

Mindball FAQ

Ordering

How do I confirm a booking?

First look at our [availability calendar](#) to check if the dates you require are already booked or not. Then call (+44 (0)1582 821 421) or [email](#) us to reserve your dates and discuss delivery options. When we have agreed the details with you we will issue an invoice for the full amount payable plus a fully-refundable deposit of £500. Once we have received payment in full, your booking will be confirmed.

Do I need to include transport time in my booking?

Yes – once Mindball leaves our warehouse it is on rental to you until it is returned to the same warehouse. We calculate the rental period on the number of 24 hour periods it is away from the warehouse. We include transport time in the rental period because this is time when we cannot rent the equipment to other customers.

Is there a refundable deposit to pay?

Yes – we take a deposit of £500, fully refundable on the return of the equipment in good condition. Deposits will usually be returned (by internet transfer) within 5 working days of the return of the equipment.

Do you rent monitors as well?

No – you can use any standard monitor with Mindball using the VGA connector port (this is the standard type of cable that connects monitors to PCs) on the table.

Can I hire Mindball outside the UK?

Yes – please call (+44 (0)1582 821 421) or [email](#) to discuss.

What about insurance?

If you do not have insurance cover for your event that includes hired equipment, we recommend you insure Mindball for £8,500 plus VAT from the point it leaves our warehouse until its return to the same address.

Transport/Logistics

How does delivery and return work?

Many clients prefer to arrange their own transport from and back to our warehouse, as they either have their own transport or because they have advantageous rates with a courier company. Alternatively we can make these arrangements on your behalf. Please note that while we take



every care to ensure logistics are completed successfully, Vivifeye is not responsible for the failure of a courier booked by us on your behalf to arrive at a specific location on time.

What size is the crate?

Mindball comes in a palletised crate that is 166 x 91 x 34cm and weighs 70kg.

What size van do I need for transport?

Any transit type van or larger will be large enough. Some smaller vans are also adequate, but note that the length of the crate (166cm) is too long for some of these smaller vans.

Installing Mindball

What size is the Mindball table?

The overall dimensions of the table are: Length 151.5 cm; Width 57 cm; Height 73cm. The Mindball table is shaped (i.e. it has curved edges) - please see the technical drawing [here](#).

What power supply do I need?

2 x standard 13A three pin (UK style) sockets (1 for Mindball and 1 for the monitor).

How long does it take to set up Mindball?

Less than 10 minutes! There are 4 legs that you simply turn onto the table's screw studs, 2 headbands that you connect at either end of the table and a power supply cable. That's it! Once you have turned the power on, the game sets itself automatically within 90 seconds. You do NOT need a separate computer to operate Mindball, there is no software to install and no programming required.

Do I need any training to set up/operate Mindball?

No. Set up is extremely simple (see above). To play the game you press the silver button on the table surface. Everything is automatic. To explain the game to players and spectators we recommend reading the following 2 pages on our website:

[What is Mindball](#)

[A quick bit of Science](#)

Do I need a separate monitor with my rental?

Mindball works with or without a monitor but we recommend including a monitor, as this makes the spectators' experience more involving and it will help you to attract users and to explain what is happening.



Can I add graphics to the Mindball table?

Yes, provided all the graphics are removed without damage to the table before return to us. The cost of repairing any damage plus any lost revenue caused by time needed for repairs will be deducted from your deposit.

Can I change the graphics on the Mindball monitor screens?

No.

Do you have a picture of Mindball?

Yes – you can download it [here](#) (3.2MB).

Do you have a technical drawing of Mindball?

Please see the technical drawing [here](#).

Do you have videos of people playing Mindball?

Yes – please see our [video gallery](#).

Using Mindball

How easy is it to set up and use Mindball?

Very easy. Set up takes less than 10 minutes (see “How long does it take to set up Mindball?”, above).

Do I need to provide a computer to use Mindball? Is there any programming/software set up required?

No. There is no computer required and no software installation/programming. All you need to have available is a monitor (standard VGA connector).

How do you play a game?

The game is activated by the silver button on the table surface. Pressing the button moves the ball automatically to the centre spot. Do not try and move the ball yourself – the game deals with centring automatically.

Once the ball reaches the centre the game begins. Each player must try and remain as calm, composed and focussed as possible and should try and avoid speaking, laughter and sudden movements.

Who is the winner?

Each player tries to move the ball to the opposite end of the table and to score a goal in her/his opponent’s goal.

How long does a game take?

This can vary from a few seconds to several minutes, depending on how well matched the opponents are. Once players have had a few games they will usually become better and better at it – making the games more evenly matched and therefore longer.

Can we run Mindball as a tournament?

Yes. There are various ways to do this. “Winner stays on” is a simple and popular method, but remember that the winning player (who has already composed her/himself) usually has a huge advantage over the challenger. Other methods include awarding points for every game won, with a maximum number of games per person. Or setting a time limit of 2 minutes per game (or even 1 minute in very busy periods), with the winner being the player who has the ball furthest towards the opponent’s goal.

Is there a technique for playing Mindball?

Each player usually finds a technique that works for her/him. Focussing intently on the ball is popular. Some players use visualisation techniques or other methods of focussing such as mathematical exercises, meditation, etc.

What is actually happening during a game of Mindball?

The headbands detect the level and type of electrical activity (measured in Hz) in the frontal cortex of the brain and feed this information to a computer that analyses the data into different wave bands (these bands are explained on our webpage [A quick bit of Science](#)).

The computer is programmed to reward the player who has the lower (i.e. calmer, more focussed) brain frequencies and moves the ball accordingly.

Is the science underlying Mindball valid?

Yes. Mindball is based on a technology called EEG (electroencephalography) feedback, which means monitoring the level of electrical brain activity in the brain (the brain equivalent of a cardiogram)and showing the resulting graph (or other output) to the person being monitored. The principle of EEG in humans was first demonstrated in 1924 by Prof. Hans Berger working at the University of Jena in Germany. Research on EEG feedback since then has demonstrated its application in a wide range of areas, including behaviour, concentration and creativity.