



Sports & Barrier Netting Systems  
Built Gorilla Strong.™

# Sports Netting Buyer's Guide

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**gorillanetting.com**

*By Dolvin Todd, President — Gorilla Netting LLC*

1-800-274-1079



# Sports Netting Buyer's Guide: From First Call to Final Walkthrough

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*If you have never bought a sports netting system before, the process can feel opaque. This guide walks you through every step — from understanding who needs what, to getting a quote, reading a proposal, and knowing what to expect during installation.*

## Who Buys Sports Netting?

- **Municipalities and parks departments** — Public ball fields, recreational facilities, and parks
- **Private sport facilities** — Training centers, batting cage facilities, sports complexes
- **Golf courses and driving ranges** — Ball containment, barrier netting, property protection
- **Universities and schools** — Athletic fields, PE facilities, intramural complexes
- **General contractors** — Hired to coordinate netting as part of a larger construction project
- **Military and government facilities** — Drone enclosures, security perimeter netting, contraband systems
- **Correctional facilities** — Overhead containment, perimeter security netting

These netting systems can be temporary or permanent depending on the application. The common thread: installations where failure creates liability or operational problems.

## Professional Installation vs. DIY

Permanent installations with poles and engineered cable systems should always be handled by a licensed, insured contractor. The liability exposure from improperly engineered or installed netting — especially on public-facing fields or facilities — is significant. DIY netting is appropriate for backyard setups and temporary practice nets, not commercial or institutional installations.

## What to Look for in a Netting Contractor

Not all netting contractors are equal. Here is what separates professionals from the rest:

- Licensed and insured
- ABC STEP safety certification or equivalent safety record
- Full turnkey capability — netting, poles, and lighting from one contractor
- Stamped engineering for large systems (30'+ height)
- References and a verifiable project portfolio
- Clear, written warranty

## How the Quote Process Works

- **1. Initial inquiry** — Phone, email, or web form. Describe the project, sport, and site.
- **2. Site evaluation** — A qualified estimator reviews the site in person or using tools like Google Earth and site plans. They assess soil conditions, perimeter measurements, wind exposure, and site access for equipment. A formal on-site verification occurs before project commencement.
- **3. Engineering assessment** — For taller systems, engineering review is required to determine pole sizing, foundation design, and cable specifications.
- **4. Material specification** — Netting material, pole type, and hardware are specified based on sport, environment, height, and budget.
- **5. Proposal** — A written proposal with scope, materials, timeline, and price is issued.
- **6. Contract** — Scope, timeline, warranty, and payment terms are confirmed in writing.
- **7. Permitting** — If permits are required, the property owner or general contractor is responsible for applying for and obtaining them. Gorilla Netting provides engineering documentation to support applications.
- **8. Installation** — Site prep, pole setting, cable installation, netting, and final inspection.
- **9. Handoff** — Site cleanup, client walkthrough, warranty begins.

## What Drives Price?

- **Material grade** — Economy vs. Pro vs. Premium netting materials
- **Netting height** — The biggest driver of materials cost
- **Linear footage** — Total length of the netting run
- **Pole type** — Wood vs. steel
- **Soil conditions** — Affects foundation design and drilling costs
- **Labor and equipment** — Faster timelines and taller systems require more crew and specialty equipment
- **Geographic location** — Labor rates and mobilization fees vary
- **Engineering and permitting** — Required for taller systems

## Red Flags When Hiring a Netting Contractor

Watch for these warning signs:

- **No interest in site conditions or equipment access** — Whether quoting remotely or in person, a legitimate contractor wants to understand the site. If they are not asking about soil conditions, access for equipment, obstacles, or wind exposure, they are not doing the work to give you an accurate proposal.

- **No engineering on large systems** — Permanent systems 30'+ require stamped engineering. If a contractor skips it, you have no structural assurance.
- **No warranty** — Any contractor unwilling to stand behind their work with a written warranty is a red flag.
- **No references or portfolio** — Netting installation is a specialty trade. Ask to see comparable completed projects.
- **Very low bid with thin specs** — Low bids win with change orders. Read the spec carefully.

## Timeline Expectations

Project timelines vary considerably by size and complexity. A small system with wood poles can be installed in a matter of days. Larger systems with steel poles, concrete footers, and engineering requirements typically run 6–10 weeks from contract to completion — with permitting and engineering as the longest and most variable phases. Your contractor should provide a project-specific schedule in the proposal.

## Maintenance Tips After Installation

A netting system is a long-term investment. Most quality netting systems do not require much maintenance — paying attention to basic care of the system and surrounding areas can extend its life significantly:

- **Annual inspection** — Walk the perimeter and look for fraying, UV bleaching, or worn attachment points.
- **Cable tension** — Cables can stretch over time. Visually check for tension annually to determine if adjustments are needed.
- **Hardware checks** — Inspect snap hooks, cable fittings, and pole hardware for corrosion.
- **Vegetation clearance** — Keep grass, vines, and debris off the bottom of the netting.
- **Prompt repairs** — A small frayed section addressed early prevents a larger failure.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q: How do I get a quote for sports netting?**

A: Contact a netting contractor by phone, email, or web form. A qualified estimator will gather information about your project and site. For most commercial installations, some form of site evaluation is part of the process — in person or using remote tools like Google Earth and site plans. Contact Gorilla Netting at 1-800-274-1079 or [gorillanetting.com/get-quote](http://gorillanetting.com/get-quote).

### **Q: How long does a netting project take?**



A: Small to average systems can be completed in days. Larger systems with steel poles, concrete footers, and engineering typically run 6–10 weeks from contract to completion. Permitting and engineering are the most variable phases. Your contractor should give you a project-specific schedule.

**Q: Is my contractor responsible for getting permits?**

A: No. In most cases, permitting is the responsibility of the property owner or general contractor. Your netting contractor should provide the engineering documentation needed to support permit applications.

**Q: What warranty should I expect?**

A: A reputable netting contractor should offer a minimum 2–5 year warranty on their work. Gorilla Netting backs every installation with a 5-year full coverage warranty.

**Ready to start your project?**

Gorilla Netting provides full turnkey sports and barrier netting installations across all 50 states, backed by a 5-year warranty and ABC STEP Platinum safety certification. Call **1-800-274-1079** or visit [gorillanetting.com/get-quote](https://gorillanetting.com/get-quote).