

INSTRUCTION

ACCORDING TO ALLISON

BY ALLISON FISHER



The View is Always Better From the Top Floor

A common mistake made by most amateurs while playing pool is to get down to play without having first carefully surveyed all aspects of the shot, namely the degree of angle, the natural tangent path, and the exact positional area you need for the next object ball. Let's look at these one by one.

1. The degree of the angle. Why do people always want a top floor view?

is, if you have not already carefully noted the angle to the pocket from the standing position, your perception will be greatly hindered from table-level position. So the first rule in aiming is aim while standing.

The three-cut system that I learned as a youth emphasizes the need to familiarize yourself with three standard cut angles: 1/4, 1/2, and 3/4, which are 49°, 30°, and 14°, respectively. A great way to see these

tangent line, regardless of forward or backward rotation. We can easily visualize this path by placing our cue stick perpendicular to the impact point to show the 90°-angle from the object ball. It is impossible to see this from the table position, so we should take the time and look over the ball we are attempting to pocket to identify this 90°-angle or tangent. Knowing the tangent will greatly help us in deciding how to stroke the cue ball to avoid potential scratches or unwanted collisions with other balls on the table.

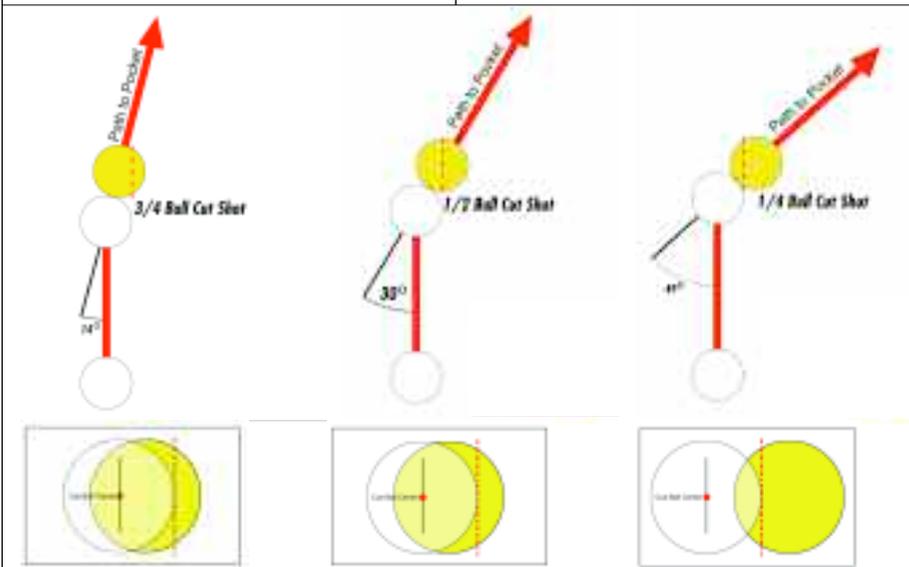
3. The Exact Positional Area.

Lack of position play is the greatest mistake amateur players make. Without consideration of the position of the cue ball after the shot, it is nearly impossible to run a rack.

To raise your game to the next level, you must give attention to position play that is much easier to estimate and control once you have carefully surveyed the table from the top floor. Careful position play always takes into account the natural tangent path of the cue ball and the subsequent natural path the cue ball takes as it bounces off the cushions. You have to see this path in your mind before you get down to play your shot.

Incorporate these three tips into your play and reap the benefits. But remember, they all depend on taking the time to first analyze the shot while standing. So, aim while standing, because the view is always better from the top floor. ♦

Co-authored by Paul Turner, inventor of the Allison Fisher Billiard Aim Trainer (www.billiardaimtrainer.com).



Because only from the top floor do you get the best perspective of the entire area. In the same way, when we observe the layout of the pool table from the standing position, we are better able to see potential run-out patterns, and more importantly, we can better estimate the degree of the angle of the cut for our next shot.

The next time you are at the table, get behind the shot you are considering and then compare what you can see in the standing position to what you can see when you are down on the shot. The fact

angles while playing is to use the visual references provided. By familiarizing yourself with these images, it will be easy to recognize the standard cut angles while playing.

2. The Natural Tangent Path. The next bit of information we need to gather at the standing position is the potential tangent path of the cue ball after contact with the object ball. The cue ball always starts out on the tangent line after contact with the object ball, and its rotation and speed determines where it goes after. The harder the ball is struck, the longer it stays on the