Carbine Factory Crimp Die

Lee Precision, Inc.

Handgun loads need a firm crimp for accuracy, dependable functioning and uniform velocity. The Lee Carbide Factory Crimper will produce ammunition with factory-like dependability. A carbide sizer automatically sizes every round after crimping to ensure they will fit any standard chamber. Slow burning powders must have a firm crimp for proper ignition. Full charges of some slow pistol powders, if not properly ignited, can actually leave a bullet stuck in the barrel. The Lee Factory Crimper can help avoid this dangerous and embarrassing problem.

Extremely light recoil and low noise target loads are practical. Light, low density charges frequently produce erratic results if the bullet is not firmly crimped. Often charges must be increased above the desired level to insure uniform ignition. A firm crimp permits lighter charges while maintaining uniform ignition and velocity.

The crimp is correct for the cartridge. Revolver cartridges are crimped with a beautiful, uniform roll crimp found on factory ammunition. The crimp is fully adjustable, from minimum amount for maximum case life, to heavy crimp that embeds the case mouth into the bullet. Often needed to generate sufficient start pressure for slow burning magnum powders.

Many cast bullets need not be sized. Modern molds, especially those made by Lee, are held to very tight tolerances. Most bullets will function very nicely and usually give better accuracy when loaded as cast. An occasional oversize bullet or case with thick walls will enlarge the case and prevent chambering. The Lee Carbide Factory Crimper sizes the case after it is loaded. A bulged case will be sized to fit any standard chamber. We certainly don’t recommend knowingly loading excessively oversize bullets. While the die will size the bullet and case to fit any standard chamber, the quality will suffer. The bullet will no longer be a press fit because the case will spring back more than the lead.

See reverse for instructions.
**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. The Lee Carbide Factory Crimper will not seat the bullet. The bullet should be seated with your regular bullet seating die, but not crimped. Bullets should normally be seated so the crimp groove is mostly inside the case mouth. However, this is not absolutely necessary — the Lee Carbide Factory Crimp Die will form a crimp groove in the bullet.

2. Screw the die in until it just touches the shell holder and back out the adjusting screw. Finger tighten the lock ring. Once set, it will never move as the ring is locked to both the die and press. Always remove the die by turning on the lock ring to loosen.

3. With the loaded round in the die, turn the adjusting screw in until you can feel it just touch the case mouth. Then move the cartridge out of the die slightly and screw the adjusting screw in 1/2 turn for a light crimp and one full turn for a heavy crimp. You can adjust for even greater crimp and never have to worry about buckling the case, as with conventional crimpers. Some brands of dies, not Lee, permit flaring so much that the case will not enter the Carbide Factory Crimper. Should this happen, simply close the flare with the crimp shoulder in your bullet seating die.

4. The case is sized as it enters the die and again as it is pulled out of the die. This assures you every case will freely chamber in any standard gun. Don't expect the carbide sizer to touch every case. It is a fail safe tool for the occasional bad round that could ruin your day.

CUSTOM MADE SPECIAL SIZES AVAILABLE

If you have a competition gun with an undersize chamber, we can make a special die to your dimensions. Just tell us the caliber and size you would like your finished cases — we will fit a die with an undersize carbide for only $25.00. We will quote specific non-production calibers.