



TAKE THE HEARTBREAK OUT OF YOUR BREAKING PUTTS

Question: Johnny, I struggle with severe breaking putts, both right-to-left and left-to-right. I hit them high enough and borrow enough, but they reach the “break point”, then swerve past the hole, and I’m left with a difficult “come-backer” uphill, and breaking the opposite way. I then take something off the next one, and leave it short and to the “amateur side”! Help!!

Response:

First: be open-minded about my fix as I’m going to ask you to open the blade on right-to-left breakers as indicated below in picture 1.



Close it on left-to-righties as shown in picture 2 above. This will apply slight slice and hook-spin to the ball, thus negating the severity of the slope. You’ll not only make a few this way, but more importantly, the next one will be a tap-in. Be patient as you hone the skill.

There will be times when you move the strike more to-the-toe, as indicated in picture 3



or to-the-heel as pictured above in picture 4, thus having the toe or the heel cover for you, again insuring that the putt will not get away from you.

Be patient; practice, and use this technique for “breakers” only.



Picture 5 shows normal face-to-ball relationship. As always, pay attention to ball position, stop switching putters, and check the putter length and loft frequently. Good luck!



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Hope this article helps in the spirit of Bob Kramer: long time friend, teacher and PGA Pro.