

TENNIS EQUIPMENT

TIMELINE

As technology and materials available evolved, when more precision and consistency was needed designers developed racquets and balls to meet the needs of the game.

TENNIS RACQUET



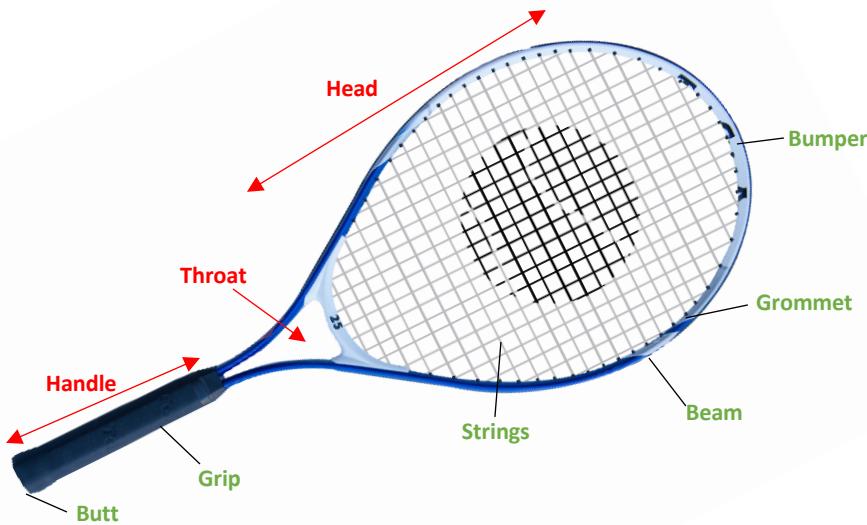
1100	1200	1600	1874	1922	1980
Players used their hands	Players used gloves	Palla racquet made of wood and animal parts	Wooden racquets	Metal tennis racquets designed	Plastic and graphite racquets developed

TENNIS BALL



1100	1700	1870	1900	1972
Leather ball stuffed with hair or feathers	Cork wrapped in wool	Rubber ball	Half shell design with air filled rubber and felt	Yellow ball

PARTS OF THE RACQUET



DIFFERENT TENNIS BALLS

Low compression balls bounce less and using the right ball helps with skill development. Lower compression balls move slower and bounce less. High compression balls bounce higher and move faster.

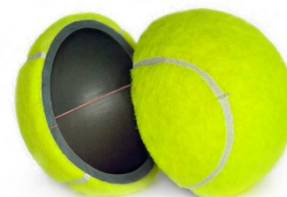


LOW **COMPRESSION** **HIGH**

TENNIS BALL FACTS

- Around 300 million tennis balls are produced each year
- Yellow tennis balls were first used at Wimbledon in 1986
- The most expensive material when manufacturing a tennis ball is the felt covering the ball
- The fastest ever recorded speed of a tennis ball in a tennis match was 156 mph and it was a serve hit by Croatian Ivo Karlovic. The fastest women's serve was hit by Venus Williams at a speed of 127.4 mph.
- Tennis balls become heavier when there is more humidity, as a result they travel slower through the air
- 70,000 tennis balls are used each year at the U.S. Open

THE BALL



Tennis balls are made with two half rubber shells covered in felt. The felt helps the ball grip the strings or floor creating friction.