

Powder

Type g or sporting powder - Cannon, 1Fg & 2Fg are suitable for blanks. The use of 2Fg requires reduced loads. The potential for extremely high pressures is too great with 3Fg and faster burning powder. Always start with light loads and use the minimum amount of powder required to produce an acceptable report.

Type A Blasting Powder - (3FA-1FA black powder) can be used in various applications. 3FA and 2FA are similar to 1Fg & cannon grade powder. 1FA is much too coarse and is not considered suitable for blank rounds. 2FA and 3FA lifting powder are regularly used as cannon grade powder for making blank rounds. *All faster burning grades require reduced loads.*

The basic blank load for cannon grade powder is 3.0 oz (1312.5 gr.) per inch of bore. For most reenactor blank rounds, this is the recognized **starting point**. With bores less than 2.75", the amount should be adjusted down, and for bores larger than 3.75", this may be increased to the point that rounds do not butterfly or tumble down the bore. **This information is for blank rounds only** that are to be used in modern reproduction muzzle-loading artillery, are in good condition, and have passed a safety inspection! Always use the minimum amount of powder required to produce an acceptable report.

Pyrodex - *Pyrodex is limited to use with small arms projectiles and should never be used for blanks. This is not a suitable powder for artillery! Do not experiment!*

Type B Blasting Powder - *Has very unpredictable results when used in Cannon. (Should never be used)*

Note: There are 7000 grains (*weight*) per pound of powder (all types: Cannon, 1Fg, 2Fg, 3Fg or 4Fg). Granule size does vary, with cannon having the largest granules and 4Fg the smallest, but all have 7000 grains of weight per pound.

1 ounce = 437.5 gr.

1 grain = 0.002285714 ounces

1 pound = 7000 gr.

***This information only applies to blank rounds that are to be used in modern reproduction muzzle-loading artillery in good condition!** Do not attempt making blank or live rounds without proper instruction and supervision. All artillery pieces should be inspected by a qualified inspector before firing any type of blank round. Many other factors must be addressed for any use of projectiles and are not addressed here.