

Umpire Equipment List recommendations:



REQUIRED Equipment:

Plate Shoes \$75 – 120

**special protective shoes worn on the plate*

Chest Protector \$60 – 150

**inside is preferred*

Base Shoes \$40 – 100

**Any predominantly black tennis shoe*

Black Belt \$10-\$25

**any black belt will work*

Shin Guards \$50- 130

Face Mask /Helmet \$50 – 250

**some umpires add a dangling throat guard*

Black Ball Bag(s) \$8 - \$20

**some umpires wear one, some wear two*

Cup & Jock \$15 - 30

Uniforms:

Black AIA Umpire Shirt \$40 -55

**Some umpires wear a size larger for the plate*

Dark Gray Base Pants \$35 - 70

**Umpires may use "Combo" pants that are for Plate & Base*

Black or White Undershirt

**dri-fit material works best*

Black Socks

Black AIA Umpire Hat \$15

**Hats come in 4, 6 or 8 stitch(brim size). 4 & 6 are most common*

Dark Gray Plate Pants \$35-70

**specially designed for working the plate*

Black Jacket

**optional purchase. NO LOGOS on jacket*

Accessories:

Ball/Strike Indicator \$5-7

Pen or Pencil

Plate Brush \$5-7

Lineup Card Holder \$6-8

*****Umpires can purchase Starter Packages which can save money. Starter Packages include basic entry level equipment. Search online for "Champro Varsity Ump Kit"**



Umpire Equipment List recommendations:



Recommended Brands:

Plate Shoes: New Balance is the major brand. 3n2 also makes Umpire plate shoes. Mizuno are another good brand

Base Shoes: New Balance is the major brand but Nike, Reebok and Adidas all make base shoes. Any predominantly black athletic shoe will work as long as the sole will provide good traction on dirt and grass.

Shin Guards : Wilson is the major brand, with MLB Platinum and Pro Series. Honigs Elite, DaviShins and Force 3 are also popular.

Chest Protector : Wilson is the major brand with MLB Platinum & Gold Series. Other solid protectors are All Star Cobalt, Evoshield, DaviShield Chest Protector and Wilson MLB Charcoal. **There are three** extremely important pieces of equipment for your safety; Plate Shoes, Face Mask and Chest Protector. These are the areas that you get hit the most and it HURTS the most. As you go up in levels of baseball (they throw & swing harder) you must purchase equipment designed to protect you at that level. So money spent now on good equipment, instead of basic equipment, will be money well spent as you progress in your Umpire career.

Face Mask /Helmet : Wilson & Allstar are the major brands with Wilson Titanium & Allstar Magesium Masks the best. Davis Feather-lite, +POS Zero Gravity, Diamond Big League Silver or Matte Black & All Star System Seven Masks are all good masks which will protect you. *ALL mask have a built in throat protector. Some umpires add a dangling throat protector to the mask. **Mask pads** are also important to the protection of the umpire. The two best pads are the Team Wendys Zorbium pads (they do not come standard on any mask) and the Wilson Wrap Around Pads (they are standard on some Wilson models). Both of these can always be added to any mask. This is not to say that the standard padding is not good just not best. When considering a Mask also consider the weight....light weight is easier on your neck and head.

Helmets or Buckets are worn without a hat underneath and the major brands are Wilson, Schutt, All Star and Force 3. Helmets are heavier than face masks, hotter than face mask and offer somewhat less mobility (turning your head, running with, or simply just holding). Helmets do offer more protection to the top and sides of your head. Masks are the most popular but Helmets are becoming more popular.



Umpire Equipment List recommendations:



Recommended Brands:

Black Ball Bag(s): Umpires wear one or two bags based on preference. Most bags are mainly the same as they hold baseballs, pen, keys etc. Make sure to get a 12" wide ball bag, some models are 10". 10" is difficult to reach into and get baseballs out. The best bag is the DryLo bag as it is a large bag and keeps baseball from getting wet.

Black Belt: Any black leather belt will work. Most Umpires wear a wider 1 ¾" Garrison (high gloss) belt or 1 ½" belt. Order the belt a MINIMUM of 2" larger than you normally wear because when wearing your plate gear your waist size is larger because of all that you are tucking in to your pants. Umpires wear the same belt whether on the base or plate.

Cup & Jock: Cup is mandatory equipment when working the plate and optional for the bases. Some umpires wear spandex tights over the jock / cup to hold in place. Tights also keep the shin guard from touching skin (straps can be irritating) and also wicks away moisture. The best jock / cup is Diamond MMA Cup, extremely comfortable and protects very well. Other good options are Nuddy Buddy & Shock Doctor

Black AIA Umpire Shirt: AIA umpires wear a logo'd Pro Style Black shirt. The AIA logo can only be added to the shirt by an Approved Vendor. Umpires usually purchase two size shirts; normal size for the bases and one size up for the plate to accommodate the chest protector. One shirt can do it all as long as it fits over the chest protector. Approved Vendors for AIA Shirts are Outwestofficials.com or locally in Phoenix at Ryan's Touchdown Sports. The last page will have contact details for these vendors.

Black AIA Umpire Hat : Umpire hats come in 2, 4, 6 or 8 Stitch which indicates the width of the brim, and usually fitted (6 ¾, 7, 7 1/8 etc.). On the plate most umpires wear a 4 or 6 stitch and on the bases a 6 or 8 Stitch. Some wear the same hat on the plate and base. Make sure you are comfortable while wearing your mask over your hat, this is the main reason for the different brims. Hats are fitted to the size of you head and range from 6 ¾ to 8. Umpires must try on the hat to see the fit unless they already know size. Best brands are Richardson or New Era.



Umpire Equipment List recommendations:



Recommended Brands:

Dark Gray Umpire Pants: Umpires wear specially designed pants including Base Pants, Plate Pants & Combo Pants. Base pants are more fitting and similar cut to dress pants. Plate Pants are baggy to allow for shin guards and have a reinforced seat so they don't rip while bending or squatting. Combo Pants are designed to be worn on the base and plate. Most umpires wear Base Pants on the bases and Plate Pants on the plate. Combo Pants do save you money in the short term (they wear out faster because you wear them more often) and offer versatility. There are two shades Heather Gray (old style) and Dark or Charcoal Gray (new style). AIA umpires wear the Dark or Charcoal Gray. There are several "versions" of pants as some are heavy weight material (look better & last longer), some have adjustable waist lines etc.. Major Brands are Smitty, and Gerry Davis, with Smitty being far and away the best most comfortable pant.

Black or White Undershirt: Any style undershirt will work and black or white color. Dri Fit material keeps you cool and dry.

Black Jacket: AIA umpires do not usually need a jacket as our weather is warm. If the occasion arises any style black NON logo Umpire Jacket will work. Umpires can also wear black long sleeves under their AIA Shirt. If working a TV game ALL jackets must match.

Ball/Strike Indicator: The Plate Umpire must carry and use an Indicator. Most are the similar in quality and all perform the same function. The base umpire will not carry or use an indicator. Umpires usually purchase a back up indicator as well.

Plate Brush: Plastic or wood brushes are used to clean home plate. Umpires usually purchase two and one is as a backup. Plate brushes are kept in your back pocket or Ball Bag. Base umpires will not carry a plate brush.

Pen or Pencil: For writing on lineup cards and tracking changes.

Lineup Card Holder: Optional equipment but some Umpires use to store / protect lineup cards. Also helpful to write on.



Umpire Equipment List recommendations:



Which do I buy & how much should I spend:

Umpire Equipment is like everything else you buy in life. Some is inexpensive, some is CHEAP. Some is a great value and some is OVER PRICED.

Equipment is designed to protect you and keep you safe. Not all equipment is the same quality irrespective of price. Major brands are generally the best. Depending on what level of baseball you are working OR aspire to work will dictate what equipment you should purchase.

Three critical pieces of equipment are **Chest Protector, Mask / Helmet and Plate Shoes**. Shin Guards are also important (especially around the knee area). So if you can, buy decent quality items.

Starter Packages are always an option as well. They save you money and provide you with basic entry level equipment that will work for most lower levels of baseball.

This equipment will last years and can pay for itself ten times over...if possible invest in good equipment as outlined previously.



Umpire Equipment List

Umpire Equipment List (optional but useful):



- Shoe cleaning kit and equipment.
- Towel & Water Bottle
- Sunglasses
- Extra Indicator
- Extra Pair of Socks
- EXTRA BELT
- Extra Plate Brush
- Bugspray
- Naproxen, Ibuprofen, etc.
- EXTRA SHOE LACES
- Toiletry bag with baby wipes, deodorant
- Sunscreen
- Athletic Tape / Small First Aid Kit
- Chapstick
- Gold Bond
- Small Sewing Kit
- Chair (used while dressing)



Vendor List:



AIA Uniform Logo Items:

-Outwest Officials/ outwestofficials.com

**Have equipment & uniforms in stock ready for delivery today!*

-Ryan's Touchdown Sports / <http://www.touchdownsportswear.com/>

**Have uniforms in stock to pick up today!*

-Ump Attire / ump-attire.com

**Have equipment but no "AIA" logo'd uniforms*

Online Equipment & Uniforms:

<http://honigs.com/>

http://www.gerrydavis.com/mm5/category/baseball_umpire [Ump-attire.com](http://ump-attire.com)

<http://www.smitteez.com/index.php/categories/baseball-umpire-equipment-gear>

<https://www.ump-attire.com/>

*Many others online but these are the major suppliers.

