



Rugby is a game for players of all shapes and sizes. That's because there are specific positions on the pitch that require specialised skills. Of course, all players need to be able to run, pass, make tackles and clear out rucks, but some positions will be doing more of one thing than another. In addition, rugby is full of set pieces, such as restarts, lineouts, scrums, kick offs and kicks at goal, at which each position has a certain role.

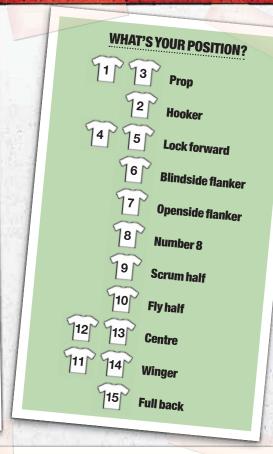
So, in this guide we give the main set piece attributes for each position, along with attack and defence essentials. We also highlight the 'X factors', those parts of the game where a player can bring a new dimension to a team.

You can use this guide to help your players understand what they should be doing in a game. This is especially helpful if a player is changing positions and is unsure of his new role. Each position is covered on a single sheet, so it's easy to print the sheets out and tape them up next to each player's peg in the changing room. That way, the players get a handy reminder of their roles and responsibilities just before they go out onto the pitch.

Remember these are purely guides. There is no one set template. But, there are basics that the players should be executing. Therefore the guide offers you and your players objectives to aim for. And once your players have a good understanding of their positions, they can look to develop their skills.

You could encourage your team to look at how the top players operate at international level. Ask your props to look at Dan Cole's scrummaging, suggest the flankers take note of Chris Robshaw's dynamic support play, or your centres look at the great running lines of Brad Barritt.

Once the players understand the fundamentals of their position, they can take their play to the next level and beyond!



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