

HOW TO BUILD A PORTABLE BOCCE COURT

By Jack Moyer and Art Bjork



A regulation bocce court is 12 feet wide and 60 feet long. The sides of the court must be higher than the mid-point of a regulation bocce ball. This court adheres to these requirements, is inexpensive to build and can be easily transported.

Parts List:

Ten foot (10') sections of three inch by 4 inch (3" X 4") pvc down spout 16 each
Three inch by 4 inch (3" X 4") pvc down spout connectors 10 each
Twelve inch (12") galvanized nails 32 each

Construction Directions:

(Measure twice, cut once!)



1. Begin by cutting three feet nine inches (3' 9") off the end of four of the ten foot down spout sections so that you have four (4) six foot three inch (6' 3") sections with which to make the ends of the court. Two (2) of the remaining three foot nine inch (3' 9") sections will be used later to reinforce the center junctions of the end sections.



2. Now take one of the three foot nine inch (3' 9") sections and cut a section off of the three inch (3") wide portion so that you can use it as a template for drilling the holes in the side sections later. Two and a half feet (2 ½') from the end of this template, drill a half inch (½") hole in the middle of the width.



3. Next, stand each ten foot (10') section on it's narrow side so that it is four inches (4") high and using the template, drill a half inch (½") hole in the center of the three inch (3") width, two and a half feet (2 ½') from the ends of each of the ten foot (10') sections. (In the picture above, one down spout section appears to have a hole in the wrong location, but it is not ... the down spout section just slid down a bit before the picture was taken). Turn them over and drill corresponding holes on the other side of each section so that the galvanized nails can go straight through the sections to hold them to the ground.



4. Next, drill the nail holes in the six foot three inch (6' 3") end sections. Do not use the template to drill these holes however. Rather, drill them one foot (1') from the ends in the middle of the narrow widths of the four (4) six foot three inch (6' 3") sections.



5. Take two (2) of the three foot nine inch (3' 9") sections and make one lengthwise cut down the center of one (1) of the narrow sides. These sections will be used as sleeves to slip over the junction of the two end pieces for reinforcement.



Above is a picture of the finished end of the bocce court with the sleeve in place.



6. Spray paint six (6) of the pvc down spout connectors a distinctive color (I used red), leaving the remaining four (4) white.



Court Assembly Directions:

7. Find a level area.

8. Laying each section on its three inch (3") side, so that the holes are on the tops and bottoms, lay out all ten (10) of the ten foot (10') side sections and all four (4) of the six foot three inch (6' 3") end sections so that they form the basic rectangle of the court.



9. Join the side sections with the connectors so that the red connectors are at the ten foot (10') foul lines and the thirty foot (30') mid-court line. The four (4) white connectors are used for the other four (4) neutral connections.



Note that the end sections have three (3) extra inches so that they can seat against the ends of the side sections and still provide exactly twelve (12) feet of width.

10. Use 4 of the galvanized nails to mark the corners of the court and stretch string between the spikes so that it forms square and parallel guidelines you can follow to align the side and end pieces before nailing them in place.



11. With the court assembled in a perfect rectangle, using a hammer, pound all of the twelve inch (12") galvanized nails through all of the guide holes. (Remember to remove the guide strings and the galvanized nails used to hold the guide strings.)



12. Finally, slip the two three foot nine inch (3' 9") sleeves over the center junction of each of the two (2) end pieces for reinforcement.



Courts being used at State Summer Games – Wide World of Sports Disney Complex

PLAY BOCCE !!

For more information call Art Bjork 352-245-5386