

MAKING A QUICK, CLEAN KILL

Goal: To promote hunter responsibility for hunting laws, activities, wildlife and resources.

Lesson 1: The Quick, Clean Kill

Objective

In this lesson you will:

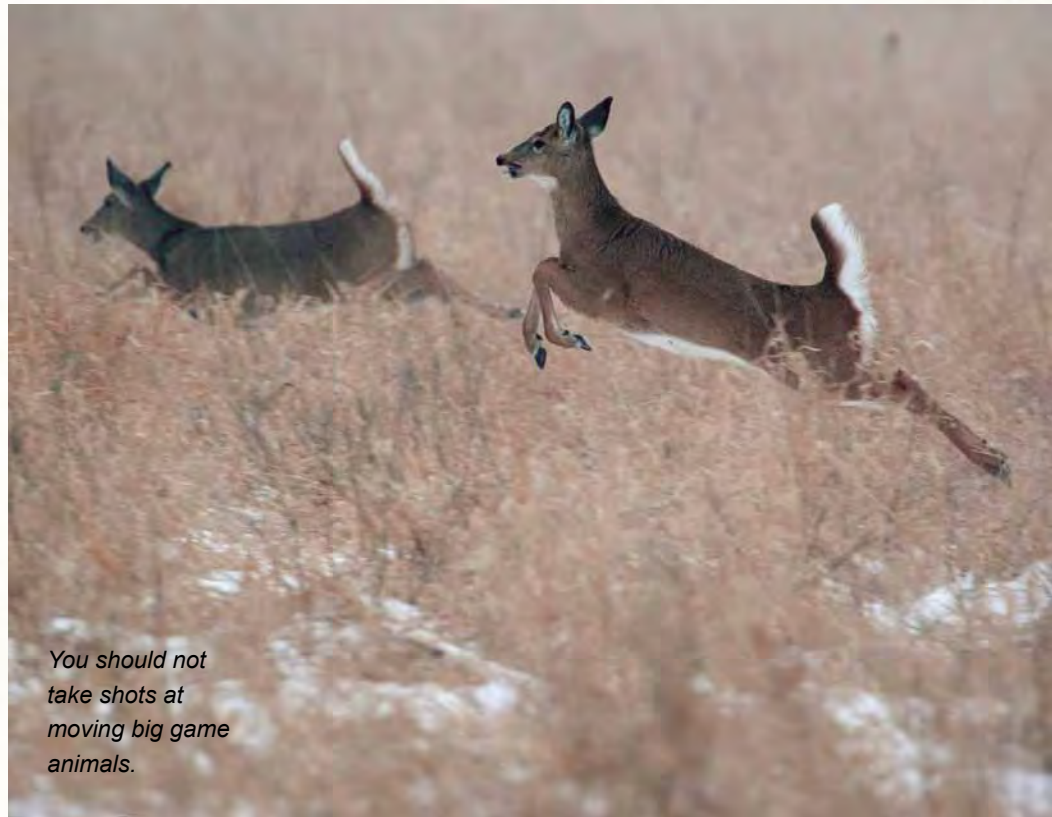
- Describe aspects of the quick, clean kill.



Good shot placement is critical for a quick, clean kill. It also makes field dressing easier and results in more meat

When you get a chance to take a shot at wild game, the purpose is to make a quick, clean kill. You don't want to

miss or wound game. A well placed shot puts the animal down almost immediately, which is the ethical thing to do when harvesting game.



You should not take shots at moving big game animals.



To make a quick, clean kill the hunter must:

- Have a clear view and be able to positively identify the animal
- Be within the gun's shooting range
- Avoid obstructions such as trees and branches that may cause the bullet or shot to ricochet
- Know the exact location of the animal's vital organs

In this way, the animal does not escape wounded or suffer.

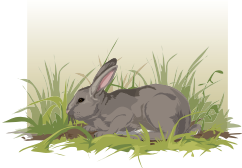
Also, when you make a good shot, field dressing the animal is

relatively easy. Plus, there is little or no damage to the meat, which will be processed later for the dinner table.

Skeletal system and internal organs



Squirrel



Rabbit



Pheasant



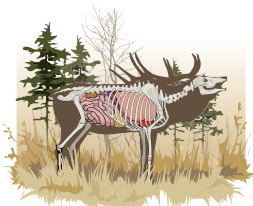
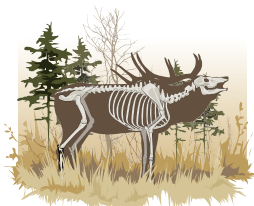
Duck



Wild Turkey



Deer



Elk



Bear

It's important to be able to locate the skeletal system and internal organs in commonly hunted game animals.

When hunting with a rifle for small game such as rabbits and squirrels and big game such as

SMALL GAME ABDOMINAL CAVITY

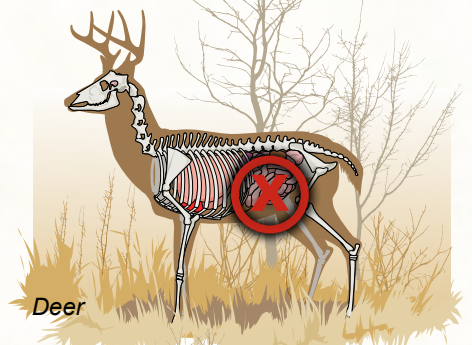


Rabbit

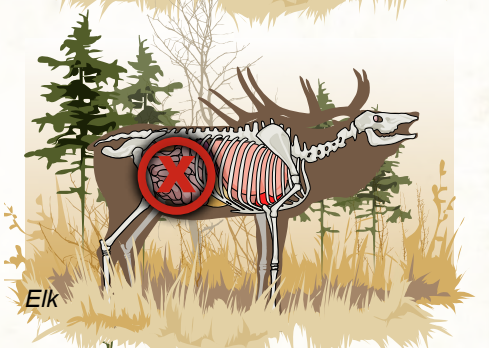


Squirrel

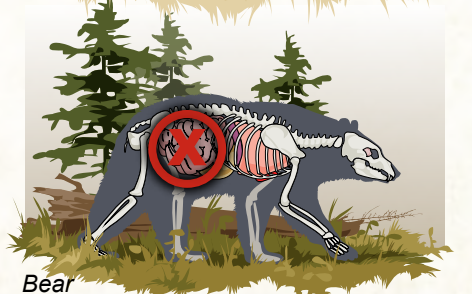
BIG GAME ABDOMINAL CAVITY



Deer



Elk



Bear

deer, elk and bear, always avoid shooting into the abdominal cavity because it will not produce a quick, clean kill and the animal could escape to suffer and die needlessly. Also, for the hunter who retrieves a gut-shot animal, field dressing and processing of the meat is messy and wasteful because intestinal juices may spoil the meat.

Know where the abdominal cavity is on big and small game.

Know the exact location of the vital organs in the animals you plan to hunt, so you are able to make a quick, clean kill. See the illustrations to understand where the vital organs are for each game animal.

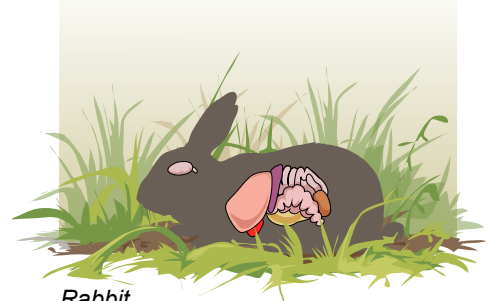


To hunt safely and ethically, practice shooting your firearm well in advance of the hunting season. Practice until you can make accurate shots on targets consistently.

Vital organs



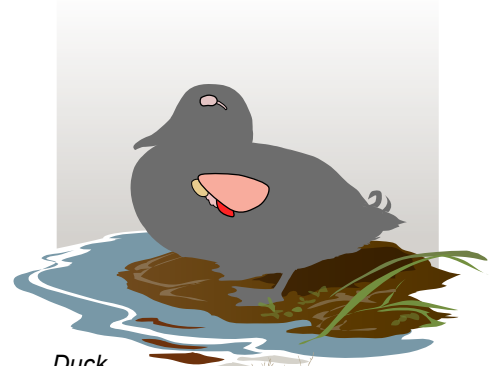
Squirrel



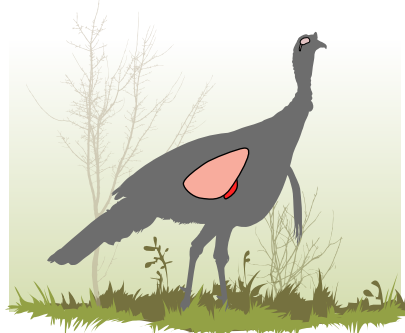
Rabbit



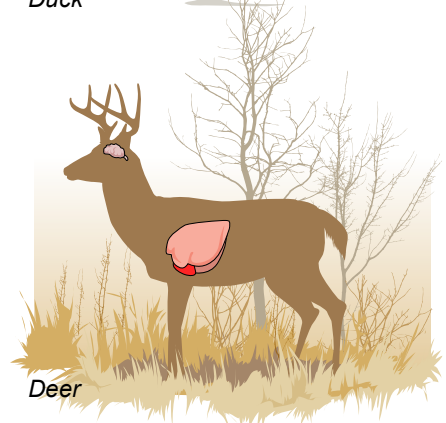
Pheasant



Duck

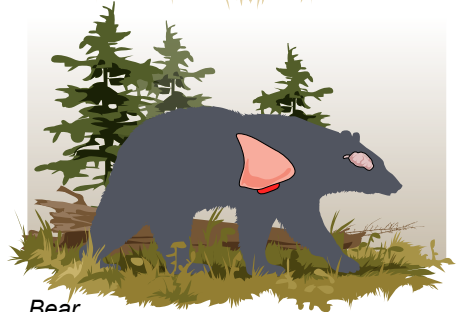


Wild Turkey



Deer

The correct place to aim on the wild turkey for a quick, clean kill is its head and neck. The turkey's wings are so thick and strong they may repel pellets from a shotgun blast, leaving the turkey wounded. When turkey hunting, always aim for the head and neck.



Bear

The correct place to aim on a bear, like other big game animals, is the head or the heart/lung region. However, a bear's fur is long and thick, and you should take that into account. To avoid shooting into the hair only or wounding the bear, which can be dangerous, the hunter must find the exact location of the vital organs.



Elk