

# Trying to make sense of Rugby?

Rugby. It's the world's most popular contact sport, but for many Australians it's baffling. Don't worry, we've got you covered. Just think AFL with a few rule changes.

	<b>Aussie Rules</b>	<b>Rugby</b>
<b>Field of play</b>	Oval	Rectangle
<b>Number of players</b>	18 + 4 interchange	15 + 8 reserves, but once you're off, you stay off
<b>Scoring</b>	Kick the ball between the big sticks: 6 points for a goal, 1 point for a behind	Kick the ball between the big sticks and over the cross bar: 3 points Put the ball down over the goal line: 5 points + 2 if you then kick a goal
<b>Running with the ball</b>	You must bounce or touch the ball to ground at least once every 15 metres	No bouncing, just run
<b>Passing</b>	You can pass the ball to any team mate but you must use a handball	You can pass the ball to any team mate but you must pass it backwards
<b>Dropping the ball</b>	Turnover, free kick	Dropped backwards: play on Dropped forwards: turnover, scrum
<b>Kicking</b>	You can kick to any team mate	You can kick to any team mate who is not in front of you when you kick
<b>Types of kicking</b>	Punts, torps, drop-kicks & place kicks*	Punts, torps, drop-kicks & place kicks Can only score if using a drop-kick or place kick
<b>If the ball goes out of bounds</b>	If deliberate, turnover, otherwise umpire throws the ball back in	Turnover, non-offending team throws the ball back in
<b>Marking</b>	Free kick awarded to player taking the mark	Free kick awarded, but only if marker is inside their defensive quarter ("22")
<b>Tackle</b>	Below the shoulders, above the knees	Below the shoulders
<b>Shepherding</b>	You can push, bump or block a player within 5m of the ball	No shepherding

\* Little known fact: drop kicks were used widely in the AFL until Barassi scotched them in the 70s and place kicks were popular too, even after WW2! Both are still legal in AFL.