



#749-004-650

Sinclair Seating Depth Gage

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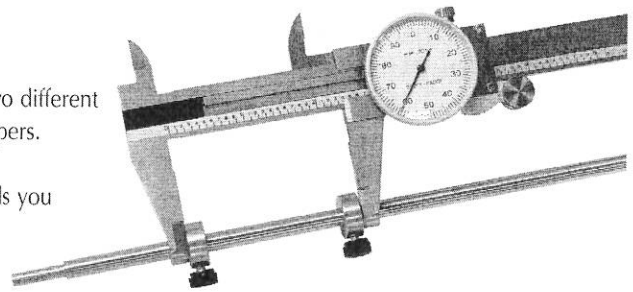
Congratulations! You have purchased another fine Sinclair reloading product. Please take a couple of minutes to read the following instructions prior to using your new Sinclair Seating Depth Gage.

Finding a starting point for the correct overall length (OAL) for your rifle is made much more simple with this tool. Our seating depth gage enables you to determine the OAL of a loaded round which will have the bullet resting against the rifling. This OAL is the correct OAL to fire from your cases. This is also the basic OAL measurement to use as a starting point for all of your reloading. It is strongly recommended that you record this initial OAL. Another advantage of using our seating depth gage is that you can determine the amount of subsequent throat wear which may have occurred and make the necessary adjustment to seating depth.

General Instructions

The tool consists of a Delrin™ bolt guide, a measuring rod and two stops that have two different diameters of equal length to allow easy and accurate measurements with a pair of calipers.

Caution: Seating the bullet to touch the rifling may increase the pressure with loads you are presently using. Reduce powder charges appropriately from your normal loads and then work your way up or down until you develop a load that is both accurate and safe. Also, be cautious not to exceed a safe length so the bullet will not be jammed into the rifling and pulled from the case when unloading a round from the chamber.



The OAL is going to vary a little from bullet to bullet because bullet length out of the same box will vary as much as .015" due to the way a bullet swage die works. For different types of bullets a new OAL must be taken due to the shape of the bullet.

After you have arrived at an OAL and seated a dummy round, using a Sinclair Bullet Comparator or Davidson Seating Depth Checker for your measurements and record keeping will eliminate most of these variations.

The drawings on the next page represent a rifle chamber showing the critical areas in regards to using the seating depth gage.

Instructions for Bolt Actions

1. Measure the OAL (tip to base) of the bullet you are going to use.
2. Remove bolt from action.
3. Insert the bullet to be used into the chamber of your clean gun, being sure that the bullet falls point first. The use of a cleaning rod guide to aid in inserting the bullet makes this easy. It will stop against the rifling. Use a hollow point bullet if possible as a soft point may become damaged during the procedure. Damage to a soft point could result in erroneous OAL measurements.
4. Insert the Delrin™ rod guide into the action with the rounded part toward the muzzle and lock it in the bolt handle cut-out.
5. Mount one of the double diameter metal stops onto the measuring rod with the large diameter forward. Insert the assembly small diameter first into the bolt guide and move the measuring rod forward until it rests against the base of the bullet. Do not push hard on the bullet as you can overseat the bullet. Push the stop up against the rear of the bolt guide and lock the stop in place with the thumb screw. (see picture #1 and figure #1).
6. Remove the assembled measuring rod from the action and the bullet from the chamber. The bullet may have to be pushed out with a cleaning rod.

7. Insert a fired cartridge case, with the fired primer still in place, all the way into the chamber. Do not use a case with a live primer. The fired case must be inserted completely into the chamber. You may also use a full length sized case if chambering a fired case is difficult.
8. Mount the second stop onto the measuring rod in front of the first stop with the small diameter step forward. Insert the measuring rod until it touches the head of the cartridge case. Then slide the second stop up against the bolt guide and lock the stop into place. Do NOT reverse the measuring rod. Remove the assembly. (see picture #2 and figure #2).
9. You now have the stops set to duplicate the distance from the head of the cartridge/bolt face to the base of the bullet. Measure this distance from the outside of the two large diameter steps (see picture #3 and figure #3).
10. Now measure the length of the same bullet you used in step 3, add this figure to the measurement you received from step 9. The result will be the overall cartridge length (OAL), measured from the case head to bullet point. These measurements will produce a loaded round that will have the bullet just touching the rifling. These measurements can also be done using either a Sinclair Comparator or a Davidson Seating Depth Checker.

We suggest that you assemble a sample round (dummy round), without the powder charge, using the same bullet which was used to get your measurements. Such a sample can then be used to generate initial Sinclair Comparator readings or Davidson Seating Depth Checker readings.

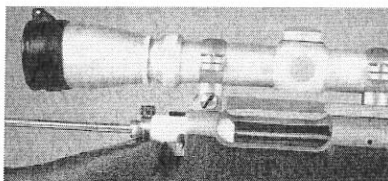
Instructions For Falling Block Actions (such as Ruger #1)

The procedure is essentially the same except the bolt guide is not used on Thompson Contenders/Encores, the barrel must be removed.

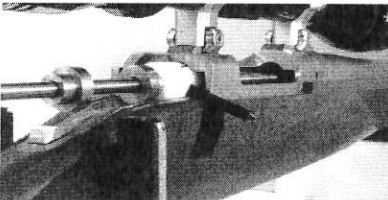
1. Insert the bullet into the (clean) throat of your gun, mount a stop onto the measuring rod and insert the rod into the chamber until the measuring rod touches the base of the bullet. Butt the stop tightly against the breach face and lock the stop in place. NOTE: it might be easier to hold the stop against the breach face and then insert the rod into the stop to get around the extractor/ejector.
2. Measure the distance from the tip of the measuring rod (the end that is butted against the bullet) to the front of the stop.
3. Chamber a cartridge case fired in that chamber and measure any differences between the cartridge head and the breach face (on some falling block actions the cartridge head might protrude slightly.)
4. Measure the bullet length and add the length to figures of steps 2 and 3 for your maximum OAL.

We suggest that you assemble a sample round (dummy round), less the powder charge, using the same bullet which was used to get your measurements. Such a sample can then be used to generate initial Sinclair Comparator readings or Davidson seating depth checker readings.

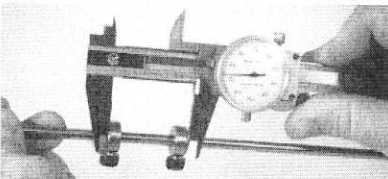
NOTE: The use of a comparator such as the Sinclair Comparator is highly recommended.



Picture #1



Picture #2



Picture #3

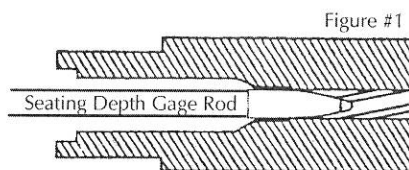


Figure #1

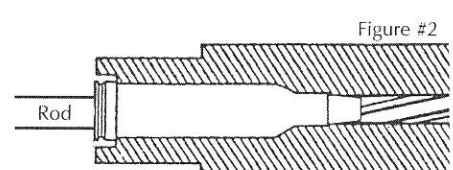


Figure #2

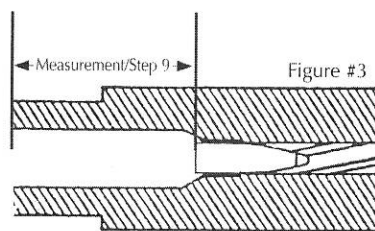


Figure #3

