## Court and Enclosure Dimensions

## Introduction

The dimensions of a tennis court are defined in the Rules of Tennis by the Intentional Tennis Federation. Rule 1 defines the dimensions of both a singles tennis court and doubles tennis court.

For practical purposes the vast majority of tennis courts are built to doubles dimensions, which allows for both singles and doubles.

## Orientation

Courts should be oriented so that the sun inconveniences players as little as possible. The best orientation will depend on the time of day and time of year that play is most likely to take place, with a northsouth orientation preferred.

## Dimensions

The dimensions of a tennis court defined in the International Tennis Federation's Rules of Tennis are expressed in Imperial units (feet \& inches). In Australia the equivalent dimensions are expressed in Metric units. All dimensions are measured to outside of lines.

## Characteristics

Outdoor tennis courts have a built in slope to facilitate drainage, the design gradient depends on how the storm water is to be drained. The design gradient of the court is generally between $1 \%$ and $1 / 2 \%$, the degree of gradient is influenced by whether the tennis court's base is permeable (vertical flow of water) or impermeable (surface run-off). The gradient may vary; for example, due to material type, the number of courts.

## Playing Lines

The width of all lines on the tennis court shall be a minimum of 2.5 cm and a maximum of 5 cm except the baseline, which may be 10 cm , and the centre service lines and centre mark, which shall be 5 cm .

## Playing Area

For international standard tournaments the overall area required is defined dependent on the event. A guide to minimum court area requirements (single courts) can be found in the following table:

| Court Dimensions | Club / Recreation | ITF <br> (e.g. Pro Tour, Davis/Fed Cup <br> Zonal ties)* | Stadium Court <br> (e.g. Davis/Fed Cup World <br> Group ties)* |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Total Area | $34.77 \mathrm{~m} \times 17.07 \mathrm{~m}$ | $36.6 \mathrm{~m} \times 18.3 \mathrm{~m}$ | $40.23 \mathrm{~m} \times 20.11 \mathrm{~m}$ |
| Run-off at back of court | 5.48 m | 6.4 m | 8.23 m |
| Run off at side of court to fence | 3.05 m | 3.66 m | 4.57 m |
| Minimum distance between two <br> courts (unfenced) | 3.66 m | 5.48 m | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |
| Recommended distance between <br> two courts (unfenced) | 4.27 m | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ | $\mathrm{n} / \mathrm{a}$ |

* Note: Other considerations apply


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## Playing Lines

The plan and dimensions of a tennis court's lines are (not to scale). All measurements are to the outside of the lines.


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## Dimension guide

For both recreational and club play (not to scale).
As a guide, the suggested recommended minimum and recommended dimensions for tennis courts are:


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