

Break 100

Card sharp

Banish your chipping wobbles by wedging a credit card under your glove to stop the hands flicking, says Ian Clark

The chip shot should be one of the simplest skills to master in golf, yet many struggle with this most basic action because they let their hands interfere with the shot.

There are two main keys to consistent chipping: first, always let the club do the work for you, never try to help your shots into the air; second, always accelerate in to strike the ball, never quit at impact.

Start by addressing the ball with your feet close together and your left toe turned out towards the target. This will open the shoulders a little and add a little more loft to your shots. Position the ball between the middle of your stance and your back foot and push your hands ahead of the ball. Grip down the handle a fraction for added control and let your weight favour your forward (left) foot to encourage a descending blow into the back of the ball and a clean strike.

To chip successfully you need to rock the clubhead of your wedge back and forth like your putter, from the shoulders, keeping your wrists quiet. This is where your credit card comes in. Slip it down the back of your glove, so it rests against the left wrist, and keep it in place by closing your glove badge over it. Now repeat the rocking movement and simply allow the loft on the wedge to pop the ball up into the air without any extra effort from your hands. The credit card will make you concentrate on keeping your wrists firm, rather than letting them break down.



Use a credit card, or some other small, stiff piece of card, to keep your wrist straight. Then rock from the shoulders and let the clubhead do the work.



1 Keep the back of your left hand facing the target as you swing through. The card will force you to keep your wrist straight.