

Example of What Numbers Mean on a Shot Shell Box

This picture shows the importance of reading the box. Though these boxes have 4 numbers shown on their tops, the “3” means two different things.

1. The top box is Lead shot and the bottom is Steel shot We only allow Lead for target shooting.
2. The “3” on the top box refers to the Dram (amount of powder in each shell), the “3” in the bottom box refers to Shell Length (remember ONLY 2 ¾” is allowed).
3. The top box shows 1 1/8 oz of shot (remember, the most amount of shot/shell allowed for target shooting) where as the bottom box shows 1 ¼ oz of shot.
4. The top box shows 7 ½ Shot Size (largest allowed for target shooting) where as the bottom box shows 2 Shot Size (this box of shells is actually a box intended for waterfowl hunting).

Closer examination of the top box, you will see in small print under the “12 gauge” label that it also labels this box as 2 ¾ inches, as well as the box reading ‘Field & Target’



Appropriate Shells for 4-H Shotgun Club

Shells that are acceptable:

1. Appropriate gauge shells for appropriate shotgun (i.e. 20 gauge shells ONLY for a 20 gauge gun)
2. 2 ¾” shell lengths ONLY.
3. No more than 1 1/8oz of shot per shell.
4. Shot sizes of 7 ½, 8, and 9 ONLY.

Below are 3 box tops displaying the type of ammunition appropriate for a 20 gauge shotgun in the 4-H Shotgun Program. This shows that there are different *qualities* of shells with basically the same specifications.

It displays 20 as gauge, 2 ¾ inches as shell length, 7/8 oz as shot amount (which is less than 1 1/8 oz) and it also shows shot size to be 7 ½ and 8 (9 is acceptable as well).



Recommended 4-H Shotgun Club Equipment List

- ear plugs (not muffs)
- safety glasses
- shotgun shell shooting pouch
- shooter's hand towel (similar to a small golf towel)
- 2 boxes of shells (50 shells total) per practice
 - Shot size 7½ , 8 or 9
 - 2 ¾" shells
 - Shot load no more than 1 1/8 oz
- No open toe shoes ! ! !
- Appropriate Shotgun
 - Preferably one that fits the size of the youth.
 - Semi-automatic
 - 20 gauge