

Instructions for the
**FAULHABER Wildlocker
Stag/Elk Call**
"HIRSCHRUF"



FAULHABER
Wildlocker



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The FAULHABER – Stag/Elk call is an amplifier for the voice, like all similar instruments used for this purpose. The beginner should therefore learn to "sing" the various calls described in the following lines without using the stag call itself, preferably under supervision of a person well acquainted with stag calls. Learning the calls properly is important and exercising them in the hunting ground for refinement is a vital part of it. Therefore, the calls heard in nature should be memorized and imitated afterwards in the hunting cabin – not outside in the open or sitting on a bench in front of the cabin. Only if the calls stand up to the hardest critics, the first tests should be made in the wood. Once arrived at this point don't hesitate to perfect your calls in dialogues with answering stags, thereby learning step by step to imitate the natural calls masterly.

After the rutting season don't just put your stag call into the drawer and forget it until the next season begins. Keep on practising, preferably with likeminded friends, till all the various calls can be imitated properly straightaway.

The FAULHABER Stag Call consists of three collapsible pieces weighing only 100 g at a fully extended length of 47 cm. Owing to the chosen material with perfect resonance qualities the stag call amplifies the voice easily, powerfully and in lifelike fashion without effort. The call is unbreakable and weatherproof, needs no covers for protection and handles very easily.

Extending the call

1. Put the index finger into the blowing aperture and pull out the part with the mouthpiece until the cone fits in the middle part of the instrument.

2. Grip the part with the mouthpiece and pull out the middle piece with it until it fits in the third cone. Do not apply undue force!

Folding in the call

1. Slightly turn the middle part and push it into the wide cone.

2. Apply slight pressure on the middle ring to fit the two parts together.

3. Loosen the mouthpiece by turning and push it into the other parts. Push in the disc of the mouthpiece.

The groove under the mouthpiece and the ring at the end of the conus can be used to fix a string for carrying the instrument.

Use of the stag call in the hunting ground

Successful use of the stag call not only requires perfect handling of the instrument. First of all it is necessary to understand the meaning of the various stag calls as the further proceeding depends thereupon.

The older stag usually has a lower voice. Instead of the syllable

“oo”, which can be heard in calls of younger stags, the older stags will sound like “oh” or “ö”. Furthermore older stags are less communicative. At the end of the rutting season, younger stags may also have a hoarse and lower voice, so be careful about that.

A brief listing of the most important stag calls can be found on the last page.

The stag call handled by an expert is a valuable help for hunting rutting stags. It gives the hunter an advantage over hunters without stag calls, as they can accomplish tasks impossible to handle otherwise.

During the rutting season there are always days which are absolutely quiet. By using the stag call in the vicinity of places known to be frequented by deer for up to two hours at 15-minute intervals, imitating a middling stag, it is possible to get answers from one or the other stag. As the bellow of a stag is contagious to others a lively rutting concert can be started. With patience, perseverance and without haste this can be achieved even by inexperienced hunters, if he imitates the call of a “searching” stag (**type 1**) and takes care to repeat the call at the correct times with the correct intervals.

Upon receiving an answer, he has to be able to distinguish whether it is a searching stag or one accompanied by its herd, as the procedure will be different in each of the two cases.

If the calls are answered by a searching stag within reach of the call (**type 8**), the hunter tries a few calls (**type 8**). In the immediate vicinity of a stag this call is produced by holding one’s nose with the index and middle finger. At a greater distance the same tone is produced using the instrument as an amplifier.

If the distance is too far and the calls most likely cannot be heard anymore, the instrument is used to imitate the call of a “prime” stag standing near its herd (**type 4**). As always, the calls should not be imitated using too strong of a voice. It should sound like a slightly younger stag than the hunted one and therefore be slightly higher in pitch.

If the imitation is well-executed (provided the wind situation is good) the stag will most likely approach. To attract a “searching”

stag is obviously the easiest task for a hunter using the stag-call, especially if the answering stag is quarrelsome or a “killer” roaming from rutting place to rutting place.

A completely different reaction of the hunter using a stag-call is necessary if the answering “prime” stag is assumed to be standing near its herd (**type4**).

This stag has two basic forms of bellowing. Essentially one call is much longer than that of a searching stag; he is obviously fully conscious of his power and his properties, even comfortable (**type 4**). He uses this call only if he is not irritated. If he is enraged or irritated by secondary stags, he will use a shorter and rougher call (**type 5**) and in between he will use the “dispersing” call (**type 3**).

The so called “cry of victory” is nothing but a more powerful, rougher call of the type 5 mentioned above, which the stag will use after fighting off a rival or getting rid of a cumbersome secondary stag.

If the answering stag has been identified as a “prime” one standing near his herd and he is not too close, the best thing to do is to approach as nearly and as quickly as possible. This, naturally, is the most difficult but the most rewarding form of hunting for a hunter using the stag-call. Only if all finesses of stag calls can be mastered and the intricacies of a correct approach can be tackled, a successful hunt can be accomplished. Every single error can lead to the point where the stag is frightened away for the whole rutting season, as he is very sensitive to intrusion in his territory. Even well versed and experienced hunters will decide upon this procedure only if the stag in question is an old and clandestine animal, whose appearance after dusk and disappearance before first light in the morning has been established by extensive observation.

Once the hunter using stag calls has decided on this “approach” he should attack his task – obviously using all existing cover – without taking heed of dry leaves or rotting wood, masking these sounds by the occasional bellow of an approaching stag (searching middling stag, **type 1**). The call should not be too strong and not yet irritated, as the “prime” stag might decide in the end to set caution above courage and disappear with his herd. The right “dosage” of calls will ensure the proper answers, enabling the hunter to pinpoint the exact location of the stag. The nearer the

hunter approaches the more careful he has to watch his surroundings for secondary stags and hinds as their flight would scare off the stag as well. If, despite all caution, another deer is scared off nothing is lost yet if the hunter sounds the "dispersing" call. The prime stag will assume a secondary stag trying to drive off a hind, raising his jealousy to the top and he will approach directly and immediately.

Nevertheless it is always advisable to advance only a few paces at a time and watch the surroundings. This comes closest to the normal approach of a stag especially if one rattles the foliage occasionally with one's stick. It goes without saying that favourable winds are the most important prerequisite for a successful hunt. In this way one has to approach the prime stag as closely as possible – **50 or 60 paces** – as this jealous "pasha" will leave his herd but for a short time and a very short distance. Once this near, choose a place which gives free shooting in the direction of the stag of about 20 paces and is reasonably covered. A brush, trunk etc. covering the lower body half must suffice. Do not cover behind a tree, as it will limit your shooting angle.

It is from here that the prime stag has to be irritated so much that he decides to chase the intruder off. From call to call the irritation will mount, hitting brushes and undergrowth with your stick will imitate the furious movement of the rival stag's antlers, until finally the utterly excited stag will be made to appear.

The stag will appear at the wood's edge for a brief moment only to muster his rival. Picking up the target and shooting has to be almost one motion. A telescopic sight at such a short distance would only impair one's accuracy and should be removed beforehand.

A hunter unable to call a prime stag at short distance, imitate all calls, movements, the hitting of the foliage by the stags antlers etc. perfectly, should leave his hands of this challenging but most attractive form of hunting stags.

A frequent and simple form of imitation is a "grumble" (type 6) used to stop a moving stag therefore giving a chance to aim and shoot at an unmoving target.

In any case should the person in the hunter's company use the call immediately, producing a loud call. This will stop a missed or injured stag, giving another good opportunity to shoot.

Using the stag call can lead to a slowed down retreat of the irritated stag, making him stop frequently and giving the chance of overtaking the herd and having another go. In most cases the person in the company of the hunter will have to do the work giving the hunter the opportunity to profit from the situation.

with the stag call, as during this time stronger stags are still roaming around looking for hinds in heat or aiming for their usual rutting posts.

The main rutting season obviously offers good chances but one should be careful as many young stags will be attracted by the calls while they are roaming around.

The post-rutting season is again quite interesting as some rutting stags will continue to search for hinds in heat. In this period, a close watch of the surroundings is advisable as even strong stags will approach in absolute silence. It is obvious that during the whole rutting season damaging stags and "killer"-stags will answer the calls due to their aggressiveness; the stag calls therefore have their place in preservation as well.

The best hours to use the stag calls are during the early morning hours and the evening after **5 p.m. o'clock**, as well as the morning hours after **9 a.m. o'clock** when stags will begin to graze again. During the rutting season the call can be used with success at all hours of the day.

General information

It should be stated that as when using other lures, the use of the stag call from raised hides is recommended as it gives independence from the vagaries of winds. Using the stag call also the further surrounding should be observed closely as not only the selected stag can approach but other stags might be attracted as well and can approach silently.

Once again it has to be stressed that the stag call should be used moderately and sensibly. It should be realized that the use of the stag call will attract the attention of all deer within hearing distance. Bad imitations of stag calls and frequent use will scare off hinds and as a result also stags. This is the reason why in some hunting grounds stag calls are discredited due to their inappropriate use in the past.

Explication of signs



long



short



„vibrato“ of the descending voice



ascending tone



accented

Attachment - explication of the most important types of stag calls

pitch: starting with “G” as lowest note



pronunciation: ö = o in “Colonel”


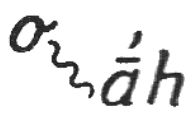
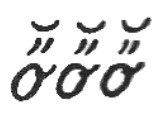
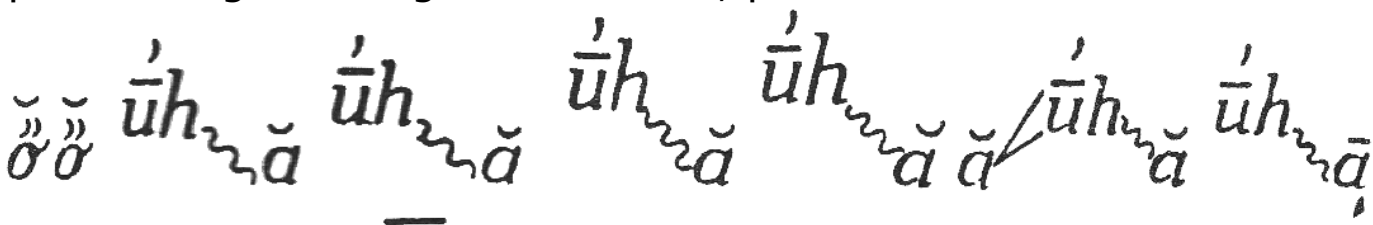
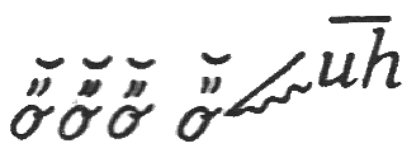
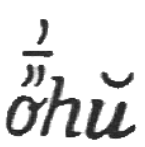
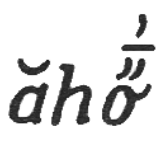
a = ah

ä = a

u = oo

o = o

Type

1.  searching young stag, yearning
2.  searching older stag; monotone, mournful
3.  "dispersing" call, short, accented and rough
4. "prime" stag standing with his herd; possessive and comfortable

5.  irritated stag; the first 3 ö like type 3, uh is a rougher distorted tone
6.  or  the "grumble" or "Trenzen", a muffled tone
7. "Knören": a rattling, long, moderately loud, low ö-tone
8. äng äng äng: "warning"; a nasal tone, similar to the French "un", short and slightly descending.

Pitch about A




Good hunting!

Sole Manufacturer, patented and trade mark protected.

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