



By Bodhi Bridges

“It never gets easier.... You just get better”
~Derrick Rose

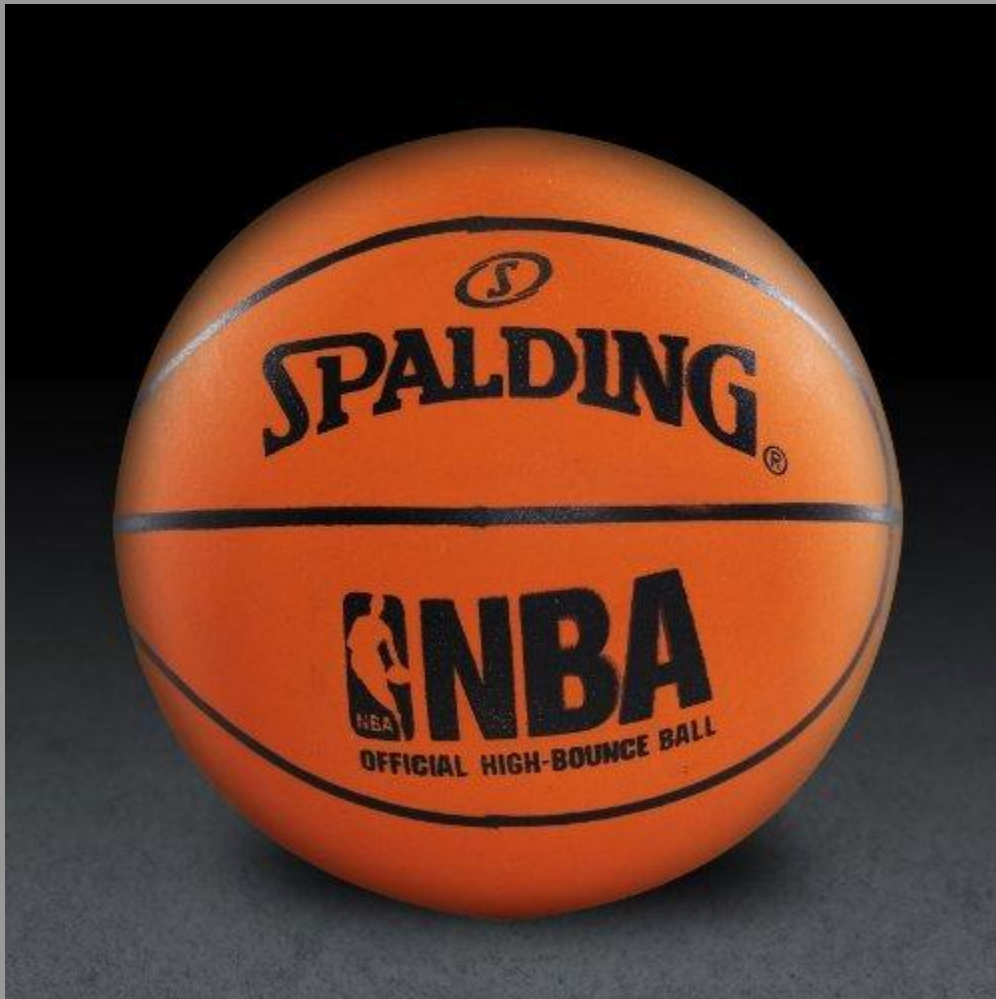


Basketball
By Bodhi Bridges
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Introduction

Basketball is a slam dunk across America! Basketball is not only popular in The United States, but it is also popular in China, Spain, Great Britain, etc. There are lots of different ways to win and lose in basketball. Basketball is unique because there are lots of moves, ways to score, teams, rules, and other fun aspects of the game. Another good thing about basketball is it is one of the safest sports. People can still get hurt, but not as much as football, baseball, or soccer.



Picture of an NBA Spalding basketball

Inside Facts About NBA Basketball

The object of basketball is to score more points than the defending team before time runs out. In basketball, there are 4 quarters. Each quarter is. The team's coach can call a timeout, however the clock doesn't run down while the teams are in a timeout. Each team will play 82 games in a season. The best teams will go to the playoffs and the best out of them will go to the finals. Whoever wins against all the teams in the finals wins a championship!



Picture of the NBA (National Basketball Association) Logo

Moves

Pump fake- A pump fake is a move a lot of players use and have mastered. A pump fake is used to “fake” their defender out. A pump fake is when someone acts like they are getting ready to shoot. Most of the time when someone pump fakes, their defender will react and try to block the shot. As they are doing that you can pass or actually shoot.



Picture of a player pump faking and then shooting

Moves

Behind the back pass- A behind the back pass is an effective move that a lot of players don't use. It is self explanatory, you pass behind your back with one hand. This is a good move because you can pass to your teammate without having a chance to get the pass blocked.



A picture of a player doing a behind the back pass to a teammate

Scoring

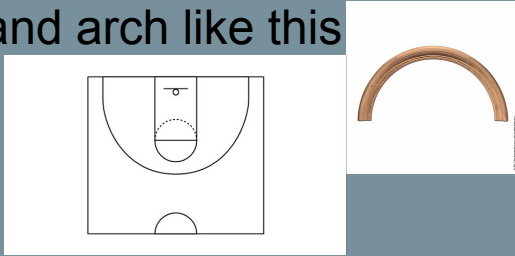
Layups- There are many different ways to score in the game of basketball. A very popular way of scoring is “layups.” This move allows the player to score without having to take long ranged shots. According to coachesclipboard.net, the layup is the easiest shot and the first shot you should learn in basketball. If you are left handed you should practice layups with your right hand and if you are right handed you should practice lay ups with your left hand.



A picture of a current All-Star player, LeBron James shooting a layup

Scoring

3 pointers- Behind the free throw line is the 3 point line. The 3 point line makes an arch like this here is a drawing of half of a basketball court:



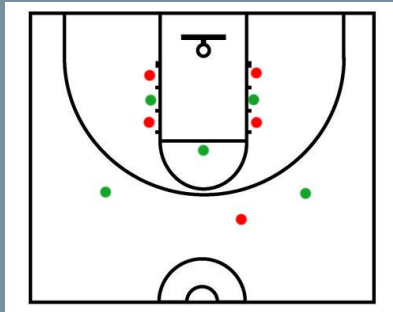
The shot is self explanatory. If you are behind the 3 point line your shot counts as 3 points instead of two. This shot gets more points because it's farther back.



Here is a picture of current MVP (Stephen Curry) shooting a 3 pointer

Scoring

Free throws- When someone makes contact with you as you are shooting the ball it is a foul. This is known as a shooting foul. When someone is fouled while shooting they go to the free throw line where they take 2 free throws. Each free throw counts as one point. If someone is fouled shooting a 3 pointer the person will shoot 3 free throws. Here is a diagram of when a person shoots a free throw.



Here is a picture of a player shooting a free throw

Teams

There is a total of 30 teams in the NBA. (NBA) - *National Basketball Association*. In the NBA, there is a western conference and a eastern conference. There are 15 teams in each conference. Each team plays 82 games in the season. Once the season is over the 16 teams with the best record goes to the playoffs where they will decide which 8 teams will go to the finals. Whoever wins the final tournament is the champion team and that basketball year is over.



Here is a picture of the NBA Championship Trophy.

Salary

Basketball is an amazing sport and I encourage many people to play it. It seems that every year more and more people enjoy playing and watching basketball. According to mercurynews.com an average NBA player makes around \$485,000! An average NBA player can top up to \$5 million on certain teams. It is the most paying job in the United States! Playing a game for up to \$5 million dollars plus, is AWESOME!



Here is a picture of an NBA basketball with money surrounding it



BASKETBALL

All the Nba Teams

