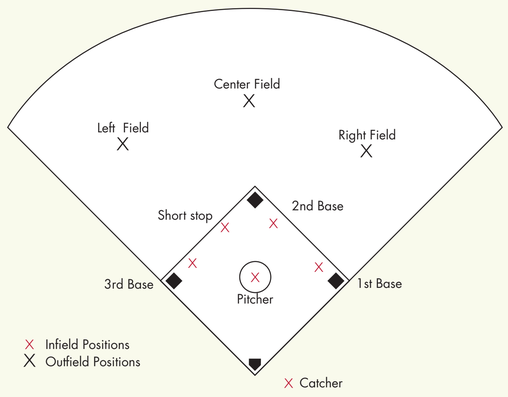
BASEBALL

basic rules & game play

BASEBALL is a game between two teams of 9 players each, under direction of a manager, played on an enclosed field, under jurisdiction of one or more umpires.

The objective of each team is to win by scoring more runs than the opponent. The winner of the game shall be that team which shall have scored, in accordance with these rules, the greater number of runs at the conclusion of a regulation game.

DEFENSIVE POSITIONS



PITCHING

A PITCHER is the fielder designated to deliver the pitch to the batter.

The pitcher's PIVOT FOOT is that foot which is in contact with the pitcher's plate as he delivers the pitch. It can leave the plate after releasing the ball.

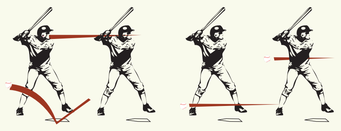
A QUICK RETURN pitch is one made with obvious intent to catch a batter off balance. It is an illegal pitch.

A WILD PITCH is one so high, so low, or so wide of the plate that it cannot be handled with ordinary effort by the catcher.

WIND-UP POSITION is where the pitcher prepares to throw with both feet facing home plate on the pitchers plate (usually when runners are not on base)
THE STRETCH POSITION is where the pitcher prepares to throw with one foot on pitchers plate and his stepping foot extended to home plate (usually when there are runners on base)

A BALK is an illegal act by the pitcher with a runner or runners on base, entitling all runners to advance one base.
Not having 1 foot on the pitchers plate at the start of his motion.
Not pausing at the highest point in the motion (when the knee reaches the highest point.)

BASE ON BALLS



A BASE ON BALLS or "walk" is an award of first base granted to a batter who, during his time at bat, receives four pitches outside the strike zone.

HIT BY PITCH: a batter may also be awarded first base if he is hit by a pitch. The batter must attempt to get out of the way of the ball before being hit to be awarded the base. If he does not attempt to move out of the way of the path of the ball and is hit the pitch will called a ball.

STRIKE OUT

When a batter revieves 3 strikes before he:
a) Strikes the ball into play
b) Is pitched 4 balls by the pitcher
He is marked as 1 out.

STEALING

A STOLEN BASE occurs when a baserunner successfully advances to the next base while the pitcher is delivering the ball to home plate.

A base-stealing runner must begin running as soon as the pitcher has committed himself to throwing a pitch to home plate, neither sooner nor later. If he begins to run too soon, the pitcher may throw to a base rather than to home—in this case, the runner is "picked off", and will most likely be tagged out.

A LEAD OFF is when the runner takes steps away from the saftey of the base to get a head start to steal the next base.

Second base is the base most often stolen. It is also technically the easiest to steal, as it is farthest from home plate and thus a longer throw from the catcher is required to prevent it.

FORCE PLAY

In baseball, a force is a situation when a baserunner is compelled (or forced) to vacate his time-of-pitch base—and thus try to advance to the next base—because the batter became a runner. A runner at first base is always forced to attempt to advance to second base when the batter becomes a runner. Runners at second or third base are forced only when all bases preceding their time-of-pitch base are occupied by other baserunners and the batter becomes a runner.

A forced runner's force base is the next base beyond his time-of-pitch base. Any attempt by fielders to put a forced runner out is called a force play. A forced runner is out (called a force out) when a fielder with the ball touches the runner's force base before the runner reaches that base.

Example:
A batter hits a ground ball to the short stop and the short stop throw the ball to the 1st basemen who is steping on the base. The batter is out because the defence was able to touch the base he was "forced to go to

Flight of the baseball
Runner
Defensive Team

SCORING RUNS

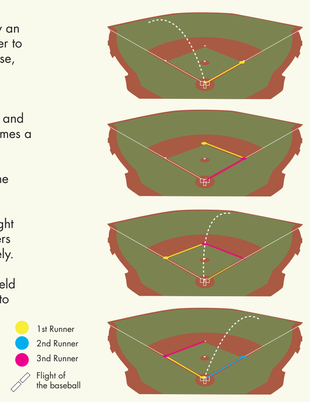
A RUN (or SCORE) is the point scored by an offensive player who advances from batter to runner and touches first, second, third base, and crosses home plate in that order.

Example:
A batter hits a ball in play in the left field and makes it to 1st base safely. He now becomes a runner.

The next batter gets walked and moves the lead runner over to 2nd base.

The next batter hits a fly ball into deep right center field that is caught. The lead runners both advance after the ball is caught safely.

The next batter hits a base hit into right field away from the lead runner allowing him to cross home plate and score easily



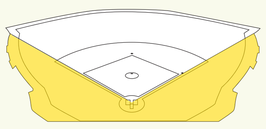
AN INNING

An inning is portion of the game within which the teams alternate on offense and defense and there are three putouts or "outs" for each team. Each team's time at bat is a half-inning.

There are 9 innings in a regulation baseball game. If the score is tied at the end of nine innings then "Extra Innings" are played until the a final score is decided.

1 Inning
- HOME team in the field / AWAY team bats — "top of the inning"
- AWAY team in the field / HOME team bats — "bottom of the inning"

FOUL BALL



A FOUL BALL is a batted ball that settles on foul territory between home and first base, or between home and third base, or that bounds past first or third base on or over foul territory, or that first falls on foul territory beyond first or third base, or that, while on or over foul territory, touches the person of an umpire or player, or any object foreign to the natural ground.

BATTING ORDER

The BATTING ORDER, or batting lineup, in baseball is the sequence in which the 9 members of the offense take their turns in batting against the pitcher. The batting order is set by the manager before the game begins (although substitutions may subsequently take place). If a team bats out of order, it is a violation of baseball's rules and subject to penalty. When the whole batting order makes plate appearances in a single inning, it is called "batting around."

#1
The first player in the batting order is the leadoff hitter. The leadoff batter is the fastest baserunner on the team and is most likely to reach base.

#2
The second batter, most often just referred to as in the two-hole, is usually a contact hitter with the ability to bunt or get a hit. His main goal is to move the leadoff man into scoring position.

#3
The third batter, in the three-hole, is generally the best all-around hitter on the team, often hitting for a high batting average.

$4
The fourth player in the batting order is known as the cleanup hitter, and is almost always one of the best hitters on the team, often the one with the most power.

#5, #6
The fifth and sixth (and sometimes seventh) batters have traditionally been RBI men, with the main goal of driving runners home, especially with sacrifice flies.

#7, #8
The seventh and eighth batters are often not as powerful as the earlier batters, and do not have as high a batting average.

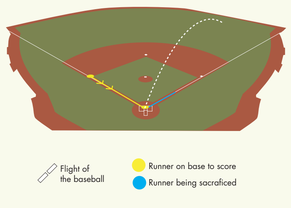
#9
The ninth batter is often like the second leadoff. Nine-hitters tend to be fast, and have a decent on base percentage like the leadoff hitter. v

SACRIFICE FLY

In baseball, a sacrifice fly is a batted ball that satisfies four criteria:

There are fewer than two outs when the ball is hit.
The ball is hit to the outfield.
The batter is out because an outfielder or an infielder running in the outfield catches the ball.
A runner who is already on base scores on the play.

It is called a "sacrifice" fly because the batter presumably intends to cause a teammate to score a run, while sacrificing his own ability to do so.

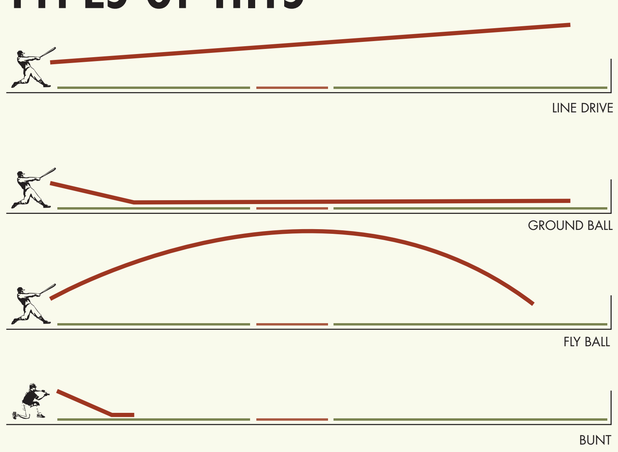


HOME RUN

A HOME RUN is when a batter hits a pitched ball out of the field of play. The ball must leave the field of play while remaining in fair territory. When this happens the batter must run around and touch every base to award his team a run.

A GRAND SLAM is when a batter hits a home run while there is runners on all 3 bases, awarding his team 4 runs.

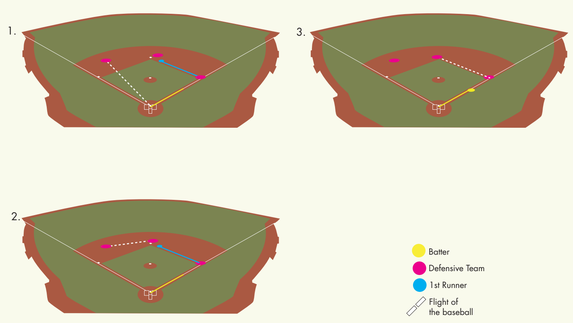
TYPES OF HITS



DOUBLE PLAY

A DOUBLE PLAY is a play by the defense in which two offensive players are putout as a result of continuous action, providing there is no error between putouts.
(a) A force double play is one in which both putouts are force plays.
(b) A reverse force double play is one in which the first out is a force play and the second out is made on a runner for whom the force is removed by reason of the first out.

Examples of reverse force plays:
runner on first, one out; batter grounds to first baseman, who steps on first base (one out) and throws to second baseman or shortstop for the second out (a tag play).
Another example: bases loaded, none out; batter grounds to third baseman,who steps on third base (one out); then throws to catcher for the second out (tag play).



DAI 523 Information Design
Instructor: Pino Trogu
Design and Industry Department
College of Creative Arts
San Francisco State University
California, USA – December 2010

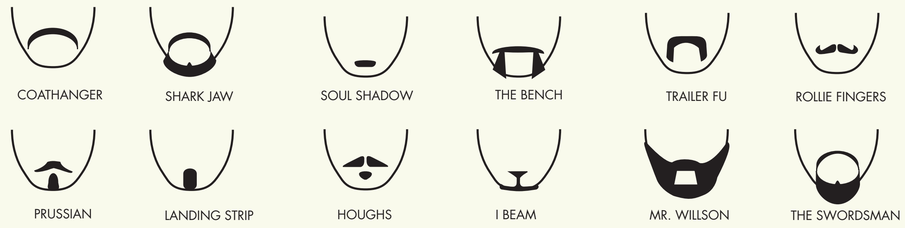
Case Study No. 07
Designed by Derek Fletcher

The 34x44 poster can be folded down to 8.5x11 as shown on the grid.

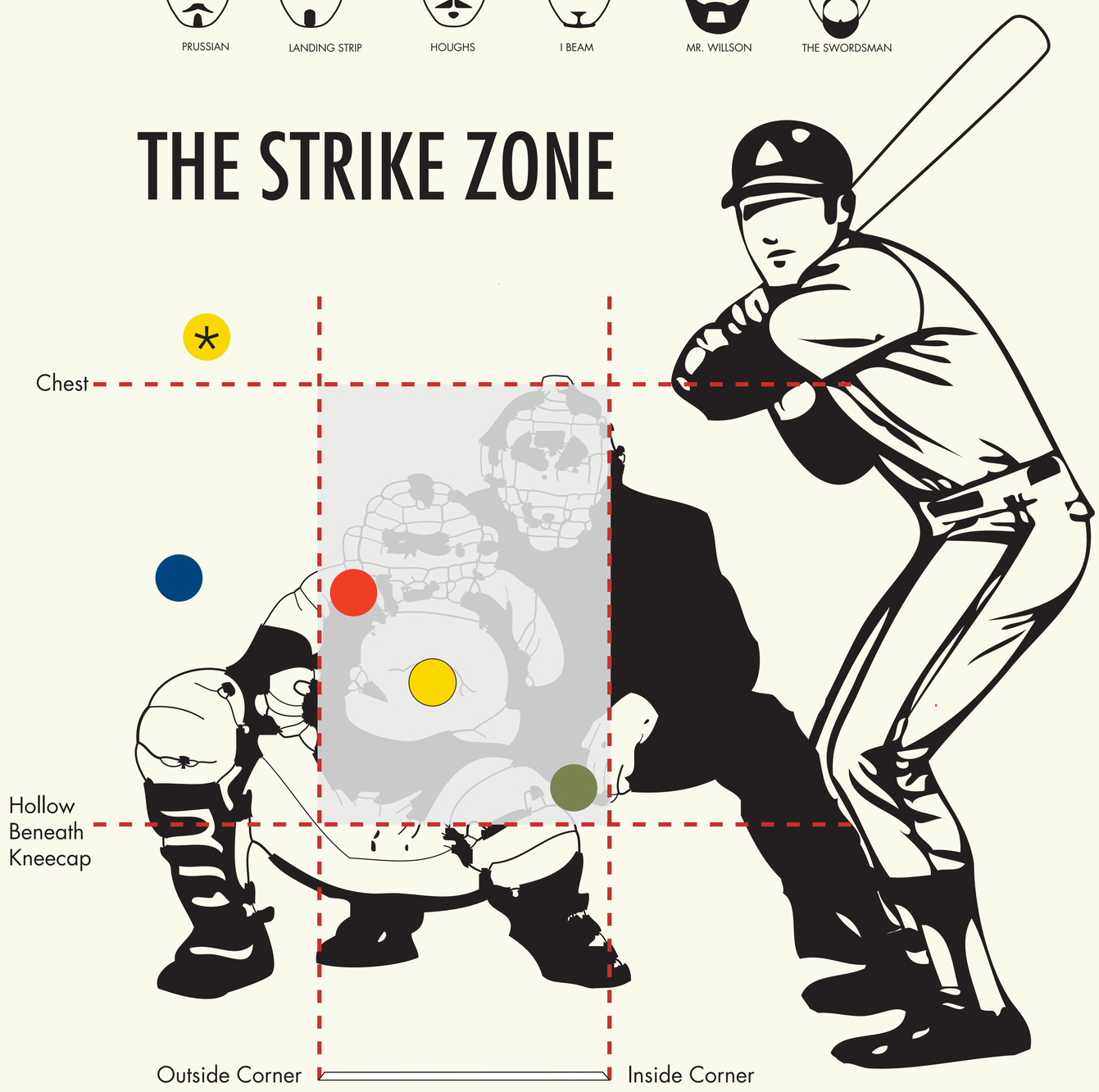
http://mlb.mlb.com/mlb/downloads/y2010/official_rules/2010_OfficialBaseballRules.pdf

BASEBALL FACIAL HAIR

variations & styles



THE STRIKE ZONE



CALLED STRIKE
Is not struck at, if any part of the ball passes through any part of the strike zone.

FOUL BALL
Is counted as a strike if the batter when he has less than two strikes.

FOUL TIP
A batted ball that goes sharp and direct from the bat to the catcher's hands and is legally caught. It is not a foul tip unless caught. It counts as a strike.

BALL
When a pitches passes outside of the strike zone and
The batter does not attempt to swing at the pitch.

SWING AND MISSED STRIKE
When the batter swings at ball in or outside of the strike zone and misses.

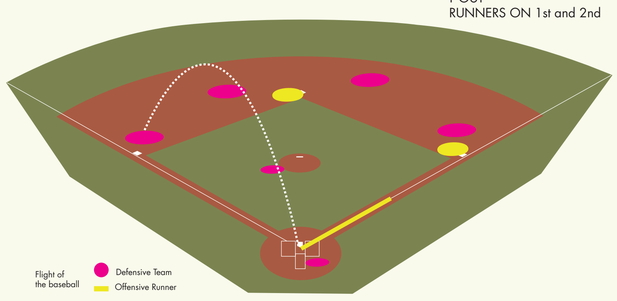
THE COUNT

THE COUNT refers to the number of balls and strikes a batter has in his current plate appearance. with the first number being the number of balls and the second being the number of strikes.

The 3 and 2 count is the maximum number of balls and strikes a hitter can have in a single at bat before a walk, strike , or hit is decided.

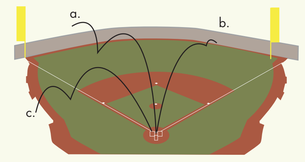
INFIELD FLY RULE

1 OUT
RUNNERS ON 1st and 2nd



An INFIELD FLY is a fair fly ball (not including a line drive nor an attempted bunt) which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort, when first and second, or first, second and third bases are occupied, before two are out. The pitcher, catcher and any outfielder who stations himself in the infield on the play shall be considered infielders for the purpose of this rule. When it seems apparent that a batted ball will be an Infield Fly, the umpire shall immediately declare "Infield Fly" for the benefit of the runners. If the ball is near the baselines, the umpire shall declare "Infield Fly, if Fair." The ball is alive and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught, or retouch and advance after the ball is touched, the same as on any fly ball. If the hit becomes a foul ball, it is treated the same as any foul.If a declared Infield Fly is allowed to fall untouched to the ground, and bounces foul before passing first or third base, it is a foul ball. If a declared Infield Fly falls untouched to the ground outside the baseline, and bounces fair before passing first or third base, it is anInfield Fly.

GROUND RULE DOUBLE



a.) A GROUND RULE DOUBLE is an automatic double results from a batted ball bouncing from fair territory over a wall and landing out of play.

b.)A GROUND RULE DOUBLE is also awarded when a batted ball goes through or under a fence or through or sticking in shrubbery or vines on the fence and cannot be found or retrieved.

c.)A GROUND RULE DOUBLE is also awarded if a defensive player knocks a fly ball into the stands within 250 ft. of home plate.

BUNTING

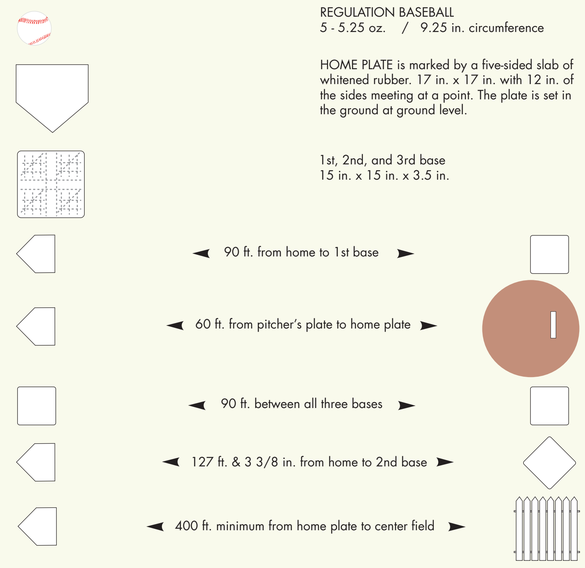
theory & practice

A BUNT is a special type of offensive technique in baseball or fastpitch softball. In a bunt play, the batter loosely holds the bat in front of the plate and intentionally taps the ball into play.

The bunt is often characterized by the batter turning his body toward the pitcher and sliding one hand up the barrel of the bat to help steady it. This is called squaring to bunt. Depending on the type of bunt, the batter might square well before the pitcher begins throwing, or as the pitch is being delivered.

SACRIFICE BUNT, the batter will put the ball into play with the intention of advancing a baserunner, in exchange for the batter being thrown out. The sacrifice bunt is most often used to advance a runner from first to second base, although the runner may also be advanced from second to third base, or from third to home. The sacrifice bunt is most often used in close, low-scoring games. A sacrifice bunt is not counted as an at-bat.

DIMENSIONS



REGULATION BASEBALL
5 - 5.25 oz. / 9.25 in. circumference

HOME PLATE is marked by a five-sided slab of whitened rubber. 17 in. x 17 in. with 12 in. of the sides meeting at a point. The plate is set in the ground at ground level.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd base
15 in. x 15 in. x 3.5 in.