

# European

A basketball game in progress. A player in a blue jersey with the number 4 is jumping to shoot the ball. A player in a white jersey with the number 12 is jumping to block the shot. The background shows a blurred crowd in a stadium.

**Ball  
Screen  
Offense**

*with Jamie Angeli and Lason Perkins*

# Introduction

**Do you have a team that can pass, dribble and shoot and are looking for an offense that can best utilize these skills?**

**Do you like to spread the court on offense and create scoring opportunities for your post and perimeter players?**

**Would you like an offensive attack that is primarily based on the proper execution of the pick and roll and / or dribble hand-off?**

**The Euro Ball Screen Offense might be what you need.**

**Keep this in mind....there are already a few books and DVD's on effective use of the Ball Screen in your offense. There are even a few books and DVD's just on how to defend the Pick and Roll. Isn't that enough reason to perhaps take a little longer look at implementing this long forgotten offensive technique?**

**Let's look at one of the more popular offenses being used by some of the best international teams today....**

**The Ball Screen Offense!**



## **Euro Ball Screen Offense**

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Whether you like it or not, the game is changing. You can choose to ignore it, or you can study as much as possible and be prepared. Our Olympic men's basketball group, The "Redeem Team", bounced back from their disappointment 4 years prior and won the Gold Medal in Beijing in 2008. It didn't come without a fight from Spain. And let us not forget, our USA Team included some of the greatest players (and athletes) to ever step on a basketball court, lead by arguably one of the greatest collegiate basketball coaches of all time.

I have never spoken to "Coach K", but I would bet he would say that he has gleaned a tremendous amount from his experience competing against teams Internationally. I would go further to venture a guess that "Coach K" will be implementing some of the offensive strategy he has had the opportunity to observe through his Olympic experience.

What has he observed? He witnessed first-hand: appropriate court spacing, accurate passing, great 3-point shooting, and dedicated use of the ball screen. Add to this mix, an incredible skill level developed through many hours of drill work. The European teams are masters at developing offensive systems that not only utilize the ball screen, but provide spacing designed to create opportunities to penetrate, enter the ball to the post, and setup players for open three point shots.

It's not hard to figure out why they are so difficult to defend. I think it comes down to three reasons:

- 1) They are great 3-point shooters
- 2) They spread the floor with great spacing and penetrate
- 3) They set plenty of ball screens

All three are very difficult to defend when executed the correct way. All three on a good day are a defensive-minded coaches nightmare. If you're lucky, you only have to worry about one of these areas each night when you compete in your league. Play the European teams and you have to defend all three — every night!

While the youth of the U.S. continue to spend more time concentrating on the athletic ability of their favorite players, the "Euro's" are shooting thousands of shots (mostly 3's) in addition to working on their dribbling and passing...every day.

Take notice coaches...the game is changing. Be a part of the revolution!



## **Euro Ball Screen Offense**

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# Breakdown Drills

Every great basketball system needs a core set of drills that you can use each night to refine the skills necessary for the offense to be successful.

In regards to developing the “Pick and Roll” or “Ball Screen” Offense...

Guards should have the ability to:

- 1) Know how to change speeds with the dribble
- 2) Make shots off the screen
- 3) Read the defense.

Screeners should have the ability to:

- 1) Execute proper screens with appropriate angles
- 2) "Pop" or "Roll"

We believe the following set of drills will help you develop these abilities.

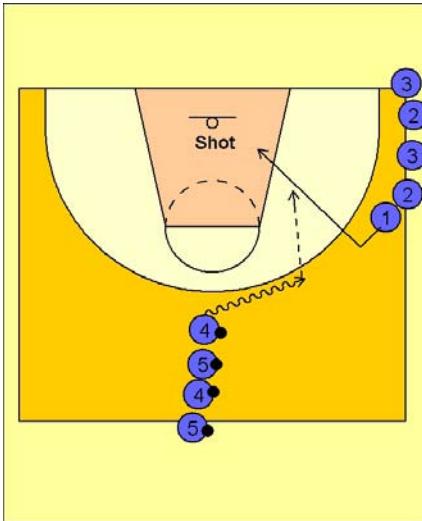


## Euro Ball Screen Offense

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**Ball screen offense breakdown**



**Euro Ball Screen Offense**

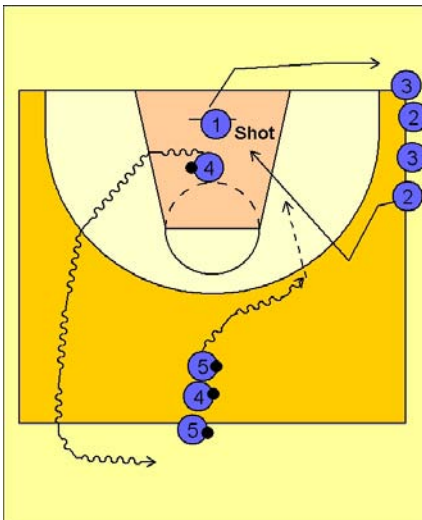
***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing Backdoor***

The first three breakdown drills are essential elements to the success of the offense, and isolates the work between the post player on top and the wing players.

I like to use the first two drills during our pregame warm-ups.

In this first drill, the post guys have the balls on top while your perimeter players are lined up on the wing in a single file line.

#4 dribbles at #1. #1 steps toward the ball and then cuts back door for the lay-up.



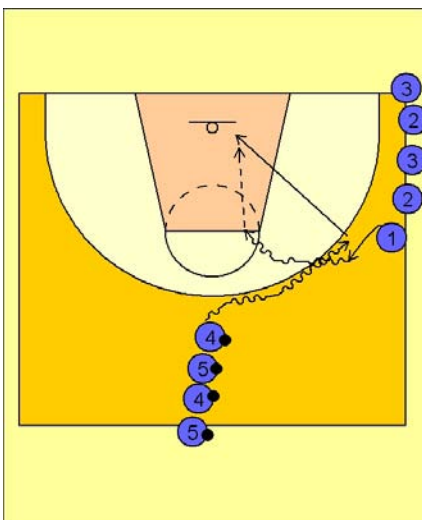
**Euro Ball Screen Offense**

***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing Backdoor***

Post player follows the ball in and rebounds the shot from #1. #4 takes the ball back out on top while #1 goes to the end of the lay-up line.

The next post player starts his dribble as the first group is shooting the lay-up.

To keep this drill running smoothly, the two players involved in the lay-up and rebound, must hustle to get the ball and get away from the basket.



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***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing Dribble Hand-Off***

The first back door drill now progresses to a dribble hand-off.

#4 drives at #1. #1 takes the hand-off from #4 and will then drive the ball to the FT line elbow area.

#1 will dump the ball to #4 rolling to the basket.

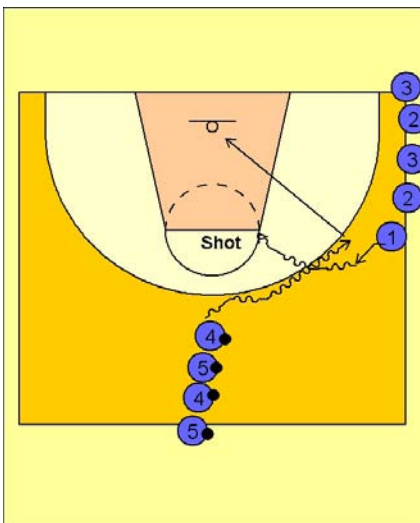


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***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing Dribble Hand-Off***

To mix-up the shot attempts in this drill, tell your perimeter players to first make the pass to the post man rolling for the lay-up.

The next time the perimeter players dribbles off the ball screen, he will look to pull up for the jumper at the FT line elbow area. The next time he does the drill he will hit the rolling post player and continue to mix it up in that manner.



**Euro Ball Screen Offense**

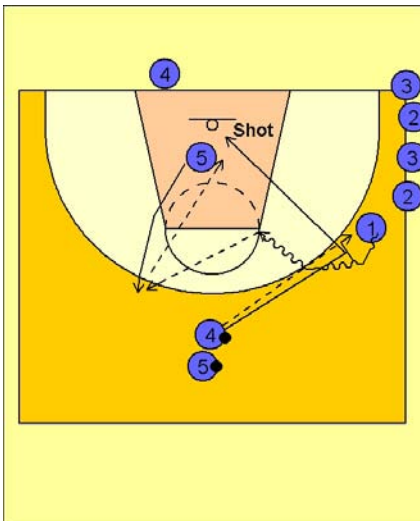
***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing Pick & Roll***

Our last progression in this series is of course one of the most important. The execution of the ball screen, or the pick and roll.

We will split the group up into 3 groups. Two post players underneath and two on top (or as many post players as you have on the roster).

The other group is made up of perimeter players on the wing.

The drill starts with the post player on top, #4, passes to #1 on the right wing and moves over to set a ball screen. #1 drives off the ball screen to the FT line elbow while #4 rolls to the front of the rim. As the pick and roll is taking place, the post player underneath, #5, sprints up to the top to catch the pass from #1. #5 will then hit the rolling #4 man.

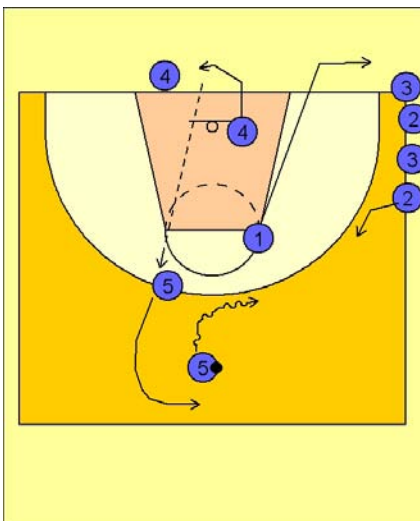


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***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing Pick & Roll***

The post player who took the shot will rebound the ball out of the net and throw it out to #5 on top. #4 takes the spot at the back underneath while the other post player takes the ball to the back of the line on top. The perimeter player on the wing hustles off the floor to the end of the perimeter line on the wing.

The next post player is ready to start the next rotation.





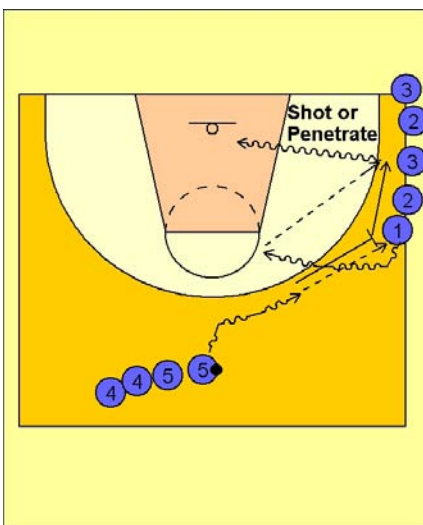
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***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing Pick & Pop***

When you have a screener who has the ability to shoot the 3 point shot, you can utilize the "Pick and Pop".

Here we see the post player passing and setting a screen for #1 on the right wing. As #1 comes off the screen, #5 "pops" out to the right wing / corner area. #1 passes to #5 for the 3 point shot, OR, #5 can shot fake and attack the basket.

You could also work this "Pick and Pop" drill using the dribble hand-off with the wing player.



**Euro Ball Screen Offense**

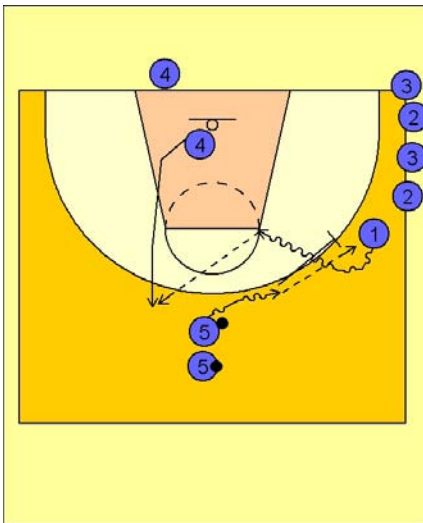
***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing FLARE SLIP SCREEN***

Now we will get some work on our Specials included in this book.

The first is the Flare Slip Screen between the Post Player and the Wing Player. This drill breaks down the "Flare Slip Screen" from the Special Section.

#5 dribbles at #1 and then passes to #1 and sets a ball screen on the right wing. There is another post player underneath the basket, #4, who is sprinting up to the top as #5 is setting the ball screen.

#1 drives off the ball screen to the FT line elbow area and passes to #4 cutting out on top.



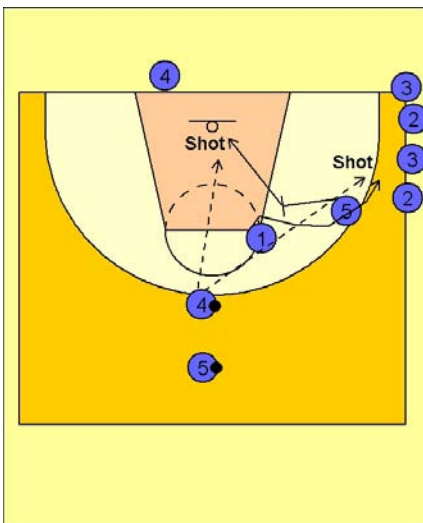
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***Breakdown Drills - Post to Wing FLARE SLIP SCREEN***

As soon as #1 passes to #4, #5 sets a Flare Screen on #1's imaginary defender.

#1 cuts over the top of the screen while #4 passes the ball either over the top to #1 for the 3 point shot, OR, he will look to hit #5 "slipping" the screen and cutting to the basket.

As in our previous "option" shooting drills, #4 will first skip the ball for the three point shot. The next time he is in the drill he will hit the "screener slipping" to the basket. He will continue this 3 point / slip screen shot rotation until the drill is over.





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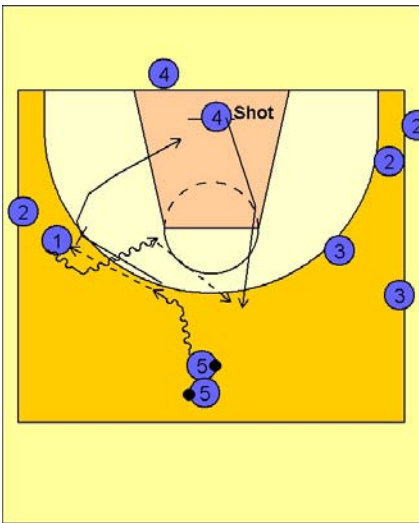
***Breakdown Drills - Perimeter Player FLARE SCREEN***

You may want to work on the Flare Screen breakdown BEFORE you work on the Flare Slip Screen, but it is not necessary.

We will now breakdown the Flare Screen between both perimeter players.

5 lines in this drill. Three perimeter and Two post. The drill starts on the opposite side of the floor we are looking to set the Flare Screen.

#5 dribbles at #1 and passes to him and then they both execute a ball screen. The post player underneath, #4, now sprints up to the top. #1 comes off the screen to the FT line elbow area and makes the pass to #4. #5 rolls to the basket after ball screening for #1.



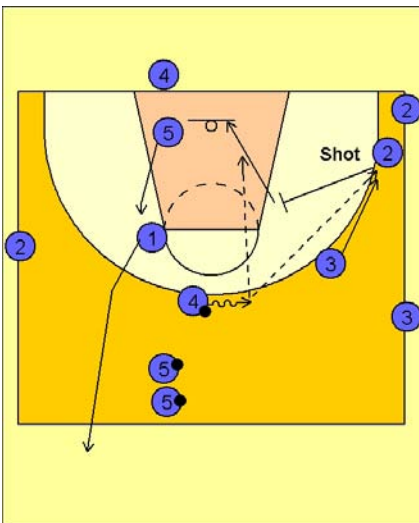
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***Breakdown Drills - Perimeter Player FLARE SCREEN***

#4 now turns and dribbles at #3 on the wing. As #4 dribbles, #2 moves in to set a Flare Screen on #3's imaginary defender.

#3 cuts to the corner / wing area for the three point shot.

#4 again mixes up his passes in the same manner as before. First time he hits the 3 point shot, next time he will look for the screener "slipping" to the basket...and vice versa as he goes through the rotations.



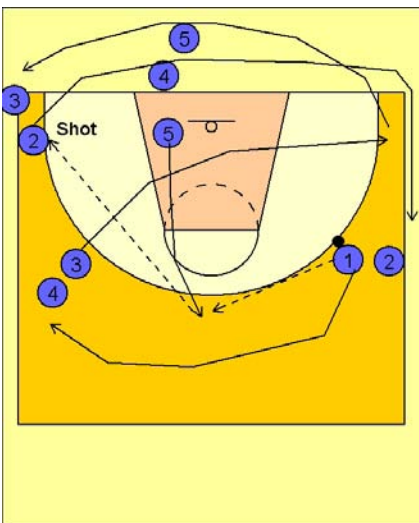
**Euro Ball Screen Offense**

***Breakdown Drills - Sagging Defense (Help On Post Roll) Skip Pass***

Four groups; Three perimeter lines and one post line underneath.

Post player sprints up to the top and receives the pass from the right wing player, #1. On the catch, #5 will look inside for a 1 count, and then skip the ball to the opposite corner player, #2. #2 will take the three point shot. On the pass, the wing player, #3, will sprint through the lane out to the opposite corner.

Rotations: Post player returns to the end of his line; Right wing player takes the next perimeter line on the left wing. Left wing player will cut underneath and get in the shooting line; Shooter will rebound his own shot and get to the end of the left wing line.





# Appendix

## Additional Titles from Lason Perkins

Zone Killers

How to Win At The End (Vol. 1 and 2)

The A Set Offense

High — Low Triangle Offense

Open Post Offense

Secrets of International Basketball

Scoring in Transition

Tempo Control and Delay Sets

Be sure to visit:

[www.basketballsense.com](http://www.basketballsense.com)

[www.fullcourtbasketball.com](http://www.fullcourtbasketball.com)

For more information on additional products and services from Jamie Angeli, please visit:

[www.virtualbasketballcoach.com](http://www.virtualbasketballcoach.com)

[www.scoutinghoops.com](http://www.scoutinghoops.com)

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