

The Loneliness of Fred Couples

P.78

THE GOLF MAGAZINE INTERVIEW by Cameron Morfit

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WILSON 2009
PRODUCTS

Drivers

- **New** Smooth (\$349, graphite)
- Spine (\$299, graphite)

Fairway woods

- **New** Spine (\$169, graphite)
- Fybrid fairway utilities (\$149, graphite)

Hybrids

- Fybrid fairway utilities (\$149, graphite)

Irons

- **New** Di9 (\$549, steel; \$699, graphite)
- **New** Fg59 (\$899, steel)
- C17 (\$499, steel; \$599, graphite)
- P17 (\$599, steel)

Wedges

- **New** Tw9 (\$99, steel)

Putters

- 88 Series (\$89)

Di9 irons

Mid+
High

\$549, steel; \$699, graphite

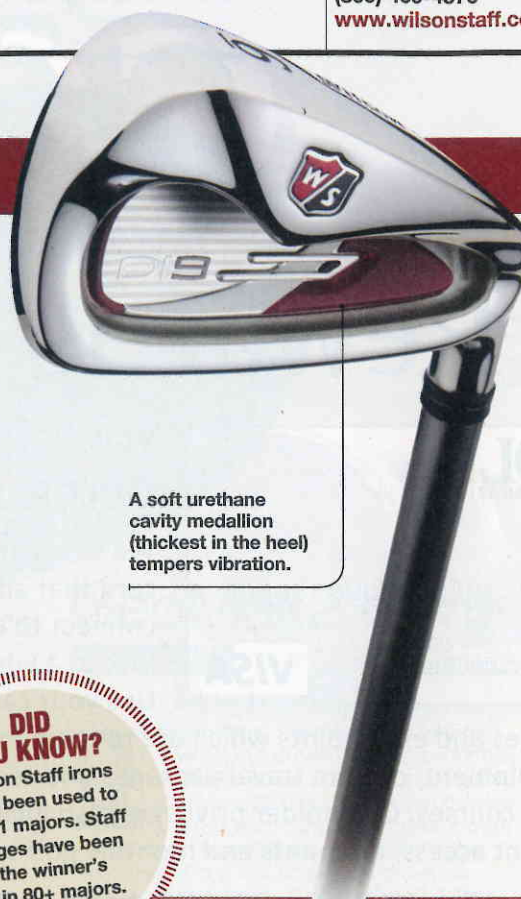
It's for: Mid- and high-handicappers



Drew Tryner, Industrial Designer/Global Golf: "The genesis for Di9 came before I graduated the Industrial Design program at Arizona State.

I spent so many hours at school designing, conceptualizing and building new product models, but nothing compares to the sense of accomplishment I got from watching my first product go into mass production and, ultimately, into the global marketplace."

How it works: Wilson's highest-MOI iron has plenty of head stability due to a clever cavity design (the sweet spot extends toward the toe) and the firm's lightest (99 gram), wide-tip shaft. The Di9 has a low-profile design and wide sole (lower center of gravity), so shots get up on a high flight. The thin, hot clubface is engineered to create extra ball speed. Loft increments of 3.5 degrees between clubs (including two Gap wedges) should improve distance gapping in scoring irons.



A soft urethane cavity medallion (thickest in the heel) tempers vibration.

DID YOU KNOW?
Wilson Staff irons have been used to win 61 majors. Staff wedges have been in the winner's bag in 80+ majors.



Internal weighting varies by loft, to achieve specific performance.

Smooth driver

\$349, graphite

All

It's for: All skill levels



Bob Thurman, Director of R&D/Global Golf: "We initiated Project 'River Stone' to explore an organic driver shape (the opposite of the current trend of radical geometry, high-MOI driver designs).

We want it to appeal to a traditional player while concealing the engine that drives low center of gravity (CG) and high MOI."

How it works: The 8° and 9° are crafted for better players (they're more workable) while the 10.5° and 12° are for less-skilled types (they're more forgiving). Added mass low and farther rearward in the higher lofts means increased MOI and more built-in forgiveness. Shifting a club's CG back also increases [dynamic] loft as you swing. The face has varying thicknesses to pump up ball speed on off-center hits. The Fujikura Fit-On E100 shaft (for slower swingers) has a flexible tip to increase launch and add spin. The Fit-On E300 is for stronger, faster swingers who benefit from less spin and mid launch conditions.

Low

Low+
Mid

Mid

Mid+
High

High

All

HANDICAP KEY:

Go to golf.com/buyersguide for Wilson Golf's latest women's clubs.

CUSTOM CORNER

Dynafit carts and bags are in 600 accounts throughout the U.S. Carts have 20 irons, 6 FYbrids and 4 wedges. (It's not a connector-based system.) Dynafit determines lie, length and shaft flex (based on tempo and swing speed). Fitters can also do long-game (FYbrids) and short game (wedge) fittings.

Wilson's Dynafit system has an easy-to-use online tool (based on static measurements) to determine the 12 clubs between driver and putter. Complete a six-question quiz to find your best iron model (6-iron to PW). Then answer a few additional questions for wedge and FYbrid referrals.



Fg59 irons

\$899, steel



It's for: Low handicappers



Jon Pergande, Director, Club R&D/Global Golf: "Development of the Fg59 Blade took me back to the first experiences in my Wilson career, where I learned craftsmanship under the tutelage of industry legend Bob Mendralla. I fully embrace the use of CAD (computer aided design) and product engineering. But nothing beats the feel of shaping steel on the grinding wheel."

How it works: Fg59 celebrates Wilson's heritage in classic forgings. The name "59" was supposed to represent Majors won using Wilson irons. Good news, bad news. Paddy Harrington captured two Majors in 2008 to raise the total to 61. Fg59 is forged from mild carbon steel so you experience precise feel and feedback. It has a wider sole than old-fashioned blades but still promises tidy ground interaction.

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Tw9 Tour Milled wedge

\$99, steel

It's for: All skill levels



Jon Pergande, Director, Golf Club R&D/Global Golf: "I'm amazed every time I see Padraig Harrington [2008 PGA Tour Player of the Year] stop the ball on a dime from the most challenging lies under such demanding conditions. Our goal is to bring this shot-stopping potential to the masses. Tw9 incorporates the same specs and tight tolerances required by Padraig."

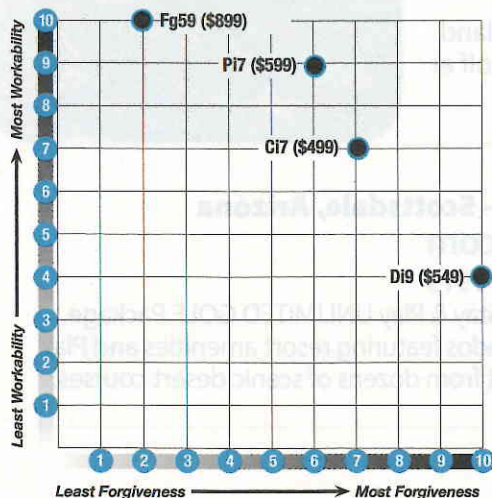
How it works: Aggressive tour-milled grooves deliver plenty of spin. (Wilson cuts grooves as USGA limits allow.) The compact heads (52°, 54°, 56°, 58° and 60°) are well-suited for bunkers or tight fairway lies. The 48° and 50° (to fill in distance gaps created by strong-lofted pitching wedges) are larger cavity-backs with a "players" shape. Tw9 comes in black (to reduce glare) or satin finish.



In 1932, Gene Sarazen invented the first modern sand wedge, the Wilson R-90.

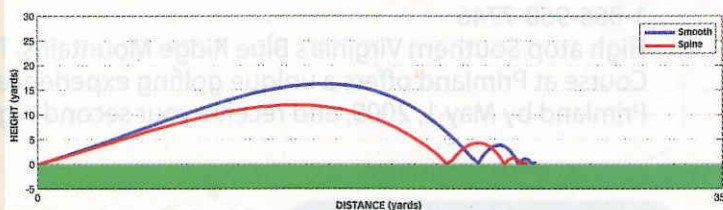
WILSON IRONS

Here's how Wilson irons stack up to one another. Find the model to suit your preferences.



Prices are for a set of eight with steel shafts

THE HOT STIX TEST: DRIVER RESULTS



Optimize your ball flight

Hot Stix Golf, our exclusive research partner, robot-tested drivers at a clubhead speed of 100 mph. Hot Stix used regular and stiff shafts in 9.5° and 10.5° (or 9° and 10°) lofts. Company personnel captured each club's ball speed, launch angle and backspin (at specific launch conditions) to determine its average ball flight

relative to a manufacturer's other drivers. You can use this data to select a particular club—for example, you might consider the Spine driver if you launch shots too high. Use the chart to compare Wilson drivers only. The test methodology isn't designed to compare models among several companies.

WILSON