

The Putting Genius'

Guide To Putting Like A Pro



The Putting Genius
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Introduction

Hello! Thank you for ordering your copy of the Putting Genius' Guide to Putting Like a Pro. I am confident you will be amazed at the putting concepts delivered to you throughout this book. Hopefully you will try all of my techniques and procedures I have outlined and discussed in this guide.

Not every chapter may be for you, say for example you already have a really good, solid putting grip. You may just want to skim this part in the chapter on the setup. Check to make sure you are doing the proper technique. You can then move on to the next chapter. Skip around if you like. The chapters are in order so they build on each other. But there are separate parts to the book that can be taken out and referred to by themselves without causing a problem.

By following my concepts and techniques in this eBook, you will become a great putter. A great putter is someone who putts well consistently. They know why they are putting well, but also, and maybe more importantly if they have a bad day of putting or lose their feel or touch, they know exactly how to fix their putting and get it back to where it should be. Now you will be able to do the same.

Golf is a great game that is meant to be enjoyed. It should be a break from real life, an escape, not an added stress or frustration. Good putting is a result of being calm and relaxed on the greens. Any extra stress or pressure you put on yourself will not be beneficial to you. Putting is such an important part of golf because focusing on improving this will allow you to lower your score the fastest. And that's what we all want, right?....**lower scores!** I haven't known too many golfers who don't want to shoot a lower score. Shooting low scores will make you feel wonderful. You'll be excited to come back and play again.

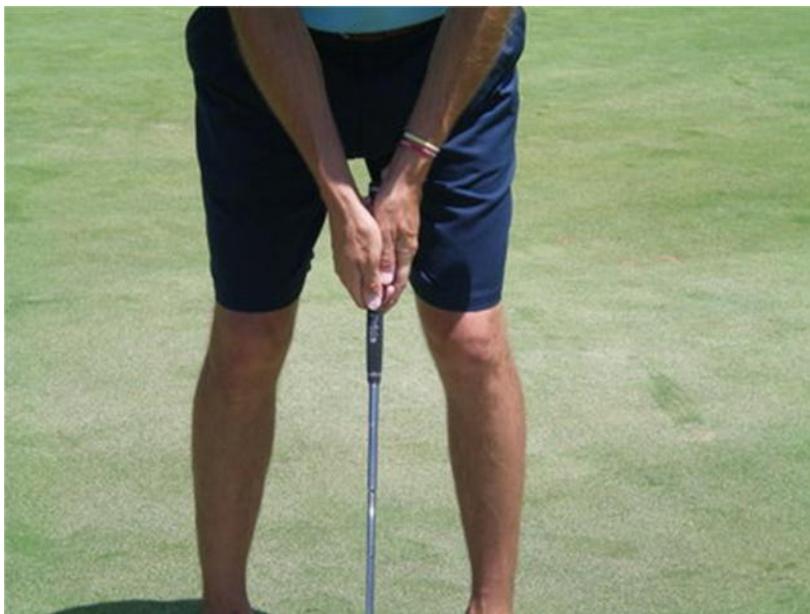
The goal I have for my readers is that they will learn to love

putting and get excited about it. I love putting and I am excited every time I have an opportunity to putt, because the feeling of making putts is so much fun. And because I follow these techniques and fundamentals in this eBook, I know that I am going to make a lot of putts every time I play. So my confidence is high and I enjoy golf more because of my putting success. Here's to better putting! Have fun and enjoy!

CHAPTER 1: The Setup - The Most Important Fundamental that Allows You to Maximize Your Chances of Success

The Grip

A proper grip is essential to good putting. The key to a solid putting grip is to **hold the putter in the palms of your hands**. This means both your left palm and your right palm will be facing each other. A way to see how this should look is if you clap your hands together and hold them, notice your palms face each other. This is how your palms should be facing each other when placed on the putter grip. Also, your thumbs should both be pointing straight downwards, so that the lines between your thumbs and forefingers are also pointed straight down vertically and not on an angle.



Grip pressure should also be monitored because it is easy to grip the putter too tight when you are under pressure, especially in an important part of a match. So not too tight, but not too loose either. You

want to feel as if there is a little lag in your putting stroke, sort of a little wiggle with the hands. This is NOT the same as your wrists breaking down. You don't want your wrists so stiff that there is no lag in the stroke, but you absolutely do not want your wrists breaking down in the stroke. Putting conventional and cross-handed, or left hand low, will both follow these same guidelines.

Posture

Posture is another key fundamental that needs to be correct for maximizing your chance of success on the putting green. If you watch the pros putt, you will see just about all of them keep their backs very rounded when standing over a putt. Basically, you should round your back so your head will end up directly over the ball. You want to keep your head down so your chin is tucked in. It is important to bend over like this when you putt, especially on shorter putts. If you have a long putt, it is okay to stand a little taller to help you see the line, but only as long as your eyes are still over the putt. **With your eyes over the ball, you are in position to see the line correctly.**



There is a drill you can do to make sure your eyes are over the ball when setting up. Simply hold another golf ball up to your left eye and drop it so it falls straight down. The ball should land on or hit some part of the ball you are addressing. If the ball falls too far in front of the other ball, you are leaning over too much and need to back up so there is a direct line going straight down between your left eye and the golf ball you are preparing to hit. If the ball you drop falls below or in front of the ball you are addressing, then you need to bend over more or get closer to the golf ball. Try this simple tip until you can drop the ball from your left eye and have it land directly on the golf ball below. Then you will know you are in perfect position to see the line accurately.

The Stance

The putting stance is somewhat personal preference. However, a good guideline is to have your feet shoulder width apart. A little less than shoulder width apart is okay though too. Once in a while, you will find a good putter with a wider than shoulder width stance. The important thing is that you are comfortable and you have a good solid base that will help you stay balanced and steady as you stroke your putts.

Now here is a little secret that has worked well for me and if you notice almost all the pros do this: You want to have 60% of your weight on your left foot or left side, and 40% on the right. Also, you want to tilt your spine just slightly to the right, still keeping your shoulders square to the target but your left shoulder will be a little higher than your right. This will help ensure a solid roll when the putter strikes the ball.

The putter will strike the ball on a slightly upward motion which will produce a pure roll and give you more chance of keeping your putts on line and holing them. (By the way, this is for the right-handed golfer. A left-handed golfer should do everything opposite, so it would be 60% of the weight on the right foot in the setup for a lefty, etc....)



Alignment

Alignment is very important and a critical component of solid putting. Your feet, shoulders, and hips all need to be lined up square to the target. The putter face needs to swing in a straight back and through manner, and if say your shoulders are open, but your feet are square, your putter will almost always go off line in your stroke. The only way you can make putts with alignment errors is to compensate in your stroke which will never make you a great putter. So first make sure your feet are square to your line. A simple way to check this is lay a club down in front of your putt and parallel to the line of your putt. This will make it easier to check that your feet are square. Everything needs to be

square and parallel to your line. Your forearms also need to be parallel to your target line. Basically, I should be able to come up from behind your line and hold a club up across your forearms. This club should be parallel to the target line. Misalignment of the forearms is a very common mistake for many golfers. A golfer will get their feet, hips, and shoulders square to the target line, but their forearms are not. If your right forearm is in front of your left forearm, you will tend to pull your putts. If your left forearm is too much in front of the right forearm, you will tend to push your putts. Someone with a conventional putting grip is more likely to have the right arm too much in front of the left arm. If you are putting with a cross-handed grip, or left hand low, it is more common for your left arm to be too much in front of your right one.

There is a good drill to do to make sure your forearms are parallel at the setup. If you putt with a conventional grip, with the right hand low, and you are pulling your putts I recommend putting some balls left hand low. This is only a drill. You don't need to actually putt this way if you don't want to, it is just helpful to do this for a little while on the practice green to get a feel for where your forearms should be. Then take the feel of having your forearms lined up correctly and go back to your normal grip. **Getting your forearms lined up parallel to your target line as well as the rest of your body is a huge secret key that will have you stroking your putts perfectly on your intended line.**

Chapter 2: The Stroke - A Simple Motion that Guides Your Putter On the Correct Path

Visualize a triangle between your hands, arms, and shoulders as you grip your putter. This triangle should stay the same from the point of address to all the way through your backstroke and follow through of your putt. These three components of your body all work together, and they work best when they work together. The motion of the putting stroke is a simple rocking of your shoulders, and your arms and hands will just follow along. Do not try to manipulate any part of your arms or hands during the stroke. You want to take your hands out of the stroke and make sure you are not trying to hit at the ball. The putting stroke should be nice and smooth and the ball just gets in the way. There is no “hit” going on in the putting stroke.



The above picture shows a proper backstroke with the putter. You can notice how the hands, arms, and shoulders form a triangle shape and are working together as one unit.

The picture below shows a proper follow through stroke with the putter. Notice how the hands, arms, and shoulders work together here as well.



One thing that is very important in the putting stroke is that you follow through and accelerate through the putt. I would even recommend having your follow through be slightly longer than your backstroke at least as a drill on the practice green or in your putting routine. This will ensure a solid roll on the ball. You also want to keep your putter face nice and low to the ground. A common error is to lift up the putter high in the follow through. This is very bad because you will put extra spin on the ball which will lead to poorer contact and less consistency. When you stroke your putts, you want to keep your body very still, especially your head. Head movement during the stroke will cause the putter to go off line, so make sure you keep your head still. **TEMPO:** Maintain the same tempo back and through the stroke. You want to make sure your backstroke tempo is the same as the follow through.

CHAPTER 3: Reading Greens - Seeing the Undulations and Knowing How to Adjust Accordingly



Green Reading is a skill that most good putters are able to do pretty well. There are some key points and a process you can go through on each green to help you read your putts well and give your putts the best chance of going in the hole.

First, as you are approaching the green, take a look at the whole green and notice the slopes, the high, and the low points that are there. **Your golf ball will always break towards the lower points of the greens.** It is important to get a good look and feel for what the whole green does in terms of the slopes, especially the parts of the green near your putt. Particularly, notice any water hazards and/or bunkers around the green. These will usually be placed near the lower areas, which means your ball generally will break in the direction of the hazard. The ball will tend to break towards the water if there is any. Noticing any

hazards will help you determine the low sections of the green. Then you can make your decisions accordingly about how your putt will break.

Secondly, you should look at your putt from both sides of the hole. It is very helpful to walk around your ball to the other side of the hole and check out the line from the opposite side. This may seem time consuming, but you can actually start reading your putt while your other playing partners are getting ready and hitting their putts. This will help speed up play while also allowing you to gather all the necessary information. **Read your putt from both sides of the hole, but the most accurate read will come from whichever side is lower. Make your final decision on the break and the line from this spot.**

Finally, you must determine how hard you are going to hit your putt. This is because **speed helps determine break**. This means that your ball will break more or less depending on how hard you hit your putt. If you hit your putt too hard and too far past the hole, you will be doing what is called “putting through the break”. If you do not hit the putt hard enough, it will break more. So the harder you hit your putt, the less it will break. One helpful tip is if you are having a bad day putting, just try to focus on hitting your putts the right speed. If you hit your putts the correct speed, the ball will have a much greater chance of going in the hole. And if you miss a putt, but hit it the proper speed, you’re only going to have a tap in left for your next putt.

Chapter 4: How to Hit Your Putts the Right Speed - Master This and You Will Say Goodbye To 3-Putts

Hitting your putts the proper speed is an essential element of good putting. A golfer who can hit his or her putts the right speed will do two things. First, they will make more putts. And second, they will nearly eliminate chances of three putting. Having a long putt and knowing that you are going to at least two-putt is a very comforting feeling.

Typically, I like to see players get their ball to the hole on every putt and not leave their putts short. It is true that 100% of short putts do not go in. But having said that, eliminating three putting is an essential part of being a great putter. So on a downhill putt, you do need to be cautious and if you leave a long downhill putt a couple of inches short, it is still a good putt. You want to hit your putt hard enough so it doesn't go more than a couple of feet past the hole. That way you are pretty much assured you can make a putt under two feet, those should be routine tap-ins.

Getting the right speed is the most important part of putting in my opinion. It can be a huge asset to a golfer if his or her speed is accurate. You can make a putt if the speed is correct and if the line is slightly off, because the ball may still have a chance to fall into the cup. But if the line is correct and you hit your putt too far past the hole, it will not go in because you hit it through the break. Also, if you do not hit the putt to the hole by leaving it short but the line is correct, it will also not go in. So the bottom line is that proper speed is crucial to successful putting.

How to Feel the Speed

Having a feel for the speed starts with your pre-putt routine. When you are making your practice strokes, I recommend looking at the hole.

This will help your subconscious mind to gage the speed that you need to hit your putt. Also, make your practice strokes the same way you will stroke your putt. Keep the rhythm consistent. That way, you decide on your speed before you hit your putt. Then all you have to do is address the ball and hit your putt with the same stroke you just made. You have already made your decisions on the speed before you are over the ball. That alone is a big help because what happens to many golfers is they make a couple of unfocused practice strokes and then when they address the ball and are over their putt, they try and decide at the last second how hard to hit the ball. This is a mistake that can easily be fixed. Making any last minute decisions while standing over the golf ball will never help a golfer execute as best as he can.

If you have a long putt, 40-50 feet or more, have the flag tended even if you can see the hole. During your routine, look at the top of the flagstick, then look at the hole, then look back up at the top of the flagstick again and then back at the hole. Then hit your putt. I guarantee this will make a difference in your judging of the distance of long putts.

On really long putts, say over 40-50 feet, there is a two step process you can use to really nail down the right speed. First, simply walk to the halfway point between you and the hole. Then make some practice strokes from that halfway point to the hole, feeling the speed as if that were the length of your putt. Next, walk back to your ball and make some practice strokes feeling the speed from your ball to the halfway point. Now, just combine the two practice strokes together, the one from the ball to the halfway point plus the one from halfway to the hole. That is how hard you should hit your ball, the feel of the two practice strokes which will be one long stroke.

Chapter 5: Putting Routine - Preparation is Key to Holing Putts From Anywhere on the Green

Practice Strokes

It is very important to make your practice putting strokes the same way you make your actual putting stroke. So many times, I will see a player make a couple big long strokes without any purpose and without much focus, and then try to make their actual putting stroke the proper length. This is a waste of practice strokes. Quality practice strokes will be the same length, rhythm, and pace that your actual stroke will be. You want to make your decision on the feel of your stroke before you hit the ball. Then, all you need to do is copy your practice stroke. This takes any last minute indecision out of the putt. You've already decided on the line and on the speed before you hit your putt. Never decide anything while you are putting or while standing over the putt. This will not lead to positive results.

You want to take in all the slopes and contours of the green and the area of your putt before you address the ball. A good time to do this is when your other playing partners are putting. Walk around the hole and look at your putt from different angles. Make all your decisions before you step up to the ball. The final decisions about the speed can be made while you are making your practice strokes. The line is decided before you are over the ball. So your decision is made on the line of the putt and the speed you are going to hit it. Stick to that decision even if the putt looks different when you are standing over it. If you really see something different while over the ball, take a step back and re-evaluate your read if need be.

****Key Point:** Make your decision on how hard you are going to hit the

ball and then stick to it no matter what. Do not change your mind while over the ball. **You will make far more putts because of being decisive than you will changing your mind at the last minute because you think you are seeing something different.** Remember that the best reads are from behind the ball and on the other side of the hole. Often, what you see from over the ball will be a distortion. So trust your judgments on the information gathered and hit the putt knowing you made your best effort. All the work is done before you hit the putt, actually stroking the ball is then the easy part. You just have to commit and trust your decision.

Chapter 6: Short Putts - Make Them in Your Sleep



Overcome the Yips Forever

4 keys that will make you a master of short putts

1. Keep Your Head Down. Many amateurs will look up too soon after they hit their putts. This causes problems in your stroke and will throw the putter off line. There is no need to look at the ball after you hit it. Practice keeping your head down a little longer and you will make better, more consistent strokes. I make my students hit their short practice putts and then count to two before they look and see if they

made it. This trains them to keep their head down and not to peek early.

Golfers will tend to want to peek more on short putts because they are anxious to see their result, if they've made the putt or not. Unfortunately, moving your head too quickly before you've completed your stroke will actually alter the stroke and cause it to get offline. You'll make way more short putts by learning to keep your head still and waiting a couple of seconds before looking to see if you've made them or not.

2. Keep Your Left Wrist Firm. A very common problem in putting is that the left wrist breaks down after impact. This will be especially detrimental to short putts. Keep your left wrist firm throughout the stroke. This will also help to ensure solid contact with the ball and create a consistent roll. Also, a firm left wrist will help keep your stroke on the right path. So many times people come to me asking for help on their short putting and the first thing I tell them is to keep their left wrist firm through impact. It works probably 80% of the time without me even watching their stroke. They try it and come back and tell me that it worked and they can't believe I knew that was their problem without even watching them.

3. Extend Your Follow Through. Deceleration is a big problem in short putting. People think they don't need to hit the ball hard because it is a short putt. Instead of shortening your follow through, shorten your backstroke. Make sure you follow through and extend the putter towards the hole. This will really help you too knock in your short putts and makes them seem easy.

4. Keep the putter head low to the ground throughout your stroke. This will help ensure a solid roll. Raising the putter up high in the air, especially on your follow through, will put an unwanted side spin on your ball and cause it to move off line.

Chapter 7: Long Putts - Knock Them Closer and Make More

Eliminate 3-putting

Obviously, with long putts, it's crucial to get your speed right. The last thing you want to do is leave yourself a 4-5 footer coming back because you either blew your first putt past the hole or didn't get it to the hole.

On long putts, it can be very helpful to have the flagstick tended. When someone is tending the flag for you, look at the top of the flagstick and then at the hole as you are preparing to hit your putt. This will help your mind naturally gage the distance needed to hit your putt the right speed. Feel the distance with you practice strokes. This will help you hit your actual putt the right distance.



Pay attention to slopes, uphill, downhill, etc. Make sure you take the slopes into account in your routine and while you are gathering the information on your read.

On really long putts, as I mentioned this earlier, you can pick a distance halfway between you and the hole and actually go to that spot and make a practice stroke of how hard you would hit the ball from that spot to the hole. Then walk back to your ball and make a practice stroke feeling the speed to the halfway point between you and the hole. Finally, just combine the two strokes and make one long stroke that will hit your putt the full length all the way to the hole.

There is a practice routine you can use on the practice green to develop a good feel of the proper speed. Pick a spot of the fringe and move back so you are 10 feet away from the fringe, but facing it. Take 3 golf balls and simply roll them towards the spot you picked with the goal of trying to get them as close to the edge of the fringe as possible. Then repeat this process, but the second time do it with your eyes closed. You will start to notice a sharper, more improved feel and ability to judge the speed of how fast the greens are rolling. The next step is to take your putter and go to the same spot 10 feet away from the fringe. Putt to it using the 3 golf balls while trying to get as close to the edge as possible. Then repeat that again by putting the 3 balls but close your eyes while you are putting. Then use this same routine but move back to 30 feet and even as long as 50 feet. Watch how well your judging of the correct speed improves. This is a very helpful warm-up and practice technique that will allow you to feel the speed really well and can help you adjust quicker to different greens of different speeds.

Chapter 8: Common Errors in Putting and How to Fix Them

- 1) **Wrists break too much, especially left wrist.** This error in your putting stroke will hurt you the most on short putts as it will throw your ball off your target line and make it difficult to make putts.



- 2) **Too much head movement.** Even the pros monitor this. The night before the final round of the 1999 US Open, Payne Stewart's wife

noticed in a video that his head had been moving a little bit while he was putting. He kept his head still in the final round and he putted more solidly which led to him winning the tournament.

- 3) **Misalignment.** Remember to check your alignment of not only the putter face, but your shoulders, feet, hips, as well as your forearms in the setup. Improper alignment will cause you to miss putts or have to compensate in your stroke which will not make you as consistent.



- 4) **Lifting the putter head up high in the follow-through.** The picture above demonstrates the error of lifting the putter up too high in the

follow through. Not keeping the putter head low to the ground throughout the stroke will put unwanted sidespin on the golf ball. Feel the putter staying low to the ground on both your backstroke and your follow through.

5) Too Much Body Movement.

Keep Your Feet Firmly Planted on the Ground. Keep your head down. Make your stroke while maintaining good balance and keeping your body steady. Remember, it's your shoulders that are primarily initiating the stroke, there is no need for extra excess body motion. Your lower body should stay quiet in the putting stroke.

Chapter 9: Mindfulness on the Putting Green - Five Mental Techniques for Success

Five Points That Will Bring You Success.

Point Number One: Feel Good First.

This is a concept that I really like and find useful at helping to keep golf in perspective. Okay, so making a really important putt feels great, right? You probably like making putts because of the good feelings you get from it. Well, there is a trick you can use that will accomplish two things. The trick is to feel as good about yourself regardless of how good your putting is. You want to feel as if you are the best putter on the planet before you even start your round of golf. Don't wait to see if your putting game is on for a particular day until you allow yourself to feel good. Decide to feel good before you attempt to make any putts, and then when you do attempt to putt, a whole lot of pressure will be taken off you because your self-esteem is no longer at stake and contingent on whether or not you are making your putts. You will actually allow yourself to make more putts when you take this pressure off yourself.

Point Number Two: Right Attitude.

On and off the putting green, anytime you are thinking about your putting, think about *making* putts. Visualize the ball going into the hole while you are approaching your putt or standing behind it. It is important that you walk onto the putting green with a feeling of confidence that you are going to make putts. You want to have the attitude that you are a good putter. Talk about your putting in a positive way. It is okay to miss a putt as long as you gave it your best effort. So when you are preparing to hit a putt, you should make your decisions during your routine, all before you hit your putt. This way you have

committed to your line and speed and you just have to putt without needing to think about it.

***Point Number Three:* Commit to your decisions.**

If you do this, then you do not need to worry about a missed putt. You are going to make more putts by committing to your decisions than you would if you second guess yourself. The rule should be “make your best decision on the line and speed and then trust it”. That way you cannot be upset if you miss a putt, because you know you made your best effort. Many more putts will fall by committing to your decisions and sticking to them than if you second guess yourself. The percentages will definitely be in your favor by trusting and following your plan on each and every putt.

***Point Number Four:* Treat Every Putt the Same.**

Never think about what score you are putting for. Only think about making the putt and never about your score. It does not matter if you are putting for eagle or double-bogey. Worrying about what number you are putting for is not necessary for good putting. So treat every birdie putt and bogey putt exactly the same. There is no difference because at the end of the round, the score on one particular hole really doesn't matter, it is the whole round that counts.

***Point Number Five:* Overcome Your Fear On The Putting Greens By Focusing On What You Want.**

Most golfers at least from time to time get scared or nervous on the putting greens. There are all these negative thoughts racing through their heads, many of which start with *what if*. They may worry about 3-putting, worry about who is watching them, worry about what score they are putting for, etc. The problem with focusing on these negative or irrelevant thoughts is it leads to negative results. The more you can focus on what you want to happen, the greater chance there is of it

happening. The best way to eliminate negative thoughts is just simply to think about making putts. No matter how short or long the putt is, you want to think about making it. ***Think about how much you want to make it, not how much you need to make it.*** There is a big difference between the feeling of wanting to make a putt versus the feeling of having or needing to make it. Visualize the putt going in, and feel like you've already made it before you hit it. This can be hard to do and can take a little bit of practice. But if you make it a habit to think about making putts as well as thinking about how much you want to make them, your putting game will improve dramatically.

Conclusion

Hopefully after reading this Ebook, you now have a better understanding of what it takes to develop and maintain a great putting game. These techniques and principles are what will make you a great putter. With all this knowledge you have gained, get ready to start taking your friends' money. Or, if you don't play for money, just get ready to have more fun while playing golf. Read this book more than once. Preferably, even print a copy out so you have it handy while you are practicing. I assure you, your putting is going to be a whole lot better now that you have all this knowledge. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at contact@golfputtinggenius.com. I also welcome any testimonials and stories about how your putting is becoming better. Thank you for trying my method. Hopefully you are using it and lighting up the greens now!

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