

Reloading The .40 S&W

(WC= WadCutter, SWC= Semi-WadCutter, HP= Hollow Point, RN= Round Nose), (JHP= Jacketed Hollow Point and if GC indicated, means Gas Check at bottom of lead bullet)

Loads for .40 S&W special: (.400 dia. bullet)(case length .850") Shorter version of the 10mm and they are NOT interchangeable.

(Note: These are near maximum loads, you should use 10% less to start.)

(See note on Powders below or read all about various Powders.)

Due to different barrel lengths, type of bullet, seating depth, primer type and other factors, you may not get near the FPS charted. It is just a guide and the reason you should start under these charges and work up.

135 grain JHP or JSP (Jacketed Hollow or Soft Point)

Bullseye	7.6 gr.	1,350 FPS
Unique	8.5 gr.	1,290
Trail Boss	2.6 gr.	1,324
Clays	2.4 gr.	1,071
No. 2	3.4 gr.	1,247
No. 5	9.3 gr.	1,266

150 grain JHP

Bullseye	6.7 gr.	1,225 FPS
Unique	8.0 gr.	1,245
Universal	6.6 gr.	1,186
Clays	4.0 gr.	937
HP38	6.0 gr.	1,105
No. 2	7.0 gr.	1,155
No. 5	8.3 gr.	1,170
WST	6.3 gr.	1,050
WSF	7.7 gr.	1,200
IMR 4227	10.0 gr.	~ ~ (user Frank contributed)

180 grain Lead (Redline Truncated Cone, Cast)

Bullseye	5.1 gr.	970 FPS
AA No. 5	6.3 gr.	— (Load of Marshall Tresaugue)

(CCI 500 Small Pistol Primer)

180 grain JHP

Bulleye	5.5 gr.	1,015 FPS
Trail Boss	2.6 gr.	1,065
HP-38 & W-231	2.4 gr.	1,046

HP-38 & W-231	3.4 gr. 847
Titegroup	2.0 gr. 950
Titegroup	3.0 gr. 967
Clays	2.5 gr. 965
ZIP	3.3 gr. 900
WSF	6.2 gr. 1,040

200 grain FMJ (Full Metal Jacket) (this bullet may not seat properly or function properly in the case. Use caution and care)

Bullseye	4.6 gr. 945 FPS
Unique	5.3 gr. 955
2400	8.5 gr. 925
Universal	4.7 gr. 903
HP38	4.7 gr. 850
HS6	6.9 gr. 902
No. 2	4.7 gr. 815
No. 5	5.5 gr. 828
WST	4.5 gr. 810
WSF	5.7 gr. 930

200 grain LEAD RN

WST	3.5 gr. 760
WSF	5.0 gr. 920

Discussion: Bullseye and Unique are from Alliant (also 2400). Universal and Clays are from Hodgdon and similar to Bullseye and Unique. Respectively are No.2 and No.5 from Accurate.

All these are pretty strong loads and all use a jacketed bullet. There are some loads for lead bullets, but I don't find many people interested in them. Since most of these loads are pretty hot, I don't recommend lead in any of them. I don't personally shoot a gun with the 40 S&W and all of the loads are right out of the manuals.

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Bullseye, Unique and 2400 are products of Alliant (formerly Hercules) Powders.

Clays, Universal, HP38, HS6 and H4895 are products of Hodgdon Powders.

IMR 3031 and IMR 4895 are products of IMR (formerly DuPont) Powder Company.

No. 2, No. 5, #2230, and #2460 are products of Accurate Arms Company

WMR, WSF, WST, WSL, 760, 748, 231 and 540 are products of Winchester, Components Div.

References: Accurate Arms Co. 1996 Reloading booklet -- Alliant Powder Co. Reloaders' Guide (1995) -- Hodgdon's Basic Reloaders Manual (1996) -- Speer Reloading Manual, #12 -- Winchester Reloading Components Manual, 14th edition -- Lyman Piston & Revolver Reloading Handbook, 2nd edition. -- VihtaVuori Oy Company, reloading booklet (1995) -- Numerous magazine articles on reloading special calibers and personal loads where noted.

Revised 01/10/2011



40 Smith & Wesson

Bullet Weight: 125 gr **Case Trim Length:** 0.840 "
Bullet Style: TAC-XP **Primer:** Rem 1 1/2
COAL: 1.135 " **Barrel Length:** 4
Case: R-P **Twist Rate:** 1:16 "

S.D. 0.112
B.C. 0

Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load	
	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)
Win 231 (Winchester)	5.1	1042	5.8	1160
IMR 700X (IMR)	5.5	1104	6.2	1225
A-No.5 (Accurate)	7.5	1042	8.2	1139
Unique (Alliant)	5.9	1111	6.6	1183
Universal Clays (Hodgdon)	5.5	989	6.2	1202
Power Pistol (Alliant)	7.7	1172	8.4	1250
HS-6 (Hodgdon)	8.1	1057	8.8	1136
Silhouette (Ramshot)	5.9	849	7.6	1183
A-No.7 (Accurate)	9.7	1051	10.4	1113
True Blue (Ramshot)	7.3	1059	8.0	1137

Bullet Weight: 140 gr **Case Trim Length:** 0.840 "
Bullet Style: TAC-XP **Primer:** Rem 1 1/2
COAL: 1.135 " **Barrel Length:** 4.00"
Case: R-P **Twist Rate:** 1:16 "

S.D. 0.125
B.C. 0.128

Powder	Starting Load		Maximum Load	
	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)	Charge (grains)	Velocity (fps)
Win 231 (Winchester)	4.5	933	5.0	1014
IMR 700X (IMR)	4.9	1009	5.4	1075
A-No.5 (Accurate)	6.7	915	7.2	1003
Unique (Alliant)	4.9	970	5.4	1052
Universal Clays (Hodgdon)	4.9	1011	5.4	1084
Power Pistol (Alliant)	6.5	1021	7.0	1079
HS-6 (Hodgdon)	7.3	1006	7.8	1065
Silhouette (Ramshot)	5.9	967	6.4	1053
A-No.7 (Accurate)	8.1	987	8.6	940
True Blue (Ramshot)	6.3	927	6.8	995



40 Smith & Wesson

.400"	40/10mm TMJ® FN	40/10mm GDHP
Weight (grains)	155	155
Ballistic Coefficient	0.125	0.123
Sectional Density	0.138	0.138
COAL Tested	1.120"	1.120"
Speer Part No.	4399	4400

Propellant	Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant Blue Dot	Speer	CCI 500	10.0	1113	11.0	1221
Alliant Power Pistol	Speer	CCI 500	8.0	1112	9.0	1213
Alliant Unique	Speer	CCI 500	7.2	1048	8.0	1207
Hodgdon H. Universal	Speer	CCI 500	6.2	995	7.0	1159
Hodgdon TITEGROUP	Speer	CCI 500	5.4	1011	6.2	1144
Accurate No. 5	Speer	CCI 500	7.9	956	8.7	1116
Winchester WSF	Speer	CCI 500	6.7	981	7.5	1090
Accurate No. 7	Speer	CCI 500	10.0	984	11.0	1089
Vihtavuori N350	Speer	CCI 500	6.8	858	7.6	1061
Winchester 231	Speer	CCI 500	5.8	867	6.5	1038
Hodgdon HS-6	Speer	CCI 500	7.3	786	9.0	1033
Alliant Bullseye	Speer	CCI 500	5.4	905	6.0	1023
Alliant American Select	Speer	CCI 500	5.0	931	5.6	1001
Accurate No. 2 Improved	Speer	CCI 500	5.8	840	6.5	956

WARNING: Improper handloading practices can result in serious personal injury and/or property damage. Refer to the current SPEER® Reloading Manual for handloading instructions. Be thoroughly familiar with those instructions before using these loads. As Vista Outdoor Operations LLC has no control over individual handloading practices or the condition of firearms in which the resulting ammo may be used, we disclaim all liability for any damages that may result from the use of this information.

Maximum loads should be used with CAUTION • C = Compressed Load



40 Smith & Wesson

.400"	40/10mm TMJ® FN	40/10mm GDHP
Weight (grains)	165	165
Ballistic Coefficient	0.135	0.138
Sectional Density	0.147	0.147
COAL Tested	1.120"	1.120"
Speer Part No.	4410	4397

Propellant	Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant BE 86	Federal	Federal 100	6.0	1034	6.8	1144
Winchester AutoComp	Federal	Federal 100	5.8	992	6.6	1107
Vihtavuori N350	Speer	CCI 500	6.7	989	7.5	1106
Hodgdon CFE Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	5.4	951	6.4	1103
Winchester WSF	Speer	CCI 500	6.2	1007	6.8	1082
Alliant Power Pistol	Speer	CCI 500	7.0	978	7.8	1081
Hodgdon H. Universal	Speer	CCI 500	5.7	999	6.2	1074
Accurate No. 5	Speer	CCI 500	7.6	916	8.5	1067
Alliant Unique	Speer	CCI 500	6.2	882	7.2	1064
Hodgdon HS-6	Speer	CCI 500	8.0	1012	8.5	1060
Accurate No. 7	Speer	CCI 500	9.6	951	10.5	1041
Hodgdon TITEGROUP	Speer	CCI 500	5.0	957	5.4	1035
Alliant Sport Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	4.1	888	5.1	1033
Winchester 231	Speer	CCI 500	5.8	955	6.3	1031
Alliant Bullseye	Speer	CCI 500	5.3	949	5.8	1022

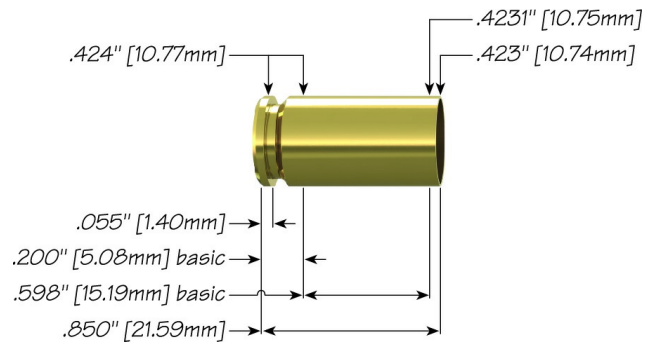
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40 Smith & Wesson with 165 gr GDHP

SPEER®

Max Case Length: .850"
Trim-to Length: .840"
Max Cart. OAL: 1.135"
RCBS Shell Holder: # 27
Test Firearm: Universal Receiver
Barrel Length: 4.000"



40		Speer Part No.	Weight, grains	COAL Tested	Ballistic Coefficient	Sectional Density
	165 gr GDHP	4397	165	1.120	.138	.147
	165 gr TMJ® FN	4410	165	1.120	.135	.147

Propellant	Cartridge Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Grain	Velocity (ft/sec)	Grain	Velocity (ft/sec)
Alliant BE 86	Federal	Federal 100	6.0	1034	6.8	1144
Alliant Sport Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	4.1	888	5.1	1033
Hodgdon CFE Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	5.4	951	6.4	1103
Winchester AutoComp	Federal	Federal 100	5.8	992	6.6	1107



40 Smith & Wesson

.400"	40/10mm TMJ® FN	40/10mm GDHP
Weight (grains)	180	180
Ballistic Coefficient	0.143	0.143
Sectional Density	0.161	0.161
COAL Tested	1.120"	1.120"
Speer Part No.	4402	4406

Propellant	Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)	Weight (grains)	Muzzle Velocity (feet/sec)
Alliant BE 86	Federal	Federal 100	4.9	879	6.0	1026
Hodgdon Hi-Skor 700-X	Speer	CCI 500	5.0	953	5.5	1020
Alliant Blue Dot	Speer	CCI 500	8.0	922	8.9	1018
Alliant Power Pistol	Speer	CCI 500	6.2	890	7.2	1013
Winchester AutoComp	Federal	Federal 100	5.1	909	5.8	1011
Hornady CFE Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	5.0	911	5.7	1009
Alliant Unique	Speer	CCI 500	6.0	849	6.7	1000
Vihtavuori N350	Speer	CCI 500	6.2	804	6.9	987
IMR SR 7625	Speer	CCI 500	5.4	884	6.0	981
Accurate No. 7	Speer	CCI 500	8.7	895	9.7	972
Accurate No. 5	Speer	CCI 500	7.0	791	7.8	969
Vihtavuori 3N37	Speer	CCI 500	6.6	841	7.2	960
Hodgdon HS-6	Speer	CCI 500	7.3	786	8.2	942
Alliant Bullseye	Speer	CCI 500	4.9	783	5.5	929
Alliant Sport Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	3.8	829	4.4	919
Hodgdon Titegroup	Speer	CCI 500	4.0	793	4.7	917
Hodgdon H. Universal	Speer	CCI 500	5.3	802	5.9	904
Alliant American Select	Speer	CCI 500	4.3	770	5.1	865

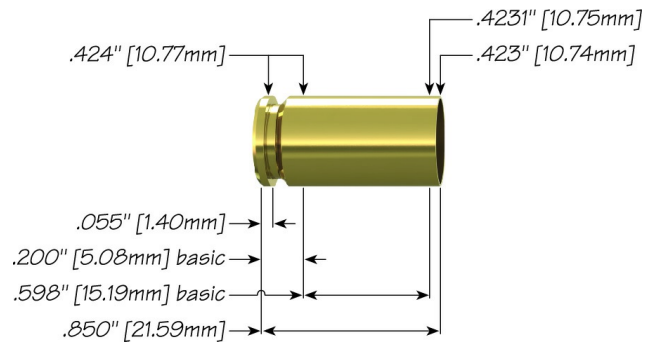
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40 Smith & Wesson with 180 gr GDHP

SPEER®

Max Case Length: .850"
Trim-to Length: .840"
Max Cart. OAL: 1.135"
RCBS Shell Holder: # 27
Test Firearm: Universal Receiver
Barrel Length: 4.000"



40		Speer Part No.	Weight, grains	COAL Tested	Ballistic Coefficient	Sectional Density
	180 gr GDHP	4406	180	1.120	.143	.161
	180 gr TMJ® FN	4402	180	1.120	.143	.161

Propellant	Cartridge Case	Primer	START CHARGE		MAXIMUM CHARGE	
			Grain	Velocity (ft/sec)	Grain	Velocity (ft/sec)
Alliant BE 86	Federal	Federal 100	4.9	879	6.0	1026
Alliant Sport Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	3.8	829	4.4	919
Hodgdon CFE Pistol	Federal	Federal 100	5.0	911	5.7	1009
Winchester AutoComp	Federal	Federal 100	5.1	909	5.8	1011