

HOW TO LINE A FIELD BEFORE GAMEPLAY

At Lawrence Little League, the home team is responsible for lining the fields before every game.

Step 1: Prepare the field.

Rake the base lines from home plate to the base.

Level out material in the batter's box area and tamp down tightly using the back of the rake.

Step 2: Get the equipment from the clubhouse.

Bring the chalk lining machine, the spool of string, and the metal batters box template to the field.

Step 3: Outline the batter's box outline using the nail.

Position the metal batter's box template over home plate.

Use the nail at the end of the string spool to trace the inside of the metal template.

When you are finished, you should see a dirt outline of the batter's boxes.



Step 4: Mark the baselines with the string

Place the nail on the string at the point at the bottom of home plate.

Unspool the string out past the base and the infield dirt to the painted foul line in the outfield grass.

The string should line up with the angled edge of home plate and the outside of the base.



Step 5: Using the liner, follow the string as a guide to create the baseline.

Remove the bases. Then, position the liner at the top outside corner of the batter's box so that the part of the machine that dispenses chalk is directly over the top corner of the batter's box.



Move the lever to start the flow of chalk. Walk the machine slowly, using the string line as a guide. Be sure to apply the chalk on the inside of the string line. Continue chalking past the base to the painted foul line in the outfield grass. Do not double back over the chalk line.

Step 6: Repeat Steps 4 and 5 for the opposite baseline.

Step 7: Create the batter's box outlines using the field liner machine.

Use the liner to chalk over the outline of each batter's box.

Move slowly, and use the handle to turn on/off the flow of chalk as you move the machine around to position it on the outline.

Don't worry about not making perfect corners - you can always use the back of a rake to square the chalk line up when completed.



Step 8: Play Ball!

Return all equipment to the dugout, replace the bases, and you are ready to play!

