

**KEYHOLE**—An oblong or oval hole in a target that is produced by an unstable bullet striking the target at an angle to the bullets' longitudinal axis.

**LAND(S)**—The uncut surface of the bore of a rifled barrel.

**LEADING**—The accumulation of lead in the bore of a firearm from the passage of lead shot or bullets. Also called Metal Fouling.

**LOAD**— 1) The combination of components used to assemble a cartridge or shotshell. 2) The act of putting ammunition into a firearm.

**FIELD LOAD**—A shotshell loaded for hunting small game animals and birds.

**RECOIL LUG**—A block or plate on the bottom of a receiver and/or barrel to transfer the recoil to the stock.

**MAGAZINE**—Any receptacle on a firearm that holds a plurality of cartridges or shells preparatory for feeding into the chamber. Magazines take many forms, such as box, drum, rotary, tubular, etc., and may be fixed or removable.

**MAGAZINE BOX**—A rectangular receptacle attached to or inserted into a firearm that holds cartridges stacked on top of one another ready for feeding into the chamber.

**MAGNUM**—A term commonly used to describe a rimfire or centerfire cartridge, or shotshell, that is larger, contains more shot or produces higher velocity than standard cartridges or shells of a given caliber or gauge. Rifles, handguns or shotguns that are designed to fire Magnum cartridges or shells may also be described with the term Magnum.

**MID-RANGE**—A term that defines a specific point in the trajectory of a projectile that is half the distance between the firearm and a target.

**MINUTE OF ANGLE (M.O.A.)**—An angular measurement method used to describe accuracy capability. A minute of angle is one sixtieth of a degree, and subtends 1.047 inches at 100 yards, which for practical shooting purposes is considered to be one inch. A minute of angle group, therefore, equals one inch at 100 yards, two inches at 200 yards, etc.

**MISFIRE**—A failure of the priming mixture to be initiated after the primer has been struck an adequate blow by a firing pin or the failure of the initiated primer to ignite the powder.

**SCOPE MOUNT**—A device to hold a telescopic sight, or scope, on a firearm.

**MOUTH**—The open end of a cartridge case or shotshell, from which the projectile or shot charge is expelled in firing.

**MUSHROOM**—A descriptive term for a soft point, hollow point or special type of bullet point that is designed to expand to increased sectional diameter.

**MUSHROOMING**—The act of expansion of a bullet upon impact with a target.

**MUZZLE**—The end of a gun barrel from which the bullet or shot emerges.

**MUZZLE BLAST**—The resultant noise that occurs at the muzzle of a firearm when the projectile leaves the muzzle and the hot gases are released.

**MUZZLE ENERGY**—A projectile's energy at the time it leaves the muzzle of a gun.