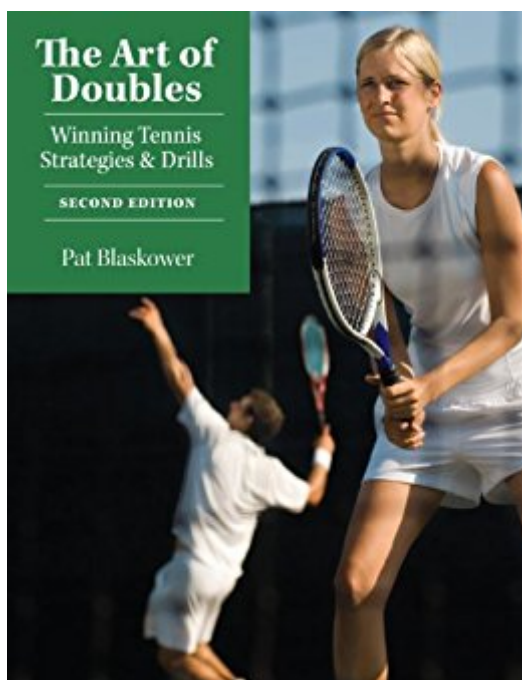


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# The Art Of Doubles: Winning Tennis Strategies And Drills



## Synopsis

Take Your Doubles Game to the Next Level! Whether you're trying to improve your doubles game or are just getting started playing tennis with a partner, *The Art of Doubles* is the book for you. Author Pat Blaskower is your personal coach, guiding and encouraging you and your partner to play winning tennis by showing you how to: choose a compatible partner determine your jobs on the court learn poaching skills communicate with each other and opposing teams maintain mental toughness use various formations and strategies pick your shots intelligently decide where to play: tournaments or leagues and much, much more! The book also includes detailed court diagrams that show you how to execute offense, defense, and tactical plays; checklists that summarize the most important points of each chapter; and on-court drills to help you improve and refine your skills. *The Art of Doubles* is loaded with practical, proven tennis strategies that you can put to work immediately to see improvements in your own doubles game!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I loved this book. I've owned it less than a month, and I've already upped my game. I feel like I'm

now better positioned on the court for defense, and better equipped for offense at the net. I'd like a bit clearer description on "mirroring", and I'd like some links to teams that are using the "California Doubles" described in the book. The book delivered, and left me excited to learn more. A book is more broad and informative than a video series, and this book is more about the strategic play, rather than stroke production, so a book suits that format. What can I say? I loved this book!

I like this book because it presents some of the latest ideas in doubles. The wall axiom in the prior edition is gone and most coaches are pushing the staggered formation which this book introduces. I think the drills and strategy chapters are the best part of the book. I think the whole "cross court terminator" idea could be presented better. I had to read it several times to understand what the author was trying to present. You have to be careful reading this book. You read a very insightful passage about doubles strategy and then you will come across statements like "The crosscourt lob is the most devastating shot in doubles" Are you kidding me? Other statements like you don't need topspin groundstrokes, a topspin lob and for your backhand all you need is a onehanded backhand slice (no 2 hander) is really just telling me what works for the author herself? Maybe you can get away without using these shots, but why limit yourself or encourage readers to limit themselves? Tennis players from rec levels to pros are all using those shots successfully. Still overall this is one of the better doubles books out there.

I played singles varsity tennis in high school and just recently started playing league doubles tennis. I was so lost on the court that I decided to pick up this book for some direction. I'm so glad I did! There were so many things I was doing wrong. It'll take time for me to practice all that I've learned but this book is definitely a game changer for me.

I have a collection of about 50 tennis books and I have read many others - I'm a bit of a fanatic - and this is one of the best I have read on doubles strategy. I am a 4.0 player but stronger at singles than doubles, which I don't play that often. But I am also in my late 50's and starting to transition into more doubles. My problem is that I really don't have a sophisticated and global understanding of doubles strategy. I go into singles matches with a definite game plan and idea of how I want to win points. But with doubles, I pretty much understand that it is good for both partners to get to the net and control it if possible, but no real understanding of the best ways to do so. This book is perfect for presenting a systematic approach. Blaskower teaches the "California doubles" style. The book is particularly good on explaining court positioning, the role of each team member and shot selection

and target. If you are at the level where you are capable of playing serve and volley, this book is particularly appropriate. I am very much seeing a difference in the level of my doubles game and I have only just started to implement the ideas presented in the book. Of course, it is even better if you can find a partner, or partners, willing to read the book and play California doubles, since teamwork and specific roles are essential for success. Blaskower explains which team member should cover lobs, hit cross court, end points, when to poach, etc. Overall very informative and easy to read and the explanatory diagrams are better than most tennis books. I strongly recommend.

This is just a simple to understand but effective collection of common doubles strategies and keys to success. There are several good illustrations that high light the principles. If 2 people work together on the info in this book and agree to stay with what is written in this book, then their odds of success have multiplied. An easy read that will pay great dividends. Since I played a lot of singles, but now play mostly doubles, it has helped reshape my thinking. There are not a lot of good in depth books exclusively on doubles like this. After getting it from the library, it became a "must have" for my own personal library.

Very interesting and useful read for USTA doubles tennis players. I shared it with my partners and they enjoyed it as well. Most of the concepts are sound, my coach didn't agree with all of them (but then I'm a 4.0 Level, I think the book was written with some advanced concepts for higher levels). Overall a good book to review if you want to better your tennis doubles game!

Great book! In my opinion, the difference between a 3.5 player and a (good) 4.0+ player is knowledge of the material covered in this book. Doubles is so much more fun when you know exactly where you are supposed to be (and you win as a result). I love playing with people who have also read this book. You can easily read it in a weekend. This book is better for an intermediate player than a beginner.

What's great about this book is it's helping me understand where to be on the court based on the situation at hand, as well as helping with shot selection and providing some fairly easy to remember rules that I'll be able to apply during a match, e.g. deep to deep, short to short, etc. After you've learned the mechanics of the various tennis shots, this book teaches you about actually playing the game itself. For example, I learned how serving wide, which I liked to do, was not really to my advantage. The book also explained the diminished importance in doubles of "power" tennis shots

such as the flat serve and topspin forehand. It's important to make sure you're getting the 2007 edition of this book since the author has updated her doubles strategy from the 'wall axiom' (1993 ed.) to a staggered strategy with a cross court player and a 'terminator.' For what you'd pay for two value meals at McDonald's, you can't beat the slice of doubles knowledge you get from this book.

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