



Cartridges of the World 10th Edition, Revised and Expanded

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Cartridges of the World

10th Edition, Revised and Expanded

By: Frank C. Barnes, Edited by Stan Skinner

Softcover · 8-1/2 x 11, 528 pages · 600+ b&w photos Price: \$27.99

Krause Publications

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Here are some basic statements about this book. If you own mil surp weapons and shoot them, this book is a **nice** reference item for your library. If you own mil surp weapons and reload for them, this book is a **necessary** reference item for your library.

This 10th edition of Cartridges of the World has over 1500 listings for rifle, pistol and shotgun cartridges. In most cases, the listing includes an image of the cartridge (either photo or drawing) and gives historical background and general comments that may cover usage for hunting, comparisons to other cartridges or about the rifle that uses the cartridge. For the handloader, in nearly all cases, information about powders, bullets and charges are listed in a table format. The authors mention that the reloading information is to be used as a guide, to give you some idea as to what bullet/powder/velocity combinations exist. It is not a listing in detail like what you would normally find in a standard reloading book, like Lee's or Hornady. Factory load information is given where possible and military rounds have info on standard military loads.

There are 10 main chapters for cartridge references:

- Current American Centerfire Rifle (with dimensional drawings)
- Obsolete American Centerfire Rifle, Blackpowder, smokeless
- Wildcat cartridges rifle and pistol (specialized not commercially available)
- Proprietary rifle and pistol (basically a wildcat that is commercially available)
- Handgun cartridges of the world, current and obsolete
- Military Rifle cartridges of the world, current and obsolete
- British Sporting rifles
- European sporting rifle cartridges
- American rimfire
- Shotgun shells

At the end of each chapter is a table that lists dimensional data, such as case type, neck, bullet, shoulder, base and rim diameters, and case length. In a lot of cases, barrel twist and primer being used are also shown.

The book lists cartridge by caliber size order within each chapter. The military cartridges chapter starts out with the 4.85mm British experimental round and goes on up to the .577 caliber Snider cartridge. Over 60 military rifle cartridges are listed. Some cartridges (such as the .308 Win/7.62 NATO) are listed under both the commercial and military chapters. Both English and metric nomenclature is used where appropriate.

In addition to the individual cartridge listings, there are chapters on cartridge nomenclature and identification. Of particular interest to U.S. mil surp owners are the reference tables at the end of the book that lists information on all the U.S. cartridges used, from the 5.56 mm on up to the 20mm cannon rounds. Information presented includes military ID numbers (i.e., M2 Ball), bullet and cartridge weights including tolerances allowed, powder and primer compound types as well as pressures and velocities produced. Also listed are "blue pill" cartridges used to pressure test guns.

The final chapter is a very useful guide to identification of cartridges by measurement and not head stamps. Basically, it offers a step by step process to narrow down the identity of an unknown cartridge using the diameters of neck, base, rim and length of the case. If it is an unfired cartridge, bullet diameter can also be used. For rimmed cartridges, rim thickness and diameters are also given.

Krause publications has a reputation of offering reference books for the average mil surp collector and shooter and this book should be one of their top reference books. There are many books about rifles and pistols, but very few books that cover such a wide array of specific cartridges, something easily overlooked.

On the Surplusrifle.com scale: (1 to 5, 5=great)	
Mil-surp Content	4.5
Readability	5
Illustrations/diagrams/photos	5
Value	5
Appropriate level	Intermediate mil-surp shooting and reloading

Publisher's Description of Book

Since the mid-1990s, commercial cartridge manufacturers have been introducing new and improved ammunition to keep up with the demand for new chamberings and the shift to nostalgic arms. Now the world's best-known resource on cartridges of all nations, past and present, is thoroughly updated and covers these new cartridges.

More than 1,500 rifle, pistol, and shotgun cartridges are listed in various categories with illustrations, historical notes, and loading data. Cartridge and firearm experts offer exciting articles on shooting, bullets, cartridge identification, military ammunition, and reloading. Provides essential information for every arms and cartridge collector, shooter, and reloader.

*Lists more than 1,500 cartridges

*Covers all past and present cartridges

*Expanded coverage to date

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