

RUNNING HOT



1 Here you see Jankovic not only running, but most importantly *timing* her run to a wide backhand.



2 As Jankovic starts her racquet take back, note that her bottom right hand grip is a forehand.



3 Now Jankovic is stepping down the court, making a quick adaptation as she realises that the ball is shorter and lower than she'd expected.



Pat Cash, who won Wimbledon in 1987, contributing to a total of seven singles titles during his career, reached a career-high world No. 4 ranking. The Melbourne-born champion will also be remembered as one of Australia's finest Davis Cup players. The classic hard-fighting serve and volleyer also reached the final of the Australian Open in 1987 and 1988, the first year at Melbourne Park.

He currently runs the Pat Cash International Tennis Academy at Hope Island Resort on the Gold Coast. For more information, log on to www.patcash.net, where you can also view previous **Australian Tennis Magazine** instructional articles from Pat.

Photography by John Anthony

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Is there any player on tour that is hotter right now than **Jelena Jankovic**?

Winning four WTA titles and finishing runner-up in another two events, the 22-year-old Serbian reached a career-high World No. 3 last month. And as her semi-final result at Roland Garros showed, the best may still be to come.

Assisting Jankovic's rise is an arsenal of weapons, with none more impressive than her **running backhand**.

Even with the inconsistent bounce on the grass necessitating constant adjustments, the Serbian can show us how to make a rushed backhand seem simple.

By Pat Cash



4 With her eyes planted firmly on the ball, Jankovic keeps her backswing low.



5 Here she uses the strength in her arms to get some pace on the ball. The bottom right hand grip is back to continental – a great mid-shot adjustment.



6 As she executes her shot, Jankovic is scooping the ball up as best she can with a short follow through.



6 Now Jankovic is pushing to get back into position. Overall, this is a tough job that's been well done.

Next month:

Check out the latest in racquets, balls and strings in our annual Gear Guide – a must-read before you update your equipment.