

# Articles and Tips - The 1\$ Teaching Aid



◀ I love this one dollar teaching aid. I like to use teaching aids some of the time to get my students to feel a swing shape or see a different ball-flight. A simple wooden dowel is one of my favorites and it is about a buck at the hardware store.

This tip will help the over the top player that hits to much ground, divots tend to go left of the target with a ball-flight that pulls to the left and/or slices to the right. Typically the short irons are pulls more to the left and the longer clubs are slicing more to the right.

Let me first explain that the slice is not caused by swinging to the left or over the top, the slice is caused by the club-face being to open. You could not cut across the ball if the club-face is square. As you try this drill if the ball-flight does not draw or hook, the club-face needs some attention with a grip change or with the way the wrists are hinging.

This wooden dowel is a very simple way to cure the over the top move. However, you might need more than one, and I strongly suggest to not try this with an old shaft. If you have some eye protection that might be good idea just in case you happen to shatter the wood.



◀ Tee the balls up in the same place so that the wooden dowel can stay in the same place during the practice. Aim an umbrella or shaft parallel left of the target on your toe line. Stick the wooden dowel in the ground behind the ball as if to aim it straight over the ball to the target, but angle the dowel off to the right 30 degrees. The ball would be teed up under the dowel only if it was pointed straight to the target. Last but not least have the dowel angled up about 8 to 10 inches off the ground in relation to the ball.

Now the easy part, just hit balls until the club can swing without the wooden dowel being part of the impact. This will help to fix those deep divots and create a feel of a more inside out path and ball-flights that draw. ▶

