



ESP Raptor

Reloading Instructions

Thank you for your interest in shooting the latest technology in solid brass hunting bullets. These bullets are unique in their design but are generally loaded very similar to other bullets with a few exceptions. Since the ESP Raptor series bullets are system bullets, they can be loaded in a multitude of ways. To follow are a few general practices to follow that will ensure you get the most out of the bullets that you have purchased.

1. Brass casings should be trimmed to standard trim length as you would before loading any bullet. Ensure the inside of the case mouth is chamfered a minimum of $\frac{1}{4}$ of the brass wall thickness, preferably with a VLD type chamfering tool. If one is not available a standard 45° chamfering tool works fine.
2. Regardless of which way you intend to load the bullet the starting charge should be dropped 5% from maximum charges given by any reputable bullet manufacturers reloading manual for the same weight bullet for the same cartridge you are reloading for if a Cutting Edge Bullet manual is not available. Charge will be adjusted using the same technique you would use when developing a load for any other bullet from that point.
3. This type of bullet is generally loaded with the first band from the nose sticking out of the case mouth for a good starting COAL (Cartridge Overall Length) with or without the tip, as a solid or as a hollow point. If after installing the tip, if one is to be used, the COAL is too long to magazine feed at that position, bullets can be seated deeper down into the case. Caution should be used to ensure there at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ bands contacting the neck for proper neck tension. Otherwise bullets in cartridges that are down in the magazine may move in the brass casing when the chambered round is fired.
4. Bullets can be seated out to a touch point in the lands for more precise bullet location. Bear in mind the touch will be on the first driving band and not on the ogive as with standard bullets. Blacken the first driving band back from the nose and look for a mark when determining a touch point. Bullets should then be installed deeper by $.025''$ for a good starting seating depth from the touching point.

The recommended procedure for load development is to shoot the bullets first without the tip installed even if your intention is to shoot them with the tip installed for better long range trajectory. This will conserve the amount of tips used and generally the point of impact and flight characteristics are the same with or without the tip to 100 yards. Once an accurate load is developed without the tip and zero established at a yardage of your choice, snap three tips in to check for accuracy and zero. Some small fine tuning is sometimes required but many times the accuracy and zero point is the same as it was without the tip.

If you have any questions regarding reloading procedures or any other technical questions, please call or email our technical department.