

Pitching- The Pitch Shot

The pitch shot is a shot that is hit from approximately 10-75 yards from the green. It is a shot that flies high in the air and rolls little. It is useful when you need to hit over obstacles on the course such as bunkers, trees, bushes, water, etc.

Setup for the Pitch Shot

The pitch shot is really a mini version of the full swing, with a couple changes.

- * Use full swing grip, full swing posture.
- * Weight should favor the left side, and stay there throughout the swing, even lean a little left if you need to.
- * Ball should be in the middle of your stance, or the middle of your feet. Be careful not to play the ball too far towards your left foot, this can cause "topping" the ball, which means that you are hitting the top of the ball and sending it running along the ground. The purpose of a pitch shot is to get AIR, so ball position is very important to hit the ball the proper way and get the air we are looking for.
- * The clubs to use are the wedges. We want to hit the ball high, so the wedges have the most loft and are most versatile around the green and surrounding areas, such as rough, hardpan, dirt, etc.
- * Wedges consist of the Pitching Wedge, Sand Wedge, Lob Wedge, Gap Wedge. The difference in wedges is the bounce and degrees of loft.



Tips for the Pitch Shot

- The pitch shot is a smaller version of the full swing. It is the same motion just a little slower and less powerful. The distance of the shot is controlled by how far you swing, as well as how fast or slow.
- As with any "swing" or "stroke", you want to focus on the swing or stroke and "let the ball get in the way" not "hit" the ball. This is difficult to do, and takes time and practice, be patient and have fun learning and experimenting.
- As with the full swing, you want to get full clubface rotation, a "toe up to toe up" swing will help get the ball in the air. This is also known as "some-some-some".
- As with the full swing, it is helpful to get the hands and forearms to rotate over through the hitting area, this is also known as "toe up to toe up", and "some-some-some". and helps the clubface rotate through the hitting area.