

## What is bullet swaging?

Bullet swaging is the process of forming either lead or jacketed bullets by applying high pressure in a precise die and punch set, so the material flows at room temperature, and takes on the shape of the die cavity. Pressures as high as 80,000 psi are routinely generated in the diamond-lapped dies, expanding lead like soft putty, and stretching the jacket like a balloon, without use of heat.

## What is the benefit of swaging?

Swaged bullets are far more precise (round, repeatable, and constant weight) than the best cast bullets. Since you make them yourself, they can be any weight or style you want. A single swage die set makes more weights of bullets than a thousand bullet molds! You can use lead-free materials, plastics, multi-part bullets, jacketed or not, with your imagination as the only design limit! You can also draw your own jackets, and even make certain calibers of free bullets from scrap materials! Swaging is faster and safer than casting, since you do not have to melt lead, resize bullets, inspect and sort culls, and let everything cool down again.

## Can I use my reloading press?

Yes, for some bullets, a reloading press is adequate. It is much faster and easier to use an actual swaging press and the kind of swage dies that fit the ram. Reloading presses work "upside down" compared to swaging, and have no built-in ejection system. Their alignment is normally not even close to the precision of a swaging press. The smallest Corbin swaging press is at least three times stronger and over twice as powerful as the largest reloading press. This means you work quicker, with less effort, and get better results. For using fired .22 LR cases to make .224 or .243 bullets, or for most lead pistol and paper-patch rifle calibers, you can use a sturdy reloading press that takes standard 7/8-14 dies and button shell holders.

## Can I make commercial-quality bullets?

If you don't put much care into your bullet swaging, you can settle for that. But the equipment is capable of so much more! Mass produced bullets are good. Yours can be better. After all, you can tailor them specifically to your gun and load, rather than just buying whatever sells to the average shooter for the average gun. Swaging is for people who want the best possible bullets, and want to take charge of every part of their handload.

## Where do I get supplies?

Corbin has spent decades making sure everything you need is available here. You can make your own jackets with our tools, or buy ready-made jackets. We supply lead wire, as well as core molds and extruders so you can use your own lead stockpile. Lubricants, strip copper, tubing, jackets, lead, powder metals, ultra low-drag tip inserts, polymer balls, base guards, and everything else you need can be purchased online at [www.SwageDies.com](http://www.SwageDies.com).

## How do I get started?

Read the available information first. See the free instruction on our website, read the eBooks and get the multi-media info pack. Then, if it makes good sense to you, consider purchasing a Corbin swaging system for your favorite caliber.

## Base and Nose Shapes

All prices are for standard shapes made to Corbin's design. We are glad to do custom work for a nominal additional cost. Shown here are standard shapes of noses and bases for most calibers.

### Elliptical Ogives

There are "round nosed" bullets. They are specified in length of ogive along the axis, with 0.5-E, 3/4-E and 1-E being the standards for both pistol and rifle. Most round nose pistol bullets are 3/4-E. Most round nose rifle bullets are 1-E. The 1/2-E (0.5-E) is the same as a 1/2-S and is the smallest number possible for an ogive.



### Semi-Wadcutter Noses

A "semi-wadcutter" or a "wadcutter" nose is made by using a punch with that shape of hole in the end. The edge of the punch forms a .015-.020 thick edge or shoulder, as it must in order to handle the pressure. Below are the standard SWC nose shapes:



### Truncated Conical Nose

The "Keith" SWC is a type of "truncated" or "cut-off" conical shape. You can also get a stepless ogive in the TC shape, primarily for handgun calibers. It requires a point form die to eliminate the step.



### Spitzer (Tangential) Rifle Ogives

The tangential ogive is made from the arc of a circle with a radius specified in calibers. Unlike the elliptical ogive, the spitzer is made of two separate curves that cross at the tip. Corbin makes the even numbers from 2 to 12, with 6-S being the most commonly used.

### ULD Design

The Ultra Low Drag bullet is a secant ogive, which can also be made with Corbin's ULD Aluminum Tip insert for even higher BC. Corbin supplies tips in sizes for a wide range of calibers.



### Bases

In addition to these shapes, you can order the "BG" copper disk base, which scrapes fouling from the bore with each shot.

