

**GEARHEAD ARCHERY**  
*rethinking tradition.*

**1850 PRAIRIE ST. PRAIRIE DU SAC, WI 53578-2043**  
**[WWW.GEARHEADARCHERY.COM](http://WWW.GEARHEADARCHERY.COM)**  
**608-370-8016**

# X16/ X16 TARGET/X16 TACTICAL CROSSBOW OWNER'S MANUAL

# X16

X16 Target



X16 Carbon Fiber



THE  
CROSSBOW  
SERIES

X16 Tactical



**GEARHEAD ARCHERY**  
rethinking tradition.

# THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for choosing Gearhead Archery! We know that you have many choices in the Crossbow market. We really appreciate that you are trusting Gearhead Archery for your crossbow needs. We will continue to push the limits through better engineering, better materials and new ideas. This manual was developed to keep you and others safe, prevent injuries or death from the misuse of this product. You must read this complete manual before operating your crossbow.



If unclear of any of these instructions, please contact us at sales@gearheadarchery.com or call us at 608-370-8016.



## CAUTION

This crossbow is a serious weapon and it should be treated like one. Exhibit the same care and concerns with this crossbow as you would a firearm. Used correctly, this crossbow will give years of shooting and hunting enjoyment. Operation in an unsafe manner can cause serious injuries, amputation of fingers or thumb and even death. Please don't take this lightly. **READ THIS MANUAL.**

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# WARNING

Using the Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow safely is your personal responsibility. Failure to follow the safety rules and instructions presented in this owners manual may result in severe injuries or death to you or others.

Your Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow has been factory tested and assembled for your safety.

- All maintenance and repairs need to be completed by a Gearhead Archery authorized dealer. Failure to do so may result in damage to your crossbow, injuries, and void the warranty.
- Never operate a Gearhead Archery Crossbow while under the influence of alcohol, drugs or medication. Your good judgement will be impaired and damage could occur to the bow, injuries to you or death.
- Do not attempt to alter or modify your crossbow. This will void the warranty and could cause serious injuries to you or others.
- Handle broadheads with care and keep in a quiver to prevent injuries to you and damage to the crossbow.
- Never dry fire your Gearhead Archery Crossbow or use an arrow less than 300 grains with the tip.
- Treat you crossbow as you would a firearm. Keep it pointed in a safe direction. Only point it in the direction of targets you intend to shoot. Finger should be off the trigger until it's time to shoot.
- Inspect your crossbow for damage, wear and missing parts before each use. Immediately replace all severely worn strings or cables by an authorized Gearhead Archery Dealer.
- Do not store your crossbow in areas of high heat or high moisture.
- Do not leave your crossbow in the cocked position for extended periods of time.
- Do not travel or climb with a loaded crossbow.
- Always wear safety glasses when using your crossbow.



# HAND PLACEMENT

## CAUTION

Your hand placement while shooting a crossbow is very important.



## WARNING

If you have your hand, fingers or thumb in the string's flight path, you will get hurt.

**KEEP HANDS IN THE SAFE ZONE**



## INCORRECT HAND PLACEMENT



## CORRECT HAND PLACEMENT

Your trigger finger hand should be wrapped around the pistol grip with your support hand on the 5 position forearm grip which is beneath the finger guard plate (examples shown below).



## NOTICE

Take reference of the string and limb positions while the crossbow is at rest. Then take reference of the string and limb positions while the crossbow is cocked. Keep obstructions out of the string path and limb deflection area. At the shot, the string and limbs are headed back to their at rest location at a high rate of power and speed.

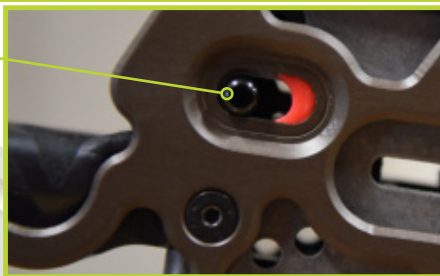
**NOTICE**

The Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow comes equipped with a trigger box that has an anti-dry fire mechanism.

Upon cocking the string into the trigger latch, the trigger box will automatically move to the safe position.



The safety/fire switch has a black post that is visible from either side of the trigger box.



When the black post is all the way to the rear of the trigger box, it is on safe.

**CAUTION**

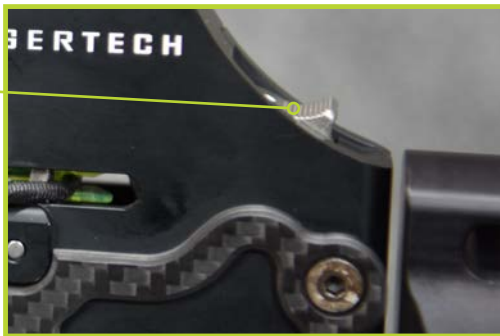
It is your responsibility to make sure the crossbow stays in the safe position until you are ready to shoot.

# TRIGGER TECH SAFETY DESCRIPTION

## NOTICE

The Gearhead Archery X16 Target and Tactical comes equipped with a Trigger Tech trigger box that has an anti-dry fire mechanism.

Upon Cocking the string into the trigger latch, the trigger box will automatically move to the safe position. You will hear a audible click and be able to see the the safety/fire switch move from fire to safe.



The white painted dot means it is on safe and the red painted dot means it is ready to fire.



**SAFETY IS ON**



**READY TO FIRE**



# ASSEMBLY OF THE X16 TACTICAL

The Gearhead Archery X16 Tactical comes with it's very own travel pack.



Remove the Crossbow head and the main frame from the bow pack.



Line up the female dovetail on the head with the male dovetail on the main frame. Slide the two together until the spring pin snaps into place.



Apply thumb pressure downward on the head while tightening the thumbs knob on the right side of the bow to finger tight. Your crossbow is now ready to shoot.



To take apart, loosen the same thumb knob, pull back on the rubber lever of the spring pin and slide apart.



## RECOMMENDED ARROWS

### CAUTION

Gearhead Archery recommends a 400 spine arrow cut to 24".

Load cock feather up. Nock must snap onto the string.



One of the unique features of the Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow is that it shoots nocked arrows.



### ! WARNING

Never shoot an arrow weight less than 300 grains with the tip. This is considered a dry fire!

Never shoot a crossbow bolt through a Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow. The result will be very dangerous and damaging to you, the crossbow and bystanders around you.

Turn the blades of your broadheads to match the position of your fletchings for best arrow flight.

Inspect your arrows after every shot by flexing them.

Never ever use a wooden arrow in a crossbow.



## COCKING INSTRUCTIONS

There are two methods of cocking the Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbows. One is with the rope cocker and the other is with your hands.

### Using the rope cocker.....

First step, move the safety switch to the fire position.

Next, place the rope cocker onto the rope cocker groove in the stock, behind the trigger box.

Then place the rope cocker hooks onto the string and as close to arrow rail as possible.

Grab onto the rope cocking handles and even them out so they are at the same length.

Pull evenly upward on the cocking handles to the back of the trigger box. Keep the string against the arrow rail while cocking. When the string enters the trigger box you will hear a click as the string passes through the trigger latch of the trigger box. Pull through to the back of the trigger box, this resets the safety to the safe position. Do not use excessive power at the back of the trigger box, as this may cause serving wear.

Standard trigger box

Trigger Tech trigger box



Slowly let up on the handles and remove the rope cocker. The crossbow string is now encapsulated in the trigger box and the trigger is on safety.



### WARNING

Keep the crossbow in the safe position until you are ready to shoot.

## COCKING INSTRUCTIONS

### Using your hands.....

First step, move the safety switch to the fire position.

Second step, place the crossbow vertically and place your foot firmly on the foot stirrup.

Then reach down and grab the string with both hands. One on each side of the arrow rail and as close to the arrow rail as possible. Use the arrow rail as a guide to your fingers.

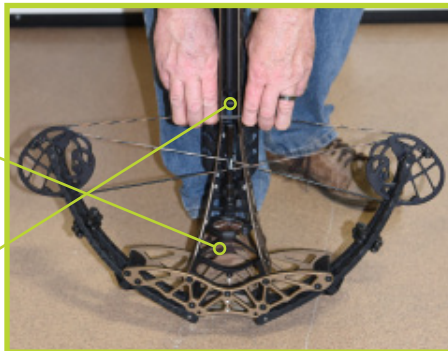
Pull evenly upward on the string to the back of the trigger box. Keep the string against the arrow rail while cocking. When the string enters the trigger box you will hear a click as the string passes through the latch of the trigger box. Pull through to the back of the trigger box, this resets the safety to the safe position. Do not use excessive power at the back of the trigger box, as this may cause serving wear.

Slowly let down on the string. The crossbow string is now encapsulated in the trigger box and the trigger is on safety. Keep the crossbow in the safe position.



### WARNING

Keep the crossbow in the safe position until you are ready to shoot.



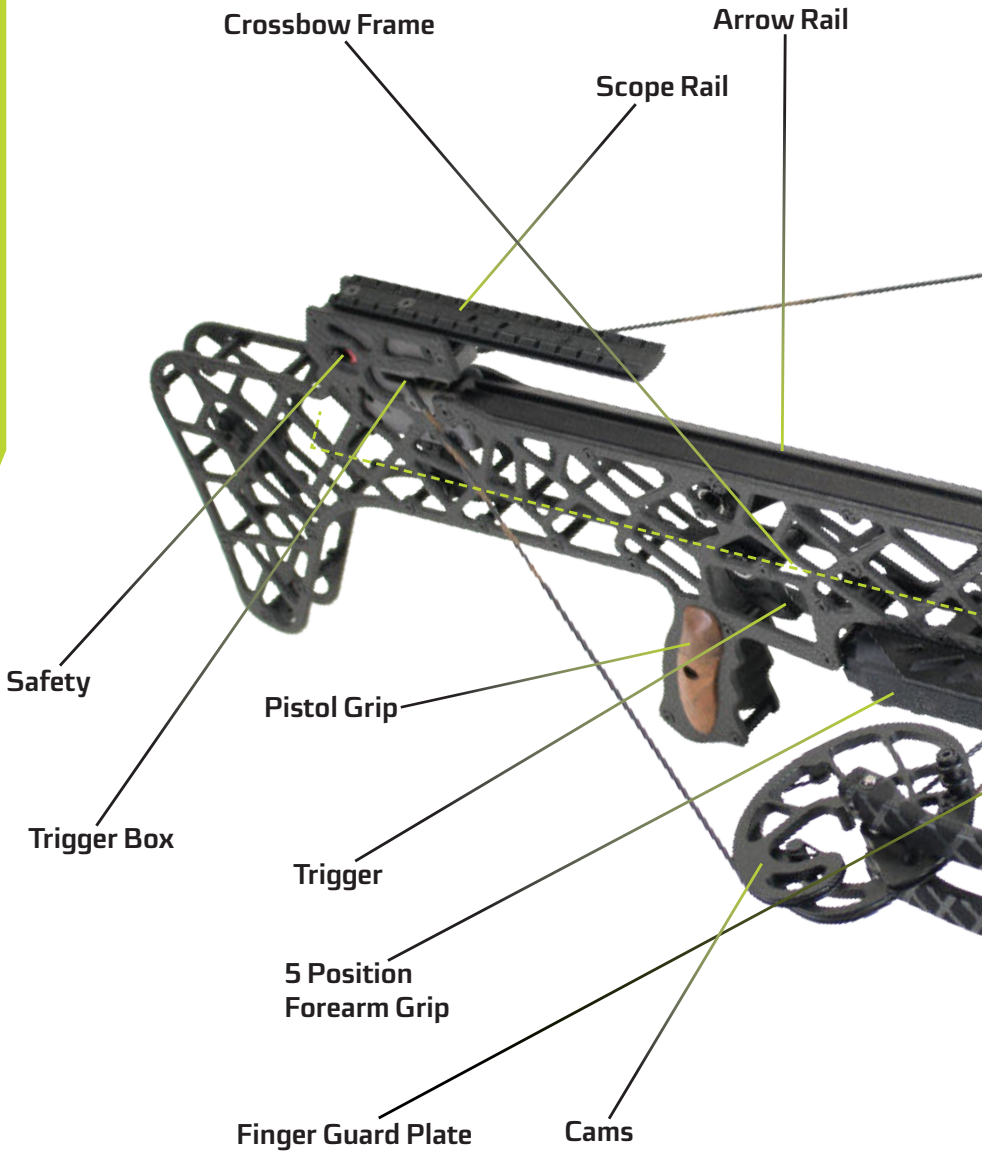
### CAUTION

Cocking the crossbow with your hands is faster but is much more difficult to do. The rope cocker reduces the pulling weight by half and makes the registration into the trigger box more consistent. Both have their advantages. The more you practice these techniques, the more efficient and comfortable you will become.



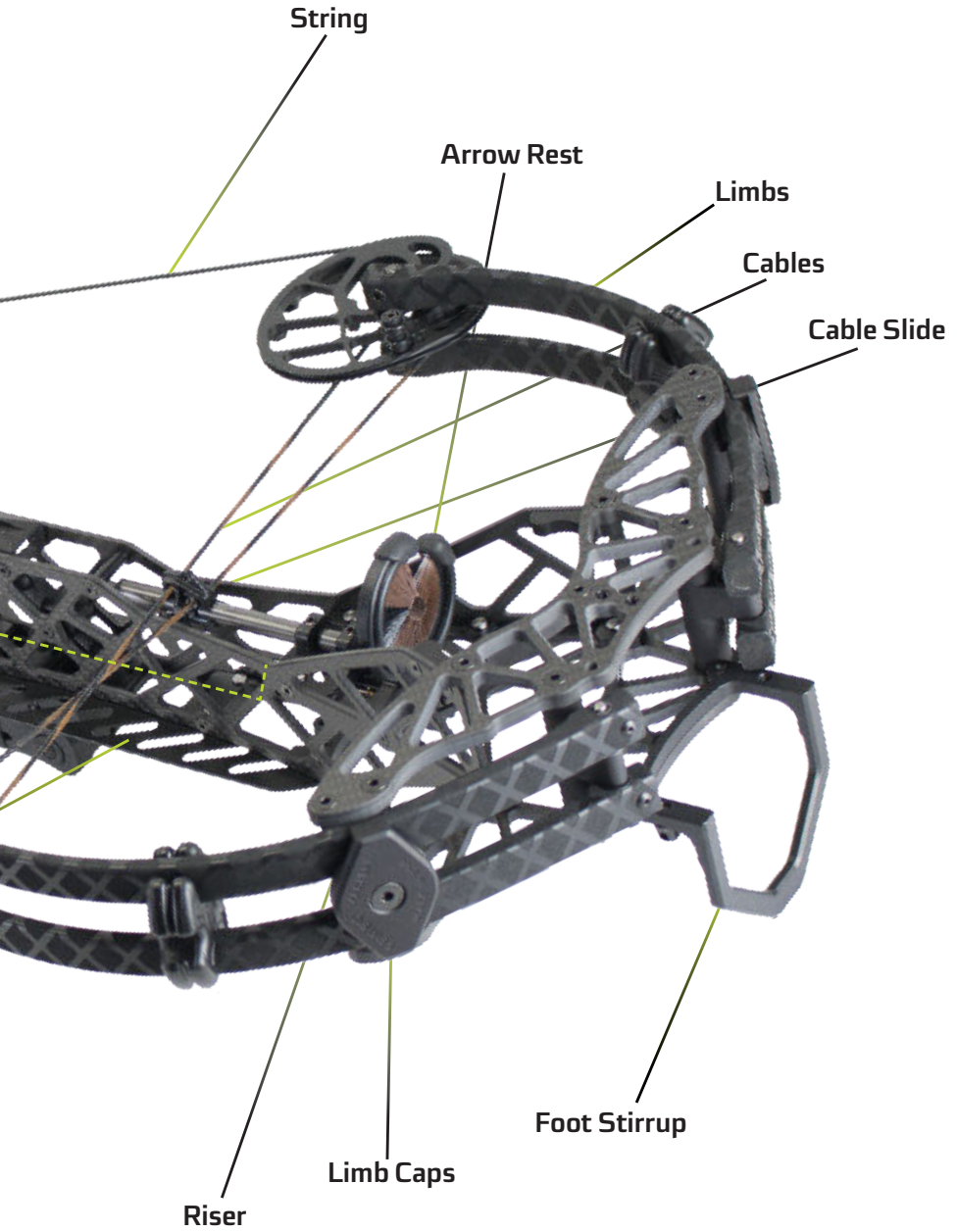
# X16 PART IDENTIFICATION

X16 CROSSBOW MANUAL





# X16 PART IDENTIFICATION

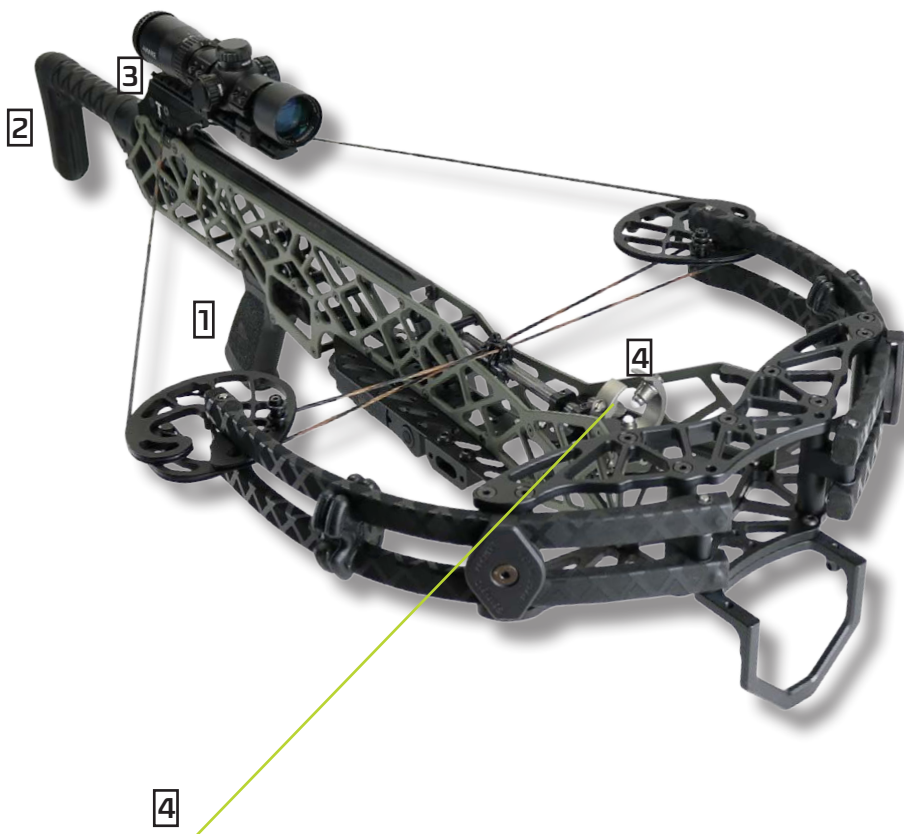






# X16 TARGET PART IDENTIFICATION

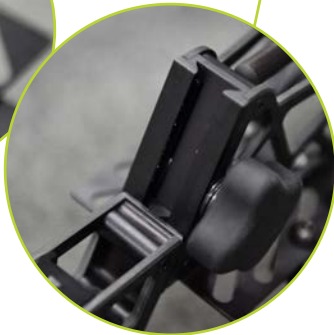
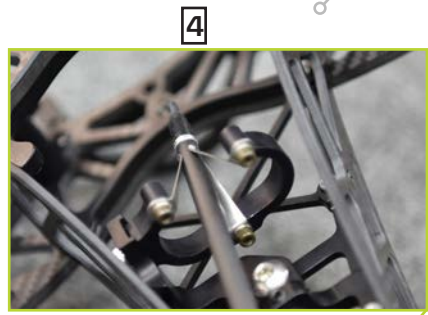
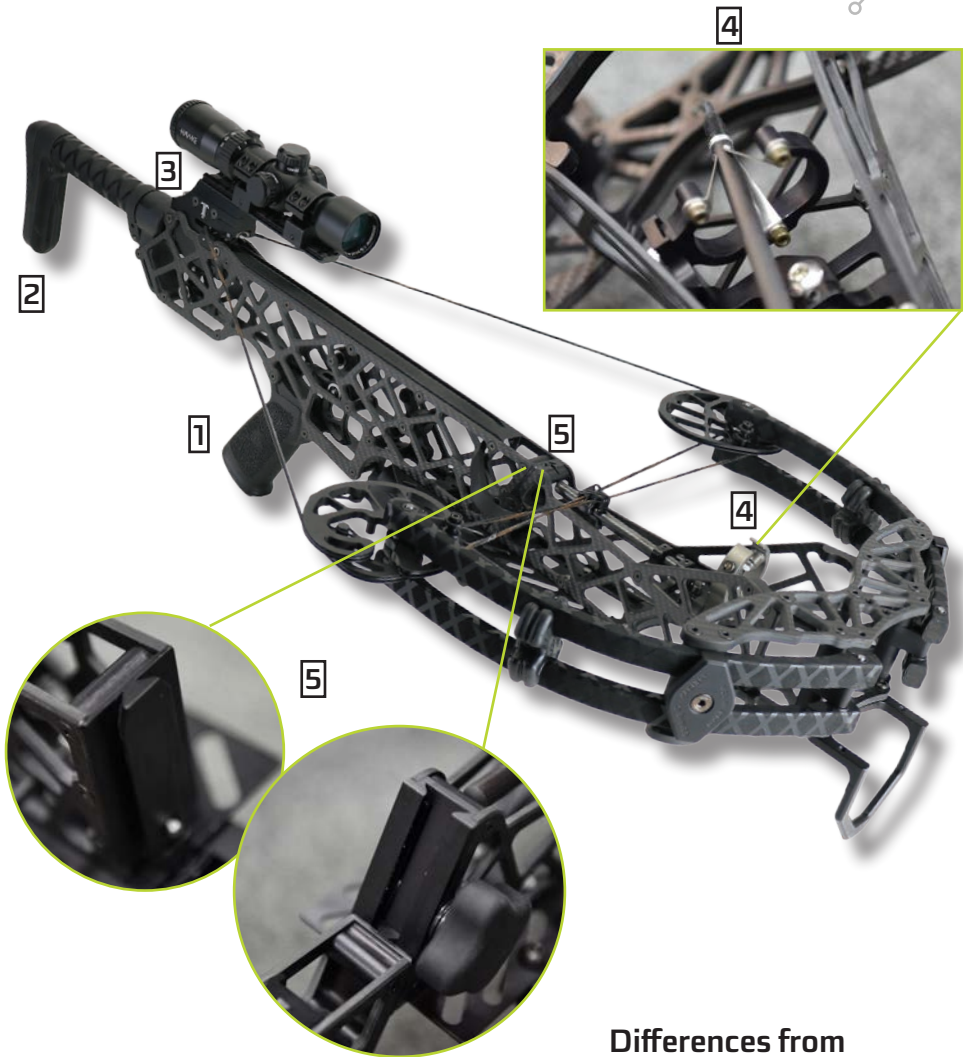
X16 CROSSBOW MANUAL



## Differences from X16 Part Identification

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | AR Style Grip            |
| 2 | AR Style Butt Stock      |
| 3 | Trigger Tech trigger box |
| 4 | Arrow rest               |

# X16 TACTICAL PART IDENTIFICATION



## Differences from X16 Part Identification

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | AR Style Grip                                    |
| 2 | AR Style Butt Stock                              |
| 3 | Trigger Tech trigger box                         |
| 4 | Arrow rest                                       |
| 5 | Dovetail design breakdown                        |
| 6 | This bow breaks down and fits into a field pack. |



## ARROW PLACEMENT

### WARNING

The recommended Gearhead Archery arrow is a minimum 400 spine, 24 inch arrow. Never shoot an arrow weight less than 300 grains with the tip. This is considered a dry fire!

With the crossbow now cocked and on safety. It is ready to be loaded with the arrow. The arrow nock might need to be rotated to line up with the string before loading. The nock groove should be parallel with the string when the cock fletching is up.



With the crossbow pointed in a safe direction, feed the arrow tip into the Arrow rest and position the arrow with the cock fletching up.



Slowly slide the arrow back towards the trigger box.



As the arrow enters the trigger box it will raise the anti-dry fire mechanism. Keep pushing until you feel the arrow snap onto the string. **Failure of the nock snapping onto the string will result in a dry fire.**



Your arrow is now loaded and your crossbow should still be on safe.



### CAUTION

The Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow utilizes a arrow rest as a frontal arrow support. It is positioned and set at the factory. It is placed on center and supports the arrow slightly above the arrow rail.

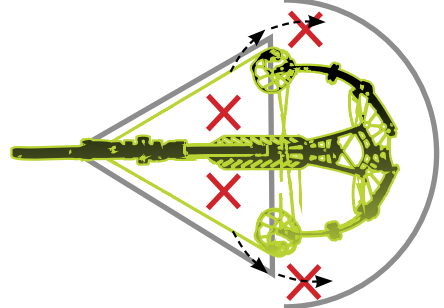
## FIRING THE BOW

Before shooting the crossbow, double check to make sure the nock is secured to the string. Failure to do so may result in a dry fire and damage or cause injuries to you or the bow.

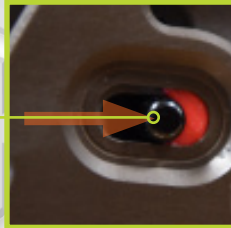


Make sure that there is nothing in the obstructions areas (**areas marked with red "X"**) of the string and limbs.

Make sure your hands, fingers and thumbs are in the safe zone



Slowly push the safety post forward until it stops at the red half moon fire position for the standard trigger box.



Slowly push the safety switch forward on the Trigger Tech until it stops and the red dot is exposed.



### **CAUTION**

#### To un-cock your Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow

The best way to un-cock your crossbow is to shoot an arrow into a target or the soft ground right in front of you. You may want to use a different arrow to unload the crossbow. Use the following procedure to change arrow out.

With your crossbow's firing mechanism in the safety position, slide the arrow out of the trigger box and remove from the Whisker Biscuit. Load the discharge arrow the same way as described in the arrow placement page. Shoot the arrow into a target or the soft ground right in front of you using the technique described as Firing the Bow.

This Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow was designed and built to last a lifetime. With proper care and inspections the Gearhead Archery X16 Crossbow will deliver amazing down range accuracy.

The most important maintenance to any bow is to keep the strings properly waxed. Gearhead Archery recommends waxing the center serving that holds the arrow, the power cables and the rest of the draw string about every 25 shots.

Inspect your string and cables for wear and have an authorized Gearhead Archery dealer replace them at the first sign of damage.

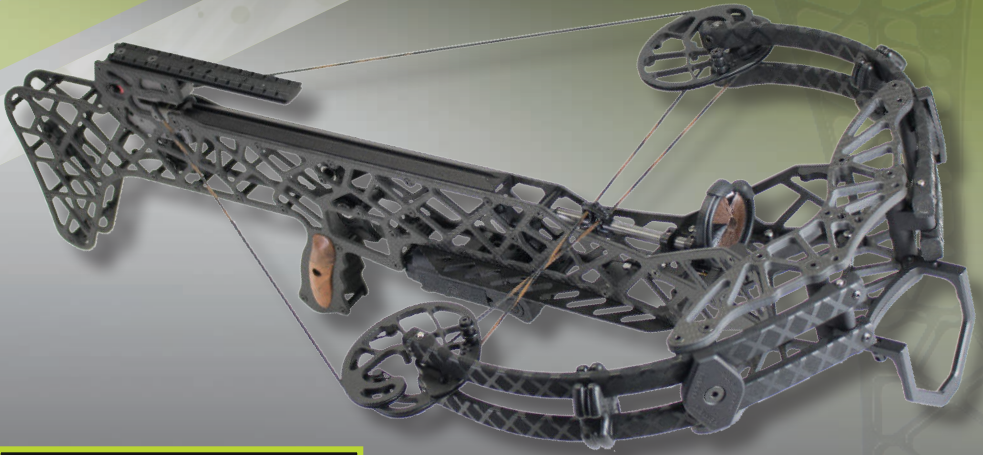
Look your Gearhead Archery X16 crossbow over before each shooting session. Look for damage or obstructions to the crossbow components.

Do not leave your bow cocked for extended periods of time.

Dry your crossbow's components after use in wet conditions.



# BOW SPECIFICATIONS X16



## X16

Draw Weight (lbs): 75, 90, 125

Draw Length (in): 16" power stroke

Aluminum Weight (lbs): 5.5

Carbon Weight (lbs): 4.5

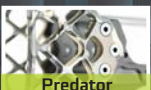
Length ATA (in): 18.5 / 14.75

Speed up to (fps): 350 @ 125 lbs. with a 325 grain arrow

Kinetic Energy (ft-lb.): 90

Trigger Pull (lb.): 3.1

Available Colors:



Predator  
Custom Dip



Carbon



Desert Tan

**STAINLESS STEEL  
HARDWARE**

**Multiple Patents Pending**



# BOW SPECIFICATION X16 TARGET



## X16 TARGET

Draw Weight (lbs): 75,90,125

Draw Length (in): 16" power stroke

Aluminum Weight (lbs): 6.0

Carbon Weight (lbs): 5.0

Length ATA (in): 18.5 / 14.75

Speed up to (fps): 350 @ 125 lbs. with a 325 grain

Kinetic Energy (ft.-lb.): 90

Trigger Pull (lb.): 2.1

Available Colors:



Predator  
Custom Dip



Carbon Fiber



Earthtone

**STAINLESS STEEL  
HARDWARE**

**Multiple Patents Pending**

# BOW SPECIFICATION X16 TACTICAL



## X16 TACTICAL

Draw Weight (lbs): 75,90,125

Draw Length (in): 16" power stroke

Aluminum Weight (lbs): 6.25

Carbon Weight (lbs): 5.25

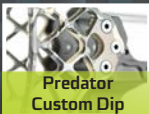
Length ATA (in): 18.5 / 14.75

Speed up to (fps): 350 @ 125 lbs. with a 325 grain

Kinetic Energy (ft.-lb.): 90

Trigger Pull (lb.): 2.1

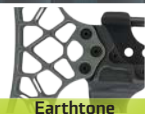
Available Colors:



Predator  
Custom Dip



Carbon Fiber



Earthtone

This bow breaks down for convenient transport and comes with a field pack.



**STAINLESS STEEL  
HARDWARE**

**Multiple Patents Pending**

Activation of the Gearhead Warranty is done by completing the registration of your new bow online at

[gearheadarchery.com](http://gearheadarchery.com)



When a Gearhead Archery bow is purchased, it comes with the assurance that it has been carefully crafted and is guaranteed to be free of defects in materials and workmanship.

The riser, side plates and cams carry a lifetime warranty. The limbs are 100% covered for the first 5 years with 50% replacement cost after that. The warranty applies only to the original owner and is non transferable. Cables, strings, bearings, paint and/or film dipped finishes resulting from normal wear and tear are not included in this warranty.

Damage caused by abuse, mishandling, dry firing, alterations or modifications made to the original product are not covered under this warranty. Additionally, the shooting of arrows less than 300 grains will void the warranty.

Gearhead Archery reserves the right to make part substitutions on warranty coverage at Gearhead Archery's sole discretion for any reason.

This warranty will become void from the following occurrences:

Failure to follow the safety and operational instructions described in this owners manual.

Alterations or modifications to the original parts or accessories.

Damaged caused by dry firing, using an arrow weighted less than 300 grains or using nocks other than what is specified in this owners manual.

Damage caused by abuse.

Not registering this crossbow after purchase.

# REGISTRATION



The Gearhead Warranty becomes active when you register your bow at

[gearheadarchery.com](http://gearheadarchery.com)



Fill out the following info for your reference:

Name

Address

City

State

Zip code

Age

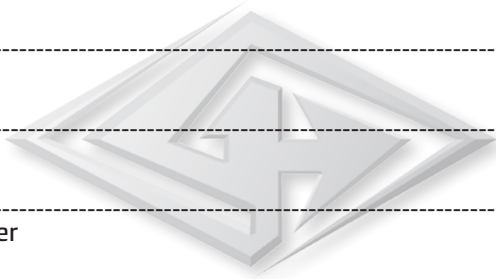
Phone number

Email

Date of purchase

Place of purchase

Serial number



Your assigned registration number :