



October 2015

## DEER HUNTING SEASON IS HERE!

*We are really excited for the next few months of deer season. The ranch will be buzzing with hunters, good food will be eaten and stories will be told by the fire pit!*

*We are expecting a stellar season at [Dead Man's Pass Ranch!](#)*

*If you haven't already booked your hunt, it's not too late!  
We still have openings for Meat Hunts, Management Hunts and Trophy Buck Hunts!*

*Call or e-mail us today to reserve your spot!*

**Dead Man's Pass Ranch is under the authority of a Level 3 Managed Lands Deer Permit. The MLDP allows us to have the state's most flexible seasons and bag limits. Hunting license is required, but use of your hunting license tag(s) are not required on deer harvested under the authority of this permit; therefore county and statewide bag limits do not apply to individual hunters.**

Some believe that the hardest part of hunting is shooting the deer. However, the hardest part is FINDING it!

If you didn't see that deer drop within sight, then it's time to get on the blood trail. Here's some common mistakes made by even the best of hunters and how to avoid them.

Do you recall which way the deer ran? What did it look like when it ran?

If its tail was straight up, chances are you missed. If the deer hunched its back up, it's most likely a gut shot and the deer may head for water. A high jump and a kick followed by a high speed run usually indicate a good shot to the vitals!

Before you head out of the stand you need to wait about 20 to 30 minutes after the shot. Unless the deer dropped, this is absolutely necessary. You need to calm your nerves and relive the shot placement. Visualize the shot and how the deer reacted. This will give you a better idea of what type of shot it was before you head out to track it.

Once the recommended wait time is over, it's time to make your pursuit! Head over to the spot where you shot the deer. Look for a blood pattern to help you determine where you shot the deer. Begin looking for overturned leaves or rocks, broken branches, chunks of hair or hide on the ground. Look for blood on trees, branches, or plants. Blood will often rub off on these once the deer flees. Once you find the blood, it is important to observe the color and consistency. This will help determine where you hit the deer.

LUNG SHOT: Bright pink, frothy blood with bubbles  
The deer shouldn't go far and chances for recovery are very good.

SHOT TO THE HEART OR AN AREA SUPPLIED BY MULTIPLE BLOOD VESSELS: Rich, vivid red blood.  
The deer should expire within a couple hundred yards.

LIVER OR KIDNEY SHOT: Dark crimson-colored blood.  
Although a shot like this is fatal, it will take time. Wait at least 2-3 hours before you begin tracking. The blood trail may be minimal so be very patient and observant while using your best tracking skills.

STOMACH SHOT: Blood with plant matter or food mixed in or yellowish-green tint.  
Although this shot is fatal it may take a while before the deer expires. It is best to wait at least half a day before tracking. The deer will most likely head for water. Look at nearby bodies of water in this case.

LEG OR MUSCLE SHOT: Bright red heavy at first but then fades to droplets.  
These wounds will clot up quickly leaving you with very little to track. This is not a fatal shot.

BLUE:	SPINE
WHITE:	SHOULDER
RED:	LUNG
DARK RED:	HEART
PURPLE:	LIVER
GREEN:	GUT
YELLOW:	GUT
ORANGE:	HAM



Click on the link to learn more about shot placement.  
(Photo and link courtesy of realtree.com)

<http://www.realtree.com/deer-hunting/shot-placement-on-deer>

Once you find your deer DO NOT RUN UP TO IT! Just because a deer is down doesn't mean it's dead. Deer that have been stunned can recover amazingly fast, especially if they detect your approach. "Dead" deer have been known to get up and run - or worse, attack the hunter. Slowly approach it with your weapon raised in the event you need to fire another shot. If its eyes are closed, it's definitely not dead. Animals die with their eyes open and after death a blue haze appears to them.

Although many hunters have harvested memorable deer, there are many deer that are never recovered. No sportsman wants to lose a deer, but unfortunately it does happen on occasion. So choose your shots with care and go for higher percentage shots. It's a method that works and you will be a much happier hunter.



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