



OFFICIALS RESOURCE SERIES

Basketball Gear Guide

A practical checklist for arriving prepared, looking professional, and handling the assignment with confidence.

**THE
STANDARD**

Confirm every item against your state association, governing body, conference, and assigner requirements.

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Basketball Assignment Checklist

Build your bag around reliability: the correct uniform, duplicate critical tools, comfort items, and protection for the conditions.

UNIFORM & PRESENTATION

- Approved black-and-white striped shirt with required association patch
- Black officiating pants or approved shorts, based on level and assignment
- Black belt only if the pant style requires one
- Solid black socks and polished, mostly black court shoes

ESSENTIAL TOOLS

- Two whistles: primary plus a tested backup
- Black lanyard or approved no-lanyard system
- Pregame card, small notebook, pen, and game fee/payment information
- Digital watch for arrival and pregame timing - remove it before the game if required

SMART BAG EXTRAS

- Compression shirt/shorts, blister care, shoe wipes, deodorant, towel
- Spare shirt, pants, socks, laces, and whistle
- Small shoe bag to keep game shoes clean

Pack, Inspect, Perform

WHEN	WHAT TO DO
48-24 HOURS	Confirm venue, level, crew, uniform, arrival time, parking, payment process, and special instructions.
NIGHT BEFORE	Lay out the complete uniform. Charge devices. Test whistles/timers. Check weather and travel time.
ON ARRIVAL	Change or finish dressing privately. Inspect equipment. Meet the crew. Complete the required pregame.
AFTER GAME	Record game details, clean and dry gear, replace used supplies, and note anything needed before the next assignment.

AVOID THESE MISTAKES

- Visible logos or bright shoe accents
- Unapproved jewelry or smartwatch
- Arriving in game uniform without a cover-up

Starter Budget Strategy

PRIORI TY	BUY FIRST	UPGRADE LATER
1	Required uniform and footwear	Second full uniform set
2	Required tools and protection	Premium bag/organizer
3	Backup whistle/timer and basics	Weather-specific duplicates

Important: This guide provides general preparation recommendations, not a universal uniform rule. Requirements vary by sport, season, level, state, conference, and governing body.