

SIMPLE TIPS - FAST RESULTS!

Thanks for joining our bi-weekly newsletter.

How long have you played golf? Are you constantly improving, or have you hit the proverbial “glass ceiling”?

My name is Dave Johnston. I’ve been teaching golf for thirty-two years and given over eleven-thousand lessons. The majority of my students are once-a-week golfers who know the finer points of proper technique but remain trapped in an endless cycle of fault-finding and error correction.

Why does a new technique work like magic one day and completely disappear the next? How often have you hit drives like a semi-pro on the practice range before a round and then proceeded to slice three balls out of bounds?

This series of bi-weekly newsletters offers simple guidelines to help you overcome the “broken swing” syndrome and build your unique style.

As you apply the concepts in this series, please bear in mind the following three guidelines:

- 1) One of the biggest mental traps is the temptation to look for complex solutions. The key is understanding the difference between cause and effect. Every aspect of the game can be reduced to three fundamental causes. When you adjust the cause(s), the results take care of themselves.
- 2) Results are everything. Adopt the attitude that *form follows function*. The first step in discovering your natural ability is abandoning the notion of technical perfection. When you find the technique that produces solid contact (ie. hitting the sweetspot) more than 50% of the time, then stick with it regardless of how it looks.

3) There are no absolutes - only guidelines. Keep a notebook handy. As you filter through the guidelines in this series, write down the modifications that produce the best results. This will insure you don't get caught in an endless cycle of fault-finding and error correction.

Enough lecturing. Let's get started helping you save strokes on the Green.



SIMPLE PUTTING SECRETS #1

Do you know the one common element found in every effective putting stroke?

Topspin.

What is topspin and why is it crucial?

Topspin (or overspin), is the end-over-end spin that allows the ball to roll easily and hold the line. Applying topspin allows you to focus on “feel”.

How do we apply topspin?

Topspin is created when the putterhead contacts the ball with a slight upward motion. The first key is positioning the ball *slightly forward* of center in your stance. This insures the clubhead consistently contacts the ball just above the equator.

How can you tell if a ball has topspin?

Line up the name. When the ball has topspin, the name will blend into a smooth line. Without topspin the name will wobble. A ball with topspin rolls much farther than the stroke would indicate. If you've ever seen a professional hit a putt that looks like it will stop halfway to the cup but continues to roll, then you know the putt has topspin.

SIMPLE PUTTING SECRETS: # 2

For a right-handed golfer, the left hand is opposite the inner left thigh at address. This insures the club is aimed correctly and creates a smooth takeaway (This position applies to every club in the bag).

SIMPLE PUTTING SECRETS # 3

The most common cause of missed putts inside four feet is lifting the head too soon. This fault is the result of the clubhead slowing down (decelerating) at impact. Every stroke should feel like a firm tap.

How do you accelerate on short putts without going three feet past the hole?

Use the width of your feet as the guide. Narrow the stance for short putts and widen the feet for longer ones. The exact foot position is based on feel. When you adjust the width, only move the right foot. You want to maintain the left foot position to insure the ball position is consistent.

Once you set your stance, imagine the putterhead never swings beyond the right foot in the backswing. Initially, you may hit putts well past the hole. That's a good sign! With a little practice, you will develop "soft hands" and still create a smooth acceleration.

SUMMARY:

The key to consistent putting is imparting topspin. There are three guidelines:

- 1) Contact the ball above the equator.
- 2) For a right-handed golfer, the left hand is opposite the inner left thigh at address.
- 3) The width of the stance is the length of the stroke.

Feel free to email if you have any comments or questions:

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For simple tip videos on all parts of the game, please check out our [Youtube channel](#). Your free subscription will help us continue to provide useful content.

I look forward to helping take your game to a whole new level!

Yours For Simple Golf,

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