

How To Correctly Repair A Ball Mark

Repairing a ball mark on a green takes seconds, but can save weeks of healing to the turf. It's an important thing to do for the course and for the golfers who follow you. Repairing those little depressions is very important. Equally important is doing it the right way. While many golfers fail to repair ball marks (a major no-no), there are also many well-meaning golfers who do "repair" ball marks only to do so incorrectly.

A ball mark can cause the grass in the depression to die, leaving not just a scar but also a pit in the putting surface that can knock well-struck putts offline. Repairing a ball mark restores a smooth surface and helps keep the grass healthy. But "repairing" a ball mark incorrectly can actually cause more damage than not attempting to repair it at all.

You not only should always repair your ball marks, but, time permitting, you should repair any other ball marks you see, too.



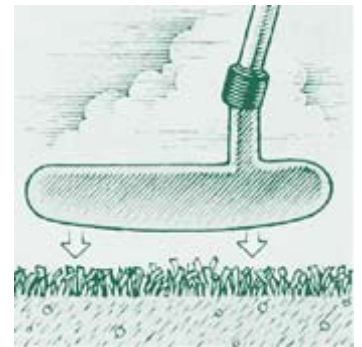
Use a ball mark repair tool (sometimes called a divot repair tool or greens repair tool) whenever possible. They don't cost much so please buy one.



Insert the repair tool at the edge of the ball mark. Do NOT insert the tool under the indented area and push up - a common mistake.



Bring the edges together with a gentle twisting motion, but don't lift the center. Try not to tear the grass.



Smooth the surface with a club or foot. You're done when it's a surface that you would putt over.