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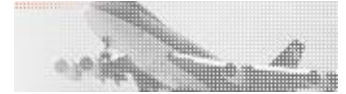
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CR Quick Recommendations

Whether you're a scratch player or a klutz on the course, there's a golf ball for you. Better players should look for a ball with high [Ratings](#) for spin and accuracy. Off a driver, all of these balls go about the same distance. The differences occur in how they spin off an iron and how they feel when struck. Balls with extra layers tend to cost more and require higher swing speeds to perform their best. But they may be wasted on beginners, who should look for a ball with a softer feel. Since beginners may surrender more balls to the hazards, cost may be a factor too. The [Ratings](#) rank golf balls by overall performance. **Quick Picks** takes other considerations, such as value and cost, into account.

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Quick Picks

Best for experts and high-rated amateurs:

- 1 Nike** \$41 a dozen
- 3 Callaway** \$39 a dozen
- 4 Titleist** \$44 a dozen
- 6 Ben Hogan** \$37 a dozen
- 22 Top Flite** \$28 a dozen

The Nike, Titleist, and Top Flite eked out a little more distance than many others, and all these balls had lots of spin off an 8-iron, which better golfers prefer. The Nike and the Callaway in particular did well in accuracy. For a slightly softer feel, try the Titleist.

Best for most:

- 2 Nike** \$14 a dozen, CR Best Buy
- 8 Callaway** \$25 a dozen
- 10 Pinnacle** \$13 a dozen, CR Best Buy
- 12 Pinnacle** \$19 a dozen, CR Best Buy

All were excellent or very good overall yet cost about half as much as the priciest balls. Duffers won't feel bad about losing one or two; better players may find they like them as well as a pricier ball. Better players might try the Nike and the Pinnacle (12), which had a softer feel; beginners might like the Callaway for its lower spin and firmer feel.

Best for those with a slower swing:

- 7 Titleist So-Lo** \$22 a dozen
- 11 Precept** \$19 a dozen, CR Best Buy
- 12 Pinnacle** \$19 a dozen, CR Best Buy

Designed to be softer, these balls may be better suited to beginners as well as seniors, women, and teenage players.

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