

LAKER OFFENSIVE PRINCIPLES

- ❖ Set tough, hard screens. Set your screen on the defender's numbers (headhunt). The screener should remain in a stationary position for a two count.
- ❖ Always receive the screen late - Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait for the screener to jump stop and say your name before you begin your v-cut to get open.
- ❖ Read the defense. Think before you move. Try to take advantage of what the defense gives you. Our cutter and screener must concentrate on their defender and not watch the ball. Cutters should always make their cuts away from their defender and "move with a purpose."
- ❖ Move to be a great receiver! As a pass receiver, you must always step to the ball, show a hand-target, and call for the ball.
- ❖ Backdoor cut when overplayed. When your defender has a foot and hand in the passing lane to deny you from catching the ball, change direction and cut behind the defender toward the basket with your lead hand up.
- ❖ Fake a pass, to make a pass.
- ❖ Use a shot fake before you dribble.
- ❖ Acknowledge (credit) the unselfish pass that leads to score. "Point to him," the assist guy. Let the fans know who made the play.
- ❖ Crash the offensive boards. Players #3, #4, and #5 must crash the boards on every shot while players #1 and #2 sprint back to stop the fast break.
- ❖ Rebound the offense. We want our shooter to always follow his shot with his hands up. Our other players (#3, #4, and #5) are responsible for weak-side rebounds. Most rebounds (75%) are grabbed on the weak-side of the basket.
- ❖ Play smart! Understand and know what the coach is looking for.
- ❖ Play unselfishly. Always pass to the open man and don't force shots.
- ❖ Protect the basketball. Handle the ball with sureness. Avoid turnovers.
- ❖ Make the safe and easy pass. Don't force passes. Every pass does not have to lead to a score.
- ❖ Pass away from the defense. Always know where the defense is, and pass away from it. Use two-handed grip as a passer.

- ❖ Play under control. Don't have your mind made up about what you want to do. Read the numbers and take what the defense gives you in an organized and controlled matter.
- ❖ Be patient. Don't play fast! A good rule to remember is to hurry, but don't rush. It's not how fast you go, it's what you do.
- ❖ Don't force shots! Pass the ball when you are well defended.
- ❖ Dribble with your head up and see the court.
- ❖ Dribble north and south. Attack the gaps in the defense. No wasted dribbles.
- ❖ Always know the time and score.
- ❖ Maintain proper spacing of 15 to 18 feet. Spacing is offense and offense is spacing. Keep the offense high and wide. Perimeter players should stay above the three point line, except of course when executing cuts or screening opportunities.
- ❖ Try to make three passes before attempting a shot, other than a lay-up opportunity.
- ❖ Catch-and-face. Anytime that we receive the basketball, we face the basket in the triple threat position.
- ❖ Always look to go inside first, before shooting outside shots! Our first objective every time down the floor is to go inside. We like for our post to touch the ball before any shots are taken.
- ❖ Use a jump-stop in the post area. Keep the ball under chin, with elbows out.
- ❖ Always look to dribble penetrate (slash) to the elbows. We love to play off the elbows offensively (jump shot, draw-and-kick, or kick-out).
- ❖ Look to draw-and-kick. Anytime a weak-side defender rotates to stop ball, we look to pass to our open teammate. Use a bounce pass in the paint to hit the open teammate.
- ❖ Get fouled! To win the big games, you must get to the free throw line, and then you must make them... Great players get to the foul line 7 to 8 times a game.
- ❖ Communicate on all screens. Raise your weak hand to let the cutter know you're coming to screen for him. As you set the screen, call out your teammate's name.

2009 – 2010



LAKER

Half-Court
Offense

