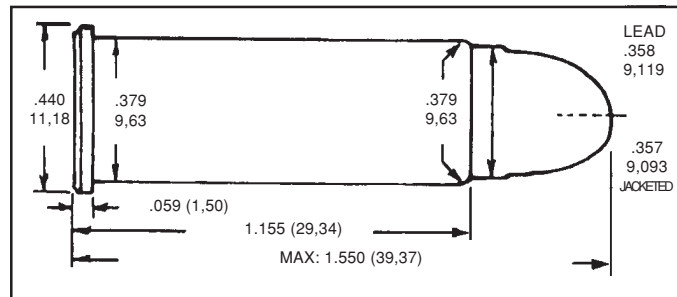


# .38 SMITH & WESSON SPECIAL

The .38 S&W Special continues to be the most popular handgun cartridge in the U.S. It is very accurate and is widely used for competitive shooting.

Also known as the .38 Colt Special, or more generally as the .38 Special, it was introduced by Smith & Wesson in 1902 for their military and police model revolver.



This is an excellent cartridge for the novice handgunner due to its inherent accuracy and low recoil. The .38 Special is also a popular sporting cartridge. Its hunting use should be restricted to small game at close range.

The SAAMI Maximum Average Pressure for the .38 S&W Special is 17,000 P.S.I.

<b>.38 SMITH &amp; WESSON SPECIAL</b>			
Gun	S&W K-38	Max Length	1.155"
Barrel Length	8-3/8"	Trim Length	1.135"
Primer	CCI 500	OAL Max	1.550"
Case	HDY	OAL Min	1.145" (Wadcutter)

Bullet	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS			P.S.I.	Cartridge Length	Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.			
148 (L) DEWC	<b>N100</b>	2.4	759	<b>N100</b>	2.7	863	15,300	1.252"	CP
	<b>S1000</b>	2.4	730	<b>S1000</b>	2.7	830	15,100		
	<b>No.2</b>	3.2	748	<b>No.2</b>	3.5	850	16,000		
	<b>No.5</b>	4.5	803	<b>No.5</b>	5.0	912	16,500		
148 (L) HBWC	<b>N100</b>	2.5	776	<b>N100</b>	2.8	882	17,500	1.152"	HDY
	<b>S1000</b>	2.5	736	<b>S1000</b>	2.8	837	15,800		
	<b>No.2</b>	2.6	634	<b>No.2</b>	2.9	720	15,500		
	<b>No.5</b>	3.6	710	<b>No.5</b>	4.0	807	16,200		
158 (L) SWC	<b>N100</b>	2.9	786	<b>N100</b>	3.3	894	16,600	1.481"	Bull-X
	<b>S1000</b>	3.0	754	<b>S1000</b>	3.4	857	14,900		
	<b>No.2</b>	3.6	764	<b>No.2</b>	4.0	868	14,100		
	<b>No.5</b>	5.3	827	<b>No.5</b>	5.9	940	16,100		
173 (L) SWC	<b>No.2</b>	3.6	721	<b>No.2</b>	4.0	819	16,300	1.515"	LY358429
	<b>No.5</b>	4.9	766	<b>No.5</b>	5.4	870	16,500		
195 (L) RN	<b>No.2</b>	3.2	706	<b>No.2</b>	3.5	803	16,900	1.550"	LY358430
	<b>No.5</b>	4.5	740	<b>No.5</b>	5.0	841	14,900		
	<b>No.7</b>	5.9	786	<b>No.7</b>	6.5	894	15,200		

## .38 SMITH & WESSON SPECIAL (continued)

Bullet	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS			P.S.I.	Cartridge Length	Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.			
HDY 110 XTP	<b>N100</b>	3.9	1014	<b>N100</b>	4.4	1153	15,900	1.435"	
	<b>S1000</b>	3.9	962	<b>S1000</b>	4.4	1094	16,800		
	<b>No.2</b>	5.0	953	<b>No.2</b>	5.6	1083	16,800		
	<b>No.5</b>	6.6	959	<b>No.5</b>	7.3	1090	16,600		
SPR 125 JHP	<b>N100</b>	3.7	907	<b>N100</b>	4.1	1031	14,800	1.445"	
	<b>S1000</b>	3.7	888	<b>S1000</b>	4.1	1010	15,700		
	<b>No.2</b>	4.8	871	<b>No.2</b>	5.3	990	16,800		
	<b>No.5</b>	6.1	757	<b>No.5</b>	6.8	860	16,300		
RAN 125 FP	<b>No.2</b>	4.2	953	<b>No.2</b>	4.7	1083	17,000	1.430"	
	<b>No.5</b>	6.5	1030	<b>No.5</b>	7.2	1171	17,000		
SPR 140 JHP	<b>N100</b>	3.5	821	<b>N100</b>	3.9	933	16,900	1.445"	
	<b>S1000</b>	3.5	782	<b>S1000</b>	3.9	889	16,600		
	<b>No.2</b>	4.2	781	<b>No.2</b>	4.7	888	16,700		
	<b>No.5</b>	5.8	757	<b>No.5</b>	6.4	860	16,700		
RAN 148 DEWC	<b>No.2</b>	2.8	701	<b>No.2</b>	3.1	797	16,500	1.175"	
	<b>No.5</b>	4.5	768	<b>No.5</b>	5.0	873	15,900		
NOS 150 JHP	<b>N100</b>	3.3	791	<b>N100</b>	3.7	899	15,800	1.450"	
	<b>S1000</b>	3.3	755	<b>S1000</b>	3.7	859	16,200		
	<b>No.2</b>	4.2	751	<b>No.2</b>	4.7	853	17,000		
	<b>No.5</b>	5.9	715	<b>No.5</b>	6.5	813	16,600		
HDY 158 XTP	<b>N100</b>	2.9	691	<b>N100</b>	3.2	786	14,400	1.445"	
	<b>S1000</b>	3.1	702	<b>S1000</b>	3.4	798	15,900		
	<b>No.2</b>	3.6	665	<b>No.2</b>	4.0	756	16,500		
	<b>No.5</b>	5.2	740	<b>No.5</b>	5.8	841	16,500		
RAN 158 HP	<b>No.2</b>	3.4	739	<b>No.2</b>	3.8	840	16,500	1.430"	
	<b>No.5</b>	5.4	830	<b>No.5</b>	6.0	944	16,700		
RAN 158 RN	<b>No.2</b>	3.3	757	<b>No.2</b>	3.7	861	16,600	1.430"	
	<b>No.5</b>	5.1	829	<b>No.5</b>	5.7	943	16,900		
RAN 158 FN	<b>No.2</b>	3.3	727	<b>No.2</b>	3.7	827	16,100	1.430"	
	<b>No.5</b>	5.3	836	<b>No.5</b>	5.9	951	16,100		
Shot Capsules* 105 SC	<b>No.5</b>	5.4	910	<b>No.5</b>	6.0	1035	16,500	1.500"	

\* Shot capsules using 105 grains of No.9 shot.