4.3.5 How to input a finger oval measurement (no inserts)

How to input a finger oval measurement (no inserts)

https://www.youtube.com/embed/vA3pY0rBNUo?si=xUc5KGRw75crGbEc

For bowlers who do not use finger inserts, the oval measurement captures the natural shape of each finger hole needed to achieve a comfortable, secure fit. Because fingers are not perfectly round in cross-section, drilling a round hole to a round measurement often produces a grip that feels loose or allows unwanted rotation. The oval measurement corrects for this by recording the finger's true cross-sectional dimensions — its **width** and **depth** — so the hole can be drilled to match.

This page covers how to enter oval measurements directly in the spec sheet. For the full oval calculation workflow, including how to derive oval dimensions from hand measurements, see *Book 05 — Oval Calculator*.

□□ What an Oval Measurement Consists Of

An oval measurement for a finger hole has two components:

- **Width** — the measurement across the finger in the lateral direction (side to side, across the knuckle).
- **Depth** — the measurement through the finger in the vertical direction (front to back, from the pad to the back of the finger).

Together, width and depth define the elliptical shape of the hole. When width and depth are equal, the hole is effectively round. When they differ, the hole is a true oval — wider than it is deep, or deeper than it is wide, depending on the bowler's finger geometry.

Note: Oval measurements are recorded separately for the **middle finger** and the **ring finger**. Do not assume both fingers share the same oval — most bowlers have measurable differences between the two. *Verify with Spectre team: confirm whether Spectre Cloud also records an oval for the thumb on this same form section, or whether thumb oval is handled separately.*

How to Enter Oval Measurements in Spectre Cloud

1. In the spec sheet, locate the **Oval** section for the finger measurements. This is separate from the span and pitch fields.
2. Ensure the spec sheet span type is set to `O` (Oval) if oval measurements are being used as the primary span reference, or confirm with the Spectre team whether oval dimensions can be entered alongside an F or C span type. *Verify with Spectre team: clarify whether oval entry is only available when span type O is selected, or whether it is always accessible regardless of span type.*
3. Enter the **width** measurement for the middle finger.
4. Enter the **depth** measurement for the middle finger.
5. Repeat for the **ring finger** — enter its width and depth independently.
6. Review all four values before saving.

Verify with Spectre team: confirm the exact field labels used in the UI for oval width and depth, and whether measurements are entered in inches (fractions or decimal) or millimeters.

How to Take Oval Measurements from the Bowler's Hand

Oval measurements are taken directly from the bowler's finger, typically using a dedicated oval gauge or digital calipers. For no-insert fittings, the goal is to measure the finger at the **point of insertion** — the first knuckle for fingertip grips, the second knuckle for conventional grips.

1. Ask the bowler to extend their finger naturally — relaxed, not tensed or fully straightened.
2. Position the measuring tool at the appropriate knuckle joint.
3. Measure the **width** — across the finger, parallel to the knuckle crease.
4. Measure the **depth** — through the finger, perpendicular to the knuckle crease.
5. Record both values for middle and ring fingers before moving to the ball.

Tip: Take oval measurements with the bowler's hand warm and relaxed. Cold or tense hands can cause fingers to appear narrower than their natural resting size, resulting in a hole that fits correctly in the shop but feels tight after a few frames once circulation increases.

□□ Oval vs. Round — When It Matters

Situation	Oval recommended?	Notes
Width and depth differ by `1/32"` or more	□ Yes	Even a small oval difference produces a meaningfully better fit for most bowlers.
Width and depth are equal or within `1/64"`	Round hole is acceptable	A round hole will fit well — oval entry is still good practice for record accuracy.
Bowler reports finger rotation or looseness in a previously round-drilled ball	□ Yes — measure and record	Switching to an oval hole is often the solution for a grip that feels sloppy without being oversized.
Youth bowler with rapidly changing hand size	Situational	Record oval for accuracy, but note in the spec sheet that re-measurement is expected at the next visit.

□ Tips for No-Insert Oval Entry

- □ Record the oval even when width and depth are nearly equal — having both values on file gives you a complete history if the bowler's fingers change over time.
- □ If you are cloning a spec sheet for a new ball, verify the oval measurements are still current before drilling — finger dimensions can shift with age, weight change, or injury.
- □ Label your measurement notes clearly when taking readings in a busy shop — it is easy to transpose middle and ring values when moving quickly between a fitting and the

keyboard.

- ☐ Do not use insert size as a proxy for oval on a no-insert fitting — insert sizes account for the insert wall thickness and are not equivalent to bare finger oval dimensions.
- ☐ Do not estimate oval by eye. Even experienced fitters can misjudge the depth dimension, which is harder to eyeball than width. Use a gauge.

Related Sections

- 4.3.3 — Inputting vertical and lateral pitch for fingers
- 4.3.4 — CLT (Corrected Lateral Tilt) angle and its effect on lateral pitch
- 4.3.6 — Inputting finger insert measurements
- Book 05 — Oval Calculator (full oval derivation workflow)
- 4.2.3 — Selecting span type (F, C, O)

Tip: The Oval Calculator in Book 05 can derive recommended oval dimensions from a set of hand measurements if you do not have a dedicated oval gauge available. Use it as a starting point, then verify with a physical measurement where possible.

```

---

Revision #3
Created 11 May 2026 16:04:31 by Admin
Updated 2 June 2026 13:51:27 by Frankie
```