

This is an excerpt from the answer to a question which was part of the original material supplied by Tim Woodhouse for his regular *'Clay Stuff'* technical Q&A series in Clay Shooting USA magazine. Additional images have been included and various parts expanded to help the .410 gauge reloader.

Only small gauge subjects are shown on the .410 website.

For any questions or the full details of Tim's answers covering all gauges and clay shooting issues, such as ammo and reloading components and many other subjects, interested shooters can go to the 'Clayshooting USA' website:

[www.clayshootingusa.com](http://www.clayshootingusa.com)

Contact details for Tim's *'Clay Stuff'* series can be found within the June-July or later issues of the magazine that are available to read on the site.



Picture by Chris Carr: O/U .410 gauge with three inch chambers can use 1/2oz for competitions and 3/4oz shells for practice. USA sporting clays rules stipulate a 1/2oz maximum payload for .410 gauge competitions.

***I USE A O/U .410 GAUGE WITH 30INCH BARRELS WITH 1/2OZ SHELLS FOR SPORTING CLAYS.***

***I'D ALSO LIKE TO SHOOT A HEAVIER LOAD OF UP TO 3/4OZ FOR PRACTICE. I WAS WONDERING IF YOU HAVE A WORKABLE RECIPE?***

***RICK JOHNSON***



Picture: Italian loaded .410 gauge 3 inch Fiocchi 3inch hulls are used for Tim's serious competition 3/4oz load recipes.

Rick, I've used 3/4oz .410 gauge loads in European open sporting clays competitions, where reloaded shells are allowed and the shot load is limited to 21gms (3/4oz).

I'd be happy to let you have my pet 3/4oz recipes used to win the .410 gauge class at the British National Small Gauge Championships. They are put up in the Fiocchi hulls and pattern exceptionally well in all of my .410 gauges, with pressures at moderate levels for the three-inch shell.

Be sure not to deviate from the recipes as listed, especially the primers!

3/4oz load #1				
Hull	Powder	Primer	Wad	Shot (USA sizes)
3inch (76mm) Fiocchi plastic	Hodgdon H-110 16grains*	Fiocchi F615 (209 size)	PC Orange	3/4oz Lead #7.5, #8, #8.5 & #9
*WARNING: do <u>NOT</u> use the hotter F616 primer with this heavier 16grain powder charge weight.				
3/4oz load #2				
Hull	Powder	Primer	Wad	Shot (USA sizes)
3inch (76mm) Fiocchi plastic	Hodgdon H-110 15grains	Fiocchi F616 (209 size)	Yellow Duster	3/4oz Lead #7.5, #8, #8.5 & #9

Swapping primers types with loading recipes for any gauge of shotgun can be very dangerous, but even more so with the .410 gauge. Pressure spikes can rocket upwards with even a seemingly modest change in components.



**Picture: Care must be taken to recognize the two outwardly identical Fiocchi primer types, as the 616 (white flash hole seal) is hotter than the milder 615 (flame red flash hole seal), pressures can rise considerably with incorrect usage.**

The two types of Fiocchi primer listed here can be easily confused, but the hotter F616 type is more widely available.

The white colored flash-hole powder seal distinguishes the hotter Fiocchi 616 from the milder Fiocchi 615, which has an orange/flame red colored flash-hole powder seal.

It is worth appreciating that as well as being potentially dangerous to the shooter, overly raised pressures can cause gun damage and in any case do nothing for the pattern quality, especially in the .410 gauge.

**UK shot sizes equivalents\* or close equivalents\*\* are:**

**USA #7.5 = UK7\*, USA #8 = UK7.5\*, USA #8.5 = UK 8\*\*, USA #9 = UK9\***