

The Rim is the edge on the base of a cartridge case. It's the part of the case the extractor grips onto to remove it from the chamber. There are five basic rim types, rimmed, rimless, rebated rim, semi-rimmed and beltless. *Include diagram of rim types from Cartridges of the World 8th edition page 9 if you cannot find diagrams elsewhere.*

Powder is the general term for any propellant used in firearms, which burns upon ignition. The two major types are black powder, which is a physical mixture of charcoal, sulfur and saltpeter; and smokeless powder, which is a nitrated chemical compound in granular form.

Calibers

The cartridge designation is the term used to designate the specific cartridge(s) for which a firearm is chambered. The cartridge designation is marked on the head of the cartridge and must match the marking on the firearm barrel.

The caliber of rifles is the inside diameter of the barrel before the rifling has been cut. It is the distance between the lands. Many different cartridges are the same caliber. For example, a .308 Win, .30-06 Springfield, and a 300 Remington Ultra Mag are all a .308 caliber or .308 bore diameter. The difference in these .308 caliber cartridges is in the internal case capacity. More powder can be added to the larger volume cases which provide more velocity for a bullet of the same diameter and weight. We may want to show these three cartridges side by side to illustrate this statement.

Caliber is usually expressed in thousandths of an inch or in millimeters. For example, a .30 caliber (What can we use for a centerfire rifle here?) barrel measures .308/.1000 of an inch in diameter. Centerfire rifles come in a large variety of calibers (cartridge sizes) commonly from .17 to .458 caliber, but have been made up to .700.

I would recommend deleting this section, this is more relevant to rim types than types of cases. I

Types of Bullets

Today's rifle bullets come in a variety of designs — from simple 100% lead bullets, to traditional copper-jacketed bullets to specialized, premium-performance bullets with enhanced features. The two most critical features of bullet design are accuracy and on-game performance.

Please click on each bullet for additional information.