

golf1. [gɒlf] *n*
гольф

to play golf - играть в гольф

golf widow - *шутл.* «вдова гольфиста», жена, проводящая выходные дни в одиночестве (*так как муж играет в гольф*)2. [gɒlf] *v*

играть в гольф

I went golfing yesterday - вчера я играл в гольф

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

golf**golf** [gɒlf **g**ɒlf **g**ɒlfed **g**ɒlfɪŋ] *BrE* [gɒlf] ¹ *NAmE* [gɑːlf] ² *NAmE* [gɔːlf] ³**noun** ⁴ **uncountable**

a game played over a large area of ground using specially shaped sticks to hit a small hard ball (a golf ball) into a series of 9 or 18 holes, using as few strokes as possible

- He enjoyed a **round of golf** on a Sunday morning.

see also ↑crazy golf, mini-golf

Word Origin:

late Middle English (originally Scots): perhaps related to Dutch **kolf** 'club, bat', used as a term in several Dutch games; golf, however, is recorded before these games.

Culture:**golf**

Golf was first developed in Scotland in the 15th century but is now played all round the world by both professional and amateur players.

The aim of golf is to hit a small ball from a **tee** (= a flat area of grass) into a hole on a **green** (= a very finely cut area of grass), which may be up to 600 yards/550 metres away, using as few **shots** (= hits) as possible. Most **golf courses** consist of 18 **holes**. To make play more difficult they are often **hilly** and have various natural and man-made **hazards** such as lakes, **bunkers** (= pits filled with sand), and **rough**, long grass or trees on either side of the **fairway**.

Each player has their own ball and several different types of **club** (**woods**, **irons** and a **putter**) with which to hit it. The club chosen depends on the type of shot the player needs to make. In professional **tournaments** players have a **caddie** to carry the bag of clubs from one hole to the next and to advise them on their play. Players try to finish each hole in a given number of shots, which is known as **par**. If they use one shot less than par they score a **birdie**; if they use two shots less they score an **eagle**; if they use three shots under par they score an **albatross**. If they manage to get the ball into the hole in a single shot they can claim a **hole in one**. If they use a shot more than par they score a **bogey**. A **handicap** is an advantage given to weaker players which is expressed as a number related to the number of shots above par. Professional golfers have a handicap of zero. At the end of a **round** (= all 18 holes), the player with the lowest score is the winner. Professional matches may consist of several rounds. The result sometimes depends on the total number of shots players have taken (**stroke play**), or else on the number of individual holes each player has won (**match play**).

Golf began as a sport of the upper classes and in Britain it continues to attract mainly people in business and the professions. The game is quite expensive to play and membership of the most popular **golf clubs** may cost a lot of money. The most famous British clubs include the ↑**Royal and Ancient** at ↑**St Andrews**, where the first official rules of golf were agreed in 1754, ↑**Muirfield** and ↑**Wentworth**. Golf may have been taken to America by people from Scotland in the 17th century, but the first permanent club was not established there until 1888, in Yonkers, New York.

There are four important international competitions for professional golfers, known as the **majors**, three of them held in the US. The **Masters Tournament** is always held at Augusta, Georgia. The others are the ↑**US Open** and the **US PGA Championship**. The ↑**British Open** is regarded as the world's top golf tournament. US and European teams also compete every two years in the ↑**Ryder Cup**. The major US competitions for women include the **US Women's Open** and the **LPGA Women's Championship**. Amateur events include the ↑**Walker Cup** and the ↑**Curtis Cup**. Television has helped to increase the popularity of the game, and many new golf courses have been created.

Many people who do not play golf enjoy a game of **crazy golf** (*AmE* **miniature golf**) in a local park. The idea is to hit a golf ball round a small grass and **concrete** course, through tunnels, over bridges, round small pools, etc. Others enjoy **putting**, a **miniature** form of golf on a small grassy course.

Example Bank:

- Choose from over 100 golf packages in our brochure.
- His coach says his golf swing needs improving.
- She decided to join a golf club.
- She has a golf handicap of 18.
- She's been a golf widow since she gave her husband his first set of clubs.

- The club is holding a golf clinic next week, where golfers can get advice from the pros.
- The eighth at Banff is one of the world's great golf holes.
- The hotel offers miniature golf and other activities for children.
- You can borrow golf clubs if you want a game.

golf

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

golf **S2 W3** /gɒlf \$ ɡɑːlf, ɡɒlf BrE " AmE " *noun* [uncountable]

[Date: 1400-1500; Origin: Perhaps from Middle Dutch colf 'stick for hitting a ball']

a game in which the players hit a small white ball into holes in the ground with a set of golf clubs, using as few hits as possible:

" He plays golf on Sundays.

" a round of golf (=complete game of golf)

—**golfer** *noun* [countable]

—**golfing** *noun* [uncountable]

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COLLOCATIONS

■ verbs

- **play golf** I play golf at the weekends.
- **take up golf** (=start playing golf) He took up golf as a way of getting more exercise.

■ phrases

- **a game of golf** Anybody fancy a game of golf this afternoon?
- **a round of golf** (=a complete game of golf) He invited me to join him for a round of golf.

■ golf + NOUN

- **a golf course** (=an area of land designed for playing golf) an 18-hole golf course
- **a golf club/Club** (=an organization that you join in order to use its golf course, or the building where members meet) the Royal Aberdeen Golf Club | a party at the golf club
- **a golf club** (=a long thin metal stick used to hit the ball in golf) He spent \$2000 on a new set of golf clubs.
- **a golf tournament/championship** She decided to enter the golf tournament.
- **somebody's golf swing** (=the way someone moves a golf club when hitting the ball) Keith's been working on improving his golf swing.
- **a golf bag** (=that holds the clubs) I put the golf bag over my shoulder.
- **a golf cart** (=a small car used on golf courses) He used a golf cart to get around the course.
- **a golf professional** Jack's hoping to become a golf professional.
- **a golf lesson** I'm thinking of taking golf lessons.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + golf

- **18-hole/9-hole golf** Facilities include an 18-hole golf course.
- **amateur/professional golf** The standard of women's amateur golf is certainly improving.
- **tournament/championship golf** The course is suitable for modern world-class championship golf.

golf

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