

The Hoyt Eclipse

A NEW LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE FOR THE FEMALE ARCHER
SAYS **ANDREA BOGARD**



*“For today, I want to be a better woman than I was yesterday.
In short, I want to eclipse her.”*

I picked up my first Hoyt about four years ago. The draw length was two inches too long and draw weight too heavy, but something just felt “right.” You know the feeling I mean. Kind of Goldie Locks in content, but with a real life application, the whole thing was “just right.”

After that first experience, I bought a Hoyt Carbon Defiant with my draw length, weight parameters and color preferences. That bow and I travelled quite a bit, tackling adventures both at home and around the country.

Then, Hoyt rolled out a brand new women’s bow and I knew I had to try it. A few weeks later, I had a 2021 Hoyt Eclipse in my hands. I got her set up and started to shoot. The first thing I noticed? She was authoritative.

Picture two women. One is smooth as honey and happy to take a B level role. The other walks on the scene and commands the whole situation. She’s the Alpha, if you will. That’s the Eclipse.

Honestly, I didn’t click with her at first. She was aggressive. She was fast. She met her mark with a realllly authoritative “thwack.” The bow itself is silent and still, but her downrange results are impressive. I like that. She intrigued me. She pushed me to be stronger, to focus more and to conquer my mental game better.

The axle-to-axle length is a visual representation of the compact powerhouse that she is. The Eclipse employs the logic of the smaller the grip, the less contact with the hand and thus less risk of torquing. While I love the older style Hoyt wood grip on my Defiant, I am now a firm believer in the cutting-edge stabilization of the grip on the Eclipse. Hoyt

slenderized the profile of the smallest grip they make even more to accommodate the generally smaller hands of female shooters. They have named this concept the X-Act Grip.

Let’s talk usage. Are you a hunter? Target shooter? Both? Taking it a step further, let’s break these down. Up until last year, I bow hunted out of tree stands based on the traditionally accepted hunting practices for where I live (Northern Michigan). The main problem with that is I DO NOT like heights and I do not like to sit for hours on end. Not a great combo for a bow hunter in Northern Michigan.

Last year I discovered the beauty of still hunting. I could walk, sit, climb, absorb and stalk. It was wonderful! I took my Hoyt Carbon Defiant and found it to be nice and light, but somewhat long axle to axle for the thick swamp I was hunting. As soon as I picked up the Hoyt Eclipse, I knew I had found the perfect bow for spot/stalk hunting.

Let’s circle back a bit. The Eclipse was not only created to be slender and compact, she was designed to be a powerhouse of speed and performance. Even at a relatively short draw length, the speeds are consistently much higher than comparable bows with the same settings.

Something to note here. With speed generally comes a more aggressive cam design. This can

alter perceived draw weight. For example, I was drawing 54 lbs with my Carbon Defiant, but am more comfortable at 51 with the Eclipse. Sort of like buying clothes, sometimes you need to go up or down a size depending on cut or brand. You might need to do drop down a bit in poundage for the Eclipse, depending on what you’re used to shooting. That said, I’m working back up to the mid-50s with the Eclipse.



The Hoyt Eclipse is my new go-to for my archery adventures. With the assertiveness of an alpha, the streamlined beauty of a yacht and the speed of a ‘Vette, the Hoyt Eclipse has thrown down the gauntlet of excellence for today’s female archer.

Check out hoyt.com for more information and for a dealer near you! ■



SPECIFICATIONS	
AXLE-TO-AXLE:	29"
BRACE HEIGHT:	6 3/4"
MASS WEIGHT:	3.7 LBS
CAM:	ECLIPSE CAM
DRAW LENGTHS:	23 1/2 - 25 1/2" 26 - 28"
DRAW WEIGHTS:	20 - 30# 30 - 40# 40 - 50# 50 - 60#

