

football[ˈfʊtbɔːl] *n*

- футбол
to play football - играть в футбол
football match - футбольный матч
football cup - розыгрыш кубка по футболу
football cup final - финальная игра розыгрыша кубка по футболу
football ace - класный футболист
- футбольный мяч
football bladder - камера футбольного мяча
- амер. сл.** игрушка
a political football - предмет политической игры /политических махинаций/

football

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

foot·ball [football footballs footballed footballing] *BrE* [ˈfʊtbɔːl] *NAmE*[ˈfʊtbɔːl] *noun*

- uncountable** (also formal **As. sociation 'football'**) (both *BrE*) (also **soc·cer** *NAmE, BrE*) (also *BrE* informal **footy, footie**) a game played by two teams of 11 players, using a round ball which players kick up and down the playing field. Teams try to kick the ball into the other team's goal
 - to play football
 - a football match/team/stadium**see also** ↑Gaelic football
- uncountable** (*NAmE*) = ↑American football, ↑Canadian football
- countable** a large round or ↑oval ball made of leather or plastic and filled with air
- countable** (always used with an adjective) an issue or a problem that frequently causes argument and disagreement
 - Health care should not become a political football.**See also:** ↑Association football ▪ ↑footie ▪ ↑footy ▪ ↑soccer

Culture:**football – American style**

Football is one of the major sports in the US. In Britain and elsewhere the game is often called **American football** to distinguish it from **soccer**. American football developed from the games of football and **Rugby**. There is a lot of dangerous play, so **helmets** and thick **pads** must be worn. Each game has **cheerleaders** and bands of musicians that march on the field between the **halves** of the game. Whole families go to watch games, and there is almost no violence from supporters. Many games are shown live on US television. British television now also shows some games. In US ↑high schools, colleges and universities, football games are the centre of many social events, such as ↑homecoming.

The game is played by two teams of 11 players each, with different players used for **defense**, **offense** and **kicks**. The field is 100 yards/91.5 metres long and 53 yards 1 foot/49 metres wide. It is sometimes called a **gridiron** because the lines across it that mark every 10 yards/9 metres make it look like the metal tray on which meat is **grilled** or **broiled**. At each end of the field there is an extra 10 yards/9 metres, called the **end zone**, with a **goal post** in the shaped of an 'H'. The ball is oval-shaped and sometimes called a **pigskin** because the balls were formerly made from pig's skin.

A team scores when its players send the ball down the field and across the opponent's **goal line** for a **touchdown** of seven points. They can then add a **point after touchdown (PAT)** if they kick the ball through the goal posts. A team can get three points if the ball is kicked between the goal posts without a **touchdown**, and two points if their defense stops the opponents in their own end zone.

The team with the ball must move it 10 yards/9 metres in four **downs** (= separate actions). This is done from behind **linemen** who face the defense's linemen. An action begins when the **quarterback** takes the ball from between the legs of the **center** and runs with it, hands it to another runner or **passes** (= throws) it to another player. Between actions, the team with the ball has a **huddle** so the quarterback can tell them what to do next. If 10 yards/9 metres are not made in 4 downs, the team must **punt** (= kick the ball to the other team). The defense can also get the ball by an **interception** (= a catch of the opponent's pass) or a **fumble** (= a ball accidentally dropped).

The **National Football League (NFL)** has 32 professional teams. Six teams in the ↑American Football Conference and six in the ↑National Football Conference play against each other to decide the two that will meet in the ↑Super Bowl. Some well-known teams include the Dallas Cowboys, the Denver Broncos, the Green Bay Packers, the Pittsburgh Steelers and San Francisco 49ers.

The best college teams play in **bowl games**, e.g. the ↑Rose Bowl, Sugar Bowl, Orange Bowl and Cotton Bowl. The best college players are chosen as **All-Americans**. Famous professional players almost always play in college teams first. They have included Jim Brown, Jim Thorpe², OJ Simpson and Joe Montana.

Culture:

football – British style

Football is the most popular sport in Britain, particularly among men. It is played by boys in most schools. Most towns have an **amateur** football team which plays in a **minor league**. Football is also the most popular **spectator sport** in Britain. Many people go to see their favourite professional team playing **at home**, and some go to **away matches**. Many more people watch football on television.

The rules of football are relatively simple: two teams of 11 players try to get a round ball into the opposing team's **goal** and to prevent their opponents from scoring. The ball may be kicked or **headed**, but never **handled**, except by the **goalkeepers**. The **Football Association** was founded in 1863 to decide the rules of football and the resulting game became known formally as **association football**. It is sometimes also called **soccer**. Many of today's leading **clubs** were established shortly afterwards. Most professional clubs represent large cities, or parts of London. They include **Everton**, Liverpool, **Manchester United**, **Arsenal**, **Chelsea** and **Tottenham Hotspur**. The most famous Scottish clubs include **Rangers** and **Celtic**. In 1992 football was reorganized so that the best 20 teams in England and Wales play in the **Premiership**, while 70 other teams play in three **divisions**, run by the **Football League**. There is a **Scottish Premier League** and three divisions run by the Scottish Football League. At the end of each season, the top few teams in each division are **promoted** and the bottom teams are **relegated**. As well as the **Premiership**, the main competitions are the **FA Cup** and the **League Cup**. A few of the most successful sides have won **the Double**, the Premiership and the FA cup in the same year. The biggest clubs are now run as major businesses, and top players earn large **salaries**. They are frequently **transferred** between clubs for millions of pounds. Many foreign stars also now play for British teams.

England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland all have their own national sides. England won the World Cup in 1966, when its stars included Bobby Charlton, Bobby Moore and Geoff Hurst.

An increase in **football hooliganism** in the 1970s and 1980s frightened many people away from football matches. English fans got a bad reputation in Europe and football violence became known as 'the English disease'. Disasters such as that at **Hillsborough**, in which many people died, also discouraged people from going to matches. Formerly, football grounds had **terraces**, where supporters stood packed close together, and **stands** containing rows of seats which were more expensive. These grounds have now almost all been replaced by **all-seater stadiums**, but people complain about the rising cost of tickets. Many clubs have their own **fanzine** (= a magazine about the club written and published by the fans). Some supporters also buy a copy of their team's **strip** (= shorts and shirt in team colours).

This type of football is known in the US as soccer to distinguish it from the American game. Enthusiasm increased after 1994 when the World Cup was played for the first time in the US. In 1999 the US won the Women's World Cup. In 1996 **Major League Soccer (MLS)** was established, and teams compete for the **MLS Cup**. Students in colleges and universities also play soccer in three **NCAA** divisions. The nation's oldest **tournament** is the US Open Cup. About 18 million American children now play regularly, and the expression **soccer mom** (= a mother who spends a lot of time taking her children to sporting activities) has entered the language.

Example Bank:

- Children's education should not be treated as a political football.
- Even people who don't follow football closely take great pride in their team.
- Join Radio 5 for all the top football action.
- Obscene football chants stop people taking their children to matches.
- The Dutch team impressed the fans with their classy one-touch football.
- The World Cup is fascinating for its clash of football cultures.
- The football world was rocked by the scandal.
- The government is trying to tackle violence on the football terraces.
- The police say the players' behaviour is a matter for the football authorities.
- Young Italians follow football like we follow the royal family.

football

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

football S1 W2 /'fʊtbɔːl/ BrE " AmE " noun

1. [uncountable] **British English** a game played by two teams of eleven players who try to kick a round ball into the other team's **goal** **SYN soccer** **American English**:

- Which **football team** do you support?
- kids **playing football** in the street
- My Dad took me to watch my first **football match**.
- a football club

football fan/supporter

- a group of Scottish football fans

football boots/kit/shirt (=clothes worn to play football)

football pitch/ground/stadium

2. [uncountable] **American English** a game played by two teams of eleven players who try to carry or kick an **oval** ball into the other team's **goal** **SYN American football** **British English**:

- college **football games**
- a football field
- He **played football** in high school.

3. **football hooligan** **British English** someone who behaves in a noisy or violent way at a football match

4.



[countable] a ball used in these games

⇒ †flag football, ⇒ political football at †political(4)

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COLLOCATIONS

■ football + NOUN

- **a football team** Which football team do you support?
- **a football club** Tottenham Hotspur is a North London football club.
- **a football player** Like many little boys, his ambition was to be a football player.
- **a football manager** Football managers shouldn't complain about referees' decisions.
- **football fan** (=someone who likes football a lot) Pat is a keen football fan.
- **football supporter** (=someone who supports a particular football team) 55 football supporters were arrested after the game.
- **a football match/game** Do you often go to football matches?
- **a football pitch** (=an area of grass where football is played) An area of wasteland had been turned into a football pitch.
- **a football ground/stadium** (=a place where football is played) Hundreds of fans were making their way towards the football ground.
- **a football league** (=a group of football teams who play against each other) The Premier League is one of the most popular football leagues in the world.
- **football boots** He got some new football boots for his birthday.
- **a football shirt** They were all wearing England football shirts.
- **football kit** (=clothes for playing football in) He washes the whole team's football kit.
- **a football strip** (=clothes worn by a particular football team) The team wear a different football strip for their Champions League matches.
- **a football referee** (=the person who makes sure that the rules of football are followed) He is a qualified football referee for the Dorset County Football Association.
- **a football crowd** We got caught up in a noisy football crowd.
- **football violence** (=between fans at football games) The government is considering measures to combat football violence.

■ verbs

- **play football** The boys are playing football in the garden.
- **watch football** He likes to spend Saturday afternoon watching football.
- **follow football** (=be interested in football) Bob follows football and goes to as many matches as he can.

■ ADJECTIVES/NOUN + football

- **professional football** It was his dream to play professional football one day.
- **international football** (=played by teams representing their country) He will retire from international football after the World Cup.
- **domestic football** (=played between teams from the same country) Saturday's defeat was the team's first in domestic football for seven matches.
- **cup football** (=in a competition to win a cup) It was an exciting match in the best traditions of cup football.
- **league football** (=in a football league) He was still playing league football at the age of 41.
- **five-a-side football** (=with five players on each team) His son played in a five-a-side football tournament.

football

Freakuency Pack

12500 **1508**^{MCW}

15000 **338**^{COCA}

RANGE: **1k** FOOT 141947

foot 29547

feet 82908

footed 151

football 26516

footballing 0

footballs 238

footballer 38

footballers 51

ft 2498

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

10808 **1594**²⁶⁴⁹⁶ *nn1*
13 **207984**¹⁵ *np1*
5 **387121**⁵ *nnu*
