

## **Basic Shuffleboard Strategy**

1. Never be too eager to shoot. Look for a chance to hide. Check the score. Take your time.
2. Never play carelessly or get mad at yourself if you miss a shot. Allow for a drift.
3. Never play kitchen game unless you are behind. Don't play opponent's block for a kitchen, you will only give him sevens. Think first.
4. Never look directly at a disc if you want to pass it. If you do, you will probably hit it. Look to one side of the disc.
5. Never get off balance. Don't throw your arm or cue out. Don't back up when you think the stroke is finished. Relax your wrist and arm. Reach way out on your follow through.
6. Never forget when you have the hammer shot. Score if possible. This is the most important factor of the game.
7. Never let your opponent keep you on the defensive or entice you into playing his game. Try to make him play your game.
8. Never play the same way every frame. Your opponent will soon anticipate your plays. Keep him guessing. Most of the fun comes from the factor of trying to outguess or out-manuever your opponent. Change tactics often.
9. Never make remarks about your own or someone else's shooting - good or bad.
10. Always be courteous by helping gather all the discs. Never be anything but a good sport.
11. Never delay or fidget around with your discs. Make up your mind, select your best play, find your target, place your disc and shoot.
12. Never, at any time, take unnecessary changes if the score is close. Always play it safe. Don't try for a score you don't need. If you have the hammer shot, don't be too anxious to score until your last shot.
13. Never lose the game at the last moment by not knowing the score. Think!
14. Don't leave your opponent's hide block on the board. Knock it off or block his chance to go in for a hide. Never miss an opportunity to hide a disc for yourself.
15. Don't leave a good disc of your opponent's on a number. Take it off. If you have the hammer shot and your opponent's good disc is over half hidden, don't try to get it out. Score with your last shot.
16. If you have a good disc, always try to save it by blocking it.
17. After shooting, always step back and hold your cue up.

## **Shuffleboard Tips**

Remember: Never leave a disc on the court that can be used by your opponent.

### **How to play when your opponent shoots first and you have the hammer shot:**

1. If your opponent puts in a block that he can use, always shoot it off the court. Do not leave your disc on the court if you can avoid it. Your chance of success is 80% better by shooting his block off the court than by counter blocking.
2. If your opponent puts his disc where he cannot use it, put in a block of your own. If he puts in a block you can use but he cannot, always take advantage of his mistake and hide a disc.
3. Never leave your opponent's disc on the center or crosslines if it is on or above the crossline.
4. If your opponent is in the kitchen, always try to block it above the scoring space or put in a score on the opposite side of the court.
5. If your disc is in the kitchen and your opponent has a good 7, 8, or 10 disc in the open, always shoot your opponent's disc out rather than your kitchen. You have a chance of knocking out your disc in the kitchen and making a score; otherwise, you can stick in the kitchen and lose everything.
6. Do not shoot your last shot if you have the game won in the 8th frame.
7. Do not try kitchen shots except on rare occasions, or if you are behind 20 points or more.

### **How to play when you shoot first and your opponent has the hammer shot:**

1. Always put in a block on the opposite side of the court (or a tampa block).
2. If your opponent shoots your block out, put in another for three times. Usually, he will stick on one of the three and give you a block you can use. Shoot a score with your fourth disc on a fast court; on a slow court, use your best.
3. If your opponent puts in a counter block, always knock it out and leave your disc in its place. Nudge your disc for a score on your next shot.
4. Never leave your opponent's disc on the board if he can nudge it in, double on it or hide behind it.
5. Always use your opponent's block if you can hide behind it but he cannot; otherwise, shoot it off the court.
6. Do not shoot your last shot if you have the game won. This means, watch the scoreboard. If you are ahead, keep the board clean and throw your last disc away.