

# 45 AUTO RIM

## Test Specifications:

Firearm Used: S&W Model 625

Barrel Length: 5"

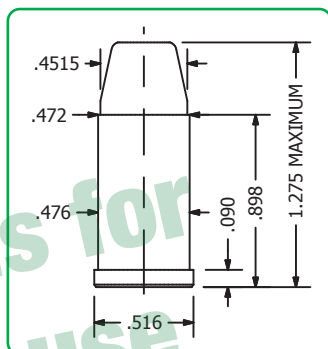
Twist: 1 x 16"

## Components:

Case: Remington

Trim-to Length: 0.893"

Primer: CCI 300



## Remarks:



The 45 Auto Rim, also known as the 45 AR, is an oddity in the cartridge world. Consider for a moment that it was designed for revolvers which were chambered for an entirely different, yet similar cartridge; the 45 ACP. In fact, throughout its entire history, no revolvers were ever chambered specifically for the 45 Auto Rim.


Remington marketed the cartridge in 1920 for the thousands of Colt and Smith & Wesson revolvers chambered for the rimless 45 ACP cartridge. Manufactured during World War One to augment the recently adopted Colt 1911 45 Automatic, these revolvers were sold as surplus after the Armistice was signed. Chambered for the standard 45 ACP cartridge, these revolvers required the use of two half-moon clips, with each clip holding three rounds of 45 ACP ammunition. While these clips were necessary to facilitate extraction in a revolver, they were inconvenient for the casual shooter. Remington saw a market for a rimmed cartridge that would eliminate the need to use these clips, and the 45 Auto Rim was born. The thick rim on the 45 AR case, incidentally, was the result of the revolvers being designed to utilize clips. Since the clip was loaded into the gun along with the ammunition, the revolver had to have a large gap between the rear face of the cylinder and the recoil shield to allow the cylinder to rotate. When the rimmed version was designed, an unusually thick rim was required to fill this gap and headspace the cartridge properly.

Surprisingly, the clips that were originally considered such a bother eventually proved to be something of an advantage. With the advent of combat pistol competition and bowling pin shoots, full-moon clips holding six rounds were marketed. Both of these events are based on speed, requiring not only accuracy but fast shooting and reloading as well. While the clips themselves may be slow to load, they offer the fastest "speedloader" ever devised. Later guns, such as the S&W Model 25, continued to see more use with standard 45 ACP ammunition and full moon clips than with the 45 Auto Rim cartridge.



The 45 Auto Rim today is, for all practical purposes, a dead cartridge. Remington, the sole source of brass for the 45 Auto Rim, dropped both loaded ammo and cases from their line in 1993.

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|   | Bullet     | Caliber    | Weight       | Type          | C.O.A.L.   |      |
|---|------------|------------|--------------|---------------|------------|------|
|  | #8800      | .4515"     | 185gr.       | JHP           | 1.203"     |      |
|  | #8810      | .4515"     | 185gr.       | FPJ Match     | 1.155"     |      |
| Powder  | Velocity   | > 900      | 950          | 1000          | 1050       | 1100 |
| 700X  | 5.2        | 5.5        | 5.8          |               |            |      |
| PB  | 6.9        | 7.2        | 7.5          | 8.0           |            |      |
| Unique  | 7.0        | 7.4        | 7.6          | 8.0           | 8.3        |      |
| Herco   | 8.0        | 8.3        | 8.7          | 9.2           | 10.1       |      |
| SR4756  |            |            |              | 9.4           | 9.8        |      |
| <b>Energy Ft. lbs</b>   | <b>333</b> | <b>371</b> | <b>411</b>   | <b>453</b>    | <b>497</b> |      |
| Special Load  | Powder     | Grains     | Velocity fps | Energy Ft. lb |            |      |
| <b>Accuracy Load</b>  | Unique     | 8.0        | 1050         | 453           |            |      |
| <b>Hunting Load</b>   | Unique     | 8.3        | 1100         | 497           |            |      |

|   | Bullet     | Caliber    | Weight       | Type          | C.O.A.L.   |     |
|---|------------|------------|--------------|---------------|------------|-----|
|  | #8825      | .4515"     | 200gr.       | FPJ Match     | 1.155"     |     |
| Powder  | Velocity   | > 700      | 750          | 800           | 850        | 900 |
| Bullseye  | 4.4        | 4.9        | 5.4          |               |            |     |
| 231   | 5.6        | 5.9        | 6.1          |               |            |     |
| Red Dot   | 4.4        | 4.8        | 5.2          | 5.6           |            |     |
| 700X  | 4.3        | 4.6        | 4.9          | 5.1           |            |     |
| Green Dot   | 5.5        | 5.8        | 6.1          |               |            |     |
| Unique  | 5.9        | 6.3        | 6.6          | 6.9           |            |     |
| Herco   | 6.5        | 6.9        | 7.3          | 7.7           |            |     |
| Blue Dot  | 9.1        | 9.6        | 10.1         | 10.6          |            |     |
| <b>Energy Ft. lbs</b>   | <b>218</b> | <b>250</b> | <b>284</b>   | <b>321</b>    | <b>360</b> |     |
| Special Load  | Powder     | Grains     | Velocity fps | Energy Ft. lb |            |     |
| <b>Accuracy Load</b>  | Herco      | 7.3        | 850          | 321           |            |     |
| <b>Hunting Load</b>   | Herco      | 7.7        | 900          | 360           |            |     |

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|   | Bullet | Caliber | Weight | Type      | C.O.A.L. |
|---|--------|---------|--------|-----------|----------|
|  | #8815  | .4515"  | 230gr. | FMJ Match | 1.270"   |
|  | #8805  | .4515"  | 230gr. | JHP       | 1.270"   |

| Powder                | Velocity | 700        | 750        | 800        | 850        |
|-----------------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Bullseye              |          | 4.9        | 5.2        | 5.4        |            |
| 231                   |          | 5.6        | 6.0        | 6.3        |            |
| Red Dot               |          | 4.9        | 5.3        | 5.6        |            |
| 700X                  |          | 4.5        | 4.8        | 5.0        |            |
| Green Dot             |          | 5.8        | 6.0        | 6.2        |            |
| Unique                |          | 6.4        | 6.7        | 6.9        |            |
| Herco                 |          | 6.6        | 6.9        | 7.2        | 7.5        |
| Blue Dot              |          | 9.1        | 9.4        | 9.6        |            |
| <b>Energy Ft. lbs</b> |          | <b>250</b> | <b>287</b> | <b>327</b> | <b>369</b> |

| Special Load         | Powder | Grains | Velocity fps | Energy Ft. lb |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Accuracy Load</b> | Herco  | 7.2    | 800          | 327           |
| <b>Hunting Load</b>  | Herco  | 7.5    | 850          | 369           |

|  | Bullet | Caliber | Weight | Type | C.O.A.L. |
|--|--------|---------|--------|------|----------|
|  | #8820  | .4515"  | 240gr. | JHC  | 1.185"   |

| Powder                | Velocity | 750        | 800        | 850        | 900        |
|-----------------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Bullseye              |          | 4.7        | 5.0        | 5.4        |            |
| 231                   |          | 5.1        | 5.6        |            |            |
| Red Dot               |          | 4.9        | 5.3        | 5.6        |            |
| Green Dot             |          | 5.4        | 5.8        | 6.2        |            |
| Unique                |          | 5.7        | 6.2        | 6.6        | 7.0        |
| Herco                 |          | 6.4        | 6.9        | 7.4        |            |
| Blue Dot              |          |            | 8.8        | 9.2        | 9.5        |
| <b>Energy Ft. lbs</b> |          | <b>300</b> | <b>341</b> | <b>385</b> | <b>432</b> |

| Special Load         | Powder | Grains | Velocity fps | Energy Ft. lb |
|----------------------|--------|--------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>Accuracy Load</b> | Unique | 6.6    | 850          | 385           |
| <b>Hunting Load</b>  | Unique | 7.0    | 900          | 432           |