

Keep Ball

Training Plan

Title:	Keep Ball
Objectives:	Improve keeping individual possession.
Age range:	U7's +
No. of Players:	6+
Time:	10 mins (good for end of warm up before match or more advanced drills).
Organisation:	Min 20x20 grid. Bigger for older or more players. 1 ball for half of the players. Note: Bigger grid makes technique easier but can be more physically demanding, smaller grid makes technique more difficult (less space).
Drill:	Start with half players have ball, half don't. Players with ball try to keep it. Players without try to win it. If a player kicks it out of grid possession goes to opponent (like in a match). Time sessions – 1 min and then stop to coach points and ask questions.
Coaching Points:	Coach all factors to keep individual possession; Move into space, away from danger, turn, shield, protect, quick feet, dribble away from / between opponents. Coach tacklers to win the ball and keep possession - don't kick it out of grid which gives possession to opponents in a match. Great drill for praising good technique of individual players during the drill and at each break e.g. "great turn Billy" "Superb shielding" and in a break asking a player showing good technique to demo what he did for everyone else.
Progression:	If players in possession are standing still waiting for pressure then take balls away so there are more than half without ball. Coach specific turns eg Cruyff, hook, instep etc to move away from pressure. Coach the specific use of pace when moving into space i.e when to push ball out of feet and when to keep close. Coach specific factors of shielding eg bent knees, bottom out – back to opposition.