

# 5.5 — Method D: Manual / NONE Mode

- [5.5.1 Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = NONE in Settings](#)
- [5.5.2 Using the oval cut chart to determine cuts manually](#)
- [5.5.3 When NONE mode is preferable \(experienced fitters, custom setups\)](#)

# 5.5.1 Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = NONE in Settings

## Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = NONE in Settings

5.5.1

oval method

Before using the Oval Calculator, Spectre Cloud needs to know how your drill press handles oval cuts. The **Oval Cut Direction** setting tells the app which axis your press moves along when cutting an oval — or, if your press does not support directional oval cuts, you can set this to **NONE**. This page explains what the NONE option means and when to choose it.

## What Is the Oval Cut Direction Setting?

Found in **Settings** → **Oval Calculator**, the Oval Cut Direction preference controls how Spectre Cloud presents oval measurements to you during spec sheet creation. It has three possible values:

- **NONE** — Your drill press does not use a fixed directional axis for oval cuts, or you prefer to enter oval measurements without a directional reference.
- **Forward / Back (F/B)** — Your press cuts ovals along the forward-to-back axis.
- **Left / Right (L/R)** — Your press cuts ovals along the left-to-right axis.

**Note:** The Oval Cut Direction setting affects how oval measurements are *labeled* on spec sheets, not how they are calculated. The underlying math is the same regardless of which option you choose.

# ❄️ When to Choose NONE

Set Oval Cut Direction to **NONE** if any of the following apply to your shop:

- Your drill press does not have a dedicated directional oval mechanism.
- You cut ovals manually and do not reference a fixed axis.
- You are just getting started and want to explore the Oval Calculator before committing to a directional setting.
- Your workflow records oval measurements as a single value (e.g., ) without specifying which axis it applies to.
- Do *not* choose NONE if your press has a defined cut direction and your spec sheets need to distinguish between F/B and L/R measurements — choose the matching directional option instead for accurate labeling.

## How to Set Oval Cut Direction to NONE

1. Click or tap your **pro shop name** in the top-right corner of the screen to open your Profile menu.
2. Select **Settings** from the dropdown.
3. Navigate to the **Oval Calculator** section.
4. Locate the **Oval Cut Direction** field.
5. Select **NONE** from the dropdown options.
6. Click **Save** (or your settings will save automatically, depending on your Spectre Cloud version).

**Desktop &**  **Mobile:** This setting is accessible from any device. Changes sync instantly across all devices logged into your Spectre Cloud account.

## What Changes When NONE Is Selected

With Oval Cut Direction set to NONE:

- Oval measurements on spec sheets appear as a single unlabeled value — no F/B or L/R axis indicator is shown.

- The Oval Calculator still computes oval sizes normally using your span and finger measurements.
- Previously saved spec sheets are not affected — historical records retain whatever labels were in place when they were created.
- Axis-specific labels (e.g.,  / ) will not appear on new spec sheets until you switch to a directional setting.

## Changing This Setting Later

You can update Oval Cut Direction at any time in Settings. Switching from NONE to a directional option (or vice versa) only affects **new spec sheets** created after the change — existing spec sheets retain their original labeling. There is no need to re-drill or re-enter historical data.

## Related Sections

- 5.5.2 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = Forward / Back (F/B)
- 5.5.3 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = Left / Right (L/R)
- 5.1 — Overview of the Oval Calculator
- 2.x — Settings: Oval Calculator Options

**Tip:** Not sure which direction your press uses? Start with NONE — you can always come back and update this setting once you've confirmed your equipment's oval cut axis with your drill press documentation or manufacturer.

# 5.5.2 Using the oval cut chart to determine cuts manually

## Using the oval cut chart to determine cuts manually

5.5.2

oval method

When your **Oval Cut Direction** is set to **NONE**, Spectre Cloud does not auto-suggest directional oval measurements. Instead, you determine the correct oval cut size yourself using the **oval cut chart** — a standard industry reference table used by pro shop operators to match a bowler's span and ball track characteristics to the appropriate oval cut value. This page walks you through how to read and use that chart.

### □□ What the Oval Cut Chart Is

The oval cut chart is a reference grid that maps two key inputs — **forward pitch** (or span-related measurement) and **track width / ball type** — to a recommended oval cut size, expressed as a fraction of an inch (e.g., `1/8"`, `1/4"`, `3/8"`). It is based on IBPSIA guidelines and decades of pro shop practice. Most experienced drillers have a version of this chart on the wall or committed to memory; Spectre Cloud provides it as a built-in reference when working in NONE mode.

□□ **Note:** The oval cut chart is a *starting point*, not an absolute rule. Experienced operators often adjust slightly based on a bowler's grip preference, hand size, and comfort level. Use the chart as your baseline, then fine-tune as needed.

# ☐ Inputs You Need Before Using the Chart

Before consulting the chart, you will need the following measurements from the bowler's spec sheet:

- ☐ **Forward pitch** on the finger holes (the primary driver of oval cut size).
- ☐ **Span type** — Full Span (F), Cut to Cut (C), or Oval (O).
- ☐ **Ball track profile** — whether the bowler has a high, medium, or low track.
- ☐ **Finger hole diameter** — larger holes may require a slightly larger oval to maintain clean release.

# ☐ How to Read the Oval Cut Chart

1. Locate the **forward pitch value** for the finger holes along the chart's vertical axis (or left-hand column, depending on chart format).
2. Move across the row to the column matching the bowler's **track type** or grip style.
3. The cell where the row and column intersect gives you the **recommended oval cut size**.
4. Note the value — for example, 1/4" — and enter it into the **Oval** field on the spec sheet in Spectre Cloud.
5. If the bowler is between two values, default to the **smaller cut** and adjust after fitting.

# ✎ Entering the Oval Cut Manually in Spectre Cloud

Once you have determined the oval cut size from the chart, enter it directly into the spec sheet:

1. Open or create the bowler's **Spec Sheet**.
2. Locate the **Oval** field in the finger hole section.
3. Type or select the oval cut value you determined from the chart (e.g., 1/4").
4. Because Oval Cut Direction is set to NONE, you will enter a **single value** — no forward/back or left/right axis split is required.
5. Save the spec sheet. The value will appear on printed spec sheets and in the bowler's history.

**Desktop & Mobile:** The spec sheet oval field behaves the same on all devices. On mobile, tap the field to bring up the numeric input.

# Common Oval Cut Values — Quick Reference

Forward Pitch Range	Low Track	Medium Track	High Track
0 (no pitch) to 1/8" forward	1/8"	1/8"	1/4"
1/4" forward	1/8"	1/4"	1/4"
3/8" forward	1/4"	1/4"	3/8"
1/2" forward or more	1/4"	3/8"	3/8"

**Verify with Spectre team:** The table above represents general industry guidelines. The exact chart built into Spectre Cloud may differ — confirm the reference values with the Spectre team or cross-check against your shop's IBPSIA materials.

## Tips for Getting the Best Results

- Always fit the bowler with an insert before finalizing the oval — the physical fit may reveal that a slightly different cut is needed.
- For bowlers with unusually large or small hands relative to their span, lean toward fitting feel over chart value.
- If you switch from NONE to a directional Oval Cut Direction setting later, you can re-examine existing spec sheets and update them individually — there is no bulk conversion tool.
- Do not enter a 0 oval unless the bowler genuinely requires a round hole — most bowlers benefit from at least a 1/8" oval for comfort and release consistency.

## Related Sections

- 5.5.1 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = NONE in Settings
- 5.5.3 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = Forward / Back (F/B)
- 5.5.4 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = Left / Right (L/R)
- 5.1 — Overview of the Oval Calculator
- 4.x — Creating and editing spec sheets

□ **Tip:** Keep a printed copy of your preferred oval cut chart at your drill press as a quick reference. Even if you use Spectre Cloud's built-in chart, a laminated backup is handy when working fast or training a new staff member.

# 5.5.3 When NONE mode is preferable (experienced fitters, custom setups)

## When NONE mode is preferable (experienced fitters, custom setups)

5.5.3

oval method

Spectre Cloud's **Oval Cut Direction = NONE** mode is not just a fallback for shops without directional drill presses — it is also the preferred working mode for many experienced pro shop operators. This page explains the situations where NONE mode is the right professional choice, and why some of the best fitters in the industry work this way by design.

## ☐ NONE Mode Is a Valid Professional Workflow

When Spectre Cloud was designed, NONE mode was included to accommodate the full range of how pro shops actually operate — not just shops with basic equipment, but also highly experienced fitters who prefer to work from feel, chart, and judgment rather than app-guided directional suggestions. If you are an experienced driller, choosing NONE is not "turning off" a feature — it is choosing a workflow that keeps *you* in control of the oval decision.

- ☐ NONE mode gives you full manual control over every oval value entered on a spec sheet.
- ☐ It keeps spec sheets clean and uncluttered — no F/B or L/R axis fields appear unless they are relevant to your setup.
- ☐ It works consistently across all span types: Full Span (F), Cut to Cut (C), and Oval (O).

## ☐ Who Typically Prefers NONE Mode

NONE mode tends to suit operators in the following situations:

- ☐ **Veteran fitters with 10+ years of experience** who determine oval cuts by feel and fitting rather than formula — and find directional prompts unnecessary or distracting.
- ☐ **Solo operators** who have a consistent personal method and do not need the app to guide their oval decisions.
- ☐ **Shops with older or non-directional drill presses** that cut ovals without a defined axis orientation.
- ☐ **Fitters who use a custom oval chart** developed in-house over years of shop-specific data — where the IBPSIA standard chart does not reflect their preferred values.
- ☐ **Shops transitioning from a legacy system** (e.g., Ebonite ProShop Coordinator or a paper-based system) where oval values were historically recorded as a single measurement, and directional labels would break consistency with existing records.
- ☐ **Training environments** where an instructor wants students to derive oval cuts manually before relying on app suggestions.

## ☐ Custom Setup Scenarios Where NONE Is the Better Fit

Beyond personal preference, there are specific equipment and workflow configurations where NONE mode is objectively the more appropriate choice:

### Non-directional drill presses

Some drill press models — particularly older or entry-level units — do not have a calibrated forward/back or left/right axis for oval cutting. The oval is produced by the driller's hand technique rather than a machine axis. In these cases, recording a directional oval value in Spectre Cloud

would be misleading, since the measurement has no axis reference to anchor it to.

## Shops using a bench jig or custom fixture

Some operators use a bench-mounted jig or a proprietary fixture to cut ovals at a consistent angle that does not align with standard F/B or L/R conventions. NONE mode lets you record the resulting oval size without forcing it into a directional label that does not match your actual setup.

## Multi-driller shops with mixed equipment

In shops where two or more drillers use different presses — one directional, one not — NONE mode provides a consistent recording format across all spec sheets, regardless of which press was used. This avoids confusion when one driller's records show directional labels and another's do not.

## High-volume shops focused on throughput

Experienced operators in busy shops sometimes prefer NONE mode simply because it is faster. Entering a single oval value and moving on is quicker than working through directional fields, especially for straightforward fits where the oval decision is automatic from experience.

# NONE Mode vs. Directional Mode — When to Switch

Situation	Recommended Mode
Experienced fitter, consistent personal method	<b>NONE</b>
Non-directional or older drill press	<b>NONE</b>
Custom in-house oval chart	<b>NONE</b>
Newer fitter learning IBPSIA-guided workflow	<b>F/B or L/R (directional)</b>
Modern directional press with calibrated axis	<b>F/B or L/R (directional)</b>
Multi-staff shop standardising on one method	<b>F/B or L/R (directional)</b>
Transitioning from legacy single-value records	<b>NONE</b> (initially)

**Note:** There is no wrong answer here — both modes produce valid spec sheets in Spectre Cloud. The choice is about matching the app's recording format to how your shop actually works,

not about one method being more accurate than the other.

# ☐ Switching Out of NONE Mode Later

If your shop upgrades equipment, adds a directional press, or brings on a new driller who works directionally, you can switch Oval Cut Direction in Settings at any time. The change applies to new spec sheets only — existing records are not altered. You do not need to retroactively update historical spec sheets unless you want to for record consistency.

## Related Sections

- 5.5.1 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = NONE in Settings
- 5.5.2 — Using the oval cut chart to determine cuts manually
- 5.5.4 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = Forward / Back (F/B)
- 5.5.5 — Setting up: Oval Cut Direction = Left / Right (L/R)
- 2.x — Settings: Oval Calculator options

☐ **Tip:** If you are onboarding a new staff member who is still learning, consider temporarily switching to a directional mode so Spectre Cloud's suggestions can serve as a teaching reference — then switch back to NONE once they have developed their own reliable method.