

.224 AR Mag Testing

Date of Testing: 5/23/09
Temperature: 78 degrees

Rifle: AR-15 Upper chambered in .224 AR Mag.
Barrel: 28" Brux 4 groove cut rifled barrel with port 2" out
Barrel Twist: 1:6.95"
Bullets Tested: Berger 82 gr BT (B.C. = .432) & Berger 90 gr BT (B.C. = .525)

All loadings used virgin Lapua 6.5 Grendel brass necked down and loaded with CCI BR-4 Primers

The loads with the Berger 82 gr BT bullets were loaded at 2.260" OAL (i.e. magazine length with about .010" jump to the lands)

The loadings with the Berger 90 gr BT bullets were loaded at 2.340" OAL (about .010" jump to the lands)

Testing with Varget

26 gr Varget w/ Berger 82 gr BT, MV = 2776 fps, ES = 13, SD = 6
27 gr Varget w/ Berger 82 gr BT, MV = 2865 fps, ES = 29, SD = 14
28 gr Varget w/ Berger 82 gr BT, MV = 2965 fps, ES = 12, SD = 6

26 gr Varget w/ Berger 90 gr BT, MV = 2688 fps, ES = 12, SD = 6
27 gr Varget w/ Berger 90 gr BT, MV = 2792 fps, ES = 26, SD = 12
28 gr Varget w/ Berger 90 gr BT, MV = 2894 fps, ES = 10, SD = 5

Testing with RL-15

26 gr RL-15 w/ Berger 82 gr BT, MV = 2823 fps, ES = 22, SD = 11
27 gr RL-15 w/ Berger 82 gr BT, MV = 2920 fps, ES = 15, SD = 7
28 gr RL-15 w/ Berger 82 gr BT, MV = 3024 fps, ES = 32, SD = 16

26 gr RL-15 w/ Berger 90 gr BT, MV = 2756 fps, ES = 6, SD = 3
27 gr RL-15 w/ Berger 90 gr BT, MV = 2857 fps, ES = 12, SD = 6
28 gr RL-15 w/ Berger 90 gr BT, MV = 2965 fps, ES = 16, SD = 8

Note: The 28 gr loadings with both Varget and RL-15, especially with the 90 gr bullets, were about as stiff a loading as I would consider shooting and were getting close to the top end pressure wise.