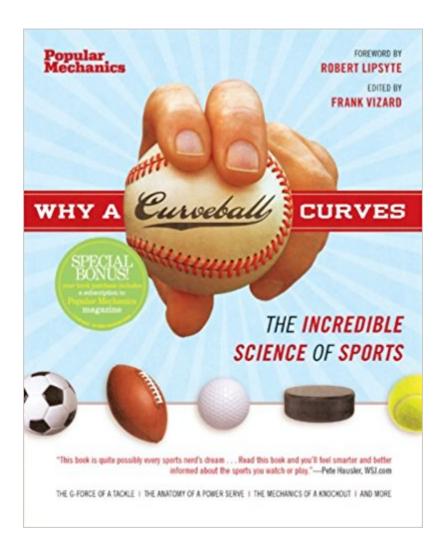


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# Why A Curveball Curves: The Incredible Science Of Sports (Popular Mechanics)





## Synopsis

Sports. They get our blood pumping and our hearts racing. Fans scream and cheer as their favorite athletes run, throw, pedal, dive, or swing their way to victory. But what makes an athlete successful? Why do some players excel when others fall behind?In Why a Curveball Curves, the experts at Popular Mechanics, along with top athletes, coaches, and sports journalists, explore the science behind sports. Fluid dynamics, biomechanics, and technology determine everything from speed in cycling to protection in football to performance measurement in all sports. This book is designed for both the player and the fan, helping athletes become better-prepared and giving enthusiasts a more complete understanding and appreciation of competition. The issues discussed range from Tigerââ  $\neg$ â,,¢s swing to Lanceââ  $\neg$ â,,¢s legs, from gene doping to the physics of why a seemingly straight kick curves drastically just before its target—in other words, how to bend it like Beckham—plus so much more.Ã Â Â Â

## **Book Information**

Series: Popular Mechanics Paperback: 224 pages Publisher: Hearst (August 4, 2009) Language: English ISBN-10: 1588167941 ASIN: B005SMVWQG Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 7.4 x 0.6 inches Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #11,243,846 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #52 inà Â Books > Sports & Outdoors > Miscellaneous > Sports Science #1352 inà Â Books > Science & Math > Physics > Applied #4182 inà Â Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Sports

## **Customer Reviews**

Have you always believed the scientists who say that a curveball is just an optical illusion? Well, guess what: theyââ  $\neg$ â,¢re wrong. A curveball, according to this wonderfully informative book, really does curve, and even the illustrious Isaac Newton knew it (he even wrote a paper about it, more than 300 years ago). Itââ  $\neg$ â,¢s all in the way the ball is spinning, and something called the Magnus Force. There are even a couple of illustrations here to help you understand the explanation. Of course, the book isnââ  $\neg$ â,¢t just about pitched baseballs, or even just about baseball: it talks about basketball, soccer, hockey, golf, and several other sports; and it answers some very interesting questions, such as why Gretzky really was the greatest (an innate ability to translate physical cues into action) and how you, too, can bend it (a soccer ball, that is) like Beckham. A must-read for sports fans, physics buffs, and general audiences too. --David Pitt --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

 $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg A^{*} \dots enjoyabl[e] \dots fun. \tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg \hat{A} \cdot \tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg \hat{a} \cdot Sports Illustrated \tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg A^{*}This book is quite$  $possibly every sports nerd <math>\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg \hat{a}_{,,\phi}\phi$ s dream  $\dots$  Read this book and you  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg \hat{a}_{,\phi}\phi$ ll feel smarter and better informed about the sports you watch or play.  $\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg A^{*}\tilde{A}\phi\hat{a} \neg \hat{a}$  •Pete Hausler, WSJ.com --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book has entertained my curious child on many road trips. The pages are bent and the cover is well-loved. Every time that he reads this book, he learns something new. I would definitely recommend this for all sports enthusiasts as well as fact lovers. This is "Ripley's Believe it Or Not" for sports fans everywhere!!

This is an interesting book. A little bit less in detail than I was expecting,...but not much less. I've rated it 4 of 5 stars as I believe that when 5 equals the 'best you can get'...this book is NOT that. It's good. You'll like it. The price is fair. I bought three copies,...to give to our sons and son-in-law... all of whom are immersed in sports. I scanned through one of them before we wrapped them in advance of Christmas. The information regarding the physics of sports is fascinating and meant to be presented as reference material. If you've got a curious mind regarding the subject material, you'll like this book.DP

Very clarifying.

Very Good Book explaining the basic physics of a multitude of sports. Easy to understand explanations and easy to follow diagrams to match. Wish there were more in depth on Hockey, Basketball, and Golf. Overall, a good book for understanding the reasons "Whys' of the sports you watch and play.

Great tool to educate the grandchildren and myself--everyone should read this book--leave it in the coffee table--will start many a conversation

### interesting

## My reluctant reader LOVES it!

#### used this book for a college class that I teach

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