

1

Place your soccer ball on the ground.

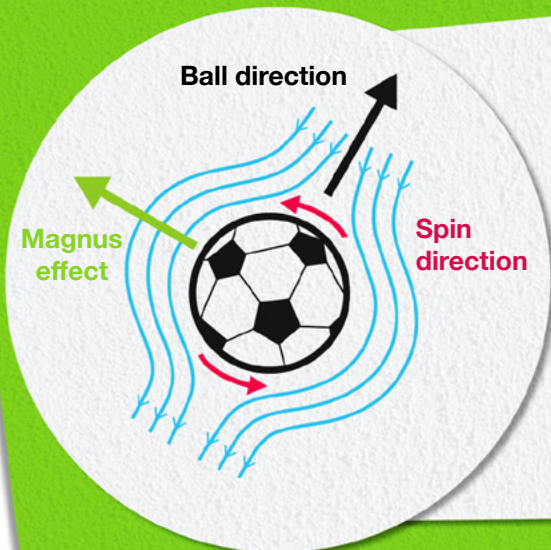
2

Kick the ball on the **lower right corner** with the inside of your foot.

3

The soccer ball will lift into the air spinning around its own axis and make a slight curve – like a banana.

The GOAL? It tricks the goalkeeper, who thinks the ball is moving in a different direction! You score!



Why does the flight path bend like a banana suddenly?

As the soccer ball takes flight, there is air flowing on both sides of the ball that slows the ball down. On one side, the air is moving in the opposite direction to the ball's spin, causing higher pressure. On the other side, the air is moving in the same direction as the spin, which creates an area of lower pressure. That difference in air pressure will make the ball's flight path curve like a banana towards the lower pressure zone. The name of this observable scientific phenomenon is the "Magnus effect".

Banana Kick Challenge

The Banana Kick is one of the most challenging shots in all of soccer! Professional players often use it to score a free kick when they have no direct line to the goal. Do you think you have what it takes to play like a pro? You'll never know unless you try!

