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Question: I have recently bought a Sporting Shotgun with 30" barrels. It has an adjustable stock and I would like to adjust the comb so I can shoot DTL with it. What would be an ideal height and drop of the comb to shoot trap targets with?

William Anderson, Brisbane QLD

Without actually seeing you with the gun it is very hard for me to tell you how to set the gun up perfectly, but I can give you the basic fundamentals from which to start with. Firstly and most importantly I would set a trap shooting comb up at an angle which is parallel to the barrels, hence no drop in the comb what so ever. Run a long metal ruler along the top of your barrels so that the end of it protrudes well out over the comb of your stock. Then simply measure the distance from the front of the comb and again at the back to the bottom of the ruler. The measurement for the 'average' person will be between 32mm to 38mm, but it is important to have the measurement the same for the front and back. There is a valid argument to have the back slightly higher than the front to totally dissolve any recoil being absorbed through your face. Once you have done this take the shotgun to a pattern sheet. At thirty metres try and raise or lower the comb until you are getting about seventy percent of your pattern hitting above your point of aim on the pattern sheet. Make sure you raise or lower the front and back at equal distances. After you have done this you may tinker a little with the stock length. Generally sporting stocks will be shorter than trap stocks due the fact that your gun in sporting is not in a fixed mounted position when calling for the target to be released so a shorter stock can be more easily mounted quickly.

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