

Get **Golf Fit**

How to:

CONSISTENTLY

BREAK 90

How to *Consistently* Break 90...

A proven blueprint for breaking 90, not just once, but every time you tee it up!

Thank for downloading this valuable report. If you struggle to break 90 and you're *serious* about lowering your scores into the 80's consistently, then you're in the right place.

You see, not long ago, I was in your shoes. I would jump for joy when I shot 80-something. Unfortunately, more often than not, my final score was 90-something. It was frustrating. You can probably relate.

The GOOD NEWS is that I ultimately came up with systematic plan for breaking 90 on a consistent basis. These days, my score is usually in the low to mid-80s. And I've even broken 80 several times. The first time I shot 79 was really exciting!

But this is NOT about me. It's about YOU! You just need to know that I've walked the course in your shoes, shared your frustrations, and shattered the barrier you're about to break. And I want to help you break 90 every time you tee it up – and reach that level sooner rather than later.

According to the National Golf Foundation, fewer than 20% of golfers break 90 consistently. So when you apply the systematic approach laid out in this report and start shooting in the 80s regularly, you'll be in that elite group of 1 out of 5 golfers who consistently break 90.

And perhaps the best news is the requirements for joining the elite club of golfers consistently shooting in the 80's don't include spending hundreds or even thousands of dollars on new clubs. New clubs may (or may not) help, but if you can master a few basic skills, you can consistently break 90 with **any** set of golf clubs.

Before we get started, let me be clear. This report is NOT about the golf swing or the mechanics of the golf swing. It's not about putting or chipping. I have a few tips to share but if you're already shooting in the 90's, you're way past the point of hitting ground balls. You just need a proven blueprint to shave strokes of your score. And that's exactly what you'll discover in these pages.

This is a simple and systematic approach to breaking 90 on a regular basis – and while I encourage you to keep practicing and keep improving – you can probably break 90 with your current golf skills.

I'll share some thoughts that have helped me and suggest some resources you may find useful. But mostly what I'm going to do is share the simple system I've developed for breaking 90 consistently.

As you get better, you can fine tune this system to break 85 and then 80.

Let's Get Started!

If you're like me, you don't want long, drawn out, overly complicated explanations. You just want the proven blueprint – NOW!! So I'll give you the cliff notes version first and then get into more detail. Fair enough?

Here's the deal: On a par 72 course, if you bogey every hole, you'll shoot 90. So to break 90, all you have to do is par one hole – as long as you bogey the rest.

In other words, to break 90 consistently, you need to become just fractionally better than a “bogey golfer.”

All you need to do is master a few simple, basic golf skills:

- ✓ Consistently hit your tee shots 200 yards or more AND keep it in play
- ✓ Consistently hit a reasonably straight iron shot (or hybrid) of 150 yards or more
- ✓ Consistently hit the green from 100 yards or less...
- ✓ And consistently 2-putt most greens...

That's it!! Just four simple things.

None of it is extraordinary. Those are just basic golf skills anyone of average strength and athleticism can master relatively quickly.

I wouldn't be surprised if you consistently hit your drives farther than 200 yards and if that's the case then you're ahead of the game (as long as you keep them in play!). Otherwise you'll probably lower your scores by throttling back a little and keeping your drives in play.

If you can't quite hit a consistent 150 yard iron shot (or hybrid if you prefer), then just work with what you have for now. And work toward the goal of consistently hitting a 150 yard shot (or even longer). I have several ideas to share on achieving this goal later in this report.

Consistently hitting the greens from 100 yards and in goes a long way toward shooting in the 80's. If that's your challenge, there's a simple system you can follow to zone in on the greens from 100 yards or less.

And finally the vital skill that often separates the low 90's golfer from the mid 80's golfer – putting. If putting is your nemesis, I'll explain how to minimize the dreaded three putts. If you can two-putt most greens, you're well on your way to breaking 90 consistently.

If you can already do all of those things and you're not consistently breaking 90, then you need a better strategy and I'll share it with you in this report.

I'll cover each of these skills later in this report. You can pick and choose what information you need or don't need. For example if you can already bomb your drives 250+ yards and split the middle of the fairway, but you struggle with your putting, then you can skip the section on hitting 200 yard drives and study the section on putting.

Fair enough?

Before you even tee it up...

First things first. Before you even tee it up for your first shot, it's important that you play from the appropriate tees. You may not like this (especially if you're a high-testosterone male like me!) but if you're going to break 90, you need to play from the tees appropriate to your skill level.

Think about it. If you're a snow skier, do you start on the double-black diamond trail? Only if you have a death wish! You'd be much better off starting on an easier trail – maybe even the “bunny hill” until your skill level improves to the point where you can ski harder trails.

[Note: If you're not familiar with snow skiing, the trails are usually marked to indicate their level of difficulty. The “bunny hill” is the easiest and that's where beginners should start. As your skill level improves you can move on to more difficult slopes that are steeper and have more obstacles like moguls or bumps.

It would be incredibly stupid for a beginner to start on a double-black diamond trail. Those are for accomplished skiers with very high skill levels. A beginner would risk serious injury attempting to ski down such a difficult slope.]

So what does all of this have to do with golf?

And with you consistently breaking 90?

Plenty!!

Just as the beginner skier shouldn't attempt to ski down a difficult slope, a golfer who can't consistently break 90 should NOT be playing from the “double black diamond” tee boxes set up for scratch or single digit handicap golfers. It's a recipe for frustration, disaster, and triple-digit scores too!

Fortunately golf is not nearly as dangerous as snow skiing so you're not going to kill yourself playing from tee boxes too difficult for your skill level, but you will kill your chances of breaking 90 on a consistent basis.

Golf courses are set up to accommodate the wide variety of golfers with varying degrees of skill depending on what set of tees you play from. You can think of the obstacles on golf courses (like trees, water hazards, and sand traps) as being similar to moguls on a ski slope.

Playing the white tees (or the gold tees if you're a senior golfer or the red tees if you're female golfer) removes some of these obstacles. For example, fairway bunkers and water hazards that may be in play from the blue or black tees may be no problem at all from the white tees.

So if necessary, I recommend you swallow some pride and play from the tee boxes appropriate to your skill level.

OK, enough with my sermon. I'm not your father and I know you're going to play whatever tee boxes you want to play. All I ask is that you at least consider playing the white tees instead of the blue or black tees. Just try it once as a test and see for yourself how it lowers your scores.

Here's a typical scorecard with multiple sets of tees. Some scorecards will even indicate by handicap the skill level recommended for each set of tees but this one does not.

HOLE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	OUT	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IN	TOT	HCP	NET
GOLD 72.4/127	434	389	154	384	391	157	508	415	533	3365	356	475	371	177	455	537	377	203	420	3371	6736		
BLUE 69.8/123	400	366	141	344	357	144	478	372	480	3082	326	464	347	160	415	510	351	175	395	3143	6225		
WHITE 67.9/118 L 73.6/127	384	340	128	324	332	131	453	352	460	2904	310	428	325	140	395	490	335	155	377	2955	5859		
RED 64.0/108 L 69.2/103	344	307	99	284	318	88	395	289	407	2531	277	373	313	109	369	460	304	115	334	2654	5185		
Stroke Par	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	5	36	4	5	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	36	72		
Time Par	:13	:13	:09	:12	:13	:09	:16	:16	:16	1:57	:13	:14	:13	:10	:14	:17	:13	:10	:14	1:58	3:55		
GOLD HCP	2	8	18	10	6	16	14	4	12		17	9	13	11	1	5	15	7	3				
BLUE HCP	2	8	18	10	4	16	14	6	12		17	9	13	11	1	5	15	7	3				
WHITE HCP	2	8	18	10	4	16	14	6	12		17	15	9	11	1	5	13	7	3				
RED HCP	4	6	16	12	2	18	14	10	8		13	11	5	15	1	7	9	17	3				
TEES USED _____											DATE _____												
SCORER _____											ATTEST _____												

Each course could be set up slightly differently as far as the colors of the tee boxes but typically the back tees (in this case the gold tees) are for the best golfers – usually single digit handicaps who can break 80 consistently. You should NOT be playing these tees.

The next tees (the blues on this scorecard) are for mid-handicap golfers which would be something like 10 to 15. That means these golfers routinely break 90. And since you're not quite at that level yet, it's best to wait until you're breaking 90 consistently to play from these tees.

The white tees are for high handicap golfers. And if you're not consistently breaking 90 yet, then you are a high handicap golfer and you should be playing these tees – at least for now.

The total yardage should be around 6,000 yards total – maybe a bit more or maybe slightly less. In this case, the total yardage of the white tees is 5,859 yards. Perfect! At this distance, you should have a reasonable expectation of reaching the greens in regulation.

Some courses have tees especially for seniors. And of course the red tees are for female golfers.

You may be tempted to play the blue tees, but if you do you're only making it more difficult to break 90. You will significantly increase your chances of shooting a score in the 80s and having more fun if you tee it up from the white tees.

And that's the whole goal of this report: to provide you with a simple system for breaking 90 on a regular basis. As a matter of fact, it makes so much sense to "tee it forward" that the PGA and USGA launched a "tee it forward" initiative recently.

The program has been a success. Golfers who followed that advice and moved up to the next tee box reported they played faster, had more fun, and will continue to "tee it forward." And let's face it; golf is more fun when you shoot lower scores.

OK, let's move on. Now that you've chosen the set of tees that give you the best chance of breaking 90, let's talk about...

Your “Personal Par”...

As a starting point, take a look at each hole and figure out your “personal par.” Par for the course is 72. That’s obvious. But you aren’t going to par every hole. So let’s assign a score you can realistically expect to score on each hole.

There are several ways to do this:

You could just add a stroke to every hole. So every par 3 becomes a par 4, the par 4’s are now par 5’s, and each par 5 is now a par 6. It all adds up to 90.

And to break 90, all you have to do is shoot one better than that. Simple.

You can make adjustments according your skill level. For example, if you think you can reach all the par 3’s, then your personal par on those holes is 3. And since now your personal par adds up to 86, you have a 3 stroke “cushion” to play with.

If you’re a long hitter, you can make 5 your “personal par” on all the par 5’s. It depends on your level of skill and confidence. Unfortunately, I can’t make that decision for you.

But if you do need me to make that decision for you, here’s a simple solution. Add one stroke to the par of every hole except the easiest hole on the course. Each hole is given a handicap that’s shown on the card.

The #1 handicap hole is judged to be the hardest and the #18 handicap hole is judged to be the easiest. In this case, the #18 handicap hole is the third hole from the white tees.

Your “personal par” on hole #3 would be 3 and your “personal par” on every other hole is the regular par plus one.

So your scorecard now looks like this:

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Par	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	5	36	4	5	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	36	72
Score	5	5	3	5	5	4	6	5	6	44	5	6	5	4	5	6	5	4	5	45	89

If you think you can par all the par 5’s, then your scorecard would look like this:

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Out	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	In	Total
Par	4	4	3	4	4	3	5	4	5	36	4	5	4	3	4	5	4	3	4	36	72
Score	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	5	43	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	4	5	43	86

You get the idea.

And now that you’ve got your “personal par” figured out for each hole and put it in writing, pat yourself on the back.

Why?

Because you now have a plan in place. You know what you need to score on every hole to break 90. Now it’s time to execute your plan.

But let me be clear. Just because your “persona par” might be 5 when the regular par is 4, I’m not saying you need to play it as a 3 shot hole (meaning taking 3 shots to reach the green) and then two-putt for a 5 which is your “personal par.”

Not at all!

It depends on your skill level (mostly your distance) and the length of the hole. Anyone ought to be able to reach a 350 yard hole in two shots. But as the holes get longer, they’ll be harder to reach in two shots.

If you can hit a 230 yard drive and 170 yard second shot, then you can reach 400 yard par 4s and you should go for it. On the other hand, if you can hit 200 yard drives and 150 yard second shots, you should play it as a 3 shot hole. Leaving yourself a short pitch shot for your third shot will lead to lower scores than trying to play above your skill level.

But if you’re not consistently breaking 90, then you’re probably not hitting a lot of greens in regulations. That means you’re often pitching or chipping to the green for your third shot. And you can still two-putt for your “personal par.”

The extra shot is just a “cushion.” If you don’t need that cushion, then that’s all the better. Sometimes you’ll reach the green in regulation and two-putt for par. And that puts you on track to break 90.

So don’t play defensively because your “personal par” is one stroke above regular par. But don’t play too aggressively and try to reach long par 4s (or par 5s) in two shots when it’s not realistic that you’ll reach them. Play it smart, lay up, and leave yourself with an easy shot.

Let’s move on...

Don’t ruin your round before the 1st hole...

I shouldn’t have to say this but before you hit your first tee shot, you will have at least stretched and stroked a few putts to get a feel for the speed of the greens that day. And it would be even better if you hit a few range balls – but I understand there’s not always enough time for that. So at least stretch and stroke a few putts.

Going to the first tee cold is a recipe for disaster. How many times have you gotten off to a slow start on the first few holes and then started playing well when you got loose?

Plus getting double-bogeys (or worse) on the first couple holes certainly does not put you on the most positive mental state. Some golfers let getting off to a slow start ruin their entire round.

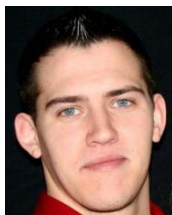
Don’t let that happen to you. Warm-up before your round. Stretch, stroke some putts, and hit some range balls.

In fact, I’ve crafted an entire pre-round warm up from car trunk to tee box that gets you warmed up and mentally ready to play golf. This program includes:

- Warming Up the Body
- Warming Up the Mind for Lower Scores
- How to Warm Up Your Golf Swing
- How to Fine-tune Distance Control

The Warm Up is included in all of my Golf Fitness programs at no additional cost.

The Pre-Round Warm Up gets incredible reviews from my golf fitness clients:



"Used your pre-round warm-up... Saved 2-4 strokes over 9 holes!" – Richard H.

If you would like to get your hands on the Pre-Round Warm Up, [click here now](#).

Here are a few things to keep in mind during your round that will help you shoot a lower score.

Play within yourself

Golfers get themselves in trouble when they play too aggressively. You don't need to be "hero" and hit 250 or 300 yard drives to break 90. You don't have to attack pins to break 90. All you need to do is execute the plan you've already written down on your scorecard.

Playing "within yourself" means accepting that you can consistently hit a 200 yard drive and keep it in play or a 225-yard drive and keep it in play. It also means you recognize that when you over swing and try to get an extra 25 yards out of your drive bad things happen. That's when your duck hook or slice suddenly reappears. That's when you put yourself in trouble and that's when your scores quickly soar above your "personal par." And if you keep pressing for the entire round, that's when your score skyrockets over 90.

Playing "within yourself" means hitting a 3-wood, 5-wood, or hybrid club off the tee because that's the club that keeps the ball in play. What's the point of hitting a 250-yard drive if it ends up in trouble most of the time? You'd be better off (and shoot lower scores) hitting a 3-wood 225 or a 5-wood 200 and keeping it in play.

When selecting an iron, take one more club if you have to. For example, instead of crushing your 8-iron or 9-iron 150, take a smooth swing with your 7-iron. You get the same score no matter what club you hit so play the "smart" club.

Just play "within yourself" and the desired results will follow.

Play smart

Like I said, you don't need to be overly aggressive to break 90, you just need to execute your plan. Shoot for the middle of the green, not for the pin on your approach shots.

When you get into trouble, as you occasionally will, get out of trouble with your next shot. Just put the ball back in play and go from there. Don't try to be a hero. Don't think you're Phil Mickelson if you can't break 90 consistently. Phil can pull off "miracle shots" but even Phil gets himself in more trouble when he doesn't execute the "hero shot."

And that's the problem. More often than not, instead of pulling off the great shot you envisioned, you screw it up and put yourself in an even worse spot.

Golf guru Dave Pelz has done extensive research that shows most golfers play below their handicap for most of their rounds. But they "blow up" on two or three holes and that's what explodes their scores. Playing "smart" may not eliminate "blow up" holes but it will reduce your chances of scoring a 7, 8, or higher on any single hole.

Play away from hazards like water and bunkers or sand traps. Think about it. If your "personal par" is a bogey, then all you need to do is get the ball near the green in two shots (or in three shots on a par 5). Then you just chip it on the green, two-putt and walk off the green with your "personal par" – one hole closer to breaking 90.

Playing "smart" and playing "within yourself" goes a long way toward keeping big numbers off your scorecard and ultimately shooting scores in the 80's.

Play One Hole at a Time...

You often hear athletes talk about playing one game at a time or playing one play at a time. What they mean is that they play a whole season in one game. Losing one game doesn't ruin the season. And messing up one play probably won't lose the game.

Taking this concept to golf, you can't break 90 in one hole. And just because you have one bad hole, doesn't mean you can't still break 90. You can score a stroke or two over your "personal par" on a hole and still break 90. Sure, it will be more challenging because you're going to have to make up those lost strokes but it can be done.

Don't lose faith because of one bad shot or one bad hole. Even professional golfers hit bad shots. They just recover and move on from those bad shots. And you should do the same. But there's a big difference between a professional and a high-handicapper.

PGA pros can not only get out of trouble but hit extraordinary recovery shots and hit greens from the most unlikely places. A player with less skill, like you, should look for the easiest way to get the ball back in play such that they still have a chance to score their "personal par" on the hole. Just punch it back into the fairway if that's all you've got.

Remain focused on the shot at hand. Don't get caught up in the negative emotions of one bad hole and don't look too far forward to the holes in front of you. Focus your energy and attention on the shot you're taking at the moment. But before you hit each shot think about the next shot. In other words...

Play the Hole Backwards...

You may find it helpful to play the hole backwards. All that means is think about your next shot and where you'd like to hit it from, then hit your current shot to that spot.

For example, let's say you're playing a 370-yard hole. It's a par 4 but your "personal par" is 5. And let's say you feel really comfortable hitting an 8-iron from 140 yards out. Knowing that, you need to hit a 230-yard drive (370 yards less 230 yard drive leaves 140 yards to the pin).

Now let's say you hit your tee shot a bit "fat" so you hit it 215-yards and even push it a bit right (assuming you're a right-handed golfer) into the rough.

Let's also say the pin is tucked behind a bunker on the right side of an elevated green, there's another greenside bunker to the right, and if you go long you're out-of-bounds in the trees.

What do you do? The dumb play is to "attack" the pin. Unless you're a low-handicap golfer, you have no business even thinking about attacking that pin. That brings all kinds of bad things into play.

Instead of hitting a great shot and having a birdie putt, the more likely outcome – given that you're a high-handicap golfer – is that your next shot will either be in the bunker or if you don't end up in the bunker, you'll be "short-sided" meaning you won't have much green to work with for your next shot making it difficult to chip it close.

Now you've brought a score of 6 or higher into play. Not smart!!

The "smart play is aim to the center or even left side of the green. Remember, your "personal par" is 5. If you put it on the green, you can three-putt and still score a 5 – your "personal par." Or even better, you could two-putt for a real par.

And if you're not on the green with your second shot, when you aim left of the pin to avoid trouble, you leave yourself a much easier chip shot with a lot more green to work with. It will be infinitely easier to chip the ball on the green and two-putt for your personal par than it would be to do the same thing from either the sand trap or from a "short-sided" lie.

By playing each hole backwards, you're actually thinking one shot ahead. And as you can clearly see that will save you strokes and help you break 90.

And that's the short story. Let's recap:

Step #1: Select the tees appropriate for your skill level to increase your chances of breaking 90. On most courses, these will be the white tees and the total yardage should be about 6,000 yards.

Step #2: Decide on your "personal par" for each hole. They should all add up to a score of 89 or less. That's your blueprint for breaking 90. Now all that's left is to execute that plan.

Here are a few tips to help you execute your plan:

Tip #1: Warm-up before your round.

Stretch and stroke a few putts to get a feel for the speed of the greens. Hit some range balls. Getting loose before you hit your first tee shot can help get you off to a fast start that puts you in a positive frame of mind the entire round.

Tip #2: Play "within yourself." Play "smart."

Don't be a "hero." Don't over swing in an effort to hit the ball farther. Play the safe shot. Don't try shots you're not likely to execute. Avoid danger. Play away from hazards like water and sand traps.

Tip #3: Play one hole at a time.

You can't break 90 in one hole. And one bad hole won't kill you. Stay focused on your goal. You can make up a few strokes later in the round.

Tip #4: Play each hole backwards.

Before hitting your current shot, think about your next shot and where you'd like to hit it from. If you miss your first putt, leave it close enough to make the second-putt. If your favorite distance is 120-yards and you're teeing off on a 350-yard hole, try to hit a 230-yard drive. Play away from hazards (trees, water, bunkers) on your approach shots to give yourself a better chance to chip on the green and two-putt for your "personal par."

The point is to think about your next shot before hitting your current shot. Then hit the shot that puts you in the best position to walk off the green with your "personal par."

Start playing "smart" golf and you'll increase your chances of breaking 90. And when you do, I want to hear about it. Send your success story to cs@getgolffit.com.

Good Luck!

Mastering the Basic Golf Skills

The rest of this report is packed with information, tips, and strategies for breaking 90 consistently but it all builds on what we've already covered. So read all of it or pick and choose what you need. If your weak spot is putting, study that section. If it's iron shots, I've got ideas to share for striking crisper iron shots.

Since we're playing the hole backwards let's start with...

How to 2-Putt Every Green...

What's the last shot of almost every hole?

A putt right? Unless you chip one in the hole or stuff your approach shot into the hole, your last shot on each hole will be a putt.

There are three kinds of putts:

1. A **"firm" putt**. This is a putt you expect to make – and you will make it most of the time. You stroke this putt confidently and aggressively. Your expectation is that after your stroke this putt, you'll reach down, pull your ball out of the cup, and move on to the next tee.

An example would be a tap-in from a few inches. You don't waste much time with the line and the speed, you just knock the ball into the hole with confidence. If you're going to break 90 consistently, you really should be confident that you'll make most putts of 3-feet or less.

2. A **"lag" putt**. The goal of a "lag" putt is to get the ball as close to the hole as possible so that the next putt is a tap-in. It's not an aggressive putt, you're just trying to putt the ball on the appropriate line with enough speed so that it stops close enough to the cup that you'll make the next putt. Preferably your putt will have enough speed to roll past the hole (that way you'll actually sink some of these "bombs" once in a while) but there's nothing catastrophic about leaving a "lag" putt a foot or two short because you can easily tap-in for a 2-putt. You don't expect to hole a "lag" putt although sometimes you will. And if you do, that's a bonus.

The distance of a “lag” putt could be different for different golfers but for someone who can’t break 90 consistently (at least not yet!), the distance should be in the 15 to 20 foot range.

3. An **“intermediate” putt**. This is in between an “aggressive putt” and a “lag” putt. It’s outside of your “circle of confidence” but it’s inside “lag” putt range. The distance will generally be greater than 3 feet but less than 15 feet (or maybe a bit longer if you’re a good putter).

This is similar to a “lag” putt but a bit more aggressive. Putts of this distance are definitely makeable so you should strive to NEVER leave an intermediate length putt short. You’ll be amazed at how many of these putts you’ll sink if you’ll just get them to the hole!

If you’re going to break 90 on a regular basis, you need to cut your 3-putts down to a minimum. Ideally you would eliminate 3-putts but even the pros 3-putt occasionally so it’s not realistic to think you can completely eliminate the 3-putts.

A good goal that will go a long way to breaking 90 consistently is to have no more than 36 putts per round. That averages out to 2 putts per hole. So if you 3-putt once, you can make up for it with a one-putt.

You’d love to one-putt every green or even no-putt when you chip in. And you’ll do that on occasion but let’s focus on consistently 2-putting every green.

The first step in 2-putting every green is to make your second putt. Obvious, right? And here’s how to do it consistently.

Remember, the “confident, aggressive “firm” putt I mentioned earlier? That’s the type of putt you want for your second putt. That’s the type of putt you’re going to make most of the time. And if that’s the type of putt you leave yourself with, you will 2-putt most greens.

The key is being “confident and aggressive” from as far away as possible. Everyone is confident they’re going to make a one-inch putt or a six-inch putt or even a one-foot putt. Some golfers are still confident and aggressive from 2-feet whereas other golfers start shaking and getting nervous at that distance.

And when you’re shaking and nervous standing over a putt, you can forget about making a confident, aggressive stroke.

So the key to 2-putting every green is to either:

- 1) stick your approach shot (or chip or pitch shot) so close to the pin that you’re in confident, aggressive putting mode (and hopefully one-putt)

OR

- 2) “lag” your first putt into your “circle of confidence.”

What’s your “circle of confidence”? Here’s an example. Let’s say you’re confident you’ll sink putts of 3 feet or less most of the time. In that case you would imagine a 3-foot circle around the cup and that would be your “circle of confidence.”

If you’re confident putting from 4-feet and in, then your “circle of confidence” would be a 4-foot circle around the cup with the hole being in the middle. So golfers with confidence from longer distances have larger “circles of confidence.”

And it logically follows that the larger your “circle of confidence” is, the more likely you are to 2-putt. So the first thing you must do is figure out the maximum distance from which you will make a confident and aggressive putting stroke and honestly expect to make the putt at least 80% of the time (that’s 4 out of 5 times).



A good goal for a golfer with a handicap above 12 (and anyone who can’t break 90 consistently has a handicap above 12) is to shoot for making any putt inside 3-feet 80% of the time.

A good way of hitting your “circle of confidence” is to dial in on the speed of the greens. After speaking to many PGA Pro’s about why people have a tough time breaking 90, it usually comes back to putting... but specifically, distance control.

About 12 years ago, I was at Southern Hills with my girlfriend. We were both Nick Faldo fans and got there early to watch him warm up. The first thing he worked on was his putting. He didn’t go to the range and bust balls.

Fanny tossed him a few balls and he dropped them at the edge of the green. He proceeded to hit a short putt (maybe 8 feet), a medium range putt to the exact center of the green, and then a long putt all the way to the edge of the green.

He picked up each ball and walked to the other side and repeated the process back to where he started.

Nick didn’t stop here. He did the same thing from the ends of the green as well.

Of course, he went on to work on shorter putts through his routine... but, his first goal was to get a handle on the speed of the greens. Speed kills. Get the speed right, and you are certainly going to get your putts down.

But here’s the bottom line: You have to make a decision. At what distance does your thought process change from one of supreme confidence (“I know I’m going to make this putt”) to one of less confidence (“I just want to knock this one close so I can tap-in the next putt”)?

Only you know the answer to that question. And if you don’t know the answer, go to the putting green and figure it out. Stroke several one-foot putts, two-foot putts, and three-foot putts to figure out where your “circle of confidence” is.

Three feet is a reasonable goal, but if you’re confident you’re going to make 4-foot putts or 5-foot putts, then great! You’re well on your way to breaking 90.

For arguments sake let’s say you are confident and aggressive from 3 feet in. This means you pretty much ignore the break (unless it’s more than a few inches) and confidently hole the putt most of the time.

Determining your “circle of confidence” is important because it dictates your “lag” putt. For example, if your first putt is 20-feet away, you’re not realistically expecting to hole the putt. Your goal should be to putt the ball inside your “circle of confidence” for your second putt. If you’re successful, you’ll most likely make your second putt.

So in this example, with a 20-foot putt and your “circle of confidence” being 3-feet. Your goal would be to “lag” your first putt to within 3 feet of the hole. That would leave the ball inside your “circle of confidence.”

In your mind, draw a circle with a 3-foot radius around the cup. Now “lag” your first putt so that it stops inside that circle. If you can do that, you’ll most likely make the second putt because it’s inside your 3-foot “circle of confidence.”

Adjust this distance for your game. You ought to be confident you’ll hole most putts from 3-feet or less. If not, then practice putting until you gain that confidence.

It’s a fact that more strokes are lost on the putting green than anywhere else. Putting may not be the “sexy” part of the game but it’s where you can lose a lot of strokes.

Now let’s talk about intermediate putts....

Don’t Leave Your Intermediate Putts Short!

Yogi Berra said it best: “*100% of short putts don’t go in.*” There nothing more frustrating in the game of golf than stroking the almost perfect putt on the correct line – only to watch it come to a halt a few inches or a few revolutions short of the hole. Don’t do it!!

What’s the perfect speed? Putting guru Dave Pelz has done extensive research showing a putt that will roll 17 inches past the hole has the perfect speed. He’s a former rocket scientist and he coaches Phil Mickelson so I’ll just take his word for it.

Let’s round that to 18 inches because that’s a foot and half. What this means is that when you’re putting add 18 inches to the putt. Stroke a 6 foot putt with enough speed to roll 7.5 feet. Stroke a 15-foot putt with enough speed to roll 16.5 feet.

This ensures that you won’t leave the putt short and some of your putts will go in! And if you’re 18-inches long, who cares? Anybody can make an 18-inch putt, right?

Of course, the farther away from the hole your first putt is, the more difficult to get the right speed. There will be a distance where you really just want to “lag” your first putt inside your “circle of confidence.” But that distance is different for everyone.

You shouldn’t be leaving 10-foot putts short. And you probably shouldn’t be leaving 15-foot putts short either. These are the intermediate length putts I described earlier. An intermediate length putt is outside your “circle of confidence” but inside 15 or 20-feet depending on your putting skill.

You probably don’t expect to hole intermediate length putts with any regularity but you still don’t want to leave them short. You’ll never make an intermediate putt if you leave it short. But if you hit it past the hole, it will drop in to the cup once in a while.

The distance of an intermediate length putt will be different for every golfer but a good length to use is 15-feet. Don’t leave putts of 15 feet or less short! You’ll probably be surprised at how many you make when you get the ball to the hole!

But don’t overdo it either. Remember, if you miss, you want the second putt to be inside your “circle of confidence” and the closer to the hole the better.

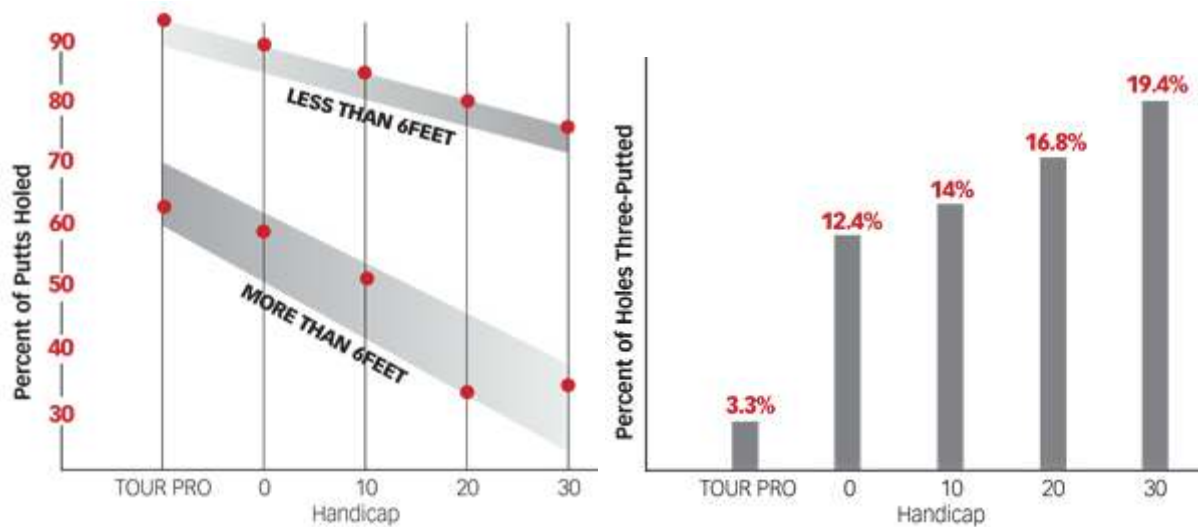
For intermediate length putts, cut your “circle of confidence” in half. I guess that makes it a “half-circle of confidence.” Since you don’t want to leave intermediate length putts short, eliminate the half of the “circle of confidence” that’s short of the hole.

Focus on getting the ball to the hole and if you don’t hole the putt, leaving it inside the “half-circle of confidence.” That’s the half of the “circle of confidence” behind the hole. If you leave it there, you haven’t left the putt short and you’ve left yourself an easy second – putt that you’re likely to make.

Developing this type of touch and feel requires practice. So practice your “firm” putts with the goal of making them. Practice your intermediate putts with the goal of not leaving them short but also stopping them inside your “half-circle of confidence.”

And finally, there are “lag” putts. Again the distance where an intermediate putt turns into a “lag” putt will be different for various golfers but it’s probably somewhere between 15 and 20 feet for a golfer who can’t consistently break 90.

When you face a putt of 20-feet or longer, there’s nothing disastrous about leaving your “lag” putt a foot or two short and tapping in for a two-putt.



Putting Recap:

To break 90, the goal is to stroke 36 putts or less which means on average you will 2-putt each green. And in order to 2-putt most greens...

Step 1: Determine the radius of your “circle of confidence.” It should be at least 3 feet. You should be confident that you’ll make most of your putts from 3 feet or closer.

Step 2: When you’re putting from outside your “circle of confidence,” make sure you “lag” your first putt into your “circle of confidence” to increase the chances that you’ll hole your next putt and walk off the green having made 2-putts.

And finally, **don’t leave intermediate putts short.**

You can’t expect to make putts of 10 and 15 feet with regularity, but you won’t make any of them if you leave them short. Stroke these “intermediate” putts with the speed to roll 17 inches past the cup. You’ll be surprised at how many putts you make and if you miss, anyone can confidently hole a 17-inch putt.

Now that we’re set on putting, let’s move on.

Consistently Hitting the Green from 100 yards or less...

When you can hit your drives at least 200 yards and keep them in play and you can also hit a relatively straight second shot of 150 yards (and third shot on par 5 holes), you’ll either reach the greens in regulation or you’ll be within 100 yards of the green.

This is the “scoring zone.” You’ll take more shots inside 100 yards than you will outside 100 yards. Keeping those shots to a minimum increases your chances of breaking 90. And being able to consistently hit greens from 100 yards and closer will help tremendously.

Unlike “power” shots like driving the ball off the tee, these sorter shots are “finesse” shots. Accuracy is more important than distance here.

That means you don’t need to aggressively attack the ball. You’ll probably be more accurate if you take a more controlled swing giving up distance for accuracy.

Some golfers carry several wedges and have a different club for say a 60-yard shot, an 80-yard shot, and a 100-yard shot. That’s fine. If you’re comfortable with that then keep doing it.

When you go to the range, spend some time working on these shots and figure out the swing and the club that makes the ball go various distances from 20 to 100 yards. Pick a target (most practice ranges have yardage markers and target greens) and hit several shots until you’re zoned in. That will give you much needed confidence when you take your game to the course.

Another option is to use the same club and change your swing. For example, maybe you hit a soft pitching wedge 100 yards. That would be a full swing. Now you can take less than a full swing to hit the ball 80 yards, 60 yards, and 40 yards.

One way to accomplish this is to think of your swing like a clock. Think about a clock. “12 o’clock” would be when the golf club is straight up and down (just like the hands of a clock would be at 12 o’clock). A little less would be “11 o’clock,” parallel to the ground (or perpendicular to your waist) would be “9 o’clock.” And so on.

On your backswing, take your club back to “11 o’clock” and see how far it goes. Then “10 o’clock,” and “9 o’clock”. You’ll quickly calibrate your swing to know how far the ball goes on your full swing, on your “10 o’clock” swing, etc.

Let’s say your “10 o’clock” swing goes 60 yards. Now when you’re on the course and you have a 60-yard pitch shot, you simply use your “10 o’clock” swing and you’re on the green.

Practicing these shots and calibrating your golf swing to different distances from 100 yards and less will help your short game tremendously. And it will also go a long way towards achieving your goal of breaking 90 consistently.

There’s actually no reason you can’t use this same system for shots from 150 yards and in. Maybe you hit a 7-iron 150 yards. Then perhaps you hit a “soft” 7-iron (with a less aggressive, more controlled swing) 140-yards.

Now you can either hit a “hard” 8-iron or a “soft” 7-iron the next time you have a 140-yard shot. In any given situation, you may feel more comfortable hitting one shot rather than the other. It gives you more flexibility in your game.

The next skill you need to perfect is...

Consistently Hitting a Reasonably Straight 150-yard Iron Shot...

There’s nothing magical about 150-yards. It’s just a round number I picked but if you can hit a 200-yard drive followed by two 150-yard iron shots, then you can reach a 500-yard par 5 in three shots.

By “reasonably straight” I mean you don’t need pinpoint accuracy. Most golfers naturally have either a natural draw (the ball moves from right to left for a right-handed golfer) or fade (the ball moves left to right for a right-handed golfer). And that’s fine. Just play your natural shot.

It doesn’t matter which iron you use either. The average golfer can hit a 7-iron 150 yards but if for you it’s a 6-iron or a 5-iron, that’s fine. And you’re a longer hitter who hits an 8-iron 150 yards, that’s fine too.

You could also use a hybrid club if you prefer. Hybrid clubs are great for new golfers and senior golfers. They can be easier to hit and you can get the ball in the air with slower swing speeds.

The club you use doesn’t matter. What matters is that you can hit it consistently.

Another reason I chose 150 yards as the benchmark is that if you can hit a certain club 150 yards, then you can easily hit the ball 140 yards, 120 yards, 100 yards or less the less club and the same swing.

And that puts you in a great position to break 90 consistently.

If you can't consistently hit a fairly straight 150-yard iron shot (or hybrid), then work on developing that skill. Again, you could take a lesson or ask someone who's already mastered that skill for some tips.

Some golfers have trouble hitting their irons but it's really not that difficult. It's often because they don't understand the physics behind what puts the ball in the air.

Trust me, I'm no physicist, but this is not rocket science. Many golfers mistakenly believe they must lift the ball into the air. And with that mistaken belief, they try to get under the ball and lift it into the air. This is called "scooping" and it's a great way to play bad golf.

Believe it or not, the exact opposite is true. Hitting down on the ball imparts spin on it that makes it rise up into the air – and with A LOT more force and power than when you "scoop" the ball.

Good golfers hit the ball first, before hitting the ground. That's why their divots start in front of the ball.

Understanding that simple concept and internalizing it is paramount to hitting crisp iron shots. Most high handicap golfers tend to hit their iron shots "fat." That means their golf club hits the ground before it hits the ball. That not only kills your club head speed but it makes the club bounce off the ground before it hits the ball.

Unfortunately I can't make you a better iron player in this short report. This is a blueprint for breaking 90 consistently – not a comprehensive golf instructional manual.

What I can say is that you'll probably find it helpful to find a "swing thought" that helps you hit better iron shots.

A common problem with high handicap golfers is that they swing "at" the ball. That causes tension in our grip right before impact and tension is the enemy of the golf swing. You should take a smooth swing like Ernie Els.

In other words, swing "through" the ball, not "at" the ball. Another way to say it is: "Take your practice swing and let the ball get in the way." Pretend the ball isn't even there. Just take a relaxed, tension-free swing as if the ball isn't even there.

Another tip that might help you hit more solid iron shots is to pick out a spot just in front of the ball and hit that spot. You could even put something small and flat like a penny in front of the ball and try to hit the penny.

This may seem or feel a bit strange at first – especially if you're a "scooper" or someone who tends to hit the ball "fat" – but focusing on a spot just in front of the ball promotes hitting the ball first with a downward strike. And you'll probably be AMAZED at how much farther the ball flies!

The next time you go to the practice range, work on striking your irons with a downward blow and hitting the ball before you hit the ground. You could start with half swings and work your way up to full swings if that helps.

When you understand and apply these simple concepts, you should easily be hitting your 7-iron 150 yards (or farther!).

Now let's move on to...

Consistently Hitting Your Drives 200 Yards or More (AND Keeping it in Play)...

Most golfers can hit their drives 200 yards. But consistently keeping it in play can be a challenge. If hitting fairways is a challenge for you, consider hitting less club off the tee.

There's no rule that says you have to hit your driver off the tee. And what good is it to hit a long drive, if you consistently miss the fairway and can't go for the green on your next shot?

The best golfers in the world understand this. Phil Mickelson won the 2013 British Open hitting a 3-wood off the tee. He took the driver out of his bag for the entire tournament.

Why would he do this?

He did it because he understands the importance of keeping the ball in play off the tee. It's no fun hitting second shots from deep grass and bad lies. Or worse, hitting third shots off the tee because you drove the first one out of bounds.

Tiger Woods won the 2006 British Open hitting irons off the tee. He only hit one driver the whole tournament. He wisely decided hitting irons off the tee to stay out of hazards gave him a better chance of winning than bombing his driver over the bunkers and hoping for the best.

If two of the best golfers of all-time are smart enough to leave their drivers in the bag and hit less club off the tee, then you should consider the same strategy – especially if you're consistently finding trouble off the tee.

I'm not saying you MUST hit less than driver off the tee – not at all. We're all different and maybe driving is your strength. Maybe you can consistently bomb your drives 250+ yards right down the middle of the fairway. If that's the case, then by all means, go ahead and hit your driver.

But if hitting a 3-wood, a 5-wood, a hybrid, or even a long iron off the tee keeps your tee shots in play more often and you can still hit it 200 yards or more, then give the shorter club a try for a round and see if you don't shoot a lower score.

If you can't hit the ball 200-yards off the tee, you need to create more swing speed. As I said earlier, this is NOT a book about the mechanics of the golf swing. It's all about helping you break 90 consistently.

But here are a few quick tips:

Swinging harder is usually NOT the answer. All kinds of bad things can happen when you over swing. Your mechanics break down and you start spraying the ball all over the course.

You increase your swing speed by increasing the strength of your core and by improving your flexibility. Your core is the collection of muscles and tendons between your thighs and your chest.

All other things being equal, a stronger core generates more swing speed. Core strength is like "golf horsepower" and just like a car with more horsepower goes faster, a player with more "golf horsepower" will have more swing speed and hit the ball farther.

Improving your flexibility will also increase your swing speed by increasing your range of motion. So work on increase the strength of your core and improving your flexibility.

You could practice swinging a weighted club or swinging two clubs at the same time.

In fact, EVERY golf fitness program I design for you has Range of Motion as well as flexibility designed in. You also get my Pre-Round Warm Up that I receive so much positive feedback from. To tide you over though, here are a few ROM (Range of Motion) drills you can use.

Egyptian

1. Start with arms out straight and your palms facing down.
2. Pivot and turn to one side while keeping your arms in the same spot in space.
3. Both hands should turn up as much as possible.
4. Switch sides keeping your shoulders in line.



Arm Circles

1. Draw maximal circles with one or both arms.
2. Repeat in opposite direction.





Hula Hoop

1. Imitate a hoola hoop motion.
2. Keep shoulders stationary and make big circles with your hips.



If distance is not a problem, but hitting fairways is...you might consider taking a lesson. Or if you want a free lesson, ask someone who's better than you for help. Ask someone who hits their driver long and straight to watch your swing and point out what you need to correct. It's often something simple. But there are way too many swing flaws to cover in this short report.

If you do seek free advice, be careful who you ask. Take advice only from golfers who can hit their drives long and straight. In other words, seek help from golfers who have already mastered the skill you're working to develop.

And that's it! When you master these four basic skills:

- ✓ consistently driving the ball 200 yards or more (and keeping it in play)
- ✓ consistently hitting your second shots 150 yards or more (and your third shot on par 5s)
- ✓ consistently hitting greens from 100 yards or less, and
- ✓ consistently 2-putt most greens

and use the proven blueprint for breaking 90, you should be shooting in the 80's consistently and having more fun playing golf.

Helpful Resources:

Core to Score: <http://getgolfit.com/core-to-score>

A Swing for Life: Revised and Revisited: <http://amzn.com/1451676530>

Get Golf Fit on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/getfitforgolf>

And if you're not already receiving weekly tips from the blog, sign up here: <http://www.getgolfit.com>

Shed Pounds to Shave Strokes



Shed Pounds to Shave Strokes is my top-selling program. People LOVE the powerful way it utilizes cutting-edge fitness concepts like 'Turbulence Training' and 'Translation Training' to keep your body in an ever adapting state.

With forced adaptation, even the most stubborn fat deposits are rendered defenseless.

Your body is almost literally forced to burn fat and improve golf performance.

The program uses both weight training and short-burst cardio sessions.

Turbulence burns the fat off. Translation Training builds a powerful golf body.

A good analogy for Turbulence is that of a car starting and stopping. The more starting and stopping the car does, the more fuel is burned. When the car is on the highway at a constant speed, less fuel is burned. Turbulence Training burns fat like butter!

[Click here for more information on Shed Pounds to Shave Strokes](#)

Back and Abs for Golfers

This powerful back pain relief method is consistently used by the best physical therapists in the world.

Back and Abs for Golfers will be EXTREMELY beneficial to people:

- willing to perform the Back and Abs workout once per week on a consistent basis
- tired of daily back pain and wish to banish it forever
- who have the motivation to prevent future back pain by performing a weekly “oil change” to keep their back primed
- who want to enjoy the game of golf as it was meant to be played – PAIN FREE

This Back and Abs workout was designed to make golf PAIN FREE and IMPROVE your stamina and driving distance on the course, and even improves your core for maximum distance gains.



Simply plug this workout in to your existing workout once per week.

[Click here for more information on Back and Abs for Golfers](#)

30 Yards or More in 30 Days or Less



This is my best-selling distance program proven to produce quick results for amateur and professional golfers alike.

You can **ADD distance and improve both accuracy and consistency** with the **30 Yard Or More In 30 Days Or Less System**. Backed by our **365-day Money Back Guarantee**.

And as part of the program, you'll also receive **2 Special BONUSES**:

- ✓ **"Done For You Meal Plans"** with Diet Guide and also
- ✓ My famous **10 Minute Pre-Round Warm Up Manual**.

[Click here for more information on 30 Yards or More in 30 Days or Less](#)

