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

In June, at the last BCA Expo in Vegas, I spent several days with a group of PBI Master Instructors sharing our teaching methods and experiences. During a break, we were showing each other cool shots we have learned over the years. **Image 1** shows the layout for a famous shot Mark Finkelstein demonstrated. What would you do in this 8-ball situation, shooting at the 8? In online video [NV J.126](#), I explore some interesting and useful alternatives that I will summarize here.

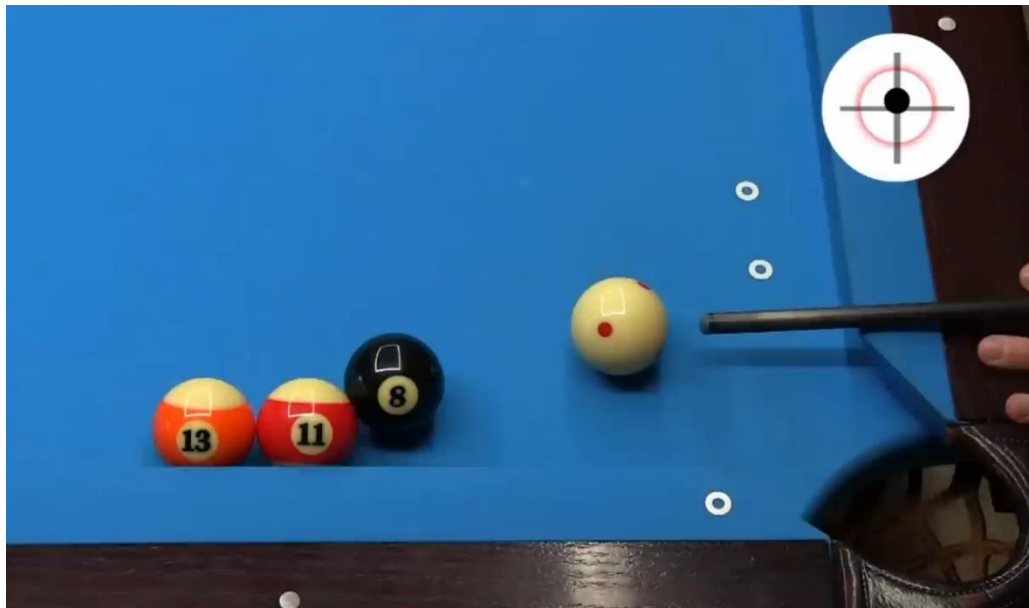


Image 1 Famous Frozen Kiss Shot

As demonstrated in the video, the most creative and effective solution is to pocket the 8 back in the corner for the win by aiming for about an 1/8-ball hit. It doesn't look like the shot should go because the tangent line off the 11 heads into the cushion, so how does it work? As shown with super-slow-motion footage in the video, the 11 compresses the cushion and then kisses the 8 to redirect it. The shot would not be possible without the secondary kiss.

If you try the shot, it is important to know how to make adjustments if the 8 doesn't go. If you cut the 8 too thin, it will hit the cushion. And if you hit the 8 too full, it will go away from the rail. Simply adjust the amount of cut until the 8 goes straight back to the corner. Again, the shot requires about an 1/8-ball hit, and the 11 and 13 must be frozen for the shot to work. If there is a gap, the 11 goes forward too much and doesn't kiss the 8 enough.

Now let's look at some interested related shots. In **Image 2**, the 3 frozen balls are stripes instead. The 13 doesn't go because the 11 throws it into to the cushion causing it to rebound away from the rail. But if this were a proposition shot, where the goal was to make both the 9 and 13 on one shot, you could make it work with a little spit. Just wet the contact point between the 11 and 13 to minimize throw, and the 13 goes easily. If there were a gap between the 11 and 13, the 9 will not go, but the 13 will without the spit. As shown in super-slow-motion in the video, the 11 compresses the cushion a little and cuts the 13 away from the rail enough to cancel the throw.

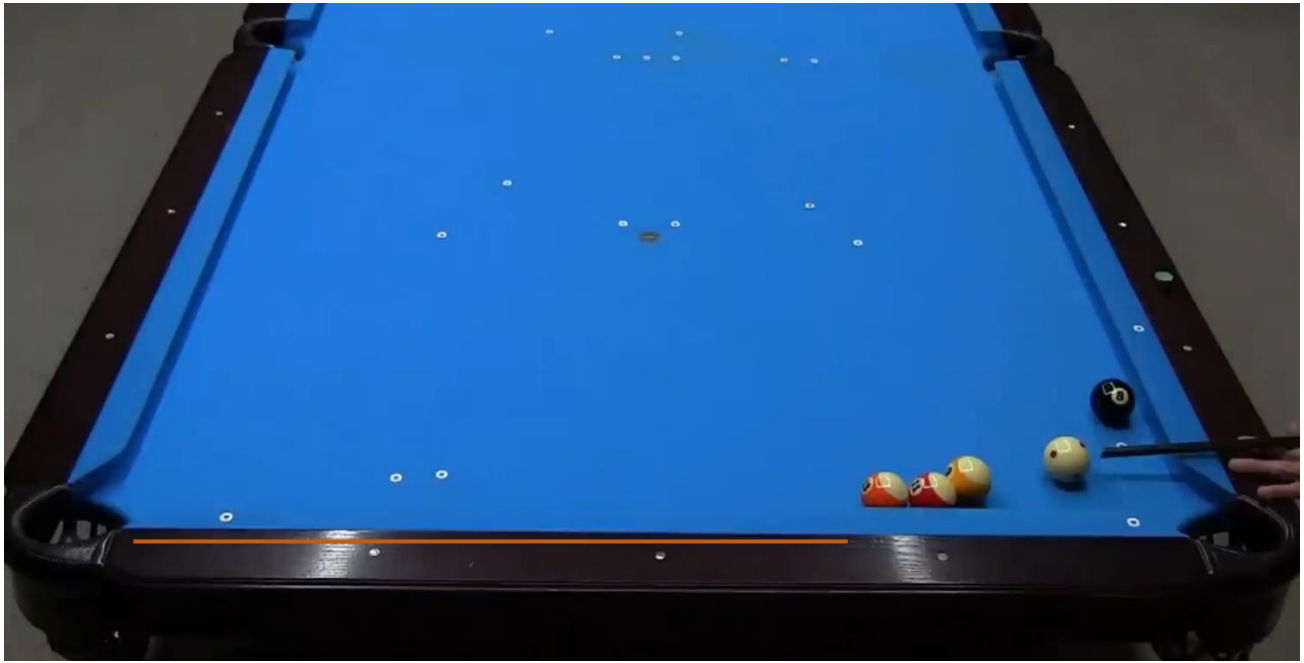


Image 2 Spitball Proposition Shot

Now let's look at other shot alternatives, starting with ball-in-hand options. First, it is not possible to pocket the 8 directly into the corner. As shown in **Image 3**, even with a near miss on the 11, the 8 heads too far from the pocket. As shown in **Image 4**, another option is the bank the 8 off two rails to the diagonal corner. As shown in the video, leaving the CB above the 11 and 13 limits the opponent options a little in case you miss. Unfortunately, your opponent still might be able to kick across the table to get out of trouble.

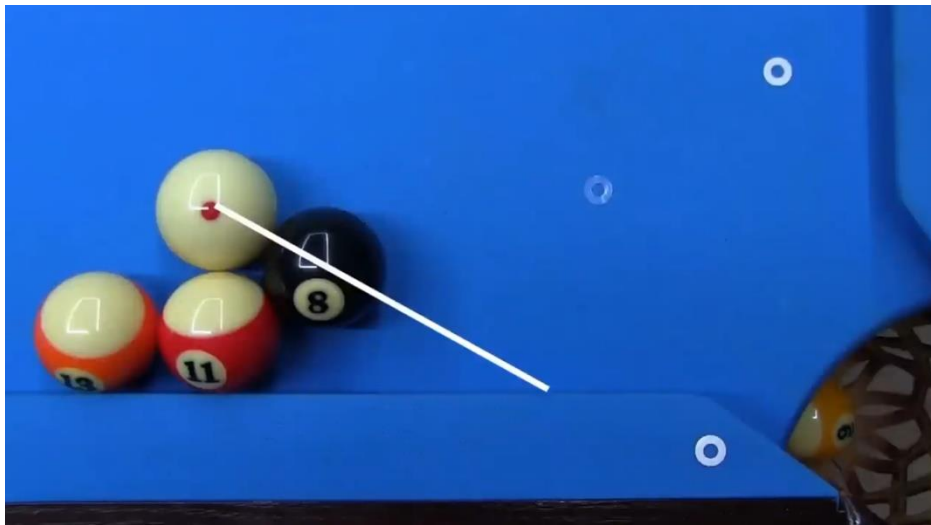


Image 3 The 8 Can't be Thrown In



Image 4 Two-Rail Bank Option

As shown in **Image 5**, shooting stripes, with the 8 in the middle instead, an option is to bank the 13 cross-corner. Left spin transferred to the 13 by the throwing 8 reverses the angle off the far cushion back to the pocket. That would be a good one-pocket shot. The 13 could also kiss off the 11 or combo the 11 in. As demonstrated in the video, you can even pocket both balls. That would be another fun proposition shot.

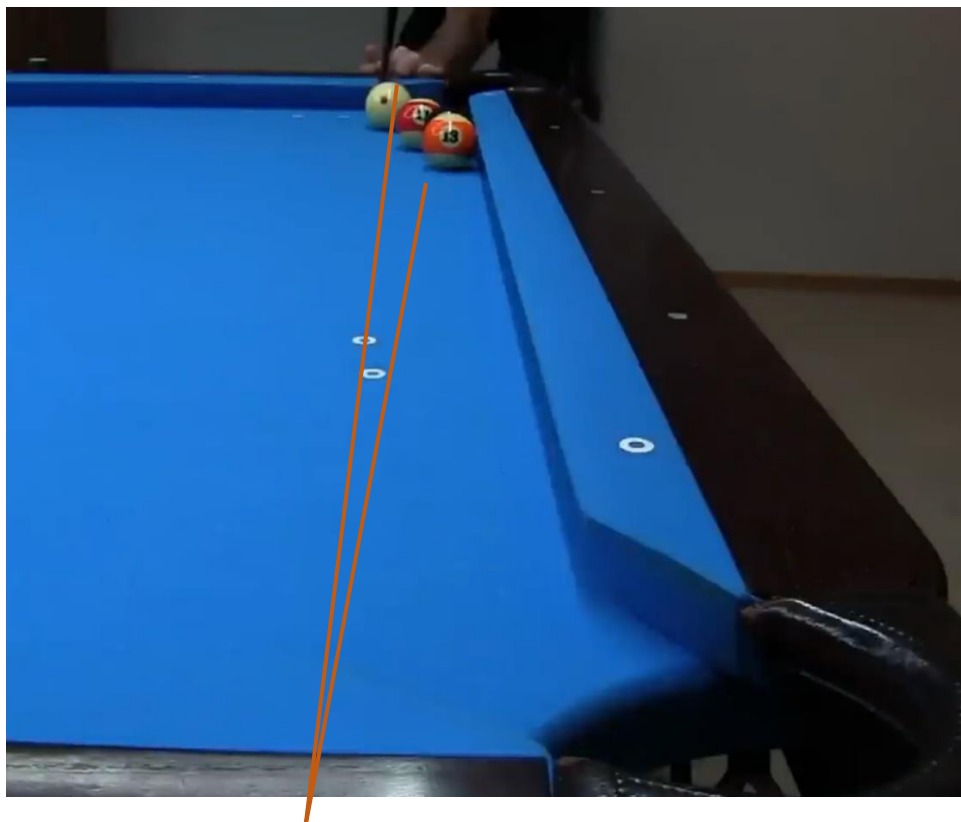


Image 5 Cross-Corner Bank Options

There are also good safety options in the situation in Image 1. The easiest safety is to just hit the 8 squarely. However, the 11 and 13 are both frozen to the cushion, so something must be driven to a cushion after the hit. A better option is to extract the 8 a little and try to leave the CB behind the 8 as shown in **Image 6**. See the video for demonstrations of various safety options and replies.



Image 6 Safety Option

Check out online video [NV J.126](#). It demonstrates all the options above and more. Pool always amazes me with all the creative shot options that are possible in single ball-layout situation. Give the shots a try and add them to your repertoire of game winners and fun proposition shots. Have fun! I did!

Good luck with your game,
Dr. Dave



[NV J.126](#) – Amazing FROZEN KISS Shot for the 8-Ball Win

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 do not fully understand, please refer to the [online glossary](#) at billiards.colostate.edu.

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