



Goalkeeping, defending and attacking using angles.

Simple geometry and trigonometry can show how a goalkeeper can guard the maximum amount of space. It is valuable information for all players, offensive and defensive. Goalie always attacks the ball on a line from the center of the goal (bisecting the angle). Also, always step out of the goal to reduce the size of the goal in respect to the shooter. This is especially important from an angle to be sure the near post is covered.

Be aware and ready as an attacker is pushing the ball away from them. Attack at this time. The ball is then moving toward the keeper and away from the forward. (This applies to defenders as well).

This illustration also demonstrates why it is so important for defenders to shepherd opponents to the outside. It is obviously more difficult to score from a wider angle.

In the same respect forwards should see that there is a real advantage in getting the ball into the center of the "red zone" to shoot on goal. This area provides the largest target for shooters and is the most difficult for the goalie to defend. When taking corner kicks or making crosses during the game try to have the attacker meet the ball inside this zone for best results.