

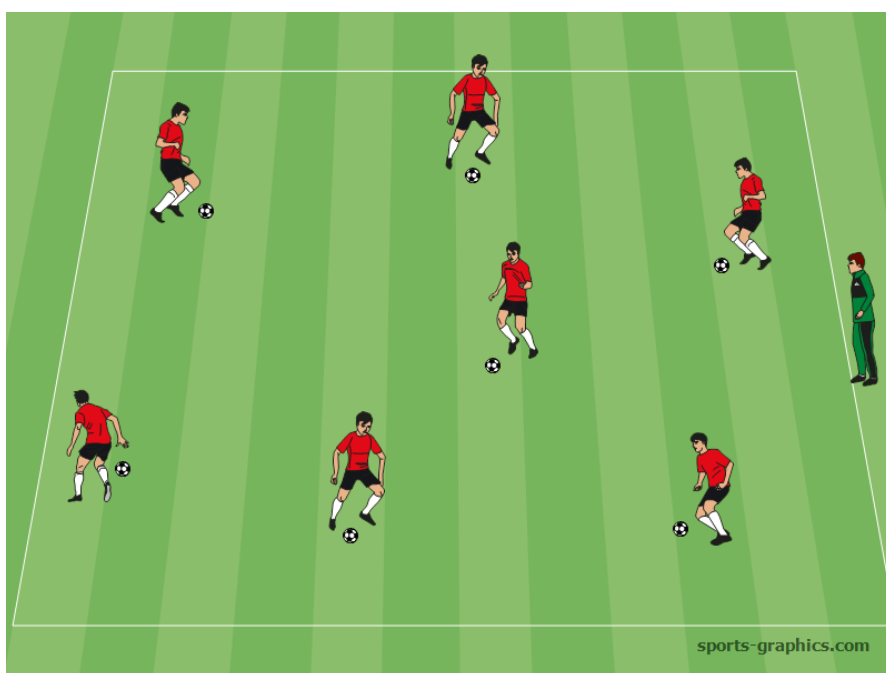
PULL BACK TO INSIDE OF FOOT (ZIGZAG)

For improving ball familiarisation and touch

TECHNICAL

Ball Manipulation

Ball Familiarity Exercise



Set up a 20x20 practice area ensuring each player has adequate work space and a ball. With the sole of the right foot on top of the ball, players pull the ball back to the left instep, then quickly alternate left sole to right instep. This creates a backward zigzag motion.

Encourage players to find rhythm with the move.

Follow the skill acquisition stages dependent on the player's progress.

- Stage 1 - Develop the skill with a stationary ball systematically producing step by step moves.
- Stage 2 - Progress with players increasing the speed of touch.
- Stage 3 - Combine other ball manipulation moves to challenge further. Try giving a range of different techniques learned, with

players changing on command or combine two moves in one to increase the difficulty/complexity.

VARIATIONS AND PROGRESSIONS

Each practice can be varied to adapt to the needs of players. Simple changes can increase or decrease the challenge. Examples such as changing the rules, the size of the area, overloading the advantage of one team, varying the focus, or setting team challenges will keep players motivated and all attribute to good coaching methodology.



LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Develop spatial awareness while performing the move.
- Players will improve balance , coordination and feel for the ball.
- To improve touch through ball manipulation techniques.

KEY FACTORS

- Close control of the ball
- Head up
- Knees slightly bent
- Light on feet
- Rhythm
- Speed of the move
- Technique of the move

FOCUS AREAS

- Encourage players to have their head up - when the player is more proficient they should only briefly need to glance down.
- Mastering different techniques - each feint or move should be taught as specific techniques.
- To develop or refine a specific technique so that the player is comfortable with the move.
- To gradually increase the fluency and speed of the move.

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