

## **Ammo: Standardize it for All Your Guns!**

I know people who have a lot of guns. Most of them don't have a lot of ammunition. One reason is that they have too many guns in too many different calibers. In an emergency situation, it would be handy to have ammo that would fit anything you planned to shoot. Mel Tappan thought of this idea decades ago. Bless you, Mel! So, consider his idea:

**Handguns:** Choose one caliber. For **revolvers**, .45 ACP, .357 Magnum, .38 Special. For **semiautomatic pistols**, 9mm Parabellum, or .40 caliber. Just choose **one** caliber, and only have **handguns** in that **one** caliber. (.38 Special can be shot in a .357 Magnum, but that's an exception to this rule.)

**Rifles:** Choose **one** caliber, .223, .243, .308 Winchester, .30-06, etc. Only choose **one** caliber, and only have **rifles** in that **one** caliber.

**Shotguns:** Choose **one** gauge, 12 ga., 16 ga., 20 ga., or .410. Buy shotgun shells **only** in that gauge and length, and only have **shotguns** in that gauge **and** able to shoot that shotgun shell length.

**.22 Rifle:** This will probably be what you use the most. If it will shoot .22 Long Rifle, it will also shoot .22 Longs and .22 Shorts. The reverse isn't true.

### **So, what are the advantages?**

1. You buy only one caliber of ammo for all your handguns. **One size fits all!**
2. You buy only one caliber for all your rifles. Share ammo when you hunt!
3. You buy only one size of shotgun shell. It fits all the shotguns!
4. You can't load the wrong ammo into the wrong gun in an emergency.
5. You can probably buy less ammo, or get a better price for buying in bulk.

If you have a few guns, this idea will work for you immediately. If you have a lot of guns, you'd need to do some swapping, selling, or buying.

If you want a discussion on whether you should have guns, or how many of each, you'll need to look elsewhere. The only things I'll add are:

1. You can't eat guns or ammo. **Shelter, water, and food must come first, before guns and ammunition.**
2. Whatever you buy, don't go into debt for it.
3. Plain-Jane guns have less to go wrong than guns with lots of accessories. (This applies to all equipment.)