

How to Choose Your Bat

Few decisions impact your game as much as choosing the perfect bat. You want a bat that's the right size, right weight and right length for you—and within your budget. Improvements in technology have given today's ball players more options than ever, so you're sure to find a bat that feels like it was custom made for you. You just have to do your homework to find it.

Weight: As a general rule, bigger, stronger players usually prefer a heavier bat for maximum power. Smaller players usually benefit from a lighter bat that allows greater bat speed. To determine the weight that's right for you, swing a variety of bats and see how much weight you're comfortable with.

Length: Length and weight combine for peak performance. A longer bat gives you greater reach, allowing you to hit balls on the other side of the plate. But remember that a longer bat may be heavier, and the extra weight could slow you down. Like checking the weight, you need to swing bats of different lengths to decide what length best suits you.

Barrel diameter: Most players 12 and under should use a 2 1/4" barrel. This is the standard barrel size for most youth baseball leagues. Note that the maximum barrel diameter size for PONY Baseball is 2 5/8".

League requirements: Virtually all leagues have their own bat requirements and restrictions. For example, high school and college requirements call for BBCOR-certified bats. To avoid costly surprises, make sure you know all league requirements *before* you go bat shopping.

*** Baseball Bat Types ***

Tee-Ball Bats (Shetland)

Tee-Ball bats are for ages approx 5 thru 7. They are generally used in tee-ball and coach pitch leagues. The bat barrel is 2 1/4 inch in diameter. Bat lengths range from 25 inch to 27 inch. Bat weight is measured in *weight drop*, which varies between brands and models. Heavier bats are around *minus 7* weight drop, lighter bats are around *minus 13*.

Little League Bats (Pinto – Bronco)

Little League bats are for ages approx 7 thru 12. They are used in leagues including PONY, and Little League. The bat barrel is 2 1/4 inch in diameter. Bat lengths range from 28 inch to 32 inch. Bat weight is measured in *weight drop*, which varies between brands and models. Heavier bats are around *minus 7* weight drop, lighter bats are around *minus 13*.

Senior League Bats (Mustang - Pony)

Senior League bats are for ages approx 10 thru 13. They are used in certain travel and tournament leagues. The bat barrel is available in 2 5/8 inch (high school regulation). Bat lengths range from 28 inch to 32 inch. Bat weight is measured in *weight drop*, which varies between brands and models. Heavier bats are around *minus 5* weight drop, lighter bats are around *minus 11*.

Use the charts below as a general guideline for determining **BAT LENGTH**.

WEIGHT	HEIGHT									
	3'-3'4"	3'5"-3'8"	3'9"-4'	4'1"-4'4"	4'5"-4'8"	4'9"-5'	5'1"-5'4"	5'5"-5'8"	5'9"-6'	6'1"-over
Under 60 Lbs	26"	27"	28"	29"	29"					
61 - 70	27"	27"	28"	29"	30"	30"				
71 - 80		28"	28"	29"	30"	30"	31"			
81 - 90		28"	29"	29"	30"	30"	31"	32"		
91 - 100		28"	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"		
101 - 110		29"	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"		
111 - 120		29"	29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"		
121 - 130		29"	30"	30"	30"	31"	32"	33"	33"	
131 - 140		29"	30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	33"	33"	
141 - 150			30"	30"	31"	31"	32"	33"	33"	
151 - 160			30"	31"	31"	32"	32"	33"	33"	33"
161 - 170				31"	31"	32"	32"	33"	33"	34"
171 - 180						32"	33"	33"	34"	34"
over 180							33"	33"	34"	34"

MOST POPULAR LENGTH BY AGE						
AGE	5-7	8-9	10	11-12	13-14	15-16
LENGTH	24"-26"	26"-28"	28"-29"	30"-31"	31"-32"	32"-33"

Use the charts below as a general guideline for determining **BAT WEIGHT**.

Pinto/Mustang (8-10 yrs)	
Player Height	Bat Weight
48-50"	16-17 oz.
51-54"	17-18 oz.
55-59"	18-19 oz.
60+"	19-20 oz.

Bronco (11-12 yrs)	
Player Weight	Bat Weight
70-80 lbs.	18-19 oz.
81-100 lbs.	19-20 oz.
101-120 lbs.	20-21 oz.
121-140 lbs.	21-22 oz.
141+ lbs.	22-23 oz.

High School & College (Pony)	
Player Height	Bat Weight
66-68"	27-28 oz.
69-72"	28-29 oz.
73-76"	29-30 oz.
77+"	30-31 oz.