

# Game: 4 square



**Purpose:** competitive, accessible game for 4 players or more

**What do you need:** Masking tape or something similar & a tennis ball

In preparation you need to mark out using tape on the ground, a larger square which is then divided into 4 matching squares. You can make the outside square roughly 10 feet on each side, then with each individual square measuring 5 feet by 5 feet.

The game requires at least 4 players who each start in a square.

The **aim of the game** is to get to be in the number 1 square and stay there! Each time a player makes a wrong move they are penalised by being put out. The player in square 1 always starts the set by serving. They begin the game by bouncing the ball in their own square and hitting it underhand into any other square. The receiver, in turn, attempts to hit the ball into one of the other three squares.

## **To play, players must:**

Players must have both feet inside their square when hitting the ball

Players must not slam the ball down, always hit it up or palm up

Players must let the ball bounce once in their square before playing it on

## **What gets penalised:**

Player hits the ball outside of the largest playing square

Player hits the ball into their own square

Player hits the ball when it went into someone else's square

Player lets the ball bounce twice or more in their square

**Playing with 4 players** means the penalised player moves to square 4 and other players move up a number. If it is the player in square 4 who is penalised, they stay where they are & player in square 1 starts the serve again.

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**Playing with more than 4** means it is still every person for themselves but you can have a queue to enter the game. The four players in the squares are active but when one gets put out he goes & joins the queue. The first person in the queue starts the game from square 4 and players can move up squares.

**Playing with teams** means you can have 2 teams or 4 teams. It is played with 1 or 2 representatives from each team in the game at once. Especially when playing with teams, those in the queue need to pay attention as if they don't replace a player who has been eliminated quickly the game does not wait for them.

**Scoring** can be done however it works best for your group, you might want to count the amount of times someone gets eliminated or give a point to those who stay in the game.

