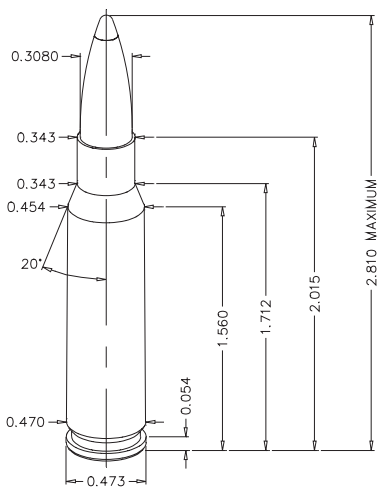


# 308 Winchester



## Test Specifications/ Components

**Firearm Used:** Savage 12VSS

**Barrel Length:** 26"

**Twist:** 1 x 10"

**Case:** Federal

**Trim-to Length:** 2.005"

**Primer:** Fed 210M

## Remarks:

Shortly after the end of World War I, the U.S. Ordnance Corps began looking for a smaller cartridge to replace the 30-06 Springfield. With typical government efficiency, the quest was still being pursued toward the end of the Second World War. By 1944, engineers at Frankford Arsenal had begun to

experiment with the 300 Savage case. Designated as the Cartridge, Ball, Cal. 30 T65, the experimental round gave performance roughly equal to the larger 30-06. After a long series of modifications, a revised cartridge case designated as the T65E3 was adopted as the NATO standard on December 15, 1953. The U.S. finally embraced the 7.62mm NATO cartridge in two new weapons adopted in 1957 — the M14 rifle and the M60 machinegun.

While the military trials were still in progress, Winchester introduced the cartridge to the sporting public as the 308 Winchester. Initially, the 308 was chambered in the bolt action Model 70 rifle. Since then, the cartridge has been chambered by virtually every major arms maker in almost every conceivable action type. Public acceptance was slow, due largely to unflattering comparisons to the 30-06. Despite the initial lukewarm enthusiasm, the 308 has become one of the most useful sporting cartridges.

The 308 is an extremely easy cartridge to reload. Like the 222 Remington and 6mm PPC, the 308 is an extremely accurate cartridge. It probably is the most inherently accurate 30 caliber commercial cartridge ever produced. As a competitive cartridge, the 308 has been used in benchrest, highpower, long-range, silhouette, and 300-meter international matches. Few, if any, other cartridges have been so successful in such a wide range of shooting disciplines. It has also become quite popular as a hunting cartridge and is adequate for most North American big game species, particularly deer-sized game. Though frequently compared to it, the 308 cannot match the performance of the 30-06. The difference between the two, however, is insignificant unless bullets of 180 grains or heavier are discussed. The 30-06's greater capacity and ability to use slower powders give it an undeniable edge. If military brass is used for reloading, the charges shown should be reduced by one to two grains. The

# 308 Winchester continued

thicker construction of these cases decreases capacity, making a reduction in charge weight a necessity.

**#2100 .308" 110 gr. RN**  
C.O.A.L. 2.500"



**#2105 .308" 110 gr. FMJ**  
C.O.A.L. 2.500"



**#2110 .308" 110 gr. HP**  
C.O.A.L. 2.600"



Powder↓/Velocity→	2800	2900	3000	3100	3200	3300
Viht N133	40.0	41.1	42.3	43.4	44.5	
AA-2015	39.8	41.2	42.6	44.0		
RE-7		37.0	38.4	39.9		
IMR-3031	40.5	41.9	43.3	44.6	46.0	
H322		39.3	40.8	42.3	43.8	45.3
AA-2230	38.4	40.3	42.3	44.2	46.1	
748	43.2	45.1	47.1	49.0	50.9	
BL-C(2)	45.0	46.8	48.5	50.3		
H335		41.0	42.9	44.8	46.7	48.6
IMR-4895	43.1	44.4	45.7	47.0	48.3	49.6
IMR-4064	43.5	44.9	46.3	47.7	49.1	
IMR-4320	45.1	46.6	48.2	49.7		
H380	48.3	50.3	52.2			
760		51.9	53.6			
H414	47.7	49.6	51.5	53.4		
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>1915</b>	<b>2054</b>	<b>2198</b>	<b>2346</b>	<b>2501</b>	<b>2659</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	RE-7	39.9	3100	2346
Hunting Load	H335	46.7	3200	2501



*Civilian offspring of NATO's 7.62 x 51mm service cartridge, the 243 Winchester, the wildcat 6.5mm-08, 7mm-08, 308 Winchester and the 358 Winchester.*

**INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION**  
**LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.**

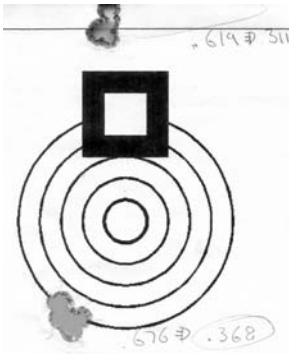
# 308 Winchester continued

**#2120 .308" 125 gr. SPT**  
C.O.A.L. 2.700"



Powder↓/Velocity→	2700	2800	2900	3000	3100
Viht N133	37.9	39.6	41.2	42.9	
RE-7	34.9	36.5	38.2	39.8	
IMR-3031	40.0	41.3	42.6	43.9	
H322	38.2	39.5	40.8	42.1	43.4
AA-2230	39.5	41.0	42.5	44.0	
748	42.8	44.7	46.5	48.4	50.2
BL-C(2)	44.2	46.1	47.9		
H335	41.8	43.1	44.4	45.7	47.0
IMR-4895	42.5	43.7	45.0	46.2	
Viht N135	39.7	41.4	43.1	44.8	46.5
IMR-4064	42.6	44.0	45.5	46.9	
AA-2520	42.3	43.4	44.4	45.5	
IMR-4320	44.0	45.6	47.2	48.8	
RE-15	40.6	42.9	45.2	47.5	
H380	46.2	47.9	49.6		
760	47.0	49.2	51.4	53.6	
H414	46.7	48.6	50.5		
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2176</b>	<b>2334</b>	<b>2498</b>	<b>2667</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	H414	50.5	2900	2334
Hunting Load	H335	47.0	3100	2667



Aaron Burns shot these two groups with Sierra's 30 caliber 110 grain HP Varminter at 100 yards.

**INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION**

**LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.**

# 308 Winchester continued

**#2115 .308" 150 gr. FMJBT**

C.O.A.L. 2.775"



**#2130 .308" 150 gr. SPT**

C.O.A.L. 2.750"



**#2125 .308" 150 gr. SBT**

C.O.A.L. 2.750"



**#2190 .308" 150 gr. HPBT MatchKing**

C.O.A.L. 2.775"



**#2135 .308" 150 gr. RN**

C.O.A.L. 2.500"



**#2155 .308" 155 gr. HPBT Palma MatchKing**

C.O.A.L. 2.775"



Powder / Velocity →	2500	2600	2700	2800	2900
RE-7	34.4	35.7	37.1	38.4	
IMR-3031	37.5	39.1	40.7	42.2	43.8
Benchmark	37.7	39.3	40.9	42.5	
H322	35.9	37.5	39.1	40.7	
AA-2230	36.0	38.1	40.2	42.2	44.3
748		42.8	44.5	46.2	47.9
BL-C(2)		43.6	45.2	46.8	48.4
H335	39.5	40.9	42.2	43.6	44.9
TAC		40.2	41.6	43.0	
AA-2495	39.4	41.1	42.7	44.4	
IMR-4895	39.8	41.1	42.4	43.7	
Varget		41.4	43.1	44.8	
IMR-4064	39.1	40.7	42.3	43.9	45.5
IMR-4320	40.6	42.3	43.9	45.6	47.2
Viht N140	39.9	41.5	43.1	44.7	
RE-15	40.6	42.0	43.4	44.8	
H380	43.4	45.2	46.9	48.7	
760		46.7	48.5	50.2	
H414		46.4	47.4	48.5	49.5
Viht N550	43.6	45.1	46.6	48.1	49.6
IMR-4350	45.8	47.2			
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>2081</b>	<b>2251</b>	<b>2428</b>	<b>2611</b>	<b>2801</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Viht N140	43.1	2700	2428
Hunting Load	IMR-3031	43.8	2900	2801

Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.

**INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION**  
**LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.**

# 308 Winchester continued

**#2145 .308" 165 gr. SBT**  
C.O.A.L. 2.750"



**#2140 .308" 165 gr. HPBT**  
C.O.A.L. 2.750"



Powder+Velocity→	2400	2500	2600	2700	2750	2800
RE-7	31.8	<b>34.0</b>				
IMR-3031	36.1	37.6	39.1	<b>40.6</b>		
Benchmark		37.4	39.2	<b>41.0</b>		
H322	34.3	36.1	37.8	<b>39.6</b>		
748		40.8	42.1	<b>43.5</b>		
BL-C(2)		40.5	42.7	<b>44.8</b>		
AA-2460		38.0	39.7	<b>41.4</b>		
H335		36.4	39.3	<b>42.2</b>		
TAC		38.6	40.2	<b>41.8</b>		
AA-2495	36.7	38.6	<b>40.4</b>			
IMR-4895	38.3	39.5	40.7	<b>41.9</b>		
Varget	38.5	40.0	41.5	<b>43.0</b>		
IMR-4064	37.6	39.2	40.9	42.5	<b>43.5</b>	
AA-2520	36.3	38.1	40.0	41.8	<b>42.7</b>	
IMR-4320	39.7	41.2	42.8	<b>44.3</b>		
RE-15	38.3	39.9	41.5	<b>43.1</b>		
H380	41.5	43.6	45.6	47.7	<b>48.7</b>	
Viht N540	38.9	40.3	41.8	<b>43.2</b>		
760	40.8	43.0	45.1	47.3	<b>48.4</b>	
Viht N550	40.7	42.2	43.7	45.2	45.9	<b>46.7</b>
IMR-4350	43.0	44.7	46.4	48.1	<b>48.9</b>	
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>2110</b>	<b>2289</b>	<b>2476</b>	<b>2670</b>		
	<b>Powder</b>	<b>Grains</b>	<b>Velocity</b>	<b>Ft. lbs.</b>		
Accuracy Load	<b>AA-2495</b>	<b>40.4</b>	2600	2476		
Hunting Load	Viht N550	45.2	2700	2670		

**INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION**

**LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.**

# 308 Winchester continued

**#2200 .308" 168 gr. HPBT**
**MatchKing**
**C.O.A.L. 2.800"**


Powder↓/Velocity→	2400	2500	2600	2700
RE-7	32.5	<b>34.9</b>		
IMR-3031	36.3	37.9	39.5	<b>41.1</b>
Benchmark	36.9	38.4	39.9	<b>41.4</b>
748		41.9	43.4	<b>44.8</b>
BL-C(2)		42.7	<b>44.5</b>	
AA-2460		38.1	40.0	<b>41.9</b>
H335		40.3	41.5	<b>42.6</b>
TAC		38.8	40.4	<b>42.0</b>
H4895	37.3	38.6	<b>39.9</b>	
AA-2495	37.7	39.7	<b>41.7</b>	
IMR-4895	38.2	39.8	<b>41.3</b>	
<b>Varget</b>	<b>38.7</b>	<b>40.3</b>	<b>41.9</b>	<b>43.5</b>
<b>IMR-4064</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>43.4</b>
AA-2520	36.9	38.7	40.4	<b>42.2</b>
IMR-4320	39.6	41.4	<b>43.1</b>	
Viht N140	38.9	40.6	<b>42.3</b>	
RE-15	38.8	40.4	42.0	<b>43.6</b>
H380	42.5	44.4	46.3	<b>48.2</b>
760	44.2	45.9	47.5	<b>49.2</b>
Viht N150	38.9	40.7	42.5	<b>44.3</b>
Viht N550	42.1	43.6	45.0	<b>46.5</b>
IMR-4350	44.5	46.0	<b>47.4</b>	
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>2148</b>	<b>2331</b>	<b>2521</b>	<b>2719</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	RE-15	42.0	2600	2521
<i>Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.</i>				



*The United States Veterans Team as pictured in 2001 during the World Championships in South Africa.*

**INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION**  
**LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.**

# 308 Winchester continued

## #2275 .308" 175 gr. HPBT MatchKing

C.O.A.L. 2.800"

## #2150 .308" 180 gr. SPT

C.O.A.L. 2.800"

## #2160 .308" 180 gr. SBT

C.O.A.L. 2.800"

## #2220 .308" 180 gr. HPBT MatchKing

C.O.A.L. 2.800"

## #2170 .308" 180 gr. RN

C.O.A.L. 2.710"



Powder↓/Velocity→	2200	2300	2400	2500	2600
IMR-3031	33.8	35.5	37.3	39.0	
Benchmark	34.2	35.6	37.0	38.4	
748		39.0	40.5	42.1	43.6
BL-C(2)		38.7	40.8	42.8	44.8
AA-2460		36.8	38.6	40.3	42.0
H335		37.3	39.5		
TAC			37.8	39.4	41.0
AA-2495	34.3	36.9	39.4		
IMR-4895	36.7	37.9	39.1	40.3	41.5
Varget	36.3	38.1	39.9	41.7	
IMR-4064	35.7	37.5	39.3	41.0	42.8
AA-2520		36.0	38.0	39.9	41.9
IMR-4320	37.5	39.2	40.8	42.5	
Viht N540	36.5	38.0	39.5	41.0	
RE-15	35.8	37.6	39.5	41.3	
H380	38.5	40.7	42.9	45.0	47.2
760		42.8	44.7	46.5	48.4
Viht N150	35.5	37.6	39.7	41.8	
Viht N550	38.3	40.1	41.9	43.7	45.5
IMR-4350	40.5	42.3	44.1	45.9	47.7
IMR-4831	43.3	45.3	47.2		
H4831 SC	44.1	46.2	48.3		
Energy/ft.lbs.	1934	2114	2302	2498	2701

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Viht N540	39.5	2400	2302
Hunting Load	RE-15	41.3	2500	2498

Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION

LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

# 308 Winchester continued

**#2210 .308" 190 gr. HPBT  
MatchKing  
C.O.A.L. 2.800"**



Powder↓/Velocity→	2200	2300	2400	2500	2600
IMR-3031	33.2	35.0	36.7	<b>38.5</b>	
Benchmark	34.2	35.6	<b>37.0</b>		
748		38.9	40.4	41.8	<b>43.3</b>
BL-C(2)		38.7	40.8	<b>42.8</b>	
AA-2460		36.0	37.8	<b>39.6</b>	
H335		35.9	38.2	<b>40.4</b>	
TAC	35.4	36.8	<b>38.2</b>		
H4895	34.6	36.1	37.7	<b>39.2</b>	
IMR-4895	34.8	36.5	38.2	39.8	<b>41.5</b>
Varget	35.4	37.4	39.4	<b>41.4</b>	
IMR-4064	35.1	36.9	38.7	40.5	<b>42.3</b>
AA-2520		36.1	37.8	39.4	<b>41.1</b>
IMR-4320	37.2	38.8	40.3	<b>41.9</b>	
Viht N140	36.1	37.8	39.6	<b>41.3</b>	
Viht N540	36.6	38.1	<b>39.6</b>		
RE-15	35.7	37.3	38.8	<b>40.4</b>	
H380		41.3	43.3	45.4	<b>47.4</b>
760	40.9	42.6	44.3	46.0	<b>47.7</b>
Viht N550	38.9	40.4	41.9	<b>43.4</b>	
IMR-4350	40.7	42.5	44.3	46.0	<b>47.8</b>
IMR-4831	43.2	45.0	<b>46.8</b>		
H4831 SC	43.8	45.9	47.9	<b>50.0</b>	
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>2042</b>	<b>2231</b>	<b>2430</b>	<b>2636</b>	<b>2851</b>

	<b>Powder</b>	<b>Grains</b>	<b>Velocity</b>	<b>Ft. lbs.</b>
Accuracy Load	IMR-4064	40.5	2500	2636

*Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.*



*Cynthia Jenkins of  
Cypress, CA, killed this  
hog with her Remington  
Model 7 and Sierra's 150  
grain SBT.*

**INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION**  
**LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.**



# 308 Winchester continued

## #2165 .308" 200 gr. SBT

C.O.A.L. 2.800"



## #2230 .308" 200 gr. HPBT

**MatchKing**

C.O.A.L. 2.800"



Powder↓/Velocity→	2100	2200	2300	2400	2450
IMR-3031	32.4	34.2	36.0	37.8	38.7
748		38.3	40.1	41.9	42.8
BL-C(2)		38.0	40.0		
AA-2460		35.3	36.9	38.5	39.3
H335		36.6	37.9		
TAC		35.0	36.6		
H4895	33.9	35.3	36.7	38.1	38.8
IMR-4895	34.3	35.8	37.3	38.8	
Varget	34.5	36.3	38.0		
IMR-4064	32.7	34.9	37.1	39.3	40.4
AA-2520	34.3	35.9	37.5	39.1	39.9
IMR-4320	34.8	37.1	39.5	41.8	
Viht N540	35.0	36.6	38.2		
AA-2700	39.0	40.7	42.5	44.2	
RE-15	34.4	36.0	37.6	39.2	
H380		38.8	41.4	44.0	45.3
760		40.0	42.2	44.4	45.5
Viht N150	34.8	36.8	38.8	40.8	41.8
Viht N550	37.2	38.7	40.2	41.7	
IMR-4350	39.5	41.1	42.7	44.3	45.1
IMR-4831	42.0	43.7	45.3		
H4831 SC	44.0	46.4	48.8		
<b>Energy/ft.lbs.</b>	<b>1958</b>	<b>2149</b>	<b>2349</b>	<b>2558</b>	<b>2665</b>

	Powder	Grains	Velocity	Ft. lbs.
Accuracy Load	Varget	38.0	2300	2349
Hunting Load	Viht N150	41.8	2450	2665

Sierra does not recommend MatchKing bullets for hunting applications.

**INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD – USE CAUTION**

**LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.**