

PRACTICE WITH A PURPOSE

One of the fastest ways to improve your golf is to practice with a purpose. In other words, have a specific aspect of your swing you want to improve on, a certain shot you're trying to execute better, or a better method to help you prepare for the round you are about to play. Here are some ideas to help you accomplish this:

1. When working on your game, try to get some instruction from a qualified instructor on a periodic if not regular basis. Isolate the problems in your swing you need to improve on and learn new or better ways to execute the shots you're having trouble with.
2. Aim at targets when you practice, striving to achieve directional and distance control. Change the targets and angles so you're better able to achieve good alignment on the course.
3. Practice with all your clubs not just your favorites. Spend more time with the clubs you use the most but don't ignore or avoid the rest.
4. When practicing before a round, start out by hitting short shots to specific targets with your wedges, followed by your longer clubs eventually ending with your driver hitting to broader areas the width of an average fairway.
5. At the start or end of your practice spend time hitting chips and putts. When putting, start out with some long lag putts to get the feel for the green speed, and progress to short putts of 3-6 feet in length where so many shots are saved or lost.