



# Basketball Rules



## History:

- Invented by Dr. James Naismith (a YMCA instructor) in 1891
- The original rims were peach baskets attached to the walls of a gymnasium
- The NBA began in 1946

## Court Markings:

- The baseline is the short boundary lines below each basket.
- The free throw line is parallel to the baseline and is located about 15 feet straight out from the hoop.
- The three point line is the large half-circle that connects with the baseline.

## Game Play Basics:

- 5 players per team on the court during an actual game.
- One point is awarded per free throw (which occurs after a foul).
- Two points awarded for a shot or lay up inside the three point line.
- Three points awarded for any shot outside the three point line.
- An official game begins with a jump ball at center court.
- The ball is awarded to the opposite team when a player steps on or over the boundary line or touches the ball last before going out of bounds. (The opposite team would make a throw in from the spot the ball went out of bounds)
- Man to Man defense allows for each player to cover an opposing team player
- Zone defense allows for each defensive player to cover an area on the court
- The team with the most points wins the game
- Games are generally played in four quarters

## Violations:

- A violation is generally (unless the team accumulates more than six) a non-shooting situation and results in the other team gaining possession.
  - Traveling-taking steps with the ball and not dribbling
  - Double Dribble-using two hands to dribble the ball
  - Double Dribble-stopping dribble and starting again in the same possession

## Fouls:

- Two types of fouls: Personal and Technical fouls result in a free throw. A player is removed from the game after five personal fouls.
- Some types of personal fouls are pushing, tripping, and charging. One of the most common types includes contact with the shooting player.
- Some types of technical fouls are unsportsmanlike conduct, leaving the bench, or delay of game.

