



**DO YOU NEED
A 'GAP' WEDGE?**

**WEDGE LOFT
SELECTION
GUIDE**

What Is A Gap Wedge?



The term 'Gap Wedge' was first used in the 1990s, after club makers began de-lofting their iron sets, which created a void between the pitching wedge and sand wedge. In 1982, Ping introduced the Eye 2 'W' Wedge, which served this function.



Typically, a gap wedge loft is 48° to 52°. Most manufacturers now offer a 'Gap Wedge' as part of their iron sets. In the previous century, pitching wedges were lofted at around 48° to 50°. However, the loft of the modern Pitching Wedge can vary significantly!

Sand Wedge - 56°



The loft of the Sand Wedge has not altered and is still at 54° to 56°. These clubs are extremely versatile from both grass and sand. Skilled players often demonstrate a wide variety of trajectories and distances with the Sand Wedge.



Most players wouldn't attempt this shot but Glen can comfortably carry his 56° Sand Wedge 90 yards with a full swing. This shot produces a vast amount of backspin, over 10,000 rpm and will stop quickly or even spin back on the greens.

Pitching Wedge - 43°



This is Glen's wife's Pitching Wedge. It's a Titleist T200 and presents just 43° loft, some 13° stronger than his Sand Wedge. The loft of a Pitching Wedge might be as much as 48° but the strongest we found, was the Titleist T400 PW at 38°.



Even with its shorter length, Glen carries this 43° wedge shot over 130 yards. This highlights a huge 'Gap', with which some golfers will struggle, when approaching a green. The $\frac{3}{4}$ Wedge is a useful shot to have. Can you play it consistently? Ideally, 'Gaps' between the wedges will be around 5° to 6°.

Chipping - Trajectory & Roll Out



Playing such a large gap between the Pitching Wedge and Sand Wedge, can also cause difficulties when chipping and pitching. This wedge at 43° will produce a low ball flight for a short shot and is essentially a chip & run club.



With an extra 13° of loft, the chipping trajectory is completely different. It's not just about ball flight either. With the extra backspin imparted, the ball will not roll out, anywhere near far on the green, as the Pitching Wedge! Even tour players like to have the versatility of using different wedges, for the short game.

Loft From Bad Lies



In this scenario, Glen is faced with a challenging shot, from a sandy lie, over a bunker to a tight pin. If the lie was good, the Sand Wedge would be the ideal option. However, from such a poor lie, this is a risky proposition.



If you're not comfortable playing the Sand Wedge, from a sandy or tight lie, you might decide upon the safer Pitching Wedge but would you be able to stop the ball on the green? The 'Gap Wedge' could be your best option.

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'

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