

# Wicket

In [cricket](#), a **wicket** is:

- An object made up of three sticks (called stumps) stuck into the [earth](#), with two small sticks (called bails) balanced on them. They are like a target for the fielding team, and can be hit with the ball to try to get batsmen [out](#).
- A batter getting out, meaning they can't bat anymore. A team that has "lost 5 wickets" has had 5 of its batters get out.
- The [cricket pitch](#) itself.

## Object

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

There is one wicket in each of the two [batsmen's grounds](#). The fielding team can hit a wicket with the ball to [run out](#) a batsman, but only if there is no batsman in the ground of the wicket.<sup>[1]</sup> In addition, when delivering the ball to the batsman, the bowler can hit the wicket in the striker's ground with the ball to [bowl](#) the striker out.<sup>[2]</sup>

The wicket is said to have been "put down" when any of its 5 sticks fall to the ground because it was hit by the ball or a player holding the ball.<sup>[3]</sup> The sticks can be put back in place and then hit back off to put the wicket down more than once.

## Sides of the field

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

The field can be defined as having two halves: the "off side" and the "leg side"/"on side", with these being separated by an imaginary line connecting the middle stump of both wickets. The off side of the field is the right side of a field for a right-handed batsman who is looking at the [bowler](#), and the leg side is the left side. (This is reversed for a left-handed batsman.)<sup>[4]</sup>

## Batsman getting out

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

A batsman is said to have "lost his wicket" when he gets out.<sup>[5]</sup>

# References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

1. [↑](#) ["{% DocumentName %} Law | MCC"](#). *www.lords.org*. Retrieved 2020-10-31.
2. [↑](#) ["{% DocumentName %} Law | MCC"](#). *www.lords.org*. Retrieved 2020-10-31.
3. [↑](#) ["{% DocumentName %} Law | MCC"](#). *www.lords.org*. Retrieved 2020-11-17.
4. [↑](#) <https://www.lords.org/getattachment/MCC/All-Laws/2nd-Edition-of-the-2017-code-2019.pdf> The diagram on P.80
5. [↑](#) ["Ten ways of getting out"](#). 2005-09-06. Retrieved 2020-10-31.

*This [short article](#) about [sports](#) can be made longer. You can help Wikipedia by [adding to it](#).*

Retrieved from "<https://simple.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Wicket&oldid=7234333>"