

Name _____

Fast Pitch vs. Slow Pitch Softball: What's the Difference?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. In fast pitch softball, pitchers use a powerful windmill motion to deliver the ball at speeds of up to 70 miles per hour, while in slow pitch softball, pitchers use an underhand, floating motion with slower ball speeds (20-30 miles per hour). The differences in speed and motion make fast pitch more challenging and competitive, while slow pitch is more accessible and relaxed.
2. Using a larger and softer ball in slow pitch softball makes the game easier to play, catch, and hit. It reduces the risk of injury and allows players of various skill levels to enjoy the game. Additionally, it encourages a friendly and social atmosphere on the field.
3. When choosing between fast pitch and slow pitch for a softball game, factors to consider include the skill level of the participants, the level of competition desired, and the overall atmosphere you want to create. Fast pitch is suitable for competitive players, while slow pitch is ideal for casual gatherings and mixed-skill groups.
4. My preferred style of softball would be fast pitch because I enjoy the competitive nature of the game. The challenge of facing high-speed pitches and making quick decisions adds excitement to the game. Additionally, fast pitch softball often involves more advanced strategies and skills, which I find engaging and rewarding.

