



## Shot Size

**Purpose:** To show the relationship between shot size and the distance the shot will travel.

This is a very interactive and interesting exercise to students of all ages and makes for a great activity that can be done outside during a scheduled break. It is desirable to have discussed the relationship between shot size and number of pellets in a given load in class prior to this exercise. You will need to prepare, ahead of time, four small paper cups that will be marked:

- #9 Shot (will contain regular sand)**
- #7-1/2 Shot (will contain small gravel)**
- #4 Buckshot (will contain small rocks)**
- Slug (will contain one big rock)**

Ask for a volunteer (preferably a young student) to come forward beside you facing the group. Explain that he or she is going to demonstrate the distance that shot of various sizes will travel. Pour the student a small handful of sand that you explain is similar to #9 shot. Have the student turn away from the group at a 90-degree angle and make a horizontal throw simulating a shot from a shotgun.

Discuss with the group the distance the shot traveled and what use the shot size might have in hunting and clay target sports.

Next, pour the student a small handful of the small

gravel representing #7-1/2 shot and have them make a horizontal throw in the same direction as before. The group should be able to see that the small gravel will travel farther than the sand. Reinforce the distance traveled and uses of the shot size.

Next, pour the student a handful of small rocks representing #4 buck shot and have the student make another throw. Distance will be farther but fewer shot (rocks) will be sent downrange.

Finally, hand the student one egg-size rock that can be thrown in the same horizontal manner. The rock will travel the longest distance of all shot sizes.

### Teaching points are:

1. The relationship between shot size and distance the shot will travel.
2. That as shot sizes increase, pellet number decreases in a given load.
3. That shot size must be matched to the target size and the distance the shot will be taken. +

*This exercise was submitted by Texas Hunter Education Instructor, Ricky J. Linex.*

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<b>Instructor Membership Fee</b>	\$ <u>25.00</u>
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**Method of Payment** (US funds only):  Check/Money Order  MasterCard  Visa  New Membership  Renewal Membership

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