

How to Improve Camera Angles in Basketball

By Warren Rosenberg, eHow Contributor updated: May 01, 2011

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The perception of height can be enhanced by photographing from a low angle.

Basketball is a fast-paced game played with 10 people on the court at any one time. Photographing a basketball game presents a number of challenges which can be overcome by careful selection of shooting location, [camera](#) angles and lens selection. Using a normal-range lens in the 50 to 85 mm range will allow you to capture broad sections of the court and action involving several

athletes. Using a longer-range telephoto lens in the 70 to 200 mm range will allow you to focus in on individual players even when they are on the far side of the court.

Instructions

Difficulty: Moderately Easy

Ideal Shooting Location

1 Ask for permission from one of the teams' coaches or from the gym or arena facilities director for permission to shoot from the baseline of the court, preferably the one at which your team will be scoring. Professional [sports photographers](#) most often situate themselves along the baseline of the basketball court to one side or the other of the basket. If you can gain access, this would be the ideal shooting position.

things you'll need:

Digital SLR camera body

85 mm f/1.4 or 1.8 or comparable lens

70 to 200 mm f/2.8 or comparable lens

portable folding canoe seat

2 Position yourself as far toward the right or left corner of the baseline as possible. This will allow you to shoot action under and around the basket without having the backboard obstruct your view.

3 Shoot up at an angle toward the basketball hoop. This angle will enhance the perception of height as the athletes jump to shoot the ball through the hoop and create dramatic [photographs](#).

4 Using your longer-range telephoto lens, shoot across court to the far end to capture your team's players as they defend against

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their opponent's attempts to score. The 200 mm or even 300 mm focal length will help you get close in on the action at the far end of the court.

- 5 Angle your lens towards the opponent's basket at the far end of the court to capture the action as players fight for rebounds.
- 6 Don't ignore taking photographs of the teams' benches where players are enthusiastically cheering on their teammates and where interactions between the coach and the players often make for great human-interest shots.

[MVP Basketball Day Camp](http://www.mvpbasketballcamp.org) www.mvpbasketballcamp.org
White Plains and Bedford, NY Boys and Girls Ages 6-16

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References

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