

UCHIPPANASHI



These driving ranges are known affectionately as "*uchippanashi*" ("just hit it"). Players keep hitting balls from the tee stations to the far side of the cage. Nets surround the cage, so even if the golfers hit really hard or make wild shots, the balls stay inside the driving range.

There are different fee scales, but the pay-per-ball system is standard - for example, 20 hits for 500 yen. Price can vary depending on the time of day, and the day of the week. At many driving ranges, the tee stations are on two, even three tiers. You have to pay extra to practice at ground level, because it seems more like the real thing. Some ranges have pro golfers and instructors on hand, ready to give you a private lesson.