



CUSTOMISING A TENNIS RACQUET

When tennis racquets are manufactured, due to the nature of the construction process, it is impossible to make a batch of frames with absolute identical specifications. Some manufacturers can narrow down the tolerance to within +/-5 grams of weight, +/-5 millimetres of balance point and +/-5 units of swingweight; i.e. racquets that are supposedly "identical" can have discrepancies of 10 units for each of these three characteristics. Others may have a much higher discrepancy.

Players with multiple racquets obviously need all of their frames to be the same. This is where frame customising comes in.

We can customise a frame if:

1. the player knows his/her desired specifications, i.e. weight, balance point and swingweight,
2. the desired specifications are obtained from a particular "favourite" frame and used as a benchmark to match all the player's other frames to the same specifications.

When watching the pros play, you may notice lead tape placed on specific locations of the frame. More commonly, the customising is done so that the lead tape is not visible but every professional player has some degree of customising done to their frames.

At Tennislife, our **Precision Tuning Centre** will customise frames to the following unrivalled accuracy:

Weight: +/-0.05 gram

Balance: +/-0.25 mm

Swingweight: +/-0.5 kg.cm²

On purchasing two or more similar frames from Tennislife we offer an exclusive free service for customising the racquets.

Cost (New racquets purchased from Tennislife free):

Customising weight, swingweight and balance point to match another frame \$50.00

Two frames - from scratch to have a matching set \$80.00.

INCREASING GRIP SIZE

Shrink sleeves can be used to increase your grip by one full size (1/8 of an inch). They slide directly over the base racquet handle and heat shrunk to the base. (They can be cut off too with no damage incurred). The replacement grip is then wrapped over the sleeve. Shrink sleeves will maintain the bevels (octagonal handle shape), but will slightly increase the weight of the racquet handle (14-16 grams for a full size sleeve) and, in turn, alter the balance of the racquet. By using the **Precision Tuning Centre** we can then correct the balance back to the original racquet. This service is free when purchasing a new racquet.

Cost (New racquets purchased from Tennislife free):

Increase grip size by Heat shrink process. \$30.00 (Including a new \$15 grip)

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