

SHOT 3. SPINNING CHIPS

Stop your chips to tight pins every time with these quick tips

FOUR CHECKS

Use this checklist before playing any chip shot: 1. Assess the lie. 2. Picture the landing point. 3. Spot any slopes on the green. 4. Obstacles in front of you dictate club choice.

SLOW TEMPO

Try not to hurry the shot. If you are too quick into the ball, you run the risk of turning the face over with the hands, hitting it long and left and taking spin off the ball.

BOOST CONTROL

SHORTEN THE CLUB

Holding the club down the grip puts the hands closer to the clubhead. That makes keeping the clubhead under control a lot easier. It also makes it easier for you to get the clubhead accelerating through so the shaft reaches vertical at impact - the ideal position for a spinning chip shot.

SET-UP TO IMPACT

DROP CLUB UNDER BALL

Position the ball back of centre with the hands in front of the clubhead, weight on the left side. Take it back nice and smooth using the upper body. As the club travels back to the ball feel the shaft gets a bit more vertical by using the weight of the clubhead to drop it down under the ball.

NEXT MONTH
How to Play long par threes

TRAINING AIDS

A QUICK BRUSH-UP

Latest from the electronic world, plus an easy-to-use training aid claiming to cut your handicap

T2HOLE GOLF IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM

This new training aid provides the one thing every golfer craves: consistency. The T2Hole doesn't promise a quick fix - like many training aids - but claims to develop sound fundamentals for every area of your game. The product is quick and easy to assemble and users have the ability to personalise it to their needs through custom-fitting.

TG Verdict: When you're on the range, this product is ideal to help you groove a better swing. You can also use it at home or in the garden and the feedback it provides is priceless.

RRP: £89.99 available from www.perfectmygolf.co.uk

PATH FINDER

The brushes are adjustable and shaped for the ideal swing plane. During putting practice it caters for both 'back and through' putters and 'in-to-square-to-in' putters.

BALL POSITION

A locator can be moved forward and back to set ball position. Once set, it ensures ball position stays constant. Thin and made of rubber, it can be hit by the club with no damage.

SHAPE SHOTS

The metal cross is adjustable, enabling you to open or close your stance to work on hitting fades or draws. The brushes on either side provide both feel and visual feedback.

DVD REVIEW

TOM WATSON: LESSONS OF A LIFETIME

Eight-times Major champion Tom Watson has released a comprehensive golf instructional two-DVD set with tips from one of the game's best-loved players. The DVD claims to be the ultimate learning experience, covering all facets of the game from the grip to full shots, chipping and putting, plus secrets of his timeless swing.

TG Verdict: Everyone can learn something from this great player. A well structured and presented offering.
RRP: £29.99
Available from www.amazon.co.uk and www.play.com

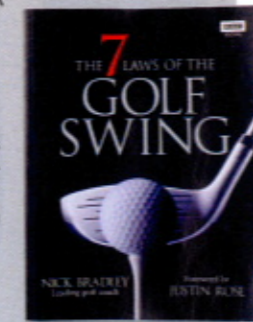


BOOK REVIEW

THE 7 LAWS OF THE GOLF SWING BY NICK BRADLEY

The former TG coach has relaunched his popular instruction book in paperback form, covering every key area of the game using ground-breaking illustrations to get the key points across. The book also includes a foreword from Justin Rose, who describes the book as "delivering a feeling of a strong image or concept in one hit."

TG Verdict: The illustrations in this book provide light-bulb moments throughout. Worth a read, but pricey.
RRP: £16.99
ISBN: 978 1 846 07548 3



IPHONE APP

PHIL MICKELSON: SECRETS OF THE SHORT GAME

Develop a world-class short game with a few taps of your finger! Following on from the success of Lefty's DVD, this iPhone app gives you portable access to Mickelson's short game secrets on pitching, chipping and putting.

The app comprises five full feature sections with embedded, high-quality video instruction from the man himself.

TG Verdict: Videos are shorter than expected but, at under £3, this app is a snip for the number of shots you'll save!
RRP: £2.99 from the Apple app store.

