Face To Path



Face to path is the difference between the face angle and the club path

For a right-handed golfer, a negative face to path would represent a face angle that is "closed" to the path and a positive face to path would represent a face angle that is "open" to the path. A zero face to path represents a face angle and club path that have the same value.

Face to path is a key factor in determining the expected curvature (spin axis) of a golf shot. Assuming centered contact, the ball should curve towards the face angle and away from the club path (if face to path is not equal to zero).

Note that face to path is relative to the face angle and club path. It is not relative to the target line. A face to path of zero could be +5, 0, -5, or any other value relative to the target line. The zero face to path only represents the difference between where the club is moving horizontally (club path) and where the club face is pointed horizontally (face angle).

Technical Definition:

Face to Path – The angle difference between FACE ANGLE and CLUB PATH as defined (FACE ANGLE minus CLUB PATH).

A positive face to path means the face is pointed to the right of the club path regardless of dexterity A negative face to path means the face is pointed to the left of the club path regardless of dexterity

Face to Path Examples (assuming centered contact)

PGA TOUR Driver (275 yard carry)

-2 degree face to path ≈ 19 yards of left curvature

5 degree face to path ≈ 44 yards of right curvature

PGA TOUR 6-iron (183 yard carry)

2 degree face to path ≈ 8 yards of right curvature

-5 degree face to path ≈ 20 yards of left curvature

5 degree face to path ≈ 14 yards of right curvature

The standard assumption for face to path is zero for all clubs. It is a standard assumption that the ball starts straight at the target and has no curvature (zero spin axis).