

First Order Drill

Exposition and Diagram. In Diagram #1 the entire offensive team is facing a pressing defense. Each of the defensive ☐ players is gluing his opponent, sticking so close to them that a contemplated pass is near impossible. X5 has the ball and all his teammates are subjected to close and vigorous guarding. To extricate X5, X3 cuts in the direction of X5 and calls for the ball in a loud voice. This is intended as a decoy play. X3 continues on to screen X2's defensive opponent. X4 now swings over to the position vacated by X3 and receives a pass from X5. During the interim, X3 has now arrived at the proper screening position to set up the play. X2 fakes as if to go in behind his opponent, but instead swings out to the front and receives a hook pass from X4. X2 now continues to dribble into the basket for a lay-up. X1 pulls straight out in the court as if to receive a pass from X4, the purpose being to draw X1's defensive guard away from the basket which will allow X2 less interference from defensive men. But as soon as X2 has cleared the way and has started for the basket, X1 now swings on into the basket for rebound work should X2 miss the shot. And X3 who screened X2's man now swings basketward for his necessary rebound work. X4 and X5 equalize so that they may get into the offense for a pass-out should the goal be missed and rebound work by the three offensive men become necessary. This puts all five men into action and they are ready for new eventualities, either offensive or defensive.

There is always one danger in decoy plays in that the decoy is made to act like dead ducks rather than live ones. Every player must be a good actor, and unless there is some legitimate deception and smart faking no play will work as well as it would under intelligent finessing.

It must be borne in mind that this play will work from either side. If the ball is in possession of the opposite guard, X4, the reverse order of plays are indicated.