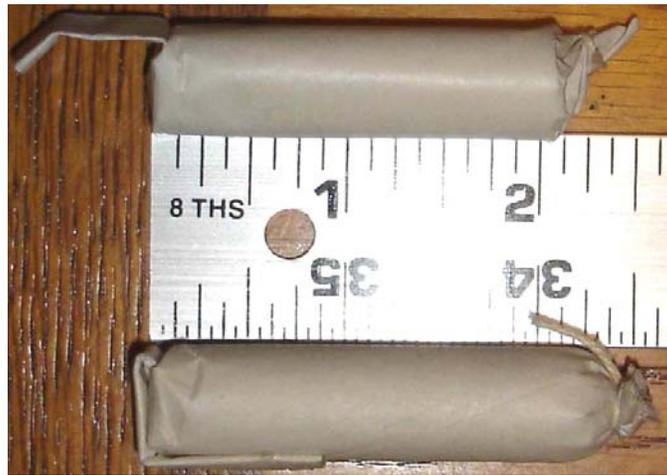


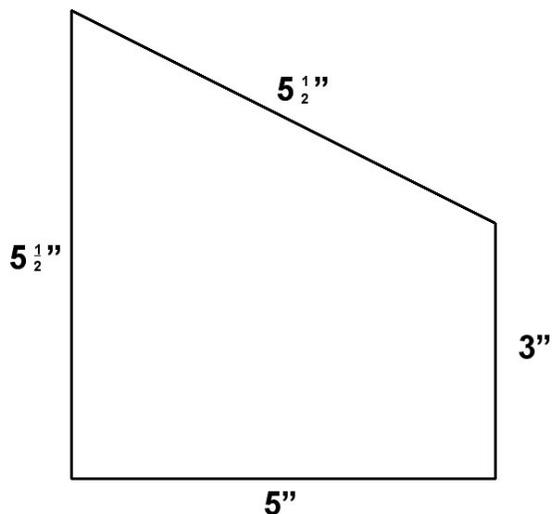
.58 Caliber Minie' Ball Cartridge



Two 58 cal. blank cartridges are shown above. The upper cartridge is one of the previous Texas Rifles blank cartridges. The lower cartridge was prepared by John Zimmerman (Harpers Ferry) to be identical to a Civil War 58 caliber Springfield cartridge (contains a Minie' ball with walnut shells in place of black powder).

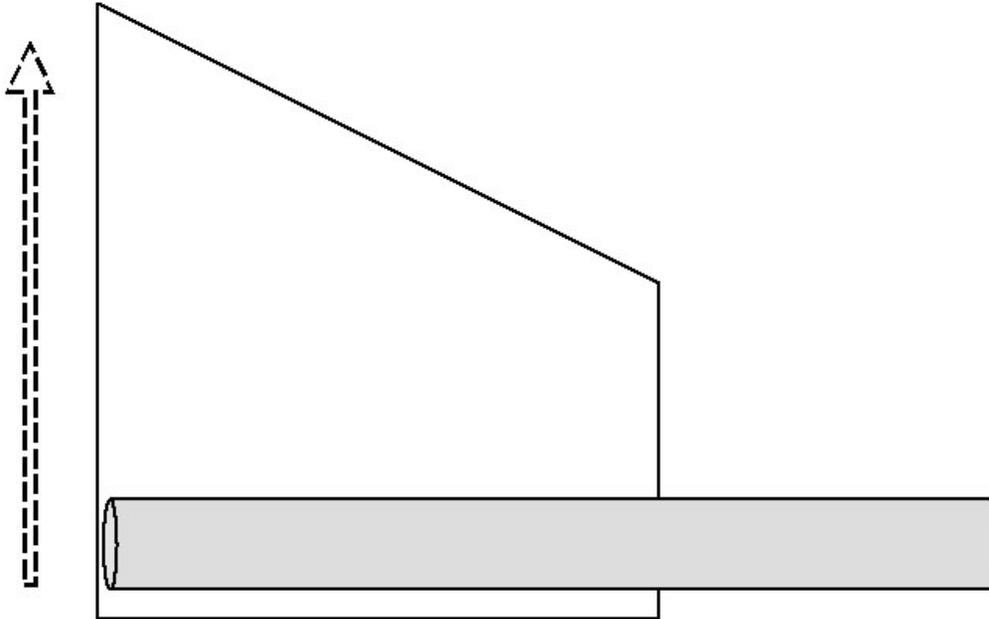
To prepare a Texas Rifles blank cartridge

1. Prepare a template using the dimensions below (pressed cardboard material at the back of a pad of paper works well).

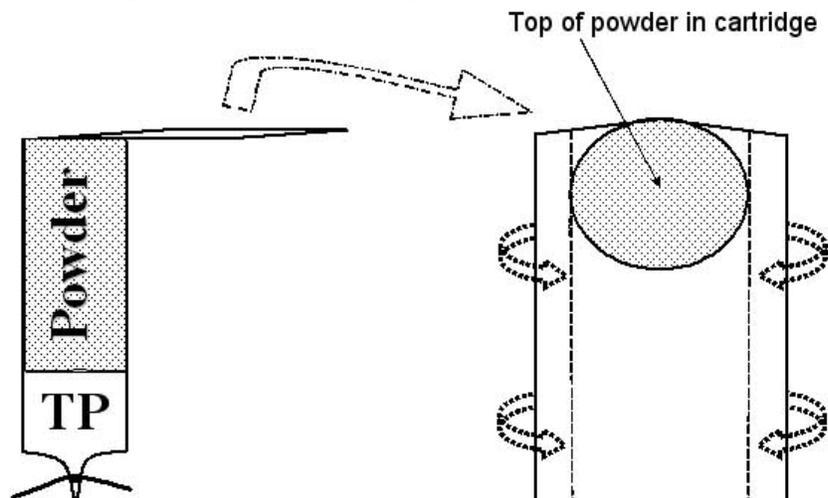


2. Draw the template pattern, as many times as possible, onto newsprint paper (available at art stores, copy shops, or U-haul supply stores) and cut out cartridge papers. If possible, stack multiple sheets under the template sheet & cut together to save drawing template on every sheet.

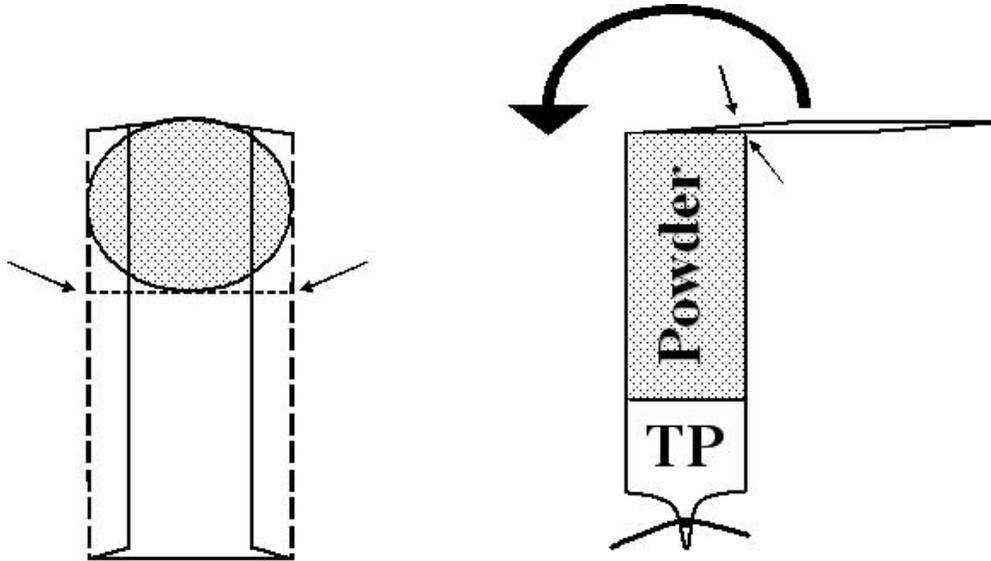
- Next, roll cartridge paper around a tube of approximately 58 caliber (0.58 inches diameter) in the direction indicated below. Roll the paper with the long part at the end of the tube. Appropriately sized copper tubes can be found at a hobby shop or a wooden dowl can be used (harder to find a wooden dowl of close to correct size).



- After the paper is completely rolled around the tube, hold the paper snugly on the tube & slide the long end of the paper past the end of the tube approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (to the left in the above diagram).
- Twist the paper extended from the end of the tube to seal the cartridge and tie off the twisted end with a piece of string (any period appropriate string).
- After the cartridge tube is prepared, stuff 1-2 pieces of toilet paper down into the tube to serve as an artificial Minie' ball in the end of the cartridge (maintains more authentic final cartridge dimensions, i.e. easier to remove from the cartridge box).
- Add 70 grains of FFFg black powder to the cartridge.
- Close the end of the cartridge by folding the end of the cartridge paper flat over the surface of the black powder (left side of figure below).



9. Next, fold the outer edges of the folded over paper up & in (as shown above right before fold & below left after).



10. Now fold the extended tab back over the top of the cartridge (flat) as shown above and fold again down the side of the cartridge (see picture at top of instructions for an idea of what the final product should look like).
11. Ten of these cartridges plus a tube of 12 caps should be placed into each arsenal pack.