

*Golf instruction is ever evolving, but the best advice stands the test of time. In GOLF.com's new series, Timeless Tips, we're highlighting some of the greatest advice teachers and players have graced the pages of GOLF Magazine. Today, we have **10 Pace of Play** tips from our March, 2023 issue.*

Slow play is one of the cardinal sins of golf. Give yourself a putt outside the leather? Sure. Show up a couple minutes after your tee time? Okay. Use a foot wedge in the trees? Not the end of the world. But if you play slowly, you'll be sure to hear about it.

No one wants to be stuck waiting before every shot they hit. It makes it difficult to get into a rhythm and your score will suffer because of it. Golf is already hard enough — there's no need to handicap other players by taking five minutes to line up a three-footer for triple bogie.

If you or someone you know is a constantly falling behind pace, it might be time for an intervention. Below are the 10 tips on [how to speed up](#) on the course. Apply them selectively or all at once. All that matters is that you keep up your pace. Everyone on the course will thank you.

10 Pace-of-Play Tips

Hey, nothing personal, but you guys are killin' us here. And there's no excuse for it. "Us" is the noble fraternity of players who know how to navigate a golf course with proper dispatch. "You" are the others — the nameless, faceless, foot-dragging jabronis who are holding us "UP". We know you're not doing it on purpose. You want to do the right thing — at least most of you. And the good news is, this isn't brain surgery. All it takes is some common sense — and common courtesy. So, listen UP. Come to think of it, do everything UP.

1. Wake Up

Be ready when it's your turn. And that means "**Ready To Hit**", not ready to perform some kind of pre-swing mumbo jumbo.

2. Step Up

If you're ready but your partners are still fumbling around, take the lead and let er rip — especially if you're a shorter hitter and don't have to wait for the players ahead to clear.

3. Heads Up

Keep an eagle eye not only on your own wayward shots but on those of your partners. Then, whenever possible, "HUSTLE" to that area to start looking for ball(s).

4. Suck It Up

Don't search forever. Three (3) minutes is legal, two (2) minutes is considerate and one minute is perfect.

5. Sharpen Up

If your game is built around ground balls, scattered shots and four-putts, spend more time practicing.

6. Line Up before your turn

To three-putt is forgivable...to three-putt slowly is not.

7. Get Up and out of the cart

Don't simply sit there while your partner is playing. Go to your ball and be ready to **Wake Up**. And park smart: Never backtrack from ball to cart.

8. Pick Up

When your score hits triple bogey, pick up and move on.

9. Keep Up

Stay on the butts of the foursome in front of you and you'll never take any crap from those of us behind you.

10. Learn the Rules

If you must invoke Penalties or Rules, know what they are and do it quickly.

