

# Where To Place The Rugby Ball - The Ultimate Guide

Are you a rugby enthusiast looking to ace your game? One of the essential skills in rugby is knowing where to place the ball on the field. Mastering this skill can greatly impact the outcome of the game, by affecting the flow of play and giving your team the upper hand. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore various strategic positions and tactics to place the rugby ball, helping you become a valuable asset to your team.

## The Basics: Understanding the Field Layout

Before we dive into the specifics, it's crucial to familiarize ourselves with the field layout. A rugby field is rectangular in shape, measuring 100 meters long and 70 meters wide. Divided into two halves, it features various markings that play a significant role in determining where to place the ball.

The goal posts are positioned at each end of the field, consisting of a crossbar 3 meters above the ground. Scoring a try involves grounding the ball past the goal line in the opponent's in-goal area.



## Where To Place The Rugby Ball

by Andy Braner(Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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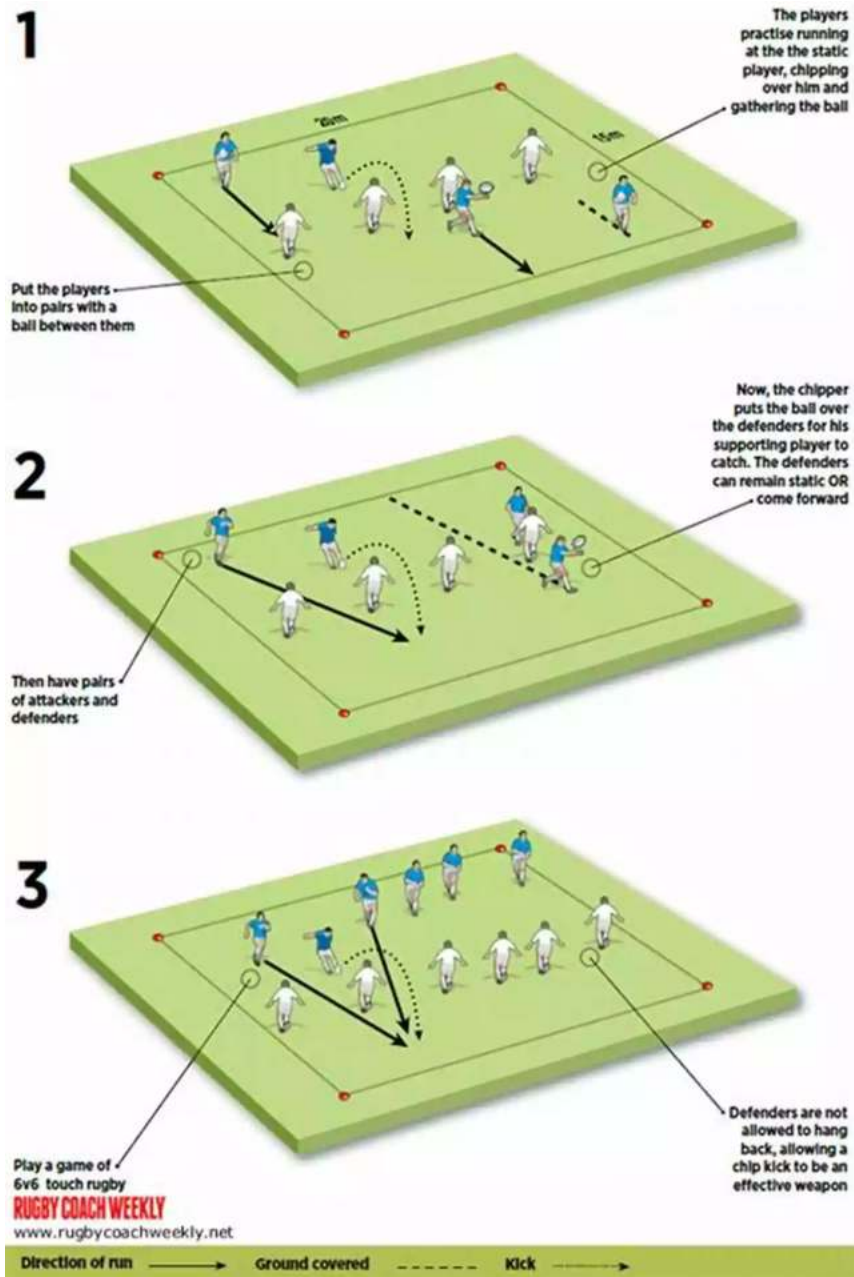


## 1. Strategic Placements in the Backline

The backline, consisting of the fullback, wingers, and centers, offers various options for ball placement. Here are a few strategic placements you can consider:

### a) Chip Kick

When faced with a tight defense, a well-executed chip kick can create opportunities for your team. A chip kick involves kicking the ball softly over the opposing defensive line, allowing your team to chase it down and regain possession. This tactic is particularly effective when near the opponent's try line.



## b) Crossfield Kick

Another tactical move is the crossfield kick. This involves kicking the ball diagonally across the field, creating confusion among the opposing team and giving your teammates a chance to gather the ball and score. It requires precise timing and accuracy, but when executed well, it can be a game-changer.



## 2. Forward Placements in the Pack

The forward pack, including the props, hooker, second-row, and flankers, has its own set of strategic placements. Let's discuss a couple of important ones:

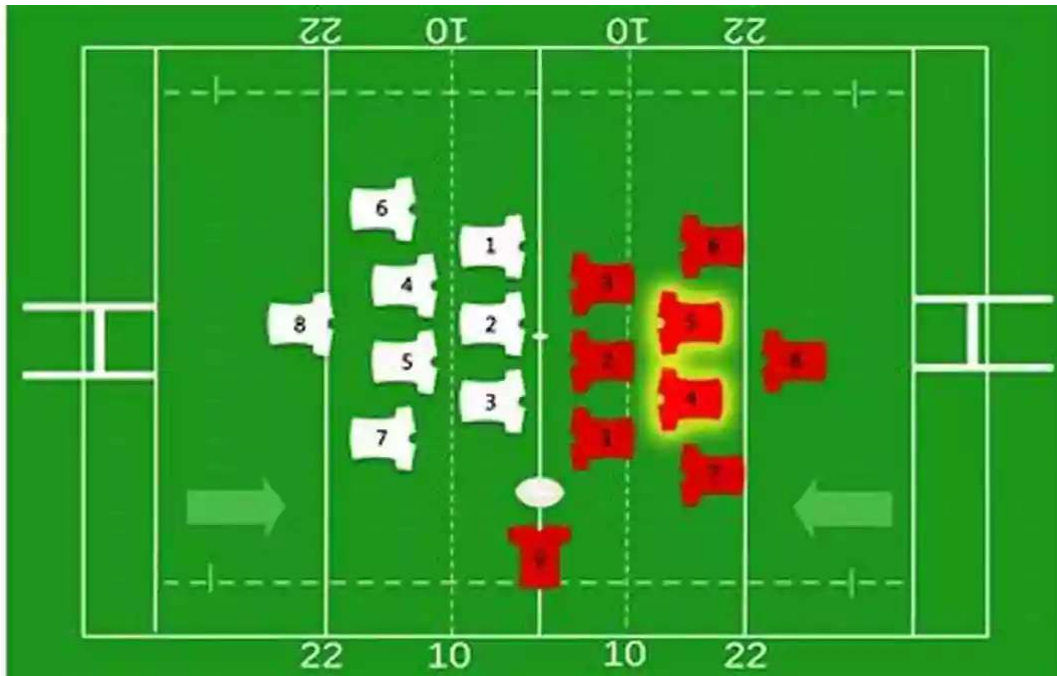
### a) Maul

A maul is formed when a player carrying the ball is held by one or more opponents, and one additional player from each team is bound to them. This creates a powerful pushing force that can penetrate the opposing team's defense. Placing the ball at the back of the maul can help your team gain significant ground while maintaining possession.



## **b) Scrum**

A scrum is a set-piece formation where the forwards from each team bind together, aiming to gain possession of the ball. The hooker plays a crucial role in placing the ball accurately and timely for the scrum-half to collect. Proper placement ensures a smooth transition and quicker movement for your team.



### 3. Effective Placements in the Set Plays

Set plays, such as lineouts and penalty kicks, offer specific opportunities for ball placement. Let's explore their effectiveness:

#### a) Lineout

A lineout occurs when the ball goes out of play, and players from both teams gather to contest for the ball. A successful lineout requires accurate throwing and strategic placement of the ball. By placing the ball towards the front of the lineout, your team gains better control and can mount an effective attacking play.



## **b) Penalty Kick**

In cases where the opposing team commits an infringement, a penalty kick presents an opportunity to score points. Proper ball placement is crucial to ensure an accurate kick. By placing the ball in line with the intended trajectory, your kicker can maximize accuracy and distance, increasing the chances of scoring.



Mastering the art of ball placement is a game-changer in rugby. Understanding the various strategic positions and tactics discussed in this guide will help you make well-informed decisions on where to place the rugby ball. Remember, effective ball placement can turn the game in your team's favor, leading to more scoring opportunities and ultimately, victory on the field. So, start implementing these strategies and witness your rugby skills soar to new heights!

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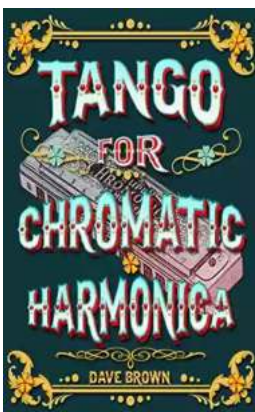




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In the game of rugby, a place kicker can place the ball on the ground and attempt to placekick it through the posts for 3 points (for a penalty kick), or 2 points (for a convert). He may place the ball anywhere in a straight line (parallel to the sidelines) behind the mark awarded by the referee. My explanation finds the exact place to put your ball to maximize your angle that you are aiming at. I give you a very easy way to estimate closely this exact point by line of sight. I also back up my findings by a mathematical proof using Calculus. A coach or placekicker does not need to know this "proof", but a Calculus teacher or student might find it to be an interesting use of Calculus.



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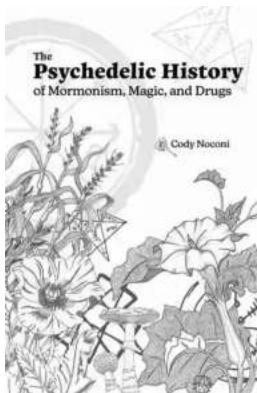
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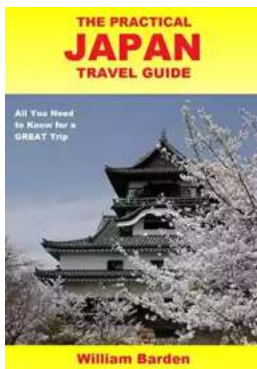
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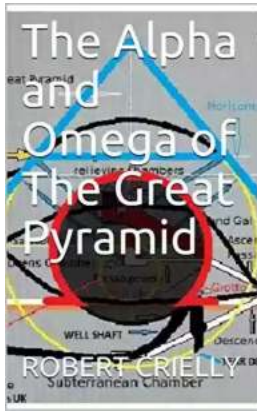
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