

How to set up

BY FLOYD PERRY

Most of your clay surface sports, softball and baseball, youth or adult, have their specific field layout designs and distances readily available for you to follow (Diagram A). Place bases your respective league's distances, e.g., Little League 60 ft., Pony 80 ft., high school 90 ft., etc. Pitching distances are in Diagram B.

If you're laying a diamond out for the first time, it's best to gather your engineering staff with distance lasers to set right angles and correct positioning of base anchors (Photo 1). Once all measurements are set and in place, it's just a matter of stringing all distances from the apex of home plate, which is your benchmark for correct angles.

Photos 2 and 3 show the center string dissecting in half home plate and second base, with the two outside strings 12 in. off the center. These three strings square off the pitching rubber. Set the distance measurement according to league play (Photo 4).

The standard adult pitcher's mound recommends a 3 x 5-ft. table or platform behind and including the pitching rubber (Photo 5), depending on level of performance and maintenance. Many times this table is smaller and rounder.

The corner bases are measured to the rear corner (Photo 6) with second base being measured 127 ft. 3 3/8 in. to the middle of the bag.

Many progressive groundskeepers can lay out a baseball/softball diamond by different "homespun" means. Just remember all angles begin with the apex of home plate.

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Diagram B											
Group	Type/Age	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
College	Fastpitch/Female	43'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	190'-220'	4'
High School	Fastpitch/Female	40'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	200'-225'	4'
ASA Adult	Fastpitch/Women	40'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	200'-250'	4'
	Fastpitch/Men	46'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	225'-250'	4'
	Slowpitch/Women & Men	50'	91'9"	65'	65'	32'	8'	15'	3'	265'-315'	4'
ASA Youth	Fastpitch/Girls/10U	35'	77'9"	55'	55'	27'	8'	15'	3'	150'-175'	4'
	Girls/12U	35'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	175'-200'	4'
	Girls/14U	40'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	175'-200'	4'
	Girls/16U/18U	40'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	200'-225'	4'
AFA Youth	Fastpitch/Girls/12U	38'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	4'	3'
	Girls/14U/16U/18U	40'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	4'	3'
USSSA Adult	Slowpitch/Men's 12"	46'	91'9"	65'	65'	32'	10'	10'	5'	250'+	3'
	Womens 11"	46'	91'9"	65'	65'	32'	10'	10'	5'	300'-315'	3'
SCMAF Adult	Slowpitch/Women/Men	50'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	250'+	4'
	Fastpitch/Men	46'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	250'+	4'
	Fastpitch/Women	40'	84'10"	60'	60'	30'	8'	15'	3'	250'+	4'

Diagram B																
Group	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
Pro, College, High School	60'6"	90'	127'3"	95'	18'	26'	13'	45'	20'	10'	15'	60'	320'-350'	400'+	10'	4'
Babe Ruth	60'6"	90'	127'3"	95'	18'	26'	13'	45'	20'	10'	15'	60'	300'	335'	10'	4'
Colt	60'6"	90'	127'3"	95'	18'	26'	13'	45'	20'	10'	15'	60'	300'	350'	10'	4'
Pony	54'	80'	113'2"	80'	15'	24'	12'	40'	12'	6'	12'	40'	250'	300'	8'	4'
Bronco	48'	70'	99'	65'	12'	22'	11'	35'	12'	6'	9'	30'	200'	250'	6'	4'
Little League	46'	60'	84'10"	50'	10'	18'	9'	30'	8'	4'	6'	25'	200'	200'	6'	3'
Mustang	44'	60'	84'10"	50'	9'	20'	10'	30'	8'	4'	6'	20'	175'	225'	4'	4'
Pinto	38'	50'	70'8"	50'	9'	20'	9'	25'	8'	4'	6'	20'	150'	200'	4'	4'

Photo 1



Photo 2



bases

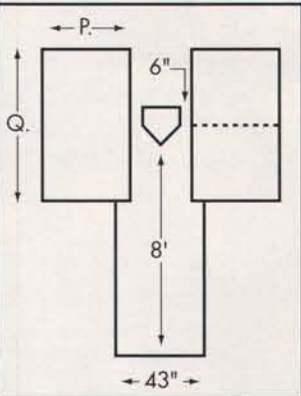
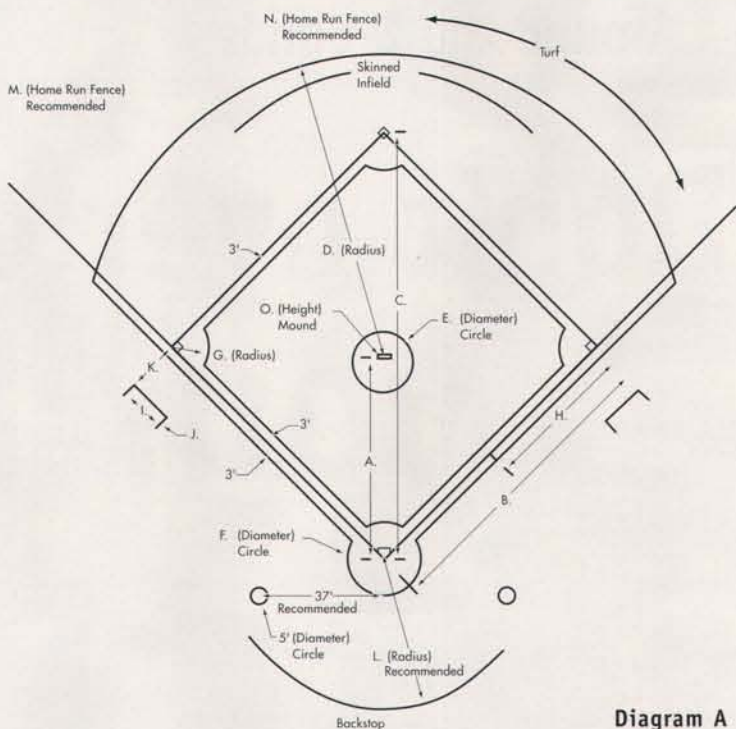


Diagram C

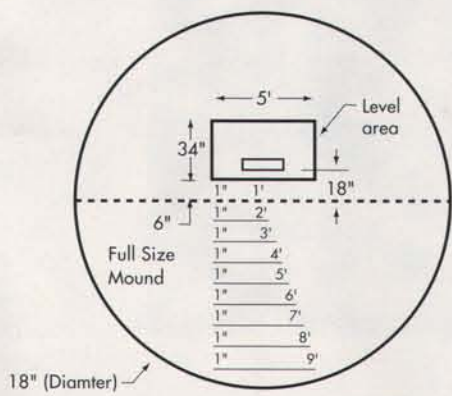


Diagram D

