

# 462560

## Thor's Hammer

Originally designed with the .460 Weatherby in mind, this design didn't last too long with Lyman. I think that Lyman kind of jumped the gun by discontinuing it from production as it's a good mould and useful for all kinds of tricks. Every time one hits E-Bay, there's always a gun fight over it and it brings a high dollar so they must still be a demand for this design.

I'd been hunting one for a while and was going through some moulds in an estate sale several years ago and here that big boy was so I put it in the "keeper" pile as I had a Number 1 Ruger in .458 Winchester Magnum that I thought would just love it.

This mould casts a bit over .458" and over the years, I've hollow pointed it and then had a plug made for it so that I can cast either solids or hollow points. It has a big "bore rider" nose with a rounded, flat meplat and the gas check makes it desirable for higher velocities.

I sent some of these to a friend in Vermont and he e-mailed me that when he looked at them, all that came to mind was "Thor's Hammer". Hence the nickname.



**From Left: 462560 and 462560 HP**  
**"Solid" is 549.0 grains**  
**Hollow point is 532.1 grains**

<b>Length</b>	<b>1.320</b>
<b>Nose Diameter</b>	<b>.450</b>
<b>As cast Diameter</b>	<b>.458+</b>

Although the Ruger Number 1 .458 Winchester Magnum is history as far as my gun safe goes, this bullet as well as the RCBS 45-500-FN were the only two designs that I got any accuracy out of due to the long throating. I once pushed some to 2200 FPS with 1 1/2" accuracy at 100 yards and it was like butting your head against a brick wall...it felt good when you quit. Still, it's a good bullet for the bigger .45s.

Now, I use it mainly in my .458 X 2" built on a Springfield high number action and it gives me good accuracy out of it.



**Left: .458 X 2" American loaded with the 462560**  
**Right: 462560 HP**

I have used also it with good success in my M1895 Marlin .45/70. It will feed and shoots less than 2" groups with 3031 out of this rifle (Ballard style rifling).

The only drawback to this bullet design is the length.

In the larger cases such as the .458 Win Magnum and the .458 Lott and the .460 Weatherby, you have ample free bore that allows the bullet to be seated out. Also, you have ample powder space to accommodate the larger amounts of slow burning powder required to develop the required velocities. This configuration works well.

In cartridges such as the .45/70, .450 Marlin and .458 X 2", the short overall length required for feeding through the action requires the bullet to be seated so deep that much of the powder space is taken up by bullet base. Don't get me wrong here, there's still plenty of velocity available which combined with a 500 grain plus payload makes for a very fine short range eastern hunting load on about anything you'd desire to take on.

I sent some to a friend and he was asked by a neighbor to shoot two 350-pound calves for beef that had been free all summer and couldn't be caught. Loaded in the .458 X 2", this bullet completely penetrated both animals on shoulder shots so the accuracy and penetration is there for any heavy hunting purposes.

It's a good design in my opinion and if the auction gods smile down on you on E-Bay and you have need of a heavy .45 bullet for hunting, grab old "Thor's Hammer" and enjoy using it.

**John Goins/aka beagle**