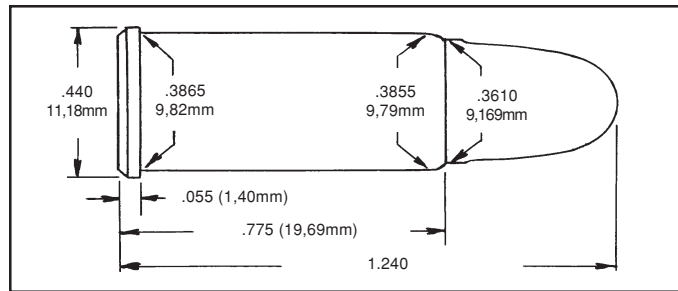


.38 SMITH & WESSON

The .38 S&W was developed in the late 1800s for use in Smith & Wesson's top-break revolvers. It was adapted as a British service load for the Webley revolver and called the .380/200. The British concluded that the shocking power of the 200 grain lead bullet loaded in this cartridge was of equal effectiveness as their older .45 caliber military cartridge.



The U.S. Postal Service for many years used revolvers chambered for the .38 S&W cartridge for their security work.

The bore dimensions of handguns chambered for the .38 S&W tend to be somewhat larger than those in the .38 Special. For best results, the use of a cast bullet correctly fitted to the gun's cylinder and barrel dimensions is recommended.

The SAAMI Maximum Average Pressure for the .38 Smith & Wesson is 13,000 C.U.P.

.38 SMITH & WESSON				
Gun	OBERMEYER	Max Length	0.775"	
Barrel Length	7"	Trim Length	0.755"	
Primer	WSP	OAL Max	1.240"	
Case	WW	OAL Min	1.160"	

Bullet	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS			C.U.P.	Cartridge Length	Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.			
158 (L) SWC	N100	2.1	635	N100	2.3	722	9,300	1.120"	CP Bullets
	No.2	2.5	664	No.2	2.8	754	10,700		
	No.5	3.3	675	No.5	3.7	767	10,100		
195 (L) RN	No.2	2.1	574	No.2	2.3	653	12,700	1.240"	Penny's
	No.5	2.7	539	No.5	3.0	613	10,600		