

# WARNINGS-GENERAL

## WARNINGS

This guide is intended to be used as a reference. Each individual handloader must determine what is the best and safest load for their equipment. The loads described in this guide were generated at the ballistics test facilities of Hodgdon Powder Co., Inc. in accordance with SAAMI (Sporting Arms and Ammunition Institute) guidelines. All loads are fired through test barrels and individual results fired through different firearms may vary. The handloader is cautioned to read and follow safe reloading practices such as those outlined in the NRA Guide to Reloading before attempting to reload any cartridge.

## DISCLAIMER

Hodgdon Powder Co., Inc. has developed this guide to provide the handloader with current data for reloading Ramshot. This guide is not intended to be a reloading textbook, but rather a list of recommended loads for Ramshot. As Hodgdon Powder Co., Inc. has no control over the actual reloading procedures and methods being used, or the condition or choice of firearms and components used, no responsibility for the use of this data is implied or assumed. The buyer/user assumes full responsibility, risk, and liabilities for all injuries (including death), damages, and/or losses to persons or properties resulting from the use / misuse of this product. The ballistics data contained in this guide was obtained at Hodgdon's ballistics facilities under strictly controlled conditions and is applicable ONLY for Ramshot. It is important to remember that equipment variations, different reloading techniques, as well as component variations will most likely yield slightly different ballistics data. With this in mind, it is imperative that you do not exceed the maximum charge recommendations in this guide and that you always start loading with the minimum powder charges in the loads illustrated.

## POWDER WARNINGS

Smokeless powder is intended to function by burning. Therefore, it must be protected from exposure to flame, sparks, high temperatures and the sun's rays. When ignited, smokeless powder will normally continue to burn (and generate gas pressure) until the powder is entirely consumed. With this in mind:

1. **NEVER MIX OR SUBSTITUTE** powders with other powders;
2. Avoid open flames, combustible agents, and any spark-producing tools when handling powders;
3. Store powder in its original container in a cool / dry place;
4. Do not keep or use old or salvaged powders;
5. Check powder for deterioration on a regular basis. Deteriorated powder is detected by its noxious odor (not to be confused with solvents such as alcohol or ether).
6. Pour out only the amount of powder necessary for the application being conducted;
7. If you accidentally spill powder, use a broom and dust pan to clean it up. **DO NOT VACUUM** the spilled powder;
8. Do not stockpile powder – store and utilize the amount of powder necessary for your current reloading needs;
9. Be certain that the powder container is empty prior to discarding.

## COMPONENT WARNINGS

### Primers

1. **NEVER MIX PRIMER BRANDS** from different manufacturers;
2. Store primers in their original packaging(s) in a cool, dry place. Exposure to heat causes primer deterioration;
3. Do not stockpile primers or store in bulk. Storing primers in this manner can lead to mass detonation if a primer ignites;
4. Do not de-cap live or new primers – fire them in the appropriate gun and then de-cap;
5. For best results, use the mildest primer consistent with good ignition;
6. Do not force primers. If there is resistance in seating or feeding primers, stop and investigate the cause of the problem;
7. Clean your hands before and after handling primers – oil contamination can affect the ignitability of the primer.

### QUALITY CONTROL

Reloading provides an individual with a cost effective means of obtaining ammunition, while at the same time allowing for custom load assemblage. You, the individual handloader, are responsible for producing the ammunition that you will later shoot. The caution and diligence you put into your reloading process can be ultimately rewarding or disastrous depending upon the quality of your work.

1. Common sense and care must be practiced during all phases;
2. Follow load recommendations exactly.
3. **ALWAYS START LOADING WITH THE MINIMUM POWDER CHARGE SHOWN;**
4. Designate a work area to be used only for reloading and keep that area clean and orderly;
5. Label components and reloads for quick and easy identification;
6. Develop a reloading routine and follow it;
7. Understand what you are doing and why it must be done in a specific manner; Never reload when you are tired or distracted;
8. Wear safety glasses when reloading;
9. **DO NOT** smoke, eat, or drink in your reloading area or while you are reloading;
10. Keep your powder, reloading equipment and firearms secure from children;
11. Obey all laws and regulations regarding purchasing, quantity, and storage of powder(s).
12. When the case fill is less than 50% extreme care should be taken to avoid the possibility of double charging. Always check every round.