

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

Rattling Technique - Rattling is more effective one to two weeks before, and immediately following, a peak rattling activity. Bucks are ready and willing to breed long before does come into estrus. Rattling is not as effective at peak rattling periods because bucks are busy tending does in estrus and are unwilling to leave them. Sub-dominant bucks, however, are very vulnerable at this time because they are caught up in the breeding frenzy. Whitetail rattling activity peaks in November in many areas with a second and smaller peak three to four weeks later. This second breeding peak includes unbred adult does in their second estrus period and some fawn does (in excellent habitat) that are just reaching sexual maturity. Generally, rattling activity peaks later in more southerly latitudes.

Rattling can be effective at any time of the day, but is best during peak deer activity periods at sunrise and sunset. A calm, cool morning provides an amphitheater for rattling as sounds carry a greater distance under these conditions.

Preseason scouting is important to learn the areas that bucks frequent. Antler rubs and active scrapes are useful in locating big bucks. Rattling works best near heavy, brushy cover where bucks may be bedded. Bucks are more willing to respond if they can approach through secure cover, being reluctant to cross open areas. Keep alert while rattling, because deer may approach from any direction. They may come running straight into your stand or circle cautiously to approach from downwind.

Rattling works best from a tree stand, but can be effective from a ground blind. Camouflage clothing, good concealment, and use of scent products are all important factors for success. Remember to keep movement to a minimum because of the sharp eyesight of whitetails.

Rattling Sequence - The Primetime™ Rattling Bag allows you to create the loud, realistic crashing sounds of two bucks colliding. To initiate a rattling sequence, roll and smash the bag between both hands for 30 to 60 seconds. You can even use the bag one-handed by rolling it against your chest or thigh. To simulate the sound of two bucks separating their antlers, roll the bag sharply between your hands and stop abruptly.

This series of sounds should be repeated every five to 10 minutes, and with less intensity. Realism can be added by rolling the bag on a tree trunk or limb to duplicate a buck raking his antlers on a tree or bush. Keep the second rattling series short, because a buck may be nearby attempting to pinpoint your location. After two or three series, wait and watch for 30 to 45 minutes before starting a complete, new sequence.

Another good rattling method is to hold the bag loosely between open hands and roll it back and forth while applying even pressure. This produces a higher pitched sound typical of two sub-dominant bucks sparring for their place in the breeding hierarchy. Slight pauses between rolls will create a more realistic rattling sequence.

When a buck is sighted, you can tease him in closer by using the bag in a quiet, subdued manner. Use your body to conceal this rattling activity, because a buck can detect your slightest movement.

Have your gun or bow ready between rattling series because bucks can appear very suddenly. If there is no response after just one sequence, you may want to move to another location. A dominant buck's fall home range is several square miles in size, so you may have to rattle from different locations to find him.

A lanyard is provided on your bag if you prefer to rattle with one hand to reduce movement. Just roll the bag against your leg or chest. An elastic strap is also provided to keep the bag secure and silent while traveling to your stand.

An effective hunting method is to team up with another hunter and have one person rattle while the other watches for deer. Set up about 50 to 75 yards apart for best results, with the shooter downwind from the ratter. Bucks responding to a rattling sequence may provide a better opportunity for a shot because their attention is focused away from the shooter. Rattling sequences can be alternated between hunters to give both equal opportunity.

Rattling can be an effective hunting technique when using the proper tools at the right time and place. Rattling is a challenging technique that can provide not only a thrilling hunting experience but often a chance at a trophy buck. Always use care when rattling to ensure your personal safety. Do not rattle in areas of high hunter density.

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