Cricket is played with a bat and ball and involves two competing sides (teams) of 11 players. The field is oval with a rectangular area in the middle, known as the pitch, that is 22 yards (20.12 metres) by 10 feet (3.04 metres) wide. Two sets of three sticks, called [wickets](https://www.britannica.com/sports/wicket), are set in the ground at each end of the pitch. Across the top of each wicket lie horizontal pieces called bails. The sides take turns at [batting](https://www.britannica.com/sports/batting-cricket) and [bowling](https://www.britannica.com/sports/bowling) (pitching); each turn is called an “innings” (always plural). Sides have one or two innings each, depending on the