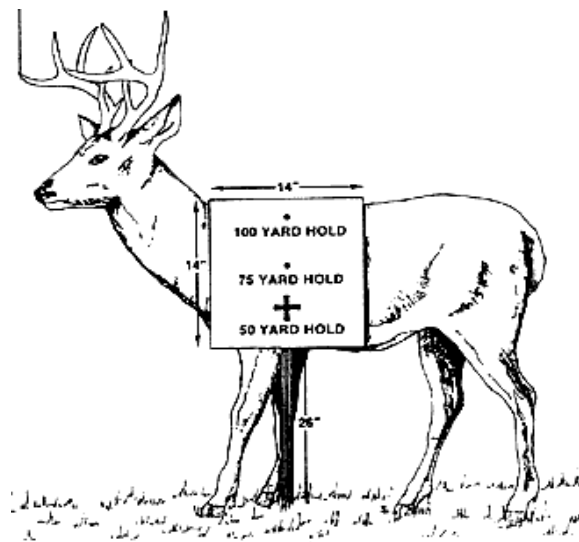




Sighting with a Muzzleloading Rifle

Muzzleloading projectiles function at a lower velocity and have a higher trajectory curve than modern ammunition. To properly use a muzzleloader, the shooter must recognize the range and load limitations of the firearm and compensate for these handicaps by improving his or her personal skill. If the rifle is to be used for hunting, a good deal of practice at various ranges is required.

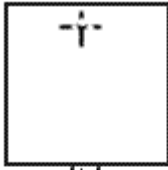


The average deer is not a very large animal. By using the recommended target size and height you will learn to estimate range and compensate for bullet drop.

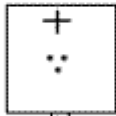
Follow steps 1, 2 and 3 below. After you have determined exactly how far your bullet or ball will drop at these various ranges, make up the practice target show at left. Use this target for practice before hunting deer. You should be able to place the projectile in the cross (or within 3" of it) at all three ranges before hunting game. Do not attempt shots that are beyond your practiced and acquired skill.

Skill with a muzzleloader can only be acquired by constant practice with a given load and firearm. Vary the range is indicated on this chart so that you know exactly how high to hold to compensate for the bullet's drop. Never attempt to hold at some undefined point above the back line of the animal (top edge of target). Such shooting is dependent on luck, not skill.

50 YARDS



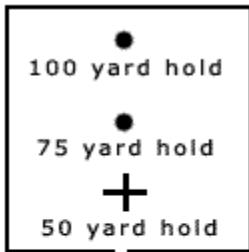
75 YARDS



100 YARDS



14 inch square



26"

Steps to Construct Your Target

1. Adjust rifle sights to hit "dead-on" the point of aim at 50 yards.

2. Use the same target size (and sight setting) and practice at 75 yards. Make a mental note of the "drop". You must hold this much higher to compensate for the additional range.

3. Use the same target size (and sight setting) and practice at 100 yards. Make a mental note of the "drop". You must hold this much high.

Follow steps 1, 2 and 3. After you have determined exactly how far your bullet or ball will drop at these various ranges, make up the practice target shown at the right (cross in the heart area, etc.). Use this target for practice before hunting deer. You should be able to place the projectile in the cross (or within 3" of it) at all three ranges *before* hunting game. **Do not attempt shots that are beyond your practiced and acquired skill.**



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