

Why it does not go in the middle

For a correctly sighted in target gun any faults in supporting the gun and viewing the target through the sights can lead to errors. The attached diagram attempts to explain the resulting errors in the locations of the shots from these faults.

The information given here should be used with caution.

These are typical example where wrong conclusions can be drawn

- a) One fault can cancel out the effect of another fault for example cheek pressing against the butt can cancel trigger snatching. Variations in the degree of the faults can cause the point of impact to move diagonally across the target.
- b) A person consistently having one type of fault can end up zeroing their gun with this error. When they do a shot without the error the shot will move in the other direction. An example of this is if the gun is zeroed with too tight a sling i.e. eliminating an error in F. Then if the body position moves to slacken the sling the F error disappears but the shot goes in to B. The diagnosis is thus too loose of sling

The question is when is the gun correctly sighted-in?

I.e. the target bull is in the centre of the fore sight ring, the fore ring is in the centre of the rear sight and the bullets go into the 10 ring.

There is no simple way of knowing if you are correct.

Lay down and get a coach / instructor to look at your body position.

Check if your sling is too tight or too loose.

Check if your legs/ feet are not pushing forward or pulling back to move the shoulders.

Similarly with both arms / hands are not pushing the gun into the required position.

The gun supporting arm (usually the left) is neither lifting the gun or pulling it down, the gun is just resting on the hand not gripping it.

The trigger hand is just gripping the gun, the arm is not imparting any force on it. To

achieve this it is normal to first grip the pistol grip and then lower the elbow to the ground.

Check that you are not using muscles to hold the gun onto the target. This can be done by closing your eyes counting to 5 and then when you open them see where the gun is pointing.

It may be necessary to shuffle your whole body to align the gun to still maintain the relaxed position.

If you achieve this you may have eliminated many of the problems so when you shoot there may be only one fault or just the gun is not sighted in correctly

You should then be shooting a reasonable group and then you use the diagram to explain the reasons for the fliers.

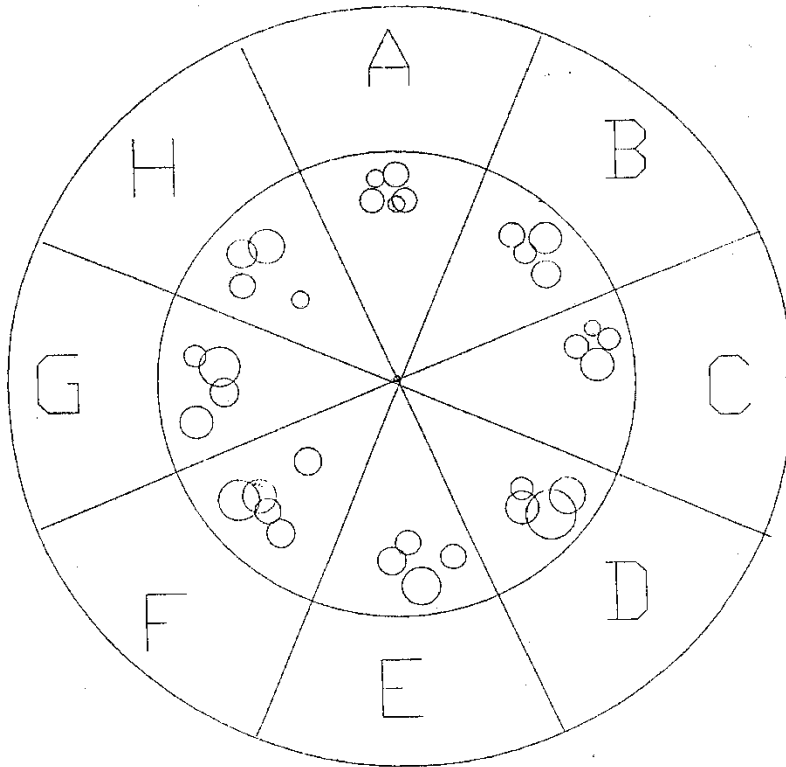
Suggested reading

Small Bore Target Shooting by W. H. Fuller

Competitive Shooting by A. A. Yur Yev English translation

Prone to Win by Chris Fordham CD from the NSRA

Shooting faults finding diagram



AREA	A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Looking through top of aperture 2 Cheek pressing on butt 3 Aim acquired by dropping left hand 4 Butt too low in shoulder
AREA	B	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Sling too loose 2 Looking through side of aperture 3 Handstop too far back
AREA	C	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Sling too loose 2 Elbow not under rifle 3 Left hand pushing right
AREA	D	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Sling too loose 2 Right elbow slipping 3 Elbow not under rifle 4 Sights canted to the left 5 TRIGGER SNATCHING
AREA	E	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Incorrect control of breathing 2 Aim corrected by raising left hand 3 Foresight low in aperture 4 Finger too low on trigger
AREA	F	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Sling too tight 2 Sights centred to the right 3 Finger incorrectly positioned on the trigger 4 Pushing with the right shoulder
AREA	G	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Left hand pulling left 2 Sling too tight
AREA	H	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Cheek pressing against side of butt