

NEW WEDGES

**TESTED
& PASSED**

By Wayne Williams with Kartik Rajendran

AS THE DAYS GET SHORTER

and shorter, a little time at the chipping green might be easier to pull off than a full day on the links. If your old sand wedge is too weathered to make it through another season, maybe it's time to weigh your options and treat yourself for the holidays. Before you go rushing into the pro shop, take a minute and check out our latest recommendations. >>



THE TEST

GolfTest USA recently tested 23 wedge models. We will report on a sampling of 10 wedges. The testers, average golfers with handicaps ranging from 5 to 25, were asked to rate each wedge using several criteria on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being the best possible score. Each golfer hit shots out of the sand, from the fairway and out of the rough with each wedge. Test administrators then rated each shot on a scale of 1 to 10, as well as the control and accuracy they felt each golfer displayed with each club during the test. Those ratings were then combined with the golfers' own rankings to determine the final results for each wedge. The overall average is a compilation of all categories combined. **GI**

Distance – Testers rated how far they hit each wedge.

Control – Players assessed the control they experienced with each wedge.

Accuracy – The accuracy of the wedge was rated.

Forgiveness – Golfers judged how forgiving each wedge was on off-center hits.

Sound – Each tester ranked the sound of the wedge at impact.

Appearance – This rating was based on how appealing the look of the club was to the tester.

Feel – Testers were asked to rate how each wedge felt during the swing.

Ball Flight – Testers rated how the ball came off the club.

Recommendation To Others – This was based on how strongly the tester would recommend the wedge to a friend.

Overall Testers' Rating – Testers were asked to rate each wedge by what they feel are the most important factors to them. (This is not an average of other criteria).

For results of all 23 wedges tested, visit www.golftestusa.com. Included in the test were the Alpha Pro Tour, Callaway X Tour, MacGregor Easy Out, MacGregor Tour, KZG Forged, Magique LBS, TechPower BlueCarbon, TechPower TP-07, PureSpin 8620, PureSpin PS-3, Adams Puglielli, Tour Edge Bazooka JMAX, Feel Dart, Mizuno MP-T, Ben Hogan Apex, Ping MB, Nickent ARC, Wilson Staff Fw6, DeLaCruz Wolfram, Yonex Cyberstar, Solus RD, Nike SV Tour and Sonartec Proto t35.

Callaway X Tour



DESIGN NOTES: Forged from soft 1020 carbon steel and with a satin chrome finish, the X Tour wedge features the special Phil Mickelson grind and "Mack Daddy" grooves and has eight bounce/loft angle combinations. The new enhanced shaping provides for true feel and touch around the greens.

Distance	8.3
Control	8.3
Accuracy	8.3
Forgiveness	8.2
Sound	8.3
Appearance	8.3
Feel	8.2
Ball Flight	8.3
Recommend	8.3
Overall Testers' Rating	8.4

CALLAWAY
1-800-588-9836
www.callawaygolf.com

Overall Average
8.3

Mizuno MP-T



DESIGN NOTES: Similar to any Mizuno wedge, the MP-T utilizes the patented Grain Flow Forging process to offer a solid and consistent feel. Computer-milled, deep U grooves provide for optimum spin and a lie-responsive sole design for consistent ball striking from any lie.

Distance	8.4
Control	8.5
Accuracy	8.4
Forgiveness	8.3
Sound	8.2
Appearance	8.5
Feel	8.4
Ball Flight	8.3
Recommend	8.6
Overall Testers' Rating	8.5

MIZUNO
1-800-966-1211
www.mizunousa.com

Overall Average
8.4

Feel Dart



DESIGN NOTES: These sleek, patented wedges are identical in both feel and consistency. Ideal for overall improvement in the all-around short game, the Dart's sole design reduces thin and fat shots and immensely strengthens solid bunker play.

Distance	8.2
Control	8.2
Accuracy	8.3
Forgiveness	8.1
Sound	8.1
Appearance	8.2
Feel	8.3
Ball Flight	8.2
Recommend	8.2
Overall Testers' Rating	8.3

FEEL GOLF
(831) 647-3110
www.feelwedg.com

Overall Average
8.2

Nickent ARC



DESIGN NOTES: Similar to a corked baseball bat, the ARC wedge houses a high-rebound elastomer inside. The Accelerated Rebound Core (ARC) technology positions the elastomer directly behind the strike zone and delivers a solid reaction from the face to the ball, while simultaneously eliminating vibration.

Distance	8.0
Control	7.9
Accuracy	7.9
Forgiveness	8.1
Sound	8.0
Appearance	7.9
Feel	8.0
Ball Flight	8.1
Recommend	7.9
Overall Testers' Rating	7.9

NICKENT
1-888-NICKENT
www.nickentgolf.com

Overall Average
8.0



Yonex Cyberstar

DESIGN NOTES: Pinpoint accuracy and versatile shot-making potential highlight the Cyberstar forged wedge. Composed of forged carbon steel, this club offers the unique feel preferred by many tour-caliber golfers. The “raw finish” clubface provides for a smooth and solid impact.

Distance	8.2
Control	8.2
Accuracy	8.1
Forgiveness	8.2
Sound	8.1
Appearance	8.3
Feel	8.1
Ball Flight	8.1
Recommend	8.3
Overall Testers' Rating	8.1

YONEX
1-800-44-YONEX
www.yonex.com

Overall
Average

8.2



Solus RD

DESIGN NOTES: The Solus wedge offers total bounce control from almost any lie. By simply opening the clubface and exposing the two 18-degree bounce surfaces, this wedge is designed to help achieve a better setup and play by giving you the appropriate bounce required for bunker shots or square-faced shots from tight and downhill lies.

Distance	8.0
Control	8.1
Accuracy	8.2
Forgiveness	8.1
Sound	8.2
Appearance	7.9
Feel	8.1
Ball Flight	8.2
Recommend	8.1
Overall Testers' Rating	8.0

SOLUS
1-866-GO-SOLUS
www.solusgolf.com

Overall
Average

8.1



MacGregor Tour

DESIGN NOTES: The deep head with a semi-square toe provides the MacGregor Tour wedge with a larger hitting zone and better workability. The slightly arched sole with rolled leading and trailing edges reduces bounce, while the absence of sharp edges lowers digging and allows for more clean, open clubface shots.

Distance	8.3
Control	8.2
Accuracy	8.1
Forgiveness	8.2
Sound	8.2
Appearance	8.1
Feel	8.2
Ball Flight	8.1
Recommend	8.2
Overall Testers' Rating	8.3

MACGREGOR
1-800-841-4358
www.macgregorgolf.com

Overall
Average

8.2



Wilson Staff
Fw6 Forged

DESIGN NOTES: The Fw6 Forged wedge features the fluid feel bore-through shaft that shifts weight to provide the most fluid feel and response. The 8620 carbon steel endows this wedge with the ultimate in feel and shot feedback. Control and accuracy are further enhanced with the tour-proven True Temper Dynamic Gold Shaft in a .355 taper tip.

Distance	8.1
Control	8.0
Accuracy	8.1
Forgiveness	8.2
Sound	8.1
Appearance	8.0
Feel	8.2
Ball Flight	8.2
Recommend	8.1
Overall Testers' Rating	8.1

WILSON STAFF
(773) 714-6400
www.wilsongolf.com

Overall
Average

8.1



Nike
SV Tour

DESIGN NOTES: The SV wedges effectively fuse the super-soft 8620 carbon steel, Computer Numerically Controlled (CNC) milled flat face and engraved U/V scoring grooves to make the ultimate short-game club. The high-flex Dynamic Gold steel shaft is intended for players seeking a low, deep ball flight for maximum control and accuracy.

Distance	8.2
Control	8.2
Accuracy	8.1
Forgiveness	8.3
Sound	8.2
Appearance	8.3
Feel	8.2
Ball Flight	8.2
Recommend	8.3
Overall Testers' Rating	8.3

NIKE
1-888-799-6453
www.nikegolf.com

Overall
Average

8.2



PING
MB

DESIGN NOTES: The mid-bounce (M/B) angle and variable-width sole design make this wedge ideal for any surface and swing type. An elongated cavity with a Custom Tuning Port (CTP) offers forgiveness and swing-weight adjustability. Feedback is enhanced as the walls of the CTP control clubface vibration.

Distance	8.3
Control	8.4
Accuracy	8.3
Forgiveness	8.4
Sound	8.3
Appearance	8.2
Feel	8.4
Ball Flight	8.3
Recommend	8.5
Overall Testers' Rating	8.4

PING
1-800-44-PING-FIT
www.pinggolf.com

Overall
Average

8.4