



HOW TO MARK OUT RED AND ORANGE COURTS

This guide presents different ways to mark the smaller, Red and Orange courts (Green is played on a full size court), to best suit your facilities and resources. For more information please visit www.tennisplayandstay.com

SECTION 1 – COURTS

This section shows different ways of fitting Red and Orange courts on full sized tennis courts and on other non-tennis court spaces, for training and competitions.

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SECTION 2 – MATERIALS TO MARK THE COURTS

This section looks at the different materials available for lines and equipment for creating red and orange courts

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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

1. View the Red or Orange courts in Section 1 and find a design a court layout that suits you
2. Now visit Section 2 to find materials to mark lines and create nets



SECTION 1 – COURTS

This section looks at the different ways that Red and Orange courts can be marked, on both traditional tennis courts and on other surfaces.

(A) RED COURTS

Red Court Dimensions

Length: 11-12m (11m optimal)

Width: 5-6m

Net height: 80cm

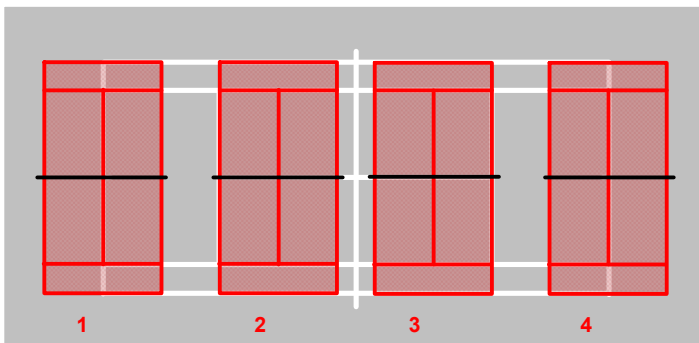
Service boxes (optional): 4m (length) x 2.5-3m (width)

Doubles court: Some doubles play may take place at Red, if so, an outside tramline can be placed 60cm from the Red court singles sideline

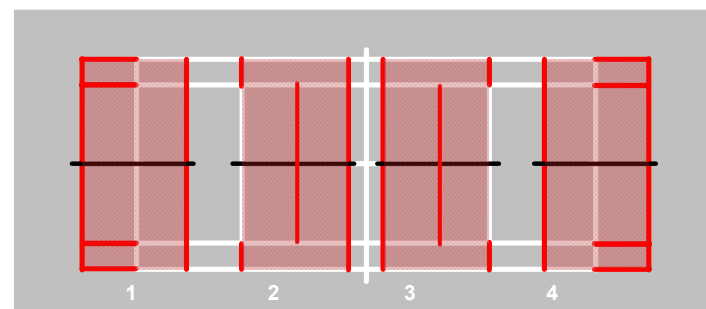
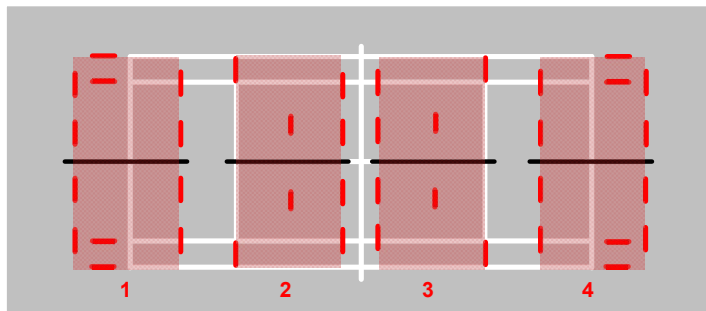
COMPETITION

Ideally courts in competition should follow the designs below, however as competition at this stage is less formal, using training courts for informal competition is acceptable.

Competition (1) – 4 Red Courts on 1 Full Size Court



Marking the courts (as above)



COURT DIMENSIONS

Court 1/4 = 11m x 5.5m*

Court 2/3 = 11m x 5.5m**

**Mark each red sideline, 2.75m out from the full court baseline*

***Mark red sideline closest to the full net, 0.9m from the full net*

Throw Down Lines

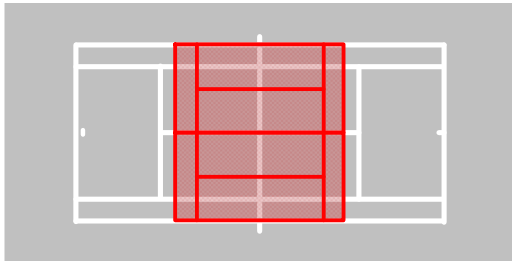
Lines needed = 40 throw down lines (as shown)

Tape (Temporary or Semi-Permanent) and Paint

Tape needed = 110m



Competition (2) – 2 Red Courts on 1 Full Size Court (Using smaller service boxes)



COURT DIMENSIONS
Courts = 11m x 5.845m*

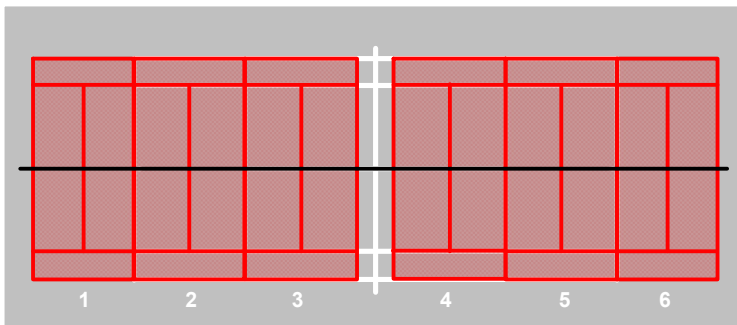
*Mark Red baseline 0.9m inside from the service line on the full court

Lower net to 80cm

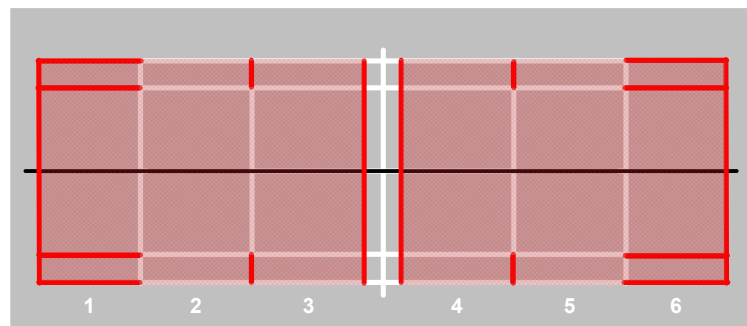
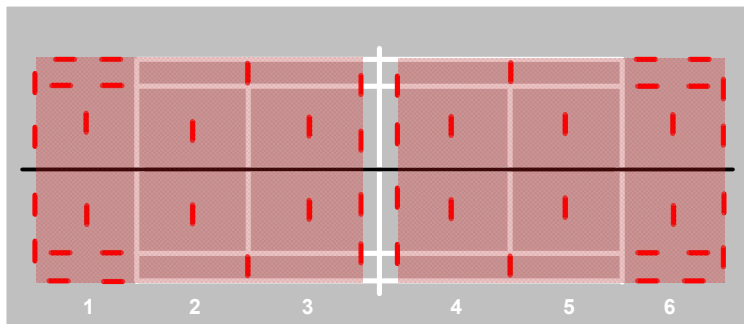
TRAINING

These court options can be used effectively in training.

Training (1) – 6 Red Courts on 1 Full Size Court



Marking the courts (as above)



COURT DIMENSIONS

Court 1/6 = 11m x 5m*

Court 2/5 = 11m x 5.485m**

Court 3/4 = 11m x 5.5m***

*Sidelines are: full court baseline and 5m from full court baseline in the run back

**Sidelines are: full court baseline and service line

***Sidelines are: 0.9m from the full net and the full court service line

Throw down lines

Lines needed for 6 courts (as pictured) = 48 throw down lines

Lines needed for 4 courts (removing courts 1 and 6) = 12 throw down lines

Tape (Temporary or Semi-Permanent) and Paint

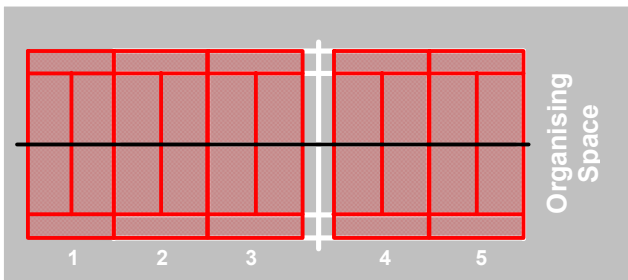
Tape needed for 6 courts (as pictured) = 90m

Tape needed for 4 courts (removing courts 1 and 6) = 25m



Training (2) – 5 Red Courts 1 Full Size Court

This option gives space to organise players, which is especially good for running informal competition or fun days.



COURT DIMENSIONS

Court 1 = 11m x 5m*

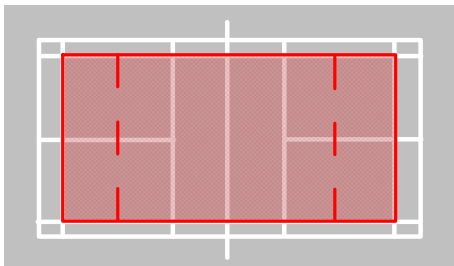
Court 2/5 = 11m x 5.485m*

Court 3/4 = 11m x 5.5m*

**Sidelines are: as described on 'Training (1) (previous diagrams)*

NON-TENNIS COURT SURFACE (Can be used for training and competition if appropriately sized)

Non Tennis Court (1) – 1 Red Court on a Badminton Court



COURT DIMENSIONS

Court: 11.89m x 5.6m*

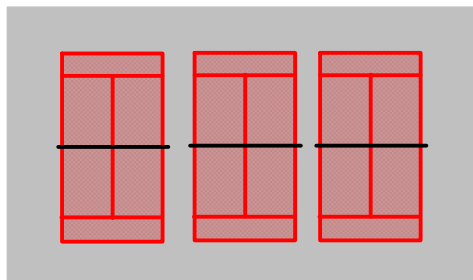
Net height: Lower to 80cm

Service Boxes (Optional): Add a service line approx 3m from baseline

**Badminton inside service line acts as Red court baseline, the badminton singles sideline acts as the Red court sideline.*

Non Tennis Court (2) – Using Red Court on any other surface

Red courts are excellent for playing tennis on any flat surface such as a playground, schoolyard or other flat, clear surface.



COURT DIMENSIONS

Court: 11m x 5.5m (or to fit space available)

Net height: 80cm

Service Boxes (Optional): Add a service line approx 3m from baseline

Examples of Red courts on non-tennis court surfaces:



Car Park



Town Square



School Playground



(B) ORANGE COURTS

Orange Court Dimensions

Length: 18m

Width: 6.5-8.23m (6.5m optimal)

Net height: 80cm

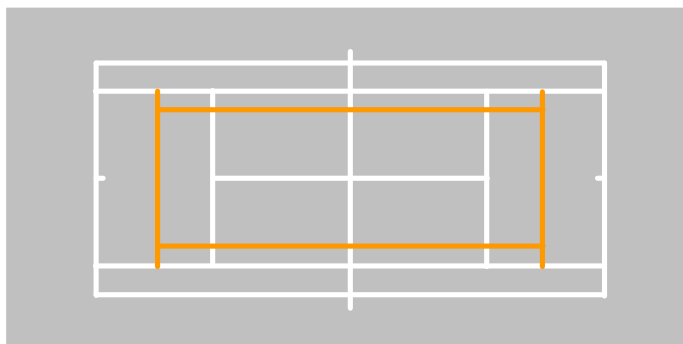
Service boxes: As per tennis court, 6.4m (length) x 3.25-4.115m (wide) depending on width of your orange court

Doubles court: Outside doubles tramline can be placed 90cm-1.73m wide from the singles sideline. When marking on an Orange Court on a full court

COMPETITION

The following courts are suitable for competition using the Orange ball.

Competition (1) – Narrow Orange Court on Full Court



COURT DIMENSION

Court = 18m x 6.5m

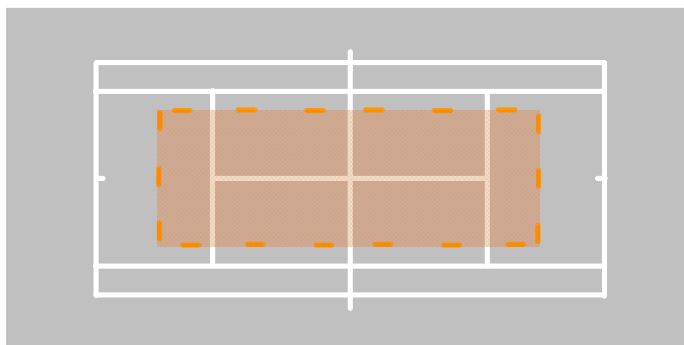
Sidelines – measure 0.86m inside from each full court sideline to mark the orange court sidelines

Baseline – measure 2.88m inside from each full court baseline to measure the orange court baselines

Doubles – full court sidelines can be used as the outside doubles tramlines

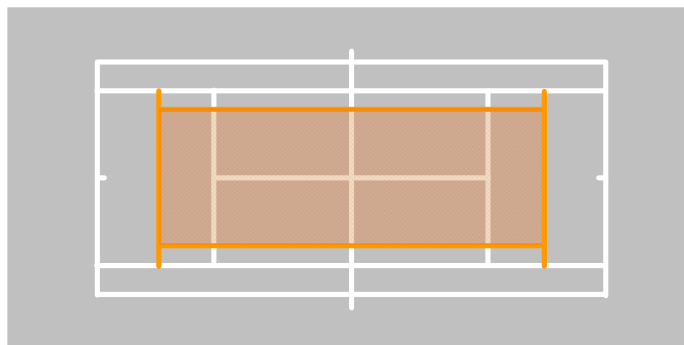
Service boxes – as for full court

Marking the courts (as above)



Throw down lines (Singles court shown)

Lines needed = 18 throw down lines (as shown)



Orange Lines (recommended)

Lines needed = 1 set of baselines and sidelines

Tape (Temporary or Semi-Permanent)

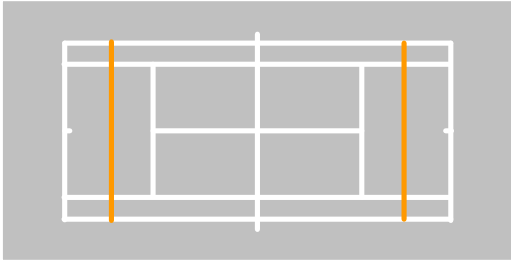
Tape needed = 53m tape

Paint

(See Section 2 for advice on painting lines)



Competition (2) – Wide Orange Court on Full Court



COURT DIMENSIONS

Court = 18m x 8.23m (full width)

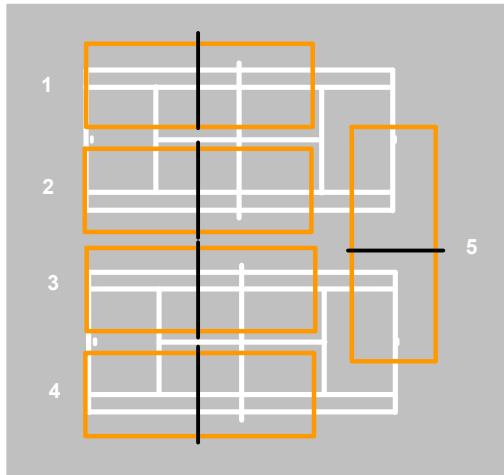
Sidelines – as for full size court

Baseline – measure 2.88m inside from each full court baseline to measure the orange court baselines

Service Boxes and Doubles – as for full court

Competition (3) – 5 Orange Courts on 2 Full Courts

This setup requires adequate space to ensure player safety.



COURT DIMENSIONS

Courts = 18m x 6.5m

The full court net is removed for this court design

Courts 1-4:

*Mark sidelines 1.20m from centre-service line and 2.3m from outside tramline
Mark baselines as full court baseline and 1.18m from service line*

Court 5:

Mark sidelines 3.25m from the baseline

Mark baselines 18m apart, across the length of the 2 full courts

Court 1-5

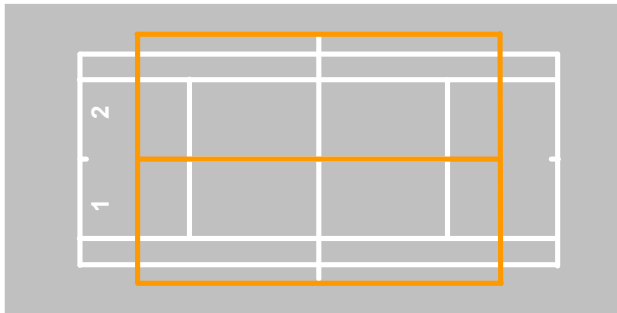
Place 80cm net in middle, 9m from each baseline

Mark service line 6.4m from net and centre-service line 3.25m from each sideline

TRAINING

The following courts are suitable for training using the Orange ball.

Training (1) – 2 Orange Courts on 1 Full Size Court



COURT DIMENSIONS

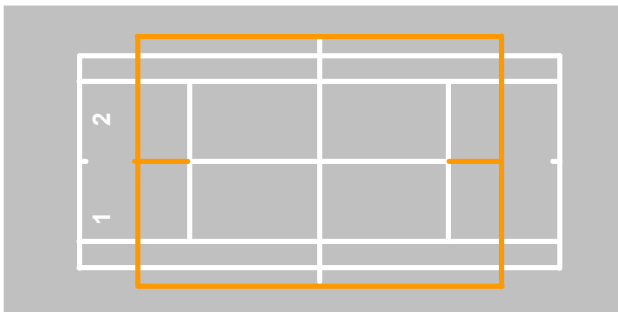
Courts = 18m x 6.5m

Sidelines – measure 1m outside the full court outside tramline to mark the orange court sidelines

Baseline – measure 2.88m inside from each full court baseline to measure the orange court baselines

Service Line and Centre Line (optional) – Can extend the full court service line and create service boxes by using throw down lines or tape to create a centre line for each court

Marking the Courts (as above)

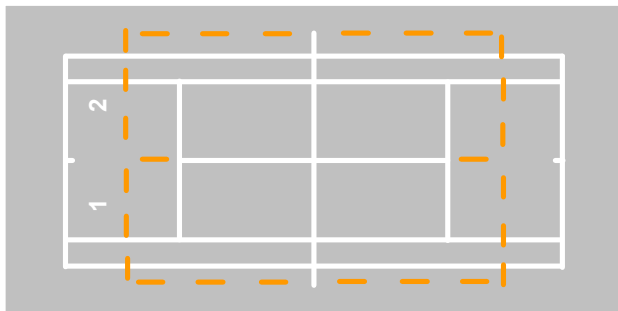


Tape (Temporary or Semi-Permanent

Tape needed = 55m

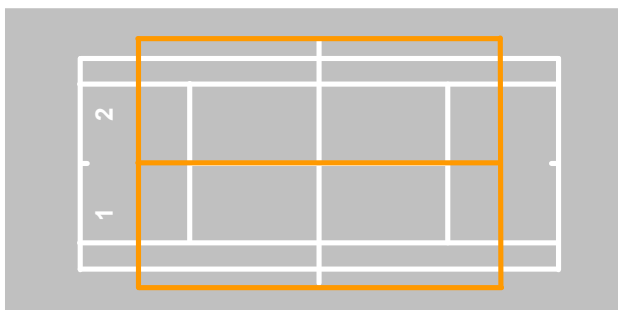
Paint

(See Section 2 for advice on painting lines)



Throw Down Lines

Throw down lines needed = 26 throw down lines



Orange Lines (recommended)

Lines needed = 1 full set of training lines

PURPOSE BUILT ORANGE COURT (Can be used for training and competition if appropriately

(1) – Purpose Built Orange Court

Temporary or permanent Orange courts can be laid on any flat surface. Many centres have built permanent orange courts in spaces where a full court could not fit, maximising the use of space available. Can also be used for competition if size is correct (18m x 6.5m)



SECTION 2 – MATERIALS TO MARK THE COURTS

This section presents methods and materials available when marking courts and looks at how different surfaces affect which method might be best for you.

There are 3 types of court marking:

- (a) **Temporary** (For use in a small number of sessions or tournaments)
- (b) **Semi-permanent** (Used for 1 week to 1 year but can be removed if required)
- (c) **Permanent**

(A) TEMPORARY

This section shows materials for temporarily marking Red and Orange courts.

Reminder Dots! When using temporary markings, it is much quicker to mark small dots on the court surface for where the lines should go (for example just 4 corners of the court). Then each time you go to mark out your court, you know straight away where the lines should go!

THROW DOWN LINES



Throw down lines are rubber strips that can be placed to mark smaller courts. When the Red court is laid over the width of a tennis court, minimal throw down lines are needed. Many coaches teach their players to lay out the court and then involve them in quickly setting them up in each session.

Evaluation:

Cost: Throw down lines can be bought or made relatively cheaply

Speed: They are quick to put down, especially using the players. 4-6 Red courts will take 3-5 minutes and 1 Orange court 1-2 minutes.

Life: When not using the full court, the lines will need to be removed then laid back down for the next session. The lines are very durable and will last for years.

Where to buy: The lines can be bought from most major tennis equipment suppliers. Visit <http://www.tennisplayandstay.com/equipment/suppliers/index.html> for full details, or search 'tennis throw down lines' on Google.

PHOTO: Throw down lines



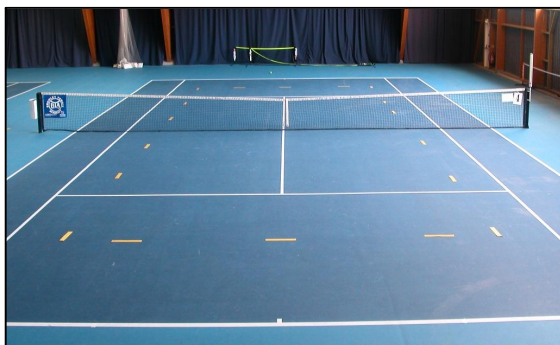
6 Red courts across one court



End court on '6 courts' setup



4 Red courts on one court



Narrow Orange Court



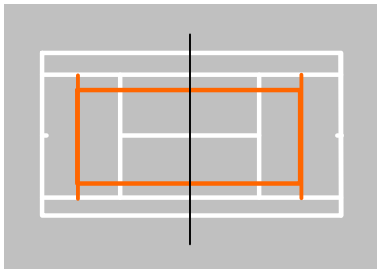
Full width Orange Court



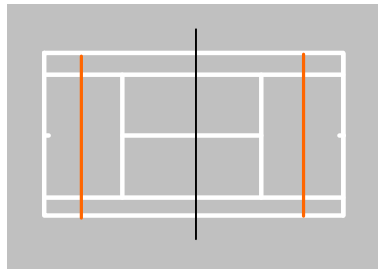
ORANGE COURT LINES

These are used to mark out the Orange (18m) court. The lines are full length, continuous elastic lines, not strips like the throw down lines. There are different sets of Orange lines available (see below)

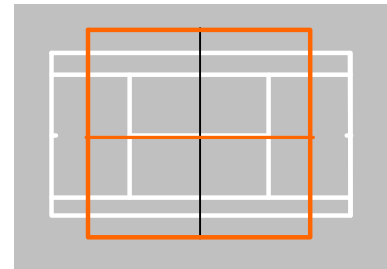
These lines can be bought with 'anchors' to keep them in place on most surfaces, on clay the lines can be nailed.



Orange Court: 18x6.5m



Wide Orange Court, full width singles court



2 Orange Training courts

Evaluation:

Cost: Varies – from \$40 (just baselines) to \$220 (full set)

Speed: Quick to put down, by marking 4-6 small anchors on the court, you can immediately see where the lines need to be positioned and they can easily be put down and taken up.

Life: The lines will last for years.

Where to buy: Zsig Sports sell all versions of the Orange court lines. Visit www.zsig.com or call +44 161 484 5000.

PHOTO: Orange Court Lines



Narrow Orange court



Stick anchor to court and attach the 'Velcro' elastic line



Attach another line on top of the first line, on the same anchor



2 Orange Training courts



Two lines produce a corner



Anchor at net to fix sideline



TEMPORARY TAPE (e.g. masking tape) – For stronger tapes, see ‘Semi-Permanent’



Tape can be used to mark out Red and Orange courts. Most masking tape is non-stick but check before laying on painted surfaces.

Tape out the lines as needed. To make the tape stick down best and avoid tears, run the tape down hard onto the courts and smooth out any creases or air bubbles with your fist or foot.

Evaluation:

Cost: Masking tape is very cheap to buy, especially when bought in large quantities

Speed: 2 people will take up to 5 minutes to setup 4-6 Red courts, getting children to help set up will take 2 minutes. 1-2 Orange courts can be set up in 2 minutes

Life: The lines last around 6-8 sessions (longer on Orange court), broken lines can be replaced quickly.

Where to buy: Can be bought in stationary and hardware stores or online (visit Google and search for ‘masking tape’).

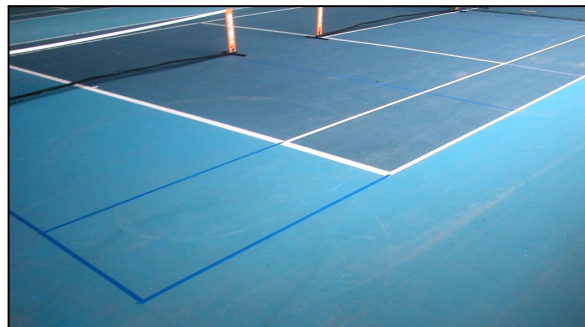
PHOTO: Taped Lines



4 Red Tape Courts



(Above) Tape on Red court next to net



(Left) Tape on the end Red court

CHALK



Chalk is a cheap option for use on most hard surfaces. It is especially good for marking temporary courts in school playgrounds, car parks or other open spaces.

Evaluation:

Cost: Very cheap

Speed: On a non-tennis court space, 1 court can be drawn in 1-2 minutes, on a tennis court, 6 red courts can be drawn in 3-5 minutes.

Life: The lines can be re-drawn in places if rubbed off by shoes, but usually last for a few sessions.

Where to buy: Stationary and hardware stores, or search online.

(B) SEMI-PERMANENT

Semi-Permanent markings are those that can be laid down and used for long periods of time and endure heavy court usage, however they can be taken up and replaced when needed.

STRONG TAPE (e.g. *Painter's Tape*)



Strong tape, such as painter's tape, can be durable, waterproof and non-marking. When laid down with care, it can last for up to 3 months, depending on court usage.

See section 'Temporary Tape' for how courts look when marked with tape.

Evaluation:

Cost: A roll of painter's tape costs between \$2-6.

Speed: Orange courts take around 5 minutes to mark. It is best to take extra time to press every part of the tape down onto the court, rubbing out any creases or air pockets – this will ensure the tape stays down longer, if available, rolling the wheels of a trolley over the line will help to ensure it stays stuck.

Life: Up to 3 months depending on the quality of the tape and how well it is laid down

Where to buy: Hardware stores or search for 'Painter's Tape' online. 'Scotch', 'Duck' and '3M' are popular brands.

TEMPORARY PAINT



Temporary paint is ideal for venues that want to remove lines just once or twice a year.

- Peelable paint can be painted onto most hard, flat, non-porous surfaces and simply peeled up when needed, without leaving a mark on the court. It can last up to 12 months depending on court usage and how it is applied
- Removable paint can also be painted onto hard, flat, non-porous surfaces, however it requires paint remover to remove the paint. This version can last up to 4 years!

See court images in 'Temporary Tape' for the markings that need to be made. To mark the courts either recruit a professional or follow the advice given by the paint manufacturer. Always test a small strip before painting.

Evaluation:

Cost: Base coat only (indoors) – approximately US\$70, Base coat and top coat (outdoors) – approximately \$140.00

Speed: The setup can be time consuming (90 minutes to mark and paint, 3-10 hours to dry), however a professional could be hired to mark the lines for you.

Life: Peelable paint will last up to 12 months, and temporary paint up to 4 years, depending on how well it is painted, amount of court use and the weather.

Where to buy: For peelable paint visit: http://www.spraylat.co.uk/industry_detail.php?id=7 or call 'Spraylat' on +44 15 36 40 84 09. For removable paint visit: <http://www.buildingdesign.co.uk/arch-5/removable-paint/temporary-paint.htm> or <http://www.magiccolors.net/removeit.html>.



(C) PERMANENT

There are two main options with permanent markings; firstly to mark permanent lines within a tennis court and secondly to paint purpose built Red or Orange courts.

PERMANENT LINES ON AN EXISTING COURT



Permanent Lines are usually only painted for Orange courts when on a full court, however red court lines could also be painted. It is recommended that a professional contractor be hired to paint the lines.

If you choose to paint the lines yourself, consult a professional contractor before painting, to ensure you have the correct type of paints.

PURPOSE BUILT RED OR ORANGE COURTS



Many nations now have purpose built Red and Orange courts that are reserved for children. Construction of these courts is ideal in spaces where a full sized court cannot be constructed.

A number of 'Kid Zones' (basic version pictured) have been built which feature red courts, target walls and other markings, for a child-friendly zone.

For further information on constructing kid zones please visit this link:
<http://www.lta.org.uk/Resources/Clubs/Mini%20Tennis%20Kids%20Zone.pdf>

(D) MARKING DIFFERENT COURT SURFACES

Below are points to consider when marking lines on the different court surfaces.

ACRYLIC AND MACADEM (Tarmac)

Any of the court marking methods can be used on these courts, however the temporary or removable paints should not be used on porous (water drains through the surface) courts, only the non-porous versions.

CARPET

Temporary tape will work effectively on most carpet surfaces and should have minimal affect on the carpet. Strong tape may be too adhesive and adversely affect the carpet surface, seek advice of the supplier before attempting to lay strong tape.

Throw down lines and orange court lines can be used effectively on carpet.

CLAY

Clay courts can be marked with throw down lines (special clay versions can be bought that will have more grip to the surface).

You can also arrange for a contractor to have permanent lines nailed into the court, however the best option is to buy a set of Orange Court lines that you can anchor outside the full court playing surface. The anchor can be nailed down off the surface of the court, but the lines that they hold down are removable, so do not have to be left on the surface.

GRASS

Grass courts can easily be marked with throw down lines or with the chalk used to mark out the full court lines. When using the chalk lines, you could use a green dye to make the lines more conspicuous on the grass surface.

ARTIFICIAL GRASS

Tape and paint are not suitable for this surface, however chalk, throw down lines and orange lines can be used effectively. If you want to have permanent lines, speak to a court manufacturer for advice.



(E) NETS AND OTHER COURT EQUIPMENT

NETS

There are various options when using nets in training and competition.

Portable Nets



Portable nets can foldaway to make them easy to store and carry. They vary greatly in cost but you can expect to pay from \$80 to \$200 per net.

The nets usually come in either 3m or 6m sizes. 6m nets are recommended.

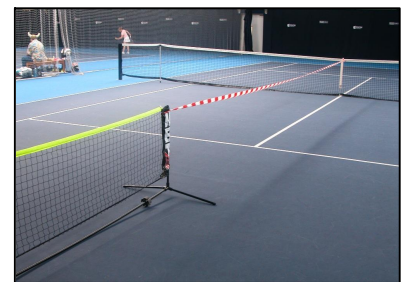
Where to buy: Most major tennis manufacturers have nets available, visit <http://www.tennisplayandstay.com/equipment/suppliers/index.html> for a list of suppliers.

Barrier Tape



Barrier tape is an excellent alternative to a portable net. It is very quick to set up and can be used to cover a row of Red courts in one go (see picture).

Either end of the tape needs to be tied off in order to keep the taped net in the air; you can tie it to chairs, posts, fences or even to two portable nets (as shown in this picture).



This is an excellent resource to have available and a far cheaper option to having lots of portable nets. The only disadvantage is that in windy conditions the tape will move around.

Where to buy: Some tennis manufacturers now sell barrier tape. Visit www.uncourtsoffcourt.com or search for 'barrier tape' on Google.

Other Equipment

Various court marking equipment (cones, lines etc) can be used to mark courts or target areas on court, and be used for off-court activities and organisation. Most of the major tennis equipment companies now provide this equipment, often in starter kits. Visit <http://www.tennisplayandstay.com/equipment/suppliers/index.html> for full details.