GUIDE TO BUYING A MALLET

When a croquet player takes up the game, they soon find that the kind of mallet they use makes a difference to their game. Most keen players decide to buy their own mallet.

More experienced players often decide to change their mallet, as their style develops, or as new and better mallets come on the market.

There are two main ways to buy a mallet – purchase a second-hand one from another croquet player, or buy one from a manufacturer of mallets. It is often difficult to find a suitable second hand mallet, though as older players retire a few come onto the market. Some mallets are advertised on the Cammeray Mallet Mart on this website. The price of a second-hand mallet can vary from \$50 to \$200 depending on the quality and age of the mallet.

The advantage of buying a new mallet is that most manufacturers will provide a mallet to your personal requirements – they have a range of head weights and shaft lengths so you can choose what suits you. The cost of a new mallet ranges from around \$150 to over \$500.

Some of the properties to look for in a mallet are:

- weight many beginners use a mallet that is too light; if you have difficulty hitting long shots on heavy lawns, a heavier mallet will help especially if you are not particularly strong. Typical weight range is from 2 lbs 10 ozs to 3 lbs 4 ozs though carbon fibre mallets tend to be lighter.
- length the right shaft length depends on your stance and style
- shaft shape many players prefer to have hexagonal or octagonal shafts rather than round ones, as this helps them to hold the mallet at a consistent angle
- rigidity of shaft having a rigid shaft usually provides better control, especially for stops shots
- peripheral weighting having lead weights along the sides of the head, or shapes that put most of the material at the sides helps the mallet to swing in a straight line
- size of head beginners may prefer a mallet with a large cross-section as this reduces the chance of hitting on the edge of the mallet, but more experienced players usually prefer a smaller cross-section
- shape of head most modern mallets have square heads rather than round ones
- materials used cheaper mallets are generally wood, while some of the more technically advanced ones use metal or carbon fibre

The following mallet makes have websites where more information can be found: Fenwick Elliot Mallets: www.insearchoftheperfectmallet.com/ Wood Mallets Ltd: www.woodmallets.com/croquet/ Dawson Mallets: www.personal.psu.edu/staff/h/k/hkr/CroquetWeb/AustralianCroquetCompany.html Hobbs Mallets: john-hobbs-croquet-mallets.mfbiz.com/ Percival Mallets: www.croquetmallets.co.uk/ Yellow Boy: www.amber-tech.co.nz/Mallets.htm Terminator: www.terminatormallets.co.nz/ PFC: www.croquetmalletmetal.com Star Mallets: www.starmallets.com

There is also useful information on the Oxford Croquet Site about mallets at:http://www.oxfordcroquet.com/equip/mallets/index.aspand atThe Croquet Association (UK) website : http://www.croquet.org.uk/shop/index.html

Other Australian Mallet Makers:

lan Bassett (03) 5852 1189 0428 575 269

18 Lancaster Street, Kyabram VIC 3620

Ray Wheatley (02) 4883 6155 29 Viewland Street, Bundanoon NSW 2578

email: raywheatley@optusnet.com.au

[Specifications: Square heads of Gidgee a very dense desert timber. shafts of Tasi ash/oak. Weights 3lb 6oz to 3lb 10oz . Lengths of shafts 1m but cut to suit the player and then bound with a soft leather feel vinyl binding. Cost \$230 + gst of \$23 = \$253]

Tom Wright (02) 4284 5994 1 Alfred Street, Woonona NSW 2517

New Zealand Mallet Makers:

Ray Puckett Mallets (RPM) NSW agents: Lisa Kelshaw, Manly Croquet Club Ph: 02 9913 1658 email: Ikelshaw@ihug.com.au and Herman Camphuis, Port Macquarie Croquet Club tel. 0468 330 883 email: hcamphuis81@gmail.com WA agent: Alan Wood Ph: 08 9307 8203 email: alw@bigpond.com Craig Smith (manufacturer) 15 Bay Vista Drive, Red Beach, Auckland 0932, New Zealand. Phone: 0064 9 4210 404 e-mail: craig@rpmallets.co.nz

Bob Jackson 65 Goodwood Drive, Manukau, Auckland, NZ. phone 0064 9 2639135.

U.K. Mallet Makers:

UK mallets are generally available from: The Croquet Association Shop 112 Potters Lane, Send, Woking, Surrey, GU23 7AL, UK email sales@croquet.org.uk tel: (0011-44) 1483 776971 including: Jaques Mallets & GW Mallets

RETAIL SHOP IN SYDNEY:

Mick Simmons Retail Pty Ltd (02) 9264 2744487 George St SydneyStocks mainly garden croquet sets but sometimes has Australian Croquet Company (Dawson) and Jacques(UK) mallets

Some advertisements from mallet makers are reproduced on the following pages



Phone : 068568119. Fax : 068568196. Mobile : 021637945. E-mail : <u>georg@woodm#ets.com</u> <u>http://www.woodmallets.com</u>

" THE**PARK**'' R D20TANE HAWKES BAY

The UK Croquet Associations best selling mallets are made here!

We make a complete range of croquet mallets and sets and we specialize in custom making mallets to customers exact specifications. Our crahsmanship is world renowned and our service second to none.

The Original mallet has an octagonal American white ash handle with an attractive dark hardwood head. The heads are weighted with lead, have an inlaid sighting line and tufnol end plates.

The Particular mallet is custom made with a fibreglass shaft. The standard size is 36" overall, with a 91/4" long head and a total weight of 3.00 lbs.

The Evolution mallet is a peripherally weighted mallet with stainless steelend plates and a carbon/fibre glass shaft with an octagonal EVA grip.

Mallets can be custom made to any length and weight with a choice of grips colours and initials in gold can be stamped on the head at no extra charge

Ourmostpopulargripsaresplit leather which are available in a wide range of colours. Lettering on the mallet heads may be printed in gold at no extra charge.

Wehave the Australian agency For the competitively priced Sunshiny balls.





All products guaranteed.



PRICE LIST in NZI

Mallets

Original mallet with grip fitted1200.00Particular mallet1210.00Fibreglass shah with grips fitted1210.00Evolution mallet- Carbon shah EVAgrip, peripherally weighted head133000Hurlingham malletRound brass bound head1

Championship C0-16 Balls/set . 1 260.00 J/2" tubula riron hoops (each) I 15.00

Accessories

Mallet covers with shoulder strap1 55.00Set of 4 corner flags on metal poles170.00Centre peg (with pin)1 22.00Coloured metal clips (set of 4)120.00Replacement leather gripsI 12.00

Creditcardschargedin NZI Postage on one mallet- NZ/25.00 Callour local NSW agent:

Jim Hicks. Port Macquarie Tel: 02 6584 1998

Croquet Mallet Cover

Made By Margaret Leese 21 Crescent St West. Urunga. NSW. 2455 Ph: 02 6655 316 I . mail: rml r e@tadaust.org.au



Designed and manufactured to protect your valuable mallet. All materials have been selected to provide a serviceable and secure product. Manufactured with pride and attention to detail.

Material:	Upholstery Fabric or Vinyl
Colour:	Plain Vinyl-Green, Brown, Beige, Navy, Red & Grey
	Patterned or Plain Upholstery - Maroon, Blue, Green & Brown
	Colours subject to availability
Size:	36", 34" and 32", or to order
Features:	Wide, zipped opening for your mallet
	Two zipped pockets - Handicap Card and Personal Effects
	Heavy duty zips
	Quality thread
	Heavy duty Tape Binding
	Convenient shoulder carry strap
	Hanging Loop
Care:	Fabric - Cold Wash with a Mild Detergent
	Vinyl - Wipe with a damp cloth

Cost: Fa ric \$55:00 Vinyl \$70:00

Mallet Bootie: Mallet Head cover, Upholstery Fabric only: 20:00

ALL ORDERS:	Postage & Packaging:	At Cost
	Registered Post:	At Cost