9-Ball-Flight D-Plane Diagnostic Matrix

Companion Reference Sheet for: Club Path and Face Angle: Diagnose Starting Direction
Save this PDF to your phone or print a copy for field reference. Verify room measurements and manufacturer specs before buying or mounting equipment.

Key Takeaways

- **The face angle is the main clue to starting direction.** The club path helps explain the curve by showing how the face is oriented relative to the swing direction.
- **Read the shot in order:** note where it starts, identify whether it curves left or right, then compare face angle with club path.
- **A ball flight pattern cannot give you a precise club path reading.** Use impact data to confirm the delivery pattern, and check strike location if the curve looks unexpected.
- **There is no single ideal path number for every golfer or club.** Focus on a repeatable start line and a face to path relationship that creates the shot you intend.
- **Check your monitor's target line and handedness settings.** Sign conventions and screen orientation can change how left and right appear in the readings.
- For device features and club data, start with our guide to launch monitor metrics.

What Face Angle and Club Path Measure

How face angle and club path can combine to shape a shot

Face angle	Club path	Face to path	Likely pattern
0°	0°	0°	Starts near the target and flies relatively straight
Plus 2°	Plus 5°	Minus 3°	Push draw, starts right and curves left
Plus 3°	Plus 1°	Plus 2°	Push fade, starts right and curves farther right
Minus 2°	Minus 5°	Plus 3°	Pull fade, starts left and curves right
Minus 3°	Minus 1°	Minus 2°	Pull draw, starts left and curves farther left

Read Launch Monitor Data Without Chasing One Number

Examples of launch monitor features and setup specifications

Monitor	Documented details	How it relates to diagnosis
Garmin Approach R10	Portable radar; setup guidance places it 6 to 8 feet behind the ball and at least 8 feet from ball to net indoors; up to 10 hours of battery life	Use the app's available fields and setup guidance when reviewing directional patterns.
Rapsodo MLM2PRO	Radar and two optical cameras; 15 listed metrics, including 8 measured metrics	The manufacturer's listed metrics include club path; the club data workflow uses handedness settings.

Monitor	Documented details	How it relates to diagnosis
FlightScope Mevo Gen2	Fusion Tracking combines radar and optics; the documented core package includes 20 data parameters; indoor setup calls for 8 feet behind the ball and 8 feet of limited ball flight	Use the exact model's displayed club fields when interpreting an indoor session.
SkyTrak+	Photometric tracking plus dual Doppler radar	Review the club and ball data available in the selected practice workflow.
Bushnell Launch Pro	Three camera launch monitor for indoor and outdoor use	Use its club and ball readings together rather than treating one field as a full diagnosis.
Uneekor EYE MINI CORE	Two camera, ground based launch monitor; club data requires paid access and club stickers	Include club data access in the workflow you plan to use for diagnosis.

Practice Checklist

- ☐ ☐ Confirm the target line and monitor alignment.
- ☐ ☐ Set the correct handedness in the monitor or app.
- ☐ ☐ Record whether the ball starts left or right before naming the curve.
- ☐ ☐ Compare face angle with club path to interpret face to path.
- ☐ ☐ Check strike location when the observed curve conflicts with the readings.
- ☐ ☐ Look for a repeated pattern before changing your setup or swing.
- ☐ ☐ Change one variable at a time, then compare the next group of shots.

See also: launch monitor buying guides, ball speed vs club speed.

Published by Launch Monitor Pro (launchmonitorpro.com), a publication of Viking Trading Group LLC.

Source URL: https://launchmonitorpro.com/club-path-and-face-angle-diagnose-starting-direction/