

Pitching Grips: How To Throw A Cutter

By Bower, a member of Let's Talk Pitching

This article was taken from a post on my [discussion forums](#). --Steven Ellis

Some people were asking how the cutter is thrown or gripped. This is the way I do it and it's been successful for me.

It's pretty hard over the Internet to show good pitching grips, so this is the ball with the big horseshoe.



This is the way that I believe Mariano Rivera throws his cutter. This is a way to do it and this works for me also.



This is the way I throw my cutter. If you want to throw this pitch and you work on the first way I'm not sure if it's better than this way. I throw it this way but I'm used to it and this is how I like to throw it. I'd experiment with both grips to see which you like best.

Again here is the picture of the close seams.



And this is a picture of my grip when I throw my cutter.



How to throw a cutter: Usually you hold it like a fastball. The grip is a little bit off of center. Throwing it is like a fastball, and right here at about the release point, turn over your wrist.

The idea is, it's got fastball rotation, and at about 59 feet, it cuts into a righthander for a lefthanded pitcher. For a righthanded pitcher it cuts into a lefthander.



Why is Mariano Rivera's cutter so good? Because it's so late and so quick, and the rotation has such good fastball rotation. It looks fastball to a hitter because you can't see the rotation.