

Tennis

The dimensions of a singles and doubles tennis courts are defined in the Rules of Tennis by the International Tennis Federation (ITF). For practical purposes the vast majority of tennis courts are built to doubles dimensions, which allows for both singles and doubles.

The court

The court is 23.77m long and for singles matches, 8.23m wide. For doubles matches the court is 10.97m wide.

The court is divided into two equal areas by a net suspended by a cord or metal cable attached to two net posts. The net is 1.07m high and is fully extended to that it fills the space between the two nets posts. The net is 0.914m high at the centre, where is held down tightly by a white strap. A white band covers the cord or metal cable and the top of the net.

For doubles matches the centre of the net posts are 0.914m outside the doubles court on each side.

For singles matches the centres of the net posts are 0.914m outside the singles court on each side.

Playing area

The overall playing area including run-off depends on the type of event. A guide to minimum court area requirements (single courts) is outlined in the table below.

With indoor courts the recommended height measured at the net from the court surface to the ceiling is 9.14m.

Line markings

The lines at the end of the court are baselines and the lines at the sides of the court are side lines. The baseline is up to 10cm wide.

Service lines are two lines between the singles side lines, 6.40m from each side of the net, parallel with the net.

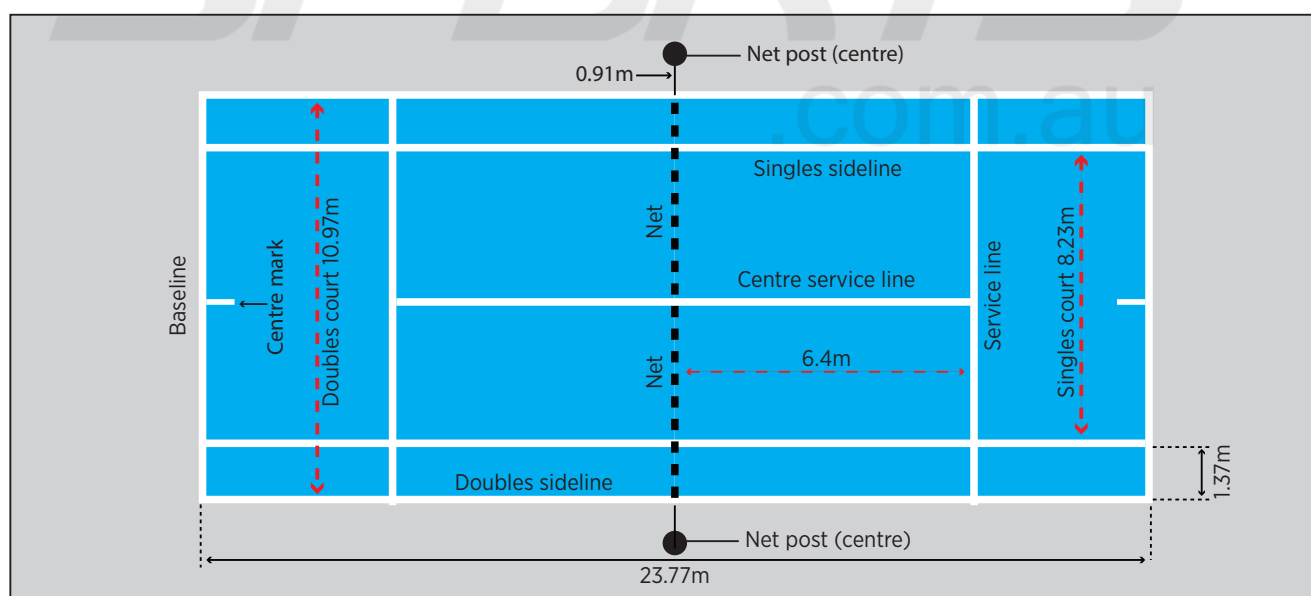
On each side of the net the area between the service line and the net are divided into two equal parts called the service courts. The line dividing the service courts is the centre service line and is drawn parallel with the singles side lines and half way between them. The centre service line is 5cm wide.

All other lines on the court are between 2.5cm and 5cm wide.

All court measurements are made to the outside of the lines and are all the same colour, contrasting with the colour of the surface.

Court Dimensions	Club/ recreation	ITF (pro tour)	Stadium court
Total area	34.77m x 17.07m	36.6m x 18.3m	40.23m x 20.11m
Run-off back of court	5.48m	6.4m	8.23m
Run-off at side of court to fence	3.05m	3.66m	4.57m
Min distance between 2 courts (unfenced)	3.66m	5.48m	N/A
Recommended distance between two courts (unfenced)	4.27m	N/A	N/A

Singles and doubles tennis court



10 and under tennis

Tennis10s is tennis for players aged 10-and-under, played on smaller courts with slower Red, Orange and Green balls. It is a fun way to start tennis and makes it easy for children to play the game, develop good technique and tactics and a love for the sport.

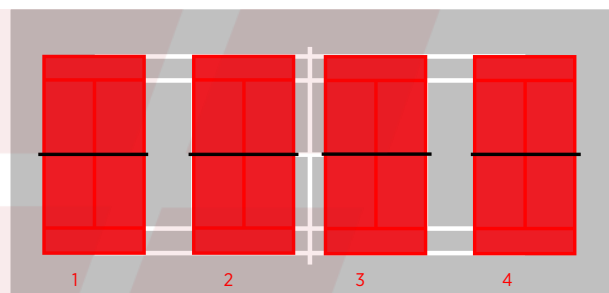
As at 1 January 2012 all Tennis Australia sanctioned 10 and under competitions are played on approved smaller courts.

Tennis Australia recommends three different scaled court sizes that help kids progress at their own pace, preparing them to play on a full-size court. These are known as red courts, orange courts and green courts.

Court dimensions

Dimensions	Small	Large
Red court (stage 3)		
Length	8.23m	10.97m
Width	3.0m	6.0m
Net height	80cm*	80cm*
Orange court (stage 2)		
Length	18m	
Width	6.4m	
Net height	80-91.4cm	
Green court (stage 1 full size court)		
Length	23.77m	
Width	8.23m	
Net height	91.4cm	

Red court



Orange court



Line markings

There are a variety of temporary or permanent options for marking lines for the red and orange courts on full sized tennis courts.

Throw-down lines

These are rubber or thermo plastic strips laid down on the court and can be removed after each session.

Chalk

A mix of diluted chalk paint can be used to mark the temporary lines on both artificial clay and grass surfaces. Lime may be used to temporarily line red and orange courts on natural grass surfaces, but is not suitable for artificial grass courts.

Strong tape

Something similar to painter's tape is semi-permanent and will last up to six months.

Permanent paint

Semi-permanent paint can be used on artificial clay and grass surfaces. When using permanent or semi-permanent lines, use a colour that is similar to the court surface so as not to distract players when using the full court.

Beach tennis

The court is 16m long and for doubles matches, 8m wide and for singles matches, 4.5m wide.

The court is divided in the middle by a net suspended by a cord or metal cable attached to two net posts. The net is fully extended and is 1.7m high at all part of the net. A band covered the cord or metal cable and the top of the net.

The lines of the court are between 2.5cm and 5cm wide except for the baselines which are up to 10cm wide.

The lines at the ends of the courts are baselines and the lines at the sides are called side lines. The court boundaries are marked with a coloured boundary tape that contrasts with the colour of the surface and the court measurements are made to the outside of the tape.

Boundary tapes are produced specifically for beach sports and include rubber anchors or anchor plates to fix the tape to the sand.

Playing surface

The terrain is levelled sand, as flat and uniform as possible. The surface is to be free of rocks, shell and other objects that could endanger or injure any of the players.

Junior beach tennis

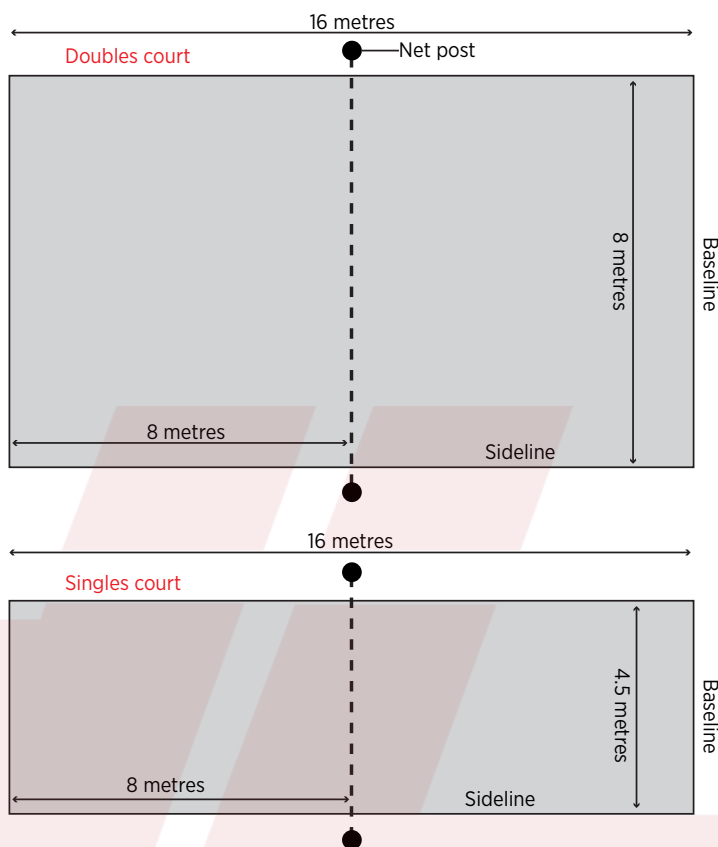
16 and under and 14 and under

The court is 16m long and 8m wide. The net is 1.7m high across the full width of the court.

12 and under beach tennis

The court is 14m long and 7m wide. The net is 1.5m high across the full width of the court.

Singles and doubles beach tennis courts



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References

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- ITF Rules of Tennis. International Tennis Federation 2015. Nassau, Bahamas. <http://www.itftennis.com/home.aspx>
- Tennis play and Stay ITF Official Program <http://www.tennisplayandstay.com/media/124413/124413.pdf>
- ITF Rules of Beach Tennis 2016