

Cricket rules

A cricket match is a game between two teams of 11 players. One team bats (hits a cricket ball using a long wooden bat) and the other team fields. This is called an innings. Then the teams swap over. Each team has at least one innings each.

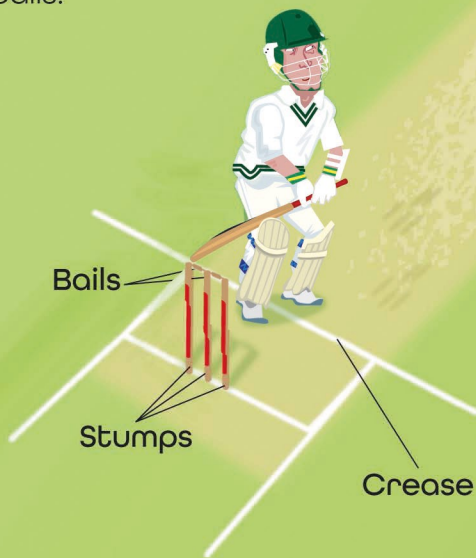
Different cricket matches can last for different lengths of time. But the winning team is always the one to score the highest number of runs (see below).

Only the batting team can score runs. The fielding team try to get the batting team out.



Wicket

One batsman stands at each end of a 22-yard rectangle, called a wicket. Behind each batsman are three posts, called stumps. On top of the stumps are two pieces of wood called bails.



Wicket

Runs

A bowler throws the ball to a batsman from one end of the wicket. The batsman hits the ball with a wooden bat and runs the length of the wicket. The batsman at the other end of the wicket has to run too. Each length run by the batsman who hit the ball is a run.

Bowler

The ball is bowled with a straight arm over the shoulder to the batsman. At least part of the bowler's feet have to be behind the crease line when he's throwing the ball.

The bowler bowls the ball six times to a batsman from one end of the wicket. This is called an over.

