

# Shotgun Cards & Wads



'A' card  
over powder card, .125" thick

'C' wad  
fiber wad, .500" thick, dry



## Charges for Shotguns

British service charges for breech loading smooth bore guns from W. W. Greener's book *The Gun and its Development* 9th edition, published in 1910

Gauge	Powder in Grains	Powder in Drams	Shot
10	116	4.25	1.5/8 ounce
12	89	3.25	1.1/4 ounce
14	82	3.	1.1/8 ounce
16	75	2.75	1 ounce
20	68	2.5	7/8 ounce
28	55	2.	3/4 ounce

7000 grains per pound, 16 ounces per pound, 16 drams per ounce, thus: one dram equals 27-1/3 grains

### Shotgun Loading instructions:

Charge your 12 gauge gun with up to 3-1/4 drams (89 grains) of Ffg black powder. Use Fg for larger bores or heavier charges.

Seat a .125" thick "A" card firmly on the powder charge. This thick card seals the bore, and keeps the powder dry.

Insert a thick fiber "C" wad and ram it firmly. Soak fiber wads in cooking oil when hunting, or our Bore Clean when trap shooting.

Measure 1-1/4 ounce of lead shot. Never use steel shot in muzzle loading guns. Increasing the shot charge decreases velocity.

Seat a thin overshot "B" card last. This stiff card holds the shot in place, but won't leave a hole in your pattern.

Place a percussion cap the nipple only when you are on the firing line, or when you are ready to begin walking in your hunting field.

### Muzzleloading Shotgun Information:

"Gauge" is an archaic English measurement of the bore diameter, based on how many lead round balls, of that diameter, weigh one pound. Example: a 12 gauge shotgun has a bore diameter of .729", and 12 round balls of this diameter weigh one pound.

With this measurement system, the smaller the number the larger the bore diameter. This is the opposite of how we designate calibers for rifles and pistols, which is the actual bore diameter in hundredths of an inch. The exception is the so-called .410 shotgun, not a gauge, but an actual bore diameter (.41 caliber).

### Select snug fitting wads and cards:

Our wads are full bore diameter. Modern wads are smaller, to fit inside a modern paper or plastic shotshell. Plastic wads are a poor choice. Specify the gauge and wad or card type A, B, C, or CL.

#### "A" cards, over powder: \$7.50

Our .125" thick "over powder" card, is rammed first, over the powder, to seal and waterproof the powder charge. 4 and 5 gauge 250 cards, 6,7,8,9 ga. 500 cards, 10 ga. and smaller, bag of 1,000 cards.

#### "B" cards, over shot: \$7.50

Our .025" thin card, or "over shot" card, is rammed last, to hold the shot firmly in place. Thin white cards. 4 and 5 gauge 250 cards, 6,7,8,9 ga. 500 cards, 10 ga. and smaller, bag of 1,000 cards.

#### "C" wads, thick cushion: 500 wads \$7.50

Our .500" thick fiber wad, or "cushion wad" is rammed after the over powder card, to cushion the shot. Dry, lubricate these with cooking oil, before use. Very economical. 4 and 5 gauge 250 cards, 6 gauge and smaller, bag of 500 cards.

#### "CL" wads, pre-lubricated: 500 wads \$17.99

Our .500" thick fiber "C" wad is available lubricated, with a special lube to keep fowling soft for easy loading. Bag of 500.

### Shooter's Tip:

#### Loading shotguns through tight choke tubes:

Muzzleloading shotgun bores were true cylinders end to end, and rarely had choked bores. Choke boring was not widely used until 1875, well into the breech loading era. After choke boring became popular in breechloaders some muzzleloaders had their guns *jug choked*. This consisted of reaming a recess which is larger than the bore diameter, about 6" long, starting about 1" back from the muzzle. The shot charge will expand in this area, then the front taper (choke) will force the shot charge back down to original bore diameter. This allows easy use of bore diameter cards and wads.

In our modern age, some manufacturers are making muzzleloading shotguns with interchangeable screw-in choke tubes. This will provide the desired choking effect, but loading is a problem. If you screw a full choke tube into a 12 gauge shotgun, the constriction is .040". Your muzzle diameter is now 14 gauge. The solution: use a 12 gauge over powder card passed thru on side, and a 14 gauge thick fiber wad. But use a full size 12 gauge over shot card, to seal the shot. Flex the over shot card and force it through the choke tube on its edge, then tip it flat, and ram it over the shot with your ramrod. This does the least damage to the card. Ignition will expand the over powder card and fiber cushion wad, if the over shot card provides compression.

Extreme chokes may require the use of the more costly Ox-Yoke® wool felt wads, perhaps two or three, in lieu of the fiber wad.

Never use smokeless powder, or steel shot in muzzle loading guns.

## Shotgun Wads and Cards

4 ga. #Wad-04-A card #Wad-04-B overshot #Wad-04-C wad  
4 gauge wads, 1.070" diameter, ideal for use in 1.052" bore.

5 ga. #Wad-05-A card #Wad-05-B overshot #Wad-05-C wad  
5 gauge wads, 0.995" diameter, ideal for use in 0.976" bore.

6 ga. #Wad-06-A card #Wad-06-B overshot #Wad-06-C wad  
6 gauge wads, .935" diameter, ideal for use in .919" bore.

7 ga. #Wad-07-A card #Wad-07-B overshot #Wad-07-C wad  
7 gauge wads, .888" diameter, ideal for use in .873" bore.

8 ga. #Wad-08-A card #Wad-08-B overshot #Wad-08-C wad  
8 gauge wads, .850" diameter, ideal for use in .835" bore.

9 ga. #Wad-09-A card #Wad-09-B overshot #Wad-09-C wad  
9 gauge wads, .815" diameter, ideal for use in .803" bore.

Large 4 to 9 gauge cards are 500 per bag, wads 250 per bag.

10 ga. #Wad-10-A card #Wad-10-B overshot #Wad-10-C wad  
10 gauge wads, .787" diameter, ideal for use in .775" bore.

11 ga. #Wad-11-A card #Wad-11-B overshot #Wad-11-C wad  
11 gauge wads, .762" diameter, ideal for use in .751" bore.

12 ga. #Wad-12-A card #Wad-12-B overshot #Wad-12-C wad  
12 gauge wads, .740" diameter, ideal for use in .729" bore.

13 ga. #Wad-13-A card #Wad-13-B overshot #Wad-13-C wad  
13 gauge wads, .720" diameter, ideal for use in .710" bore.

14 ga. #Wad-14-A card #Wad-14-B overshot #Wad-14-C wad  
14 gauge wads, .703" diameter, ideal for use in .693" bore.

15 ga. #Wad-15-A card #Wad-15-B overshot #Wad-15-C wad  
15 gauge wads, .687" diameter, ideal for use in .677" bore.

16 ga. #Wad-16-A card #Wad-16-B overshot #Wad-16-C wad  
16 gauge wads, .672" diameter, ideal for use in .662" bore.

17 ga. #Wad-17-A card #Wad-17-B overshot #Wad-17-C wad  
17 gauge wads, .659" diameter, ideal for use in .649" bore.

18 ga. #Wad-18-A card #Wad-18-B overshot #Wad-18-C wad  
18 gauge wads, .647" diameter, ideal for use in .637" bore.

19 ga. #Wad-19-A card #Wad-19-B overshot #Wad-19-C wad  
19 gauge wads, .636" diameter, ideal for use in .626" bore.

20 ga. #Wad-20-A card #Wad-20-B overshot #Wad-20-C wad  
20 gauge wads, .625" diameter, ideal for use in .615" bore.

24 ga. #Wad-24-A card #Wad-24-B overshot #Wad-24-C wad  
24 gauge wads, .589" diameter, ideal for use in .579" bore.

28 ga. #Wad-28-A card #Wad-28-B overshot #Wad-28-C wad  
28 gauge wads, .560" diameter, ideal for use in .550" bore.

410 ga. #Wad-415A card #Wad-415B overshot #Wad-415C wad  
410 gauge wads, .415" diameter, ideal for use in .410" bore.

#Wad-(gauge)-A, "A" over powder card, .125" thick, bag of 1000.

#Wad-(gauge)-B, "B" over shot card, .025" thin, bag of 1000.

#Wad-(gauge)-C, "C" fiber cushion wad, .500", dry, bag of 500.

Specify: #Wad, gauge, and A, B, or C **only \$ 7.50**

#Wad-(gauge)-CL only in 10, 11, 12, 14, 16, 20, 24, or 28 gauge.

Lubricated "C" wads, .500" thick fiber cushion, 500 wads per bag.

Specify: #Wad, gauge, and CL (lubed C wad) **only \$17.99**

### Be Safe and Be Legal:

Non-toxic shot is required by Federal Law when hunting waterfowl. Be safe. Do not load steel shot in muzzle loading guns. Use Bismuth or other non-toxic shot, sold at modern reloading shops. Carry your receipt. A game warden cannot detect Bismuth with a magnet.