

# FORSTER PRODUCTS

## NATO Chamber Headspace Gages

Available for 5.56 NATO and 7.62 NATO



Forster Products offers **two lengths of Headspace Gages per NATO caliber**, one for Minimum Chamber and one for Maximum Chamber. No midrange gage is available.



### 5.56 NATO

Requires a slightly longer maximum headspace than the commercial .223 caliber

Order No.		
HG0223G	Minimum chamber <sup>1</sup>	1.4636"
HG556NATOMax	Maximum chamber <sup>2</sup>	1.4736"

### 7.62 NATO

Requires a longer maximum headspace than the commercial 308 Win.

Order No.		
HG762NATOMin	Minimum chamber <sup>1</sup>	1.6355"
HG762NATOMax	Maximum chamber <sup>2</sup>	1.6455"

## Forster Headspace Gages can increase safety & performance

Military and law enforcement personnel understand the critical importance of proper headspacing of firearms chambered in military calibers. Forster Products NATO Chamber Headspace Gages check to see that the rifle has the correct headspace. Our NATO Minimum rifle chamber gages will check to see that the rifle will accept the longest (headspace dimension) NATO ammunition cases that are currently manufactured. Our NATO Maximum rifle chamber gage checks to see that the rifle does not have excessive headspace, which could lead to dangerous pressure problems.

The proper use of a Headspace Gage is the most reliable way to test rifle chamber length. Our Headspace Gages are:

- Manufactured from top-quality, hardened steel and precision ground
- Ground to an exacting  $\pm .00015$ " headspace tolerance
- Each thoroughly inspected with NIST-certified measurement tools

Notes:

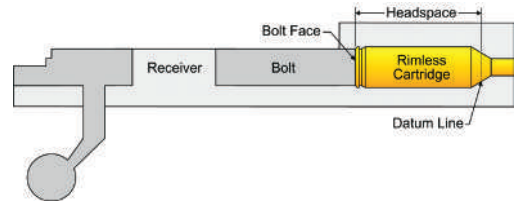
1. Minimum Rifle Chamber Gage – Checks to ensure that the rifle will accept the longest (headspace dimension) NATO ammunition cases that are currently manufactured

2. Maximum Rifle Chamber Gage – Checks to ensure that the rifle does not have excessive headspace

**Straight shooters.**

# The difference between NATO and other caliber headspace gages

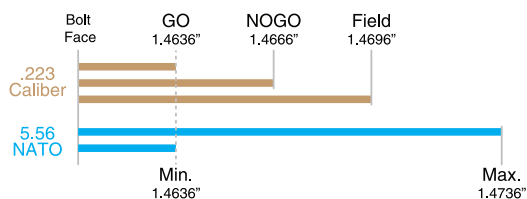
**Headspace** = distance between the bolt face and a datum line where the front of the cartridge rests on its shoulder when the bolt is closed.



## What's the difference between 5.56 NATO and .223 caliber Headspace Gages?

Though commonly thought to be identical, the 5.56 NATO allows a slightly longer headspace than the commercial .223 caliber. The diagram shows the headspace gage lengths for the .223 calibers vs. those for the 5.56 NATO.

.223 Caliber and 5.56 NATO Headspace Gage Lengths



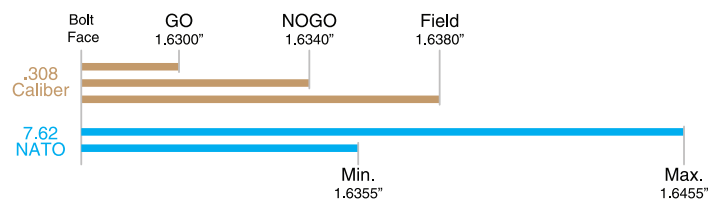
It is safe to fire SAAMI compliant .223 ammunition in a 5.56 NATO rifle chamber. Firing .223 ammo will not be as accurate as firing 5.56 NATO ammo because of the different throat length.

5.56 NATO ammo is not safe to be fired in a .223 Remington rifle because it contacts the barrel rifling too early and this can cause pressure spikes that can potentially damage the chamber.

## What's the difference between 7.62 NATO and .308 Win caliber Headspace Gages?

The 7.62 NATO chambering has a longer headspace dimension than the commercial 308 chambering. The diagram shows the headspace gage lengths for the .308 Win vs. those for the 7.62 NATO.

.308 Caliber and 7.62 NATO Headspace Gage Lengths



The 7.62 NATO was developed in the early 1950s when the US Government researched and developed a cartridge that was shorter and lighter than the 30-06, with good power and velocity. Soon after, Winchester introduced the 308 Winchester to the commercial market. Although all other case dimensions of the two cartridge cases are the same, one important difference exists: The 7.62 NATO chambering has a longer headspace dimension than the commercial 308 chambering, thus the need to check the rifle chamber with the specific 7.62 NATO headspace gages.

## How to Purchase

Forster Products manufactures a broad line of precision gunsmithing and reloading products.

For best prices, contact one of our Forster Products distributors. Their experience is an integral part of the shooting sports. To find your closest distributor, please visit our website.

If your distributor cannot supply you, contact us at **815-493-6360** or **forsterproducts.com**

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## WARRANTY

All Forster Products are warranted against defects in materials and workmanship for the life of the product. Parts excluded from the warranty are those that, by nature of their function, are subject to normal wear (such as springs, pins, etc.) or that have been altered, abused, or neglected. If the product is deemed defective by workmanship or materials, it will be repaired, reconditioned or replaced (at Forster's option). This warranty supersedes all other warranties for Forster Products whether written or oral.