

Air Bows



This is the latest thing to hit the market. The VDGIIF does not allow **Air Bows to be used for hunting in the Commonwealth of Virginia.**

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Crosman, the 90-year old company that built your granddads Red Ryder BB gun, has introduced a new shooting product through its Benjamin brand called the Pioneer Air Bow.

Before you rush out to plunk down \$849 to buy one, be aware that the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has ruled that it doesn't qualify as a hunting instrument in Virginia.

According to Lee Walker, VDGIIF media relations coordinator, a bow/crossbow is defined as using "a string that bends a flexible piece of material." The air bow uses compressed air to propel the arrow. The arrows are pulled from the front rather than pushed from the rear. Nor does the air bow meet the standards for a rifle, an instrument described as having a barrel.

All this doesn't appear to be quelling the hype over the new introduction. It has been grabbing the spotlight at the SHOT Shop open this week in Las Vegas. The new product has increased traffic on the company's [websitewww.crosman.com](http://www.crosman.com), threefold. The air bows are scheduled to be shipped to buyers beginning in April, but sales have been so strong buyers are being advised it may be months later before they are delivered.

The air bow shoots full-size, broad heads-equipped arrows at a sizzling speed of 450 feet-per-second, all driven with air. The manufacturer says the instrument is capable of firing eight shots with amazing accuracy in the same amount of time as a crossbow can shoot three. You can cock an air bow with two fingers, which opens bowhunting to people who can't handle a traditional bow. It is equipped with a scope.