

## Turning the corner How Pietersen's '45' shot misfired

Kevin Pietersen exploited a defensive Australia field on his way to 69 but his habit of turning the ball around the corner ultimately proved his undoing. Because Australia had no man in the 'forty-five' position, 45 degrees behind the wicket on the leg side, the batsman had been taking easy singles by running the ball towards fine leg

### He'll be disappointed with that

Other shots that have proved costly for KP

- Against West Indies in Jamaica in February, during his first innings back in the ranks after losing the England captaincy, Pietersen came in at 31 for two and patiently took 115 balls to reach fifty. After tea, though, he started clubbing boundaries, moving from 83 to 97 in three balls before trying to get to three figures with a big shot. He charged a ball from Sulieman Benn and skied a top edge into Dinesh Ramdin's gloves

- In the second innings against South Africa at Edgbaston in 2008, he skipped down the pitch to Paul Harris and drove the ball to long on for 94. Pietersen trudged off swearing and South Africa later chased down 281 to win

- Pietersen was the victim of a bizarre dismissal against West Indies at Old Trafford in 2007. On 68, he misjudged the pace of a slowish bouncer from Dwayne Bravo, went to hook, tried to pull away, the ball hit his helmet and fell onto the stumps

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Nathan Hauritz approaches his delivery stride and Pietersen is already on the move, seemingly having decided which shot to play



The Australia bowler appears to have read the move and pushes the ball wide to try to stop Pietersen sweeping the ball behind leg



The batsman goes through with his shot, even though the ball is a long way outside off stump



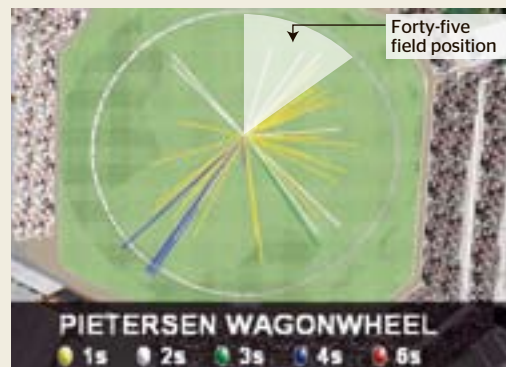
The scale of Pietersen's mistake becomes clear. His bat is too far away from his body to make effective contact with the ball



The ball takes a top edge, hits Pietersen's helmet and loops to Simon Katich, who is able to take an easy catch and a prize wicket



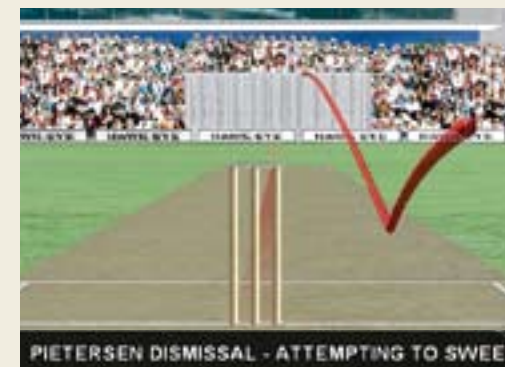
Hawk-Eye shows how Pietersen was working Hauritz to the leg side. Of the eight balls bowled outside off stump, Pietersen played six scoring shots to the leg side



The batsman's scoring wheel shows just how often he scored in the area that would have been protected by a 'forty-five' fielder



Hauritz's successful ball, shown in white, was unusually wide. All his previous balls to Pietersen were grouped around a length in the corridor outside off stump



Just how far was Pietersen dragged? Hawk-Eye shows the ball's predicted path. It may have been called a wide – it is 72cm from off stump when Pietersen makes contact