

ARTILLERY 101

Understanding Different Munitions

SYSTEMS

In addition to different ammunition and different payloads, there are also different type of systems deployed to launch or fire them.

VARIANTS

Even then, there are generally a number of other factors that can change how systems, ammunition, and payloads interact with each other.

AMMUNITION

There are many kinds of ammunition that range from bullets to missiles. They require different means of propulsion and have different uses.

PAYLOADS

Different payloads yield different results. Depending upon what kind of payload an object carriers will determine the resulting impact.

MUNITIONS & SYSTEMS



www.aschq.army.mil

TYPES OF SYSTEMS

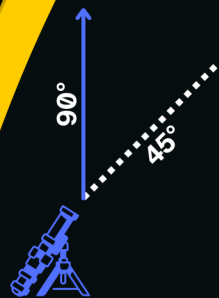
The main difference between most weapon systems is the angle-of-attack, armor, and method of deployment.

In addition, there are mechanized, towed, tracked, and auxiliary powered ordnance systems that are deployed in different terrain and situations.

The graphic below is an approximation and not to scale.

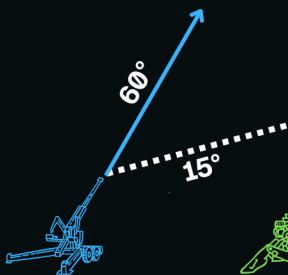
Mortar

Mortars have the highest angle-of-attack and are primarily used as indirect fire weapons.



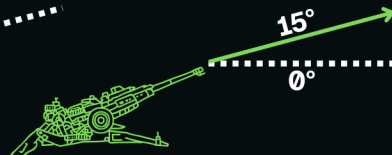
Howitzer

Howitzers have relatively high angle-of-attack and support with indirect fire.



Field Gun

Field Guns typically have low angle-of-attack and is supports with direct fire with high-velocity rounds.



Anti-Aircraft Gun

These are generally smaller and used exclusively against enemy aircraft.



Anti-Tank Gun

These guns will generally fire anti-tank, armor-piercing rounds.

TYPES OF PAYLOADS



High-Explosive (HE)

have a higher yield of explosive detonation in a standard sized shell.



Atomic

can produce yields of up to 20 kilotons, but aren't used anymore.



Smoke

provide cover for advancing or retreating forces in the field.



Chemical & Biological

can emit pathogens or compounds to irritate or destroy the enemy.



Armor Piercing (AP)

can pierce through thick armor on tanks and other vehicles.



Rocket Assisted

use the assistance of rockets to increase their range.



Standoff

use timers or pressure sensors to guide or delay the payload.



Guided

uses a number of sensors to guide the payload to the target.

