

Court Dimensions & Timing Comparisons

Court sizes and timing rules differ depending on the level of play, and within the various basketball associations. However, they do have two things in common: size of the rim size (18") and the height of the basket (10').

Court Dimensions	Junior High	High School	College Men	College Women	FIBA International	NBA	WNBA
Court Length	74'	85'	94'	94'	28m (91'10")	94'	94'
Court Width	42'	50'	50'	50'	15m (49'2.5")	50'	50'
Lane Width	12'	12'	12'	12'	4.9m (16')	16'	16'
Free Throw Line	15'	15'	15'	15'	4.6 m (15')'	15'	15'
Three Point Line	19'9"	19'9"	20'9"	20'9"	6.75m (22' 1¾")	23'9"	22' 1¾"
Restricted Arc	-	-	3'	3'	1.25m (4')	4'	4'
Rim Height	10'	10'	10'	10'	3.05m (10')	10'	10'
Rim Size	18"	18"	18"	18"	18"	18"	18"
Ball Size	29.5" Boys 28.5" Girls	29.5" Boys 28.5" Girls	29.5"	28.5"	29.5"	29.5"	28.5"
Period Time (Periods)	8 min (4)	8 min (4)	20 min (2)	10 min (4)	10min (4)	12min (4)	10min (4)
Overtime Periods	5 min	5 min	5 min	5 min	5 min	5 min	5 min
Shot Clock	Varies	30 Sec	30 Sec	30 Sec	24 Sec	24 Sec	24 Sec

Note: Originally, the game was played with peach baskets or 18" square boxes hung from the balconies of the running tracks of most indoor facilities. At this time the basket height was established at 10 feet, which still stands today. Obviously, the peach baskets and boxes slowed the game down since the ball had to be retrieved after every goal either by someone on the running track or by ladder. The peach baskets were replaced first by heavy woven wire rims in 1892. Then, a year later, in 1893 cast iron rims were used. Open ended nylon nets were approved for use in 1912. This was a major milestone for basketball since the free falling ball after a made basket dramatically increased tempo and scoring of the game.