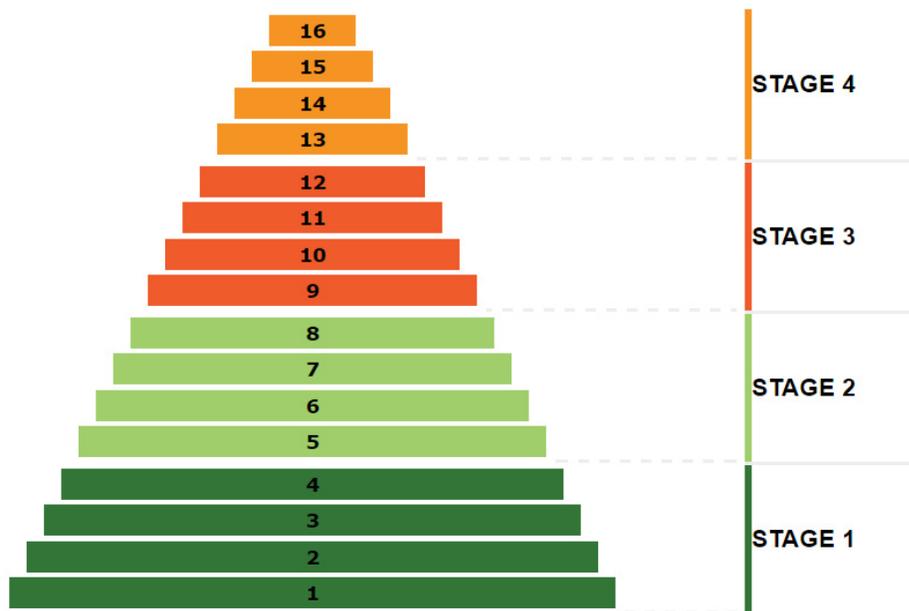


The 16 Levels of the Universal Tennis Rating Scale



Level 1	Can serve from full-court. Plays 4 game sets. Most shots are played to the center of the court, often inside the area around the "T". Often recovers to "no man's land". Short points, short strokes, short shots.
Level 2	Strokes begin to lengthen as do shots which are now landing beyond the "T" with greater frequency. Players have learned to recover more often behind the center mark at the baseline. 4-game sets are still recommended.
Level 3	Shots are carrying deeper in the court, but still mainly hit toward the center. Tends to play longer "neutral" rallies. Very little offensive effectiveness, but serves and returns are more reliable. Recommend standard 6-game sets using the 10-point tiebreaker for the 3rd set.
Level 4	Starts to use "maneuvering" tactics in the form of crosscourt shots. Uses the width of the courts as well as the length. Starts to compete successfully in age group events. Has developed sufficient endurance for full 3-set matches.

Level 5	Juniors can compete with moderate success in lower age groups. Players become very steady and may begin developing more "offensive" skills. As adults, these players can compete successfully for most of their lifetime in USTA leagues. UT recommends Level 5 as a starting point for juniors to compete frequently with their adult counterparts.
Level 6	At this level players have at least one outstanding skill. Juniors will be valued members of High School teams. See Universal Tennis College Search to find US college programs for players at this level and higher levels.
Level 7	Can sometimes use "attacking" tactics successfully. If well coached, should have developed or is developing a full set of spins and advanced tactics. For further development, players should also be developing athleticism to move to higher levels.
Level 8	Has developed advanced competitive skills. Can "maneuver", "attack" and "conclude" when situations arise. As an adult player, should be able to maintain this level into the 50s and 55s.

Level 9	All players who have reached this level have done so only through success in many advanced competitive experiences. Girls and women at this level can be highly successful DIII college players and are often highly sought after for many college programs. Junior players (male and female) at this level can look forward to being able to compete successfully at many college programs. Use Universal Tennis College search to find teams for an appropriate fit.
Level 10	Highly Ranked National Girls. Players (male and female) at this level can be successful in many college programs. See Universal Tennis College searches.
Level 11	Highly Ranked ITA Division I women. World Class Junior girls. Can be valuable college players (men and women) across all divisions. Successful junior sectional players.
Level 12	Top WTA Challenger Circuit players. Some may move in and out of the top 100 WTA. Elite junior girls. Highly Ranked USTA Sectional boys. Top ITA College Women. Valuable players in most college programs.

Level 13	Top WTA players; make their living playing professional tennis. High Level National and Sectional level USTA Boys. Highly rated DIII men; all players at this level can be successful playing college tennis.
Level 14	Upper rankings of ITA Division I men. World Class Junior Boys. Recommend finishing college before turning pro.
Level 15	ATP Challenger Circuit. Some players move in and out of the top 100 ATP.
Level 16	Top 80 to 100 ATP players. Make a living at pro tennis.