



### BACK TO BASICS

## HIT ANY DRIVE WITH THE RIGHT TEE HEIGHT

By GOLF Top 100 Teacher **Don Sargent**

**ON SOME HOLES** you want to bomb it. On others you're more inclined to play it safer. Whatever the scenario, you can find success simply by changing how high—or low—you peg the ball.

When the long ball beckons, tee the ball way up, with more than half the ball sitting above the crown of your driver. Position the ball off the instep of your front foot. This setup automatically forces you to swing more from the inside-out (i.e., to the right) through impact and hit more up on the ball. The in-out path gives you draw spin. Hit-

ting up launches the ball higher. Together, you can squeeze out 15 to 20 extra yards.

When playing it safe, do the opposite: Tee the ball extra low (about an inch off the ground) and back from normal. Now you're set up to swing outside-in (i.e., left) and on a more level path through impact. Instant, low-flying, easily controlled fade! In the first scenario, aim a little right, and a little left when you go with the fairway finder.

*Don Sargent is the director of instruction at Scioto CC in Columbus, Ohio.*



### I TRIED IT IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FACE

Good players can tell you where on the clubface their shot was struck. (Hint: mostly in the center of the sweet spot.) Higher handicappers often have no idea where they contact the ball. That was me. Common wisdom would say to go see a teacher and work on a launch monitor, and that's great advice. But there's not always time (or budget) for that. Enter **Strike Spray** (\$35 for a 3-pack; [fairwayjockey.com](http://fairwayjockey.com)). It's as simple as it sounds: Apply the white powdery mist to the clubface and hit the ball. With one swing it showed me the point of contact (mine was a little high and a bit toward the toe), informing me instantly on what adjustments I needed to make to find the center more consistently. It's the perfect tool for range sessions in between lessons and rounds—and no more need to trot out my foot spray on the course!  
—*Marley Sims*



Scan the code above to order your cans of **Strike Spray** from GOLF's retail partner [Fairway Jockey.com](http://FairwayJockey.com).