



# Differences Between Rimfire and Centerfire Barrel Blanks

When you have an un-finished ".22 cal" barrel blank in hand, there is no one visible feature that automatically tells you "rimfire" versus "centerfire," because blanks are simply rifled tubes without any chamber cut or breech face. In practice, you must confirm suitability by checking:

## 1. Manufacturer's markings or part number

- Most reputable barrel-blank suppliers stamp or laser-etch a model number, caliber designation, and sometimes "CF" (centerfire) or "RF" (rimfire) on the blank's muzzle shank or tang.
- Look for a marking like ".22 LR" or ".22 RF." If you see ".223 REM," ".22-250," ".223 WYLD," etc., that is a .224"-bullet (centerfire) blank. If it simply says ".22 LR" or ".22 WMR," that is a rimfire blank.
- When in doubt, look up that part number on the manufacturer's website or catalog. The spec sheet will explicitly state whether it's intended for .22 LR/.22 WMR/.22 MAG (all rimfire) or for .223 Rem/.22-250/.22 Hornet/etc. (all centerfire).

## 2. Rifling twist and bore/groove diameter

- Most .22 LR (rimfire) barrels are cut with a 1:16"-twist and a groove diameter of approximately .225"–.226". In other words, if you drop a

cleaning rod with a tiny marker attached down the bore you'll see one full rifling revolution every 16 inches of rod travel.

- By contrast, a .223 Rem (centerfire) blank usually has a 1:7", 1:8", or 1:9" twist and a groove diameter of about .224" (the standard for .22-caliber centerfire bullets).