

COWBOY AMMO

Cowboy shooting is driving the introductions of many firearms products, including ammunition. Case in point: Winchester is now selling four factory loads particularly suited to the game. The cowboy rounds feature flat-nosed cast lead bullets loaded to lower velocities, which allows the guns to be controlled more easily. A quick look at specifications for the rounds shows why. Since most of the single-action ammo pushes big bullets, driving the projectiles at high speeds would generate fearsome recoil, especially in short-barreled guns. Instead, velocities for these rounds fall well below 1,000 fps, as the table below illustrates.

Winchester Load & Catalog Number	Bullet Weight	Muzzle Velocity	Barrel Length
.44-40 Winchester (CB4440W)	225 grains	725 fps	4.75 in.
.44 Special (CB44SP)	240 grains	725 fps	4 in.
.38 Special (CB38SP)	158 grains	800 fps	4 in.
.45 Colt (CB45C)	250 grains	725 fps	5.5 in.

ACCURACY RESULTS

RUGER VAQUERO Ammunition Brand

	Average Group Size	Best Group	Worst Group
Federal Classic 225-grain Semi-wadcutter Hollowpoints 45LCA	1.69 in.	1.32 in.	2.05 in.
Remington 250-grain R45C	1.95 in.	1.34 in.	2.70 in.
PMC 250-grain Lead Flat-Points 45LA	2.67 in.	1.70 in.	3.70 in.
Winchester 250-grain Cast Lead	1.97 in.	1.74 in.	2.60 in.
Cowboy Action Load (CB45C)			
Overall Average	2.07 in.		

CIMARRON MODEL P Ammunition Brand

	Average Group Size	Best Group	Worst Group
Federal Classic 225-grain Semi-Wadcutter Hollowpoints 45LCA	1.86 in.	1.39 in.	2.50 in.
Remington 250-grain R45C	3.69 in.	2.95 in.	4.60 in.
PMC 250-grain Lead Flat-Points 45LA	2.11 in.	1.31 in.	2.80 in.
Winchester 250-grain Cast Lead	2.13 in.	1.40 in.	2.85 in.
Cowboy Action Load (CB45C)			
Overall Average	2.45 in.		

The data compiled are the results of ten five-shot groups fired at 25 yards.