

SHOTGUNNER'S TALK

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Is there anything to the term, "Keep the gun moving", that is echoed throughout the Shotgunning world? Is it true that, "If you shoot right at a target" that is moving at a respectable speed, will the shot *miss behind* the target"? Well, let's do a **Mr. Spock** thing....lets get technical and a bit "logical" to analyze the situation. (This is going to hurt the biological computer, but Here We GO!)

Lets consider SHOT SPEED = 1200 fps (average, depending on the shell).

TARGET SPEED= 50 mph (compare to bird speed charts).

DISTANCE TO TAGRET=....?...say 25 yards, (73.3 ft).

RESULTS= When a Shotgun is fired at a target, moving at 25 mph, (gage doesn't seem to make a difference), the leading shot in the shot string will reach the target area in 1/16 sec. The shot string is at least 10 ft long, so let's say 10 ft. By the time the leading shot gets to the target area, the target will have continued its movement and will have moved ahead of where it was when the trigger was pulled, another 4.58 ft. The entire shot string will pass through the target area in 1/80 sec., when the muzzle of the Shotgun is moving at the same speed as the target (50 mph). At that

target and gun speed, arithmetic shows that that the leading shot will reach the target area approximately 1 ft. behind where the target was when the trigger was pulled.

So, **Mr. Spock** would say, "If a shot blast is directed (right at) a moving target,

the shot string will arrive at the target area, behind where the target was when the trigger was pulled, depending upon the distance and speed of the target."

It follows, then, that we *must* shoot in front of a moving target. It is logical that, if we expect to hit the target, we have no choice. You mathematicians can verify the arithmetic. Think ahead, shoot in front of your target, maintain a lead. We don't need to get too technical, just consider the indisputable LOGIC! If the muzzle of your Shotgun is RIGHT ON a moving target, you **will** miss!..... by how much depends upon speed and distance.....Bottom Line

"Shoot in Front of your target" and "Keep the gun Moving!" If you stop your gun from moving with the target, guess where the shot pattern is going to be when it reaches the target area.

