

swap inset pics 1 & 2

around

Break 100

# Pure putting

Learn to strike the ball out of the centre of the putterface to guarantee a straight putt every time, says Ian Clark.

There's nothing more frustrating than spending ages reading the green and aligning your putt, only to strike it and see it veer off immediately in the wrong direction. When this happens the chances are it's your stroke to blame, you're simply not striking the ball with a square putterface. An easy drill to train the putter to rock straight back and through is to pop a pencil (or other cylindrical object) on the green in place of your golf ball. Place the pencil at right angles to the hole and address it as you would the ball. Now strike the pencil. If you hit it pure it should run out straight towards the hole, if you strike it out of the toe or heel it will curve off sideways. Practising this drill will give you instant visual feedback on the direction of your putts. Once you've mastered this drill swap to a golf ball and watch your putts roll straight into the hole.

1



Place a pencil on the green at right angles to the hole in place of your golf ball and address it square to the hole.

2



The aim is to strike the pencil with a square putterface so that it rolls out straight towards the hole.



Left arm should be as an extension of the puttershaft. Try to keep the back of your left wrist pointing at the target to prevent your wrists breaking down.

Try to swing the putter through a little up towards the sky, striking the ball on the upswing. This will impart topspin ensuring a truer roll across the green.