9.2.4 How do I switch a bowler from fingertip to conventional mid-session?

How do I switch a bowler from fingertip to conventional mid-session?

> 9.2.4 FAQ

Switching a bowler from fingertip to conventional grip — or the reverse — during an active fitting session requires a small but deliberate set of steps in Spectre Cloud. The grip type field controls which measurement fields are active, which auto-suggestions are generated, and how the spec sheet interprets span and pitch values. Changing it partway through a session is straightforward, but it requires understanding what the change affects so that no residual values from the previous grip type carry through to the finished spec sheet.

□□ Why Grip Type Matters to the Spec Sheet

Grip type is not just a label — it is a structural input that shapes the entire spec sheet. When you change it, Spectre Cloud adjusts which fields are active, recalculates auto-suggestions, and

reinterprets the measurements already entered. Values entered under one grip type may be numerically valid but contextually incorrect under the other — a fingertip span entered before a grip type change, for example, is a different physical measurement from a conventional span of the same numeric value.

- **Fingertip** — span measured to the first knuckle; pitch suggestions optimised for a first-knuckle grip; oval suggestions calibrated for fingertip release characteristics.
- **Conventional** — span measured to the second knuckle; pitch suggestions optimised for a second-knuckle grip; oval suggestions calibrated for conventional release.
- **Semi-fingertip** — span measured between the two knuckle references; intermediate pitch and oval suggestions.

Note: Changing grip type mid-session does not alter the raw measurement values already entered — it changes how those values are interpreted. A span value entered under fingertip remains numerically the same after switching to conventional, but it now represents a different physical distance. Review and re-enter measurements after any grip type change rather than assuming the existing values are still valid in their new context.

Changing Grip Type on Desktop

1. Open the spec sheet in progress.
2. Locate the **Grip Type** selector — typically near the top of the spec sheet, above the measurement fields.
3. Click the selector and choose the new grip type — **Conventional**, **Fingertip**, or **Semi-fingertip**.
4. Spectre Cloud updates the active measurement fields and recalculates auto-suggestions based on the new grip type.
5. Review all measurement fields — re-enter any values that were taken under the previous grip type and are no longer valid under the new one.
6. Re-run the **Oval Calculator** after updating measurements to generate correct oval output under the new grip type.
7. Save the spec sheet.

Changing Grip Type on Mobile

1. Open the spec sheet and scroll to the **Grip Type** field.
2. Tap the field and select the new grip type.
3. Review and re-enter measurement fields as needed.
4. Re-run the Oval Calculator.
5. Tap **Save**.

What to Review After Changing Grip Type

After the grip type change, work through the spec sheet systematically. Not every field needs to be re-entered — some values transfer cleanly, others do not.

Fields that must be re-measured and re-entered

- **Span values** — the span measurement itself changes when grip type changes because the reference knuckle changes. Do not carry span values from one grip type to another. Re-measure with the bowler.
- **Pitch values** — while the same pitch could theoretically apply to either grip type, the auto-suggestions differ significantly. Review pitch values explicitly and confirm they are appropriate for the new grip type, not just for the measurements.

Fields that transfer cleanly

- **Finger hole sizes** — the physical diameter of the finger does not change between grip types. Hole size measurements remain valid.
- **Knuckle sizes** — similarly physical and grip-type independent.
- **Thumb measurements** — thumb hole size, thumb pitch, and thumb oval are grip-type independent. These values carry across unless there is a specific reason to change them.
- **Ball name and layout** — neither is affected by grip type. These fields carry across unchanged.

Fields to review but not necessarily re-enter

- **Oval cut values** — re-run the Oval Calculator after updating spans and pitches. The oval values from the previous grip type are almost certainly no longer correct.
- **Notes** — review the notes field and update if any information was specific to the previous grip type (e.g., "switching from conventional" — note why the change was made).

□□ Mid-Session Grip Type Changes — Common Scenarios

Bowler initially presented as conventional but wants to try fingertip

This is the most common mid-session scenario — a bowler comes in for a conventional re-drill but decides during the fitting conversation to make the transition to fingertip. The grip type change is intentional and the session pivots accordingly.

1. Change grip type to **Fingertip**.
2. Re-measure the span to the **first knuckle** — the conventional span measurement is not applicable.
3. Review pitch suggestions under fingertip — they will be different from the conventional suggestions, particularly for forward pitch.
4. Discuss the pitch values with the bowler — a first-time fingertip bowler may need a more conservative pitch than an experienced fingertip bowler with the same hand measurements.
5. Re-run the Oval Calculator under the new grip type and settings.
6. Consider adding a note to the spec sheet documenting that this is the bowler's first fingertip drilling — useful context for future visits.

Wrong grip type selected at spec sheet creation

A staff member created the spec sheet with the wrong grip type and measurements have been entered under that incorrect type. The correction is the same process as an intentional change, but the measurements themselves may be correct — they just need to be confirmed as applicable to the correct grip type.

1. Change grip type to the correct selection.
2. Verify whether the span measurement was taken to the correct knuckle for the intended grip type. If it was, the value carries across. If not, re-measure.
3. Review pitch values and re-run suggestions under the corrected grip type.
4. Re-run the Oval Calculator.

Bowler is being fitted for two balls — different grip types for each

Occasionally a bowler wants one ball drilled conventional and one fingertip — a common setup for a league bowler who wants a spare ball in conventional grip alongside a fingertip strike ball. Each ball requires its own spec sheet with its own grip type.

- Create **two separate spec sheets** — do not change the grip type on a single spec sheet between balls. Each spec sheet represents one ball and one fitting approach.
- Link each spec sheet to its own Arsenal entry — the conventional ball and the fingertip ball are separate inventory items.
- The thumb measurements may be identical across both spec sheets if the bowler uses the same thumb setup for both balls — copy these values deliberately rather than re-measuring.

⚠ What Not to Do

- **Do not carry span values from fingertip to conventional without re-measuring.** The first-knuckle and second-knuckle reference points produce different measurements for the same physical hand. A span entered under the wrong knuckle reference drills a hole in the wrong position.
- **Do not accept auto-suggestions generated under the old grip type.** Once the grip type is changed, re-review all suggestions — they have been recalculated and may differ significantly from what appeared before the change.
- **Do not skip the Oval Calculator re-run.** Oval values calculated under the previous grip type are not valid under the new one. This is the most commonly skipped step after a mid-session grip type change and one of the most consequential.
- **Do not use a grip type change to correct a pitch that feels wrong.** If the bowler reports discomfort, address the pitch value directly — changing grip type to force a different pitch suggestion is the wrong tool for that problem.

Mid-Session Grip Type Change — Quick Checklist

Step	Action	Done

1	Change Grip Type selector to correct grip type	☐
2	Re-measure span to correct knuckle reference for new grip type	☐
3	Re-enter span values from new measurement	☐
4	Review pitch suggestions under new grip type	☐
5	Confirm or update pitch values	☐
6	Confirm finger hole and knuckle sizes are unchanged	☐
7	Re-run Oval Calculator	☐
8	Update Notes field with reason for grip type change if relevant	☐
9	Save spec sheet	☐

Related Sections

- 6.1.3 — Step 3: Set grip type and enter finger measurements
- 6.1.8 — Common mistakes on the first ball and how to avoid them
- 9.1.2 — When to clone a spec sheet vs. create a new one
- 9.1.4 — Using Auto-Suggestions effectively for faster fitting sessions
- 9.2.1 — Why is my oval cut showing unexpected values
- 04.x — Spec Sheets: field reference and measurement guide

 Tip: When a bowler decides mid-session to switch grip type, take a moment to reset the conversation before picking up the measuring tape again. A bowler transitioning from conventional to fingertip for the first time is making a significant change to how they interact with the ball — the fitting discussion should reflect that. Ask what prompted the change, what they hope to achieve, and whether they have thrown fingertip before. Two minutes of conversation often surfaces a preference or concern that changes one of the pitch decisions, and it is much better to surface it before drilling than after.

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