**Things to check before starting to operate:**

As the glue is very liquid, please, use it sparingly, otherwise it may damage the paper.

Before completing a series of cases, please train yourself to put a few cartridges together, so that you can check the cases are properly made.

These instructions show how to make cartridges with a full amount of black powder, but it is also possible to use less, and put a little cushion of durum wheat flour up above the black powder.

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**1) Give the case the right shape:**

Roll the paper around the cone-shaped part of the brass mandrel. **Be careful not to pull it too tight.** Paste the paper edge. Roll again to close the paper tube.

In order to easily put the bullet together with the case, do not pull the paper too tight around the mandrel. If the case is too narrow, it is still possible to scotchtape/sellotape the upper edge of the mandrel once.

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**2) Close the base:**

Pull down the 2/3 of paper overflowing from the bottom of the mandrel. Close the last 1/3 of paper and stick it with the H&C glue. Remove from the mandrel. Allow to air dry for one minute.

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**3) Put the case inside the mandrel.**

Then, **pour a dose of black powder** (3FG or 4FG –stronger-, or Swiss black powder) inside it. **Leave a 3mm void** – roughly – to stick the base of the bullet in. Please, note that you can also use less black powder and put felt, durum wheat flour, or kapok instead.

Never use modern smokeless powder!

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**4) Paste the case:**

Put one or two generous drops of glue over the inside edge of the case.

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**5) Insert the bullet** on the top of the case and push it 3mm down, with a circular movement to ensure the bullet gets glue all around its surface.

The bullet is ready to be shot. You can now grease it.

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When loading the cylinder, please make sure that the paper cartridges are properly pushed in the back of the chambers. It is a modern way to have the bullet showing on the surface of the cylinder, that does not match with the use of old fashion paper cartridges.

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**WARNING:**

Before loading the envelope cartridge into the weapon, always check there is no hot residue. The same is true after a long series of shots, allow the weapon to cool regularly.

In order to avoid an excessive heating of the cartridge due to friction over the inside of the canon, swab regularly, particularly if the weapon is loaded by the muzzle (pistol, shotgun...).
Box of American 19th century combustible paper envelope cartridges. These were regular military and civilian munitions for revolvers, not gun pewter oil bottle and basic bullets.

Period weapon / Modern weapon
The room planned over some replicas (Remington, Colt, Roger & Spencer among others...) for the bullet to go through is sometimes slightly less wide than over period weapons. Some replicas fabricants forgot these revolvers were designed to fire cartridges!

Thus, in order to shoot with round-nose bullets or semi-wadcutter, it may sometimes be necessary to enlarge the bullet way, using a file or the grinding wheel to gain a few tenths of a millimeter. Also, if the rammer tappet happens to be longer than on period firearms, it might be a good idea to slightly shorten it.

With weapons showing those kinds of disagreements an envelope cartridge set with a round bullet can be used right away.

The red dotted line shows in (1) and (2) the places that sometimes need to be proceeded in order to use cartridges with round-nose bullets or SWCs.

HIGHLY COMBUSTIBLE H&C ENVELOPPE CARTRIDGES - .36” AND .44” CALIBERS

DANGER!
VERY FLAMABLE! Safety advice: keep out of children’s reach. Keep away from sources of ignition. Do not smoke while making and handling. Avoid any knocks or rubbing.