

## A GUIDE TO HELP YOU CHOOSE THE RIGHT SOFTBALL GLOVE

Gloves come in a variety of sizes and are geared to fit both the position you play. Here are some things to consider when buying a glove. Keep in mind that Softball gloves need to be larger both in the pocket and in length to help you handle the larger ball.

### **Catcher Glove**

A fingerless mitt (it does not have individual fingers) that has heavy padding to reduce the sting from the pitcher's throw.

### **First Baseman**

The first baseman's glove is designed as a longer glove to help you field throws from infielders. A shallow pocket allows you to quickly retrieve the ball.

### **Infield Glove**

The infielder glove has five fingers glove and a shallow pocket. A typical youth size is between 9-11 inches, while an adult would wear a 10-1/2-11-1/2 inch glove. For softball, the infielder glove will have a deeper pocket. Second basemen gloves are further specialized as a smaller glove to help make quick throws while maintaining control of the ball. A shortstop uses something in-between for grounders and quick throws. A third basemen needs a larger glove.

### **Outfield Glove**

Outfielder gloves are sized at 12-12-1/2 inch for adults and about 11 inch for children. They include a deeper pocket to handle balls hit high in the air, and a longer length to provide as much reach as possible. To play several positions, find a glove that provides the most control for a variety of positions.

Sizing Chart		
Age	Position	Glove size
Under 8	Infield	9 inches
Under 8	Outfield	11 inches
9-13	Infield	9-10 inches
9-13	Outfield	11-12 inches
High School/Adult	Infield	12-13 inches
High School/Adult	Outfield	12.5 to 13.5 inches

### **Youth and Beginner:**

Gloves that are too big allow, "cheating", preventing beginners from developing and refining proper skills. Kids' gloves should not be bought to be grown into. The best way to learn the fundamentals of fielding and catching is by wearing a glove that fits well