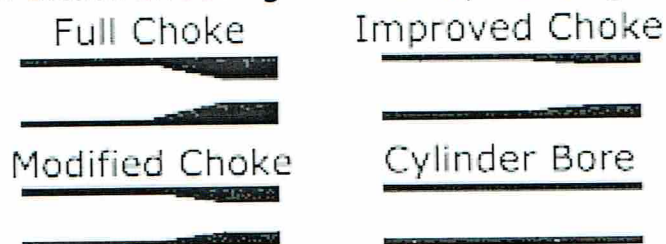


# Chokes



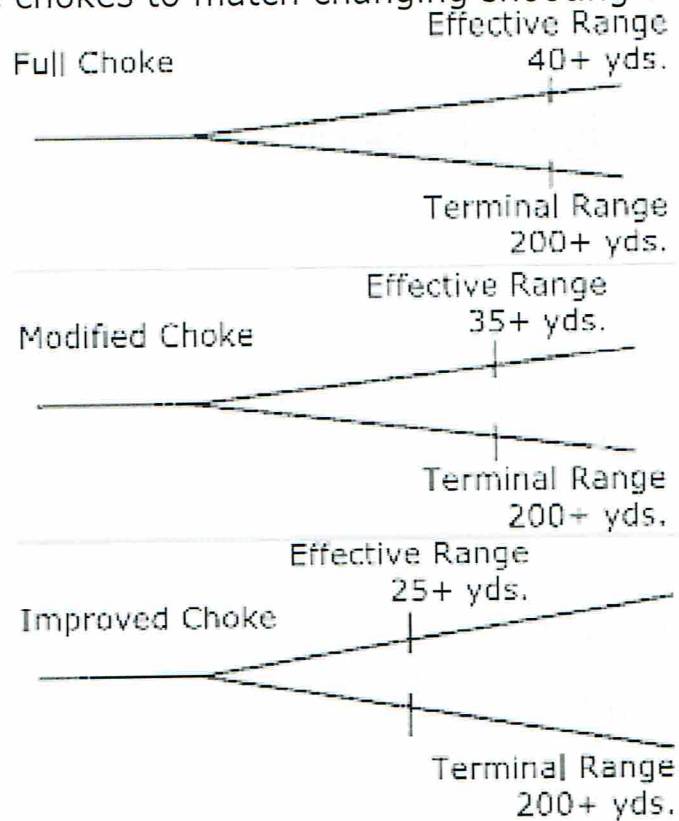
The inside bore constriction at the muzzle end of a shotgun's barrel is known as the "choke." When a shotshell is fired, shot travels down the bore, exits the muzzle and begins to "spread out." Just as a nozzle on the end of a garden hose controls the spray of water, the choke controls the spread of shot — making it narrower or wider.

The three basic chokes for a shotgun are known as "full" (tight constriction; delivers a narrow, dense spread), "modified" (less constriction; delivers a medium-width spread) and "improved cylinder" (even less constriction; delivers a wide, open spread). A gun which has no choke is called a "cylinder bore" and delivers the widest spread. There are also a number of specialty chokes that provide narrower or wider spreads — some of the most popular are for skeet shooting and turkey hunting.



A shotgun's choke also determines its effective range. The tighter the constriction, the farther the effective range. For instance, a "full" choke is most effective at 40 to 50 yards. An "improved cylinder" is most effective from 20 to 35 yards. Shotgun barrels come with either "fixed" (non-removable) chokes

or today's more popular "interchangeable" screw-in choke tubes (like the Rem Choke system) that allow hunters to quickly and easily change chokes to match changing shooting conditions.



#### Most commonly used chokes:

**Super-Full and Extra-Full Chokes:** "The gobbler getters." Specialized chokes with extra-tight constrictions and the densest patterns — ideally suited for the head shots necessary in turkey hunting.

**Full Choke:** Tight constriction for dense pattern (approximately 70% of a shell's total pellets in a 30" circle at 40 yards). Best for trap shooting, pass shooting waterfowl, turkey hunting and shooting buckshot loads.

**Modified Choke:** Less constriction than full choke (approximately 60% of a shell's total pellets in a 30" circle at 40 yards). Excellent for all-around hunting of waterfowl, long-range flushing upland birds (such as late-season pheasant and sharptail grouse) as well as other small game. Also used for trap shooting.

**Improved Cylinder Choke:** Even less constriction than modified

(approximately 50% of a shell's total pellets in a 30" circle at 40 yards). Ideal for close-in small game shooting, upland bird hunting (such as quail, grouse and pheasant) as well as hunting waterfowl close over decoys. Rifled slugs also perform very well from this choke.

**Cylinder Bore:** No constriction (approximately 40% of a shell's total pellets in a 30" circle at 40 yards). Most often used by law enforcement for service shotguns.

**Skeet Choke:** a specialty choke (approximately 50% of a shell's total pellets in a 30" circle at 25 yards) designed to deliver optimum patterns for close-range skeet shooting.

**Remember:**

- 1. Chokes control how quickly the shotgun's pellets spread out after they leave the muzzle of the gun.**
- 2. Different chokes give different patterns and are used for different purposes (sheet shooting versus hunting)**
- 3. Chokes do not determine the size or gauge of the shotgun ammunition.**

ref: 14 Jan 2005

[http://www.remington.com/whatsnew/brrls\\_choke/sgbct\\_3.htm](http://www.remington.com/whatsnew/brrls_choke/sgbct_3.htm)