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38 Special – 357 Magnum 38 Super – 357 Magnum 380 acp – 357 Magnum

Although there are many types of toolmarks than can be found on a cartridge case, only the breech face marks and firing pin can be evidence that a cartridge was *fired* from a firearm. Extractor and ejector marks are often used to make an identification, but their presence does not mean it was from a particular firearm as it may have simply been cycled through the action and then used elsewhere. Only the complete absence of an extractor mark would be an indicator of a rimless cartridge being fired from a revolver, while the absence of an ejector mark would not be as some pistols do not have an ejector pin, instead using the firing pin itself as an ejector. All three test guns provided breech face markings that easily identified them on all calibers used. The Ruger, however, is the only one that would leave no indication on a rimless cartridge such as obturation artifacts, moon clip marks, or chamber marks, other than the lack of an extractor mark, that it was fired from a revolver. But even this is not even a strong indicator as many cartridges fired from pistols do not have discernable extractor markings. It is noteworthy that despite the Ruger's lack of markings, it did have the most identifiable breech face patterns on all calibers.