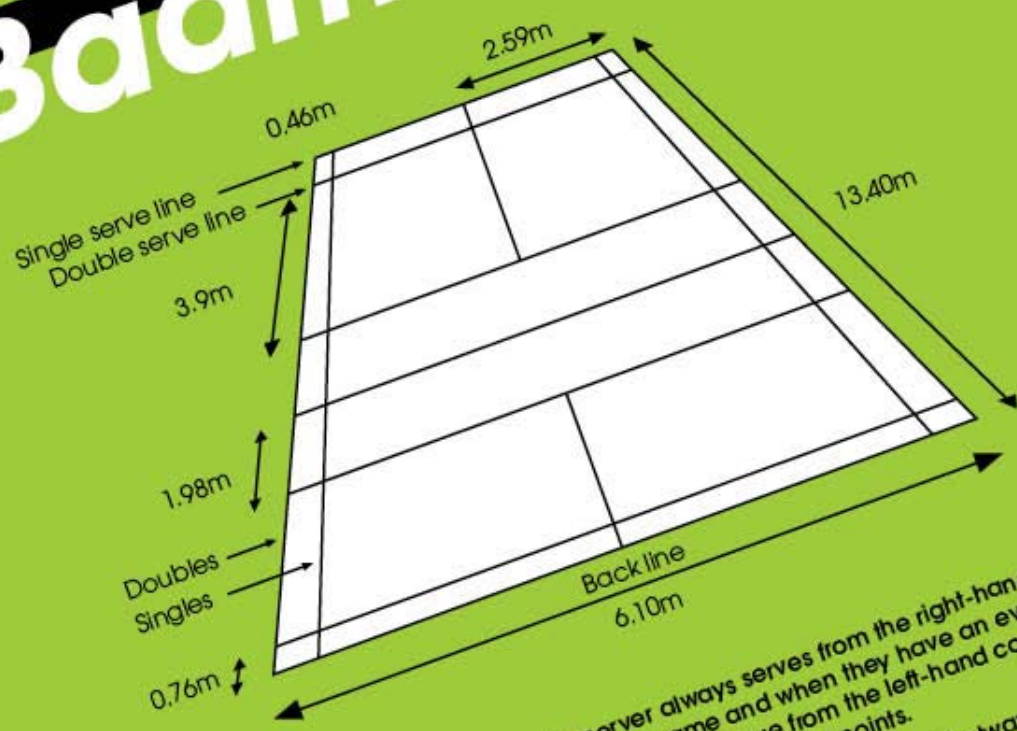


RULES of Badminton



The game
Like tennis, badminton can be played by singles and doubles, mixed or same sex.

Matches are played to the best of three sets. Both men and women now play up to 21 points per set. If the score reaches 20-20, the winner is the player or team with a two-point advantage.

And if the score goes up to 29-29, the winner is the first to reach 30 points. Points used to be only won on serve. But this has been scrapped under the new changes, so a player or team can win the point without holding serve.

A team now has only one serve in doubles, rather than two under the old rules.

Serving
In singles, players serve diagonally from one service box to another, alternating between the left and right side of the court as points are won.

The server always serves from the right-hand box at the start of a game and when they have an even number of points. They serve from the left-hand court when they have an odd number of points.

In doubles, the player on the right always starts the serve and, when a point is won, the players switch sides and the server then serves from the left, continuing to alternate until a serve is lost.

Service action
The shuttlecock must be hit below the server's waist and the racket head must stay below the server's wrist, which means the shot must be played underarm.

The court
Badminton is played indoors, on courts 6.1m wide by 13.4m long. The net posts are 1.55m high. Courts should have a clearance of 2m on all sides and a ceiling height of 12m.