

Firenock Review by Ernest Lhamon, November 4, 2006

Firenock v1.0

I've broken it down into various subjects since I wasn't sure if you were looking for simply a report on how the Firenock performed or for a report to include other factors. Therefore, I'll include all my observations.

1. **PACKAGING.** My Firenocks arrived in perfect condition, thanks in no small part to the very well thought out packaging and the use of a padded mailing envelope. I particularly liked the fact that all applications were spelled out on the packaging itself, i.e., I could tell exactly what arrows I could use the Firenock in. Additionally, the use of the miniature Ziploc bags to keep all components separated was a very nice touch. Lastly, the inclusion of the nock tool was much appreciated - it came in very handy in the installation of the Firenock.

2. **INSTRUCTIONS.** The instructions for both assembling and installation of the Firenock were very straightforward and easy to understand. However, I think they could be improved upon slightly by including a numbering or labeling of the parts in addition to the pictures. If each part were assigned a number or letter which was explained within the instructions it would make them even easier to understand. Again, it was really extremely easy to assemble/install the Firenock but I think this improvement would make it even easier. Additionally, I found quite a few grammatical errors within the instructions. While this has absolutely no bearing on how the Firenock performed I think it detracts ever so slightly from the professionalism of the packaging. Lastly, within the instructions it refers to the Firenock shutting off after 4-6 seconds. I must admit, when I first read this I was surprised that the nock would shut off at all, unless I deactivated it. To me that meant I'd only have 4-6 seconds to watch my arrow if the animal ran off with it or even worse, I'd only have 4-6 seconds to try and find my arrow should I miss. In actual testing this did not turn out to be the case at all - my Firenock stayed on until I deactivated it. Therefore, I'm confused as to what this portion of the instructions was referring to.

3. **INSTALLATION/ASSEMBLY.** As I wrote above, the installation of the Firenock components and the assembly of the Firenock itself was an absolute piece of cake. The use of the plastic bolt to install the aluminum battery holder is very innovative and well thought out. I obtained perfect results even though I didn't wait the 10 minutes for the glue to dry as directed. One area I did have a concern with involves the small rubber band which holds the "C" clamp battery holder. The instructions direct you to roll the rubber band over the "C" clamp battery holder. When I read this I assumed I had to

move the rubber band further up on the apparatus. This was a huge mistake - I nearly broke off the small arm of the "C" clamp in trying to get the rubber band back into place. What I then realized was that the rubber band was already in place around the "C" clamp - as it was on all the Firenocks. I would suggest rewording this portion of the instructions or not installing the rubber band in place. When I put together the second Firenock I found that with the rubber band in place it was virtually impossible to insert the battery. I found it easier to remove the rubber band, insert the battery, then simply push the rubber band over the end of the battery and into place on the "C" clamp.

The installation of the actuator was absolutely a 10 second affair. The hardest part was removing the red protective cover on the double sided tape!

4. **WEIGHT.** The facts and figures included with the Firenocks claimed they only add 19 grains to the weight of your arrow, so I felt it prudent to test this. Using a US Bowhunter Digital scale that is accurate to within +/- 1.5 grains I first weighed the three brands of nocks listed below:

Easton - 12 grains
GoldTip - 12 grains
Bohning - 12 grains

I then weighed the all the components for the Firenock together. Result: 29 grains. This showed a 17 grain difference between the Firenock and arguably the 3 most popular types of nocks on the market today. To me this verified your claim (it was actually better!).

I then weighed the 3 practice nocks that came with the package to verify the claim they weighed exactly the same as the Firenock. Results:

Nock 1 - 29 grains Nock 2 - 29 grains Nock 3 - 29 grains

Dead on the money and 100% consistency. You cannot beat that! By the way, the idea of including 3 practice nocks in the package is outstanding. In fact, my 3 practice nocks already came assembled - that was a nice bonus.

5. **FUNCTIONING.** Now the best part. I took my Cabelas Carbon Hunter 65/80 to the indoor range to see how well the Firenock actually worked. I took along a Lumenok (which by the way is 2 grains heavier than a Firenock) to compare it with

set up on another arrow. First, I wanted to see if the Firenock had any effect on the tune of my bow. Absolutely not - perfect bullet hole on the first shot. Next, I wanted to see just how bright the Firenock was. I shut off all but one light in the indoor range. The light the Firenock put out was very impressive to say the least. I then tried the Lumenok. It was bright but I honestly believe the Firenock was brighter by a slim margin. I turned the lights back on to see how the Firenock showed up in a very, very well lit room (fluorescent light which drowns out just about everything). Again, impressive. I had absolutely no trouble at all picking up my arrow in flight - in fact, I could pick up the Firenock's light almost immediately upon the arrow leaving the string. I tried the Lumenok next and I will tell you, I immediately realized the immense advantage the Firenock has over the Lumenok. When I snapped the Lumenok onto my string it actually turned on. I thought, "OK, let's see what happens when I shoot it." You guessed it - it shut off! I can only imagine in the heat of the hunt accidentally turning on the Lumenok when the arrow is nocked and having it shut off in flight. No such problem with the Firenock - it functioned perfectly. And the ability to simply wave it next to the actuator to shut it off - brilliant. Compared to the wiggling of the nock you have to do with the Lumenok - well, there is no comparison in my opinion.

6. **SUMMARY.** I found the Firenock to be very easy to assemble and install. Every claim found on the packaging was shown to be true and in the case of the weight difference was even better (smaller) than advertised. The Firenock functioned perfectly every time and put forth a light that was easily visible even under the brightest of lights. The ability to deactivate the nock by simply waving it near the actuator is a HUGE improvement over the Lumenok's method of fumbling with the nock. The inclusion of exact matching practice nocks with the Firenock (something you don't get with the Lumenok) is a very nice bonus and is, in my humble opinion, testament to the amount of thought you have put into this product. I will have a Firenock on each of my arrows when I go hunting this spring and I will absolutely not hesitate for a second to recommend them to anyone who is considering using a lighted nock.

Congratulations on developing what I found to be a very, very fine product.

Sincerely,

Ernie Lhamon