

SHPF- Bird Placement Guide

This guide is intended for people that plan to place their own birds for Dog Training. Others may differ from this guide, but keep in mind it does work.

Placing your own birds rather than going to a preserve can save a lot of money. Now If you are expecting every bird you place to burst out of cover and fly, your expectation might be to a little too high especially if you have never done this before. There are so-so many factors that affect the way your purchased birds may act regardless of where you get them. If you have only hunted on wild pheasants keep in mind you are purchasing pen raised birds and your experience may be different.

We have been raising/placing birds for almost a decade and results will vary. Understand you are gambling with what may happen in your training session. If you are not getting the results you are looking for when it comes to placing your own birds continue reading...

There are two factors when it comes to placing birds....

1. The Birds Ability
2. Your Dogs Ability

When both of these factors are understood you will be happy with the results

Here are some tips for a successful bird placement...

When picking up birds on our farm it is your responsibility to provide transportation containers. **STAY AWAY FROM METAL DOG CAGES!!!**

1. The best type of container is about 10-16 inches high.
2. Make sure your container is secure, like a locking tote or if using boxes please supply your own tape.
3. Believe it or not birds have to breath, therefore holes in your container are a requirement for them to live!
4. Make sure your container is dark so the birds can't see or simply have a blanket, towel, or tarp as an alternative.
5. You will want about 1-SqFt/bird for transportation.

The purpose of having containers like this is to minimize the birds stress level. If a bird is extremely stressed just base on transportation alone your experience in the field will not be a good one. Our birds fly as a result on minimal stress when they leave our farm. It is the buyer's responsibility to keep those stress levels in check to get the results they are looking for from pick-up to placement.

When placing your own birds, results will always vary. Birds can fly, run, or just be sitting where you placed them as your dog approaches the bird. There are a few different techniques in placing them. The most common is tucking their head under the wing, holding the bird with two hands in front of your body, and spinning them in a circular motion. People always ask how long to spin the bird and my answer is always, "It depend on the ability of your dog". Every dog is different!!! If your dog is really good you don't have to spin the bird as long (about 20 seconds or so) just enough so they are passed out. If you have a dog that is going to need a little more time because of inexperience, then spin the bird longer (about 30-45 seconds). Remember this takes practice and knowing your dog's ability.

Now if you are placing multiple birds at a time, you may have to spin the birds longer so you are not jumping birds out of place. If your dog is still new to this start with one bird at a time.

What also helps is marking the spot where you placed your birds, so that if your dog is having trouble finding that bird at least you have an idea as to where it's at. If you approach the spot and your bird is still passed out and not moving/flying, you spun the bird too long or released your dog too early. If you have trouble finding the bird and it's out of its spot you didn't spin the bird long enough or this is how it's supposed to be and your dog will have to find the bird, hence dog training.

So, as I stated before results will vary for every dog, bird, and person. You have to understand it's not going to be the exact same every time you place birds. For further help or questions feel free to contact us.