information may be discovered which may

cause this table to be amended from time to time. ***As such, the user of this table is reminded and warned that using ammunition in a chamber that is not marked for that specific ammunition may result in serious injury or death to the user and/or bystanders, as well as damage to the firearm.*** A user should always check the owner’s manual or with the firearm manufacturer with questions about the safe compatibility of a cartridge for use in a particular firearm.

Equivalent / Historical Names		
SAAMI Full Name	SAAMI Abbreviated Name	Also Known As
22 Long Rifle	22 LR	22 Long Fur Bruchsen 22 IFB
22 Long Rifle Shot	22 LR SHOT	22 Long Rifle Shot Claybirding
22 Winchester Rimfire	22 WRF	22 Remington Special.
22 Winchester Magnum Rimfire	22 WMR 22 Win Mag	22 Magnum 22 Win Mag R.F. 22 WMRF 22 Winchester Model 1890
25-20 Winchester	25-20 WIN	25-20 Remington 25-20 WCF 25-20 Marlin 25 WCF
6mm Remington	6MM REM	244 Remington
25 Automatic	25 AUTO	25 Auto Colt Pistol 25 ACP 6.35mm Browning
7mm Mauser	7mm	7X57 7x57mm 275 Rigby
280 Remington	280 REM	7mm Express Remington [7MM EXP REM]
30 Luger	30 LUGER	7.65 Parabellum 7.65 Para 7.65 Luger
30-06 Springfield	30-06 SPRG	30-06 Spring. 30-06 30 GOV'T -06 7.62x63mm
30-30 Winchester	30-30 WIN	30-30 Savage 30-30 Winchester “Accelerator” 30-30 Marlin 30 WCF
300 AAC Blackout	300 BLK	7.62x35mm
32 Automatic	32 AUTO	7.65 Browning 7.65mm Automatic Pistol 7.65mm Browning 32 ACP 32 Colt Automatic 32 Auto Colt Pistol
32 Smith & Wesson Long	32 S&WL	32 Colt New Police

Equivalent / Historical Names		
SAAMI Full Name	SAAMI Abbreviated Name	Also Known As
		32 Colt Police Positive
32 Winchester Special	32 WIN SPL	32 Win 32 WS
32-20 Winchester	32-20 WIN	32-20 Win High Speed 32-20 Colt LMR 32-20 Marlin 32-20 WCF 32 WCF
338 Lapua Magnum	338 LAPUA MAG	8.6x70mm
38 Smith & Wesson	38 S&W	38 Colt New Police 380 Webley
38 Special	38 SPL	38 Colt Special 38 S&W Special 38 S&W SPL 38 S&W Special Mid-Range 38 Special Flat Point
38 Special Match	38 SPL Match	38 Special Wadcutter 38 Special Wad Cutter
38-40 Winchester	38-40 WIN	38 Marlin 38 Winchester 38 Remington 38 WCF
380 Automatic	380 AUTO	9mm Browning Short 9mm Browning Court 9mm Browning Conto 9mm Browning Kurz 9mm Corto 9mm Kurz 380 ACP
9mm Luger	9MM LUGER	9mm Parabellum 9x19mm
9x18 Makarov	9x18 MAK	9mm Makarov
44 Remington Magnum	44 REM MAG	44 Magnum 44 Marlin
44-40 Winchester	44-40 WIN	44 Winchester 44 WCF 44 Largo
45-70 Government	45-70 GOVT	45-70 Marlin 45-70 Winchester 45-70-405
45 Automatic	45 AUTO	45 ACP
45 Colt	45 COLT	45 Long Colt
8mm Mauser	8mm	7.92x57mm 8x57 8x57mm 8x57mm JS

Beyond historical cartridge names that are in common use, there are a very few firearm/ammunition combinations which will generally allow for the safe firing of an ***alternate cartridge*** in a specified firearm chamber. A listing of those cartridges/chambers and a general discussion of military ammunition can be found at <https://saami.org/publications-advisories/advisories/>.

For information regarding the interchangeability of 223 Remington/5.56mm NATO ammunition/firearms, see SAAMI FAQs at <https://saami.org/faqs/>.