

# Basics of Baseball Three-Umpire Mechanics Study Guide

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*Finding the answers to these questions will help you learn the basic baseball three-umpire mechanics. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.*

## Positioning:

1. What are 3 items the crew should communicate to each other prior to each new situation:

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2. What situation(s) are both base umpires starting point on the wing?

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3. When runner(s) are on base when is the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire at first?

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4. What is the position of the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire when there is a runner at 1<sup>st</sup> and the 1<sup>st</sup> baseman is holding the runner on?

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5. What is the position of the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire when there is a runner at 1<sup>st</sup> only and there is a:  
Right handed batter up? \_\_\_\_\_  
Left handed batter up? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What is the position of the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire when there is a runner at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> base?

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7. What is the position of the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire when 1<sup>st</sup> base is empty and a runner at 2<sup>nd</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>?

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8. What is the position of the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire when 1<sup>st</sup> base is empty and a runner at 2<sup>nd</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>?

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9. When there is a runner at 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire is at 3<sup>rd</sup> base, where should the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire be?

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10. What are the four types of situations that occurs when the batter puts the ball in play?

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**Ball stays in the infield coverage:**

11. What are the similarities of coverage and movement of the umpires when a batter puts the ball in play and the ball stays in the infield when bases are empty and a runner at 3<sup>rd</sup> base only?

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12. What are the differences of coverage and movement of the umpires when a batter puts the ball in play and the ball stays in the infield when bases are empty and a runner at 3<sup>rd</sup> base only?

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13. When there is a runner at 1<sup>st</sup> base only and the batter hits a grounder that stays in the infield what will the plate umpire do?

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14. When there is a runner at 1<sup>st</sup> base only and the batter hits a grounder that stays in the infield what will the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire do?

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15. When there is a runner at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> or 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> what base(s) is the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire responsible for when the batted ball stays in the infield?

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16. When 1<sup>st</sup> base is empty and runner at 2<sup>nd</sup> or runners at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and the batted ball stays in the infield how should the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire cover a play at 1<sup>st</sup> if the ball his hit towards his right?

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17. When 1<sup>st</sup> base is empty and runner at 2<sup>nd</sup> or runners at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and the batted ball stays in the infield what should the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire do?

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**Fly ball to the outfield coverage:**

18. If a fly ball is hit in a "wing" umpire's coverage area what will he do?

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19. With bases empty or a runner on 3<sup>rd</sup> base only how will the wing umpires split up the outfield?

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20. With bases empty and the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire goes out to cover a fly ball who will cover the batter-runner at 1<sup>st</sup> base?

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21. With a runner on 3<sup>rd</sup> base only and the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire goes out to cover a fly ball who will cover the batter-runner at 1<sup>st</sup> base in case the ball is not caught?

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22. When there is a runner at 1<sup>st</sup> base how is the outfield fly ball coverage split up?

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23. When the first base umpire is inside the diamond how is the outfield fly ball coverage split up?

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24. When a fly ball is hit to the center-fielder who is responsible for fly ball coverage?

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25. With runners on base and the ball NOT hit in the plate umpires coverage area, what should the plate umpire be doing?

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26. What are the three keys to covering a fly ball?

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**Batted Ball for a base hit to the outfield coverage:**

27. In what base occupation situations will the umpires rotate when a batted ball leaves the infield?

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28. When the umpires are in rotation and the batter hits a ball that gets through the infield, what will the plate umpire do?

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29. When the umpires are in rotation and the batter hits a ball that gets through the infield, what is the key for the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire to head home?

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30. If the runner that started on 1<sup>st</sup> keeps going to 3<sup>rd</sup> base on a batted ball that gets through the infield, what will the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire do?

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31. What is the main key that causes the umpires to be in reverse-rotation (slide) when a batted ball gets through the infield for a base hit?

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32. When umpires are in reverse-rotation and a batted ball gets through the infield for a base hit what will the 1<sup>st</sup> base umpire do?

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33. When umpires are in reverse-rotation and a batted ball gets through the infield for a base hit what will the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire do?

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34. In what base occupation situations will the umpires be in “stay put” mode?

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35. When umpires are in “stay put” mode what will the 3<sup>rd</sup> base umpire do when a batted ball gets through the infield for a base hit?

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**Everything else:**

36. If a runner gets caught in a run-down how will the 2 umpires covering the run down cover it?

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37. If a batter hits a pop-up in foul territory and a defensive player catches it between the wing umpire and plate umpire who is responsible for the catch?

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38. If a batter hits a foul fly ball down and past a base, how will that wing umpire cover it?

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39. If you are not responsible for the coverage on a foul ball that might be caught what should you be doing?

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40. Did this study guide help you understand the basics of baseball three-umpire mechanics?

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**The next step:** Go umpire a baseball game with two other umpires and don't be afraid to mess things up and learn from those mess-ups. After working the game have a post-game with the crew and talk about mistakes or coverages that there were questions. Eventually you will train your muscles, along with your mind, to umpire in the three-umpire system. **Bottom line: Learn and Apply!**