

INSIDE 100 YARDS

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How far does your pitching wedge go with a full swing? How far does your sand wedge go with a half swing? How far does your lob wedge go when you open the club face? If you have a hard time answering these questions, your game inside 100 yards could be a lot better!

I have noticed that many people inside 100 yards try and hit a shot harder or softer, attempting to hit it a certain distance. Many times this equals a short shot dropped into the bunker in front of the pin, or a screaming wedge shot no higher than the flagstick over the green. Why not do a little homework and find out how far your clubs go with a comfortable, repeatable full swing and a comfortable, repeatable half swing. Always hitting the shot with the same tempo, rhythm and umphf (technical term for force!) and changing CLUBS to adjust the distance. This will help you to be more consistent. You could even play around with opening the clubface to get a higher, softer, shorter shot with each of them giving yourself more yardage options.

For example, these are the yardages I have found for myself:

	Full Swing	Half Swing
Lob Wedge- 58 degree	70 yards	30 yards
Sand Wedge-54 degree	80 yards	40 yards
Gap Wedge -50 degree	90 yards	50 yards
Pitching Wedge	100 yards	60 yards

So when I'm on the course, and faced with a touchy 40 yard shot, I am confident that taking a half swing with my sand wedge will be pretty close. And if I have a tricky lie from 70 yards and don't want to take a full swing, I would take a half swing (much easier to control) with a 9 iron. I am able to commit and swing with confidence because I have spent time LEARNING how far my clubs go instead of trying to GET them to go a certain distance!