

THE WILSON PISTOL MAX 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.

The WILSON PISTOL (CARTRIDGE) GAGE is designed to check loaded pistol cartridges for several maximum dimensions to ensure chambering in the pistol. It checks overall cartridge length, bullet diameter, case body diameter and length, rim diameter and thickness. If any of these dimensions are over maximum, the cartridge may not function properly in the pistol. The gage will not indicate whether any of these dimensions are too small for proper functioning.

Pistol Max Gages are NOT made with chambering reamers, but with special cut reamers to indicate if loaded rounds meet MAX CARTRIDGE SPECIFICATIONS. The PISTOL MAX 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: Look Inside the Gage

Inspect all surface to be sure they are clean from debris. The cartridges being checked should also be clean. Any foreign matter inside or outside the gage will interfere with its function.

Step 3a: Checking Rimmed Cartridges

Hold the gage vertically with ringed end up; drop cartridge being checked bullet end first into top of the gage. It should drop freely until checked by its rim or mouth of case. If the head end is even with or below the upper end of the gage, all case dimensions are below the maximum.

Step 3b: Checking Rimless Cartridges

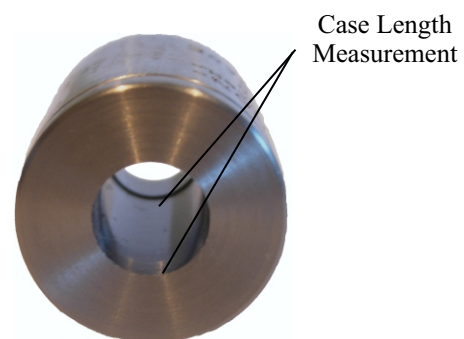
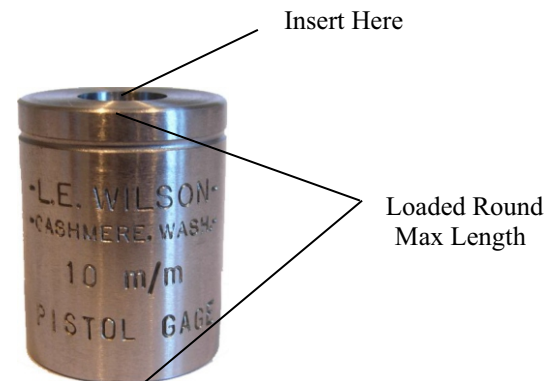
Process is about the same as above. Note, a damaged rim on "rimless" cartridge, such as 45 ACP can still cause the cartridge to hang up and not drop down to the point that the mouth of the case contacts shoulder, or stop of the gage.

Step 4: Checking Bullet Point to Head

With head of case facing you, place the gage and cartridge on a flat surface. If the head of cartridge is even with or below the upper gage surface, then the case and bullet pass Bullet Point to Head Max. Your cartridge should feed and chamber properly.

Final Note:

Pistol Max Gages are made to maximum cartridge specifications. Pistols chambered to equal or exceed minimum chamber figures. This means that some cartridges, which will not enter the gage, will chamber in some pistols. However, all cartridges, which check okay in this gage, should chamber in all pistols of the same caliber that have been chambered properly.



Frequently Asked Questions

1) My loaded rounds do not fit in the gage?

This is a very common question, this can be due to the fact that your sizing die is not sizing the case below Max Cartridge or you could have a very large or deformed chamber. Even after sizing your cases are larger than Max Cartridge. We have a video on our web site for the Pistol Max gage to help out. Visit lewilson.com/videos for more information.

One of the most common calibers that have this issue is the 40 S&W. Most commonly, a Glock 22 which tend to have oversized chambers to increase reliability and to prevent jammed cases.

2) Why do my rounds pass in other manufactures gages but not yours?

- Most other Pistol Gages are made to Min Chamber Dimensions, as mentioned before, our gages are made with special cut reamers to measure against Max Cartridge (Smaller than Min Chamber).
- If your case is getting hung up in the gage, then it is telling you that you need to further investigate the issue to make sure the round is safe to fire. You may need to make adjustments in your reloading process.
- If you want the gage to pass all rounds that you load, then you are missing the point of the gage. The gage is to help pinpoint issues with loaded ammunition and make necessary adjustments to ensure you are producing a safe cartridge.

3) Can I use the Gage to measure Case Length?

Yes, inside the Gage you will see a reamed step, from here to flush on top of the gage is Max Case Length. Your cases should sit flush or just below flush on the gage.

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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