

AMMO101 | CENTERFIRE RIFLE



HOW IT WORKS

- 1 As the trigger is pulled, the primer is struck, creating a mini explosion, that ignites the powder.
- 2 Gas generated from the burning powder rapidly expands in the cartridge, forcing the bullet out of the cartridge and down the barrel.
- 3 The rifling in the barrel causes the bullet to spin as it exits the barrel and travels downrange.

THE SHELLCASE

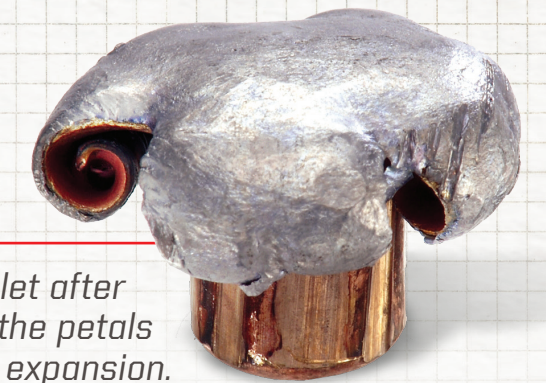
The shellcase holds all the components together and is most commonly made of brass or steel.

THE POWDER

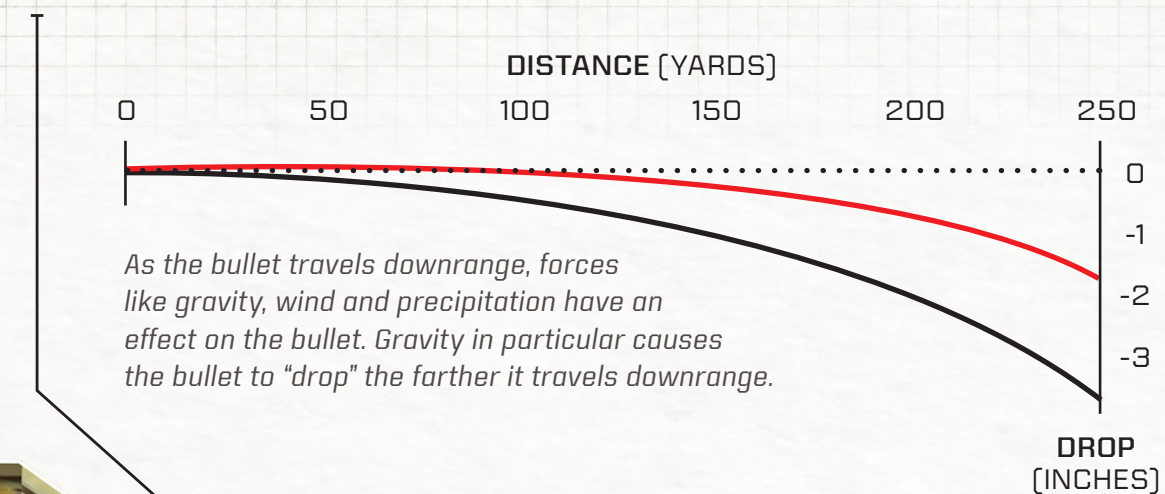
Smokeless powder is a type of propellant that burns cleaner and more consistently, resulting in less fouling in the barrel.

THE BULLET

Designed with specific performance in mind, different bullets can produce varying degrees of expansion, penetration and accuracy. Modern bullets are typically a lead core with a 'jacket' around them made of a harder material like copper or copper alloy to reduce barrel fouling. Centerfire rifle bullets are designed to travel farther downrange than other ammunition, so the shape and tip of the bullet play a large role in accuracy at long range.

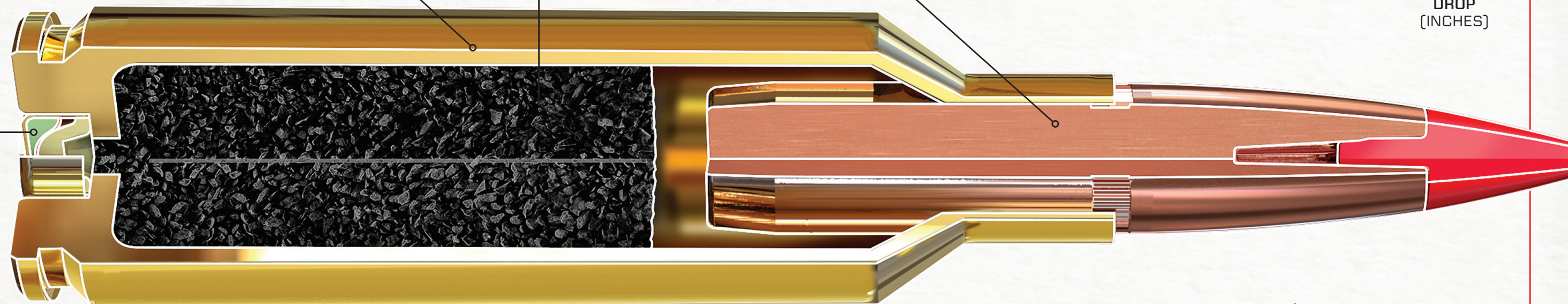


A soft point bullet after impact. Notice the petals that form upon expansion.



THE PRIMER

The primer is responsible for igniting the powder - a high quality primer ensures reliability and consistency shot after shot.



COMMON USES



PERSONAL DEFENSE

Increasingly, rifle owners are buying ammunition with special technology, specifically designed for personal defense.



TARGET SHOOTING

Long-range shooting competitions and outdoor ranges allow the shooter hours of enjoyment and challenging practice.



HUNTING

One of the most commonly used ammunition types for hunting. Centerfire rifle offerings can accommodate virtually any type of hunting - from small game and varmint to the largest big-game species in the world.*

CALIBERS

Centerfire rifle calibers are determined by the inside diameter of the barrel they're shot from. These sizes range from as small as .222 to as large as .50 caliber. Popular cartridges are .223 Rem, .243 Win, .270 Win, 6.8 Western, 300 Win Mag and 350 Legend.*



*Cartridges are not shown in actual size

WHERE TO SHOOT

Ranges are staffed with skilled professionals and instructors who can offer new shooters advice on the basic skills and rules of safe gun handling. If you're looking for a range, search our comprehensive directory to find a location near you. Winchester.com/Where-to-Shoot



*Always consult your local hunting regulations before going afield.