

4.3.3 Ring finger 5/16" rule

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/eYbYv1w38Ho?si=3TMOFJgntVeFAP8k>

4.3.3

measurement

The ring finger span is often derived from the middle finger span rather than measured independently, using the **5/16" Ring Finger Rule**. Spectre Cloud can apply this calculation for you through **Auto-Calculate Ring Span (2.6.8)**, or you can enter the ring finger span manually.

The Rule

The ring finger span is calculated as:

Ring Finger Span = Middle Finger Span + (5/16" – d)

Where **d** is the observed difference between the second joint lines of the middle and ring fingers, measured with the bowler's hand flat on the ball. When the joint lines are level (**d = 0"**), the ring span comes out **5/16"** longer than the middle span; as **d** increases, the ring span shortens relative to the middle.

d value	Adjustment (5/16" – d)	Effect on ring span
0"	+5/16"	Ring span 5/16" longer than middle
5/16"	0"	Ring span equals middle span
> 5/16"	Negative	Ring span shorter than middle

Auto Calculation in Spectre Cloud

When Auto-Calculate Ring Span is used:

1. Enter the **middle finger span** as measured.
2. Enter the **d measurement** in its field.

3. Spectre Cloud calculates and displays the ring finger span using $\text{Middle Span} + (5/16" - d)$.
4. Review the result before saving.

⚠ **Verify with your Spectre team:** confirm the exact field label for the **d** input and whether the calculated ring span is read-only or an editable value the operator can still override.

Manual Entry

If you measure the ring finger span directly, you can enter it manually instead of using the calculation — appropriate when you have independent measurements of both fingers, or when transferring an explicit ring span from a legacy sheet.

Related Sections

- 4.3.1 — Entering span measurements
- 4.4.5 — Inputting pitches
- 2.6.8 — Auto-Calculate Ring Span (the 5/16" rule)
- 05 — Oval Calculator

Tip: The 5/16" rule produces a starting span, not a fixed prescription. If a bowler reports the ring finger feels consistently tighter or looser than the middle despite a correct-looking sheet, re-check the **d** measurement first — it takes under a minute and often explains the complaint.

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