

ESPN Golf.

Lower Your Score With Tom Kite: Shot Making

Every now and then you come across a product or idea makes you think "I wish this was around 10 years ago!" The ESPN Golf series is just such a product. The first thing that should be mentioned is that this is not a game. If you are looking to play a round on a cold December night, you will have to look elsewhere. If you are looking to improve your golf game, keep reading.

ESPN has teamed up with pro golfs leading money winner, Tom Kite and internationally known sports psychologist Dr. Bob Rotella to give you your own private coaching staff. In this three disc volume, you are walked through stroke-saving shots, sand shots, trouble and special shots. In the companion volume, "The Full Swing and Putting" other aspects of the game are covered.

Over the years, I have taken "live" golf lessons, read books, and watched videos in the quest for an improved golf game. While obviously the best, "live" lessons are expensive and hard to come by. Books are helpful but they don't show movement. Videos are better, but they tend to be difficult to use due to the linear character of the medium. If you want to find and review a certain shot, you have to hunt back and forth to find the correct location on the tape. After comparing past experiences with this title, all I can say is "thank you". Not only can I access any topic I want in any order, I can see the mechanics of the swing, and receive insights from one of the games great players.

This title takes full advantage of the 3DO player's unique capabilities. By combining live action video and graphics, Tom teaches you how to save strokes and improve your game. I constantly found my self in front of the T.V. set, golf club in hand, thinking "that's why it went in the woods"! This is a great off season learning tool, just remember, golf is an outdoor game, try not to swing the club into anything nearby. You will notice that little is said about using the title. This due to the fact that it is simple to use. Navigating through the title was easily accomplished due in part to the simple point and click interface. A step by step explanation is not needed.

Keep in mind, this is a three disk set, the volume of material covered is impressive. From Pitch Shots from the Rough to Bump and Runs, disks one and two cover just about any situation you may encounter. The third disk contains the "Ask the Pro" section of the title. This section provides interactive "how to" coaching which allows you to ask Tom almost any question about your shooting game. This section also allows you to receive insights from sports psychologist Dr. Bob Rotella. Golf is known to be one of the most mentally demanding sports. A proper mental attitude is key to successful play. Here Dr. Rotella provides invaluable advice on how to stay focused and how to handle difficult situations on the course from a psychological perspective. Users will find this to be an treasure chest of insight and advice that will help their game in unexpected ways.

From the rough to the green this title has it all. If you or someone you know is looking for a powerful learning tool that will help lower your score, check out the ESPN Golf series. If only this was around 10 years ago!