

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.