

CLUB SELECTION: DISTANCE TO BE HIT VERSUS ACTUALLY HIT				
CLUB	NUMBER OF SHOTS	DISTANCE TO BE HIT	DISTANCE ACTUALLY HIT	AVE. DIFF
DRIVER	70	MAXIMUM	208	N. A.
3-W	31	209	199	-10
5-W	14	203	191	-12
3	6	196	182	-14
4	8	187	178	-09
5	9	175	166	-11
6	7	166	155	-10
7	7	153	143	-10
8	8	142	132	-10
9	6	129	117	-12
10 PW	10	118	110	-08
SAND WEDGE	5	86	79	-07

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Based on watching amateurs select clubs during Pro-Am's, Tour players say that the biggest problem they see with amateurs is a strong tendency to overestimate how far they hit a ball with a given club. While golfers see how far they hit each shot, they do not record and summarize data over many shots with that same golf club. As a result, their feedback is flawed.

Here is what causes a change in club selection. We have the golfer record data on each shot as to the distance to be hit and the distance actually hit. The golfer manually or with the aid of a computer reassembles all the data for a given club and calculates the average distance to the targets and the actual distance hit. The golfer then gets data on the difference between the two, which usually shows actual shots traveling a shorter average distance than the golfer predicted.

This usually causes golfers to select a longer club for the same distance. The golfer should continue collecting this data periodically to keep from slipping back into the "under clubbing" behavior.

Golf professionals on a tour and serious amateurs should consider recording data in addition to the distance, such as the type of lie, wind speed, wind direction and uphill, downhill and side hill conditions for the lie and the target.