

Common Golf Terminology

Basic Terms

- **Par:** The number of strokes a skilled golfer should take to complete a hole.
- **Birdie:** One stroke under par for a hole.
- **Eagle:** Two strokes under par for a hole.
- **Bogey:** One stroke over par for a hole.
- **Double Bogey:** Two strokes over par for a hole.
- **Triple Bogey:** Three strokes over par for a hole.

Types of Shots

- **Drive:** A long shot from the tee, usually with a driver.
- **Putt:** A shot played on the green, usually with a putter.
- **Chip:** A short shot typically played from close to the green.
- **Pitch:** A shot with a high trajectory, usually played with a wedge, aimed to land softly on the green.
- **Sand Shot/Bunker Shot:** A shot played from a sand trap.

Course Features

- **Fairway:** The well-maintained area between the tee and the green.
- **Green:** The area of closely mowed grass surrounding the hole.
- **Rough:** The areas of longer grass bordering the fairway.
- **Bunker:** A sand trap on the course.
- **Hazard:** Any bunker or water feature on the course.

Clubs

- **Driver:** A club used for long-distance shots from the tee.
- **Iron:** Clubs numbered 1-9 used for a variety of shots.
- **Wedge:** Clubs designed for short approach shots and shots from sand.
- **Putter:** A club used for rolling the ball on the green.

Scoring

- **Handicap:** A numerical measure of a golfer's potential ability.
- **Stroke Play:** A scoring method where the total number of strokes taken over a round or series of rounds determines the winner.
- **Match Play:** A scoring method where the player or team with the most hole victories wins.

Miscellaneous

- **Tee:** The small stand used to hold the ball off the ground for the first stroke of each hole.
- **Tee Box:** The area where the first stroke of each hole is played.
- **Green Fee:** The cost to play a round of golf.
- **Fore:** A warning shouted to alert others of a potentially errant shot.
- **Caddie:** A person who carries a player's clubs and offers advice.

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