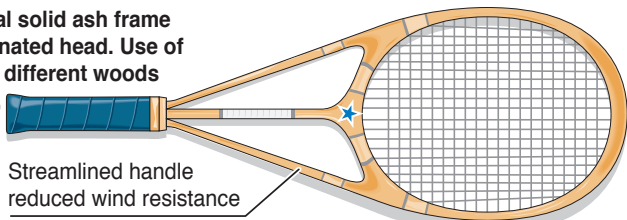


# Playing the power game

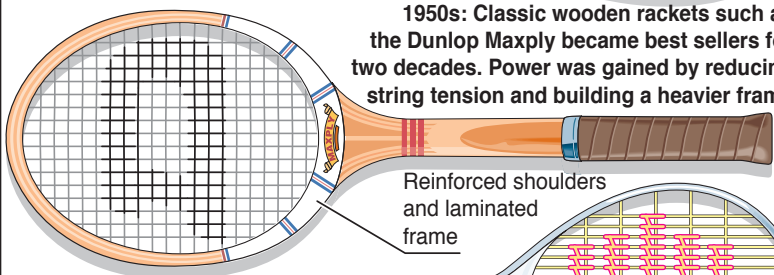
**1930s:** Traditional solid ash frame replaced by laminated head. Use of several layers of different woods created a lighter, stronger and cheaper racket

Streamlined handle reduced wind resistance



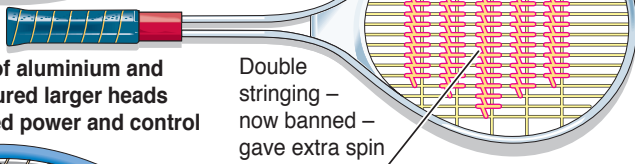
**1950s:** Classic wooden rackets such as the Dunlop Maxply became best sellers for two decades. Power was gained by reducing string tension and building a heavier frame

Reinforced shoulders and laminated frame



**1970s:** Metal rackets made of aluminium and fibreglass featured larger heads which increased power and control

Double stringing – now banned – gave extra spin



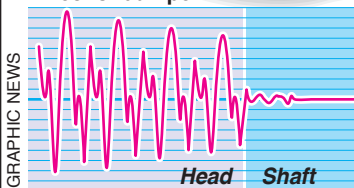
**1992:** Computer designed, using materials from the aerospace industry, making serves of 120mph possible

**Racket head:** Up to 75% larger than wooden rackets propel ball 25-30% faster

**Frame:** Epoxy resin reinforced with boron carbide – almost as hard as diamond. Thicker frame increases power

Polyurethane grip moulded to flexible shaft

Effect of damper



**Vibration:** Rigid frames allow ball to be hit harder but transmit shock waves through frame. Thermoplastic dampers in shaft absorb vibrations

