

## The Sport of Croquet - Old Game Equals New Fun

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Believe it or not, back in the late 1800s games were played outside. I know it's hard to imagine because people have been conditioned to stay inside for entertainment. Dating all the way back to board games, and now with apps like Candy Crush, we'd rather stay inside. But let's not forget, we live in the beautiful Bay Area. It's time to take advantage of our surroundings and start doing outdoor activities. Watersavers Turf offers artificial grass products that are perfect for this outdoor revolution. With the quality synthetic turf products we offer, you'll want to be outside all day. So now what do you want to do?

Good question! Let's go back to the late 1800s when a popular game was taking Great Britain by storm. The origin of this game has been debated, but the amount of fun this activity provides isn't debatable. The advent of synthetic turf has enabled this sport to revive its popularity. What is the game? It's croquet. You're probably familiar with it, but now it's time to get outdoors and play! The first step is to tell you all about it.

Before I explain the rules, let's explore what is needed to play. A croquet set comes with four wooden balls which are red, black, yellow, and blue, one peg, and four croquet mallets which are used to hit the balls. Six wicket hoops, which are small arches that the balls are hit through, are also included. The hoops are arranged on a lawn in an area that is typically 35 x 28 yards. The area can be downsized for a personal backyard space using either real grass or synthetic turf. Artificial turf will make the balls roll smoother therefore making for a quicker game. The peg is set up in the middle of the sport field. There are four corner flags and eight corner pegs that mark the edges of the four yard lines. The four hoops face north and south and the fifth hoop is positioned seven yards north of the center peg. The last hoop, which is red and sometimes referred to as "Rover", is placed seven yards south of the peg. Hoop number one, which is blue, is located seven yards from the south and west boundaries. The three remaining hoops are similarly located near each corner, each of which is seven yards from their nearest corner.

Now, let's talk about the object of the game. To begin with, every ball must pass through every hoop two times in the correct order that the hoops are set up. After going through all the hoops in order, the balls must pass through each hoop in the reverse direction. Finally, each ball must be removed from the field. To do this, each ball must hit the center peg. The final objective is to be the first person to remove all of his or her balls from the field.

We mentioned earlier that the croquet balls roll smoother and therefore making for a quicker game when played on synthetic turf. The reason for this is that high quality sports turf has a smooth and consistent surface. Premium distributors such as Watersavers Turf offer this type of sports field turf. Feel free to give us a call at (844) 974-8873. We will be happy to assist you with whatever you need to make your own private croquet playing field.

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