

FUTSAL #FunFacts



THE #'s

In a 30 minute futsal game a player will touch the ball once every 29.5 seconds. That's over 60 possessions per player per match.



According to a **Liverpool University** study, "futsal players touch the ball as much as **6x** more often per minute than outdoor full-field soccer players. The low bounce ball demands and rewards more precise handling." You can't get out of a tight spot by booting the ball downfield!

ORIGIN & TRANSLATION

Futsal comes from the Spanish 'futbol sala' or 'futbol de salon', which can be translated as 'room football', or as we like to translate it, "fun, fast-paced, small pitched soccer with a heavier ball!"



Futsal's origin can be traced back to Montevideo, Uruguay, in 1930 when Juan Carlos Ceriani devised a five-a-side version of soccer for youth competition in YMCA's on basketball-sized courts, both indoors and out!

Futsal's start in the YMCA evidences its adaptability, as well as the sport's ability to reach & serve both urban and suburban communities, in small spaces.

FAMOUS SOCCER PLAYERS WHO PLAYED FUTSAL!

Pele, Ronaldinho, Xavi, Ronaldo and Lionel Messi all played and trained in Futsal growing up!



Cristiano Ronaldo Quote:

"During my childhood in Portugal, all we played was futsal. The small playing area helped me improve my close control, & whenever I played futsal I felt free. If it wasn't for futsal, I wouldn't be the player I am today." - Ronaldo

SOCCER SIMILARITIES



Futsal is FIFA's official indoor soccer game which is, essentially, a scaled down version of outdoor soccer played indoors. With no wall to help out, players move and support each other just like the beautiful outdoor game.

WHY THE DIFFERENT BALL?

"The futsal ball is specifically designed to develop skills. When a futsal ball is received by an accurate pass, it virtually "sticks to the foot."



The same property that makes the ball easy to receive, i.e. "stick" makes it harder to strike. Players get familiarized, quickly with the advantages of bending the knee, turning the hips, & striking the ball firmly to send it. Repeated ball touches eventually produce a motion, which, when applied outdoors -with a high bounce ball- translates to a firmer, longer pass conducive to bigger field play.