The Symple Swing
CHIPPING System

(Includes links to video clips)

Symple Swing™
"The Easy-To-Learn Golf Swing"

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SympleSwing Chipping System

Note: The Symple Swing Chipping System was originally produced as a companion to the full Symple Swing™ system however we found that it works really well as a stand alone system for all golfers. This short game system will work well for all golfers no matter what type of full swing your have.

Our students have been having such tremendous success with this short game system that we decided to release this e-book version with links to the video clips, to make it available as a low cost introduction to Symple Swing. Symple Swing is an amazing new easy-to-learn golf swing.

A significant number of your total strokes will be made within 50 yards of the green. This is especially true now that you are hitting the ball longer and straighter with the Symple Swing™.

The following refinements to the SympleSwing techniques will dramatically improve your short game and lower your scores if you spend time practicing them in order to ingrain them. We recommend spending a least 30 minutes practicing chipping before you go out to play.

The Symple Swing Chipping Method has been designed to be a very effective yet very repeatable chipping stroke. It uses mainly the larger muscles of the back and shoulders so your stroke will be very consistent.

The PowerThumb grip keeps the club face square to your swing path so you'll find this to be an exceptionally accurate way to chip. On the next page we will start learning the PowerThumb grip.

Note: The videos that are linked in this manual are on your Symple Swing DVD. They are repeated here to make access more convenient. Effectively learning Symple Chipping first will make it much easier and faster to learn the full Symple Swing.
Top Hand Grip (The Left Hand Grip for Right Handed Golfers.)
The top hand PowerThumb Grip is a key element of the Symple Swing because it allows you to keep your club on-plane with the clubface square all through the swing. The top hand grip is significantly different from a traditional grip. It does not hold the club in all the fingers. The top hand and forearm are in a completely different orientation from that of a traditional golf grip. It is NOT a strong grip. It is a completely different way of gripping the club. We call it the “PowerThumb Grip.” It is a flat wrested grip. The “flat wrist” refers to the back of the hand being flat (or aligned) with the wrist throughout the swing.

1. Extend your left arm down again with your elbow joint on-plane. Grab the club in a pinching motion between your thumb and index finger. The back of your hand (near your index finger) will point almost straight up (12 o’clock position).

![Thumb at 3 o’clock position](image1)

![Club in middle of palm](image2)
2. You should feel a slight groove forming at the base of your thumb, where your palm joins your wrist. The grip of your club will go in that groove.

The Groove the Club Fits In

The thumb pad positioned at the back of the club

Your thumb and the large pad at the base of your thumb should be against the grip at the 2 o'clock to 3 o'clock position (for a right handed golfer) on the back side (away from the target) of the grip. The pad at the base of your top hand index finger should be right on the top of the shaft.

(The Top Thumb Fits In The Groove)

Then you let your fingers grab the club to hold it securely. It’s okay to have a small gap between the base of your little finger of your top hand and the grip.

3. The left thumb (for a right handed player) and the golf club travel back “on-plane” during the backswing and it is also “on-plane” during the downswing.
**BOTTOM HAND Grip** (The Right Hand Grip for Right Handed Golfers)
A two finger overlap grip is strongly recommended although other bottom grips can be used if used with the “pinch” modification.

The “Pinch”
With all the grips it is very important that the thumb and index finger of the bottom hand are “pinched” together. The pad of your bottom hand thumb should be resting on the pad of the bottom hand index finger. You are in effect pinching your thumb and first finger together around the club. The purpose of this “pinch” modification is to slightly weaken the tendency of the bottom hand to tense up and overpower the top hand and roll it over closing the clubface at impact.

![The Two Finger Overlap Grip](image1)

![Note The “Pinch” With The Two Fingered Overlap Grip](image2)
**Grip**

You will use the same Symple Swing grip as you do for the full swing except that you will choke down on the club right to the bottom of the grip. This will give you maximum control over the club and therefore maximum confidence.

![Grip Image](image1.jpg)

Then you put your bottom hand on the grip just as you do with your regular Symple Swing grip. Some players prefer to overlap three fingers of the bottom hand over the top. They feel the three fingered overlap grip gives them a less wristy chip that the two fingered overlap. Your grip should allow you to hold the club in a straight line with your forearm.

![Grip Image](image2.jpg)

Your hands should be slightly ahead of the clubhead at address and impact which also encourages proper contact with the ball. You should notice that keeping the hands slightly ahead of the clubface will cause the club shaft to lean slightly forward (toward the target). It’s normal especially on short chips to see the club shaft leaning slightly toward the target.

**Real Media Video of Grip**

**Windows Media Video of Grip**
Stance

Your feet should be very close together and parallel. Your feet should be perpendicular to the target line. Their exact distance apart can vary from 0-6 inches depending on your personal preference and body-type. Your feet should not be any wider because this will encourage overswinging and allows weight shift which often causes an unintentional change in the bottom of the arc of your swing that can cause fat shots or topped shots. The goal is to make sure the lower body (from the waist down) doesn’t move at all.

Your weight at set-up will be 75% or more on your front foot (your foot closest to the target) which will encourage a descending blow and get the ball up out of the grass and on its way to the flag. There is NO weight shift and virtually NO lower body movement except on the longest of pitches. It’s very important for consistency to keep most of your weight on your front foot.

Real Media Video of Stance
http://www.simplegolf.com/videos/chipping_feet_and_weight.rm

Windows Media Video of Stance
http://www.simplegolf.com/videos/chipping_feet_and_weight.wmv
BallPosition

Middle Position
The ball should generally be in the center of your very narrow stance. The hands should be in front of the ball with the shaft leaning somewhat toward the target.

Back Position
On short chips when on short grass such as the fringe of a green you can position the ball off your back toe. This assures a crisp descending and a slightly de-lofted clubface which will give you a lower ball flight.

Front Position
When you need more height on your chip positioning the ball off of your front foot will help get the ball in the air.

The majority of your chips will be in the middle to back positions. When chipping from longer grass moving the ball back in your stance will make solid contact much easier although the ball flight will be a bit lower. The best thing to do is to take a number of balls out to the practice green and practice chipping from every possible location.
BACKSWING –

Your backswing should be started with your front shoulder since large muscle groups are more reliable and consistent, especially under pressure. With your front arm as straight as possible bring the clubhead back.

Don’t try to take the club straight back. It’s normal for the club to swing in an arc causing it to move slightly to the inside on your backswing. The club comes back on a slightly inside arc and then on the downswing it comes back on that same arc and automatically squares up at impact. No manipulating of the club face is necessary.

The length of the backswing will vary based on the distance of the shot required but you will be amazed by how short the backswing can be. Do not cock your wrists or deliberately bend your back elbow. For longer shots the back elbow will bend slightly without you thinking about it. You should notice that your front forearm and the club shaft stay straight in a line throughout the chip.

RealMedia of Backswing
http://www.simplegolf.com/videos/chipping_shoulders.rm

WindowsMedia of Backswing
http://www.simplegolf.com/videos/chipping_shoulders.wmv
The key thing here is although you start the downswing with your shoulders you should also push downward using your PowerThumb (the thumb of your top hand which should be behind the shaft of the club) on the downswing. You’re actually hitting the ball with your whole front arm and shoulder but feeling the push downward with your PowerThumb. This will help you to accelerate the club through the chip and it will give you the “feel” to really control your distance. Think to yourself that you are hitting the ball powering your chip with only your shoulders (upper torso). Your arms are only “along for the ride”. Concentrate on keeping the triangle formed by your two arms and your chest constant (shaped the same) throughout the chip. Yes there will be a little wrist motion in the chip but that will happen automatically rather than as a conscious effort.

The most common error made in chipping and pitching is decelerating the club into the ball (often caused by too long a backswing). The club should be accelerating through the ball to hit it consistently and you must follow through. This is as true for the shortest of chips as well as full swings. This technique will dramatically increase your accuracy and distance control.

RealVideo of Whole Chipping Motion
http://www.simplegolf.com/videos/chipping_whole_swing.rm

WindowsMedia of Whole Chipping Motion
http://www.simplegolf.com/videos/chipping_whole_swing.wmv
PRACTICING YOUR SHORTGAME

As you learn the Symple Swing chipping method it is very important to practice effectively to master this simple yet most overlooked part of the game. There are many different ways to practice but the most common method when practicing alone is to start from just off the green, on the fringe of a practice green with 10 or so balls.

We would you like to start with short chips of 10 - 15 feet. For your target use an imaginary 3 foot circle around the hole (you can also use your club to measure the distance). Your objective is to put as many balls into that imaginary circle as possible.

The key to success is to picture where you want to land the ball and project the amount of roll up to the pin. Please figure out what kind of shot you are to play - pertaining to ball position in your stance. A shot with low trajectory will roll on the ground farther then one with high degree of loft with little roll. Normally, you should try to fly the ball 1/3 of the way and have it roll the other 2/3's of the way. You are successful when you have put at least 6 or 7 out of 10 in the circle.

Once you have become consistent with this distance then back up or lengthen the shot. Repeat this method for all kinds of chips – short chips (under 5 yards), medium (6 to 10 yards) and long (10 yards or more) with all three different trajectories needed. Learn the highest percentage shots for all shots around the green, with the objective or goal is to chip it close enough to make your first putt.

You should practice chipping from short and long grass as you will encounter all different types of lies as you play. Practice as often as you can, so you are able to play these short shots with confidence and accuracy. Practicing your short game is the best way to reduce your scores quickly.

For shots longer than 20 to 25 yards lengthen the shoulder swing arc (bigger shoulder turn) and increase your acceleration on your downswing and trust your swing to hit the ball exactly where you aim. On longer shots you should flare your back foot out 45 degrees (still keeping a fairly narrow stance) to make the shoulder turn easier.

The full Symple Swing Chipping video is included as part of the Symple Swing package available at our web site http://www.sympleswing.com/. (Note: see Symple Swing discount below).

Good Luck and please go to the SympleSwing.com website for more helpful information. Be sure to check out our forum at http://simpleswing.forumco.com/default.asp.
Symple Putting Discount
Since you have read this far you are obviously a diligent golf student. We would like to reward your diligence with a $10 discount on our Symple Putting Ebook at www.SymplePutting.com. You can get a $10 discount on the Symple Putting Ebook if you use this link to make your purchase:
http://www.simplegolf.com/a/go.php?c=sympleputting
It’s normally $29.95 so your price would only be $19.95 for the Ebook.

If you have any questions please feel free to e-mail us at support@simplegolf.com or call us at 203-798-8489.