

Tips to Quiet your Bow

The totally quiet bow hasn't been invented yet. A lot of energy is released every time you shoot an arrow. All energy not transferred into the arrow is being absorbed by the bow and the accessories attached to it. This excess energy needs to be controlled or it will show itself as noise in your bow! Here are the basics to pay attention to:

Hydraulic Stabilizer: This is one of the easiest and most effective noise eliminators available. A good hydraulic stabilizer will not only quiet your bow tremendously in most cases, but will actually improve your groupings and reduce shock to your arm and body.

String Silencers: The right silencers will eliminate a lot of noise. You will need to experiment to find the most effective ones for your bow. Sometimes putting silencers on the cables will further reduce noise.

Draw Weight: Sometimes a bow with the draw weight turned down too much will make excessive noise. Try to keep your bow as close to the maximum weight as possible for best efficiency.

Arrows: Sometimes shooting an arrow which is undersized will cause excessive noise. I have found that the SuperLite aluminum sizes with the wide diameters are quieter than the narrow arrows in most cases.

Cams Out Of Time: Cam Timing is very important to a bow's efficiency. When the cams are not in sync they are still fighting against each other after the arrow leaves the string. Thus, energy remains in the bow which should have been transferred to the arrow, resulting in bow noise and vibration as well as lost arrow speed. A good stabilizer will absorb some of this, but will not eliminate the problem.

Bow Mounted Quiver: Sometimes a bow quiver will make a hollow empty sound. Just try a couple of shots with the quiver off the bow to see if you can notice a difference.

OverDraws: Sometimes an overdraw unit will make a lot of noise. You might consider covering it with camo felt to dampen any vibration. Make sure the arrow rest parts are not slapping against the overdraw when firing. Also, make certain that the cables are not hitting the overdraw when the bow is fired.

Loose Screws and Bolts: Check every screw and nut and bolt to make sure they are tight. Loose screw can make a tremendous amount of noise.

Rest Slapping: Sometimes the rest will slap very hard against the riser or an overdraw if you have one. This happens in a split second and is very hard to detect sometimes. Place a piece of felt on the area where the rest hits bottom against the bow or overdraw bracket, or increase spring pressure on the rest.

Rest Makes Scratching Noise As You Are Drawing The Arrow: This can easily be solved by using shrink tube or felt on the rest contact points. Fingernail Hardener also works well temporarily on two prong rests. Put a couple of coats right on the contact areas.