

# String Test

## MSV FOCUS-HEX 1.18mm 17L Gauge String Test

**Mauve Sports -MSV Strings** is our latest Corporate String Supplier Member. We have a review of their most popular string FOCUS-HEX, which has sold over 1 million sets.



The string has a hexagonal profile for increased ball bite and spin production, Provides a high level of control and a softer feel than traditional polyester strings. Gauge: 17L / 1.18mm. It is also available in 1.10mm, 1.23mm and 1.27mm. With nine different colors and four gauges, it is easy to find the right string for every player.

### Specifications:

Length: 40ft/12.2 meter sets or 200 meter reels

Construction: Extruded co-polyester monofilament

Gauge: 17L 1,18 mm

Color: Black, Red, White, Dark Blue, Light Blue, Silver, Natural, Gold and Yellow.

Material - Monofilic polyester / Monofilic elastomer

### In the lab

We tested the 1.2 mm MSV FOCUS-HEX The coil measured 12.2 meters. As the string is hexagonal it was a little difficult to measure. We used the average measurements of the 12.2 meters. The diameter measured 1.18 - 1.20 mm prior to stringing, and 1.17 - 1.19 mm after stringing. We recorded a stringbed stiffness of 36 Dynamic Tension on a Beers ERT 300 immediately after stringing at 25 kilos in 2 (16 × 19 pattern) racquets on a Prince 6000 constant-pull machine.

After 24 hours (no playing), stringbed stiffness measured 34 RDC units, representing a 5.6 percent tension loss. Our control string, Prince Synthetic Gut Original Gold 16, using the same string as the USRSA, representing a 9 percent tension loss. The MSV Focus HEX 1.18mm added 14.3 grams to the weight of our unstrung frame. The ERT tests were in the above average range for any type of string.

The string was tested for five weeks by 30 ERSA playtesters, with playing levels of intermediate to nationally ranked. These are blind tests, with playtesters receiving unmarked strings in unmarked packages. Average number of hours playtested was 8.4.

### Stringing

No playtester broke his sample during stringing, a few stringers complained of slight problems with coil memory, typical with single sets of poly string, although many said it was no problem with coil memory. Several stringers said they pulled the crosses slowly through to prevent notching, typical with a geometric string. No problems were reported tying knots. All rated it as a little more difficult to much easier to string than other strings in this category. Most rated it a little easier to string, with the thin gauge.



# String Test

## Playtest

Tension Loss was rated highest from the same to much better from everyone. This was the same as our lab tests. Spin potential was rated second best due to the thin gauge and geometrical shape. All of the testers found the string a little below average to very good in Playability. Power was rated the same to somewhat better than other polys.

String movement and control were rated from below average to a much better. Comfort and feeling were rated average to better than most polys. Durability was rated from a little worse to much better for a thin poly string. . Five testers broke their strings between 6 and 12 hours of play.



## Conclusion

The strength of Focus Hex comes from its excellent control and no real weaknesses. The testers also found they had enough power for a poly, and still had great spin and control. Comfort was also rated good for a poly string even though many said it was not really a soft poly like bPro Line 2. Tension loss and playability was more than long enough for all of the players. Even after some tension loss measured on a Beers ERT 300, the string played much better than expected. At 69€ for a 200 meter reel, the string has no real weaknesses. Some testers said they wanted to test the 1.23mm and 1.27mm for their string breakers, as this thin gauge lasted longer than expected. The string can be recommended to intermediate to tournament players. The price/quality ratio is one of the best on the market. It is no wonder the strings are very popular.

### Comments:

"I do not break strings but change strings after several hours. This string played well longer than most I have tested. "

Club Player and Pro Stringer

"I thought it was going to be much stiffer. Comfort was very big surprise."

Tournament Senior

"I found the string very good, but with the thin gauge, i broke it after several hours. I would like it in a thicker gauge."

Club Team Player and Shop Stringers

"Easy on my arm for a poly and great spin."

Coach and Club Player

"The tension loss was really low and I did not notice any difference in playability over 10 hours of playing with this string."

Coach and Ranked Senior Player

"Easy to string for a hex poly. I use this string already."

Tournament Player and Pro Stringer

"Great string for the juniors in my club."

Coach and Club Team Player

"Good for a poly but not for me. Multifilaments are my string."

Club Stringer and Nationally ranked Senior

