

All About Bocce

How to Play:

Bocce ball is the ultimate leisure game best played on outdoor surfaces like grass, sand, or dirt. Bocce can be played in teams or one-on-one. The goal is to underhand toss your bocce ball towards the target ball called the pallino. After the 8 balls have been tossed, the person/team with the closest ball to the pallino receives a point. Games are played to 16 or any number agreed upon.

For more details of how to play & to include people with visual impairments during the game of Bocce, watch [Let's Play Bocce](#), a 6:48 minute audio described video.

O&M Skill Areas Addressed:

- Tactile investigation
- Travel on uneven surfaces
- Directionality
- Sound identification (see modifications noted below)
- Personal responsibility: clean up and management of materials

Where to Buy (or Make Your Own):

- [Beginner Bocce Ball Set](#) from Hey! Play! on Amazon.com for \$18.80
This set with a carrying case is great for kids and beginners because the bocce balls are lighter, easier, and safer to toss than a standard set. The high contrast colors provide options for individuals with visual impairments.
(Product not available through the American Printing House for the Blind (APH))
- [Advanced 100mm Bocce Set](#) from Franklin, sold through Dick's Sporting Goods for \$44.99
This set with a carrying case is an advanced set as the bocce balls are heavier and larger. The high contrast colors provide options for individuals with visual impairments.
(Product not available through APH.)

Please note: These Web links are being offered only as informational resources.
It is not our intention to endorse or recommend the sites.

Bocce (continued)

Where to Buy (or Make Your Own): (continued)

- **Make Your Own:** Using similarly sized and weighted balls around the home, you can easily build your own set. The sets above have 8 bocce balls and 1 white pallino.
 - Ideas for bocce balls: tennis balls, lacrosse balls, colored whiffle balls
 - Ideas for pallino balls: softball, ping pong ball, golf ball

Modification Suggestions:

- The pallino (or target ball) can be substituted for a larger white ball like a softball.
- Use a sound source:
 - Clapping while hovering low but above the pallino or target ball
 - Place a [Key Finder](#) (\$16.99) next to the pallino ball and use the remote to create a sound for individuals to identify where to aim. (Product not available through APH.)
 - Place the [Portable Sound Source](#) from APH in a bucket next to the pallino ball and use the remote to create a sound for individuals to identify where to aim. (This product can be ordered through APH Quota Funds. [For information about Quota Funds and to contact someone to register.](#))

Considerations:

- Use of human guide on uneven surfaces
- Allow individuals to pick up their own equipment
- Allow wait time for individuals to attend to the sound. For instance, the individual could be prompted to point to the sound or turn their body to the sound prior to a guide physically assisting them.
- Reminders should be given to the individuals to only use an underhand roll or toss for safety.
- Provide hand under hand assistance demonstrations of the movement as needed.

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Bocce (continued)

Links and Resources:

- Let's Play Bocce video: <https://tinyurl.com/LetsPlayBocce>
- Beginner Bocce Ball Set: <https://tinyurl.com/BeginnerBocceBallSet>
- Advanced Bocce Ball Set: <https://tinyurl.com/AdvancedBocceBallSet>
- Key Finder: <https://tinyurl.com/KeyFinderForSoundSource>
- Portable Sound Source:
<https://www.aph.org/product/portable-sound-source-sport-edition/>
- Learn about APH Quota Funds at this website:
<https://www.focusvisionandvisionloss.org/aph-federal-quota-account.html>

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Please also see MCB/DDS Partnership “Focus” resources:

<https://www.focusonvisionandvisionloss.org/recreation.html>

<https://www.focusonvisionandvisionloss.org/orientation--mobility.html>

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