

There will be blood

The Primos Bloodhunter headlamp

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You've been deerstalking all day... The sun is nearly setting as you begin to check out the last heavily forested gully for the outing.

Up ahead, you spot a few grazing deer. Ever so carefully, you close in for a shot.

By the time you are in position and have waited for your chosen animal to give you an opportunity, the sun has gone down and dusk is rapidly settling on the landscape. You squeeze off the shot, confident that it is right on the point of the shoulder. You lose sight of the deer as the rifle recoils. The smack of a well-placed shot adds to your confidence. You take a few bearings on prominent trees then set off to cross the creek and find your prize.

By the time you reach the spot, there is no carcass to be seen. You know the beast lies dead somewhere within a 30m radius. It must have made the short, mad dash that heart-shot animals sometimes do.

In the declining light, you see a dash of blood on a fern. Alas, the daylight is all but finished and you cannot follow the blood trail any further. The light from your mobile phone does not help either. You know there would be a good blood trail leading to the fallen deer, but you lack the means to see it.

The Primos Bloodhunter HD headlamp has been designed for just this scenario. Nioa is the Australian agent for this



The headlamp is easily adjustable and sits comfortably.

device and provided one for review by *Australian Hunter*. The Australian retail price is about \$80 depending on where you shop.

The Bloodhunter HD uses ultra-bright LEDs with an optical filter that highlights blood trails in all terrains. In blood trailing mode, the filtered light mutes natural earthy colours and enhances the red of the blood, making it much easier to follow what you are looking for at night.

The headlamp is adjustable for the angle of projection. It works in either of two settings – blood trailing mode and a white light status for general camp use. The headlamp operates on three AAA batteries. In white light mode you can expect to collect about 14 hours of run time from a new set of batteries. The blood tracking option is more energy intensive and four hours run time is the norm. Light output is 200 lumens.

At times a blood trail can be tricky enough to pick up in daylight, with the

task made worse after dark. That is where the Primos Bloodhunter headlamp excels. While the majority of hunters plan on being back in camp by dark, sometimes you become caught out. The Primos Bloodhunter is a compact device and features a white light means that would be unobtrusive and useful in any backpack. ■



Sometimes a blood trail can be difficult enough to spot in daylight, let alone at night.