

RACQUET ACCESSORIES YOU MAY NEED

As a tennis player, your most expensive piece of equipment is your racquet. Here are some accessories to help improve the performance or appearance of your racquet.

REPLACEMENT GRIP

When the original grip on the handle of a tennis racquet becomes worn or frayed, the best thing to do is replace that grip with a new one. A replacement grip is added after removing the old grip from the handle. Replacement grips include cushioning and adhesive.



OVERGRIP

An overgrip is a thin strip of material used to cover the grip of your handle. The overgrip is meant to be used for a short period of time. It can absorb sweat, improve handle traction, increase the padding, or add slightly to the grip size. Overgrips come in a variety of colors and allows players to add some personality to their racquet.



GRIP ENHANCER

Grip enhancers improve the traction you receive on the racquet handle. The most common enhancers are rosin (to dry the handle or your hand), gels (which dry on your palms to black the sweat), and tacky towels (beeswax to increase the tackiness of the handle). All of these have a limited use and need to be replaced frequently based on playtime.



VIBRATION DAMPENERS

Dampeners are meant to absorb the vibration of the strings before it goes into the throat of the racquet and ultimately into the player's arm. They are available in smaller styles that are put between the two center main strings or longer "worms" that are installed across the mains. Tennis regulations state that dampeners can only be installed outside the last set of strings in the racquet bed.



LEAD TAPE

Lead tape is used to change the balance point on the racquet. Making a racquet heavier in the head generally creates more power. Adding lead tape to the handle forces the player to generate more of the power. When adding lead tape, a player should add small amounts at a time until they find the correct weight needed.



RACQUET GUARD TAPE

The head bumper at the top of the racquet protects the frame from damage and houses the head grommets. Lead tape is used to protect the bumper from scrapes caused by inadvertently hitting the racquet on the courts.

