LAW 1 – THE PITCH

1 Pitch surface

The surface of the pitch must be flat and smooth, and be comprised of non-abrasive surfaces, preferably made of wood or artificial material, according to the competition rules. Dangerous surfaces for players, team officials and match officials are not permitted.

For competition matches between representative teams of national associations affiliated to FIFA or international club competition matches, it is recommended that the futsal floor be produced and installed by a company officially licensed under the FIFA Quality Programme for Futsal Surfaces and carrying one of the following quality labels:

![FIFA Quality](image1)
![FIFA Quality Pro](image2)

Artificial turf pitches are permitted in exceptional cases but only for domestic competitions.

2 Pitch markings

The pitch must be rectangular and marked with continuous lines (broken lines are not permitted), which must not be dangerous (i.e. they must be non-slippery). These lines belong to the areas of which they are boundaries and must be clearly distinguishable from the colour of the pitch.

Only the lines indicated in Law 1 are to be marked on the pitch.
Where a multipurpose hall is used, other lines are permitted provided that they are a different colour and clearly distinguishable from the futsal lines.

If a player makes unauthorised marks on the pitch, the player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour. If the referees notice this being done during the match, play must be stopped, if they cannot apply the advantage, and the offending player must be cautioned for unsporting behaviour. Play shall be restarted with an indirect free kick to the opposing team from the position of the ball when play was stopped, unless the ball was inside the penalty area (see Law 13).

The two longer boundary lines are touchlines. The two shorter lines are goal lines.

The pitch is divided into two halves by a halfway line, which joins the midpoints of the two touchlines.

The centre mark, with a radius of 6cm, is indicated at the midpoint of the halfway line. A circle with a radius of 3m is marked around it.

A mark must be drawn outside the pitch, 5m from each corner arc, at right angles to the goal line and separated from the goal line by a gap of 5cm, to ensure that defending-team players retreat the minimum distance (5m) when a corner kick is being taken. This mark is 8cm wide and 40cm long.
3 Pitch dimensions

The length of the touchline must be greater than the length of the goal line.

All lines must be 8cm wide.

For non-international matches, the dimensions are as follows:

Length (touchline): Minimum 25m
                  Maximum 42m
Width (goal line): Minimum 16m
                  Maximum 25m

For international matches, the dimensions are as follows:

Length (touchline): Minimum 38m
                  Maximum 42m
Width (goal line): Minimum 20m
                  Maximum 25m

Competition rules may determine the length of the goal line and touchline within the above requirements.

Measurements are from the outside of the lines as the lines are part of the area they enclose.
The penalty mark is measured from the centre of the mark to the back edge of the goal line.

The 10m mark is measured from the centre of the mark to the back edge of the goal line.

The 5m mark in the penalty area, denoting the distance to be observed by the goalkeeper at a direct free kick beginning with a sixth accumulated foul (DFKSAF), is measured from the centre of the 10m mark to the back edge of the 5m mark (i.e. the edge closer to the goal line).

4 The penalty area

Two imaginary lines of 6m in length are drawn from the outside of each goalpost and at right angles to the goal line. At the end of these lines, a quarter circle is drawn in the direction of the nearest touchline, each with a radius of 6m from the outside of the goalpost. The upper part of each quarter circle is joined by a line of 3.16m in length, running parallel to the goal line between the goalposts. The area bounded by these lines and the goal line is the penalty area.

Within each penalty area, a penalty mark is made 6m from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. This is a circular mark with a radius of 6cm.
An additional mark (line) must be made in the penalty area, 5m from the 10m mark, to ensure that defending goalkeepers observe this distance when a DFKSAF is being taken. This mark is 8cm wide and 40cm long.

5 The 10m mark

A second mark is made 10m from the midpoint between the goalposts and equidistant to them. This is a circular mark with a radius of 6cm.

Two additional marks, respectively at a distance of 5m to the left and the right of the 10m mark, must be made on the pitch to indicate the minimum distance that players must observe when a kick is being taken from the 10m mark. These are circular marks with a radius of 4cm each.

An imaginary line passing through these marks, 10m from and parallel to the goal line, marks the boundary of the area where, if a DFKSAF offence is committed therein, teams may choose between taking the DFKSAF on the 10m mark or from the place where the offence was committed.

6 The substitution zones

The substitution zones are the areas on the touchline in front of the team benches:

- They are situated in front of the technical areas, 5m from the halfway line, and are 5m in length. They are marked at each end with a line of 80cm in length, 40 cm of which is drawn on the pitch and 40 cm off the pitch, and 8cm in width.
- A team’s substitution zone is situated in the half of the pitch defended by the said team. Each team’s substitution zone changes in the second half of the match and any required periods of extra time.

More details on substitutions and the relevant procedure are provided in Law 3.
7 The corner area

A quarter circle with a radius of 25cm is drawn inside the pitch from each corner. The line (the corner arc) has a width of 8cm.

8 The technical area

The technical area features a designated sitting area for team officials and substitutes. While the size and position of technical areas may differ between facilities, the following guidelines apply:

- The technical area should only extend 1m on either side of the designated sitting area and forwards up to a distance of 75cm from the touchline.
- Markings should be used to define the area.
- The number of persons permitted to occupy the technical area is defined by the competition rules.
- The occupants of the technical area:
  - are identified before the start of the match in accordance with the competition rules;
  - must behave in a responsible manner;
  - must remain within its confines except in special circumstances, e.g. a physiotherapist/doctor entering the pitch, with one of the referees’ permission, to assess an injured player.
- Only one person at a time is authorised to stand and convey tactical instructions from the technical area.
- The substitutes and the fitness coach may warm up during a match in the zone provided for this purpose behind the technical area. If such a zone is not available, they may warm up near the touchline as long as they do not obstruct the movement of the players and referees and they behave responsibly.
Substitution zone and technical area

Safety
The competition rules shall state the minimum distance between the boundary lines of the pitch (touchlines and goal lines) and the barriers separating the spectators (including the barriers with advertising, etc.), always in such a way as to ensure the safety of the participants.

9 The goals
A goal must be placed at the centre of each goal line.

A goal consists of two upright posts equidistant from the corners of the pitch and joined at the top by a horizontal crossbar. The goalposts and crossbar must be made of approved material and must not be dangerous.

The goalposts and crossbar of both goals must be the same shape, which must be square, rectangular, round, elliptical or a hybrid of these options.

The distance (inside measurement) between the posts is 3m and the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground is 2m.

Both goalposts and the crossbar have the same width and depth as the goal lines, 8cm. The nets must be made of an adequate material and attached to the back of the goalposts and the crossbar with a suitable means of support. They must be properly supported and must not interfere with the goalkeeper.
If the crossbar becomes displaced or broken, play is stopped until it has been repaired or replaced in position. If it is not possible to repair the crossbar, the match must be abandoned. The use of a rope to replace the crossbar is not permitted. If the crossbar can be repaired, the match is restarted with a dropped ball from the position of the ball when play was stopped, unless this was inside the defending team’s penalty area and the last team to touch the ball was the attacking team (see Law 8).

The goalposts and crossbars must be of a different colour to the pitch.

Goals must have a stabilising system that prevents them from overturning. They must not be fixed to the ground, but must have an adequate weight at the back so as to allow the goalposts to move reasonably without endangering the safety of the participants.

Portable goals may only be used if they satisfy this requirement.