

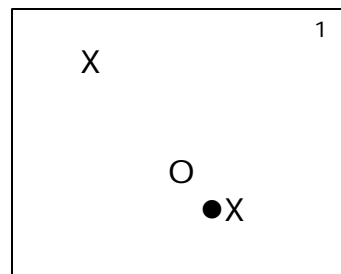
## SQUARE SUPPORT

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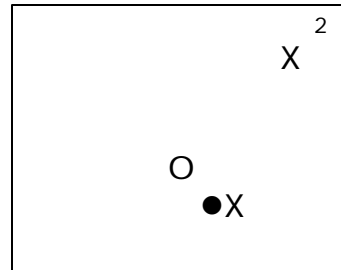
At this age players begin to figure out that sharing the ball will help their team keep possession and have more success. The more support a player has from teammates, the more options the player has with the ball. As coaches, we can accelerate this discovery by putting players in situations that will help them to see the “pictures” that the game presents. These pictures are hints to players, helping them recognize why and when to pass, dribble or shoot.

In illustration 1 and 2, the attacking players (x) are trying to combine to keep possession against one defending player (o).

In illustration 1, the player with the ball has only one real option and that is to keep the ball because his teammate is hiding behind an opponent. In this situation it is impossible to play the ball directly to the feet of the teammate.



In illustration 2, the teammate has moved into an open space on the field that is in the ball handler's direct line of sight. This support gives the player with the ball two options – to keep the ball or to pass it.



Attacking players that don't have the ball should be constantly moving to find open space on the field in the ball handler's line of sight. Every time the ball moves, the players off the ball should be moving to create new passing lanes.