

How to Play Carpetball

Setup:

- One player at each end of the table
- Each player has an equal number of carpetballs (billiard balls)
- There is one neutral ball called the shooter (usually the cue ball)
- Players may set up their balls in any alignment as they please
- Players may only set balls as far down the table as they can reach from the back
 - Exceptions are made for kids who are really young

Playing:

- The winning player from the previous game throws first (underhand only)
- Players take turns attempting to knock their opponents balls off the end
- When all a player's balls are eliminated he gets one last shot (a "mercy" shot) to attempt to tie the game.
- In the event of a tie both players put up one ball and play from there
- In event of a double tie players pull out two balls (and the same for triple, etc.)
- The winning player stays and the losing player goes to the end of the line.

Specific Rules:

- If a player hits one of their own balls with the shooter that ball is then eliminated and play continues with the other player's throw.
- Some groups may enforce a three game limit for continuous winners
- Groups sometimes chose to enforce an automatic loss upon any player whose throw of the shooter ball bounces out of the table or hits their opponent.

Spectators:

- Keep hands off the table
- Don't lean in