

Bats in Sports



Many sports use bats to hit balls. Bats are used in baseball, cricket, table tennis, and other sports. All of these bats have different shapes. Some are rounded like sticks. Others are flat like paddles.

Baseball bats can be made of wood or metal. The wood that is used for baseball bats is soft and light. However, wooden bats still weigh more than metal bats. That's

because wooden bats are solid, not hollow. Metal bats are lighter in weight because they are hollow. The sounds the bats make when they hit a ball are different, too. Wooden bats make a crack sound because they are solid. Metal bats make a ping sound because they are hollow.

Baseball bats have three parts. One end has a wide knob. Without the knob, a batter's hands would slip off the bat. The part above the knob is narrow. It is called the handle because that's where the batter grabs the bat. The other end, which is thick, is used to hit the ball.

Like baseball bats, cricket bats are long and have thin

handles. However, cricket bats have wide, flat paddles. Cricket players hit the ball with the paddle part. Cricket bats are made of wood.

In table tennis, bats have short handles and flat, round paddles. Like cricket bats, table-tennis paddles are usually made of wood. The wide part of the paddle has a layer of rubber. When a ball hits the rubber, it spins off of it. Table-tennis paddles are much smaller and lighter than baseball and cricket bats. That's because table tennis is played on a table, and the ball doesn't have to go as far.

Bats in different sports may look different, but they all have the same job. They help players hit a ball farther than they could throw it.



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