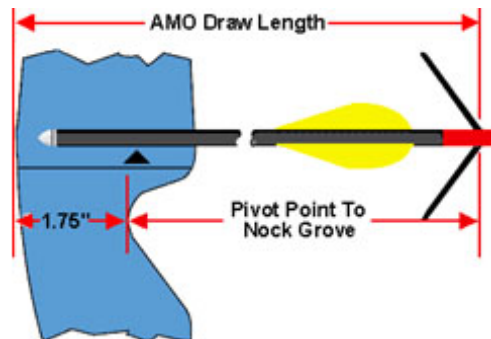# ASK BILL

Bill,

I just got the newsletter. My questions are: How do you check draw length of your bow? I also have a problem with bow shoulder position. Where are you shooting at so I can find out correct shoulder position?

Thanks. I find your articles very interesting!!

Answer

To check the draw length I am shooting I put a vertical mark on my riser, in the sight window, directly above the most forward portion of the bow's grip.(This is the part of the grip that touches the web between your thumb and forefinger.) Sometimes this mark will be at the arrow rest hole in the riser and sometimes it is not; depends on the brand and model. Then I load an arrow and anchor as normal while someone puts a mark on the arrow shaft at the same location as the mark I put in the sight window. Then I let down and remove the arrow from the bow. I measure from the mark on the shaft to the front of the slot in the nock where the string pushes against the nock during a shot. This measurement is what is called "true draw". To get AMO draw you have to add 1 3/4" (1.75") to the true draw measurement. The majority of bow manufacturers now use AMO draw.

For example, if you mark and measure 27" on your arrow, then your AMO draw length is 28.75".

I do most of my practicing at home or at work after hours. Where do you do your shooting? Maybe we can get together sometime. I live at Murphysboro, IL. The bow shoulder position is one of, if not the most, important aspects of your form that allows you to hold steady and is worth finding out how to do it correctly. Even if you are already doing it correctly it is worth knowing you are so you don't change it.

Thanks again for the questions.

Comments

I believe I have caught up on answering all the questions. Please feel free to contact me if you have any more. If more show up I will post them in the newsletter. I want to thank all who had words of encouragement for me this year with this endeavor. I would like to wish all of you the best of luck with your shooting and bowhunting.