

Sizes

Larger lead shot comes in three sizes: B, BB, and BBB. Smaller lead shot is available in shot in sizes 7½, 8, and 9, with applications ranging from sporting clays and skeet shooting, to non-waterfowl hunting at progressively shorter distances. The larger bird shot sizes (i.e., 6, 5, 4) are mostly used in turkey and pheasant hunting applications where legal. Older shotguns continue to use lead shot, as firing newer, harder, non-lead shot may damage the shotgun, and firing soft metal substitutes for lead shot may not be economically-viable.

Buckshot

Buckshot is simply lead shot formed to larger diameters. Sizes range in ascending order from size B to size 0000.

Comparison chart

Below is a chart with diameters per pellet and weight for idealized lead spheres.

Size	Type	Weight	Diameter
#0000	Buck	5.51 g (85 gr.)	9.40 mm (0.380")
#000	Buck	4.54 g (70 gr.)	9.14 mm (0.360")
#00	Buck	3.49 g (53.8 gr.)	8.38 mm (0.330")
#0	Buck	3.18 g (49 gr.)	8.13 mm (0.320")
#1	Buck	2.62 g (40.5 gr.)	7.62 mm (0.300")
#2	Buck	1.91 g (29.4 gr.)	6.86 mm (0.270")
#3	Buck	1.52 g (23.4 gr.)	6.35 mm (0.250")
#4	Buck	1.34 g (20.7 gr.)	6.09 mm (0.240")
#FF	Buck	1.18 g (18.2 gr.)	5.84 mm (0.230")
#F (TTT)	Buck	1.05 g (16.2 gr.)	5.59 mm (0.220")
#TT	Buck	0.98 g (15.1 gr.)	5.33 mm (0.210")
#T	Buck	0.89 g (13.7 gr.)	5.08 mm (0.200")
#BBB		0.66 g (10.2 gr.)	4.82 mm (0.190")
#BB		0.57 g (8.8 gr.)	4.57 mm (0.180")
#B		0.48 g (7.4 gr.)	4.32 mm (0.170")