

Tight Person-to-Person

This defense can be used as a full-court, three-quarter-court, or half-court pressure defense. Such a defense is most effective when sprung as a surprise and used for only short periods of time. Use more passive defenses in-between. You will find this defense to be most effective against inexperienced teams or a team who has poor ball-handlers.

The tight person-to-person is a great defense for a quick, small team. Use it to move the opponents point of attack farther out than they normally like. This defense is an excellent defense to use when trailing, late in the game.

Defensive players play closer than normal to their assigned opponent. They must go after him, or her, in an aggressive manner whenever they have the ball. When playing the dribbler force him, or her, to their weak hand, not attempting to steal the ball. Stay in his, or her, bubble faking and jabbing to **stop** the dribble.

As soon as the dribbler stops, the defender moves up quickly getting as close to the opponent as possible, without fouling, waving arms to block vision, and shouting, "Dead! Dead! Dead!" The teammates, hearing this, get into the passing lane to the person they are guarding to prevent them from receiving an easy pass.

If the dribbler does pass off, his defender must drop off immediately toward the basket in the direction the pass was made.

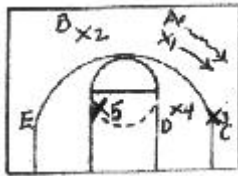


Diagram #6a - *Against a Two-Three Offense* - **A** has possession of the ball and is dribbling to the left. X_1 is closer to **A** than normal and is attempting to force **A** to the sideline in order to cut down on his, or her, passing lanes. All other players are guarding their assigned player closely, except X_5 who has moved off toward the ball to be in a good intercepting position and to be able to help X_4 , who has fronted **D**, in case of a long lob pass to the basket. X_3 has overplayed **C** to the ball-side to prevent **C** from receiving a pass. X_2 has overplayed **B** to the ball-side to prevent **B** from receiving a pass.

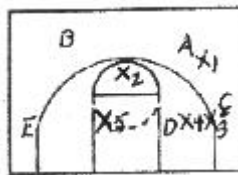


Diagram #7a - **C** has come back toward the ball and received a pass from **A**. X_3 , **C**'s defender, has closed in on **C** very aggressively. X_1 is overplaying **A** on the ball side. X_4 is still fronting **D** between **D** and the ball. X_5 has dropped down to stay between **E** and the ball, far enough to help X_4 in the event of a lob pass over the head of X_4 . X_2 has dropped off

B who is two players away from the ball, toward the position of the ball to prevent a cut by **B**, and to help X_1 if uses a reverse cut to the basket. Both X_2 and X_5 are in good positions for interceptions.