

## PORTED CHOKES

Dear Technoid:

I have a Browning BPS Invector with a 30" barrel that I use for both turkey and deer. I love the gun but it really pounds me with those 3" magnum loads in it. I have seen some ported chokes on the market and wondered what you thought of them? Would they help with the recoil?

I am interested in a rifled choke for shooting deer slugs and another choke for turkey hunting. Could you also let me know who might make these chokes?

Thanks in advance for your advice.

Mark

Dear Mark,

In my opinion ported chokes will not do a thing for recoil. Muzzle brakes do work on high power rifles, but ported chokes are not the same shape or thickness and shotguns do not develop nearly the same gas pressure at the muzzle. Ported chokes to reduce recoil are a sales gimmick.

The best and easiest thing that you can do for recoil is to put a bunch of lead in the stock and magazine. Adding two pounds of weight will drop your recoil by about 25%. You can always take it out when deer season is over. Recoil reducers will work just as well, but no better, than an equal amount of lead. Reducers theoretically ought to work better by slightly delaying weight transfer, but I have never been able to tell the difference between a reducer and good old fishing weights.

Also, for pure deer hunting, a good strap on PAST recoil shield can do wonders. Don't underestimate these things. Wear it under your shirt so that the stock will not catch on it. I could have sold PAST recoil shields for \$1000 each on one dove trip down to Colombia. After a day of shooting 2,000 rounds, some of those guys were simply too red and raw to continue. A good quality recoil pad, like a KickeeZ, will also help, but do not get one that is too thick or it will collapse too much on heavy recoil and increase your face slap.

A number of writers have commented that rifled chokes seem to do just as good a job as an entirely rifled barrel. I don't know as I have not tested both, but I have seen some pretty impressive performances from a slug in a rifled barrel.

Good luck. A little loin of venison and roast turkey would make quite a Thanksgiving or Christmas dinner.

Best regards,  
Bruce Buck  
Shotgun Report's Technoid