

Firenock Review by Jeff Bailey March 8, 2007

Firenock v1.2

Since I am a hunter first and foremost, my main concern when testing a new product is for functionality, durability and reliability. When you are hunting; whether local, a few states away or even in a foreign country, the terrain and even the travel to and from your hunting location can and usually will play havoc on your gear. Therefore, you must have equipment that you can depend upon for that shot of a lifetime.

I have broken down my testing into four sections. First is weight comparison; as any archer will agree consistency is king. I wanted to see how the weight of each nock compares to each other, to the practice nocks and to regular nocks. The second area is paper tuning. I wanted to see the effect of the Firenock when shooting the arrow through paper at multiple yardages. The third area is shock and durability. I will put the nock through two simple tests to determine whether the Firenock can maintain its functionality under extreme abuse. The final area is accuracy; I wanted to see the effect a Firenock has with regards to accuracy as compared to regular nocks at multiple distances. Each section is broken out below.

Weight Comparison: After assembling the Firenocks, I tested the weight of each Firenock I assembled, along with the practice nocks that came in the initial package, and compared the results to the regular nocks. All of the Firenocks and practice nocks all weighed in at 29 grains; whereas the original nocks weighed in at 11 grains. The ability for consistency in both

the practice nock as well as the Firenock is a huge benefit to any archer that uses this product. Initially, with placing an additional 18 grains at the back end of the arrow, I would expect to see a notable difference in the paper tuning and accuracy part of this testing. However, I was wrong.

Paper Tuning: After installing the Firenocks into three arrows, I selected three regular arrows as a comparison for this test. I decided to shoot all six arrows (1 regular and 1 Firenock at each designated distance) through a sheet of paper at varying distances. I would shoot a regular arrow followed by a Firenock arrow at 4 feet, 9 feet and 18 feet from the paper sheet. To my surprise; all six arrows shot perfect bullet holes. This proved my initial expectation as being incorrect.

Durability: I created two tests to determine the durability of the Firenocks. The first test was to simply hit the nock at varying speeds and intensities against a hard object to see if the nock fails. The second test is more of a shock test by shooting the arrow through two pieces of 1/2 inch plywood spaced 16 inches apart.

In the first test, I placed one of the Firenocks in an old arrow shaft and passed the over one of the enclosed magnets to turn on the nock. I then started to hit the arrow against the heel of a shoe starting slow and light with increasing speed and intensity. Firenock did not turn off once during the five plus minutes of conducting this test.

In the second test, I shot the Firenock arrow into two pieces of 1/2 inch thick plywood spaced 16 inches away. I placed the wood target 30 yards away trying to simulate standard distance for hunting. I also shot another brand of lighted nock for comparison during this test. The end result, the Firenock stayed lit until I went to the target, pulled out the arrow and passed the nock over a magnet. The other lighted nock brand, turned off upon impact.

Accuracy: I shot all six arrows mentioned above (three regular and three Firenock) target at ranges of 20 yards, 30 yards and 40 yards. Based on the grouping of each would take the distance from the centers of each group in order to determine if there any accuracy difference. The result, at 20 and 30 yards, there was no noticeable difference between the Firenock and the regular nock. At 40 yards, the Firenocks dropped 3/4 of an inch as compared to the regular nocks.

I also tested for a possible drop in Kinetic Energy during the above accuracy test. though the average arrow speed decreased by 5 feet/second, the arrow actually gained almost one full foot-pound of Kinetic Energy due to the additional weight of the Firenock.

Summary: The Firenock is durable, reliable and extremely functional. The ability maintain accuracy and increase Kinetic Energy is a bonus to any hunter. I would recommend this nock to anyone looking for a dependable lighted nock system.