

ZONE 3

SERIES: ZONE / PRESS OFFENSE | DNA CATEGORY: CUT BEHIND THE ZONE

IOWA

HAWKEYES

THE ADVANTAGE DNA™

- 1 Iowa reverses the ball to make Nebraska's zone shift side-to-side.
- 2 The ball reaches the wing and pulls the top and side defenders toward it.
- 3 4 moves through to stretch the right side of the zone.
- 4 The weak-side interior defender is forced to watch the ball instead of the...
- 5 5 begins the cut from behind the zone while the defense is occupied.
- 6 The cutter attacks the middle of the lane before Nebraska can recover.
- 7 The ball movement creates the cut — the cut is not random.
- 8 Recognize the defender's head turn and attack the blind spot immediately.

ADVANTAGE FRAME — 13:54 2ND HALF



THE ZONE TURNS TO THE BALL. THE WEAK-SIDE CUT ATTACKS THE BLIND SPOT.

ACTION BREAKDOWN

1. REVERSE THE BALL



1 reverses the ball to 2 while 4 occupies the right side. The reversal starts shifting Nebraska's shell away from the weak-side cutter.

2. STRETCH THE ZONE



2 attacks and the floor stretches to the opposite side. The zone turns toward the ball and loses vision behind the second line.

3. CUT THE BLIND SPOT



As the ball is moved again, 5 cuts hard to the rim behind the defense. The cut attacks the space created by the shifting zone.

PAUSE HERE

Watch the weak side, not the ball. Nebraska's zone has shifted toward the right wing and the interior defenders are looking at the pass. That creates the moment for the weak-side cutter to go. The cutter is moving behind the defense and into the middle of the lane while the zone is still turning. The advantage comes from timing: move the zone first, then cut through the defender's blind spot.

COACHING INSIGHTS

WHY IT WORKS

Ball reversal forces the zone to turn its head and shift its feet. The weak-side cut attacks the moment when defenders are seeing the ball instead of the cutter.

DEFENSIVE REACTION

Nebraska slides toward the wing and protects the ball side. That movement creates a temporary seam behind the interior defenders.

OFFENSIVE READ

Read the weak-side defender's vision. When the defender turns to the ball, cut behind the head and get to the rim before the shell can shrink back.

COACHING POINT

Do not cut before the zone moves. Reverse it, occupy it, then cut behind it. Timing creates the window more than speed alone.

STEAL THIS IDEA

Against a zone, use the pass to create the cut. Move the shell until a weak-side defender turns his head, then cut directly behind his vision. The best cutters do not simply run to open space — they attack the moment the defender can no longer see both ball and man.

DNA TAKEAWAY

MOVE THE ZONE.
WAIT FOR THE HEAD TURN.
CUT THE BLIND SPOT.