

Key-Wicks® can be Deadly By Todd Amenrud

Although there are many different ways to disperse scent within your hunting area, Key-Wicks® are possibly the most versatile and easiest used scent tool made. They can be used with any type of liquid scent and are designed so that your chosen scent is dispersed out liberally and evenly. They can simply be used by inserting them directly into a bottle of liquid scent and hanging them on a branch to lure in deer from downwind.

Because of the special synthetic felt that this product is made with, it will hold a large volume of scent. The wicking action can have a real increase on the effectiveness of scent. More scent in the air means it reaches out further to call deer in from a greater distance.



The best way to set this up is to hang your Key-Wicks® about 5 feet above the ground, crosswind from your position, at your maximum confident shooting range and on both sides of your position. By elevating the scent to 5 feet, the

scent gets nice exposure to the wind, so it really gets dispersed a good long distance concentrated at a whitetails' "nose level."

You obviously want it out at your maximum shooting range to limit the chance that they will also get downwind of your human scent. Even though I practice the Scent Killer System™, I still don't want to take the chance that a mature buck might also smell *me* from downwind. I want the scent to intercept him and pull him in before he gets directly downwind of me.

When you are using cover (masking) scents, place a wick or two with your cover scent about 5 feet off of the ground, below your stand. If you're on the ground, place two or three wicks with cover scent around you. If you're up in a tree, place the wick, or several wicks, about 5 feet off the ground as mentioned. Then, place another wick or two up about your height, near you in the tree. This will help to keep the cover scent mixed well with your human scent, even when the wind changes.

The old film canister filled with cotton is not a bad scent wick, but it does have two major drawbacks. Your wicking surface is limited, because the wicking material (cotton ball) is down in the canister and is not well exposed to the wind. Second, and more important, some materials are affected by certain types of scent and can change the smell after a period of time. I don't suggest saving your canister with scent and cotton balls for too many days.

After extensive testing, Wildlife Research Center® found a special synthetic felt that does not seem to be affected in any way by scent and therefore keeps it smelling the same. Key-Wicks® are a special die-cut shape (long rectangle and a convenient hanger hole) made of this special felt. They come four in a pack and are priced very

reasonably. They also come in a convenient zip-lock plastic bag so you can store them in between usages. These Key-Wicks® can also be washed and used again, however, when dealing with mature bucks I always like to use fresh products.

I keep talking about Key-Wicks®, but all Wildlife Research Center's® Wicks are made from the same material and can be used in the same type of set-ups; The Pro-Wick®, Super-Wick® or Quik-Wicks™ are all great tools that I've used with success.

Even though this is a simple way to use scent, by no means is it only for beginners who want to lure in small bucks. I have used this easy set to lure in a fair number of trophy class bucks. In the picture is a big 7x7 that actually had his nose



touching a Key-Wick® soaked with Trail's End® #307® when I released the arrow on him.