

PE · Y3-Y6

Net & Wall Games

Knowledge Organiser — KS2 PE

Key vocabulary

1

Net game

Game played over a net — tennis, badminton, volleyball.

2

Wall game

Game played against a wall — squash, racquetball.

3

Rally

When the ball or shuttle goes back and forth several times without stopping.

4

Serve

The first shot of a rally — sent from one side to the other.

5

Forehand

Hit with the palm of your hand facing the ball.

6

Backhand

Hit with the back of your hand facing the ball.

7

Volley

Hitting the ball before it bounces.

8

Smash

Hitting the ball hard and downwards.



9

Rally

Continuous exchange of shots.

10

Out

The ball lands outside the lines — point to the opponent.

Tennis basics

How a tennis game works

- Court divided by a net. Each player has their own side.
- Game starts with a SERVE from behind the baseline.
- Ball must bounce ONCE on the opponent's side before they hit it.
- Hit the ball before it bounces TWICE.
- Ball must land WITHIN the lines — on the line counts as in.
- SCORING: 0 (love), 15, 30, 40, then game. First to 6 games wins a set.
- First to 2 sets wins a match (in kids' tennis).
- Singles = 1 vs 1. Doubles = 2 vs 2.

Badminton basics

How a badminton game works

- Played with a SHUTTLECOCK ('shuttle' or 'birdie'), not a ball.
- Court has a net higher than tennis.
- SERVE underarm from below the waist.
- Shuttle must NOT bounce — hit it before it touches the ground.
- If shuttle lands in your area, opponent gets a point.
- Games to 21 points (each rally wins a point — 'rally scoring').
- Be quick — shuttles slow down quickly so you have to move fast.



Key shots

Used across most net games

- FOREHAND: standard shot for most net games.
- Stand sideways, racket back, swing through the ball.
- BACKHAND: shot with the back of your hand facing the ball.
- Two-handed for power (especially in tennis).
- VOLLEY: hit before the ball/shuttle bounces.
- Used for quick shots near the net.
- SMASH: powerful overhead shot.
- Use when ball is high — aim downwards into opponent's court.
- DROP SHOT: gentle shot just over the net.
- Tricks an opponent at the back of the court.

Tricks in net games

How to outplay your opponent

- MOVE YOUR OPPONENT — hit to one side, then the other.
- USE THE WHOLE COURT — depth (back) and width (sides).
- RECOVER POSITION after each shot — return to the middle.
- VARY YOUR SHOTS — don't be predictable.
- WATCH the opponent's body — it tells you where they'll hit.
- DROP SHOTS catch out players who stand at the back.
- POWER SHOTS catch out players who stand at the net.
- Best players think TWO shots ahead — where are you forcing them to hit next?

