

## 2 v 1 to goal

**Objective:** to improve tackling, passing and shooting skills.

**Age group:** U6 upwards.

**Set up:** play this game on a small-sided soccer pitch with one normal sized goal set on the end line and two small goals on either side of the half way line.

**How to play:** a defensive player standing beside the goal kicks the football out to two offensive players standing on the halfway line. The defender follows the pass and tries to win the football back and clear it toward either of the two goals on the halfway line. The offensive players try to score in the normal sized goal. Goalkeeper is optional.

**Rotation:** The player who shoots or loses the ball rotates to the defensive line. The other two players go to the offensive line.

### Coaching points

Attackers should control the ball quickly and keep it in front of them.

"Pass the ball once the defender is committed"-- if the defender is committed to stopping the ball carrier, the other offensive player should be in an open position ready to receive a pass. Don't get in the defender's shadow.

The defender should close the ball carrier down quickly and try to channel the attacker with the ball towards the sideline, away from the other attacker.

### Variations

Play with a goalkeeper.

Allow only one pass for offensive players.

Allow another defender to enter play once the first pass is made.

Require a one-touch shot for a player who receives the ball in the penalty area.