

Look-Back Rule

The Look-Back Rule is in effect when:

- The ball is live
- The batter-runner has touched first base
- The pitcher possesses the ball within the 16-foot circle

The batter-runner is entitled to one momentary stop before proceeding or returning.

If the batter-runner, with the Look-Back Rule in effect:

Stops at first base, she cannot then proceed without being called out

Rounds first base without stopping, she is still entitled to one stop

Overruns first base; she is entitled to one stop before proceeding or returning

Reaches first and immediately continues to second, but then stops at second; she cannot proceed to third without being called out.

A base runner other than the batter-runner must also commit, one way or the other, after making one momentary stop, while the Look-Back Rule is in effect.

Multiple runners cannot be called out for violating the Look-Back Rule on the same play. If each umpire calls one of the runners out, the umpires shall confer and call one runner out (whoever was called out first) and return the other runner to the last base occupied.

The Look-Back Rule is not in effect if the pitcher simulates or makes an attempt to play upon a runner or batter-runner, such as pump faking.