



**1/2 - 3/4
SHOTS**

**PITCHING
TRAINING
GUIDE**

1/2 & 3/4 Pitch Shots



Shots to the green from under 100 yards call for the shot known as a 'Pitch'. This is played with a lofted wedge, with a swing which produces less power than a typical 'full swing'. This pitch by Glen is from 75 yards and he is using his 56° Sand Wedge.



You will notice that both his backswing and followthrough are both shorter than a normal full golf swing. He is hitting a 3/4 Pitch shot with exactly that - a 3/4-length swing. This is the simplest and most reliable way to reduce power for a Pitch.

1. Turn Your Body



Other, less desirable methods of reducing power for these short approaches are to decelerate in the downswing or to limit rotation of the body. Both of these methods will adversely affect the quality of your strike with the golf ball.



Our first key to playing the 1/2 or 3/4 Pitch is to make sure you still turn your midsection. Check out Glen's belt buckle here in the throughswing. It has fully rotated through to the target, despite his swing only being 3/4 length.

2. Hit 'Up' On The Ball



A mistake made by many golfers is to 'chop' down on Pitch shots, in an attempt to ensure ball-first contact. These players hit down on the golf ball and often 'slide' forward of the ball in the process. This is detrimental to consistency and the quality of strike.



The top players from 50-100 yards actually hit 'Up' on the golf ball. The hand path tracks upwards through impact but the clubhead is still coming into the ball with a slightly descending angle of attack. This helps improve contact and consistency.

Steep Swing Plane



Strike is extremely important for these partial shots and Swing Plane must not be ignored. The player who allows the wedge's shaft to steepen and track vertically in the downswing, will struggle to return the club to the ball consistently.



The club's shaft will likely be very high at impact, with the toe of the club hitting the turf. The strike will inevitably be compromised. Trajectory and spin rates will vary dramatically. Distance control is almost impossible with a steep plane.

3. Shallow Your Plane



Rather, allow the wedge's shaft to 'shallow', so that the butt of your golf shaft should point to the ball or even outside it. This 'laid off' position of the shaft mustn't occur in the backswing but rather in the transition into the downswing.



This will keep the hands and butt of the club closer to the body through impact, aiding connection with the body. The sole of the club will ideally be flat on the ground at impact, enhancing the consistency of strike, launch trajectory and spin.

Calculate Your Yardages



Regardless of which wedge you use to play a pitch, confidence is increased through knowing how far you are hitting each shot. To begin, you must first ascertain your average 'full swing' yardages with each of your wedges.

| | Full | 3/4 | 1/2 |
|----------------|-------|------|------|
| 60° Lob Wedge | 80yd | 60yd | 40yd |
| 56° Sand Wedge | 93yd | 70yd | 47yd |
| 50° Gap Wedge | 107yd | 80yd | 54yd |

This is Glen's chart for his full and partial distances for his 3 most lofted clubs. The most important aspect of this chart is that it matches mathematically. These are all carry distances. Any rollout is variable, depending upon the conditions and should be estimated on the course.

THANK YOU



Welcome to the team at **Aussie Golf Pros.**

Great to have you on board!

Steve and Glen are here to help you
make the most of your golf game.

Your feedback is greatly appreciated.

If you love our content, have a question,
or just want to say 'G'day'

please go to our [YouTube channel](#) to comment.

