



Shooting Mats 101

Selecting the perfect shooting mat may seem overwhelming at first, but knowing a few key features and designs will help you in this process.

Uses for Shooting Mats: Whether you shoot competitively, for hunting or just for fun, chances are you will benefit from using a shooting mat. Not only do shooting mats help improve accuracy, they also provide comfort, greater stability, and protection while shooting in rougher terrains. Making it so when others are heading back to their trucks, you can still be in the field.

Bipod Pre-load Webbing: Stability is crucial to a good shot. MidwayUSA Shooting Mats Feature Bipod Pre-Load Webbing which allows you to “load” your bi-pod, ultimately removing any slack between you and your rifle. With the removal of the slack, and the addition of a little pressure, you will be more stable in your shooting position, resulting in less muzzle jump and easier, more effective, follow-up shots.

Folding or Rolled: In what environment will you mainly be using the Shooting Mat? Are you looking for a mat to throw in the truck to take to the range, or a mat that you will be taking in the woods to hunt? Generally speaking, folding mats have more padding, tend to be more comfortable, and fold up nicely for storage or transportation. Meaning they would be perfect for a trip to the range. On the other side, Rolled Shooting Mats are much more compact, have less padding, but are highly mobile and are easy to use in tight places such as the woods or over harsh terrain. Either way, you can't go wrong.

Corner Grommets: Nothing is more frustrating than a windy day at the range. The last thing you want to worry about is your shooting mat blowing away while you're changing a target. Well luckily, the grommets on the MidwayUSA Shooting Mats enable you to stake down your mat, so you can spend more time calculating windage, and less time worrying about your mat getting in the way.

Materials: What kind of shooting will you be doing? Will you be on gravel, rocks, on the side of a hill? Will you be in marsh-like conditions, in a soggy field or in the snow? If you plan to do shooting in wet environments a mat with a waterproof/water-resistant outer layer is a must. For rougher terrains, select a mat with a higher density core with an abrasion-resistant bottom.

Now that you know exactly what to look for in a shooting mat. Remember, precision shooting takes time to develop so don't get discouraged if it doesn't go well your first couple trips to the range. Most shooters are a little sloppy at first but with some practice, you will be hitting marksman quality groups in no time. Good luck, and remember to have fun and be safe.