“Dr. Dave’s Best YouTube Vids”
Dr. Dave Alciatore, PhD

Supporting narrated video (NV) demonstrations, high-speed video (HSV) clips, technical proofs (TP), and all of my past articles can be accessed and viewed online at billiards.colostate.edu. The reference numbers used in the articles help you locate the resources on the website.

One of my YouTube videos hit a million views recently so I thought this might be a good time to encourage you to check it out along with others in my “Top Five” list. Here they are, along with the URLs and numbers of views (as of 1/11/2017):

1. Pool and Billiards Bank Shot Drill for Learning Cut-Angle Effects, from VEPP IV (NV C.14)

![Diagram 1 Number One Top Dr. Dave Video](https://youtu.be/s_8Mu0lyFg)

This video is an excerpt from Disc IV of the “Video Encyclopedia of Pool Practice” (VEPP) instructional DVD series. It describes, illustrates, and demonstrates drills for practicing how to adjust bank shot aim to account for various cut-angle, speed and spin effects. The image in **Diagram 1** shows how to use english to transfer spin to the object ball (OB) to lengthen the rebound, allowing for a thinner hit to avoid a double kiss. The yellow path is the double kiss path with no spin, and the red path shows how right (counterclockwise) sidespin on the cue ball (CB) transfers left (clockwise) sidespin to the OB making it bank longer to the pocket … assuming the amount of sidespin, speed, and cut angle are appropriate for the shot and the table conditions.

This video is an excerpt from Disc IV of the "Video Encyclopedia of Pool Shots" (VEPS) instructional DVD series. The clip describes, illustrates, and demonstrates bank and kick shot terminology along with several basic bank and kick shot aiming systems. The image in Diagram 2 shows how to use two-to-one through-diamond reference tracks to aim a slow-rolling bank shot. Here, the OB lies directly on one of the reference tracks, so the shot is a piece of cake … assuming the shot is hit softly along the reference line with no sidespin (and assuming you are not playing on Diamond tables, which usually bank short).

3. Pool Break Shot Technique Advice - How To Break, from Vol-III of the BU instructional DVD series
This video is an excerpt from Disc III of the Billiard University (BU) instructional DVD series. The clip describes, illustrates, and demonstrates how to add power to your break while maintaining consistency and accuracy. The image in Diagram 3 shows how to use a slightly above-center hit on the CB to “squat the rock” after the break. The weight of the rack of balls makes the CB bounce back, and the slight top spin is required to slow the CB so it stops in the center of the table ... assuming you have accurate aim and enough control to hit the 1-ball squarely.

4. Cut-Induced Throw (CIT) and Spin-Induced Throw (SIT) in Pool and Billiards, from VEPS IV (NV B.86)
This video is an excerpt from Disc IV of the “Video Encyclopedia of Pool Shots” (VEPS) instructional DVD series. The clip describes, illustrates, and demonstrates cut-induced throw (CIT) and spin-induced throw (SIT) and how to adjust aim to compensate for these effects for a wide range of shot types. The image in Diagram 4 shows how to use CIT to push the 3 toward the pocket along a line (red) not possible without throw due to the position of the blocking 4 (which limits the minimum cut to the yellow line). Here, the maximum amount of throw is created with a soft speed stun shot (where the CB has no top or bottom spin). The shot is fairly easy … assuming your speed is soft enough, and you don’t overcut the ball, and the CB is close to stun at impact.

5. 30-Degree Rule and Peace Sign for Visualizing the Cue Ball Natural Angle, from VEPS-I (NV B.66)
This video is an excerpt from Disc I of the "Video Encyclopedia of Pool Shots" (VEPS) instructional DVD series. The clip describes, illustrates, and demonstrates how to apply the 30º rule and Dr. Dave peace-sign technique to a wide range of rolling-cue-ball pool shots, where the cue ball heads in the natural-angle direction. The image in Diagram 5 shows how the maximum CB deflection angle occurs close to a ½-ball hit, and the graph inset shows how the CB deflection angle is very close to 30º over a very wide range of cut angles. The rule is very useful to help you avoid scratches, get position, aim carom and billiard shots, and plan break-out and avoidance shots … assuming you have your peace-sign hand well calibrated and have a good feel for how to adjust your hand placement based on the speed of the shot.

Did you notice all of the “… assuming …” statements at the ends of the shot-description paragraphs above. Pool is not just about knowledge … accurate and consistent execution is also critically important.

I hope enjoy and benefit from these videos after you view them online. And if you do, you might also want to check out more of the several hundred billiards videos I have posted online. You can find them by going to my YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/DrDaveBilliards and clicking on the Videos tab. And while you are there, hit the subscribe button (and click on the notification bell) so you will know when I post new videos.

Good luck with your game,
Dr. Dave

PS:

- I know other authors and I tend to use lots of terminology, and I know not all readers are totally familiar with these terms. If you ever come across a word or phrase you don’t fully understand, please refer to the online glossary at billiards.colostate.edu.

Dr. Dave is author of The Illustrated Principles of Pool and Billiards book and DVD, and co-author of the Video Encyclopedias of Pool Shots (VEPS), Pool Practice (VEPP), and Eight Ball (VEEB), and the How to Aim Pool Shots (HAPS) and Billiard University (BU) instructional DVD series, all available at: DrDaveBilliards.com.