

Third Base Skills

Defensive Responsibilities.

- Fielding Bunts
- Covering home when the catcher fields a bunt.
- Taking the relay from left field when the ball is by the foul line.
- Cutting off slowly hit balls between third base and the pitcher.
- Taking pick offs at third.
- Holding the runner at third.
- Covering home on intentional walks (Normal bunt defensive position).

Fly Ball Priority

Priority Over

Pitcher, catcher, 1st baseman

No Priority

Shortstop, left fielder

Third Base Basic Positioning and Coverage Area

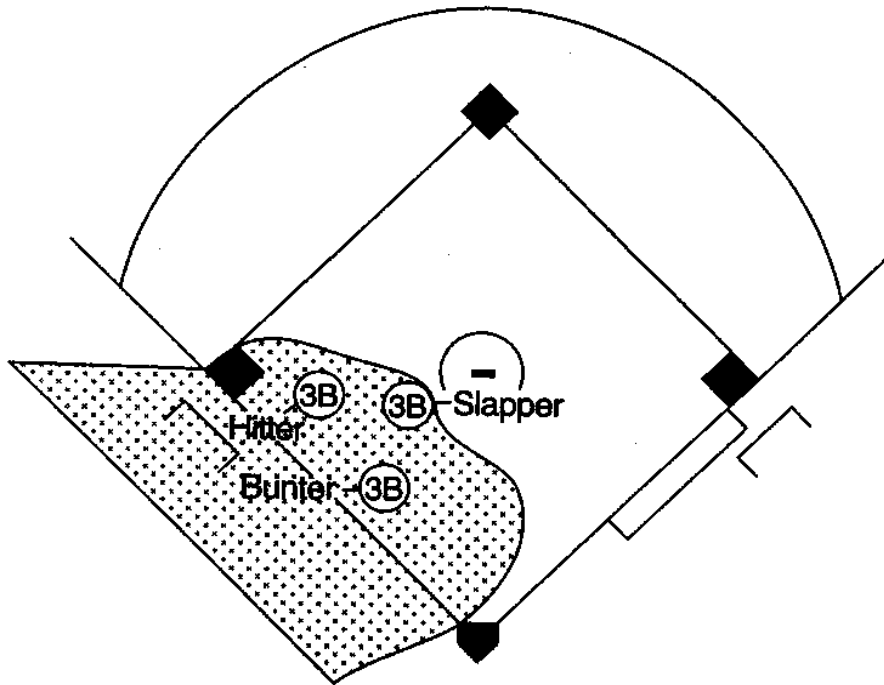


Figure 3.8 Third baseman's basic positioning and coverage area.

- **Hitter:** takes a position 3–4 feet in front of the base and 2-3 feet in from the line. May move back to even with the plate with hard pulling right handed hitter. Never behind the bag.
- **Bunter:** 1/2—2/3 of the way to home depending on quickness and ability.
- **Slapper:** in another 2-3 steps and closer to the mound than the hitter position