

# **RCBS**

**PRECISIONEERED® RELOADING EQUIPMENT**

*We think that we make the very best  
reloading equipment in the world.  
If you agree, please tell your friends.  
If you disagree, tell us - we want to do something about it!*

#### **Customer Service**

**1-800-533-5000 (US or Canada) or 530-533-5191**

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 6:30am - 3:00pm (hours may vary)

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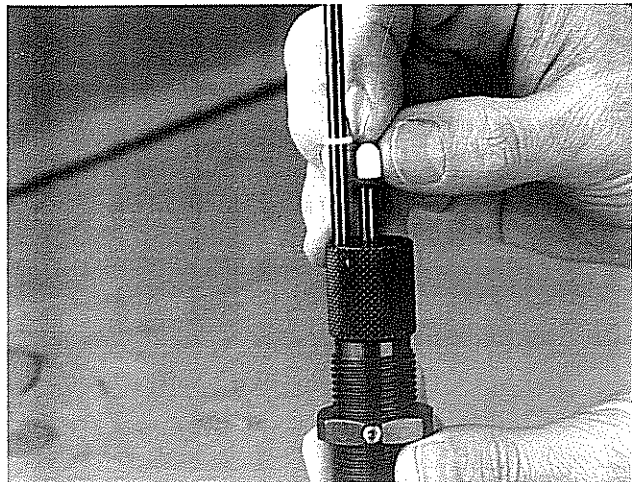
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7200571/1104

# **RCBS**

## **POWDER CHECKER**



Instructions for Use

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The RCBS Powder Checker Die is a simple mechanical device for progressive reloading tools that confirms the presence of powder in a cartridge case before the bullet is seated and crimped. Located between the powder charging station and bullet seating station, Powder Checker provides a quick visual check for powder while reloading. The die has a corrosion resistant black oxide finish with contrasting white indicators for good visibility and standard  $\frac{7}{8} \times 14$  threads.

The Powder Checker Die is **not** designed to replace the weighing of a powder charge on an accurate reloading scale. This die provides only a visual reference that powder is present in the case without removing the case from the shell plate.

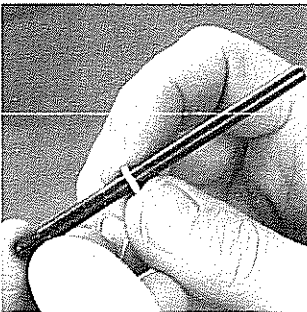
Unpack the Powder Checker carefully. Look for and identify the following items:

- Powder Checker die body with case guide and lock nut
- Guide rods (2)
- Guide rod tip, large and small
- Guide rod cap (vinyl)
- Indicating O-ring

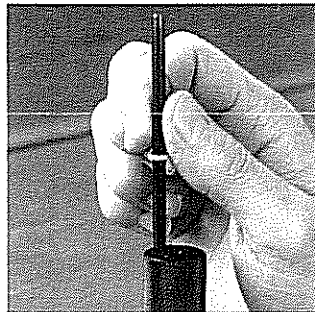
## PREPARING THE POWDER CHECKER

The first step in preparing the Powder Checker for use is to remove any manufacturing oils or preservatives from inside the die and from the guide rods and guide rod tips. Any oil left on these parts will contaminate gun powder and can cause a misfire. Remove the oil from these parts with Outers solvent.

Next, select one of the guide rods and slide the indicating O-ring onto the rod. The final adjustment of the O-ring will be made in another section. Thread the guide rod into the offset threaded hole in the top of the Powder Checker die body. This will be the stationary guide rod.



*Slide the O-ring onto one of the guide rods.*

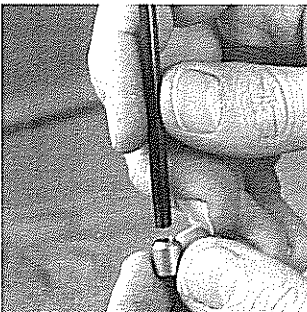


*Thread the guide rod into the top of the die body.*

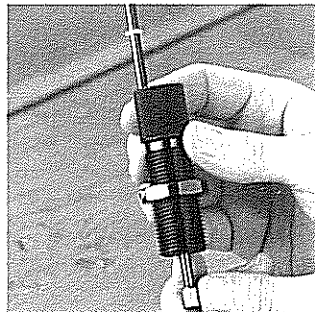
Now, determine which guide rod tip (if any) needs to be installed on the end of the sliding guide rod. Choose from one of the following three configurations, depending on the caliber being reloaded.

Note: Do not force the sliding guide rod if it does not drop all the way down into the die. When a case enters the case guide, the guide will expand and allow the sliding guide rod to drop.

For .22 caliber and 6mm: Use the guide rod without a guide rod tip. Place the guide rod cap over the threaded portion of the rod. Slide the rod through the *top* of the Powder Checker Die and the unit is ready for installation.



*Thread a guide rod tip onto the sliding guide rod.*



*Insert the guide rod into the die.*

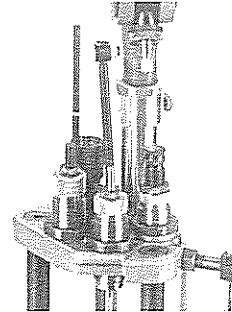
For .25 through .30 caliber: Thread the small guide rod tip onto the guide rod and proceed with the assembly instructions.

For .32 caliber and larger: Thread the large guide rod tip onto the guide rod and proceed with the assembly instructions.

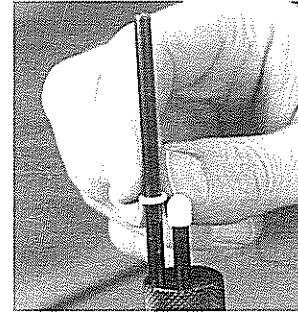
Insert the guide rod through the *bottom* of the die. Place the white guide rod cap on the top of the rod. The Powder Checker Die is now ready for installation.

## INSTALLING THE POWDER CHECKER

Thread the Powder Checker Die into a die station between the powder charging and bullet seating stations on a progressive reloading press. Allow about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " between the bottom of the Powder Checker Die and the shell plate when the ram is at the top of the stroke. Secure the die with the die lock nut.



*Install the Powder Checker in the progressive reloading press.*



*Adjust the O-ring so it is level with the top of the cap.*

## USING THE POWDER CHECKER

First, determine that the powder measure being used with the progressive press is dispensing the correct charge. Check the powder charge on an accurate reloading scale. Remember, Powder Checker does not measure powder. It only confirms that there is powder in the case.

Next, adjust the indicating O-ring. To do this, a case with the correct powder charge must be run up into the Powder Checker. Slide the O-ring on the stationary guide bar so it is level with the top of the cap on the sliding guide bar when it reaches the peak of travel.

Now the die is adjusted and ready to use. While reloading, develop the habit of checking the sliding guide rod when the press ram is at the top of the stroke. If the rod does not move, the case has not been charged with powder. Remove the case from the shell plate, determine the cause and correct the situation.

If the guide rod rises above the indicator O-ring, remove the case from the shell plate to see if there is too much powder. If there is an overcharge, determine the cause and correct the situation before continuing with the reloading session.

## POWDER CHECKER PARTS LIST

KEY	PART NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	87591	Powder Checker die body
2	87592	Guide Rod
3	87593	Guide Rod Tip, Large
3	87594	Guide Rod Tip, Small
4	87595	Indicating O-ring
5	87596	Guide Rod Cap
6	87597	Case Guide



# SAFETY

Reloading is an enjoyable and rewarding hobby that is easily conducted with safety. But carelessness or negligence can make reloading hazardous. This product has been designed from the beginning with the user's safety in mind.

As with any reloading operation, some safety rules must be followed. By observing these few rules, the chance of hazardous occurrence causing damage or injury becomes extremely remote.

## GENERAL

- Use the reloading equipment as the manufacturer recommends. Study the instructions carefully and become thoroughly familiar with the operation of the product. Don't take short cuts.
- Observe "good housekeeping" in the reloading area. Keep tools and components neat, clean and orderly. Promptly and completely clean up primer and powder spills.
- Reload only when you can give your undivided attention. Do not reload when fatigued or ill. Develop a reloading routine to avoid mistakes. Avoid haste – load at a leisurely pace.
- Always wear adequate eye protection. You assume unnecessary risk when reloading without wearing safety glasses.

## LOADING DATA

- Use only laboratory tested reloading data. We highly recommend the use of the SPEER Reloading Manual.
- OBSERVE ALL WARNINGS ABOUT THE USE OF MAXIMUM LISTED LOADS.

## PRIMERS AND POWDER

- WARNING: Primers are designed to explode and will do so when subjected to heat or percussion.
- Do not decap live primers.
- Never attempt to seat or reseat a primer in a loaded round.

- Store primers and powder beyond the reach of children and away from heat, dampness, open flames and electrical equipment.
- DO NOT use primers of unknown identity. To destroy unwanted primers, soak in oil for a few days and then bury.
- Keep primers in original factory container until ready to use. Return unused primers to the same factory packaging for safety and to preserve their identity.
- DO NOT store primers in bulk. The blast of just a few hundred primers is sufficient to cause serious injury to anyone nearby.
- DO NOT force primers. Use care in handling primers.
- DO NOT use any powder unless its identity is positively known. Discard all mixed powders and those of uncertain or unknown identity.
- If you use a powder measure, replace the lids on both the powder hopper and powder can after the powder hopper has been filled.
- Before charging cases, settle the powder in the powder hopper. Throw and check the weight of at least ten charges. This will assure you that the correct powder charge is being thrown.
- After a reloading session ends, pour the remaining powder back in its original factory container. This will preserve the identity and shelf life of the powder.
- DO NOT smoke while handling powder or primers.

## RECORD KEEPING

- Keep complete records of reloads. Apply a descriptive label to each box showing the date produced, and the primer, powder and bullet used. Labels for this purpose are packed with SPEER bullets.

Since RCBS has no control over the choice of components, the manner in which they are assembled, the use of this product, or the guns in which the resulting ammunition may be used, no responsibility, either expressed or implied, is assumed for the use of ammunition reloaded with this product.