"Air Peace Sign" Dr. Dave Alciatore, PhD

Supporting narrated video (NV) demonstrations, high-speed video (HSV) clips, technical proofs (TP), and all past articles are available online at <u>billiards.colostate.edu</u>. Reference numbers used in the articles help you locate the resources on the website.

Do you know how to play accurate position for the next shot? Do you know how to detect if you will scratch or not? Do you know how to thread the cue ball (CB) through traffic and come into the line of the next shot? Do you know how to aim and pocket carom, kiss, and break-out shots? And do know how to play lock-up safeties? In Online Video <u>NV J.128</u>, I demonstrate how to do all these things with the help of the <u>30° rule</u> <u>peace sign technique</u>. If you haven't seen this technique before, or if you want to learn more, see the CB Control Tutorial, 30° rule, and peace sign resource pages linked in the YouTube video description. In this article, I show you a new and improved "Air Peace Sign" technique from the video that can be used to quickly predict CB direction with any rolling-ball shot.

Let's start with a quick review of the 30° rule and the peace sign technique. As shown in **Image 1**, using a firm peace sign, if you point one finger in the direction of the initial CB motion, the 2nd finger will point in the expected final CB carom direction. To practice and train you hand to form the correct angle, and to vary the angle slightly for different cut angle ranges, see the <u>peach sign angle template</u> available on the linked resource pages.

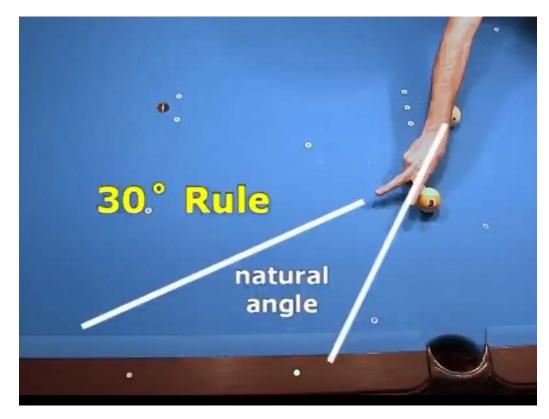


Image 1 30° rule peace sign technique

As shown in the video, one problem with positioning the peace sign at the object ball (OB) is it can be difficult to reach, especially if you are moving your head to try to visualize the final CB direction. An easier and faster alternative is to use an "air peace" sign shown in **Image 2**. Just hold the peace sign in front of you along a line from your eyes to the ghost ball, and just imagine the fingers being projected down.



Image 2 Air peace sign

Recently, I developed an improvement to the air peace sign technique. Again, start by visualizing your first finger projected down to the ghost ball (see **Image 3**). As shown in the video, if you are focusing at the OB, as you should, you will see two different images of your finger at the ball since each eye sees a different picture. You want to position your hand so each image of the finger is on either side of the ideal position. The shot example in Image 3 is a half-ball hit, so the ideal position is with the finger over the edge of the OB.



Image 3 Air peace sign example

In past videos and articles, I said to just imagine your second finger direction being parallel-shifted down to the ghost ball to visualize the direction the CB will head. The new technique, which is easier and more accurate, is to just parallel shift your hand without moving your head so you are now looking through the second finger projected down to the OB (see **Image 4**). This will allow you to more accurately visualize the CB carom direction after the hit. In this example from a game of 8-ball playing stripes, after pocketing the 11, the CB will carom into the 3 to also pocket the 9.

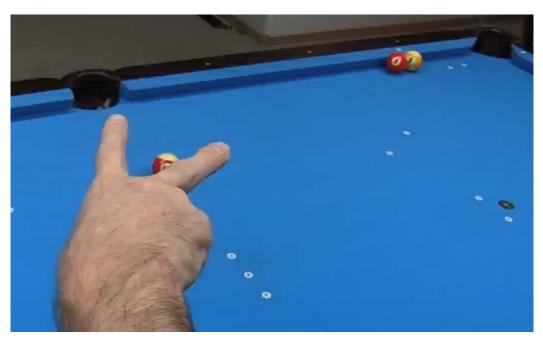


Image 4 Air peace sign after parallel shift

Online Video <u>NV J.128</u> shows a wide range of game-situation examples where the new and improved air peace sign technique comes in handy. If you watch the video, you will see that the technique is fast, easy, and effective. I hope the air peach sign helps your game as much as it has helped mine over the years.

Good luck with your game, Dr. Dave



NV J.128 – Accurate CUE BALL CONTROL with a New AIR PEACE SIGN Technique

<u>PS</u>:

 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 do not fully understand, please refer to the <u>online glossary</u> at <u>billiards.colostate.edu</u>.

Dr. Dave is a PBIA Master Instructor, Dean of the Billiard University, and author of the book: <u>The</u> <u>Illustrated Principles of Pool and Billiards</u> and numerous instructional DVD series, all available at: <u>DrDaveBilliards.com</u>.