

# MYGUNS NEWSLETTER

## Volume 8

### The world of rimfire cartridges

The most popular cartridge of all time is the 22 Long Rifle, also known as the 22 or 22LR. This cartridge is as old as the hills, but like many other cartridges, it also has a parent case and history of origin. It all started with the first metallic rimfire invented by Louis-Nicolas Flobert in 1845. Louis took a percussion cap and mounted a .22 BB bullet on top. This was known as the 22BB-Cap or 6mm Flobert. Following this invention, in 1857, Smith & Wesson introduced a slightly longer cartridge. This cartridge was called the 22 Short and used 4gr of black powder. This cartridge is still popular today, except it now uses smokeless powder.



From LEFT to RIGHT - 22 Short, 22 LR, 22 Stinger, 22MAG, 5mm RemMag, 17 HM2 and 17 HMR.

As history proved over time, mankind always wanted more ..... more power and more reach from bullets. This requires more gunpowder, which requires a larger case, to drive a heavier bullet, etc., etc. These demands led to the discovery of MANY rimfire designs, almost all of which are obsolete today. A few of these are .25 Stevens, .32 Rimfire, .41 Rimfire and .44 Henry. The only remaining rimfire cartridges from the 19th century are the 22 Short, 22 Long Rifle and the 22 Winchester Rimfire.

From the 20th century, we saw three more rimfire designs, all still in production. They are the 22 Winchester Magnum, 5mm Remington Magnum and the 22LR Stinger. As from the 21st century, we welcomed another three new rimfire cartridge designs - the 17 HMR, 17 HM2 and the 17 WSM. All of the last 9 mentioned are still in production – some in more availability than others.

One interesting fact about the 22 Short, 22 LR and Stinger is that they are the only cartridges where the case diameter and the bullet diameter are the same. For this reason, any 22 Long Rifle chambered firearm can safely shoot any of these cartridges. In the case of the 22 Magnum, the case diameter is bigger than the bullet diameter. For this reason, it is unsafe to shoot 22LR in a 22 Magnum chambered firearm.

### Current production of rimfire cartridges

Cartridge	Brief History
22 Short	The 22 Short was developed in 1857 as the first metallic cartridge.
22 LR (Long Rifle)	Followed by the 22 Short and 22 Long, the 22 Long Rifle was first produced in 1887, using black powder BUT moved to smokeless powder in the early 1900s.
22 WR (Winchester Rimfire)	A longer and more powerful 22 caliber rimfire was introduced in 1890 for a lever-action.
22 WMR (Winchester Magnum Rimfire) or 22 Magnum	The 22 Magnum was introduced in 1959 and was almost twice as powerful as the original 22LR.
5mm RFM (Remington Rimfire Magnum)	With a smaller projectile, the 5mm Remington had superior ballistics but was less popular than the 22Mag. The 5mm RM used a 22Mag case that got necked down to use a .2 caliber bullet.
22 Stringer	In 1975, CCI developed a cartridge that will fit in a 22LR chamber but with a longer case and shorter bullet. This produced a hypervelocity bullet and became very popular.
17 HMR (Hornady Magnum Rimfire)	2002 Hornady introduced a 17 caliber rimfire by necking down the 22Magnum case.
17 HM2 (Hornady Mach Two)	2004 Hornady introduced a second 17-caliber rimfire by necking down the 22LR Stinger.
17 WSM (Winchester Super Magnum)	In 2014, the most powerful rimfire cartridge (of current production) was introduced. Winchester used a commercial .27 caliber nail gun blank and modified it to shoot a .17 caliber bullet.

### Whats Happening

CFP/RCMP portal updates:

The Canadian Firearms Program has recently updated their portal and added some new features. If you have not submitted your PAL application, please visit the RCMP Canadian Firearms Program Website and submit your application on-line. Let me know if you need assistance.

Hunting draws results are out:

For those who entered draws for hunting season, the draw results has been released on ALBERTAREALM.COM

I hope you will have more luck than me - I did not get drawn and will have to rely on general tags only :-/