Golf Tips: Go for it, or lay up?

by Tina Mickelson

When making the choice between going for it and laying up, many factors go into the decision. The smarter you are about your decision, the better your results will be. Examine all the variables involved in the shot, not just whether or not you can hit the ball the required distance. Photos by Paul Nasri You might want to lay up if:*You have a poor or uneven lie.*There is wind in your face.*The shot requires you to carry the ball the whole way. (Bunker or water in front of the green.)*Your natural ball flight is in the direction of the trouble (i.e., there is water on the right side of the green and your natural shot is usually a fade) It's OK to go for it if:*You have a great lie.*There is no wind or the wind is at your back.*There is no danger in front of the green that would prevent you from landing it short and letting it roll up onto the green.*Your natural ball flight is away from the trouble. Copley News Service

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