

How to Get Out of Greenside Bunkers

The greenside bunker shot is one of the most intimidating, yet easiest, shots on the golf course. Professional golfers would rather hit out of sand than of rough when around the green. Why? Because the sand has a consistent feel to it, but the rough can be very unpredictable.

I compare the sand shot to a pitch shot. The only difference is that in the sand your clubface is open and your stance is open. Other than that, it is the same swing! The other important item is that you need a sand wedge! A pitching wedge will not get the ball out like a sand wedge would.



Step by Step Procedure:

- 1) Open your clubface. The clubface has to be open to a certain extent, the more open the face, the higher the loft - ball will come out higher.
- 2) Step into your shot. If you stood square to the target with your hips (like a normal full swing shot), you will notice that the clubface is pointing away from the target. So, open your hips/stance until the clubface is now facing square to the target. Now, the club is square to your target, but YOU have an open stance. Ball position should be in line with your target (front) foot instep.
- 3) Swing back and make an 'L' with arms and club. You MUST make an 'L', or else the ball will not fly out!
- 4) Swing down and through TOWARDS the target with your club. Make a swing! Do not hesitate or slow down. If you do, the club will get stuck in the sand and the ball will not go anywhere.

I have an excellent drill for getting out of the sand. It could help you be consistent every time in getting out of the greenside bunker, thus increasing your confidence.

Contact me and we can set up a sand lesson for you. Remember, make sand your friend, do not be intimidated!