



EAST ELGIN SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Rifle Sight in Policy and Procedure

The Policy & Procedure outlined below is to help ensure all members and guests at EESA understand and adhere to a tried and accepted method of sighting in rifles. This in turn helps prevent errant rounds, ground strikes, and damage to club property from poorly sighted in rifles and scopes.

Choose the right distance for zeroing

If you're just checking zero on an existing rifle and scope combination that you've used before, there should be no problem recording shots when shooting at 100 yards. The odds are pretty good that your zero is either still right on or pretty close. This scenario is common if you're just re-checking your rifle at the beginning of the season. If you're mounting a new scope, you have no way to now how much the scope and rifle are out of alignment, so it's best to start your zeroing process at 25 yards.

Zeroing steps

Fire one shot and note the placement of that shot on the target. At this short 25-yard distance, you're only getting a rough zero that will assure hitting paper at 100 yards, so it's reasonable to make adjustments off that one shot. You aren't establishing absolute precision just yet.

Adjust the scope using the manufacturer's values, remembering that you'll probably need to multiply the number of clicks by four because most scope adjustment clicks are calibrated for a 100-yard distance.

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Many scopes are calibrated in minutes of angle (MOA) and move the point of impact 1/4-inch per click at 100 yards. That means that each click will only move your impact 1/16th of an inch at 25 yards, so adjust accordingly. If your scope adjustments are in milliradians (mils), then know that one mil equals about 3.6 inches at 100 yards and .8 inches at 25 yards. Many milliradian scopes use 0.1 mil-per-click adjustments, so it will take ten clicks to move impact .8 inches at a distance of 25 yards. These numbers are rounded off, but the value of error is much less than a click, and they've served just fine for me out to 1,000 yards. After making the adjustments, fire another shot and if you're within an inch of center, you're ready to move on to 100 yards.



At 100 yards, fire three shots and repeat the process, keeping in mind that the number of clicks required will change by a factor of four. The more accurate the rifle, the easier it is to get a precise zero. No matter how many rounds you fire, you can't get a zero that's closer than the accuracy capability of the rifle. After making the appropriate adjustments, fire another three shots. If your measurements and adjustments are correct and your scope has accurate adjustments, you should have a zero. If not, you likely have a problem with the scope.