

# If The Gun Doesn't Fit, You Cannot Hit

That saying has its origin in O.J. Simpson's murder trial, except the topic there was a glove. But it worked for O.J., and it can work for you. It can work for you because it is the motto of the Robert Louis Company ([www.shotguncombo.com](http://www.shotguncombo.com); 800-979-9156), maker of several very nice shotgun fitting tools. Several years ago, Bob Foege of that Newtown, Connecticut, firm sent me one of their Shotgun Combo Gauges for evaluation, and I have used it many times in preparing articles and columns for this magazine. Recently, Bob contacted me to ask if I would be interested in trying one of their LaserShooter Ultimate Practice Shooting Systems. I figured it had to be as nice as the Combo Gauge, so I didn't hesitate in accepting the offer.

What's the first thing the typical average trapshooter does with a new gun? Why, shoot it, of course, with all his buddies gathered around to witness the perfect string of positively smoked targets sure to fall prey to this latest nirvana of trap guns. Reality usually sets in quickly, however, as darned few shotguns shoot where their new owners are looking. And to expect anything else is foolhardy.

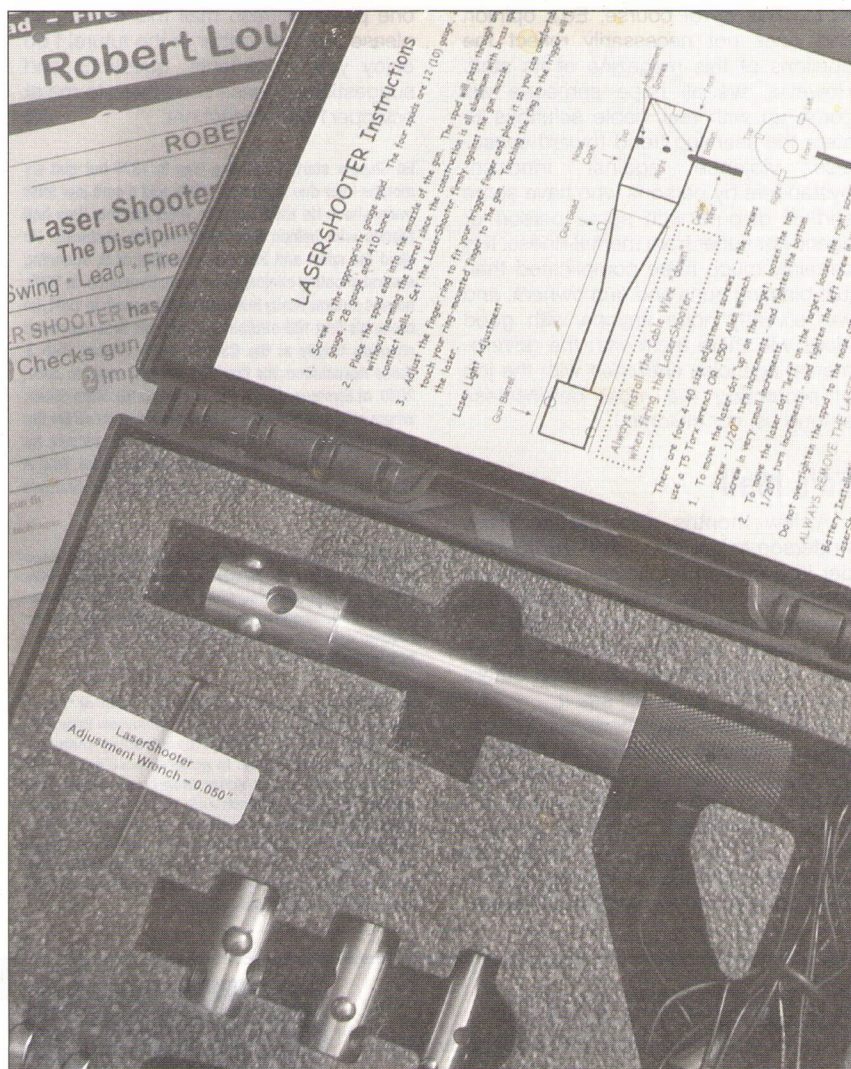
Would you take a new rifle on a hunt without sighting it in? Of course not (I hope), and that procedure should start by bore-sighting the scope. You can use a tool made for that purpose or, if the rifle in question is a bolt-action, remove the bolt and peer down the bore, centering the target in the hole and then looking through the scope to see how far off the scope is in relation to the bore. Bore-sighting is not a perfect science because barrels often shoot to a slightly different point-of-impact (POI) than their bores' point-of-aim (POA), but the procedure at least gets you on the paper.

The LaserShooter system is designed to effectively bore-sight shotguns but with the added ability to check your lead and practice your follow-through on targets. Mine came in a fitted plastic case with instructions printed on heavy paper and attached to the inside of the lid where they cannot be overlooked (I even read them) or blow away when you aren't looking. Every unit is tested and calibrated to the center of the bore before being shipped and even comes with three size-LR44 watch-type batteries installed, plus a spare set.

Using the LaserShooter is very simple and yields immediate results. You insert the spud into your gun's choke (rest easy, the spud is made of alu-

minum and its three spring-loaded centering balls are brass, so the unit cannot damage your steel choke tube or barrel in any way). Extend the long wire with a metal loop on the end back to the trigger area, insert your finger in the loop and, when you touch it to your gun's trigger, the laser shoots a strong red beam onto the spot at which your gun is looking. If that's not where you were looking, the LaserShooter will probably

When I opened the box for the first time, I was anxious to try it. Sitting at my loading bench with the LaserShooter inserted in my unsingle barrel, I mounted my gun and "aimed" at the knob on the door across the hall and touched the loop to my gun's trigger. The laser centered on the knob vertically but to the left about an inch horizontally, prompting me to check my gun mount. Sure enough, sitting in a chair prevented me from get-



pay for itself by preventing the lost targets wasted while reading breaks and adjusting your gun. A chart enclosed with the LaserShooter even shows you which way to adjust it.

There is a long-standing question trapshooters have asked time and time again: "The target looked good - why didn't it break?" The LaserShooter can answer that question in the comfort of your home using the enclosed target (also printed on heavy paper).

ting "into" the stock as I should have been, so I stood up and mounted the gun properly several times, resulting in repeated dead-center "hits."

I was more than a little surprised the aiming error would be that severe at that short range. That kind of error at the distance at which targets are normally shot is where lost targets come from! Tilting the unsingle barrel showed how canting an unsingle or high-rib gun can affect the

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## final shot

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POI, again even at such a short distance. The LaserShooter is a great teacher in the area of POI alone. With the added bonus of being able to see where your hits will be at various barrel-swinging speeds, it adds to your understanding of the dynamics of shooting a moving gun.

The LaserShooter retails for about \$150 in 12 gauge only (which is all trapshooters would need). It comes with spuds for 12 and 20 gauges or all four bore sizes (for an additional cost). But, as they say on TV, "Wait – there's more!" For *Shotgun Sports* readers, Bob is offering a 10% "AveragEd" discount during the month of April 2013. Just mention "AveragEd" when you call to place your order!