# Netball!

### What is netball?

Netball is a fast and energetic sport that is usually played by women. Once upon a time, it was called *women's basketball*. In the game, you run, jump, catch and throw the ball, but you can only bounce it once. You score a goal when you throw the ball into the net.

### How do you play netball?

There are seven people in a netball team, but each player can only move in a small part of the netball court. You pass the ball to your team members by throwing it. The other team tries to stop – or block – you from getting the ball. The team that scores the most goals is the winner.

### What about the ball? Do you play with a basketball?

No, you play netball with a smaller and softer ball. It's more like a football than a basketball.

### How popular is the game?

It's very popular! More than 20 million people enjoy playing netball in over 70 different countries. It is one of the top sports in Australia, New Zealand, Britain, the West Indies and Sri Lanka. In fact, it became an Olympic sport in 1995.

**Do you want to know more about netball? See page 64.**

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energetic – kraftfull, energisk
is played by – spelas av
woman, women – kvinna, kvinnor
once upon a time – en gång för
  längesedan
was called – kallades
game – spel
throw – kasta

bounce – studsa
score a goal – göra mål
team – lag
each – var och en, varje
court – plan
pass – passa
member – medlem
try, tries – försöker

block – stoppa
soft, softer – mjuk, mjukare
country, countries – land, länder
top – *här*: populäraste
the West Indies – Västindien
in fact – faktiskt
became (become) – blev (bli)
Olympic – olympisk

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