

.45 ACP Barrels; are they Safe?

The new Mil-Spec for Ball M1911 measured by the Army is **885 feet per second** with a 230 grain FMJ bullet. Something is happening here in ammunition and everyone reading this should pay **strict attention**.

New Chamber pressure is **21,000 psi for the 830 fps and 23,000 psi for the 885 fps ammo!**

Modern SAMMI chart of barrel specifications and pressure for the .45 ACP:

Case type	Rimless, straight
Bullet diameter	.452 in (11.5 mm)
Neck diameter	.473 in (12.0 mm)
Base diameter	.476 in (12.1 mm)
Rim diameter	.480 in (12.2 mm)
Case length	.898 in (22.8 mm)
Overall length	1.260 in (32.0 mm)
Case capacity	25 gr H ₂ O (1.625 cm ³)
Rifling twist	1 in 16 in (406 mm)
Primer type	Large pistol
Maximum pressure	21,000 PSI

History: According to the Marine Corps "Guide Book for Marines" 1965 Chapter 24, page 301, we find the M1911 A1 issue pistol with a **Muzzle Velocity of 802 feet per second. Chamber pressure: 14,000 psi.** US Army barrel specification for that pistol is a **MAXIMUM CHAMBER PRESSURE of 17,000 psi.**

Shooting modern ammunition in these mil spec guns is unsafe!

SAMMI specification of 2006, says **new barrel Maximum chamber pressure is 21,000 psi.** Guns in military service and in commercial use are subject to increasingly higher cartridge pressures and therefore should be *upgraded* to insure safety of the shooter.

Let's take look at it closer. The old Colt's of WWI and WWII shot low chamber pressure ammo. We like the gun and want to continue to shoot it, what can be done to make it safe?

First you check to see if the barrel is blued or stainless. If it is blued you have a 17,000 psi barrel. Replace it with a **Combat NCO™ 78,000 psi barrel** and you are good to go. (When **ANYONE** looks then at the *chamber hood* of a 1911 and reads **Combat NCO .45** they will **KNOW FOR CERTAIN** that **ANY .45 ACP ammunition NOW, or in the foreseeable future, can be fired in this barrel.**)

Plus P (+P) .45 ACP ammunition: This has a chamber pressure of 23,000 psi and in some loads the pressure even goes to 24,500 psi. Let me pull a quote for you: **“If +P loadings are used in firearms not specifically designed for them they may cause damage to the weapon and injuries to the operator”** (from Wikipedia article on the .45 ACP).

“Plus P,” “Super” and the Rowland .460 acp: First is a sharp increase in cartridge maximum pressures. Maximum Average Pressure is: 45 ACP today (21,000 PSI), .45 ACP +P (23,000 PSI+), [.45 Super](#) (28,000 PSI+), and .460 Rowland (40,000 PSI+). The result of this pressure increase is a potential for 185-grain (12.0 g) bullets to achieve 1,500 ft/s (460 m/s) MV and 230-grain (15 g) bullets to achieve 1,340 ft/s (410 m/s). **The only pistol designed to handle this loads is the *Combat NCO and a NCO barrel***

Does it **SOUND** like we should be shooting modern ammo in the old 1911 A1? How about your 1990 era Commercial pistol? Do the math. If the military manual says Maximum pressure of a 1911 A1 is 17,000 psi and off the shelf junk ammo 230gr. 825 fps is rated at 21,000 to 23,000 psi what do you think you should do, gamble or fix it? **Proof pressure of a +P is a minimum 33,000 psi! And anything over 880 fps is a +P.**

This article is **WHY** we offer a barrel replacement in the ***NCO 100 yard accuracy package***. When Upgraded your pistol is preserved for another 100 years, its value increased now being a “1911 A2” and your safety is assured. **All critical parts** necessary for accuracy and safety are replaced in this package. The old tired recoil spring for the 802 fps ammo and the need for a “buffer” are gone too. Your pistol is ready for the real world of today.

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