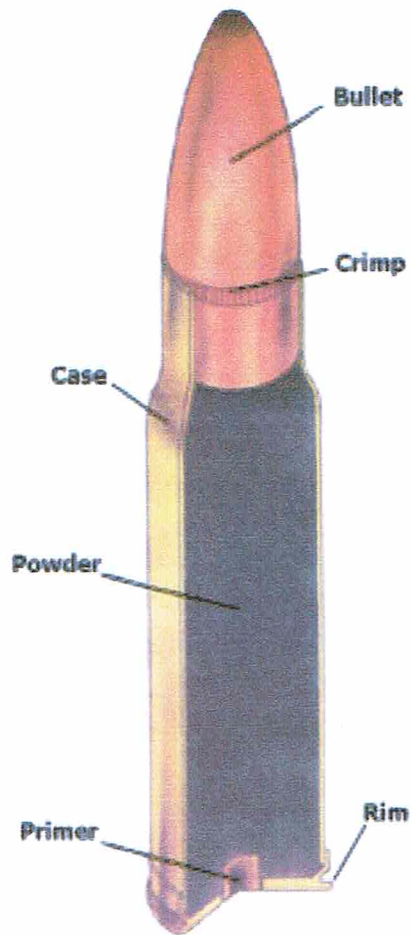


cartridge for shotgun,  
cut away: 1 powder,  
2 shot, 3,3 wads

The smaller the gauge, the bigger the shotgun shell, the more powder it can hold, and the more shot (pellets) it can also hold. For example a 12-gauge is a larger than a 20-gauge.



**Case** - A case, usually made of brass, containing the powder charge, the primer and the bullet.

**Bullet** - A single projectile fired from a firearm.

**Crimp** - The portion of a cartridge case that is bent inward to hold the bullet in place, or in the case of a shotshell, to hold the shot charge in place.

**Primer** - The collective term for the chemical primer compound, cup and anvil which, when struck, ignites the powder charge.

**Rim** - The edge on the base of a cartridge case which, in some cartridges, stops the progress of the case into the chamber. (In all cartridges it is the part of the case the extractor grips hold onto to remove it from the chamber.)

**Powder** - The general term for any chemical compound or mixture used in firearms that burns upon ignition. The gases produced by this rapid combustion propel the bullet down the bore of the rifle.

Caliber is a measure of the diameter of the rifle cartridge. The bigger the caliber, the bigger the cartridge. For example, a .50 caliber rifle is larger than a .22 caliber rifle. It shoots a larger bullet and uses more powder.