

Reloading Tips



Bullets with driving bands

Most Twenty-Nine bullets engage the rifling on driving bands. To ensure the bullet is properly centered, at least two bands must be held within the case neck. It is recommended to resize the case neck for at least two-thirds of its length, ideally its entire length.

Case resizing and crimping

Bullets with driving bands: The driving band design reduces barrel friction (resulting in less copper fouling and higher muzzle velocity compared to traditional monolithic bullets), but it also lowers the initial pressure required for the bullet to break free. To ensure efficient powder combustion, it is advisable to apply a light crimp to the case or to resize the case neck so that it provides a tighter fit around the bullet. This promotes more consistent powder ignition.

If you choose to crimp, it is recommended to use a die capable of applying radial compression to a portion of the case neck, for example the Lee Factory Crimp die. Crimping does not necessarily have to be done seating a band at the mouth of the case. The neck can also be tightened at a point where the case mouth sits between two driving bands. If using dies with bushing, they should be positioned so that the case neck is compressed over at least two driving bands.

Bullets without driving bands: Some Twenty-Nine products do not feature driving bands and/or include an undersized or tapered portion located just behind the ogive. When seating these bullets, ensure they are not inserted beyond the widest part of the bullet body, and avoid seating them deep enough to reach the undersized section.

Cartridge Length

Every firearm has its own ideal cartridge length, constrained by the length of the bullet, the dimensions of the magazine, and the length of the barrel's throat. Furthermore, C.I.P. regulations specify a maximum cartridge length (called L6 and listed in C.I.P. tables for each caliber).

The optimal length for achieving the best precision is not a fixed value, it depends on the specific firearm. The ideal distance between the beginning of the rifling and the bullet's bearing surface (called jump) can range from a minimum of 1mm to approximately 6mm or slightly more. To determine a safe cartridge overall length (COAL), we recommend following the specific guidelines found in reloading manuals. While the lengths provided in these manuals may not be the most precise for your particular firearm, they offer a safe starting point for the reloading process.

Twenty-Nine bullets are designed to ensure that at least two or three driving bands are within the cartridge neck when the bullet is seated to COAL equal to maximum C.I.P. L6 length. For shooters looking to determine the most precise COAL (which may exceed the L6 C.I.P. limitation), we suggest starting with a distance of at least 1mm from the rifling and gradually reducing the cartridge length in 0,5mm increments. A gap of less than 1mm between the rifling and a monolithic bullet can lead to unexpected pressure spikes. **For safety reasons, always maintain a distance of at least 1mm between the beginning of the rifling and the bullet's ogive.**

Warning

Ammunition reloading is a hazardous activity; it should only be performed by experienced, competent individuals who meet legal requirements. Responsibility for the activity of reloading ammunition lies exclusively with the individual undertaking such activity.

The selection of components (powder, primer, case and projectile), the condition of the case, the state of the firearm's barrel, and the procedures for reloading ammunition are entirely under the control of the person performing the reload.

Twenty-Nine assumes no liability for any consequences resulting from an incorrect choice of components or an improper reloading procedure.