SCORING TECH

TIME EVERY SHOT IN THE QUAL YOU ALREADY SHOOT

A short note for firearms training leads, from Scoring Tech

> "Yesterday, I took a qual from a large POST academy, that gave pass / fail, and one number (% hits), and turned that into a Hit Factor based test that gave them resolution on the key skills the qual tested and how well their performance would do against a realistic 3x Loser threat they might encounter tomorrow during a stop. Most quals have merit on what they test… just don't test against time or provide data to act on during training."
>
> Ken Nelson, CEO, ScoringTech

Most qualifications give you one number at the end: how many hits. Maybe you also see the group. That is what you know about every shooter on the line.

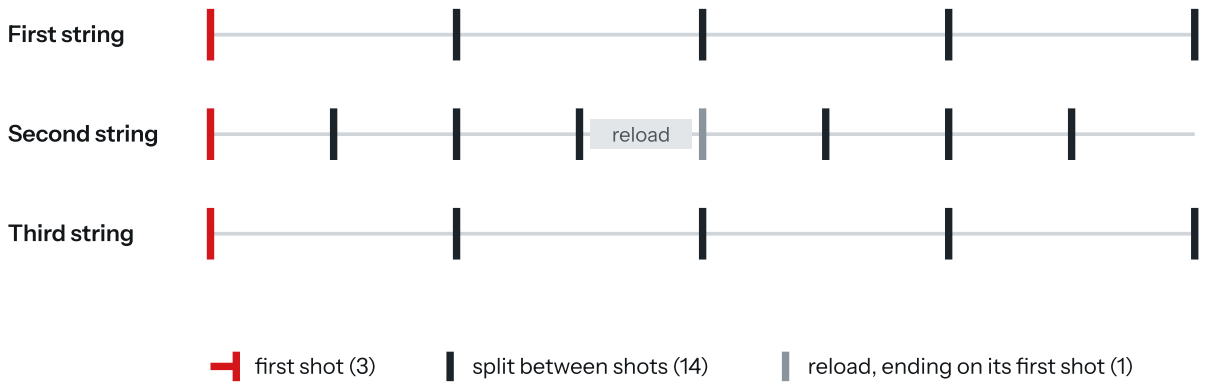
You can keep the qual exactly as it is, with the same rounds and the same par times, and time every shot. This note shows what that adds.

The 7-yard line, as an example

Take the 7-yard line of the FBI qual: 18 rounds in three strings, including one emergency reload. At the end of the test, if you only count hits, you don't know whether a miss came here. You don't know if the shooter made the par times. You don't know what to work on.

Now time every shot on that same line. You get:

- 3 first-shot times
- 14 splits, the time between shots
- 1 emergency reload time
- whether each par time was met
- whether the shooter saved rounds
- whether the shooter crept or started early



The 7-yard line of the FBI Pistol Qualification Course as published: 18 rounds in three strings. Spacing is not to scale, and your agency's version may differ.

Do that on every stage and the whole qual gives you 47 pieces of data, broken out by yard line and by behavior. Today it gives you hits, and maybe a group.

Scored the usual way	With every shot timed
Hits for the whole qual	Hits, plus first shot, splits and reload at each yard line
Pass or fail	Pass or fail, plus how fast, and where the time went
Maybe a group	Who is slow, who is rushing, and who is starting early

How it works

We use two shot timers with JMAP, and JMAP does the scoring and the pairing of each time to the shot it belongs to.

The **Apple Watch shot timer** uses a neural network on the watch and its accelerometer to feel each shot. It doesn't depend on sound, so you can put 50 or more shooters on a line and finish quickly. It also warns when someone moves before the start signal.

The **AMG acoustic shot timer** times shots by sound. It works best with smaller groups spread out, so the noise stays separate. It costs about $160, and JMAP finds and uses it automatically.



An instructor times an officer at the range.

With either one, JMAP times every shot of a stage, tells you about overtime shots, and attaches each time to the right part of the course: the three first shots, the 14 splits and the reload at 7 yards.

For extra detail, score the 7-yard line on its own and you get both speed and accuracy there. Or score at the end as usual. You lose the hits per yard line, but it is faster, and in my experience most misses happen out at 15 and 25 yards anyway.

More than one standard in the same qual

Everyone on the line is testing to be a competent sworn officer. That is the minimum. Not everyone has the same job. SWAT, K-9 and firearms instructors might need more, and sometimes you just need a way to break a tie.

With every shot timed, all of them can shoot the same qual, on the same yard lines at the same time, against different standards. SWAT has theirs, the instructors have theirs, and everyone has the same floor.

A par-time qual sets a floor and gives nobody a reason to get better than that floor. It also tells you very little about what an individual or a class needs. With shot-by-shot timing you keep the floor, tie standards to jobs if you want, add some competition, and have detailed data to feed back into training, standards, and equipment testing.

Want to try it on your next qual?

Call or email and we will set up an on-site demo of JMAP with shot-by-shot timing on your qual. It's free. You don't have to change anything about the qual to try it.

If you want to see why timing matters, read The Bill Drill Gunfight and How fast a gunfight actually goes.

Thanks for reading!

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Mon to Fri, 8am to 5pm MT. You'll speak with our CEO, LEO Liaison, or DoD Liaison.