

30-30 WINCHESTER

Dave Emary

The 30-30 Winchester was introduced to the shooting world in 1895. It was chambered in the then new 1894 Winchester. It was also offered by Marlin in the Model 1893 but Marlin refused to use the Winchester name and called it the 30 WCF. The 30-30 is a notable cartridge because it was the first American commercial cartridge to use the new smokeless propellant. At the time it was considered a revolutionary, fast and flat shooting cartridge pushing a 160 grain bullet to a blistering 1,900 fps. Because of this high velocity it was also the first American sporting cartridge to be offered with a jacketed bullet.

Nosler offers several bullets for the 30-30 that will cover virtually any type of hunting that it should be used for. The 150 grain Ballistic Silvertip offers a polymer tip for reliable and rapid expansion. The 170 grain Partition offers exceptional terminal performance that the Partition bullet line is renowned for. Both of these bullets offer accuracy and terminal performance that will optimize the 30-30 at any reasonable shooting distance it should be used at.

Reloading for the 30-30 is a straight forward affair but there are several things that can be done to get the most from the cartridge. Many of the older guns in use have rather generous chamber dimensions. This can be seen when looking at fired brass and how much the case swells above the rim to fill the chamber. The 30-30 headspaces off the rim so full-length resizing is not necessarily a requirement. Set the size die to size the case just enough to drop into the chamber and no more. This will improve accuracy and result in longer

case life because of reduced stretch. 30-30 cases tend to stretch quite a bit so keep an eye on case trim length.

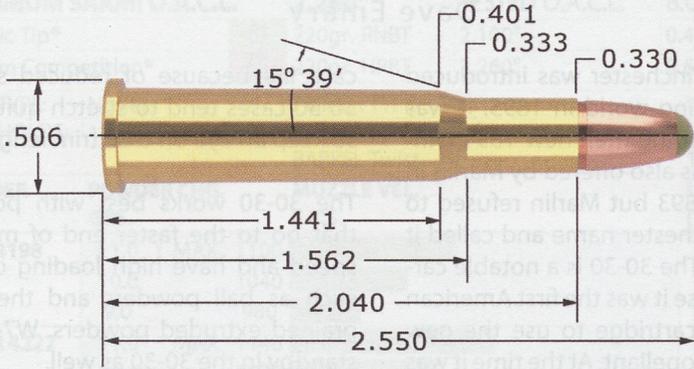
The 30-30 works best with powders that go to the faster end of medium speed and have high loading density such as ball powders and the short grained extruded powders. W748 is a standby in the 30-30 as well.



Dave Emary was the Chief Ballistician for Hornady for 25 years and recently retired. He is now the Chief Engineer for the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center in Socorro, NM.

Use Maximum Loads with Caution
Refer to page 70 for additional safety information

30-30 WINCHESTER



Maximum S.A.A.M.I. Overall Cartridge Length: 2.550"

BULLET CHOICES FOR THE 30-30 WINCHESTER

Ballistic Silvertip®	Expansion Tip®	Partition®
BST	ET	PT
Grain 150	Grain 150	Grain 170

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Warning: It is not safe to use spitzer style bullets in a tubular magazine. The sharp nose of a spitzer bullet resting on the primer of the next cartridge (in front of it) can cause detonation in the magazine. Our 170gr. Round Nose Partition and 150gr. CT Ballistic Silvertip were designed specifically for the .30-30. They will expand well at .30-30 velocities out to 200 yards, and feature a crimping groove (cannelure). For thorough neck tension and burn rate, we recommend full-length case resizing and crimping for best results.

30-30 Win - 150 grain 30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.	2.550"	TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
CT® Ballistic Silvertip®	BST 150gr. RNBT	2.550"	0.232	0.226
Expansion Tip®	ET 150gr. RNBT	2.500"	0.344	0.226

Due to internal construction differences, always begin with starting loads when using Expansion Tip® products.

CASE TYPE:	Winchester	PRIMER TYPE	WLR
CASE HOLDS:	36.6 Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make	20" Wiseman
		BARREL Twist	1-12"

POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.	MAX. MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.	LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)
TAC	31.5	2147	87%
	29.5 *	2065	82%
	27.5	1982	76%
W748	35.0 * MAX.	2178	100%
	33.0	2033	94%
	31.0	1888	88%
H4895	33.0 * MAX.	2183	99%
	31.0	2049	93%
	29.0	1914	87%
AA 2460	34.0 * MAX.	2193	94%
	32.0	2070	88%
	30.0	1947	83%
Varget	34.5 * MAX.	2206	** 102%
	32.5	2086	96%
	30.5	1967	90%
IMR 4895 Most Accurate Powder Tested	32.0	MAX. 2247	95%
	30.0	2133	89%
	28.0 *	2020	83%
IMR 3031	31.0 * MAX.	2255	94%
	29.0	2118	88%
	27.0	1981	82%
IMR 4198	26.0	MAX. 2260	82%
	24.0	2110	76%
	22.0 *	1960	70%
IMR 4320	34.0	MAX. 2268	** 101%
	32.0	2163	95%
	30.0 *	2058	89%

...greater than the 308 or the 30-06. However, that makes it a relative pushover to shoot while still being a very capable big game cartridge, carrying more than 1,000 ft.-lbs. of energy out to 300 yards with both 150- and 180-grain bullets at factory velocities.

I've stuck with 150-grain pointed soft-points for my handloads. Out of respect for the rifle's age and the fact

J. Scott Stupp is Editor in Chief of RifleShooter magazine.

BC=Ballistic Coefficient SD=Sectional Density
*Most Accurate Load Tested **Compressed Load

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30-30 Win - 170 grain

30 Cal. (.308")

MAXIMUM SAAMI O.A.C.L.		2.550"		TESTED O.A.C.L.	B.C.	S.D.
Partition®		PT	170gr. RN	2.550"	0.252	0.256
CASE TYPE:	Winchester		PRIMER TYPE	WLR		
CASE HOLDS:	34.6	Gr. WATER	BARREL Length/Make	20" Wiseman		
			BARREL Twist	1-12"		
POWDER TYPE	POWDER CHG. GRS.		MUZZLE VEL. F.P.S.	LOAD DENSITY (VOLUME)		
RL15	31.5	MAX.	1979			95%
	29.5		1837			89%
	27.5	*	1696			83%
AA 2520	32.5	MAX.	1989			97%
	30.5	*	1889			91%
	28.5		1789			85%
Benchmark	28.0	MAX.	1999			87%
	26.0	*	1874			81%
	24.0		1749			75%
TAC	30.0	MAX.	2034			88%
	28.0	*	1964			82%
	26.0		1893			76%
H414	37.0	* MAX.	2062		**	111%
	35.0		1947		**	105%
	33.0		1832			99%
W748	34.0	MAX.	2066		**	102%
	32.0	*	1949			96%
	30.0		1832			90%
IMR 4895	31.0	* MAX.	2160			97%
	29.0		2030			91%
	27.0		1900			85%
Varget	32.5	MAX.	2163		**	102%
	30.5		1953			95%
	28.5	*	1744			89%
IMR 3031	30.0	MAX.	2168			96%
	28.0		1953			90%
	26.0	*	1738			83%
IMR 4320	33.0	MAX.	2192		**	104%
	31.0		2017			97%
	29.0	*	1842			91%

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