

# HOW TO PLAY PETANQUE

## THE GAME AT A GLANCE

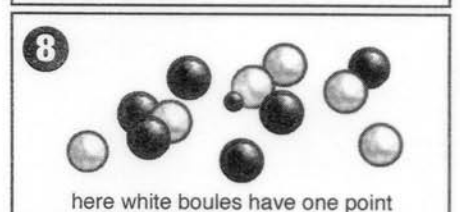
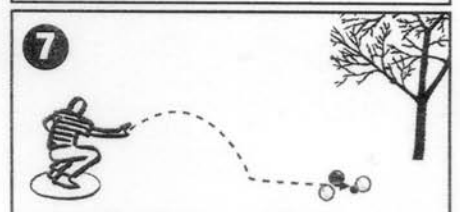
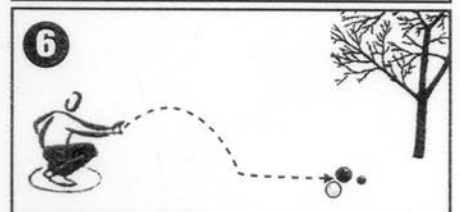
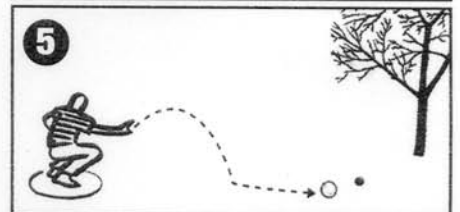
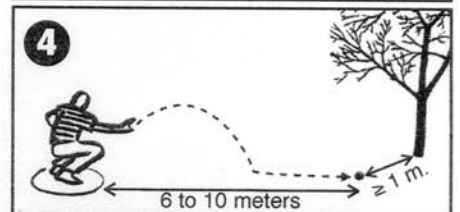
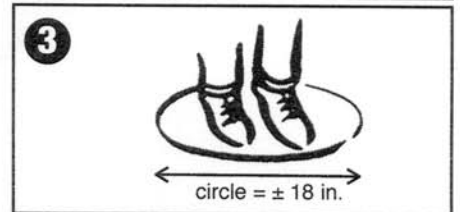
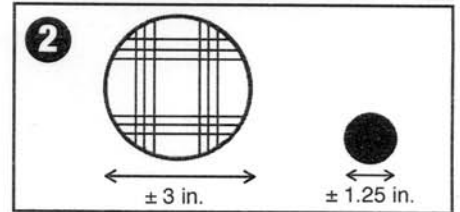
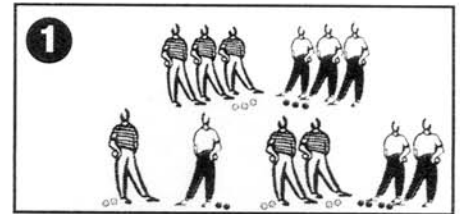
- 1** Petanque is usually played by teams of 2 against 2 (3 boules each player) or 3 against 3 (2 boules each player). 1 can play against 1 with 3 boules each.
- 2** The metal balls are called boules in French. The small wooden target-ball is called the jack (bouchon or cochonnet in French).
- 3** All players must play from the same circle drawn on the ground. Their feet must be in the circle and always touching the ground while they play.
- 4** A coin toss decides who plays first. The first team to play throws the jack in any direction to a distance between 20 and 33 feet, and a minimum of 1 yard from any obstacle.
- 5** That same team then plays their first boule, trying to get it close to the jack. This is called "pointing". The boule closest to the jack "has the point".
- 6** The other team then tries to get their boule even closer and so "take the point".
- 7** The team that doesn't have the point must play until either their boule is the closest or they run out of boules. Then the other team must do the same.

At some point either team may choose to try knocking away the boule that is holding the point. This is known as "shooting".

- 8** Play continues like this until all the boules have been played. The round is over and it's time to count points. The team with the boule closest to the jack gets one point for each of its boules that is closer to the jack than the closest boule of the other team.

The team that scored starts the next round by drawing a new circle where the jack lies and again throwing the jack between 20 and 33 feet.

More rounds are played until one team reaches 13 points and wins the match.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q. What are you playing ?...**

**A. Petanque**

**Q. How do you pronounce that ?...**

**A. Peh - tonk**

**Q. What's a boule ?...**

**A. That's just French for ball**

**Q. What are you supposed to do ?...**

**A. Get your boule closer to the target ball than the other team's boules**

**Q. Do you take turns ?...**

**A. As long as your team is the closest, then it's up to the other team to play**

**Q. Who wins the game ?...**

**A. The first team to get thirteen points**

**Q. How do you count the points ?...**

**A. At the end of each round, every boule of yours that's closer to the jack than your opponent's closest boule counts as a point for you**

**Q. Are you allowed to move the little ball ?...**

**A. You bet. On purpose or by accident — either way it can change the whole game**

**Q. Is it O.K. to hit another player's boule ?...**

**A. That's when it really starts being fun!**

**Q. How can you tell the boules apart ?...**

**A. Once you've played a while, you see the differences — you develop an eye for them. Competition boules have serial numbers too, so no two sets are alike**

**Q. Isn't this a lot like Bocce-Ball or Lawn Bowling ?...**

**A. Yes, in many ways it is. An advantage is that Petanque doesn't need a special court or surface to play on. Also, the equipment is easier to carry around so you can play petanque practically anywhere — plus it's a faster moving game**

**Q. Isn't the equipment hard to come by ?...**

**A. Not any more. Now it's easy to get boules in the U.S.A. Order by phone or the internet and they'll be delivered to your door. A set of boules can last a lifetime. It would be hard to think of a sport that costs less to play than Petanque!**

**Get yourself some boules and find out for yourself how much fun it can be!**

The equipment for Petanque is available in the U.S.A. from these dealers

**• Petanque America**

Fernandina Beach, FL

Toll Free: 800-682-2557

E-mail: [petanqueamerica@gmail.com](mailto:petanqueamerica@gmail.com)

<http://www.petanque-america.com>

**• Playaboule**

Seattle, WA

Toll Free 888-225-2865

E-mail: [sales@playaboule.com](mailto:sales@playaboule.com)

<http://www.playaboule.com>

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