

SPACE TYPES & REQUIREMENTS



Athletic Fields

School Type:



Functional Area Description

Sports fields are the primary active outdoor area for middle and high school students. Planning a multipurpose athletic field complex at a school has several advantages: fields can share the lighting and irrigation systems, they conserve land use, and they allow for concentrated and more cost-effective maintenance.

1 Athletic fields

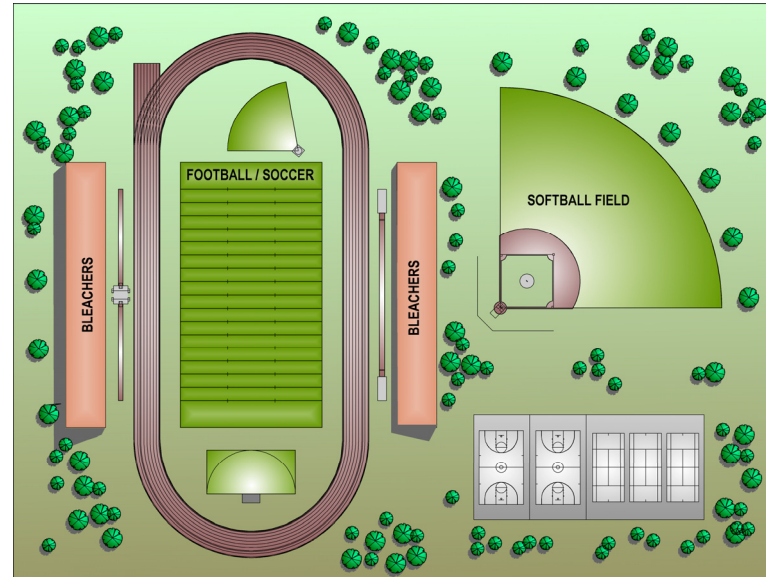
DoDEA-Americas (DDESS) (CONUS)

Middle and high schools: For all DoDEA-Americas middle and high schools provide a football/soccer field with a 400 meter track, a baseball field, and a separate softball field. For schools with an enrollment over 200 and participation in interscholastic competitions, a practice field (football/soccer) shall also be provided, space permitting. The number of outdoor basketball and tennis courts will depend on the size of the school and the school program.

DoDEA-Europe and DoDEA-Pacific (DoDDS) (OCONUS):

Middle schools: After school athletics for middle school age students are the responsibility of youth services. Refer to outdoor play areas for field, paved and equipment areas to be provided.

Conceptual Plan



Planning Requirements

Area Description	Spaces	Notes
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Athletic Fields

1a Track and Field, Football/Soccer Field Bleacher Seating	1.7 seats per student in schools with up to 400 students	
1a Track and Field, Football/Soccer Field Bleacher Seating	1.6 seats per student in schools with between 401-800 students	
1a Track and Field, Football/Soccer Field Bleacher Seating	1.5 seats per student in schools with over 801 students	

Planning Requirements

Area Description	SF	M ²	Notes
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Field House

2a Concession	290	27	
2b Concession Storage	100	9	
2c Men's and Women's Restrooms	530	49	
2d Team Equipment Storage	1,200	111	track and field 400sf, all others 200sf each
2e Covered Area	-	-	
	2,120	197	

NOTE: Images shown are intended to provide real-world examples and spark design creativity.

High schools: provide sports fields in the following order, as space permits: football/soccer field with a 400 meter track, basketball, tennis, softball, and baseball. Priority shall be given to sports which are represented and participating in interscholastic competitions.

Site Layout

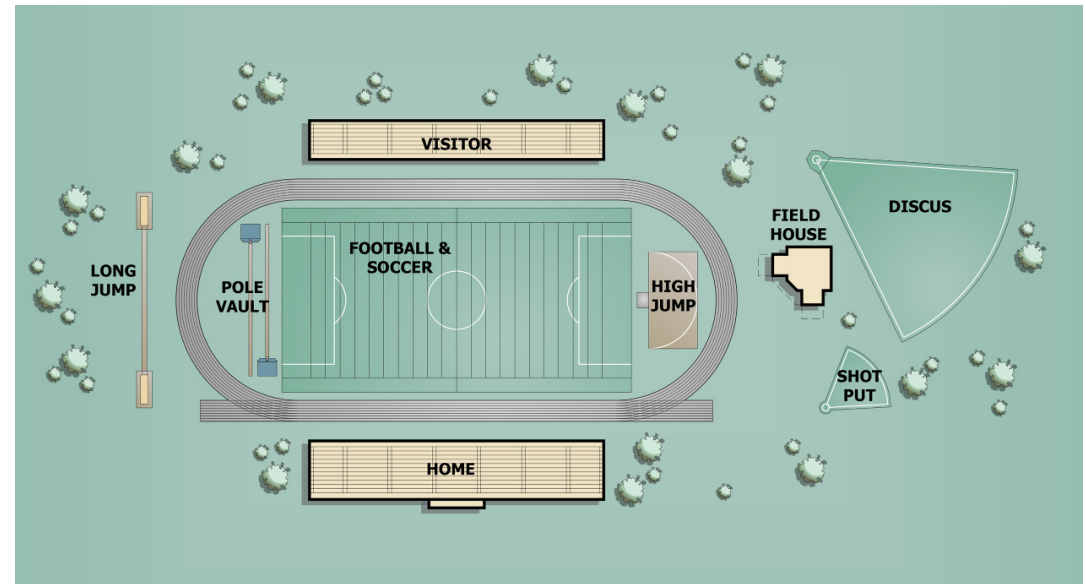
The following guidelines should be considered in developing a site layout for the sports fields:

- Optimum orientation for sun and wind control.
- Circulation for players and spectators.
- Buffer zones between action spaces.
- Access from showers, classrooms, parking, and buses.
- Grading and slope for drainage.
- Layout, dimensions, and amenities shall be designed in accordance with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Court and field diagram guide.

1a Track and Field, Football/Soccer Field Bleachers, and Press Box

- Provide a 400 meter, all weather running track with 6 lanes for schools with less than 400 students and 8 lanes for schools with 400 or more students.
- Include high jump and pole vault within the perimeter of the running track. Place the discus throw, shot put, and long/triple jump outside the track area. The pole vault and high jump should be placed where they won't interfere with the bleachers.
- Include the soccer and football fields in the center of the running track. If space permits, provide a separate soccer field. A practice field is optional.

Conceptual Plan



NOTE: the example conceptual plan shown is intended to spark design creativity.

- Provide prefabricated permanent bleachers. Unless site conditions will not allow, divide bleachers into home and away sides. Provide 70 percent of the seating capacity on the home side of the field. Total seating capacity shall be based on the planning requirements table. Round to the nearest modular dimension for the prefabricated units.
- Provide a press box centered at the top of the bleachers on the home side of the field. It shall be totally enclosed with windows in the front and sides. Provide seating for eight people at a counter along the front wall. Provide two LAN drops and four electrical outlets above the counter.
- Provide lighting on competition sports fields only.
- Typical orientation for the football field is in a north/south direction.
- Provide a scoreboard on competition sports fields only.

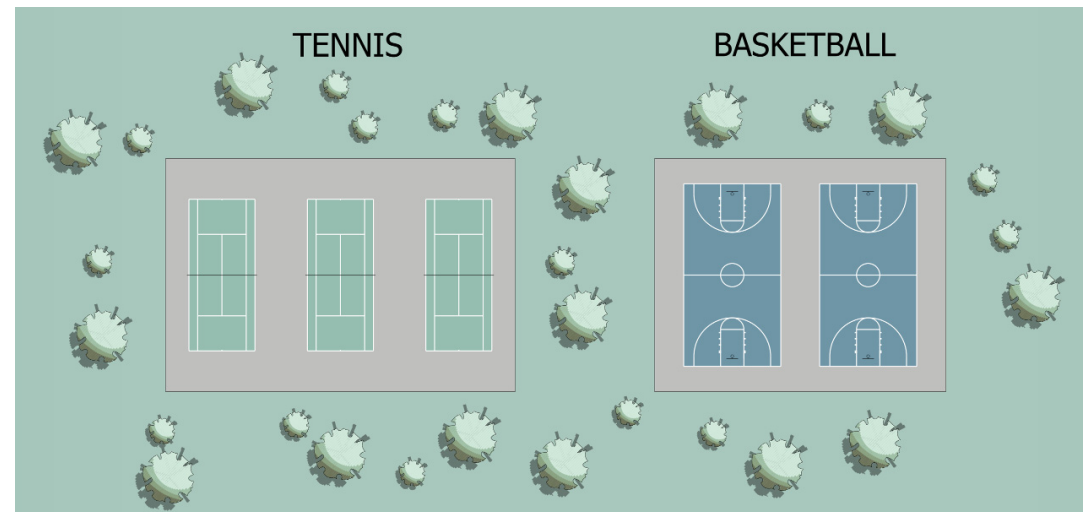
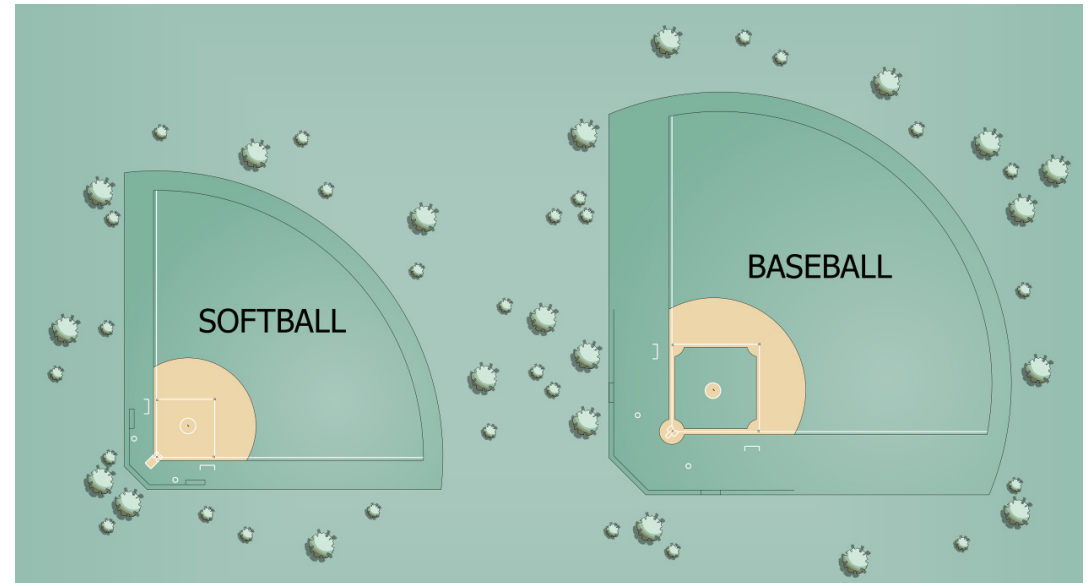
1b Baseball and Softball Fields

- Baseball and softball fields shall be separate. Common dimensions for a baseball field are 360 ft x 360 ft (110 m x 110 m); softball fields are typically 320 ft x 320 ft (98 m x 98 m).
- Optional batting cages (if applicable, based on existing physical education sports program).
- Provide lighting on competition sports fields only.
- Typically the baseball and softball fields should be oriented so that the batter is looking north when standing at the plate.

1c Tennis and Basketball Courts

- Provide two basketball courts for schools with less than 400 students and three basketball courts for schools with 400 or more students.
- Provide two tennis courts for schools with less than 400 students and three tennis courts for schools with 400 or more students. Three courts minimum shall be provided for competition.
- Typical orientation for the length of basketball and tennis courts is north/south.

Conceptual Plan



NOTE: the example conceptual plan shown is intended to spark design creativity.

2 Field House

The field house supports all outdoor sports activities by providing covered space for a variety of support activities, as outlined below.

2a Concession

The concession area shall have ample counter space for appliances and serving the public. Provide roll-up shutter at the transaction counter. Provide double stainless steel sink. Provide small commercial ice maker for concession and first aid on the fields. Provide separate hand wash sink as required by code. Provide electrical outlets for reach in cooler and other appliances and vending, as required. Provide two LAN drops in the concession area.

2b Concession Storage

Provide lockable storage room accessible from the concession area.

2c Men's and Women's Restrooms

The men's and women's restrooms shall be sized based on the capacity of the spectator seating provided at the sports fields.

2d Team Equipment Storage

Provide storage areas for individual sports. Provide single, double or overhead rolling doors as required for existing equipment. If an overhead rolling door is used, also provide a single personnel door so that the rolling door is not the only access to the space. The storage areas can be subdivided with wire cages as required for secure storage for individual sports.

Field House Concept Perspective



2e Covered Area

The area directly adjacent to the concession transaction counter and the entrance to the public restrooms shall be covered. Provide drinking fountains outside each of the restrooms. Provide enough covered area for queuing at the concession and/or restrooms.

Future Expansion

Future expansion area could be for expanding the public toilets, or for providing team lockers near the fields. The design of the facility should accommodate future expansion, if required.

NOTE: The conceptual 3D example shown is intended to spark design creativity.