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EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CALLING

There are two traditional ways of calling: With your hands or with a moose-calling horn (available in specialty shops). You can also use electronic devices that allow you to play back previously recorded moose calls.

If, like me, you prefer to call the good old-fashioned way, cup your hands around your mouth, pinch your nose with your index fingers and take a deep breath. The important thing to remember is that the call should come from vour stomach, not vour throat. Press your tongue to the roof of your mouth, contract your abdominal muscles and release the air from your lungs. Practice outdoors (ideally in a forest) by placing a recorder 15 m (50 ft.) away from you and recording your calls. Don't get discouraged, and remember that, as with anything, practice makes perfect. Learning how to call requires discipline and intense training sessions all year round. A lot of hunters master their calls at home and then falter once they enter the forest; they're unsure of what notes to hit or how often they should call. To avoid such mistakes, you need to listen to moose vocalizations over and over

and over again, practicing your calls non-stop throughout the year until they become second nature. It took me two years to master my calls. During those two years, I regularly listened to moose calls, hoping to train my ear and learn how to imitate them as perfectly as possible. Of course, some calls are harder to master than others, while others, like young males (OOAHF) and females (UuUuhf), are much easier.

In my experience, the problem with many hunters is that their calls lack moaning. Moaning is an important aspect when it comes to reproducing a moose's call. Females really sound like they're wailing. Make sure your wails come from your gut, not your throat, but remember that doing so requires a constant effort on your part. It's also important to produce vibrations and modulations with your voice when calling.

