

“Best excuse for topping: What was that, a pterodactyl that went by?”



5 SIGNS YOU THINK YOU'RE GONNA TOP IT

- 1** You're sweating so hard, they send for a shirt change.
- 2** Those extra waggles say: *I can't hit yet with the crap going on in my brain.*
- 3** Determined to go last, you're running out of things to pretend to stretch.
- 4** Is that a sleeve of mulligans you've got in your pocket?
- 5** You jack the ball up like a 5-year-old playing T-ball.

Topped It!

How to avoid rolling your first shot of the day

Of all the marvelous ways to make a jackass of yourself in golf, the undisputed king is topping it off the first tee. Especially with a bunch of yahoos standing around, or at

your boss's club, or after you've gone on about your new driver fitting. Of course, the ball goes nowhere, so we all get to see the next one, too. *How's that shot off the downslope treating you?*

Two things here. First, worrying that you might roll one only ups your chances of doing it. Second, you can actually top-proof your swing. Understand that something's causing the club to pull up at impact. You're probably standing up to gaze

down the fairway (don't bother, nothing to see there). Or you're so anxious to get it all over with, you never shift off your back foot.

What to do? To stay in your posture, imagine a second ball a few inches in front of the one you're hitting. Swing through both balls. To make sure you shift forward, start the downswing by bumping your hips to right field. Bottom line is, with a decent swing thought to lean on, you can start breathing again.



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