

## HOW TO “READ” YOUR PATTERN

The number of pellets striking the target in a 30” circle usually determines the density of the pattern. Turkey hunters often shoot at targets resembling a turkey’s head. Using a roll of craft paper and a target stand, you can shoot several prepared targets for comparison. Change the target after each shot so that you can count the number of pellets hitting the targeted area.

## CLEANING

To clean your Optima Pro Shotgun, use a regular 12-gauge brush, mop, and cleaning rod. Disassembly of the gun is the same as described in the owner’s manual that came with your gun. We use and recommend Barrel Blaster products. Follow the directions on the Barrel Blaster Gel Solvent or Barrel Blaster Foam to clean all plastic, lead, and powder fouling from the bore and breech plug. Apply breech plug grease to the breech plug and install snugly, but do not over tighten.

**FOLLOW ALL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN THE OWNER’S MANUAL. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE SAFE AND EFFICIENT OPERATION OF THIS MUZZLELOADING SHOTGUN, CALL CVA’S CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT AT 770-449-4687.**

## OPTIMA PRO 209 MAGNUM MUZZLELOADING SHOTGUN

The Optima Pro 209 Magnum muzzleloading shotgun is the newest member of the #1 selling family of break-action muzzleloaders. With the addition of this new model, and the option to purchase muzzleloading shotgun barrels separately, the Optima frame becomes the best choice for the multi-season muzzleloading enthusiast. For the diehard muzzleloading shooter, the new Optima Pro 12-gauge Muzzleloading shotgun brings the chase for feathered quarry to a new level.

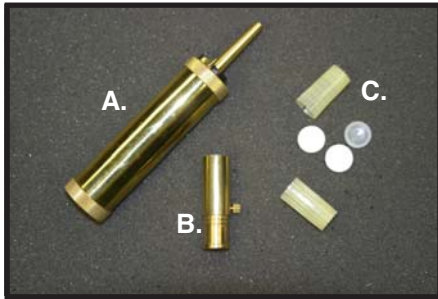
**The new Optima Pro shotgun will function just like its rifle cousins and all safety precautions for firearms handling and loading should be observed. It is strongly recommended that you read the attached owners manual first, before continuing with this supplement. If you do not have an owner’s manual, please call or e-mail CVA’s Customer Service Department for a free replacement.**

**770-449-4687**

[info@cvaguns.com](mailto:info@cvaguns.com)

To successfully load and shoot the Optima Pro Shotgun you will need a few accessories. These simple accessories should be available where you purchased your gun.

- 1) Shotgun volumetric measure (AC1412)
- 2) Powder flask / dispenser (AC1400A)
- 3) Plastic shot cups with over powder wads and over shot cards (AC1493)
- 4) Small scissors or wire cutters for cutting slits into the shot cups and over shot wads



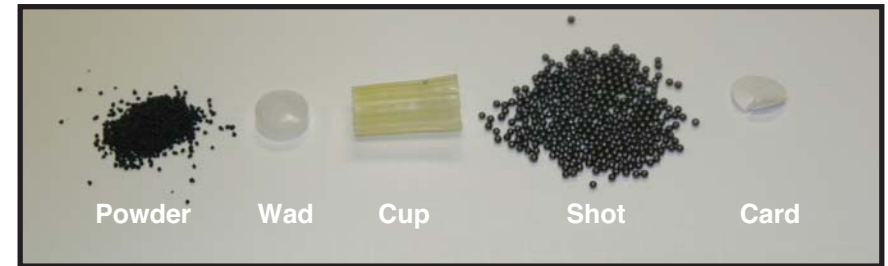
**A. Flask**  
**B. Volumetric Measure**  
**C. Shot Cups and Wads**

The shooter can control the patterns produced by a muzzle-loading shotgun in several ways.

1. **Type, brand, or amount of powder.** Genuine Blackpowder in FFG granulation, Pyrodex RS, and Triple 7 powder in FFG granulation are the only recommended powders for this shotgun. **The use of pelletized powder manufactured for use in muzzleloading rifles is not acceptable, due to the improper diameter of the pellet for the shotgun bore, and may cause damage to your barrel and/or personal injury or death.**
2. **Brand, size, or material make-up of shot.** Experimenting with different shot sizes and types is recommended. Each gun will show a preference that can only be determined by shooting. In our testing, #5 and #6 shot produced the densest and most consistent patterns. Copper plated shot often shows a denser pattern when used with heavy loads. While experimenting, always keep in mind the type of game you are preparing to hunt, the average distance you will be shooting, and applicable local game laws.
3. **Shot cup preparation.** The CVA AC1493 Shot Cups are specifically designed for muzzleloading shotguns and are recommended for use with all loads in your Optima Pro Shotgun. **Commercially available wads for conventional shot shells are not designed for use with muzzleloaders and are NOT recommended for use in your Optima Pro.**

You can control the spread of the pattern by cutting slits into the plastic shot cup. The deeper the slit, the faster the pattern will spread. Four slits will also open faster than three. You will need to experiment to find the right combination for your barrel and hunting style. Use small scissors or wire cutters to produce the slits. **(Note: use of a pocket or razor knife is dangerous and will not give you the control needed to consistently cut the same length slits into the shot cup)**

## LOADING PROCEDURE..



- 1) Start by cutting three or four equal length longitudinal slits into the CVA shot cup (AC1493) using small scissors or wire cutters.
- 2) Carefully measure your powder into the volumetric measure. You should use the same volume of powder as you use of shot. **Triple 7 powder charges should be reduced by 15%.** A one-ounce load is a good place to start. An ounce and a quarter is considered to be the maximum load. Pour the powder into the barrel.
- 3) Place the plastic cushion wad into the muzzle and push it down the barrel with the ramrod until it is firmly seated over the powder.
- 4) Push the prepared shot cup into the muzzle and slightly into the bore. Measure one ounce of shot into the volumetric measure and pour it into the cup. For best results the cup should be slightly overfilled. With light loads it may be necessary to reduce the length of the shot cup. Push the filled shot cup with the ramrod until it is firmly seated on the powder charge.
- 5) Cut or tear the edge of the over shot wad about 1/4" inward from the edge and push it down the barrel until it is firmly seated on top of the shot.
- 6) Place a 209 shot shell primer into the breech plug and take aim at your patterning target. Once you have fired the gun, collect the target and inspect it for pattern density. At this time you can open or close the pattern by either adjusting the slits in the shot cup or by changing the powder load or shot size.