

Understanding The Vizual Edge Edge Score & Assessment



Vizual Edge is an industry-leader in visual skills assessment and training using its web-based program, the Edge Trainer. Athletes from all sports and every level have the opportunity to improve their visual skills using the Edge Trainer, which Vizual Edge has found has led to improved athletic performance.

The Visual Skills Assessment

Every athlete begins their Vizual Edge journey by completing a baseline evaluation. The web-based evaluation allows for better insight into where an athlete's **strength and weaknesses** are in their **core-six visual skills**. The Vizual Edge assessment is widely used in youth, high school collegiate and professional baseball, including several MLB scouting departments who look for additional metrics when making drafting decisions.

Understanding The Edge Score

During the evaluation, an athlete is assessed on six individual exercises, each one testing a core-six visual skill:

- **Alignment** – Proper alignment creates no difference between the perceived location and actual location of an object.
- **Depth Perception** – Uses both eyes to locate objects in space to judge their distance, speed, and direction.
- **Convergence** – The ability to focus on objects within close proximity and judge their movement and impact.
- **Divergence** – The ability to locate objects in the distance, impacting an athlete's ability to anticipate and react.
- **Recognition** – The ability to observe, process and recall a series of visual targets, and respond properly.
- **Tracking** – Allows an athlete to process and follow an object while always monitoring all aspects of the game.

Each of the above skills are tested separately during an athlete's evaluation, and each is weighted based on reaction speed, accuracy or station score, depending on the exercise.

An athlete's **Edge Score** is a comprehensive score out of 100 that takes all core-six visual skills into account. The Edge Score is calculated into one weighed overall score that provides athletes, parents, coaches and scouts with a benchmark number for assessing the athlete's overall visual ability.



Understanding The Edge Score

Hitting Correlations



Visual skills play a critical role in a hitter's ability to locate a pitch early, identify pitch type, and focus on the pitch as it approaches the plate, all in the matter of milliseconds. 80% of sensory information is visual, which means a massive amount of information needs to be processed by an athlete's eyes in order to truly make an impact at the plate.

| HITTING | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Visual Skill | Baseball Correlation | Evaluation Score To Look At |
| Alignment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timing at the plate • Swinging too early/too late | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perfect alignment score is 0 • 0 – 2 A/B generally regarded as good alignment • 3 – 14 A/B may severely impact timing • A = After. Player sees the ball late • B = Before. Player sees the ball early |
| Depth Perception | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timing at the plate • Ability to judge breaking point of a pitch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% = perfect depth perception |
| Convergence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to focus on an incoming pitch as it approaches the final 15 feet • Hitting high velocity pitches | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Station score – out of 77 (lev 2) • Closer to 77, the better. Stronger ability to maintain focus on a pitch and see it approaching the plate |
| Divergence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to locate the ball out of the pitcher's hand <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early pitch & spin identification • Combats pitcher's tunnel | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Station score – out of 77 (lev 2) • Closer to 77, the better. Stronger ability to identify the ball earlier and see spin sooner |
| Recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall processing skills • Pitch identification, picking up pitcher cues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combination of high accuracy and quick response time |
| Tracking | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall reaction speed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combination of high accuracy and quick response time |

Understanding The Edge Score

Fielding Correlations

Fielding requires quick reaction, along with great judgement of a ball in order to make a play. Since 80% of sensory information is visual, being quicker at reacting to the ball leaving the bat, or getting a better jump on a fly ball, could be the difference between winning and losing.

| FIELDING | | |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Visual Skill | Baseball Correlation | Evaluation Score To Look At |
| Alignment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Getting in the proper position to make a catch/play | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perfect alignment score is 0 0 – 2 A/B generally regarded as good alignment 3 – 14 A/B may severely impact positioning & reading of the ball |
| Depth Perception | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to judge the trajectory of the ball while in the air Reading of groundballs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% = perfect depth perception |
| Convergence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to focus on an incoming ball Focusing on the ball as it approaches you | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Station score – out of 77 (lev 2) Closer to 77, the better. Stronger ability to maintain focus on the ball and see it approaching |
| Divergence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to locate the ball as soon as it leaves the bat and judge trajectory Ability to quickly locate the ball in the air (key for OFs) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Station score – out of 77 (lev 2) Closer to 77, the better. Stronger ability to identify the ball earlier and judge trajectory |
| Recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall processing skills Reading of the game, making the 'right play' Understanding pitch count and what to do | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combination of high accuracy and quick response time |
| Tracking | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall reaction speed Ability to quickly get in position to make a play | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combination of high accuracy and quick response time |

Understanding The Edge Score

Pitching Correlations



While visual skills may seem more important to hitters, pitchers need to have sharp visual skills as well to ensure proper throwing accuracy and reading of the game. Without proper alignment or good divergence skills, a pitcher may struggle with where they truly intended a pitch to land. Recognition also plays a key role in a pitcher's ability to read the game and pick up on a hitter's tendencies.

| PITCHING | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Visual Skill | Baseball Correlation | Evaluation Score To Look At |
| Alignment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pitch accuracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perfect alignment score is 0 0 – 2 A/B generally regarded as good alignment 3 – 14 A/B may severely impact accuracy |
| Depth Perception | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to see the break of your pitch and adjust if necessary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100% = perfect depth perception |
| Convergence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to focus on the ball if hit back at you | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Station score – out of 77 (lev 2) Closer to 77, the better. Stronger ability to focus on the ball if hit back at you |
| Divergence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to see catcher's cues Ability to hit intended pitch location | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Station score – out of 77 (lev 2) Closer to 77, the better. Stronger ability to locate objects at a distance |
| Recognition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall processing skills Reading of the game, picking up on hitters' tendencies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combination of high accuracy and quick response time |
| Tracking | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall reaction speed | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combination of high accuracy and quick response time |

