

How Fast Can a Bear Run?

A bowhunter was hunting bears in New Mexico one time with a guide who had a habit of making fun of the hunters. One day they treed a bear in some really thick brush and by the time the bear came down, he was almost right on top of the bowhunters. After one of the bowhunters bagged the bear, the guide turned to the youngest bowhunter in the party and said:

“Son, what would you have done if that bear had come down too close to shoot?”

The boy said it didn’t matter how close he came down, he was going to shoot him. But the guide insisted, “Sure, but what if he had been just too close to shoot?”

Well, the hunters knew the guide was trying to get the boy to say something stupid, but he told him anyway, “I would have run.”

That’s just what the guide was waiting to hear. He immediately launched into his litany of how a bowhunter couldn’t possibly outrun a bear, that a bear can outrun a horse for a short distance.

Then the boy explained to the guide: “I don’t have to outrun the bear, I just have to outrun you.”