



Wyke Archers

of Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire

Club Help Guides and Documents

Basic Equipment Information

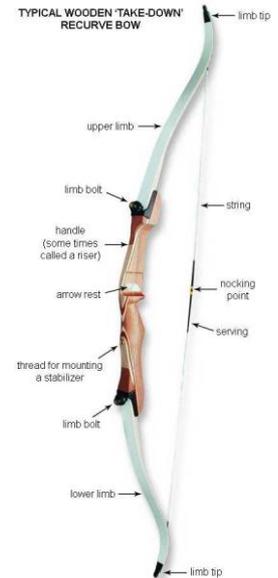
Recurve Bow (Take Down)

The club is in possession of many Recurve bows. These range from 54" tall with a draw weight of 12lb for the youngest starters to the more regular size 66" or 68" bows with far higher draw weights.

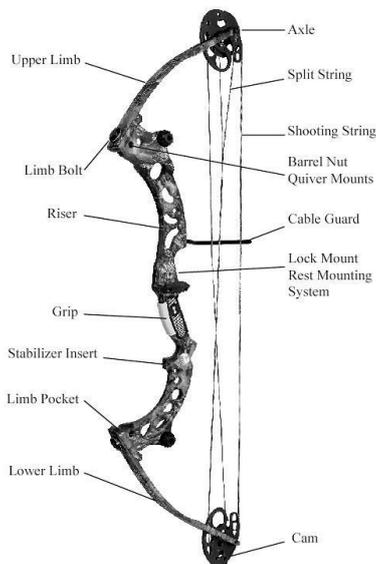
As a beginner we always start with this type of bow so you are able to get comfortable shooting and to build up your draw weights.

These bows allow for the addition of extra items such as sights, stabilisers, arrow rests, etc. Again, these things will be shown to you as you progress through a starter course.

The diagram to the right shows a standard Recurve bow and the names of the individual parts.



Compound Bow



The compound bow is a more modern bow that uses a levering system, usually of cables and pulleys, to bend the limbs.

The limbs of a compound bow are usually much stiffer than those of a recurve bow. The bow has the string attached to pulleys, one or both of which has one or more cables attached to the opposite limb. When the string is drawn back, the string causes the pulleys to turn. This causes the pulleys to pull the cables, which in turn causes the limbs to bend and thus store energy. This type of bow is more energy efficient than the recurve.

The compound bow is little-affected by changes of temperature and humidity and gives superior accuracy, velocity, and distance.

Longbow

The Longbow is the most famous type of bow. In the Middle Ages the Welsh and the English were famous for their very heavy, long-ranged bows, used to great effect in the civil wars of the period and against the French in the Hundred Years' War (with notable success at the battles of Crécy (1346), Poitiers (1356) and Agincourt (1415)).

It a type of bow that is tall (roughly equal to the height of a person who uses it), is not significantly recurved and has relatively narrow limbs, that are circular or D-shaped in cross section. With no sights or other accessories being used the archer requires a great deal of skill and technique to shoot these bows.

Draw weights on these bows are usually no more than 90lb (50lb – 60lb standard) but have been known to be 150lb – 200lb!





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Arrows

Modern arrows are made of various materials, often aluminium and carbon are used, and of course wood.



There are many variables that can be chosen on an arrow from point types, arrow weights, lengths, fletching sizes and colours!



Bracer



Arm guards or Bracers are used to protect the arm holding the bow from being struck by the bowstring. Originally leather but now made of many different materials.

Tabs and Gloves



As bow draw weights increase the damage risk to fingers from the bow string is higher. To protect and assist in accuracy tabs or gloves are used.

