

SECTION 2--CALIBER (CAL) FIELD CODES

2.1 CAL FIELD CODES

Firearms are identified by make, model, serial number, type (rifle, shotgun, etc.), and cartridge-type designation. Cartridge types are most often expressed in calibers (decimals of an inch) or in millimeters, for example the .357 Magnum and 9 mm Luger. It is also possible for the same cartridge to have both an English and a metric designation. For example, the .308 Winchester is also known as the 7.62x51 NATO. A weapon with this cartridge-type designation could be entered using either the CAL 308 or 762. Entries should be made based on the markings on the weapon.

Many ammunition and weapon manufacturers name cartridge types after the company. One example is the 7 mm Remington Magnum that was developed by the Remington Arms Company. The manufacturer associated with a cartridge type should not be confused with the make of the firearm. For example, the .38 Smith & Wesson (S & W) Special cartridge was developed by Smith & Wesson, but many companies manufacture weapons chambered for this cartridge type.

The Caliber (CAL) Field is intended to contain the broad cartridge-type designation of a firearm. Because of the volume of cartridge types and the differing methods of measurement used (English, metric, or gauge) in identifying them, the table below has been prepared to assist in data entry. The "CAL" column contains the CAL codes, and the "Common Names/Examples" column contains common cartridge-type designation examples. In cases of ambiguity in cartridge-type designations, further identifying information, if available, should be placed in the Miscellaneous (MIS) Field.

Users will note that some cartridge types have more than one designation. Additionally, due to existing programming, the NCIC 2000 System does not distinguish between some cartridge types with similar designations. The .308 Winchester/7.62x51 NATO, as noted above, could be entered as either 308 or 762. If entered as 762, no distinction between a 7.62x51 NATO, a 7.62x39 Soviet, or a 7.62 mm Tokarev would be made. Users should be aware of this when making Gun File inquiries, especially if an inquiry leads to multiple hits on firearms with similar cartridge-type designations.

CAL	Common Names/Examples
6	6 mm Remington, .243 Winchester, .240 Weatherby Magnum
7	7 mm Remington Magnum, 7 mm Bench Rest, 7 mm-08, 7 mm Weatherby Magnum, 7x57 Mauser, 7.7 Arisaka, .280 Remington, etc.
8	8x57 Mauser, 8 mm Lebel, 8 mm Remington Magnum
9	9 mm Luger/Parabellum/9x19, 9 mm Kurz/Corto/9x17 (.380 ACP), 9 mm Winchester Magnum, 9 mm Browning Long, 9 mm Steyr, 9 mm Bergmann-Bayard, 9 mm Makarov/9x18, 9x21, 9x23/Largo, etc.
10	10 mm, .40 S&W pistol cartridges; also used for 10-gauge shotgun
11	11 mm Mauser
12	12.5 mm is metric for .50-caliber Browning Machine Gun round; also used for 12-gauge shotgun
13	13 mm Gyrojet rocket pistol/carbine
17	.17 Remington
22	.22 Short/Long/Long Rifle rimfire cartridge family; also .22 Hornet, .22-250, .220 Swift, .222 Remington, .223 Remington, etc.
25	.25 ACP, .25-06, .25-20, .25-35, .250-3000 Savage, etc.

CAL	Common Names/Examples
30	.30 M1 Carbine, .30-40 Krag, .30-30 Winchester
32	.32 ACP, .32 Short Colt, .32 Long Colt, .32 H&R Magnum
35	.35 Whelen, .35 Remington, .350 Remington Magnum
36	.36 caliber markings normally found only on black-powder firearms
38	.38 S&W, .38 (S&W) Special, .38 ACP, .38 Super, etc.
40	.40 S&W, 10 mm
41	.41 Short Rimfire, .41 Remington Magnum, .41 Action Express, .41 AutoMag
44	.44-40 Winchester, .44 Russian, .44 Special, .44 Remington Magnum, .44 AutoMag; also used in black-powder firearms
45	.45 ACP, .455 Webley, .45 AutoRim, .45 Long Colt, .45 Winchester Magnum
50	.50 Browning Machine Gun, .50 Action Express; also used in black-powder firearms
54	Typically used in black-powder firearms
58	Typically used in black-powder firearms; also .577 Nitro Express elephant gun
60	Typically used in black-powder firearms; also the .600 Nitro Express elephant gun
65	6.5 mm Carcano; may also appear as .65 caliber on black-powder firearms
75	Could either be a metric caliber (7.5 mm) or a .75 caliber. Use the MIS Field to further clarify.
177	.177 caliber (.17 caliber) is most often used in airguns
221	.221 Remington Fireball
222	.222 Remington, .222 Remington Magnum
223	.223 Remington/5.56x45 mm NATO
243	.243 Winchester
250	.250-3000 Savage
256	.256 Newton

CAL**Common Names/Examples**

257	.257 Roberts, .257 Weatherby Magnum
260	.260 Magnum Research Lone Eagle, .260 Remington Model XP 100, .260 Savage Striker, .260 Thompson/Center Encore
264	.264 Winchester Magnum
270	.270 Winchester, .270 Weatherby Magnum
280	.280 Remington/7 mm Express
284	.284 Winchester
300	.300 Winchester Magnum, .300 Weatherby Magnum, .300 Savage, .300 Holland & Holland Magnum
303	.303 British, .303 Savage
308	.308 Winchester/7.62x51 mm NATO
338	.338 Winchester Magnum
351	.351 Winchester
357	.357 Remington Magnum, .357 Maximum, .357 AutoMag
375	.375 Holland & Holland Magnum, .375 Winchester
380	.380 ACP in U.S.; also known in Europe as the 9 mm Kurz/Corto/Short, and the 9x17
401	.401 Winchester
405	.405 Winchester
444	.444 Marlin
455	.455 Webley or .455 Manstopper
458	.458 Winchester Magnum
460	.460 Weatherby Magnum
556	5.56x45 mm NATO/.223 Remington
635	6.35 mm/.25 ACP

CAL	Common Names/Examples
735	7.35 mm/.32 ACP
762	7.62x39 Soviet, 7.62x51 NATO/.308 Winchester, 7.62x54R used in Russian Moisin-Nagant and Dragunov rifles
763	7.63 mm/.30 Mauser, 7.62 mm Tokarev
765	7.65 mm Luger/.30 Luger
3006	.30-06 U.S. (.30 Springfield)
3220	.32-20 Winchester
4570	.45-70 U.S. Government

2.2 CAL FIELD CODES FOR SHOTGUNS

The gauge system of bore measurement is unique and totally different from the English caliber or metric methods of measurement. Shotgun gauges are normally expressed as whole numbers, followed by the word "gauge" or an abbreviation for it, for example 12-gauge or 12-ga. Under the English system of shotgun gauges, the lower the numerical value, the larger the bore diameter. With most common shotgun cartridge types, the bore diameter when expressed in decimals of an inch or millimeters is not the same as the gauge. A 12-gauge's bore diameter is not .12 caliber; nor is it 12 millimeters. The exception is the 410-gauge; it is a true .41-caliber bore diameter. There are also metric designations in use (listed below), but these will usually be designated in millimeters or with the abbreviation "mm." The appropriate gauge should be entered in the CAL Field. Some shotgun gauges are numerically the same as some calibers, especially metric designations. The weapon type should be designated in the Type (TYP) Field to eliminate any confusion.

Shotgun Gauges

4
8
9 mm
10
12
16
20
22 caliber smoothbore
24
28
32 or 14 mm
410
14