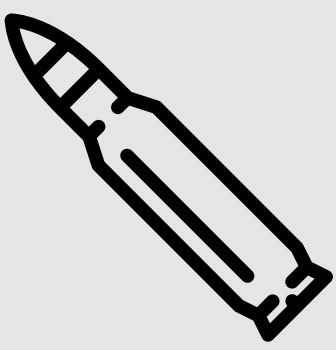
T1 Ammo

AMMUNITION 101

The ammunition you choose matters. Do you know what's in your ammo?

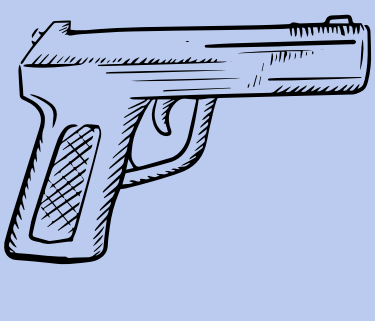


1 CASING

The **casing** is the outer metal piece of the cartridge that contains the primer and the powder. Casings are typically made out of brass, steel or aluminum. Types of casings include **new brass** (best for consistent performance), **remanufactured brass** (think recycled), **steel or aluminum** (lesser quality, not suitable for all gun types).

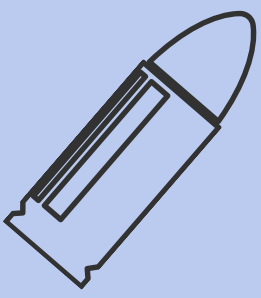
2 POWDER

Powder is the explosive material inside the cartridge that makes it fire. Powder can be described as **slow burning** (softer shot with less recoil), **hot burning** (if the shot feels quick and snappy), **clean burning** (less residue in the barrel) or **smoky** (heavy residue, lots of smoke).



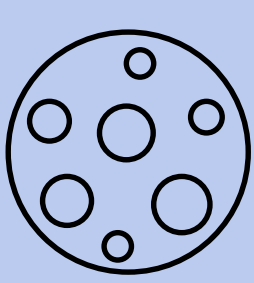
3 PROJECTILE

The **projectile** is the part that actually leaves the cartridge and hits your target, or somewhere near your target. The most important characteristics of a bullet are **shape**, **coating** and **weight** AKA **grain**.



SHAPE & COATING

Bullets with a **round nose** or **flat nose** are usually used for target shooting. **Hollow Point bullets** are typically used as self defense rounds as they expand when they hit a target. Bullet coatings include: **Total Metal Jacket** (TMJ) which is fully encased in copper, **Full Metal Jacket** (FMJ) partially encased in copper and **Jacketed Hollow Point** (JHP) which have a hollow tip.



GRAIN

The **grain** is the number next to bullet caliber that refers to the actual weight of the bullet. Some common 9mm grains are **115 GR**, **124 GR** and **147 GR**. The grain coupled with the amount of powder impacts the felt-recoil. The higher the grain, the heavier the bullet which means the **lower** the felt-recoil. A happy medium for most is usually the 124 grain.

4 WHY QUALITY MATTERS

With ammunition, you get what you pay for. Less expensive ammo is usually made of cheaper foreign made components, resulting in high recoil, poor accuracy, potential failures, and a smoky, high residue shot. High quality ammo feels better to shoot, helps you stay on the range longer and gets you back on your sights quicker.