

Divisions: All Baseball and Softball Divisions

Mandates batters keep one foot in the batter's box during their at-bat. (Page 131 in Baseball; 126 in Softball).

Summary:

After entering the batter's box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the at bat.

Exceptions:

1. On a swing, slap, or check swing.
2. When forced out of the box by a pitch.
3. When the batter attempts a "drag bunt" in Baseball [or attempts a "slap" or "slap bunt" in Softball]
4. When the catcher does not catch the pitched ball.
5. When a play has been attempted.
6. When time has been called.
7. **BASEBALL:** When the pitcher leaves the dirt area of the pitching mound or takes a position more than five feet from the pitcher's plate after receiving the ball or the catcher leaves the catcher's box. **SOFTBALL:** When the pitcher leaves the eight foot circle or the catcher leaves the catcher's box.
8. On a three ball count pitch that is a strike that the batter thinks is a ball.

Penalty:

If the batter leaves the batter's box or delays play and none of the exceptions apply, the umpire shall warn the batter. After one warning on a batter, the umpire shall call a strike. Any number of strikes can be called on each batter.

Minor/Major Division Baseball and All Softball Divisions: No pitch has to be thrown, the ball is dead, and no runners may advance.

Intermediate (50-70) Division/Junior/Senior Baseball Divisions: No pitch has to be thrown and ball is live.

NOTE: The batter may return their position in the batter's box and assume the new count at any time during the at-bat, unless such enforced penalty is the third strike.