CROSS SECTION OF A TYPICAL CARTRIDGE

BASICS OF RELOADING

Remove spent primers and size case
Install new primer
Add powder
Seat a new bullet

RELOADING SAFETY

Keep powder away from heat and open flames — Don’t smoke.
Store powder and primers in their original containers in a cool, dry place.
Read and follow instructions exactly.
Be sure you have the correct powder, measure and bullet of the correct weight.
Any mixup can be dangerous.
Exercise care and common sense at all times.

WEAR SAFETY GLASSES WHEN RELOADING OR SHOOTING
Crimping Bullets

It may be necessary to crimp the bullets for tubular magazine guns. This is easily done in the opposite end of the loading tool. Be sure to protect the primer with the decapping chamber when tapping on the case end. Use several light taps until the desired crimp is formed. Do not attempt to crimp bullets that do not have a crimping groove.

Autoloading Guns

Autoloading guns will function dependably only if the ammunition has been full length sized. This tool sizes only the neck and if used for loading an autoloading gun, may cause the gun to jam. It is not recommended for hunting, but may work satisfactorily for target or plinking.

Using Military Cases

Ammunition made for the government usually has primers that are crimped in place to prevent their loosening and jamming the gun in combat. This crimp must be removed before they can be reloaded. This can be done with a Lee Chamfer Tool or even a pocket knife. Remove all of the crimp and form a small radius so the primer can enter easily.

Additional Information

There are many good reloading handbooks available. We encourage reading this material to gain a greater knowledge on the subject. In addition, most powder manufacturers supply load data at little or no cost. See your powder dealer for a copy or write to the manufacturer.

Parts List

Body and Sizing Die
Decapping Chamber
Powder Measure
Lock Nut
“O” Ring
Stop Collar
Decapper
Priming Rod
Priming Chamber and Bullet Seater
Charge Table
Box
Flaring Tool for Cast Bullets

The above replacement parts are available only from the factory. Please send payment with your order and specify cartridge.
LEE RELOADING PRODUCTS are guaranteed not to wear out or break from normal use for two full years or they will be repaired or replaced at no charge if returned to the factory. Any Lee product of current manufacture, regardless of age or condition, will be reconditioned to new, including a new guarantee, if returned to the factory with payment equal to half the current retail price.
 Cases

The best source of cases is to save those you have fired from your gun. Cases fired from another gun may not fit yours and should be tried in your gun before loading. New unfired cases are available and can be loaded with your Lee Reloading Kit. Cases can be reloaded as many as 100 times.

 Primers

Primers are the spark plug that ignites the powder charge. They come in basically four sizes. Large and small rifle and large and small pistol. Never use rifle primers in pistol cartridges or vice versa. The correct size is specified in the charge table. Magnum primers offer no advantage except in extremely large cases, hard to ignite powder or very cold weather.

 Bullets

These tools and loads are intended for jacketed bullets readily available in a large variety of sizes. You can cast your own lead bullets and reduce your shooting costs even more. Cast bullets are not as good as jackets for hunting large game but they certainly should be considered for target and plinking. It’s fun to make and shoot your own bullets. When loading cast bullets, it’s necessary to expand the case mouth in order to accept the cast bullet without shaving the lead. A Flaring Tool can be purchased to quickly do the job. (See parts list).

 Powder

Powder type will be determined by the bullet weight and velocity you select. Refer to the charge table to select the powder you can use. Never substitute a heavier bullet as it will cause dangerous pressure.

 Bullet Seating

Bullet depth is adjustable by screwing the stop collar in or out and locking in place with the lock nut. The charge table indicates the maximum overall length allowable so as to work through any gun. You may find it desirable to seat the bullet a different length for various reasons. Accuracy can sometimes be improved with different bullet depth. Or, it may be necessary to seat to the crimping groove of the bullet if used in a tubular magazine.

 Trim Your Cases

Cases tend to lengthen when loaded several times and they should be shortened. The best way is to use a Lee Case Trimmer. This automatically cuts the case to the proper length with no need to measure.

 Accuracy

Best accuracy is usually obtained in cases that have been neck sized only and a charge slightly under maximum. This is exactly what your Lee Tool does. Usually you’ll find ammunition loaded with the Lee Reloading Kit will be more accurate than factory ammunition or that which has been loaded on a press type tool.
Don’t use defective cases. Throw out those with obvious defects such as splits or cracks.

Do try the empty cases in your gun to be sure they will chamber. The tool sizes only the neck.

Do chamfer the inside of the case mouth so the bullet will start easily. Use a Lee Chamfer Tool or a pocket knife.

Do make certain you have correct powder and powder measures as indicated in the charge table.

1

Knock out the old primers. If your cases are not made in the USA, check to be sure they are not Berdan primed. Look inside the shell and you should see one flash hole. If there are two flash holes, you have Berdan cases and they cannot be loaded with this tool.

4

Place the tool on the decapping chamber and tap the rod to free the case. LEAVE THE CASE in this position for the next three steps.

5

Add one [1] level measure of powder. BE SURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT MEASURE AND POWDER. SEE THE CHARGE TABLE.
With a plastic mallet or piece of wood, drive the case into the tool flush with the end.

Insert a primer into the locating ring. Place the tool, with shell inside, on the priming chamber. Lightly tap on the priming rod several times until the primer is home. NEVER TRY TO SEAT A PRIMER AFTER THE POWDER HAS BEEN ADDED.

TO AVOID CONTACT with the primer and possible explosion, case must be free from die and resting in the decapping chamber. Insert the bullet through the top.

TO AVOID CONTACT with the primer and possible explosion, case must be free from die and resting in the decapping chamber. Insert the bullet seater and tap until it contacts the stop collar. The stop collar is adjustable so you can seat the bullet as required.