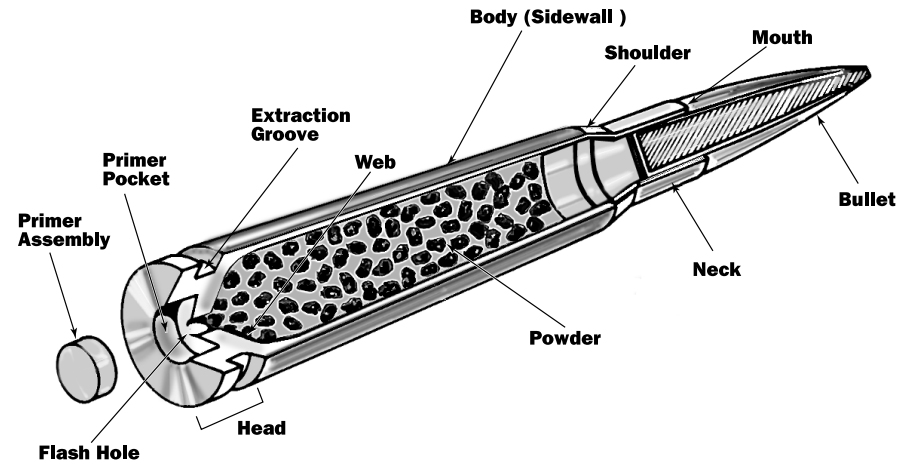
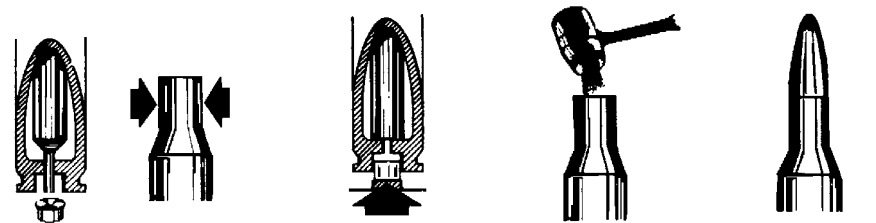


## CROSS SECTION OF A TYPICAL CARTRIDGE



## BASICS OF RELOADING



Remove spent primer and size case

Install new primer

Add powder

Seat a new bullet

## RELOADING SAFETY

Keep powder away from heat and open flames — Don't smoke.

Store powder and primers in their original containers in a cool, dry place.

Read and follow instructions exactly.

Be sure you have the correct powder, measure and bullet of the correct weight. Any mixup can be dangerous.

Exercise care and common sense at all times.

**WEAR SAFETY GLASSES WHEN RELOADING OR SHOOTING**

### Trim Your Cases

Cases tend to lengthen when loaded several times and they should be shortened. The best way is to use a Lee Case Trimmer. This automatically cuts the case to the proper length and there is no need to measure.

### Using Military Cases

Ammunition made for the Government usually has primers that are crimped in place to prevent their loosening and jamming the gun in combat. This crimp must be removed before they can be reloaded. This can be done with a Lee Chamfer Tool or even a pocket knife. Remove all of the crimp and form a small radius so the primer can enter easily.

### Crimping Bullets

Revolver cartridges require a crimp to keep the bullet from pulling out due to recoil. Crimp also is important to create sufficient pressure before the bullet starts to leave the case so as to properly ignite the powder. This tool has a crimping shoulder on the opposite end of the sizing die that easily forms a neat crimp. See Step #9.

Bullets should not be crimped in for most rimless cases such as the 45 ACP, 38 ACP and Super, 30 M-1 Carbine and 9mm Luger. These cartridges headspace on the end of the case. If a crimp is formed, it will permit the case to enter the chamber too far and cause misfires, jams and possibly excessive pressures which can be dangerous.

### Bullet Seating Depth

Depth of bullets is easily adjusted by turning the bullet seater in or out to suit. Exact depth is easily selected on those bullets that must be crimped

in place. Simply seat until most of the crimping groove is within the case. Bullet depth for most autoloading guns is determined by maximum length that will feed through the action, maximum length that will chamber without hanging up against the rifling or best length to insure feeding without jams. A little experimenting may be necessary. Comparison to a factory round is a good way to start.

### Handbooks available

There are many good reloading handbooks available. We encourage reading this material to gain a greater knowledge on the subject. In addition, most powder manufacturers supply load data at little or no cost. See your powder dealer for a copy or write to the manufacturer.

### Parts List

- BODY DIE
- DECAPPING CHAMBER
- POWDER MEASURE
- PRIMING CHAMBER
- BULLET SEATER
- LOCK NUT
- "O" RING
- FLARING TOOL
- DECAPPER
- PRIMING ROD
- CHARGE TABLE
- BOX

The above replacement parts are available only from the factory. Please send payment with your order and specify cartridge.

RE1423

# PISTOL LEE LOADER

## COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS



\*Omitted on some calibers

## LEE *Guarantee*

LEE RELOADING PRODUCTS are guaranteed not to wear out or break from normal use for two full years or they will be repaired or replaced at no charge if returned to the factory. Any Lee product of current manufacture, regardless of age or condition, will be reconditioned to new, including a new guarantee, if returned to the factory with payment equal to half the current retail price.

**LEE** LEE PRECISION, INC.

4275 HIGHWAY U HARTFORD WI 53027 © 1991

Printed in USA

## RELOADING COMPONENTS

### Cases

The best source of cases is to save those you have fired from your gun. Cases fired from another gun may not fit yours and should be tried in your gun before loading. New unfired cases are available and can be loaded with your Lee Reloading Kit. Cases can be reloaded as many as 100 times.

### Primers

Primers are the spark plug that ignites the powder charge. They come in basically four sizes. Large and small rifle and large and small pistol. Never use rifle primers in pistol cartridges or vice versa. The correct size is specified in the charge table. Magnum primers offer no advantage except in extremely large cases, hard to ignite powder or very cold weather.

### Bullets

All handgun cartridges can be loaded with jacketed, semi-jacketed or cast bullets. Cast bullets are by far the most economical and reduce your cost to that of 22 Rimfire ammunition.

### Powder

Powder type will be determined by the bullet weight and velocity you select. Refer to the charge table to select the powder you can use. Never substitute a heavier bullet as it will cause dangerous pressure.

**DON'T** use defective cases. Throw out those with obvious defects such as splits or cracks.

**DO** try the empty cases in your gun to be sure they will chamber. The tool sizes only the neck.

**Exception** This tool does full length size the 45 ACP, 38 ACP and Super, 9mm Luger and the 30 M-1 Carbine.

**DO** chamfer the inside of the case mouth so the bullet will start easily.

**Exception THIS SHOULD NOT BE DONE** if the tool is equipped with a Flaring Tool.

1

Knock out the old primers. If your cases are not made in the USA, check to be sure they are not Berdan primed. Look inside the shell and you should see one flash hole. If there are two flash holes, you have Berdan cases and they cannot be loaded with this tool.



2

Drive the case into the sizing die. Use a hard plastic mallet or a piece of wood. Larger cases must be lubricated with Lee Case Lube. If not available, use paraffin or candle wax. No other case lube works as well.



3

Place a primer into the locating ring and use several light taps on the priming rod to force the shell out of the die into the primer. You'll be able to tell when the primer is home by the sound. **NEVER TRY TO SEAT A PRIMER AFTER THE POWDER HAS BEEN ADDED.**



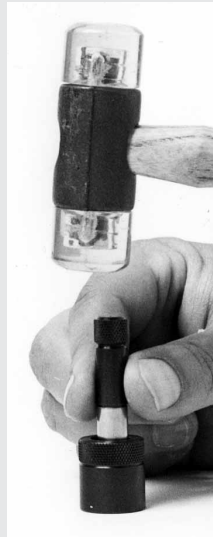
4

Place the tool on the decapping chamber and tap the rod to free the case. **LEAVE THE CASE IN THIS POSITION FOR THE NEXT FIVE [5] STEPS.**



5

Tap the flaring tool into the case mouth to provide easy bullet entry. **NOTE** No flaring tool is supplied or required by 30 M-1 Carbine, 38 ACP and Super, 45 ACP and 9mm Luger. These must be chamfered to accept the bullet. Use a Lee Chamfer Tool or a pocket knife.



6

Add one level measure of powder as indicated in the charge table for the bullet weight you selected. Check to be sure you have the correct measure indicated in the charge table.



7

Drop a bullet into the die. Sometimes it works better to start the bullet directly into the case.

**CAUTION TO AVOID CONTACT WITH THE PRIMER AND POSSIBLE EXPLOSION, THE CASE MUST BE IN THE DECAPPING CHAMBER AND FREE OF THE DIE.**



8

**TO AVOID CONTACT WITH THE PRIMER AND POSSIBLE EXPLOSION, THE CASE MUST BE FREE FROM DIE AND RESTING IN THE DECAPPING CHAMBER.**

Seat the bullet. The bullet seater is adjustable. Set as required.



9

The opposite end of the sizing die is used to crimp the bullet in place. Tap lightly to form the desired crimp. **TO AVOID CONTACT WITH THE PRIMER AND POSSIBLE EXPLOSION, THE CARTRIDGE MUST BE FREE FROM DIE AND RESTING IN THE DECAPPING CHAMBER.** Do not crimp 30 M-1 Carbine, 38 ACP and Super, 45 ACP, 9mm Luger. These head-space on the end of the case and a crimp would be harmful.

