



DRIVE IT LONGER

with **Tom Stickney**, Bighorn G.C., Palm Desert, Calif. (Top 100 since 2007)



HOW TO DIAL IN YOUR BIG DOG

Here's an easy way to tweak your adjustable driver for max yards

THIS STORY IS FOR YOU IF...

1. YOU WANT MORE DISTANCE.
2. YOU OWN AN ADJUSTABLE DRIVER BUT AREN'T SURE IT'S SET UP CORRECTLY.

THE FAULT

Your driving is inconsistent both in terms of accuracy and distance. You don't have a driver that's optimized for your swing and it makes it difficult for you to strike the ball solidly or produce the proper trajectory and shot shape. You won't ever reach your distance potential until you get your driver fully dialed in to match your swing.

THE FIX

There are a number of drivers available today that allow for on-the-spot adjustments that optimize ballflight and maximize distance and accuracy. I personally use a TaylorMade model, but Titleist, Callaway, and others also produce adjustable drivers. Regardless of which you choose I highly recommend you acquire one of these models and take full advantage of the adjustable design. Here's how to get yours dialed in.

START

Set up on the range and imagine a grid in the sky with nine numbered panes as shown at right. Hit 10 shots with your driver in the stock setting. At the end of 10 balls carefully assess which pane the majority of your shots passed through.

If your shots passed through panes 1, 4 or 7 (too left), or panes 3, 6 or 9 (too right) then you need to adjust the head weights on your driver. Adding weight to the heel will help move shots to the left while adding weight to the toe will help move shots to the right.

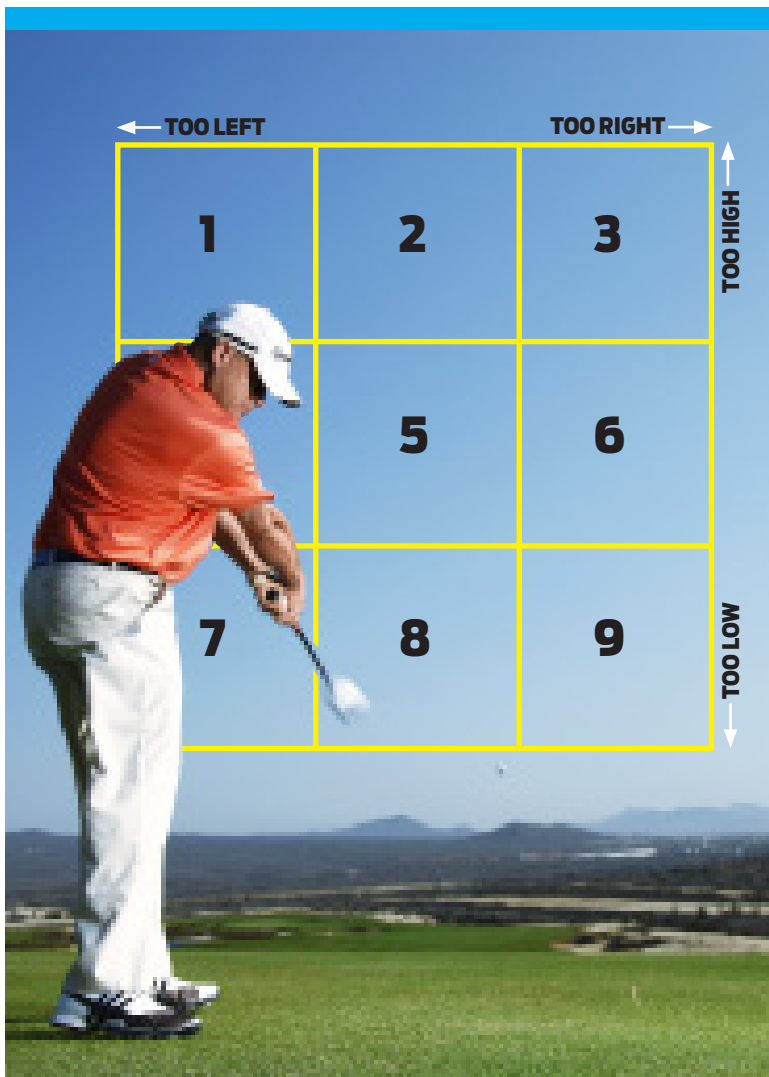


Experiment until you can consistently hit your drives through the 2, 5, or 8 panes.

If your shots passed through panes 1, 2 or 3 (too high), or panes 7, 8 or 9 (too low) you need to adjust the loft, which you do by changing the face angle. To hit the ball higher set the clubface closed (yep—a closed face adds loft). To generate a lower ballflight, set the clubface in the



"open" position. Keep tweaking until your shots consistently fly through panes 4, 5 or 6. Your ultimate goal is to nail pane 5 every time.



WATCH IT!

Learn more about this tip in a special video lesson with Top 100 Teacher **Tom Stickney** on golf.com/power or on our tablet editions.