

Bow Report

By Bill Krenz

2009 Hoyt SuperHawk

Prices are up. Gasoline is at an all-time high. Groceries, building materials and more have all seen dramatic price increases of late. The world is more expensive, which is exactly why it's so remarkable to now be able to purchase a quality Hoyt bow for less.

Hoyt has long been known for top-of-the-line bows, the kind of high-tech, high-performance bows that discriminating archers covet and save for. That's not changing. But what is changing is that Hoyt is now launching an exciting new lineup of mid-priced bows. In effect, while McCain and Obama are talking about future price relief, Hoyt is already delivering.

Within the last 30 days, Hoyt has announced the introduction of two brand-new bows. Of course, new bows from an innovative leader like Hoyt are, in themselves, not startling. But what is startling are the twin facts that these are 2009 bow models and that their suggested retail prices are especially *low*.

The two new 2009 bows are the Hoyt SuperHawk and the Hoyt PowerHawk. The primary difference between the models is that the slightly more expensive SuperHawk features Hoyt's legendary laminated limbs, while the PowerHawk sports standard solid-glass limbs. The MSRP on the SuperHawk is \$599. On the new PowerHawk, the MSRP is \$499.

Both the SuperHawk and the PowerHawk will be available only through independent Hoyt pro shops. It's impressive that bowhunters will be able to purchase a bow with the breeding, quality and performance of a Hoyt, at those prices.

In spite of overwhelming initial pro-shop demand, Hoyt was able to highjack a SuperHawk for me, and I quickly put the new bow through its paces. There's a lot to like about the 2009 Hoyt SuperHawk.

How It Shoots

The lion's share of the performance characteristics of any compound bow come from its cam system. The cams largely determine how a bow draws, tunes and shoots. The 2009 Hoyt SuperHawk is equipped

with Hoyt's brand-new M4 Cam & ½ Performance System. This is a 75-percent letoff, hybrid cam system that all but eliminates cam-timing issues, is especially easy to fine-tune for draw length, draws with an uncommon smoothness and delivers sound and sufficient arrow speed.

When drawing the SuperHawk, weight builds up evenly and the transition to letoff is smooth and controllable. Everyone will like that. I certainly did. The back wall of the draw cycle is of a comforting firmness that promotes a consistent draw length and anchor point. In addition, the SuperHawk's eccentric system features pivoting inner cam modules. To change draw length, you simply loosen or remove the appropriate module screws and pivot those modules to the desired settings. Nothing could be simpler or faster. My bow came set at 29 inches, but I tried it at both 28.5 and 29.5 inches to see which of the three settings shot best for me. With the M4's inner cam adjustment system, that was easy.

Given the SuperHawk's generous 7.5-inch brace height, I expected this new bow to be forgiving to shoot, and I wasn't disappointed. Using appropriate carbon arrows, and with just a few tweaks to the position of my arrow rest, I was able to quickly get perfect arrow flight and first-rate accuracy. All shots were reasonably quiet and shot vibration was minimal.

Key Features and Benefits

Hoyt TEC Riser

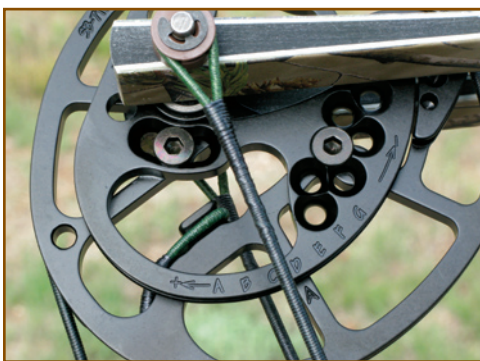
One of the signature features of current Hoyt bows is the TEC riser concept. That unique riser design—complete with its flying supports, small grip and airy appearance—is much in evidence on the new, mid-priced Hoyt SuperHawk. The TEC riser structure is unusually strong and bend-resistant, and that makes it a superb shooting platform for any bow. On a mid-priced bow, like the SuperHawk, it's a welcome dash of unexpected technology.

New Hoyt M4 Cam & ½ System

In the very same vein is the SuperHawk's new M4 Cam & ½ Performance System. It's a pretty sophisticated cam system for such an affordable bow. It's smooth-drawing with a firm back wall, compliments



A recent trend toward smaller, trimmer limb pockets is evident on the 2009 Hoyt SuperHawk. The SuperHawk is a compact and reasonably lightweight bow.



The M4 Cam & ½ Performance System on the SuperHawk features a pivoting inner cam module that is used to quickly and easily adjust the bow's draw length. Engraved letters on the inner cam designate specific draw-length settings.



Specifications

2009 Hoyt SuperHawk

Axle-to-Axle Length	32 inches
Brace Height	7.5 inches
Riser Geometry	2 inches reflex
Mass Weight	4.1 pounds
Letoff	75% adjustable
Draw Lengths	25.5 to 30 inches
Draw Weights	50#, 60#, 70#
Finish	Realtree All Purpose Green

For more information, Circle #112, log onto hoyt.com or call Hoyt at (801) 363-2990.

Arrow Speed

2009 Hoyt SuperHawk set at 29 inches (by factory), and adjusted to 70 pounds

28-INCH TEST ARROWS	SHAFT GR/IN	ARROW WEIGHT	KINETIC ENERGY	ARROW SPEED
EASTON XX78 ALLOY 2512	10.3	448 GR.	68.8	263 FPS
EASTON FULL METAL JACKET 400	10.2	426 GR.	68.5	269 FPS
CARBON EXPRESS ARAMID KV 350	9.8	415 GR.	68.2	272 FPS
CARBON TECH WHITETAIL 65/80	9.5	411 GR.	68.0	273 FPS
CARBON EXPRESS MAXIMA HUNTER 350	8.9	398 GR.	67.8	277 FPS
EASTON ST AXIS N-FUSED 400	9.0	392 GR.	67.8	279 FPS
BEMAN ICS HUNTER ELITE 400	8.4	390 GR.	67.4	279 FPS
GOLD TIP XT HUNTER 55/75	8.2	385 GR.	67.0	280 FPS
PSE RADIAL X WEAVE HUNTER 300	8.1	376 GR.	66.9	283 FPS
EASTON LIGHTSPEED 400	7.4	363 GR.	66.4	287 FPS
GOLD TIP ULTRALIGHT PRO 400	7.4	361 GR.	66.5	288 FPS
CARBON TECH CHEETAH 400	6.4	346 GR.	66.0	293 FPS
HIGH COUNTRY SPEED PRO MAX	5.5	303 GR.	64.3	309 FPS

Bow weighed with an Easton Bow Force Digital Scale. All tests conducted with a Spot-Hogg Hooter Shooter Portable Shooting Machine and a Competition Electronics Pro Chronograph.



The SuperHawk's advanced TEC riser features a flying support, a torque-free grip and an airy appearance. Note the integrated RizerShox dampener below the grip.

of a nicely shaped draw stop with rubber bumper on the lower cam. Then there's the M4's pivoting inner cam modules. This is a splendid draw-length adjustment system for any bow, allowing for quick and easy draw-length changes without the need for additional parts. To fine-tune draw length on the 2009 Hoyt SuperHawk, all you do is loosen/remove one screw on the lower cam and two on the upper cam and then pivot the inner cam modules on both cams to the appropriate settings. Those settings are clearly marked with engraved letters on the inner cam. Once at the desired settings, replace and/or tighten the screws. It really is that easy.

Hoyt XT500 Laminated Limbs


Some confusion may exist over the advantages offered by a laminated glass limb as opposed

to a solid glass limb. Solid glass limbs are very durable and less costly to produce. Laminated glass limbs are even more durable and are also a bit more consistent in their bend pattern. Think of a solid block of anything. Within that block are likely to be some small imperfections, and those imperfections may influence how that block performs. Now, take that block, cut it into precise layers and then bond those layers randomly together. By doing that, the imperfections in the solid block are negated and the composite piece acts more consistently. Hoyt's advanced XT500 laminated limbs are superior bow limbs.

RizerShox and AlphaShox Dampeners

Integrated right into the SuperHawk's TEC riser, and located just below the grip, is a dual-sided RizerShox dampener made of Sims LimbSaver Navcom material. That dampener squelches riser vibration. Aiding that effort are two AlphaShox limb dampeners. Those Navcom dampeners are located between the SuperHawk's advanced split limbs. There are also dampeners in the bowstring. The cumulative effect makes the 2009 Hoyt SuperHawk as quiet and shock-free as possible.

Pleasing Price

It would be easy to imagine that all this technology should cost more. But it doesn't with the new Hoyt SuperHawk, nor does it with the new Hoyt PowerHawk. In a world gone crazy with higher prices, these two 2009 bows from Hoyt offer instant relief. 



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