

# David ferrer: the counter-puncher essay



No matter what age you are, tennis is a compatible sport made for anyone who wants a good workout and a fun experience. People of all walks of life have come to enjoy this sport. Although tennis had began as an aristocratic sport it has grown to be a pleasurable activity for all. The modern game of tennis originated in the 19th century in the UK. Only upper-class Englishmen could play the game but now anyone who can hold a racket is eligible to play. Even men and women in wheelchairs are capable of playing this sport. Also, millions of spectators from around the globe come and watch the games played in the Grand Slam tournaments.

For now, however, we'll focus on a Spaniard who is often considered a counter-puncher; his court position is usually a few feet behind the baseline and he defends really well! Ferrer was born in 1982 in Xabia, Spain. He grew up in a sports family and played a lot of Tennis alongside his brother. He never competed on the ITF Junior Circuit though. A well-known story about him is the fact that his coach, Javier Piles, used to lock him into a dark little room for hours at a time, whenever Ferrer didn't practice hard enough!

David considered quitting Tennis during this time but managed to continue and become one of the world's best players. Early in his career he was known as a clay court specialist but his game has evolved over the years and he has had some good success on hard courts as well! Ferrer has a very good forehand. This is the shot that he usually pressures his opponents with. Like most Spanish players, he runs around his backhand a lot in order to hit powerful forehands, either inside-out or inside-in. Like most players with a good forehand, he uses a short and compact motion.

The majority of the power is generated from the lower body and Ferrer's leg strength helps him in this regard! The only problem David Ferrer has on the forehand side is that he often hits it with too much topspin and as a result the balls land too short at times. This is caused by the so-called windshield wiper motion that he uses. He often would be better off extending out to the target more and using less windshield wiper. I consider it unfortunate to have been introduced to Tennis until my junior year in high school, and boy do I regret not joining sooner.

Placing fourth during District at my hometown has inspired and motivated me to exercise my skills and get better to reach my goal of getting first place at finals this upcoming year. Running around a court, sweating and grunting, is not only a stress reliever for me but a way to really get to know myself. I have discovered some of my strengths and weakness thanks to this sport. If anything, I'd say this sport has shaped and formed me into the person I am today. I owe a lot to Tennis. Hopefully I'll owe just as much to David Ferrer one day!