

## 4.2.4 How to identify the type of grip from measurement sheet

# How to identify the type of grip from measurement sheet

4.2.4 [step-by-step](#)

Before entering span and pitch measurements into a spec sheet, you need to identify which **grip type** the bowler uses. The grip type determines how the fingers sit in the ball and directly affects which measurements are relevant. Most fitting sheets — whether handwritten, printed, or from a previous software system — record grip type either explicitly or implicitly through the measurements themselves.

## ☐☐ The Three Standard Grip Types

Spectre Cloud supports the three IBPSIA-standard grip types. Understanding how each is defined helps you read any fitting sheet accurately.

Grip Type	Finger insertion depth	Typical bowler profile
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<b>Conventional</b>	Fingers inserted to the second knuckle (middle joint)	Beginners, recreational bowlers, seniors, youth
<b>Fingertip</b>	Fingers inserted to the first knuckle (tip joint only)	Most competitive and league bowlers; the most common adult grip
<b>Semi-Fingertip</b>	Fingers inserted between the first and second knuckle	Transitioning bowlers; less common

**Note:** The overwhelming majority of adult league and competitive bowlers use a **fingertip grip**. If a fitting sheet does not explicitly state a grip type, fingertip is the most likely default for an adult bowler — but always confirm with the bowler directly.

# ☐☐ How to Read Grip Type from a Fitting Sheet

## ☐☐ When grip type is stated explicitly

Many printed and digital fitting sheets include a dedicated **Grip Type** or **Style** field. Look for labels such as:

- ☐ Grip: Fingertip / FT / F/T
- ☐ Grip: Conventional / Conv / C
- ☐ Grip: Semi-Fingertip / Semi / S/F

When you see any of these, select the matching grip type in Spectre Cloud before entering span measurements.

## ☐☐ When grip type is implied by span measurement style

Older or simpler fitting sheets may not label the grip type, but you can often infer it from **how the span is recorded**:

- ☐ A sheet with a single **span measurement** (e.g., Middle: 4½", Ring: 3⅞") and no further qualifiers typically indicates a **conventional grip** — the span is measured to the second knuckle.
- ☐ A sheet with span measurements labeled as **Full Span** (F) or with a separate **Cut-to-Cut** (C) or **Oval** (O) notation indicates a **fingertip grip** — these are the three span sub-

types used exclusively for fingertip drilling.

- A sheet with inserts noted (e.g.,  finger inserts: yes) or a specific insert size listed) almost always indicates a **fingertip grip**, since inserts are standard practice for fingertip bowlers.
- Semi-fingertip is rarely recorded on older sheets — if the span measurements seem unusually long for fingertip but short for conventional, flag it and confirm with the bowler.

## When grip type is implied by pitch notation

Pitch values can also hint at grip type. **Conventional grips** typically record fewer pitch measurements or use zero/reverse pitches throughout. **Fingertip grips** commonly include forward pitch on the fingers (e.g.,  ¼" forward) or  ½" forward) to accommodate the shallower insertion depth.

**Tip:** Pitch alone is not a reliable indicator — many conventional bowlers use forward pitch and many fingertip bowlers use zero pitch. Use pitch only as a supporting clue, not a primary identifier.

## Selecting Grip Type in Spectre Cloud

1. Open the spec sheet you are creating or editing.
2. Locate the **Grip Type** selector in the spec sheet header or measurement section.
3. Choose  Conventional,  Fingertip, or  Semi-Fingertip based on your reading of the fitting sheet.
4. Spectre Cloud will adjust the available span fields and IBPSIA auto-suggestion logic to match the selected grip type.

**Important:** Selecting the wrong grip type will cause span fields to mismatch the bowler's actual measurements and may produce incorrect IBPSIA auto-suggestions. If you are unsure, choose **Fingertip** as the default for adults and verify with the bowler at their next visit. *Verify with Spectre team: confirm the exact UI label and location of the grip type selector within the spec sheet form.*

## Tips for Transferring Legacy Fitting Sheets

- ☐ When importing data from handwritten cards or Ebonite ProShop Coordinator records, review grip type field by field — legacy systems used inconsistent abbreviations.
- ☐ If a bowler is getting a new ball drilled at the same time you are entering their history, confirm their grip type in person rather than relying solely on the old sheet.
- ☐ For youth bowlers whose hands have grown since their last fitting, treat all old grip and span data as a starting reference only — re-measure before drilling.

## Related Sections

- 4.2.3 — Selecting span type (F, C, O)
- 4.2.5 — Entering span measurements
- 4.2.6 — Entering pitch values
- 4.5 — IBPSIA auto-suggestions

**Tip:** Not sure which grip type a new walk-in bowler uses? Ask them to hold their hand flat and look at where their fingers naturally curl — fingertip bowlers typically have calluses or grooving at the first knuckle from years of fingertip use.

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