

CRIMPING PLASTIC SHELLS

Plastic shells are star crimped after the shot has been added. The shell must be inserted in the sizer of the Lanes Loader. Make sure that it is inserted all the way.

For a crimp that holds it is best to have the wad column height a little short, so the crimp is depressed slightly in the center. The pie segments then form a wedging action against themselves so the crimp cannot open.

TO REPLACE THE ROLL CRIMP

After the shot has been added remove the shell from the loader and insert an over the shot wad. Push the lanes loader sizer onto the shell until you can see the plastic tube starting to roll past the crimping shoulder. Insert the rammer and pump it up and down while slowly pushing the sizer down until the desired crimp is formed.

ENLARGING SHELL END RADIUS

This operation is usually useless unless you have difficulty with the shell feeding through your gun. After the shell is completely loaded remove the rammer. With a washer under the head of the shell (if the washer is not available use a nitro card with the center cut out so as to clear the primer), push down hard on the body to force the shell against the crimping shoulder. Eject as usual.

WAD COLUMN REQUIREMENTS

Shotgun shells of different brands and different loads have different interior lengths. This difference must be compensated by the wad column. After the shot has been added there must be only enough tube left to form a perfect crimp.

The exact length wad column is best determined by trial as it can vary with different brands of wads and condition of shells.

APPROXIMATE DISTANCE FROM TOP OF SHELL TO SHOT NEEDED FOR CRIMP

	STAR	ROLL
10 GAUGE	19/32	7/16
12 GAUGE	1 / 2	3/8
16 GAUGE	15/32	11/32
20 GAUGE	7/16	5/16
.410 GAUGE	5/16	1/4

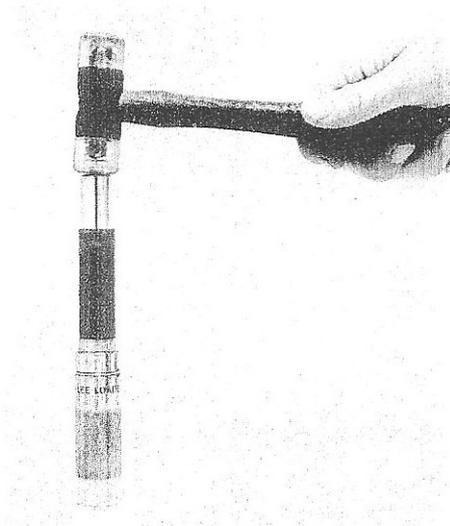
Minimum requirements for a wad column are one .135 cardboard wad directly over the powder and at least 1/4 inch fiber wad to cushion the shot.

If using plastic wads nothing more is required.

RESIZING PROBLEMS

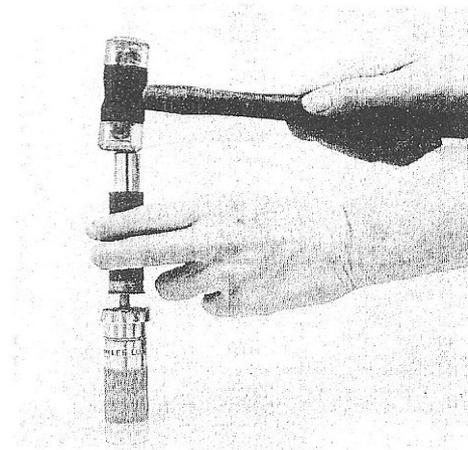
Keep your shells in a warm, dry place and it is unlikely that you will have trouble with resizing. If the shell ejects with difficulty from the loader it is an indication that heat resizing is needed.

If your shells chamber with difficulty or not at all after reloading and did fit easily before reloading, it is an indication that your wads are oversize.



1

1. Start by depriming all the cases.



2

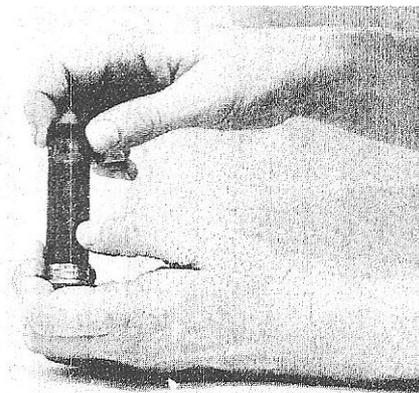
2. With the hole in the capper down, replace the primer (never try to seat a primer deeper after powder has been loaded)



WARNING: With the Lee Powder Measure, use only charges listed on the Lee Charge Table. Make certain you are using the correct measure.

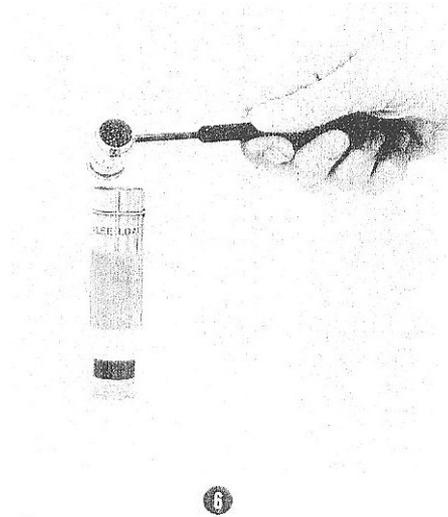
3

3. Add powder (make sure you use the right powder)

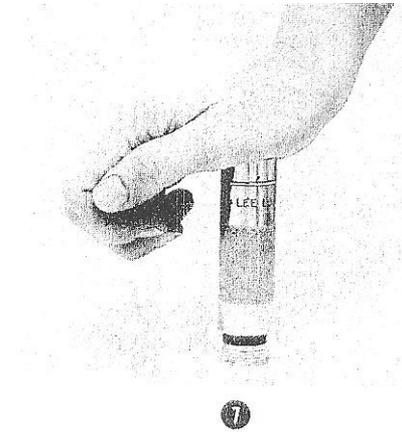


4

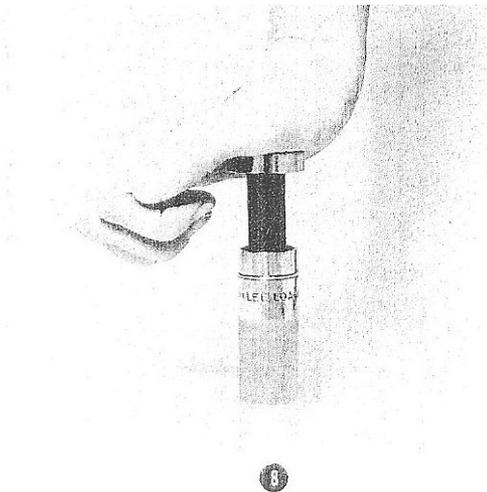
4. Insert the wad (see wad column requirements)



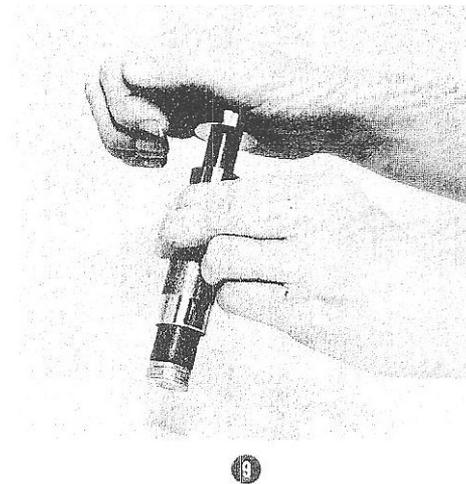
6. Add the shot. Do not add more shot than indicated on charge table as that will create dangerous pressures.



7. Push the loader all the way down to start the crimp.

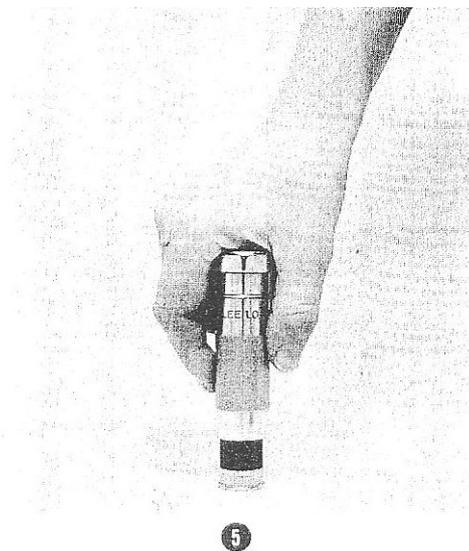


8. Push down hard with the rammer to complete the crimp. Use **HAND PRESSURE ONLY**.



9. Eject the shell. If the shell does not eject easily, refer to resizing problems.

More accurate wad pressure can be achieved by seating the wads using a bathroom scale



Seat the wads with the correct pressure
30 to 40 lbs or by load data

RELOADING COMPONENTS

Determine the load you desire and select the powder type indicated. Powder can be purchased in quantities as little as 8 ounces and is sufficient for several boxes of shells.

PRIMERS

Until 1964 all shells used a 209 size primer.

SHOT

Use the shot size of your choice and use the amount shown on the load data. **NEVER USE MORE THAN RECOMMENDED AS THIS INCREASES THE BREECH PRESSURE.**

WADS

Each shell should have an over the powder wad usually made of cardboard and a filler wad made of a soft cushiony material. They can be purchased in quantities of 500 or 1000 very cheaply. The best sizes to get are .135 cardboard wads and 3/8 filler wad for a start.

With this combination it's possible to build up almost any size wad column with one or more of both types in in each shell. If necessary wads can be split with a pocket knife.

Plastic cup wads can be used in place of the cardboard wads.

