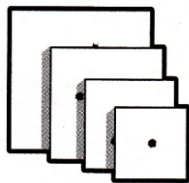


RANGE DRILL No 1



PUSH YOUR LIMITS

TONY GIMMELLIE

Secret Service firearms instructor, competitor (impactdatabooks.com)

SETUP: Four targets decreasing in size: 1, ¾, ½, and ¼ inch.

RANGE: Up to 100 yards.

SHOOT: Each target has a point value—from large to small, they are 10, 20, 30, and 40. Fire from the prone position and use a par time of 30 seconds. Fire up to four times, with each hit adding to the tally, for a total possible score of 100. But a miss wipes out everything, giving zero points. The trick is to know when to stop.

SKILLS: Hitting such small targets develops mental focus.

RANGE DRILL No 2

UP & DOWN

FRANK GALLI

Former USMC sniper, precision rifle instructor, and founder of Sniper's Hide (snipershide.com)

SETUP: Five 1-inch, evenly spaced circles; rifle on a bipod or other rest on the ground, pointed toward the target.

RANGE: 100 yards.

SHOOT: Begin this drill standing behind the gun. On the start command, drop prone behind the gun, locate the correct target, fire one shot, and stand. Repeat until all five targets have been engaged. The goal is to shoot the first circle within 15 seconds, the second circle in 12 seconds, the third in 10 seconds, the fourth in eight seconds, and the fifth and final circle in just six seconds. The concept is to get away from shooting groups and into the mindset of firing one shot at one target. This helps identify problems, because they are not masked in a collection of bullet holes in a group.

SKILLS: The goal of this drill is to improve your ability to get into position quickly. Shots often need to be taken fast, and many shooters take too much time getting ready. This drill trains the shooter to get set, get on the target, and break the shot while maintaining precision. The decreasing par time with each shot adds stress and will help reveal flaws in technique as you rush to make the shot.

RANGE DRILL No 3

RAPID BOLT-ACTION

TONY GIMMELLIE

SETUP: Four 1-inch targets.

RANGE: 100 yards.

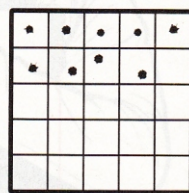
SHOOT: Using a bolt-action rifle, start with three rounds in the magazine and one in the chamber. At the start signal, attempt to place one shot on each target.

Begin with a par time of 30 seconds and work down to 15. Only a 100 percent score, with one hit on each target, is acceptable. The goal is to increase the speed with which this is accomplished.

SKILLS: This drill improves gun handling, and the ability to smoothly work the bolt and acquire the next target. It requires solid fundamentals in the prone position to prevent recoil from disrupting your natural point of aim.

This drill will build a hunter's confidence. If you can hit four 1-MOA targets in 20 seconds, a deer's chest will look as big as a blimp. This also teaches you to manipulate the rifle and successfully make multi-potential shots under stress.

RANGE DRILL No 4



THE GRID

SCOTT BALLARD

Instructor at the SIG Sauer Academy (sig saueracademy.com)

SETUP: Draw a grid of 1-inch squares, six rows by six or five by five.

RANGE: 100 yards.

SHOOT: This drill is best shot with a high-capacity magazine-fed rifle to minimize the need to reload.

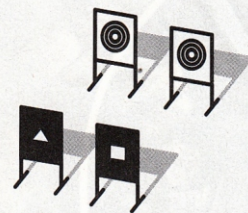
At the start signal, fire one shot at the top-left box. Then fire a second shot at the box to the right of it, and continue across the top row. When the top row is completed, move to row two. Continue until all boxes have been engaged.

At some point, you'll find you can't focus on the reticle clearly and the shots will go astray. When this starts to happen, "reset" your vision by turning away from the scope, focusing on something in the distance, and blinking a few times.

Keep track of the time it takes to complete the grid with clean hits and how many shots you can make before needing to clear your vision.

SKILLS: The grid drill builds focus, concentration, and marksmanship. It demonstrates that there is a limited amount of time any shooter or hunter can stare through a rifle optic and shoot effectively.

RANGE DRILL No 5



KEYHOLE DRILL

SCOTT BALLARD

SETUP: Place several targets a few yards behind cardboard barriers with small, randomly shaped holes to shoot through.

RANGE: 100 yards.

SHOOT: You can shoot from any position, but prone is most common.

At the buzzer, place one shot on each target without hitting the barrier. If the bullet strikes the barrier instead of going cleanly through the hole, it counts as a miss. One shooter can drill with a par time, or two shooters can go head-to-head for the fastest time.

The degree of difficulty increases as you move out. What is easy at 100 yards will be difficult at 200 and extremely challenging at 300 yards.

SKILLS: This develops focus and concentration. The drill also teaches you to trust your equipment. If you know the rifle and have all your dope right, all that matters is your reticle and what it is covering. But the mind can get distracted by the fact that you are shooting through holes that are forward of the target, and that lack of focus will cause misses.

This drill is good training for hunters, as they often have only a little patch of deer to shoot at through a hole in brush.