

Dr. West's Lock-On

Excerpts from Interview with Dr. West January 12, 2006

Hunt Comfort named the seat after Dr. West to honor his helpful suggestions, which inspired the cushion design.

"I've hunted for 26 years and primarily use lock-on and climbing stands. No matter which stand I've sat in, I've never felt truly comfortable, that is until I discovered Hunt Comfort cushions. The cushions designed by David Robinson, president of Hunt Comfort, are phenomenal. Yesterday, I sat for seven hours in the stand and only had to stand up once. Before I discovered Hunt Comfort, I'd have to stand up every 1 ½ hours in an effort to take the pressure off of my legs.

When sitting on a Hunt Comfort Cushion, my legs don't go numb. I have chronic back pain and haven't slept well in 10 years. My back pain is one of the reasons I usually can't sit still for a long period of time. When I sit on a Hunt Comfort gel cushion, my back doesn't hurt. It's a little heavier than other cushions, but it works 10 times better.

When constructing their stands, manufacturers try to make them lightweight, safe and comfortable. They usually accomplish the first two goals but often skip out on the comfort, so you have to use an added cushion to supplement whatever seat they give you. That's what makes this cushion so wonderful. It's an ad-on seat, and it's easy to carry up into your stand thanks to all of these little attachments used to strap the cushion on to your stand or pull-up rope. There are some safe stands out there with pretty good features, but if you're in pain and have to stand up every 45 minutes, it defeats the point.

This year I took my small Hunt Comfort Cushion designed for lock-on stands to Canada to hunt. The guides dropped us off before daylight and picked us up before dark every day for 10 days. It worked great. When I'd take other cushions, they just didn't work that well.

The whole name of the game is being able to sit still for a long period of time. I can't tell you how many times I've been busted by deer when I've had to stand up to ease the discomfort I felt. With this gel seat, I don't have to do that anymore.

The cushion, which David has now named the Dr. West's Lock-On in honor of my admiration for the product, worked great. I've given away all of my other cushions and have just started using his. They're really comfortable.

There are hunters out there who'll buy a \$2,000 rifle or a \$1,000 scope, but refuse to spend the extra money for a good cushion so they can sit there all day. They end up only sitting in the woods for 1 ½ hours. No matter how great their other gear is, they won't experience the success that they could have experienced if they were comfortable. I've harvested 24 deer this year, much in part due to my Hunt Comfort Cushion."

Dr. Steve West is a general practitioner in Evergreen, Alabama.