The Ultimate Beginner's Guide to Dove Hunting: Everything You Need to Know





Dove Hunting Made Simple: A Beginners Resource to Dove Hunting by Emily Bähr

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Dove hunting is a popular and challenging sport that can be enjoyed by people of all ages and skill levels. Whether you're a complete novice or just looking to improve your skills, this comprehensive guide provides everything you need to know to get started.

Chapter 1: Choosing the Right Gear

The first step to successful dove hunting is choosing the right gear. This includes your shotgun, ammunition, and clothing.

Shotgun

A good dove hunting shotgun should be lightweight and easy to handle. It should also have a good recoil pad to help reduce the impact of the shot. A 12-gauge or 20-gauge shotgun is a good choice for dove hunting.

Ammunition

Dove hunting ammunition should be light and fast. A good choice is 7 1/2 or 8 shot dove loads.

Clothing

Dove hunting clothing should be comfortable and breathable. It should also be camouflage to help you blend in with your surroundings. A good choice is a pair of camouflage pants and shirt, along with a hat and gloves.

Chapter 2: Finding the Best Hunting Spots

The next step to successful dove hunting is finding the best hunting spots. Doves are often found in open areas near water, such as fields, pastures, and riverbeds. Look for areas where doves are likely to feed and roost.

Once you've found a few potential hunting spots, it's important to scout them out. This will help you determine the best places to set up your blind or decoys.

Chapter 3: Setting Up Your Blind or Decoys

If you're hunting from a blind, it's important to set it up in a location where you'll have a good view of the doves. The blind should be camouflaged and large enough to accommodate you and your hunting partner.

If you're hunting with decoys, it's important to set them up in a way that will attract doves. Doves are social birds, so a group of decoys is more likely to attract them than a single decoy. Place the decoys in a natural setting, such as a field or pasture.

Chapter 4: Shooting Doves

When shooting doves, it's important to lead them slightly. Doves are fastmoving birds, so you need to aim ahead of them to ensure a clean kill. It's also important to shoot at the dove's body, rather than its head. This will help you avoid damaging the meat.

Chapter 5: Cleaning and Cooking Doves

Once you've shot a few doves, it's time to clean and cook them. Doves are a delicious and versatile game bird that can be prepared in a variety of ways. Here are a few simple recipes to get you started:

Fried Doves

Ingredients:

- 1 dove, cleaned and quartered
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil

Instructions:

- 1. In a shallow bowl, combine the flour, salt, and pepper.
- 2. Dredge the dove quarters in the flour mixture.
- 3. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat.
- 4. Fry the dove quarters for 3-4 minutes per side, or until golden brown and cooked through.
- 5. Serve with your favorite sides.

Grilled Doves

Ingredients:

- 1 dove, cleaned and quartered
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

Instructions:

- 1. In a small bowl, combine the olive oil, salt, and pepper.
- 2. Brush the dove quarters with the olive oil mixture.
- 3. Preheat a grill to medium-high heat.
- 4. Grill the dove quarters for 3-4 minutes per side, or until cooked through.
- 5. Serve with your favorite sides.

Dove hunting is a great way to enjoy the outdoors and challenge yourself as a hunter. By following the tips in this guide, you can increase your chances of success and have a memorable dove hunting experience.



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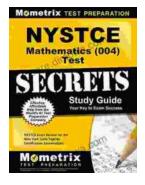
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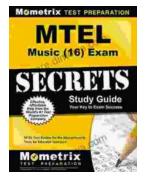
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