

TSH GOLF *Custom Fit Putter*



Regardless of how you putt, your style, what type size and shape of putter you use, what grip, what swing path, what stance, what posture... you need a putter that is fit to your style. The putter is the most used club in your bag, and responsible for about half the strokes you make in a round. The brand name of your putter is not going to make any more putts for you. But having a putter that fits you will. Have you ever been fit for a putter? Is your current putter fit for you? Or did you just buy it off the rack because you liked the look, or made a few putts on the practice mat, or that's the one that Tiger plays? And you're trying to adjust to your putter instead of adjusting your putter to you!

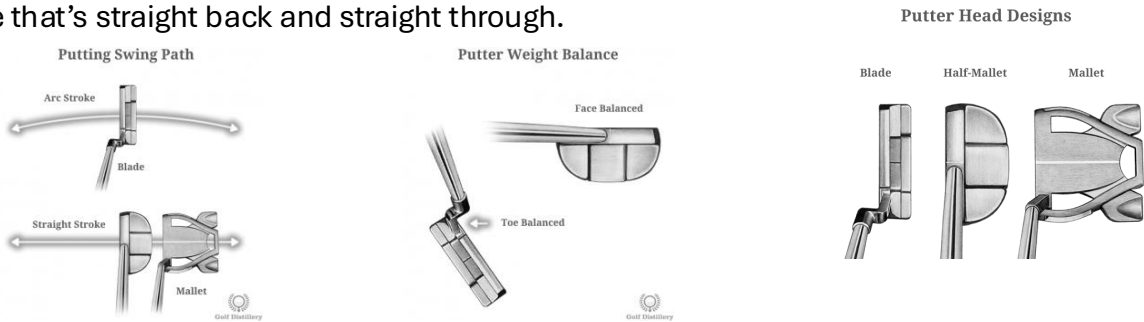
Custom putter fitting is the quickest way for golfers to lower their scores. The putter is responsible for almost half the strokes in your score. In my experience as a Golf Equipment Professional, I have noticed that a putter fitting is the least understood and utilized optimization, yet it is the most critically important process for the biggest scoring club in your bag. Golfers have focused more on a driver fitting and then possibly their irons. But the biggest bang for your buck is definitely getting a putter outfitted for you! By the way, the Scotty Cameron Newport that Tiger plays, or John Rohm's Odyssey Toulon, or Rory's Spider Tour X are not the same putter you buy at the big box store. They are obviously custom fit for the pro players. You can get one too, if you've got a few thousand dollars. But if you're a weekend warrior who just wants something that fits, and not break the bank, here we are!

5 Key Factors in Putter Fitting

● Head Design ● Length ● Loft ● Lie ● Angle ● Feel (Weight, Swingweight, Grip)

#1 Head Design and Shape

There are two things going on here, and the shape of the head you chose should match your swing path style. The three most popular styles are the blade, the half mallet and the mallet head. The blade putters are typically toe balanced to compensate for the arc swing so the speed of the head catches up at the peak of the arc. The mallet styles are face balanced to work with a stroke that's straight back and straight through.



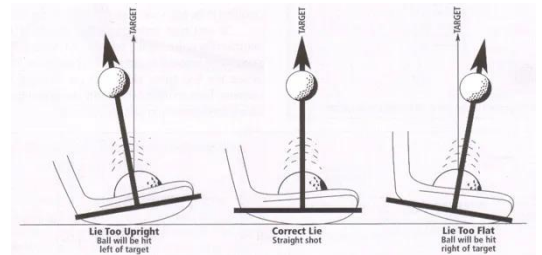
#2. Length

This is likely the most important factor to start with, yet the hardest one to nail down because it's not just how tall you are, or what your arm length is. It's a combination of things, your putting styles, how far you bend over, how far down on the shaft do you like your hands to be, etc. But the one common concept to start with is that you should have your head and eyes on a line directly over the ball. Once you've established that point, then line up the ball between your feet where it's comfortable distance from your feet and then put your hands in the comfortable position that you like, not that your putter determines, but where you want them to be. Taking that stance with the putter head grounded, **we take that shaft measurement for the length.**



#3. Lie Angle

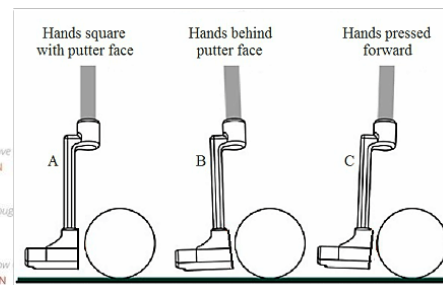
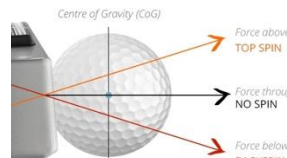
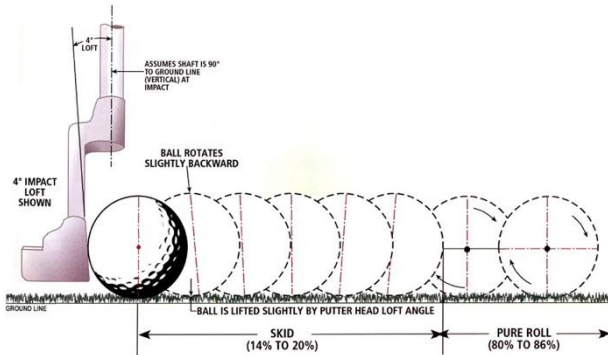
After you get that length measurement, look down at the putter head and see if it's in the middle position with the center of the blade flat on the ground.



This is where many golfers get tripped up when they buy a putter off the shelf and then find that the lie angle is not right, and as you can see from the picture, it's impossible to hit a straight put with the toe or heel is up in the air. Most golfers will just try to adjust their grip position to compensate for the wrong length or lie fit. Get the putter fit to you, not you trying to fit the putter.

#4. Loft Angle

The loft angle may be the most confusing part of a fitting, because it changes so easily. Looking at the graphics, you can see what the putter is supposed to do, if you hit the ball in the middle of the face with the face square and center at impact. But if you do a forward press, or hands behind the ball, the ball will roll out differently. And how far the ball skids before it starts to roll forward will determine how far it will roll from the given amount of force.

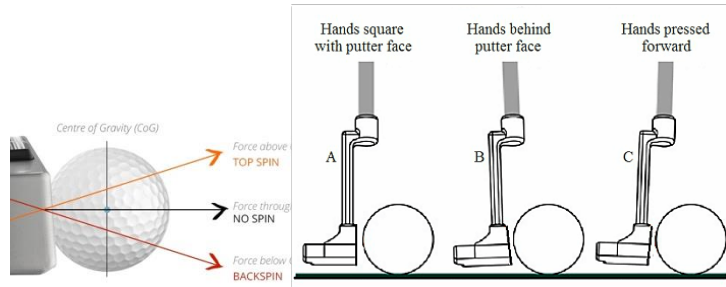
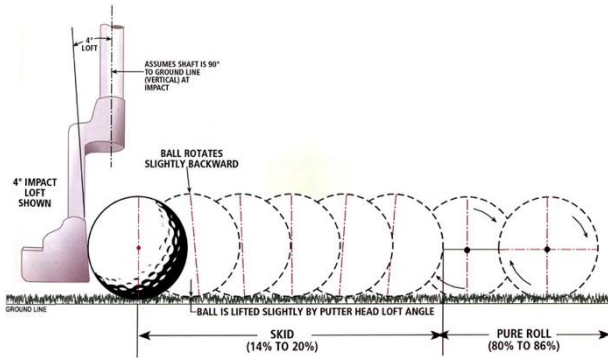


#5. Feel (Weight, Swingweight and Grip)

This one used to be a lot easier. Blade putters weighed 350-370g and mallets just a bit more. A putter shaft was a basic steel shaft of about 120g, and the grip was the grip. No one ever changed them. Today, most of those rules are out the window. We have blade putter heads weighing all the way up to 400g. And we have mallets up to 460g. We have the standard length putters, plus now belly putters, armlocks and broomsticks. Lots of choices, and all pretty much subjective to your style of putting. So it's hard to come with a standard fitting solution. It's more about what feels right to you. The world of grips changed a few years back with the advent of the super jumbo grips and they have become really popular. The idea is they feel really good in your hands, and they tend to take the wrist action out of the swing, leaving you with a smoother stroke. And now there are even a dozen variations of those grips. One of the more popular concepts now are the heavy shafts. The weight of the shaft smooths out your swing, so people with the yips can really do well with the heavier shafts. Another concept of that is counterweighting the putter, with weight going in under the grip. There are also super low torque shafts reaching up in the

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The final factor which almost deserves it's own category nowadays is the grip. There are a variety of size and shape grips and every golfer has their own feel, so the grip becomes a major factor in how the putter feels and performs in your hands. It's a very subjective item and each golfer is different.