

Basketball Terms

field goal: when the ball enters the basket from above during play; worth 2 points, or 3 points if the shooter was standing behind the 3-point line.

free-throw: an unguarded shot taken from the foul line by a player whose opponent committed a personal or technical foul; it is worth 1 point.

3-point shot: a field goal worth 3 points because the shooter had both feet on the floor behind the 3-point line when he released the ball; also counts if one foot is behind the line while the other is in the air.

steal: when a player takes the ball from the opposing team.

turnover: when the offense loses possession through its own fault by passing the ball out of bounds or committing a floor violation.