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Oh boy! 2012. What a great time to be alive. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that receives this newsletter. A big thank you to all of our customers that purchase our products and have supported us through the years. Without your continued support we would not be here. God bless everyone and those that we have not met yet.

By the time you read this I will be having or have had total knee replacement surgery on my left knee.

Dean should be at home resting and healing up from his trauma of brain surgery. Our prayers continue to go out to Dean hoping for a smooth recovery. I talked with Dean on the 16th and he is home and doing better. Things are still a little fuzzy but he sounds better every time we talk. He gets tired pretty quickly but that is to be expected.

The photo to the right was taken right out the back door of our shop. It has been very wet here this fall and we have a small pond forming behind us. It has become a haven for mallards and wood ducks before the woodies headed South. As usual the hens are in the lead with the drakes lagging behind. The ladies don't waste time when danger appears.



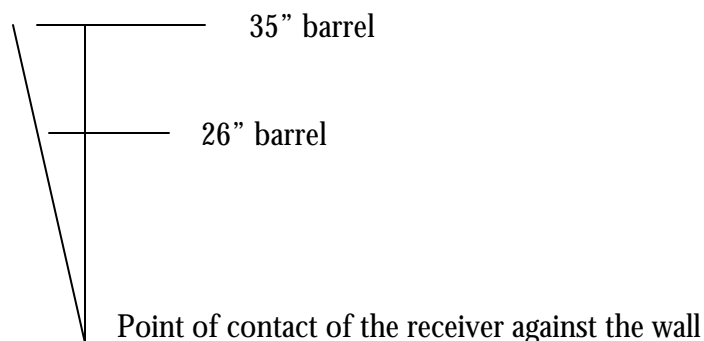
The World According to Me ~ "Dennis DeVault"

How Do I Measure LOP & Pitch in My Gunstock

I have been getting requests from shooters and gunsmiths that install recoil devices and also recoil pads about this subject. They are having to measure the shooter for length of pull or LOP. I am being asked how I measure for LOP and also pitch. Here goes I hope that I can explain this well enough to make it clear for everyone.

Let me start by dispelling several myths, you cannot get an accurate measurement by putting the stock in the crook of you arm at the elbow joint to see if your finger reaches the trigger. The finger in the trigger is controlled by the grip and not the LOP.

Pitch and what it does. Pitch does not change the point of impact of the gun. Let me clarify. The true POI of the barrel is the POI it will always have. What changes is the dynamic of how the gun moves in the shoulder pocket. If you have a gap at the top of the shoulder pocket the gun will do what they call making it fly. If you use the front hand to move the barrel the muzzle will accelerate upward very quickly. This will give you the look and illusion of the gun shooting higher. I have a barrel chest and require about 12 to 13 degrees of negative pitch at the rear of the stock. With pitch the gun stays level and solid in the pocket of my shoulder. I can shoot targets all day long with no pain or discomfort. The opposite happens when I hunt ducks or geese. Most of your shots are very high or more vertical and the gun sets in the pocket at a different angle. Also if I am hunting in a pit blind you do not have your legs and waist to move, you have to somewhat arm shoot the birds and that requires a different fit in the shoulder. When wing shooting I want the gun to be loose in the pocket and not locked-in so I can tilt or pivot the gun where I need it to be to make the proper shot. I want to make one more point, I was reading an article the other day and the author was telling the readers how to measure the pitch required in a butt stock. He also made reference to the fact that many new guns have adjustable ribs and that changes the pitch angle. When I read these articles it makes me angry when the author does this half detail of how the angle measurement should be calculated. The only way to measure pitch is from the bore center line. If you try and measure by setting the gun against the wall or door jam that just does not work. Example: you have the pitch cut on your favorite 26" barrel hunting gun and it is perfect. Next week you use the same method of laying the gun against a wall or straight edge and make the same measurement on your 35" trap barrel. Is the pitch the same? Absolutely not. It is very simple math, the further you go from the point of origin the wider the line becomes. If the 26" barrel had a pitch measurement of lets say 2" the 35" barrel would have less pitch in it to get the same 2" measurement. The only close to true surface that we have to work with today is the center line of the bore of the gun, this is why I will always use that method for measurement and not a rib that is adjustable and can change or move.



Now on to LOP. Most of the manufacturers today are making triggers that slide back and forth in the housing. Some of these triggers move a 1/2" forward or backward. If you are using the old method of measuring the LOP my question becomes where is the trigger when the measurement was made? If the trigger was all the way forward it will be a longer measurement than when you make the same measurement with the trigger all the way back. This sliding trigger was developed by the gun companies in their attempt to make a one size fits all gun that does not require a person to have a gun fitted to them. The first thing we do here when making a custom stock is to set the adjustable trigger in the middle of it's travel and then move the grip forward or back to get the finger in the proper position. With the trigger in the proper position I look at the angle of the V in the grip hand. If you are right handed I look at the right elbow. If I see the arm stretched out too far we shorten the stock. If the arm is totally collapsed and tight I know I need length. We look at the front hand as well. If the left hand on a right hand shooter is stretched straight with no bend in the arm I will shorten the LOP. This is very important when fitting a lady shooter. When you see the person stretched so far out that the left hand can only reach the receiver the LOP has to be shorter. I do not look at the old method about the thumb and nose deal either. Some shooters just do not stretch their neck and head forward. If that is the case and I did the thumb and nose deal the stock would have an LOP of about 7 ". I wish I could give everyone a definite answer on this but with every thing changing and all the fixed items being made movable you have to gather different data to measure by. Many of our customers will come in and ask the stock length and tell me it is too short or too long based on the measurement but there is no way to determine if their old gun had a fixed trigger and the new one that is movable. It has to do with feel and watching the shooter actually shooting targets. This is why when a shooter comes here for a fitting we make sure that they go to the range and shoot as many targets as possible before going home. If at the end the shooter is still unsure they can take home the demo stock and shoot it awhile before making their final decision. If I do make an error it will be making the stock too short rather than too long. If a stock is too long the shooter will accommodate the extra length by turning side ways and rolling the shoulder back. The gun will then move out of the pocket and onto the ball of the arm or the muscle of the arm. With the gun out there it puts a strain on the arm joint or the muscle of the arm. It also makes the gun very unstable. The slightest movement in the elbow makes the gun rock from side to side. The sight picture at this point is totally destroyed.

If you are a right hand shooter and the stock is too long you will short shoot a target going left to right. As you move, the gun jams you and it will cause the shooters face to come up out of the gun. If the stock is too short you will come out of the gun going to the left on a right to left target.

It is very easy to determine the correct LOP for yourself by the use of spacers to lengthen or using a shorter pad if you think it is too long. I have also taken the pad off of the stock and shot it with just the wood only if I felt the stock was too long. I do not recommend shooting the gun too long without a recoil pad but 50 shots should not hurt too bad with a padded shirt.

I hope that this is now as clear as mud but seriously it is a topic that cannot be talked about enough. Enjoy and if you should ever have any questions please feel free to call me at any time. Happy New Year to everyone and I hope that it is a very prosperous and healthy year for all.

Until Next Month,

Rodeo Man Out

From The Mind of Dean DeBow

Dear Friends and Readers;

I have been absent from the newsletters for quite some time and I want to explain.

Three years ago when Dennis and I were traveling in Florida I had a Grand Maul Seizure,. It was over a year until the symptoms started showing up. I had no idea what they were until about a year ago in July. So it has been well over a year and a half since the seizure's started interrupting my life.

Then the hospital did an MRI and a small tumor was noticed in the bottom of the left temporal lobe of the brain. They also discovered some inflamed tissue.

Around 11 hours from the time I am typing this, I will be on an Operating table.

I want to tell all of you who have either phoned Dennis, Called me, written, e-mailed, or Faced Booked me. Mere words can never express how much it has meant to me to hear such good wishes and prayers from so many wonderful people. But it seems I have no other choice!

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart! God willing, I will join my Brother Dennis again beginning next month's news letters to write to everyone. I want to see you all on the line this up and coming season.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!!

Dean DeBow

Double D Shooting
DeVault Industries
Brunson Leather

**Always remember
no matter what, you
are never alone.
Friends Forever**



Wood Sales LLC

This company has been set up to offer hard to find large blanks that will accommodate the new High Rib guns that have dominated the market for the past few years. If you are in the market for a good piece of wood that is dry and ready to carve have a look and come back from time to time to find your dream piece for your next project. The site can be found at

<http://www.customwoodblanks.com>



This is a beautiful piece of English Walnut. It has great figure and will make someone a beautiful stock. Dry & ready to carve.
Item # WE-050-7

Price \$ 700.00

Take a look at our wood site for other photos of wood. This is a piece of Turkish walnut available for sale now. It is dry and ready to carve a large blank for those high rib guns.

Price \$ 1,500.00



DeVault Winners Box

As the winter time sets in there is not much to report but we have a couple of names to show. Remember if you have one of our products please send us an e-mail at dennis@devaultind.com so we can list your accomplishments for all of your friends to see.

Nancy Rawerts ~ Remington 1100 ~ Double D Shooting Clinic ~ Minnesota Ladies State First Team

Sally Stevens ~ Browning Combo ~ Double D Shooting Clinics ~ Minnesota Ladies State Team Total Average 89.88% - 97.55% Singles - 89.43% Hdcp – 83.67% Doubles

Mark Stevens ~ Browning Combo ~ Double D Shooting Clinic ~ Minnesota Men's State Team Total Average 93.01% - 97.74% Singles - 88.89% Hdcp - 92.33% Doubles

Ron Baker ~ Perazzi Combo ~ Custom DeVault Stock ~ Minnesota Men's Veteran State Team Total Average 89.53% - 94.09% Singles - 86.67% Hdcp - 87.67% Doubles

Jake Jacobs ~ Perazzi MX-2000 ~ DeVault Custom Stock ~ Jacksonville Gun Club - First registered tournament HOA Champion





Hello Everyone, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Well we are starting a new year and I pray God blesses everyone, he has already blessed my husband with a new knee. Dennis went through the surgery very well and in less time than what was expected. All of his bionic parts fit wonderfully with no problems. He did however have to stay in the hospital longer than what was expected because of some excess bleeding he experienced after having therapy. But I guess that gave me some extra time to shine up that bell he said he was going to be ringing for me. Thank you everyone for your prayers, cards, emails and phone calls. You know some of those prayers should have been directed to the caregiver, yours truly. This is a hard job and he really can't be left alone so I have been bringing my work home and checkering on my dinning room table. We've been doing Okay, my new slogan "it is what it is" and you deal with it. Dennis and I very much appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we get through this transitional period.

This is my favorite Greek recipe. My Greek friend introduced this to me and I have been making it ever since. There is a special pasticchio pasta that she used and it is bucatini which is a thick spaghetti like pasta with a whole through it. I use the elbow macaroni just because it is easy and works great.

If anyone has a great recipe for Pasticchio please email it to: ckdevault@yahoo.com

Pasticchio

6 oz elbow macaroni
1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/4 cup milk
1 beaten egg
3/4 lb ground beef
1/2 cup chopped onion
1 - 8 oz can tomato sauce
3/4 tsp salt
1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
1/8 tsp ground nutmeg
1/8 tsp pepper
3 tblsp butter
3 tblsp flour
1/4 tsp salt
1-1/2 cups milk
1 beaten egg
1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese

Cook macaroni according to package directions; drain. Stir in the 1/3 cup Parmesan, the 1/4 cup milk, and 1 egg; set aside.

In skillet cook ground beef and chopped onion till meat is lightly browned and onion is tender; drain off excess fat. Stir in tomato sauce, the 3/4 tsp salt, the cinnamon, nutmeg, and pepper; set aside.

In saucepan melt butter; blend in flour and the 1/4 tsp salt. Stir in the 1-1/2 cups milk, cook and stir till thickened and bubbly. Cook and stir 1 minute more. Stir half the hot sauce mixture into 1 beaten egg; return all to saucepan (this tempers the egg so your egg don't end up scrambled). Stir in the 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese.

Layer half the macaroni mixture in an 8x8x2 inch baking pan. Spoon meat mixture atop, then remaining macaroni. Spread cream sauce over all.

Bake, uncovered, at 350 deg for 45 to 50 minutes. Let stand 10 minutes. Makes 6 servings.

I always double this recipe and put it in a 9x13 pan



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