

Model 870

1950-Present

Both the barrel and the receiver determine what shot can be used. Both 2 3/4" and 3" shells can be used in a magnum, 3", receiver. Serial numbers on magnum receivers end with M, N, & U. Only 2 3/4" shells can be used in a standard, 2 3/4", receiver, (regardless of what the barrel is marked!). Serial numbers on standard receivers end with V, X, & K.

Extra barrels with 3" chambers used on 3" receivers can handle both 2 3/4" and 3" shells. These barrels should not be used on 2 3/4" receivers because the standard action will not eject the 3" magnum load (the ejector is in a different location in the mag receiver).

Extra barrels with 2 3/4" chambers will fit both 2 3/4" and 3" receivers. Use only 2 3/4" shells in these barrels.