

Purposes of Stabilizers

There are three main purposes for bow stabilizers. First, a stabilizer adds mass and inertia to the bow so it can't be torqued as easily. The second reason is probably the most important one: bow balance. A bow's center of gravity is behind the bow hand so it naturally wants to tip backwards if held with a very relaxed grip. Ideally, however, the bow will sit level in your hand after the shot or tip slightly forward. Normally, this can only be accomplished with a stabilizer. Third, a stabilizer absorbs shock and vibration.

The only way to find out which stabilizer is best for you is to take your bow with you when you go shopping and find out what length and weight works best. Typically, though, the heavier the bow the heavier the stabilizer required to balance it perfectly. Try to keep your hunting stabilizers 10 inches or less so they don't become too cumbersome and are still legal for bowhunter class competition.