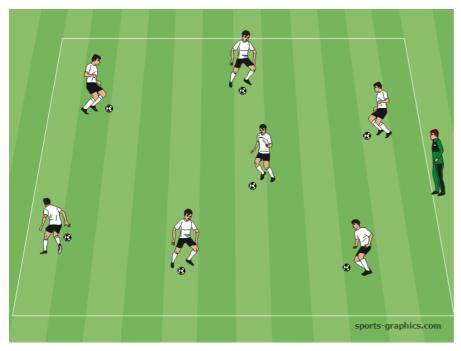


Ball Manipulation

X Factor Moves



Set up a 20x20 practice area ensuring each player has adequate work space and a ball. Players roll the ball with the sole of the foot locked at 90 degrees (simulating a pass with the inside of the foot) then pull it back with the sole of the same foot.

The foot straightens (points forward) on the backward movement.

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.

- Stage 4 Develop the move to a more game related activity to improve decision making on the correct timing and use of the
- Stage 5 Repeat the skill acquisition process (Stages 1-4) encouraging players to use their less dominant foot.

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.



Football SESSIONS

Technical Practice

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Improve basic ball manipulation.
- Players will improve balance, coordination and feel for the ball.
- To improve touch through ball manipulation techniques.
- To learn and refine a specific technique through five skill acquisition stages.

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.
- Observe players progress and follow the skill acquisition stages 1-5.
- 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.

