

Firenock review by Richard Raymond, December 21, 2006

Firenock v1.1

A couple of months ago I was asked by the Owner of Firenocks to try out his product and do an evaluation for him. I must say that I was a bit skeptical of lighted nocks because I have heard so much controversy about how they did or didn't work. So with a bit of wariness I agreed to accept a package of them to try out.

Well, all did not go so well with my first set. It was not the fault of the product, it was because I did not follow the instructions on the package! I guess I thought I was smarter than what I am and that I do not have all the answers!

When he contacted me later I told him that my initial attempts at installation had gone awry he was gracious enough to send me his new and approved model with even easier instructions that made the installation Foolproof, even when a smart-aleck like me does the work!

It only takes a very few moments to put the nocks together and insert them into the end of the arrows. The longest time involved is waiting for the glue to dry. It seemed like forever even though it was only about 10 or 15 minutes. I was going to immediately start shooting them and testing how they worked, but a terrible wind and rainstorm started, so the nocks went back into the shop for another day.

About 4 days later the storm was finally gone and I decided to start my testing process. That is when I found that I had not done such a good job of placing the magnet on the riser of my bow. The magnet is what turns the Firenock on as you shoot the arrow. So, after careful placement of the magnet I resumed testing.

Much to my surprise, the Firenock lit quickly and easily every time I took a shot. That made me happy. The Firenock must be turned off before every shot by passing the nock over the magnet. That way when you shoot the arrow again it will turn on instead of turn off.

I was impressed with how bright the Firenocks are, even in daylight there is no problem at all seeing them when they impact a target. After dark there is no problem seeing them for over 100 yards. But, if you shoot 3D targets with "Nock Hunters" like I do at times, you are in deep trouble! The Firenock glows bright and gives those yahoos an easy target to aim at; so you will be replacing nocks and arrows darned frequently!

I took a Firenock with me the other day when I went hunting, I was going to do some stump shooting and experimenting with it. I had not planned to use it for hunting until after I contacted the Washington State Game Department to find out if it would be legal to use in this state. (We have some very strict laws regarding electronics and hunting!)

Well, the stump shooting was fun and a good warm up for

the morning. My first (before daylight) shot was at a huge, old, rotten Cedar stump from 100 yards. The arrow hit right where I aimed. I had no problem seeing exactly where I hit, even at that distance! The nock glowed like a beacon in the brush.

I hiked in my 2 + miles to my hunting spot and prepared to let daylight find me in the woods. That was when I remembered an important phone call that I had to make. In that spot my cell phone does not work, so I knew I would have to hike clear out to the road to make the call. Not wanting to load up my pack and other gear, I stuffed them into a hollowed out stump for safekeeping. Then I got to thinking about how easily it would be to not find that stump again, so I pulled out the Firenocked arrow, lit the light and stuck my arrow into the top of the stump to act like a beacon. I made my trip out of the woods, made the phone call and then hiked back to my area again before daybreak hit. There was no problem at all finding the stump that contained all of my gear! That little glowing nock was extremely easy to see in the dark woods!

I can easily see where the Firenocks will come in handy to any archery hunter! Especially for one that hunts in heavy brush like I do! I have left quite a few arrows out in the woods because they passed through an animal and then quickly disappeared into the brush. With that bright little light at the end of my arrows I feel that I will probably never lose another arrow to the brush bandits.

According to the Owner of Firenocks, the battery in the nocks has about 18 hours of life in it. I have not tried to refute his claim because I do not want to run out of battery life just in case I really need the battery. I can tell you that I have used a few hours of it's life in testing the Firenocks!

I found that the Firenock fit my Goldtip Hunter arrows perfectly and I had Zero problems with my arrow flight. The arrows that have the Firenocks are hitting the same spot as my arrows that have Bohning Double lock nocks on them.

My Front of Center has not changed, so I did not have to stray away from my 100 grain broadheads. I was afraid that I might have to bump up my broadheads to 125 grains, something I really did not want to do during a hunting season. But my first 3 shots with the Firenocks assured me that all was good and I was pleased.

I have talked to the Owner of the company quite a bit recently and I mentioned my problem and concerns about the Magnet placement issues. He was extremely receptive of my suggestions and has decided to offer at his cost an extra magnet for people that feel they might have an issue like I did. He sent me another magnet to install on my bow, just in case my drop away rest drops to early or late. It assures that my Firenock

will light every time.

Also, for those shooters that feel like the cutout of their risers will put the magnets too far away from the arrow so that the nock may not be lit by the magnet, they can purchase an extra magnet so that they can stack the magnets. This will assure proper and reliable function of the unit. The extra magnet can be purchased for a mere \$2.50.

Replacement batteries are also available direct from the factory at a very reasonable price. Right now the price alludes me, even though I have been told it several times. When in need, a simple call to Firenock at: 815-780-1695 or an Email to contact@firenock.com will get a quick price quote.

You can also order a refresher pack which contains :

3 ea. machined red nocks without circuitry board

3 ea. 6 mm. Shrink tubes

3 ea. lithium pin type batteries

One issue I had with Firenocks was the price of the kit. I felt that the cost was prohibitive, but after using them for a while now, I can definitely see that they are well worth every penny! Yes, they are expensive to purchase, especially if you want to build 6 to 12 arrows for hunting and competition; but the benefits far out weigh the price! Would I buy more of the Firenocks now that I have tested them? Definitely YES! I personally feel that they are that good of a product!

Now the question comes to mind "Would I use these nocks for 3D target shooting?" The answer is No Way! Not until they come up with a nock that has a built in timer that would shut the nock off in 8 to 10 seconds. The nock gives the shooters behind me too big of a glowing target to aim at, so I can not justify the price of the nocks and arrows that I would lose!

Are Firenocks just a gimmick? Some people may think so, but for me I can see where they are a definite asset to my shooting. I can quickly see where I have impacted a target, I will be able to see where my arrow has hit on an animal (even in half light circumstances) and I should be able to see where my arrow is in the brush after a complete pass through. All of these benefits make the cost of the Firenocks seem very reasonable!

I would like to say a big Thank You to Mr. Dorge O'some Huang for the chance to try out his fine products and for taking the time to listen to my thoughts and ideas on his products! It is always a pleasure to talk to the Inventor and owner of a Fine Product and to have him address my issues with a product. It shows that he is willing to listen to his customers and to address issues or problems.

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