

Merchant of Tennis - Tennis Essentials Checklist



Racquet

What is your playing level?

Beginner Beginner - Intermediate Intermediate Intermediate - Advanced Advanced

Beginner players typically have a short and compact swing with OK hand-eye coordination. Intermediate players typically have solid technique, good hand-eye coordination, and the ability to generate their own power. Advanced players typically have a long, fluid stroke with very good technique and can manipulate the ball from anywhere on the court.

What racquet do you currently use?

Brand: _____ Model: _____

Knowing the racquet that you used previously can help guide you in the direction of the racquet you would need.

Do you need more help with power or control?

Power Control

Do you find it hard to keep the ball in the court? Are you always hitting the ball long? Then, you may need help with control. Do you find it hard to get the ball over the net? Or, make it travel further into the court? Then, you may need help with power.

Do you need help with consistency?

No - Smaller Sweetspot Yes - Larger Sweetspot

Do you find that you have a hard time hitting the ball exactly in the centre of your strings? Or, have trouble maintaining a rally? Then you should consider buying a racquet with a larger sweetspot.

Are you planning on taking tennis lessons?

No Yes

If you plan on taking lessons, you should be looking for a racquet that you can grow into.

Do you have any other considerations? Such as tennis elbow?

No Yes: _____

Any specific concerns or limitations are important to note to better fit the racquet to your needs.



Footwear

How often do you play?

Once a week Twice a week Three times a week Four or more times a week

If you are playing less often, you are looking for a shoe with minimal break in time. If you are playing more often you are potentially looking for a shoe that offers extra durability.

What type of surface do you play on?

Hard Court Clay Court Both

On a hard court the shoe tread should maximize the surface area and have minimal shallow grooves. On a clay court a herringbone tread with a sharp, deep zig-zag pattern along the majority of the out sole. If you play on both surfaces, it is recommended to have two pairs of shoes, some brands do carry a hybrid with both treads.



Tennis Balls

What type of surface do you play on?

Hard Court Clay Court

The surface of the court influences the type of ball that you need. On a hard-court you will be looking for an extra-duty tennis ball. On a clay court you will be looking for a regular-duty tennis ball.

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