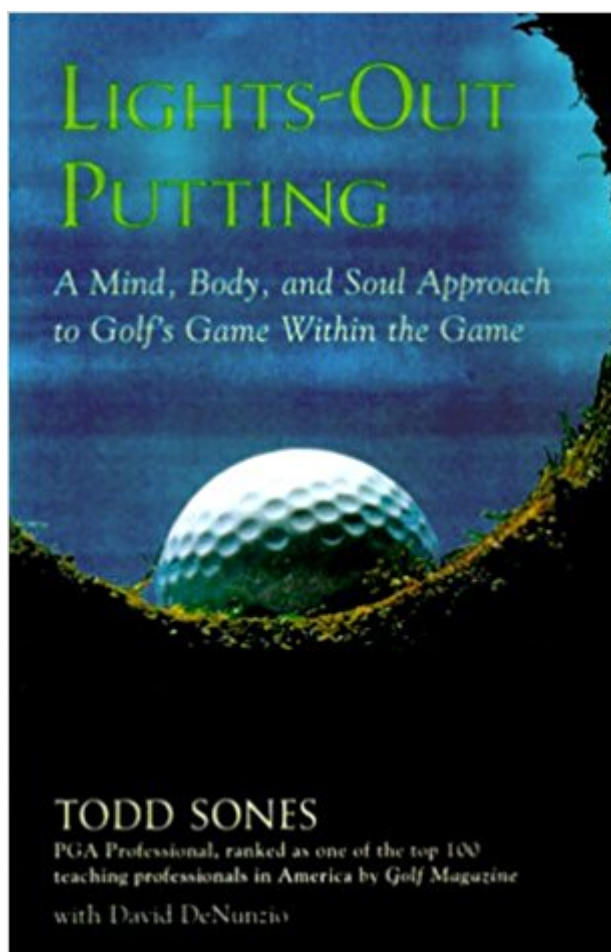


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# Lights-Out Putting : A Mind, Body, And Soul Approach To Golf's Game Within The Game



## Synopsis

"Todd Sones understands there is much more to being a great putter than a good stroke. In his book, you will find the knowledge of not only the stroke but also the setup, equipment, and mindset that will enable you to become the best putter you can be." -- Scott McCarron, Two-time winner on the PGA Tour, ranked 4th in putting on the PGA Tour in 1999 "Todd teaches the fundamentals of putting as simply and uncomplicated as anyone I've met. He understands the cause of what keeps people from putting their best and has the ability to communicate in a way that insures success." -- Robert Gamez, Two-time winner on the PGA Tour "I have had the privilege of working with Todd Sones for the last eight years. His simple and fundamental approach has been a great asset to me, and it will work for you. His book will enlighten you on how to improve your putting and lower your scores." -- Bill Harmon, Director of Big Horn Golf Club, Palm Desert, California, and one of Golf Magazine's Top 100 Teachers in America "Improved putting is the quickest and easiest path to lower scores. Golfers who really want to improve this part of their game can learn a lot from Todd Sones's approach. He covers all aspects of successful putting, including how to putt with a winning attitude, which is as critical as picking the right speed on a putt." -- Mike McGetrick, McGetrick Golf Academy, 1999 National PGA Teacher of the Year

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The man who can put is a match for anyone." -- Willie Park Jr., Two-time British Open champion  
Most golfers know the truth in that statement. Good putting can salvage a round of indifferent play from the tee and fairway or, conversely, faulty putting can ruin a great round of ball striking. Despite

its apparent simplicity and humble exterior, putting might be the most difficult aspect of golf to master. When you think back to your best rounds, it is likely that your putting fueled your success; you made everything in sight and it seemed easy. Unfortunately, for most amateurs those days are few and far between. But there is no reason why it has to be that way. In *Lights-Out Putting: A Mind, Body, and Soul Approach to Golf's Game Within the Game*, Todd Sones--ranked as one of the top 100 teaching professionals in America by Golf Magazine--shares his secrets to success on the green. Sones has used the instruction offered on the pages of this book with amateur students as well as PGA Tour players. *Lights-Out Putting* teaches not just the proper fundamentals but also the mindset of a great putter--a lights-out putter. It teaches you how to enjoy the task of putting and to shift your focus toward the many putts you make in a given round--not the ones that lip out or go screaming past the hole. In this book you will learn the elements of a proper setup and--more important--the intangible asset known as feel, which enables a player to consistently gauge how hard or soft to hit a given putt. Sones also covers topics such as how to find the right putter for your setup, reading greens, prestroke routine and strategy, tactics, and practice drills. Beautifully illustrated with instructional photographs and sidebars, this complete book on putting will help all readers--from scratch player to high handicapper--develop their most critical ingredient to lower scoring.

Todd Sones has earned a reputation as one of the most knowledgeable teaching professionals in the United States, with such noted clients as Robert Gamez and Scott McCarron. His articles have appeared in several national golf publications, including Golf Magazine. He has appeared on the Golf Channels "Golf Academy Live" with Peter Kessler. David DeNunzio is the editor of Golf Tips magazine and has collaborated with such notable instructors as T. J. Tomasi and Joe Thiel.

This book has clarified the remaining loose ends I had in my putting. I have been bouncing around with styles and putting keys for 45 years and have been an average putter relative to the rest of my game; I have been between a 1 and 5 hcp over the years. The advice per arm stroke and tempo ideas coupled with alignment, i.e. hands below shoulders, eyes over ball, etc. have filled in the blanks once and for all. I was touting another putting guru at a USGA Mid Am qualifying round awhile back and another fellow recommended this book. There was something about his confident enthusiasm that caused me to go ahead and order the book, to take a chance so to speak. I'm glad I was paying attention.----- "Lights-Out?"..... More like 'Lights-On' in my case. And, the author wrote it in such a simple and easy to understand style. Says so much with an economy of

words. This is good writing, good teaching, the final word on putting in my relatively learned opinion.

This book is an easy read written for all types of players. You'll love this book because it has a few different approaches or methods of putting, so you're sure to find something in here that fits your style. Took me from averaging 28 puts a round to 25. Best part is I believe that I am a great putter now. Pick up this book you won't regret it.

I've only read and practiced the advice in the first three chapters, but I've already seen improvement in my putting. Having confidence in my setup does seem to produce results. Todd Sones' advice to position your hand underneath your shoulder appears to work best if you have a straight arm without an elbow. If you have an elbow, the arm's center of mass seems to force the hand slightly ahead of the shoulder, if you let the arm hang naturally. Also, the front-view photos of different grips on page 18 aren't sufficient to understand what the text refers to. But these are quibbles that don't prevent this book from getting five stars from me.

Needed a more detailed book on stroke mechanics on the green. Especially on how to pick the right putter between the four styles mentioned in this book. The 2nd interest was how to read the greens.

Todd Sones' book is right up there with the greatest putting books of all time -- George Low's *The Master of Putting*, Dave Stockton's *Putt to Win*, and Arnold Palmer's *Complete Book of Putting*. Sones is two-time Illinois PGA Teacher of the year and a Golf Magazine Top 100 Teacher in America. Like Rik DeGunther in his *Art and Science of Putting*, Sones tells you what works best and how you can do it. The writing is clear, and the explanation suits the general golfing public. This book is much better than a book like Dave Pelz's *Putting Bible*, where you get tons of stats about how average putters don't putt so well, and next to nothing actually useful by way of HOW to putt (other than to buy Pelz's gizmos). Sones goes to the heart of the matter every time, teaching the optimal techniques in terms the average golfer can apply daily. That's what teaching is really all about! Great job, Todd! ...

Does a good job of covering both mechanics and psychology of putting. Touches on a lot of aspects of putting that other books don't, or maybe I should say that the way in which the author discusses subjects such as ball position, alignment, etc. is better at anticipating problems average golfers

encounter when trying to follow the standard advice than many other books I have read. I had bought Dave Pelz' Putting Bible earlier, thinking that would be the only book I would ever have to buy on putting, but was quite disappointed in the approach of that book. Sone's book gives much more useful information. At the same time, it is a concise, quick read, and is arranged in a way that makes it easy to go back to certain chapters at a later date for a refresher. Highly recommended.

The book only contains very very basic stuff. There is only a very poor analysis of different grips' plusses and minusses and very poor (to no) instruction on how to actually do each kind of grip. The different schools of how to make a putting stroke are weakly compared and explained (for some strange reason author Todd Sones didn't feel any need to explain or discuss the stroke type that is most widely accepted as being the "correct" one namely the pendulum stroke!!!!. There is no real analysis (numerical or "scientific") of how the ball rolls or behaves on the green. Green reading instructions and concepts are weak weak weak... It seems like he just summarized a few starters articles about putting and threw in a few references to some pros' putting technique. What a waste of money and time! If you want to learn how to really improve your putting and learn the proper and correct technique forget this book. If you want to learn how to master the mind's game of golf forget about this book too and get "zen golf" (which is very good and intelligent). Peltz might be an alternative if you can stand his manic habit of endlessly repeating himself (which I can't)...

This is an absolutely fabulous little book about putting. From choosing the right putter to holing more of the nasty, little three-footers--and everything in between--the author writes in a clear, easy-to-understand manner about all you need to know about golf's "game-within-a-game." This is no high-tech, mumbo-jumbo treatise, rather it's a simple, even approach to what is a simple physical exercise. The photographs complement the text perfectly. It's a pity everyone can't take a lesson from Todd Sones. I can understand why he's in such demand from magazines, television, and touring professionals. Read this book and you'll begin holing more putts--just like I did. Highly recommended.

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