



Now that many of you have worked on the basic mechanics of your game, I would like to move to the most important lesson/tip I can give you. You need to work on putting! Everyone including the world's best golfer; Tiger Woods needs work on his putting. In fact, I will bet, you spend more time hitting drivers in one practice session than you practice putting in an entire season!

Practicing putting is truly the fastest way to improve your game. Whether its 5 minutes before or after a round, it will greatly help you! Here are a few tips/drills that will jump start your putting practice.

## Putting:

The two main factors in putting are distance control and direction. Distance control is usually determined by one of two things; feel or technique. Feel players can usually look at the length of a putt and know right away much power is takes to achieve a good putt just by instinct. Technique based players will determine the length of a putt then determine how much or long of a stroke they must take to achieve a good putt.

Direction of a putt is determined by the where the clubface of the putter is pointing at impact of the putt. Direction is best achieved by picking out an imaginary line on the green, in which, if the ball is struck on that line, the ball will end up in the bottom of the cup. Once that line is envisioned, you need to find a target nearest to your current ball location (I like old ball marks, discoloration of the green, or anything else you can find) along that line. Once that target is located, line the ball and putter towards that target. (Many golf balls have a line drawn on the golf ball by the manufacture, if not; draw a straight line on your golf ball to help aid in this process.)

Gripping the putter is much different than the grip for other clubs. To me, there is no wrong way to grip a putter, as long as you can keep the putter lined up properly through impact. The most important thing in putting is achieve a square putter face through impact. Square is defined as not differentiating that line you set toward the target. Once all of this is achieved, make a great stroke and sink that putt!

Lastly, I recommend a putting lesson. Whether by me or another professional, it could be the most beneficial lesson you ever receive! I feel so strongly about this, I will offer a free 10 minute putting lesson available until the end of May. If you would like to schedule this lesson, please contact me at the Golf Shop 231-263-3000 to do so.

Good Luck and Play Well!!

Justin Mack  
Golf Professional  
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If you would rather not receive these items, you can simply email or reply back to me stating the fact.