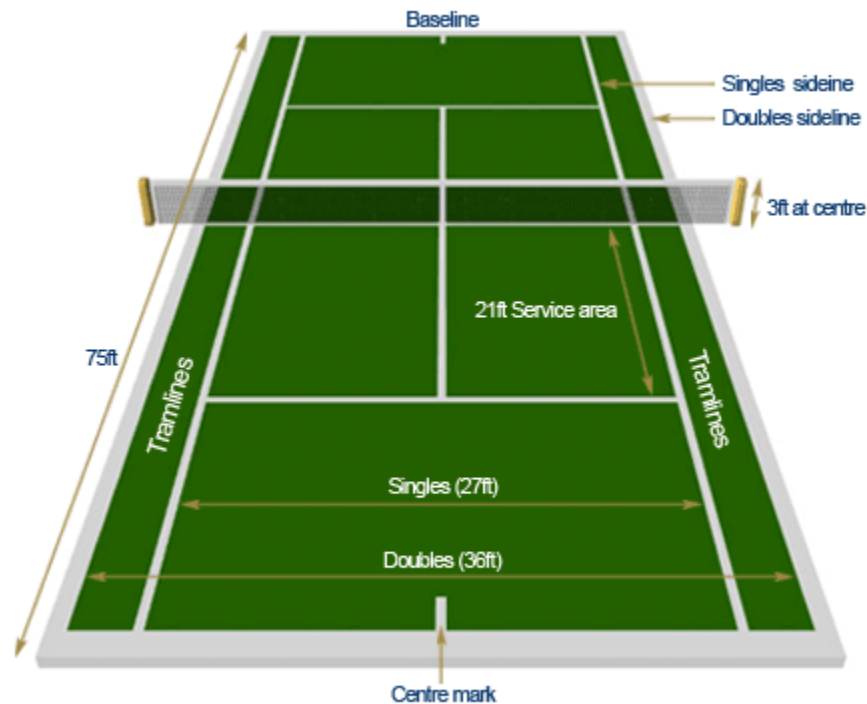


The Basic Rules of Tennis



1. The right to serve, receive, choose your side, or give your opponent these choices is decided by a coin toss or a spin of the racquet. Opponents stand on opposite ends of the court. The player who hits the ball to start the point is called the **server**. The player who stands opposite and cross-court from the server is the **receiver**.
2. The server stands behind the baseline on the **deuce** (right) side of the court within the boundaries of the centre mark and the singles or doubles sideline. Serves are made diagonally from the deuce court to the opponent's service box on the deuce court. The server has two chances and if they miss their target twice, it is called a **fault** and they lose the point. If the ball touches the net but goes into the box, a "**let**" is called and another serve is granted. After the point, the players switch sides to the **advantage** "ad" (left) side of the court.
3. During play, if the ball goes into the net, or outside the boundaries of the court, the player who hit the ball loses the point. A ball that lands on or inside the line is good. If the ball touches the net but lands on the opponent's side, the ball is still in play. Players switch between the ad and deuce sides after every point.
4. Scoring is done like a clock. The point begins at "love" which is zero and if the server wins the first point, they get a score of 15. The second point is called 30 and the third point is called 40. A score of 40-40 is called **deuce** and one side must win by two points. **Ad-In** means if the server wins the next point they win the game. **Ad-Out** means the receiver has a chance to win the game on the next point.
5. Each game equals "1" and players take turns serving, switching ends after the first game, and every two games thereafter. The first to win six games, by two, wins the set. If the score is 6-6, a tie-breaker is played which is scored by "one's," point-by-point. The first person or team to score at least seven points

winning by two wins the set. A match can be the best two of three sets (club level), or the best three of five sets (men's professional tennis).