



Arrow Spine Unravelled

The stiffness of the shaft is how much the shaft can bend.

The stiffer the arrow the better *as long as you get good clearance.*

An arrow can appear stiffer or weaker than the shaft suggests.

Things that weaken an arrow:

A harder cam, a longer arrow, a heavier point, a faster bow, a higher poundage or similar.

Things that stiffen an arrow:

A softer cam, a shorter arrow, a lighter point, a slower bow, a lower poundage or similar.

What's really going on?

You care about how the force is applied to the nock and where the nodes of the arrow are.

Force:

What direction is the force applied?

Think about a clean release and location of the nocking point.

How much force is applied?

Think about poundage and the speed of the string/cam/limbs.

How quickly is the force applied?

Think about string and limb material and cam shape (hard - fast, medium or soft - slower)

Nodes:

The points that don't wobble when you make the arrow oscillate.

How far apart are they?

The further apart they are the more the arrow bends in flight.

How close to the rest is the front node?

The closer to the rest the node is the more forgiving the arrow will be to changes.

