

Artillery shells critical to Ukraine war

Artillery rounds, particularly 155mm shells, have become critical to the Ukraine conflict, as Ukrainian and Russian forces wage an intense war of attrition

*U.S. Army M777 155mm howitzer
live fire exercise*



Ukraine aid: U.S. says it has sent more than 160 howitzers and over 1.5 million shells. Other countries have also provided howitzers, but Kyiv has asked for more

155MM HISTORY

■ **World War I:** Shell developed by French in response to trench warfare. 155mm gun becomes most common artillery piece used by Allies

■ **World War II:** U.S. military fields its own 155mm gun, dubbed **M1**

■ **Postwar:** NATO alliance adopts 155mm as its artillery standard

■ **Korean War:** Shell modified to contain submunitions, dispersed over wide area to destroy vehicles, equipment and personnel

■ **Ukraine:** Howitzers can strike targets up to 32km away. Ukrainian army using 6,000 to 8,000 shells per day, compared to estimated 40,000 rounds fired by Russia

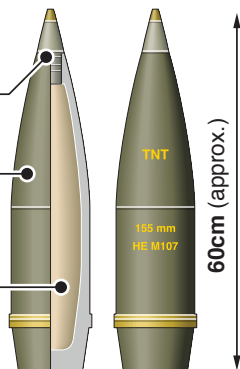
155mm shell components

Fuse

Projectile
steel body

High
explosive
charge

Shell weight
45kg



60cm (approx.)