If you are a basketball fan, no doubt you have been witness to one of basketball's most popular formations: the 1-3-1 set. On average a basketball coach will see a 1-3-1 strategy at least 65% of his contests coached. Known more for its variable defensive angles, easy trapping slides, and creating deceptive turnovers on the defensive side of the ball, many are unaware of the power the 1-3-1 offensive series brings to a team.

For years the 'Hype' offense has provided a 1-3-1 approach to the physical side of basketball. Teams around the nation have used the 1-3-1 series to take advantage of their physical stature in the paint, develop a continuity series, set up key isolation plays at the end of the game, and control the tempo of key rivalry week match-ups.

I personally have used the offensive series in this book to set up talented perimeter players for open jump shots using a series of double screening actions. The 'Hype' offensive is a hidden gem in the basketball community and I feel that success is just around the corner for teams who are able to uncover the full potential of its 1-3-1 alignment.

I would be remised and completely unfair if I didn’t give credit to those who have made this offense such a powerhouse. There are certainly plenty of coaches out there who have used the 1-3-1 series to bring them good fortune and plenty of wins. However, the secrets revealed in this book are held tight by many; for their very nature is enough to change the outcome of your season. The foundation of the ‘Hype’ offense is the single most important factor to understand in the game of basketball. “Basketball is a game of angles”. Triangles to be exact. The 1-3-1 plays off of the important role triangles play in proper spacing, smart passing, and lane penetration to catch the defense off guard and create unattested opportunities at the basket.

As you move forward in your coaching career and change the pages of this playbook, stop to understand the formations in each series, for true success can never be taught unless the teacher themselves understand the very foundation which drives the 1-3-1 series.

Good Luck!

For the Love of the Game,
Coach McKinnis
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Cut Series
Cut Series

The cut series is very effective in a man-to-man situation when you have mismatches in the post. Screening actions open up opportunity at the basket.

1. Series begins when point passes to wing. Note pass moves away from low post.

If pass goes low post side, post adjusts by moving to opposite block.
Cut Series

1. After passing to wing, guard fills ball side and executes handoff with wing.

2. Wing then sets cross screen and opposite post moves high.

1. If pass is available to high post from wing. A triangle high low series is developed. Posts should be taught to seal their defenders.
Cut Series

1. If high post is not open. Wing begins reversal by passing to the filling guard who passes to the offside wing popping up for reversal.

1. Play begin again with guard to wing handoff.
2. Low post moves high.
3. Wing sets cross screen for post.

1-3-1 Offense
Cut Series

1. This diagram shows the low post moving across after the screening action with the wing. It also enhances the importance of the offside wing moving up for the reversal.

1. We now have the power triangle series again in a high/low action.

Remember to teach posts to seal.

1-3-1 Offense
1-3-1 Attack

Power Series
The Power is a great post isolation series designed to take advantage of mismatches in the block. This can be designed for posts players are bigger guards.

1. Series begins with the guard passing to post side wing.
2. Low post must set up the defense prior to pass to allow for proper positioning.
Power Series

1. Here the power series is developed again with the high post entry into a high/low option with the post side.
2. Guard and wing exchange to occupy defenders.

1. Play can be reversed and run from the other side by the wing making the reversal pass and the post players simply sliding through the key.
2. A post exchange is an option her.

1-3-1 Offense
1-3-1 Attack

Double Screen Series
Double Screen Series

If you have a perimeter player who is a leading option in your offense the double screening series is perfect to provide open jump shots.

1. Play begins as always in the 1-3-1 series. With a pass to either wing.
Double Screen Series

1. After passing the guard follows their pass and executes a wing to guard handoff.
2. Wing (shooter) then cuts off of double screen in low block.

1. As double screen is happening the reversal pass should be executed by the wing to the high guard.
2. Guard then passes to shooter coming off double screen.

1-3-1 Offense
1. If shooter doesn’t get their shot, the reversal begins and the shooter runs off a double screen moving the opposite direction.

1. This figure shows the double screen action and pass from guard.
Double Screen Series

1. Upon pass to wing, the posts can execute a number of exchanges. With one flashing high and setting up a power triangle for low block entry.
1-3-1 Attack

Hoop Shuffle Series
Hoop Shuffle Series

The hoop shuffle series was developed to manufacture baskets close to the hoop, based on a series of curl cuts—otherwise known as the ‘shuffle’.

1. Play begins with the guard passing to the wing away from the low post.
2. The post player moves out to the corner. If this player is a true big, you can limit them to the short corner.
1. After pass to the wing, the guard relocates to the ball-side corner.

1. After the cut to the corner by the guard, the high post sets a shuffle cut screen to the offside wing.
2. After screening for the wing, the post sets a second screen for the corner position.

Hoop Shuffle Series

1-3-1 Offense
Hoop Shuffle Series

1. Pass moves from wing on a reversal.
2. The post player moves up to become the shuffle screener.

1. From pass to the wing, the guard fills again to the corner.
2. The play begins all over again.

1-3-1 Offense
Hoop Shuffle Series

1. The post player moves out to set a screen for the wing who makes a shuffle cut.

2. The post then screens for the corner position who pops up to become the reversal player.

1. Reversal then begins and offense starts over again.

1-3-1 Offense
1-3-1 Attack

Hype Series
The Hype Offense was developed from an element of the Princeton offense referred to as the dribble exchange and build upon a great screen the screener action.

1. Play begins by guard dribbling to a side in a dribble exchange with the wing.
2. The wing then makes a hard back cut and cross screen for the low post.
Hype Series

1. After setting a cross screen the wing the pops up off of a screen set by the high post.
2. The reversal pass is made and the high post screens down for the low post.

1. Series begins again with a dribble exchange with the wing.
2. Wing then makes hard backdoor cut and cross screen.
1-3-1 Attack

Cinderella Series
Cinderella (Zone) Series

Cinderella Zone
The 1-3-1 alignment in on the offensive side of the ball is most popularly known for its use against a zone defense. This is a 1-3-1 look to counter a odd front zone.

1. Series begins with the guard dribbling to a side of the zone.
2. The high post will then pop high and ready himself for a pass back.
Cinderella (Zone) Series

1. Pass begins the offense.
2. Guard passes to the wing.

1. On the pass to the wing, the guard will cut through in a give and go action.
2. Offside wing cuts through to high post.
3. The initial high post then becomes the reversal.

1-3-1 Offense
Cinderella (Zone) Series

1. The high post then cuts to the block.
2. The wing begins the reversal with a pass to high guard.

1. Again on the pass to the wing, the opposite wing cuts through to high post.
2. The power triangle is created.

1-3-1 Offense
1. What happens if the reversal pass is taken away? The wing then dribbles towards the guard. As a rule of thumb anytime a player dribbles at another offensive position, the player should cut backdoor and fill.
1-3-1 Attack

Press Break Series
Press Break

The 1-3-1 alignment can be used against any type of pressing action, but is most effective verses quick trapping defenses or presses like the 1-2-1-1 which rely on the initial inbounds trapping action.

Don’t forget made baskets give your team freedom to use the baseline. Take advantage of that freedom to improve passing angles.
1. Break begins with ballside wing releasing deep to draw the defender with him.

2. The middle position then cuts away and to the ball staying out of the deep corner.

3. The offside wing fakes the deep release and comes back to the ball.

4. Pass should go to the middle man in this diagram.

1-3-1 Offense
1. What happens if the middle man is taken away? The action is as follows. The ballside wing them sprints up to receive the pass.
2. The middle position becomes the release man.
3. The offside wing fakes release and comes back to the ball.
1. In this diagram the offside wing receives the pass.
2. The middle becomes the release again.
3. The ballside wing then moves back towards the ball.

The key to this release is the backcourt three players must always maintain a triangle.
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