Buying a Pickleball Paddle



Choosing a paddle has become increasingly complicated. There are so many shapes, sizes, materials and brands that it's confusing for both beginner and advanced players. Below is some basic guidance for buying a Pickleball paddle.

Pickleball paddles have a core construction and an applied surface material. There are generally three types of core construction: Nomex, Polymer and Aluminum. Surface materials are usually made from Fiberglass, Graphite and Carbon Fiber.

Higher-quality paddles are made using a Nomex or Polymer core with a Fiberglass or Graphite surface.

Lighter-weight paddles (under 8.0 oz.) are easier to swing and give you more control. Heavier paddles (8.0+ oz.) will give you more power on your shots.

Expect to spend between \$70 and \$90 for a good paddle. Paddles with the latest technology will cost between \$125 and \$175.

The best way to find your next paddle is to ask other players if you can hit with their paddle. Next time you are on the court, switch paddles with someone and see how you like playing with that paddle.

Academy Sports and Dick's Sporting Goods carry a limited selection of paddles. The best place to buy a Pickleball paddle is online because the selection is better. Check out these online retailers:

- PickleballCentral.com
- PickleballPaddlesPlus.com
- Amazon.com