



Ammunition Storage Recommendations:

- A dry and oil free environment is essential.
- Ammunition exposed to temperatures above 180° F can cause the propellant powder to deteriorate. Bulk propellant exposed to temperatures above 180°F can exothermically decay.
- Duty ammunition stored in magazines should have the top round rotated on a regular basis if it is constantly being chambered and unloaded such as repeatedly entering a jail or court. Battering in this manner can weaken the case mouth on any ammunition enough to cause neck tension failure of the cartridge. Speer recommends ammunition carried on duty be shot and replaced yearly.
- Ammunition stored in pistol or rifle magazines should not be allowed to come into loose contact with one another. This type of rattling magazine contact can damage the cartridge as well as the magazine feed lips. Dents in magazine bodies can render them inoperable sometimes enough to prevent them from being inserted, or worse yet, ejected from a duty weapon after hard insertion.
- Ammunition not stored in packaging or magazines may batter against itself to the point of becoming damaged. These defects, depending on the roughness of handling can include dented hollow points, cartridge length variation, and dented and scratched case bodies.
- Foreign material should be prevented from entering the magazine through the ammunition "inspection holes" present in the side walls of some magazines. Storage in an environment free of small debris will prevent this defect.
- A Pelican type case or military ammunition can lined with foam cut-out material and a sealing lid would be satisfactory for loaded magazine storage in a mobile and possibly rough environment. If duty ammunition in the field is not going to be stored loaded in magazines, it should remain inside the factory packaging, inside a moisture and rattle-proof container.
- Standard factory ammunition cardboard shippers are not designed to withstand extended handling, nor are they able to repel moisture adequately in an extreme condition like that of a frequently used patrol vehicle trunk. Speer factory 50 count cartons fit neatly inside a military 50 Caliber ammunition can and will seal tightly and withstand hard abuse in a patrol or SWAT vehicle trunk.
- Bulk ammunition does not constitute a fire hazard or present an abnormal risk to the public if the building is otherwise on fire. Standard firefighter's protective equipment is adequate. Ammunition in and of itself will not maintain combustion unless supported by neighboring fuels (Fire Journal, Jan 1977, Available Upon Request).
- Ammunition inventories should be stored in a stable climate, not subject to temperature fluctuations that would facilitate water condensation. Optimally, an indoor facility with climate controls is best. No storage placards are required.

If technical assistance or data is required from the factory, please call 1-800-666-5761.