

BEDDING—Refers to the fit or fitting of the metal parts of the barrel and receiver with the wood or synthetic stock.

BENCHREST—A table specifically designed to eliminate as much human error as possible by supporting a rifle for competitive target shooting or for sighting-in purposes.

BIG BORE—In America, any firearm using a centerfire cartridge with a bullet .30" or larger in diameter.

BLANK—A cartridge without a projectile designed to make noise.

LOCKING BLOCK—The component in a firearm designed so that when the action is closed, a block or blocks slide into place securing the bolt in the locked position.

LIGHT BLOW—Insufficient firing-pin energy or protrusion. The result is erratic ignition or failure to ignite the primer.

BLUING—The chemical oxidation process to color ferrous metal firearms parts various shades of blue or black.

BOAT-TAIL—A term defining the shape of a bullet in which the rear end of the bullet is tapered into reduced diameter. This reduction helps reduce wind resistance of the bullet and maintain higher continued velocity when the bullet has left the muzzle.

BODY (CASE)— 1) The Portion of the cartridge case which contains the propellant. 2) Shotgun - the tubular section that contains the propellant, wads and shot charge (if present).

BOLT HANDLE—A protrusion from the bolt of bolt action rifles usually at right angles from the axis of the bolt which is used to manually actuate the mechanism.

BOLT LOCKING LUGS(S)—The protrusion of protrusions from the surface of the bolt body which lock into mating recesses in the receiver, barrel or barrel extension to resist rearward thrust of the chamber pressure.

BOLT THROW—The distance a bolt handle travels from "fully open" to "fully closed" position.

BORE—The interior of a barrel forward of the chamber.

BORE AXIS—A line through the center of the bore.

BORE BRUSH—A brush used to clean the interior surface of the barrel of a firearm.

BORE CONSTRICTION—A reduction in the internal diameter of a firearm bore.

BORE DIAMETER— 1) Rifled barrels: The minor interior diameter of a barrel which is the diameter of a circle formed by the tops of the lands in a rifled barrel. 2) Shotguns: The interior dimension of the barrel forward of the chamber but before the choke.

HIGH BRASS—Common terminology referring to the length or height of the external metal cup on a shotgun. Properly called high cup.

LOW BRASS—Common terminology referring to the length or height of the external metal cup on a shotgun. Properly called low cup.