



FIFA

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Law 4 The Players' Equipment

- Basic Players' Equipment
- Decisions of the IFAB
- Other Equipment
- Jewellery
- Disciplinary Sanctions



Players are required to wear the following separate items:



- a jersey or shirt – if undergarments are worn, the colour of the sleeve should be the same main colour as the sleeve of the jersey or shirt
- shorts – if undershorts are worn, they are of the same main colour as the shorts
- stockings
- shinguards
- footwear



Basic Players' Equipment

4

A one-piece playing suit in place of a shirt and shorts is not permitted.

If a player loses his footwear accidentally and immediately plays the ball and/or scores a goal, there is no infringement and the goal is awarded because he lost his footwear by accident.

Colours:

- each goalkeeper must wear a jersey with colours that distinguish him from the other players, the referee and the assistant referees
- all players including goalkeepers must wear a jersey with colours that distinguish them from the referee and the assistant referees
- if the jerseys of the two goalkeepers are the same colour and neither has another jersey to change into, the referee shall allow play to begin



Decisions of the IFAB

6

Players must not reveal undershirts which contain slogans or advertising. The basic compulsory equipment must not contain any political, religious or personal statements.

A player removing his jersey to reveal slogans or advertising will be sanctioned by the competition organiser. The team of a player whose basic compulsory equipment contains political, religious or personal slogans or statements will be sanctioned by the competition organiser or by FIFA.

Disciplinary sanctions are the responsibility of the competition organiser - the referee will include details in the match report.

Jerseys or shirts must have sleeves.



Other equipment

7

A player may use equipment other than the basic equipment provided that its sole purpose is to protect him physically and it poses no danger to him or any other player.

All items of clothing or equipment other than the basic must be inspected by the referee and determined not to be dangerous.

If an item of clothing or equipment that has been inspected at the start of a match and determined not to be dangerous **becomes dangerous** or is **used in a dangerous manner** during the match, its use must no longer be allowed.

Modern protective equipment such as headgear, facemasks and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight padded material are not considered dangerous and are therefore permitted.



In view of the new technology that has made sports spectacles much safer, both for the wearer and for other players, referees should show tolerance when authorising their use, particularly for younger players.



All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather, rubber bands etc.) are strictly forbidden and must be removed.

Using tape to cover jewellery is not acceptable.



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Referees are also prohibited from wearing jewellery (except for a watch or similar device for timing the match)



The players are to be inspected before the match begins and substitutes before they enter the field of play.

If a player is discovered to be wearing unauthorised clothing or jewellery during play, the referee shall:

- **inform the player that the item in question must be removed**
- **order the player to leave the field at the next stoppage if he is unable or unwilling to comply**
- **caution the player if he wilfully refuses to comply or, having been told to remove the item, is discovered to be wearing the item again**

If play is stopped to caution the player, an indirect free kick shall be awarded to the opposing team from the position of the ball when play was stopped.*