

THE WILSON CASE LENGTH GAGE

Congratulations on your purchase! We thank you for supporting our MADE IN THE USA family owned business! LE WILSON is the ORIGINAL Case Gage Manufacturer, we have been making Case Gages since 1936! By using WILSON TOOLS & GAGES, you are on your way to developing more accurate uniform handloads.

This is a one piece, non-adjustable gage for checking unloaded, resized cartridge cases for over-all case length. Case Length Gages are NOT made with chambering reamers, but with special cut reamers giving extra clearance for body diameters so as to eliminate any possibility of contact and to show true case length. This CASE LENGTH GAGE is different from and should not be confused with the standard WILSON CARTRIDGE CASE GAGE which checks both overall length and cone-to-head length of rifle cases such as 30-06 which have the more usual profile of tapered body, shoulder and neck.

INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Clean Gage with Solvent, Check Contents

Wipe all oil from inside of the gage and all gaging surfaces. Look into the Gage to see that it is free of any and all debris.

Step 2: Find a Flat Surface to Work On

The gage is designed to slide over the top of a resized case to determine if max case length has been exceeded after sizing. If so, this will indicate case trimming is needed.

Step 3: Set your Case on the prepared Flat Surface in front of you with Head Side Down

Step 4: Slide Case Length Gage over the top of the Case

PLEASE NOTE:

- Step on Gage should be face up
- Gage ONLY measures Min/Max Case Length a critical measurement on straight walled cases.
- On rimmed cartridges, gage measures FRONT OF RIM to END OF CASE mouth. It does NOT measure the rim, a standard for these calibers. **See below for Rimmed Case Instructions.**
- If your case is sticking out of the top of the gage, you have inserted the case in the wrong end of the gage
- Gage does NOT measure body diameters so the case will be a bit loose in the gage. This is to insure that the body does not interfere with the Case Length measurement.

Step 5: Check Case Length in Gage

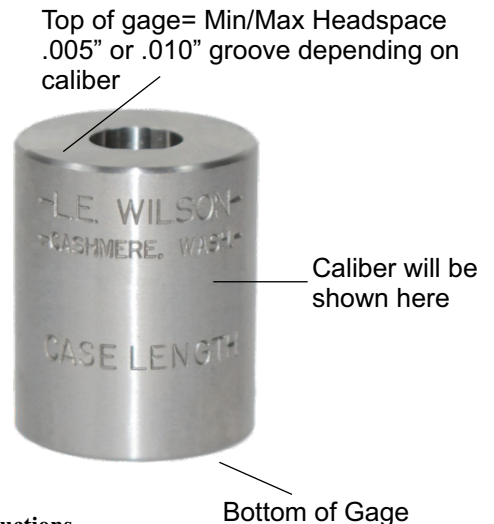
Now you can move onto verifying your Cartridge Case Length is within correct specifications or if you need to trim.

- 1) Set Case Head on flat clean surface, such as granite or steel works best.
- 2) Slide the WILSON Case Length Gage over the top of the case so it rests on your flat surface. The gage should be over the top of the case.
- 3) Slide a ruler or scale over the top of the max end of the gage. If the case clips the straight edge, your case is over length and will need to be trimmed before loading.
- 4) You can then slide the straight edge in the lower step. If your case clips the straight edge you are between min/max Case Length. Finally, if your case does not touch the straight edge you are under min case length.

CAUTION: Do NOT hold gage in hands to measure case length. Head of Case and End of Gage need to be on the same surface for the reading to be accurate.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE WITH RIMMED CASES

Push the case into the gage so that the rim is in contact with the plain end of the gage. Inspect the other end. The mouth of the case should not be below the lower surface or above the upper. If cases check above the upper surface they are too long and should be trimmed so that they register flush with the lower. You will find that your cases will stretch with repeated resizing and you can watch their growth with this gage. When they get too close to, or reach the upper surface, set the stop screw on your trimmer to produce a case which will just reach the lower step and trim them all back.



NOTE ON CASE LENGTH FOR STRAIGHT WALLED CARTRIDGES:

If cases have been fired and resized many times, some will be found to be over maximum length. Unless trimmed back to normal length, they may bottom in the chamber and in extreme examples may be forced partly into the throat or ball seat, causing pressure variations and consequent inaccuracy. Perfection in crimping pistol cases can be attained by watching length changes and trimming back uniform length and squareness with the WILSON CARTRIDGE CASE TRIMMER. The WILSON CASE LENGTH GAGE gives you a safe maximum and practical minimum length to achieve by trimming.

Frequently Asked Questions

1) My cases do not fit in the gage?

You may be inserting the case into the wrong end of the gage. This is a very common question, in fact we have a video on our web site for the 30 Carbine Case Length Gage to help out. Visit lewilson.com/videos for more information.

2) How do I tell which side is up?

The surface with the grooves should face up, bottom side will be flat. Gage will slide over the top of your cases.

3) I really need a Gage that measures loaded round OAL, body diameters and case length.

For some of the Case Length Calibers we make what we call the Pistol Max Gage. This will help to measure all of those.

4) My cases have different case length measurements after sizing.

If you are sizing cases from more than one gun or a mixed batch of brass from the range, you could run into this issue. This is due to the fact that some of the brass will be harder, (More spring back when sizing). It could also be due to a variance in chambers that the cases were fire formed in. It would be best to separate into batches before sizing to achieve a more consistent result.

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