

## Check Grip



A proper grip will reduce your tendency to slice. A good grip will keep the clubhead square at impact and keep the shaft from turning in your hands. Pictured is the popular overlap grip, also known as the Vardon grip.

Try for a relaxed and comfortable feel. A tight grip will hinder your rhythm and release. The V's formed by the index finger and thumbs on both hands point between the chin and right shoulder.

Turning hands counterclockwise on the shaft (weak grip), promotes a left-to-right flight of the ball (slice). Turning hands clockwise (strong grip) promotes a right-to-left flight of the ball (hook).

## Check Stance



A square setup will encourage a square impact. A square stance means the feet are parallel to the target line. Imagine railroad tracks. Your feet are touching one rail and the ball is on the other rail.

A closed stance will encourage an inside-to-outside swing path, causing a draw. An open stance may encourage an outside-to-inside swing path by giving your arms and shoulders more freedom.

Position the ball 2 inches inside the left heel for most shots. A consistent position helps develop a repeatable swing. Playing the ball too far forward in your stance tends to open the shoulders encouraging an outside-to-inside swing, often causing a slice.

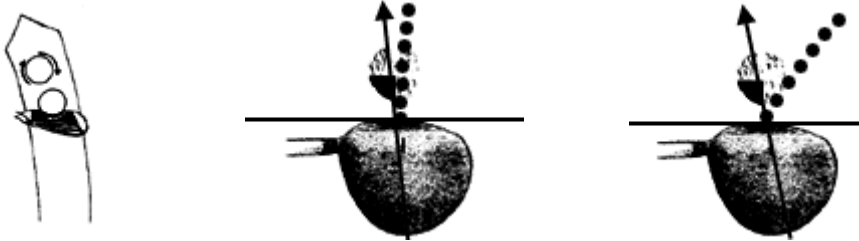
## Check Alignment



Use your clubs as alignment aids when you practice. Lay one club on the ground parallel to the target line. Lay another from toe to toe to indicate the direction of your stance. Now, lay another club perpendicular to the target line . extending from the ball back toward your feet. This will indicate the ball position. Examine your alignment and ball position.

Hold a club across your shoulders and check alignment toward the target. Repeat for the hips and thighs. In a square stance the shoulders, hips and thighs should be aligned parallel to the target!

## Slice Path



Slice Angle = Clubface Angle + Swing path Angle. On this shot the clubface is square to the target line, but it is open to the outside-to-inside swing path. Although the clubface is square to the target you will get a slice!

A 3° Open clubface with a straight swing path produces a shot that starts straight and then slices 21 yards to the right at 200 yards.

A 3° Open clubface with a 3° out-to-in swing path (the clubface is a total of 6° open to the swing path) produces a 42 yard slice at 200 yards that starts to the left

## Square Clubface



After you straighten the swing path it's time to work on squaring the clubface. The key to good shot making is hitting the ball with a clubface that is very close to square to the swing path. The further from square the clubface is the more the ball will curve. Many factors including your swing, release and grip effect the position of the clubface at impact. Start by making swing with your seven iron. The seven iron is a club most golfers have confidence in. While it will slice, you'll seldom get bananas (big slices) like you will with the driver. Hit range balls or plastic practice balls every week. Work on learning the actions that shape your shots. To learn control, try to hit some fades, then hit some straight balls, and finish by trying to hit some draws. The goal is to understand and then control the effect the clubface position has on the flight of the ball. If any problems develop, review your fundamentals, then go on to the anti-slice drills.