



TECHNICAL REPORT

2023/24





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COVER
Real Madrid midfielder Jude Bellingham tries to evade former Dortmund team-mate Mats Hummels

To view video of the screen grabs in this report as well as technical reports from all UEFA competitions, please visit ufatechnicalreports.com





The UEFA technical observers studied every match over the course of the season to identify the styles and strategies favoured by Europe's top clubs

This review of the 2023/24 UEFA Champions League season provides a record of a campaign that spanned 125 matches between the start of the group stage in September 2023 and the final at Wembley Stadium in London on 1 June. As a technical report, it assesses the action with the input of UEFA's Technical Observers' Panel and the support of UEFA's performance analysis team.

A member of the observers' group analysed every fixture from Matchday 1 onwards to ensure in-depth coverage of the group stage while, for the knockout rounds, there was an observer present at every fixture. The resulting insights have provided the substance for the talking points in the report, as well as informing the assessment of the tactical approach of all 32 clubs.

With the trends that are identified and explored in the following pages, and the statistical analysis included in support, UEFA aims to provide a meaningful tool for coaches across Europe. It will be made available to members of the coaching family and will help inform coaches about the prevailing styles and strategies, as well as the qualities needed, at the elite end of European club football.

EYES ON THE ACTION

A total of 29 technical observers from 14 nations contributed to this report: David Adams (WAL), Wayne Allison (ENG), Aljoša Asanović (CRO), Rafael Benítez (ESP), Packie Bonner (IRL), Justin Cochrane (ENG), Frank de Boer (NED), Jean-François Domergue (FRA), Dušan Fitzel (CZE), Frans Hoek (NED), David James (ENG), Aitor Karanka (ESP), Stefan Kuntz (GER), Dirk Kuyt (NED), Hans Leitert (AUT), Claude Makélélé (FRA), Roberto Martínez (ESP), Ginés Meléndez (ESP), Mixu Paatelainen (FIN), Marians Pahars (LVA), Stipe Pletikosa (CRO), Peter Rudbæk (DEN), Willi Rutensteiner (AUT), Thomas Schaaf (GER), Ole Gunnar Solskjær (NOR), Gareth Southgate (ENG), Jaap Stam (NED), Giovanni van Bronckhorst (NED), Jack Wilshere (ENG).



GROUP A



FC Bayern München (BAY)



FC Copenhagen (COP)



Galatasaray AS (GAL)



Manchester United FC (MUN)

GROUP B



Arsenal FC (ARS)



PSV Eindhoven (PSV)



RC Lens (LEN)



Sevilla FC (SEV)

GROUP C



Real Madrid CF (RMA)



SSC Napoli (NAP)



SC Braga (BRA)



1. FC Union Berlin (UBE)

GROUP D



Real Sociedad (RSO)



FC Internazionale Milano (INT)



SL Benfica (BEN)



FC Salzburg (SAL)

GROUP E



Club Atlético de Madrid (ATM)



SS Lazio (LAZ)



Feyenoord (FEY)



Celtic FC (CEL)

GROUP F



Borussia Dortmund (DOR)



Paris Saint-Germain (PAR)



AC Milan (MIL)



Newcastle United FC (NEW)

GROUP G



Manchester City FC (MCI)



RB Leipzig (LEI)



BSC Young Boys (YB)



FK Crvena zvezda (ZVE)

GROUP H



FC Barcelona (BAR)



FC Porto (POR)



FC Shakhtar Donetsk (SHA)



Royal Antwerp FC (ANT)

MASTERFUL MADRID TRIUMPH AGAIN

Real Madrid had to weather a first-half storm from Borussia Dortmund but a tactical switch and their set-piece threat ultimately proved decisive at Wembley

Under Wembley's giant arch, there was history made – and repeated – on the evening of 1 June 2024. Real Madrid and Carlo Ancelotti were the ones making it, writing a fresh chapter of their European Cup story with their 15th triumph in this competition.

For Madrid, it was a sixth UEFA Champions League victory in the last 11 seasons alone; for Ancelotti, his record-breaking fifth as a coach. Two of his players – Dani Carvajal and Luka Modrić – emulated the great Paco Gento in playing in a sixth final victory for the club while Toni Kroos won his fifth final in a Madrid shirt. With his contribution to Bayern München's victorious campaign in 2013, Kroos has six winners' medals in all, as does Nacho, though this was only the second appearance in a final for the long-time Madrid squad member.

Yet if the record books belonged to Los Blancos, Borussia Dortmund's role should not be overlooked. "We're back in town to steal the crown" read a banner displayed by their magnificent supporters before kick-off – the "back" a reference to their previous final appearance at Wembley in 2013. That night in north London had ended in disappointment and so would this, though the outcome was no reflection on an excellent game plan by their coach Edin Terzić, whose players executed it impressively in the first half.

As the analysis highlights, BVB had the better of the first period before Madrid found a way to win, as they did so often during a campaign they ended unbeaten, thanks to a tactical adjustment after the restart and the set-piece threat which brought Carvajal's opening goal before Vinícius Júnior added a touch of gloss to the scoreline.

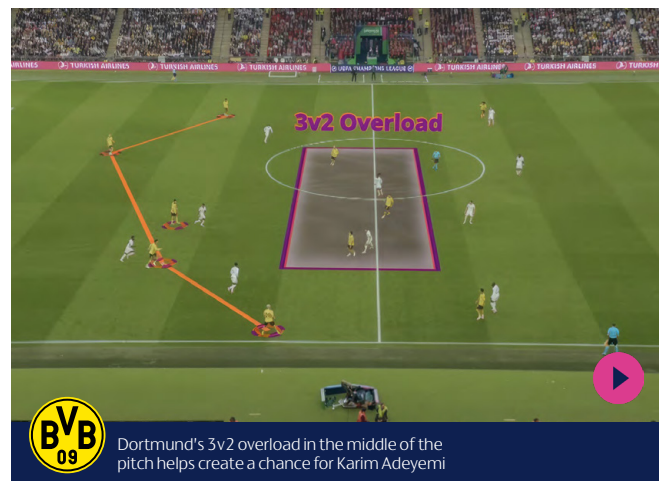


Dani Carvajal climbs highest to head in a Toni Kroos corner

BVB'S THREAT IN BEHIND

The first half was a tale of near-misses by Terzić's team as they accumulated eight shots to Madrid's two – and an xG (Expected Goals) tally of 1.88 to their opponents' 0.07. Key to their attacking efforts was their threat in behind the Madrid defensive line and they so nearly capitalised more than once on the speed of Karim Adeyemi, a winger who achieved the competition's top speed of 37.6km/h on the Wembley baize.

The focus of this first image is the build-up to Adeyemi's one-on-one with Madrid goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois after 21 minutes. Dortmund varied between a 4+1 and 3+2 build-up over the course of the match but in this instance, it was the former – with a 3v2 overload further upfield, in the centre of the pitch.



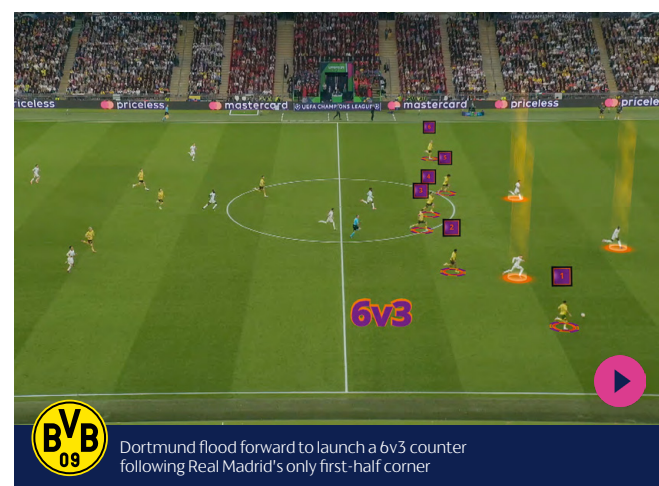
As noted by the UEFA technical observers, centre-back Mats Hummels was able to carry the ball forward without pressure before threading a wonderful pass beyond Madrid's high line, for Adeyemi to break on to. He left Carvajal flat-footed as he ran across him on the inside, while Antonio Rüdiger was taken out entirely by the precision of Hummels' through ball. As Frank de Boer said admiringly though: "Sometimes it is just the quality of pass."

According to Aitor Karanka, "Dortmund had the confidence and the intensity in the first half" and Adeyemi had another good opportunity from a quick attack following a turnover. Julian Brandt's pass sent the winger breaking into space again behind Madrid's defence but, as with his prior opportunity, Adeyemi's first touch took him wider of goal and his ensuing angled shot was saved by Courtois.

The UEFA technical observers at Wembley noted that it was not just down the left that BVB were asking questions. Midfielder Marcel Sabitzer and winger Jadon Sancho "created so many problems" on the right according to Roberto Martínez, the pair often working with full-back Julian Ryerson to achieve overloads against Kroos and Madrid left-back Ferland Mendy.

Summing up Dortmund's attacking efforts, Terzić said afterwards: "We were always dangerous in terms of ball possession – if we built up with four, if we built up with three – and we've been very dangerous on counterattacks but we couldn't manage to score and that was the key to why we didn't manage to win the game."

Finally, Dortmund's desire to get forward in that first period is captured in this image which shows them break forward from Madrid's only corner of the half – a 6v3 counterattack which even included Hummels, a centre-back racing into the opposition half.



From an educational perspective, the UEFA observers agreed that such moments need to be chosen carefully by defenders. "I found it fascinating that Hummels felt free to go," said Martínez. "For young players you have to explain that it can't be every time but if you see the opportunity why not? As a centre-half, why not open your legs and go into the final third?"

MADRID FIND BETTER BALANCE

Madrid succeeded in gaining more control in central areas in the second half following a tactical adjustment by Ancelotti, with Fede Valverde coming inside and Rodrygo staying more on the right.

As Ancelotti explained: "We didn't have enough balance to deal well with the transitions. We lost a lot of balls in the opponents' half and we weren't well positioned. To fix this, we decided to change the system, to have more concentration in the centre of the field. We'd started with Valverde on the right and then put Rodrygo [there] to allow us to have Valverde with [Eduardo] Camavinga and Kroos."

Dortmund, as the technical observers identified, had been well set up defensively with Niclas Füllkrug, Brandt, Sabitzer and Emre Can in a diamond shape, well-positioned to press, and with support on either side from the wingers. Yet as this image shows, Madrid now had better balance behind the ball themselves, with Valverde getting closer to Kroos and Camavinga in a midfield trio.



Eduardo Camavinga shields the ball from Emre Can (main picture); Rodrygo (below) shifted to the right wing in the second half



Afterwards Dortmund striker Füllkrug acknowledged Madrid's composure on the ball, saying that they were "always calm if the game wasn't as they wanted". Yet if the vastly experienced Kroos was crucial to that sense of calm – with more touches (108) and more line-breaking passes (20) than any other player – Rafael Benítez remarked that Madrid's midfield offered more than controlled possession. They also had energy in the centre of the field. Over the course of the contest, Camavinga ran 11.01km and Valverde 10.72km, totals surpassed only by the Dortmund trio of Sabitzer (11.18km), Füllkrug (11.14km) and Ryerson (11.04km).





Toni Kroos delivers a free-kick into the Dortmund penalty area

MATCH STATISTICS



DORTMUND

- KOBEL 1
- RYERSON 26
- HUMMELS 15
- SCHLOTTERBECK 4
- MAATSEN 22
- CAN 23
21 Malen 80
- SABITZER 20
- ADEYEMI 27
11 Reus 72
- BRANDT 19
9 Haller 80
- SANCHO 10
43 Bynoe-Gittens 87
- 14 FÜLLKRUG 14

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES

- MEYER 33
- LOTKA 35
- SÜLE 25
- ÖZCAN 6
- NMECHA 8
- WOLF 17
- WÄTJEN 38
- MOUKOKO 18

COACH
EDIN TERZIĆ



REAL MADRID

- 1 COURTOIS
- 2 CARVAJAL
- 6 NACHO
- 22 RÜDIGER
- 17 MENDY
- 15 VALVERDE
- 8 KROOS
10 Modrić 85
- 12 CAMAVINGA
- 5 BELLINGHAM
14 Joselu 85
- 11 RODRYGO
3 Militão 90+1
- 7 VINÍCIUS JÚNIOR
17 Vázquez 90+4

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES

- 13 LUNIN
- 25 ARRIZABALAGA
- 4 ALABA
- 20 GARCÍA
- 18 TCHOUAMÉNI
- 19 CEBALLOS
- 21 DÍAZ
- 24 ARDA GÜLER

COACH
CARLO ANCELOTTI

0-2

SATURDAY 1 JUNE 2024
Wembley Stadium, London

GOALS
0-1 Carvajal 74, 0-2 Vinícius Júnior 83

REFEREE
Slavko Vinčić (Slovenia)



DORTMUND	MADRID
0	2
46	54
13	13
3	6
7	5
2	3
1	0
9	8
3	1
0	0
410	549
353	504
111.9 km	108.2 km

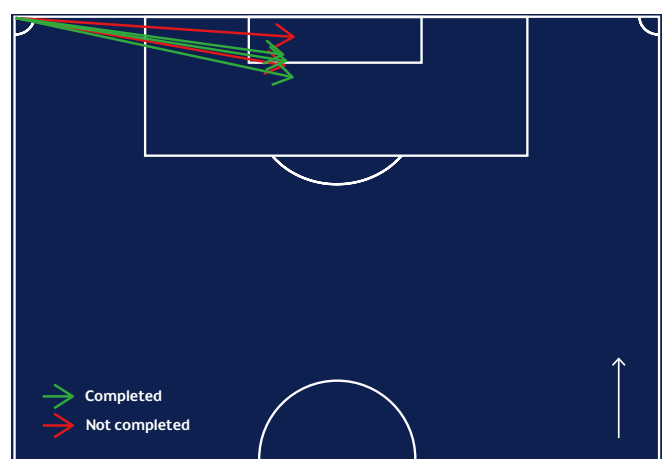
MADRID'S SET-PIECE MENACE

"You see how we lost the momentum of the game through a set piece," said Terzić of the final's opening goal, scored by Carvajal from a Kroos corner. It was Madrid's fourth strike from a corner this season – a total matched only by neighbours Atlético de Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain.

According to UEFA's observers, Madrid had already provided warnings of their set-play threat, notably when Carvajal headed over four minutes after the restart from another Kroos delivery.

"Toni Kroos' ball was pretty much the same ball every time," said David James. "It was put in the same place and it was consistent." That place was the near post, where Madrid accumulated bodies. And it was another inswinging kick by Kroos, his fifth of the second period, which brought the breakthrough from Carvajal, scoring only his second goal in the competition, almost nine years after his first. From a defensive perspective, the observers highlighted the fact the Madrid full-back had been left free to move into space by his marker, Ian Maatsen, leaving that earlier warning unheeded. Ultimately, though, it was the quality of the ball from Kroos, on his final Madrid appearance, that they wished to underline.

One set-piece trend cited by the observers during this campaign was for teams to have as many as six players attacking corners. Madrid had five when their first goal came, but Kroos' quality ensured it was enough. "It is great for Real Madrid how they attacked the near post," said Benítez. "That was clearly a plan – put the ball there, with good pace and bodies so you don't even need to block. The main thing is to put the ball there with a good delivery."



Real Madrid's corner destinations from the left, aimed towards the front post



'QUALITY AND SPIRIT'

Reflecting on his record-extending fifth Champions League triumph as a manager, Carlo Ancelotti discusses the importance of team spirit, tactical tweaks and the magic of the Bernabéu

"My relationship with the Champions League is amazing." You would expect to hear nothing less from the man who stands alone as the most successful coach in the history of the European Cup/UEFA Champions League. That man is Carlo Ancelotti and with Real Madrid's Wembley victory over Borussia Dortmund, he achieved his fifth Champions League triumph as a coach, having followed up two successes with AC Milan (2003, 2007) with three won with Madrid (2014, 2022, 2024).

Throw in his two European Cup final wins as a Milan player and it is fair to say the 65-year-old Italian has a unique relationship with this competition. Yet for all that rich personal history, he keeps his eye firmly focused on the here and now. On the back of his latest success, Ancelotti shares his thoughts on the campaign just finished, reflecting on the impact of players such as Vinícius Júnior, Jude Bellingham and Dani Carvajal and offering his perspective on some of the biggest challenges overcome by his side – including the ties against Manchester City, Bayern München and Dortmund.

Carlo Ancelotti revels in the moment after winning a record fifth Champions League title as a coach



Ancelotti is lifted high into the sky by his players during the celebrations

Now the dust has settled on your Champions League triumph, how do you reflect overall on last season's campaign in Europe and the keys to your success?

It was a great season in general, in La Liga and especially in the Champions League. We started really well, winning all our games in the group stages, and then afterwards, we obviously had some difficulties in the knockout stages, as always. I suppose you could say it was an uneven but well-executed Champions League season for us. The key to the success was the campaign overall – the individual qualities of the players throughout the season and the great team spirit that allowed us to show not only our quality but also the right spirit in difficult moments.



Ancelotti shares an embrace with Toni Kroos, who retired at the top

"I BELIEVE IT IS A MIXTURE OF MAGIC, QUALITY, TEAM AWARENESS, A GREAT CONNECTION WITH THE STADIUM AND FANS"

This was the first campaign since striker Karim Benzema's departure. Could you describe how you changed things in attack to compensate for his absence?

After Benzema's departure, I thought that we had enough quality to fill the gap – with the arrival of [Jude] Bellingham, obviously, but especially with the addition of Brahim [Díaz] from Milan and Joselu, who brought a sense of structure that we were lacking, as a tall and powerful centre-forward. Joselu helped us a lot during the season and also in the Champions League, scoring in the semi-final against Bayern Munich. We thought about changing [the system] a bit, but with the calibre of the forwards we had – with Vinícius, Rodrygo, Bellingham, Brahim, and then, towards the end, Arda Güler who contributed too, especially in the league – we realised we had enough quality and didn't need to buy a traditional centre-forward.

On Vinícius Júnior specifically, how important was his switch from the left wing towards a more central role? [With] Vinícius, [we needed him] to play less wide – not just attack down the sides, but to play less wide – and he did that very well.

Could you talk about the impact of Jude Bellingham and how he was able to settle so quickly and so successfully? He's a modern player, a huge talent. He has this quality of being a really dynamic player. This allows him to really help the squad when he doesn't have the ball and also to have a lot of time to go into the box at the right moment. Having a central midfielder who can enter the box brings added value. It's certainly really important for a team. He had an extraordinary first part of the season.

To stay with Bellingham, he started the season at the head of the diamond in midfield, then he played further forward, then he played off to the left. What was the thinking behind these adjustments?

He adapted very well because he naturally prefers to play in the centre or on the left. We changed his defensive position a bit after the first part [of the season], making him move more towards the left-hand side to relieve Vinícius of his defensive duties a bit. But, as I said, he managed to adapt very easily, because he is so dynamic.

To cite another key player, right-back Dani Carvajal made a big contribution from an attacking point of view, with six goals in all competitions. How important is it to have full-backs like him who can support the attack?

The interesting thing is that Carvajal has scored a lot of goals from set pieces. He is not very tall, but he knows how to time his run. He's lively in the penalty area, especially when we have a corner. He has scored a lot of goals, including a very important one in the final against Borussia Dortmund. We discovered this strength that he has this year. It doesn't matter how tall you are as a player; what counts is your liveliness and how you react in the box when there's a corner. Carvajal exemplifies these qualities.

Staying with set plays, with that Carvajal goal in the final, Madrid ended up joint first in the competition for goals from corners, with four. On top of that, you conceded only one goal from 78 corners faced in 2023/24. How much work goes into your set-piece preparation and what role does your son Davide play in this?

It's something we work on a lot, especially with the analysis where we use videos. We don't have a lot of time to work on it on the pitch. It's hard to recreate the conditions of a real match on the training pitch because the opposition [in training] aren't as strong and aggressive as the opposition in a game. But we have worked on it a lot and the work has paid off. I have to say that Davide and also Francesco [Mauri] have done a great job. We have scored a lot of goals in the league and in the Champions League and conceded very few. From a defensive point of view, we defend zonally, with a few blocks, and this has allowed us to be quite solid.

If we can go back to individual players for a moment and ask you about Toni Kroos' last season, how much did it help you, as a coach, having a player like him out on the pitch?

It's very important for many reasons – for his experience, for his ability to manage the team's possession and the tempo of the game. It's a pity that he's stopped playing, but this is what he wanted, and we obviously respect his decision. It shows the courage of the man because I believe it's very hard to decide to stop when you are at the top. We have to replace him in a different way, because you won't find another player of the same quality as Kroos. It goes without saying that we'll need to play in a different way.



Ancelotti is all smiles with Antonio Rüdiger (left) and Vinicius Júnior (right); issuing instructions to Jude Bellingham (bottom left)

To shift the focus to specific games, Gareth Southgate was our observer for your quarter-final at Manchester City and he praised your team's compact shape and the players' positional awareness that night. What were the specific instructions from yourself to help your team survive the pressure from City?

Defending like that isn't something we came up with during that particular match. In that match, we were more under pressure because of City's quality, but we did work on the defensive aspect throughout the year, especially after we lost against Atlético de Madrid in the championship [a 3-1 league defeat last September]. We changed a few things, we helped the two central defenders more, trying to move them across a little bit. That match represented all this work coming together, but the team played very well defensively all year – especially after we lost against Atlético, as I said.

"EVEN THOUGH WE WERE CONSIDERED FAVOURITES, WE PREPARED FOR THE FINAL AS WE WOULD FOR ANY MATCH"

To name another observer, Roberto Martínez spoke about 'the craziness of the Bernabéu' after your late semi-final comeback against Bayern. How important is the Bernabéu factor and how do you regard the emotional and psychological elements of your comebacks there in recent seasons?

It's very important. The first time it happened, they said it only happens once in a while. But it happens all the time with us, and I believe it is a mixture of magic, quality, team awareness, a great connection with the stadium and the fans. Yes, it's a bit of everything, it's not just one thing. But it happens quite often, and I think it will happen again because this magic, this connection exists and it's even stronger.

Celebrating with the trophy he has the most special connection with



Could you tell us about your memories of the final, including the decision you made to start Thibaut Courtois in goal for the first time in the whole European campaign?

We prepared well for the final, with total dedication and calm. Even though public opinion considered us to be favourites, we prepared as we would for any match – [with] an awareness of what we needed to do and an even greater awareness of the team we were to face, and the intensity Borussia Dortmund could play with. And then we had to select the players. The truth is we didn't know whether [Andriy] Lunin would play, because he'd had a virus the week before the final, and he wasn't fit to play. And Courtois had already been fully fit for a month since his injury.

Finally, after your team survived a few scares in the first half, you made a tactical adjustment at half-time, bringing Fede Valverde into a more central position. What was your thinking?

We started the game with a 4-4-2, but then we struggled a little bit – the central positions were vulnerable, and so we thought about closing the centre a little bit. Instead of playing with two central midfielders, we decided to play with three. I have to say this worked well. We were more balanced and we gave Borussia Dortmund fewer opportunities to counterattack. And I think that after 60 minutes of the game, we had full control of the match.



TACTICAL ANALYSIS

A detailed study of key matches on the road to Wembley highlighted the main trends and talking points from across the season



Bayern München forward Harry Kane on the ball against Manchester United

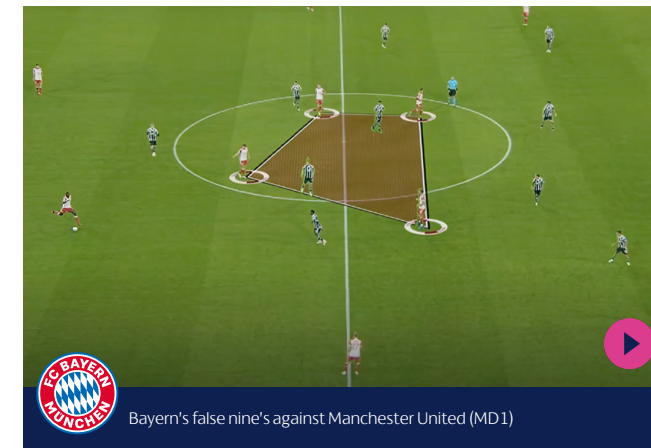
GROUP STAGE

The trend of coaches creating structures to gain a numerical advantage in attacking areas was evident in the 2023/24 group stage. For UEFA's technical observers, the ways in which Bayern München, Real Madrid and Borussia Dortmund set up were all worth highlighting as notable examples, and the observers also shone a light on the challenge that centre-backs increasingly face in defending space against mobile attacking units.

FLUID BAYERN'S FALSE NINES

Bayern began the group stage with a bang – a 4-3 home win over Manchester United in which their attacking set-up caught the eye of UEFA's observers with Harry Kane and Jamal Musiala both operating as No10s.

The image here, viewable in a clip in the online report, shows how Kane would drop deep and help the flow of play to the wingers, Leroy Sané and Serge Gnabry, who between them accounted for more than half of Bayern's progressions in the attacking third (27% each).



Bayern's false nine's against Manchester United (MD1)



Jamal Musiala's positional play and individual brilliance



Jamal Musiala breaks through the lines



Kane and Musiala operate as No10s

Musiala did likewise, and both in this match and in the return fixture he also showed the ability to pick the ball up in deep areas and carry it forward. To quote Kane, by exploiting his speed and agility, Musiala "drives with the ball and plays a good final ball". Bayern coach Thomas Tuchel's wish to utilise these strengths was underlined at one point in the sides' meeting in Manchester when he was seen instructing Musiala to fall back and collect the ball from his centre-back.

From Manchester United's point of view, the fact Bayern's central attackers were dropping back gave their centre-backs a dilemma over when to push up. "It was very clever, as playing with false nines created confusion and stretched United's central defenders," said Roberto Martínez.

Similarly, for Christian Eriksen and Casemiro, the holding midfielders responsible for protecting the space in front of the defenders in Munich, they had to decide whether to zonally mark Kane and Musiala or push up closer to Bruno Fernandes. When they got that decision wrong, Bayern – with Leon Goretzka and Joshua Kimmich forming a box with the two No10s – could create overloads.

On this aspect, Martínez reflected: "Generally there are more coaches working on trying to give a structure to their team to get numerical advantages to score goals." In Bayern's case, he added, they were particularly productive in this contest when one of their full-backs got into the final third to ensure an overload against the United back four.

"Jamal and I played more as No10s and we allowed the wingers to almost play one-v-one against the full-backs."

HARRY KANE | BAYERN FORWARD



BELLINGHAM TAKES CENTRE STAGE

Jude Bellingham scored in his first four appearances in the Champions League for Real Madrid and his role (and goal) in the 3-2 Group C win at Napoli on Matchday 2 caught the eye of observer Ole Gunnar Solskjær.

Bellingham's goal (right), viewable online, begins with the build-up. First, he makes a run towards the space behind Napoli's defence, stretching them. Eduardo Camavinga elects to pass backwards at this point rather than to Bellingham because he has stretched the defence. The Englishman is then able to drop back into clear space in the centre of the pitch. He looks forward, then back and can see he is perfectly placed to get the ball from Camavinga and drive forward – and duly shows the strength, speed and skill to evade five Napoli players before shooting low and hard into the corner.



Bellingham's positioning and spatial awareness

Napoli's players had begun that match with the instruction to get tight to the Madrid forwards when they dropped between the lines. However, the home defenders were wary of the pace of those forwards and they fell back, which gave Madrid space to exploit.

Another factor noted by the UEFA observer was the midfield fluidity of Carlo Ancelotti's side. As Solskjær remarked, their "rotations allowed them to manipulate the game scenario". As we see in the image below, within a narrow formation, Madrid had players interchanging in the middle section of the pitch and this allowed them to advance the ball centrally.

To underline the point, more than two-thirds (61%) of their passes into the final third came from their central midfielders. The fact that of those 28 passes Bellingham made 11 of them was a reflection of his all-around contribution.

Solskjær elaborated: "Madrid's midfielders – Toni Kroos, Fede Valverde, Bellingham and Aurélien Tchouameni – rotated constantly, trying to shift Napoli's defensive block and receive the ball in effective areas. Camavinga, the left-back, got up there too, which meant they dominated."



Real Madrid's fluid rotations



Jude Bellingham is given little room to manoeuvre at Napoli

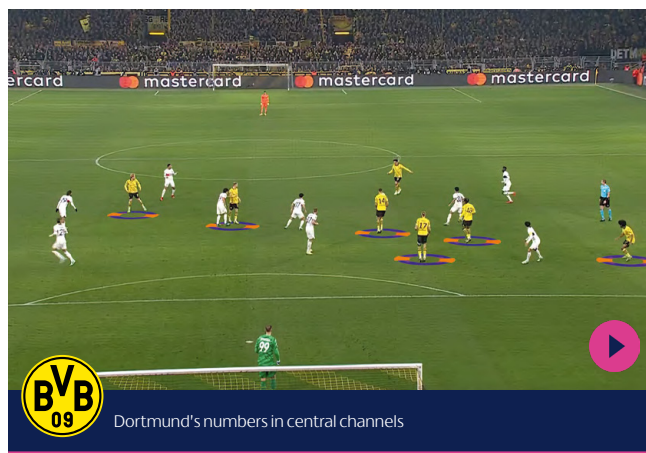


Marius Wolf has a shot for Borussia Dortmund against Paris

DORTMUND TRY RISKY ROUTE TO GOAL

That familiar question of risk v reward arose once more during the 1-1 draw between Group F rivals Borussia Dortmund and Paris Saint-Germain on Matchday 6. Dortmund took an expansive approach in possession, with the full-backs getting into high positions and the wingers moving inside as they accumulated seven players in the final third. The image below shows six Dortmund players concentrated in a central space ahead of the man on the ball and this overload enables the passing interchange that follows between Marius Wolf – a full-back – and Niclas Füllkrug before the former shoots wide.

According to Roberto Martínez, Dortmund employed a similar



Dortmund's numbers in central channels



Kylian Mbappé's central positioning creates opportunities for others

positions – the two centre-backs and a holding midfielder. To underline the risk element, when Kylian Mbappé dropped back away from the centre-backs, they were reluctant to follow, owing to concerns about his pace – and so he was free to pick up the ball and create opportunities for others.

On the challenge for centre-backs to defend the space behind as well as the opposition forward in front of them, Ole Gunnar Solskjær said: "With the false nine dropping in, the defender is being asked the question 'What am I going to do?' because you're afraid of that space behind you. More and more teams say, 'Go with him' and trust the defenders to deal with the one-against-one situation."

In the elite game today, there are fewer cases of defenders being able to just sit deep. As Martínez added: "Even with a tall and physically robust centre-half he needs to be able to go all the way and defend a one-v-one when the striker goes back to play."

strategy last season and following the summer departure of Jude Bellingham – and the energy he brought – coach Edin Terzić responded by adding another player to the attacking mix. "He has lost Bellingham and has added more legs around it," said Martínez. As a result of this, Dortmund had only three players in defensive

"Bellingham gets so many chances because of his energy and his willingness to make runs. He ran in behind, got the space, got Napoli to drop off and then he got the ball in between, with time to turn. And when he gets that body going, he is hard to stop as he is powerful."

OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJÆR





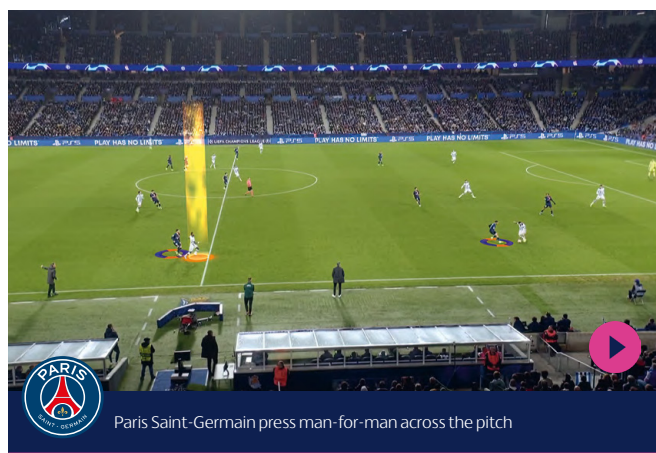
ROUND OF 16

Porto and Paris Saint-Germain impressed the UEFA technical observers with their work out of possession in their first knockout round ties.

REAL SOCIEDAD v PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN

PARIS PUSH HIGH

In their 2-1 away victory at Real Sociedad, Paris Saint-Germain provided an excellent example of a team working to good effect higher up the pitch without the ball. They pressed high and went man-to-man right across the pitch. As the image below shows, each time a home player received a pass, he had an opponent poised to put him under pressure.



The second image (above) presents the compact shape of Luis Enrique's side, who were able to switch swiftly from a low to a high block; as this sequence unfolded, right-back Achraf Hakimi stepped high up the field to press Javi Galán, La Real's left-back, and Vitinha's subsequent interception yielded an opportunity for Kylian Mbappé. "We pressed them very well," said Enrique and, to underline the point, the opening goal that night came after the Ligue 1 team shut off goalkeeper Álex Remiro's options to play short, with the ensuing turnover bringing Mbappé's opening goal.

Robin Le Normand is watched closely by Achraf Hakimi



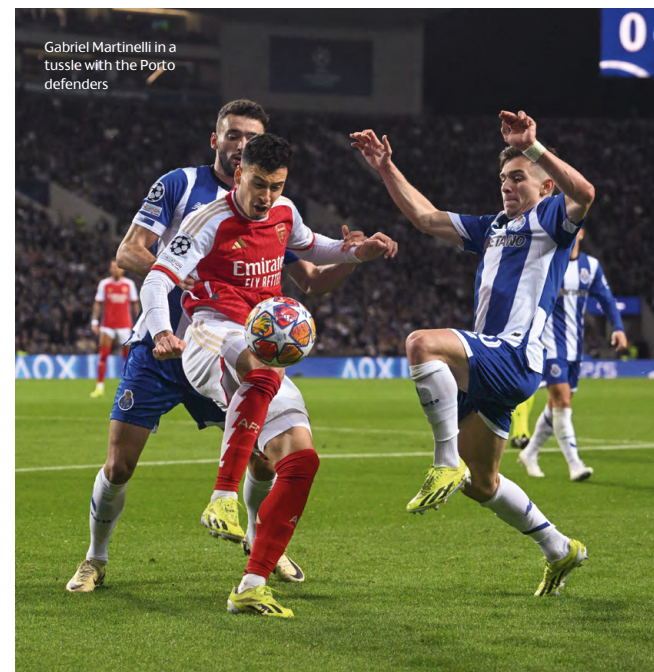
PORTO v ARSENAL

ARSENAL STIFLED BY COMPACT PORTO

One of the most impressive defensive displays of this round came from Porto in their 1-0 first-leg win over Arsenal. Mikel Arteta's team had scored 11 goals in their previous two away games in the Premier League but they did not manage a single shot on goal at the Estádio do Dragão against a home side who worked with admirable discipline and determination, much of the time in a mid-to-low block, to deny them space.

According to UEFA match observer Roberto Martínez, Porto "showed excellent intensity and body positioning, blocking any balls inside and keeping good distances". Arguably nothing illustrated this better than the way that the Porto wingers worked with their midfielders to hinder Arsenal's attacking players.

The first image (below) shows them protecting the space centrally, pushing Arsenal backwards. From a tactical perspective, the key point here is how, in a 4-1-4-1 defensive shape, each winger worked together with the midfielder behind him to protect the pockets of space. On the right, Pepê and Francisco Conceição operated in tandem, with Nico González and Galeno doing the same on the left.



In the second example (below), Arsenal attempted to progress the ball up the field, with Porto protecting the central areas once more. Galeno, the eventual match winner, and Pepê are highlighted here for their defensive work in a sequence which ended with Martin Ødegaard attempting a long crossfield pass – a response to the challenge of finding space centrally.

As Porto coach Sérgio Conceição said: "We were very good on a tactical level. The players understood the game plan. Their wingers [Gabriel] Martinelli and [Bukayo] Saka are very fast and Ødegaard and [Kai] Havertz inside are very tough to block. We did very well, we controlled them going deep and also the [attempts to] play inside."

Just to underline how they frustrated their visitors, between the 53rd minute and added time, Arsenal did not manage a single shot. "In the second half, the biggest impact on the game was from Porto's defensive structure and organisation rather than Arsenal's play on the ball," added Martínez.





Denzel Dumfries tries to shake off Atlético's defenders

INTERNAZIONALE v ATLÉTICO DE MADRID

INTER'S ATTACKING VARIATIONS

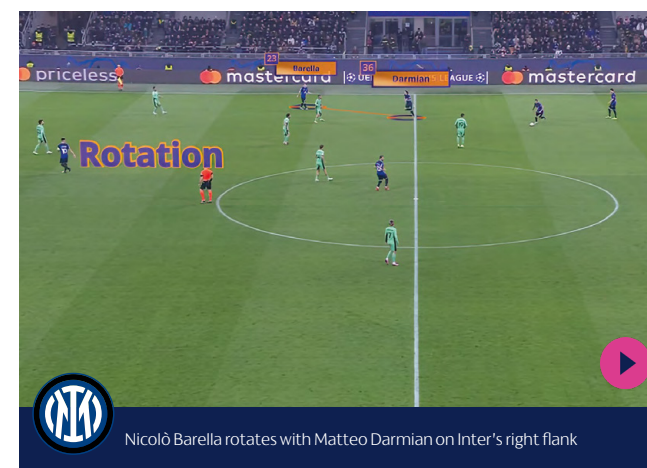
Inter are a team who look to invite the opposition to press them high before then exploiting the space behind. As such, the passing of both their goalkeeper and their centre-backs was a feature of their run to the final in 2022/23 and their build-up play drew the attention of UEFA's observers and analysts once more in 2023/24, even if their run ended with a shoot-out defeat by Atlético in the last 16.

Inter played longer passes – with purpose – and this sequence from their 1-0 first-leg win at San Siro offers an example of the way they sought to work the ball around the back, drawing opposition players onto them before then getting it into space behind the line of the press.



Inter invite pressure to open up space behind

Another feature of Inter's build-up play in the first leg was the way their players rotated to progress the ball in the wide areas and create crossing opportunities. Inter's centre-backs and midfielders looked to step out wide as the wing-backs came inside. In the first example, it is Matteo Darmian – the right wing-back – who moves into an advanced position upfield, with midfielder Nicolò Barella going wide. Thanks to Darmian's run, Inter now had an extra body up there, with three men occupying the trio of Atlético centre-backs. It also meant a dilemma for the visitors' left wing-back, Samuel Lino: did he mark Darmian or shut down Barella?



Nicolò Barella rotates with Matteo Darmian on Inter's right flank

UEFA observer Aitor Karanka noted that centre-backs Benjamin Pavard and Alessandro Bastoni also got high and wide. This second example shows how Pavard gains room for a cross thanks to wing-back Denzel Dumfries moving inside and drawing Lino to him.



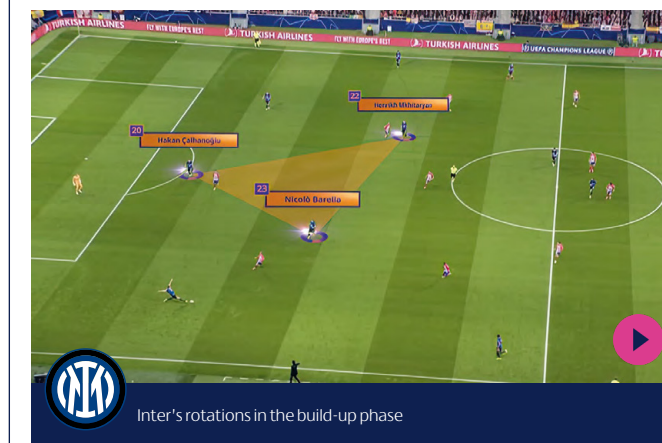
Benjamin Pavard pushes high and wide as Denzel Dumfries moves inside

As a reflection of the attacking role played by Inter's wide centre-backs, Pavard was the player who produced the most line-breaking passes into the final third for the Italian champions-to-be in this round of 16 tie, with nine. Moreover, across their campaign, only midfielder Hakan Çalhanoğlu (17) delivered more line-breaking passes into the attacking third than Pavard (11) and his fellow centre-back Bastoni (14).

ROTATING IN THEIR OWN HALF

Inter's players also rotated well in order to keep the ball in their own half of the pitch, as was evident during the second leg in Madrid. UEFA's analysis unit pinpointed several examples of their ability to switch positions and escape pressure with composed passing, as we see below.

In the image, midfielder Çalhanoğlu is the deepest outfield player for Inter. There were moments in the play when he would join the three centre-backs in a back four – with right wing-back Dumfries taking up a position high on the right flank. At other times, Barella would drop deep, taking the place of a centre-back. And with the Inter midfield trio rotating, one could create space for the others; for instance, Henrikh Mkhitaryan, in the sequence we have highlighted, drew Atlético players towards the halfway line to help Çalhanoğlu find space further back.



Inter's rotations in the build-up phase

QUARTER-FINALS

The build-up play of Borussia Dortmund and Manchester City in their last-eight ties warranted closer inspection.

ATLÉTICO DE MADRID v BORUSSIA DORTMUND

DORTMUND'S CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

This quarter-final provided an illuminating case study of the difficulties posed when building in a narrow shape against a 1-5-3-2 – and of the positive impact of good in-game management. Borussia Dortmund, building from the back in a 1-3-2-2-3, had initially struggled, with Atlético de Madrid able to get into strong positions to press due to the short distances to the Dortmund players.

For the 27 minutes of the first leg in Madrid, they sought to play out with a narrow 3+2 shape, which featured Mats Hummels, Emre Can and Nico Schlotterbeck, with left-back Ian Maatsen joining Marcel Sabitzer ahead of them. Atlético were able to press them high up the pitch and gained a reward with Rodrigo De Paul's opening goal in an eventual 2-1 home victory.

Ole Gunnar Solskjær, the UEFA technical observer, explained: "The 3-2-2-3 build-up suited Atlético as Antoine Griezmann and Álvaro Morata could screen Dortmund's double pivot and were within close enough distance to press their back three. Furthermore, Marcos Llorente, Koke and De Paul were constantly in the right position to jump in a press on Maatsen and Sabitzer due to the short distances described above. It was a textbook example of how a 5-3-2 high press could nullify and disrupt a 3-2-2-3 build-up."

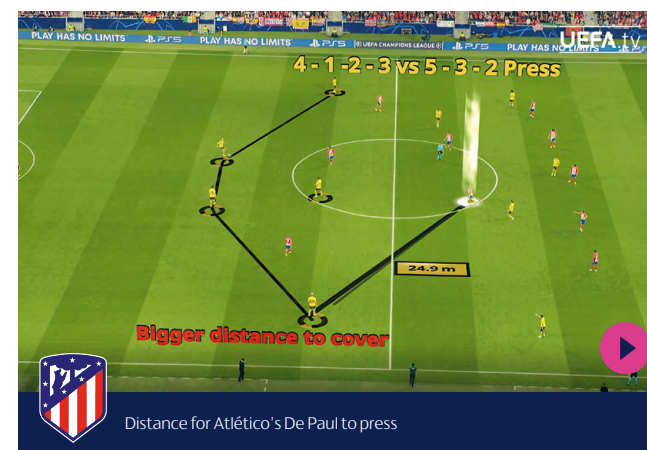
UEFA's official tracking data showed that Dortmund's average attacking width during the first 27 minutes was 37.8m, with short distances between the back three and double pivot. In that period,



Atlético produced 18 recoveries and turnovers and the fact that the majority took place in the centre of the pitch highlighted the pressure exerted on Maatsen and Sabitzer.

However, when Schlotterbeck went down with an injury in the 27th minute, Dortmund coach Edin Terzić amended their approach, signalling that he wanted his team to switch to a back four, with Maatsen back in his conventional position in the left-back area, and Can just ahead of them. Thereafter it became less easy for Atlético to press. To illustrate the point, the first screenshot on P27 shows that Atlético midfielder De Paul now had a 24.9m gap to cover in

order to press Dortmund right-back Julian Ryerson. Meanwhile, the Spanish side's wing-back Samuel Lino had to sprint 22m to apply pressure on the same player. Elaborating on the impact of Terzić's tactical tweak, Solskjær said: "It is hard for a 5-3-2 team to cover the full width of the pitch against a team building with a back four. You



now have to move across the full length of the pitch when pressing in a high press." Consequently, having recorded 18 recoveries in the opening 27 minutes, Atlético only managed six in the remainder of the half.

Dortmund retained the same 4+1 shape for the second leg, with their full-backs low alongside the centre-backs and the influential Can ahead of them. Once more, Atlético, in their 5-3-2 shape, found it difficult to press the German team at the top of the pitch. The screenshot below shows César Azpilicueta, the Atlético left wing-back, caught between whether to step up on Ryerson, the Dortmund right-back, or drop back towards Jadon Sancho, mindful as he was of the presence of the winger and the possibility of Hummels releasing him with a pass. "Azpilicueta had to think, 'Do I go and become the fourth man in a 4-4-2 or do I stay back in a 5-3-2?'" added Solskjær.



DORTMUND'S RUNS IN BEHIND

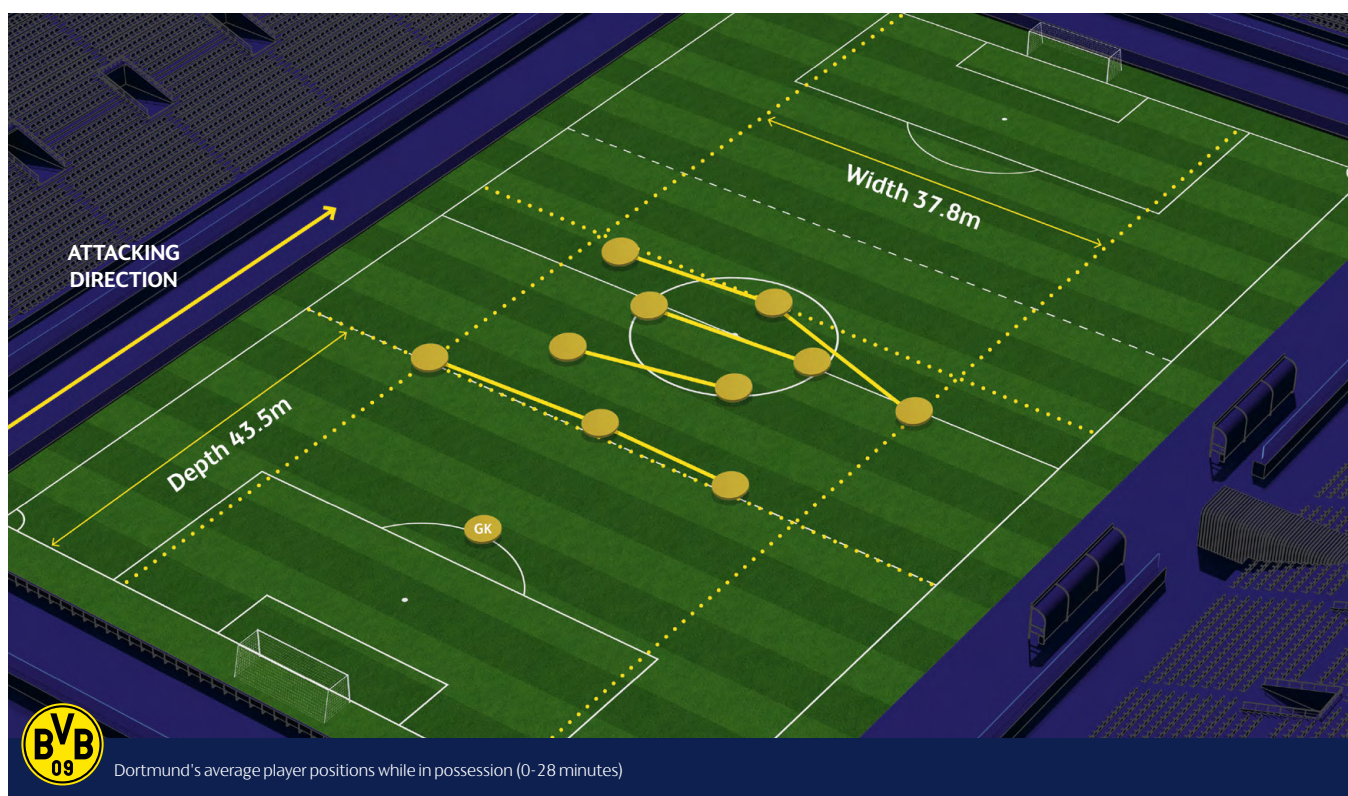
Another tactical detail worth noting from Dortmund's quarter-final comeback was the way they were able to pin back the opposition wing-backs, forcing them into a flat back five and finding spaces



to exploit on the outside of the Atlético midfield three. Their good movement between the centre-back and full-back was also crucial.

Indeed, for any coaches pondering how to penetrate a low five-man defence, the running of Julian Brandt and Sabitzer around and beyond target striker Niclas Füllkrug offered a valuable lesson. In the second leg, they overloaded the left side at times and looked for spaces between the centre-back and full-back – as seen for Dortmund's second goal with Sabitzer's run dragging Axel Witsel with him and thereby creating space for Maatsen to run into.

The second image shows Brandt's movement into that same area between centre-back and full-back, where he is the recipient of a magnificent pass by Can in the lead-up to Sabitzer's tie-winning strike.



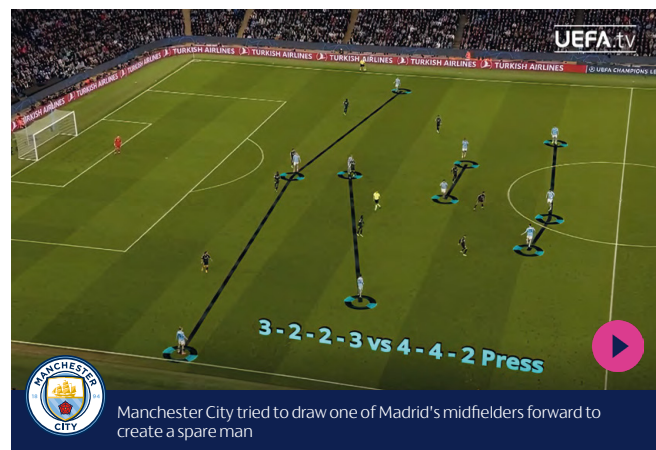


REAL MADRID V MANCHESTER CITY

CITY'S CONSTRUCTION STRATEGY

Manchester City's attempts to build the play against Real Madrid caught the attention of the UEFA performance analysis unit during the second leg of their closely contested tie with Real Madrid.

Home coach Pep Guardiola lined up his team in a 1-3-2-2-3 formation against Carlo Ancelotti's 1-4-4-2 (or 1-4-2-2-2), and City had a clear plan of drawing one of Madrid's strikers towards their back three, before releasing the ball to either Rodri or Manuel Akanji.



Further ahead, Bernardo Silva and Kevin De Bruyne operated as a line of two beyond the Madrid central midfield duo of Eduardo Camavinga and Toni Kroos, and when they pulled one of that pair out of position, either Rodri or Akanji could move up as a spare man attacking the final third behind the Spanish side's midfield line.

In their assessment, the UEFA performance analysis team said: "Akanji stepped into midfield and formed a double pivot with Rodri, pulling Vinícius Júnior and Jude Bellingham deeper. Meanwhile, De Bruyne and Bernardo Silva were constantly searching for space behind Kroos and Camavinga. On several occasions, Akanji moved higher up, becoming a spare man, which caused problems for Madrid."

MADRID'S COMPACT DEFENDING

In taking their tie against City to a penalty shoot-out – which they duly won – Madrid had their defensive capabilities tested to the full. City's approach forced them deeper as the second leg went on and the Spanish side ended the match with a possession share of 33%. With Akanji stepping into midfield alongside Rodri, they were able to pull Vinícius Júnior and Bellingham further back, yet whether in a mid or a low block, Madrid defended with great discipline.

This image (right) of Madrid in a low block shows all ten outfield players positioned close together within a strip of pitch just 30.1m wide by 11.1m.

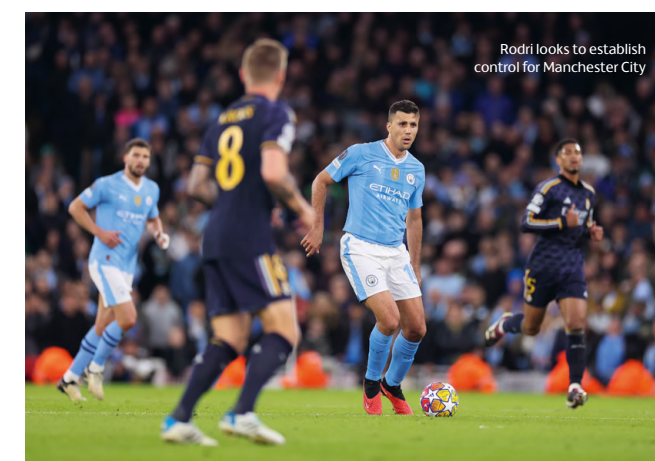


Andriy Lunin punches a corner under pressure from Manuel Akanji

They maintained this compact shape as they shifted across the pitch, showing excellent positional awareness as they forced City to play around them. "The angles of the wide players and covering of City's 8s was generally excellent," said the match observer, Gareth Southgate.

In the second half, Ancelotti's men dropped especially deep and packed their penalty box with bodies. "There were some moments of excellent low-block defending by Madrid when City were circulating the ball and they were able to apply pressure without committing fouls or allowing long-range shots," added Southgate.

As a measure of Madrid's defensive excellence, City had scored three goals in each of their previous nine matches in the competition yet managed just the one in this 1-1 second-leg draw, despite 33 shots, as their reign as champions came to an end.



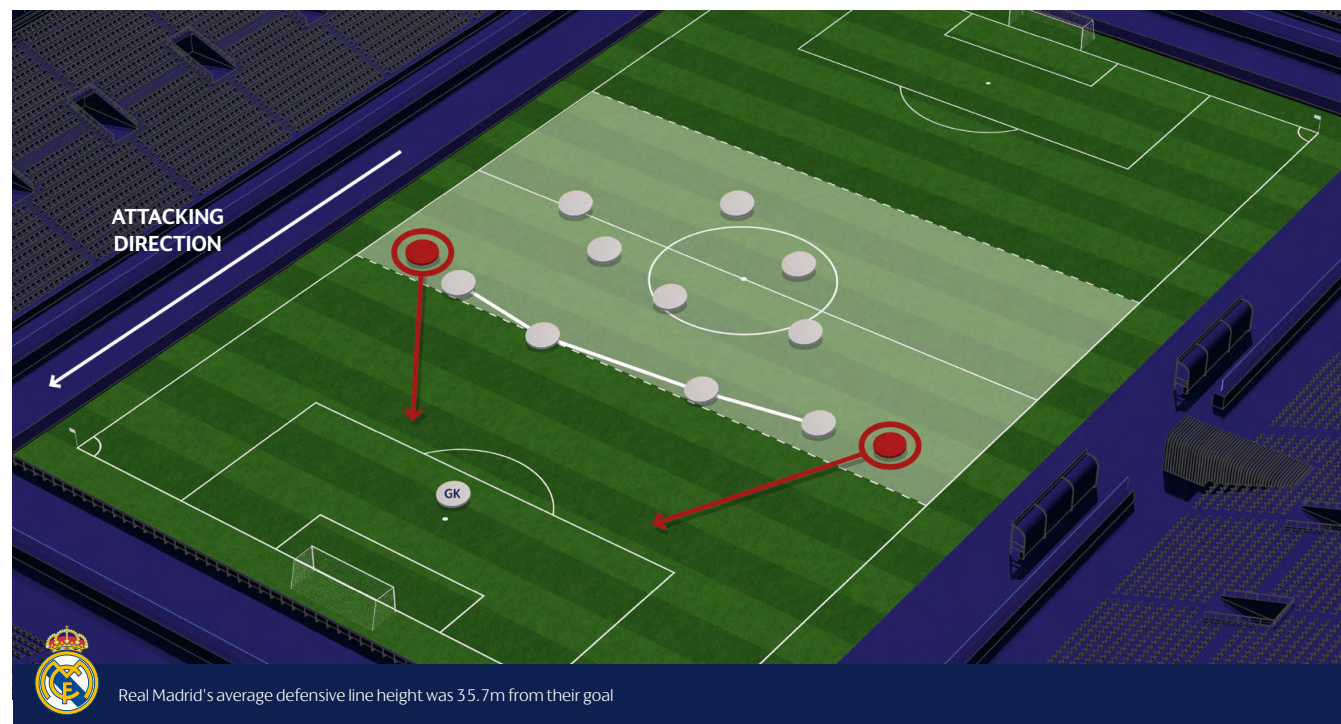
Rodri looks to establish control for Manchester City



SEMI-FINALS

Real Madrid's organisation in a mid-block and Borussia Dortmund's ability to assert control without the ball both earned attention from UEFA's analysts.

BAYERN MÜNCHEN V REAL MADRID



MADRID KEEP THINGS TIGHT

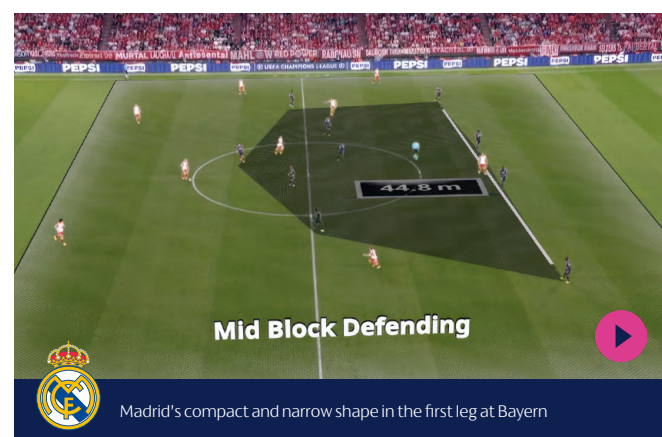
For all the excitement over Joselu's late goals in another triumph-of-belief Bernabéu comeback, it was Real Madrid's strategy out of possession in the first leg against Bayern which gave match observer Giovanni van Bronckhorst and UEFA's performance analysis unit cause for reflection.

If the preceding quarter-final section identified the value of their work in a low block, the focus here is their defending in a mid-block in the first leg in Munich. As the graphic above shows, in that 2-2 draw, they spent more than a third of their overall time out of possession (38%) defending in a mid-block.

As identified by UEFA's technical observers, this involved the marking of spaces rather than players, which is a trend in the Champions League generally. "When the ball moves, the team moves," said Van Bronckhorst, the former Feyenoord and Rangers coach, who added: "If you're in a mid-block you are defending the space, so normally you're very narrow and compact. It is very important to block the lines, especially to the midfield players who are moving in between the defence and midfield lines."

The image to the right illustrates how compact Madrid were in this mid-block, with only 21.8m between substitute Brahim Díaz, their highest-placed player, and Antonio Rüdiger at the back. Across their narrow back four, meanwhile, just 44m separated the full-backs.

Madrid looked to shift across zonally before squeezing up the pitch, with their ability to close the angles and force Bayern to play backwards. However, at this elite level, each club has players with



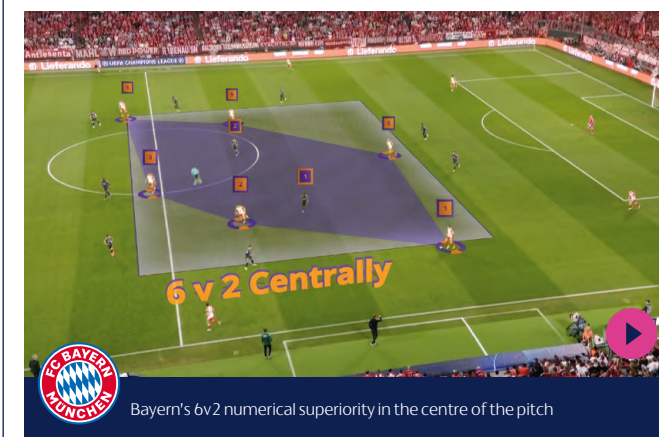
the individual quality to get between the lines and the biggest threat to a team defending in a mid-block is usually from opposition runners breaking into space behind. "Especially in the mid-block, you concentrate on the balls into the midfield and the long balls behind your defence," Van Bronckhorst underlined.

When the opposition do play the ball in behind, the key thing for your defenders is to be in a position to accelerate quickly in response, as Van Bronckhorst explained. "As a central defender, you always have to be aware that the ball can come behind you, so you must consider your body positioning. Are you able to run straight towards your own goal? Your body always needs to be at an angle. If your opponent has a run on goal from midfield, he will be at full speed. And if you have your back to goal, it can take a while to turn first and then accelerate,

and those split seconds can be vital. That's why you see defenders now standing on the half-turn so they can already sprint."

From an educational viewpoint, it is worth highlighting Madrid centre-back Rüdiger's position in the image below to see his sideways-on stance before he races back in pursuit of Harry Kane. Given that the average height of Madrid's defensive line was 35.7 metres – as illustrated by the graphic above – this readiness to hit the ground running was vital.

As a result, during the interval Tuchel asked his wingers to swap sides – Sané to the right, Musiala to the left as shown in the image at the bottom – and, crucially, to stick to the touchline. The left-footed Sané could even be seen on the pitch during half-time practising taking passes into feet and cutting in off the right wing. Within eight minutes he had levelled the scores before Musiala then won a penalty when attacking on the other side of the pitch, as Tuchel's intervention showed the value of a coach taking assertive action.



TUCHEL'S HALF-TIME TWEAK

With his team trailing 2-1 at half-time, Bayern coach Thomas Tuchel made a significant tactical switch during the first leg against Madrid. Bayern had begun with a narrow attacking shape with wingers Jamal Musiala and Leroy Sané coming inside to give their side a 6v2 numerical superiority in the centre of the pitch – as seen in the image on the right.

However, as Tuchel explained: "After 15 minutes, Real Madrid dropped very deep with their wing-backs and defended almost in a back six, so it was difficult to exploit the space behind the full-backs into the box."



PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN V BORUSSIA DORTMUND

DORTMUND AND HUMMELS
DEFENDING WITH AUTHORITY

Another defensive performance worth dwelling on came from Borussia Dortmund in their 1-0 second-leg success at Paris Saint-Germain. As match observer Ole Gunnar Solskjær said: "With that low to mid-block, they didn't allow Paris to play through them but only play wide and put crosses in."

The key point here is that Dortmund coach Edin Terzić recognised that the biggest potential danger to his team came from Paris's quick and tricky attackers getting into spaces in between the lines in central areas. As a result, the visitors ceded the wide areas to Paris, leaving their tall centre-backs Mats Hummels and Nico Schlotterbeck to deal with crosses – and between them, that pair won four of their five aerial duels.

Solskjær added: "With the size of Hummels and Schlotterbeck, you're happy defending crosses delivered from the widest man. They allowed PSG to put in crosses from the wide man, and Achraf Hakimi and Nuno Mendes each put a few crosses in from almost the touchline. In the second half, when the home side put crosses in from inside the box, that was more difficult." To emphasise the point, while Paris produced 33 crosses from open play, only four times did a home player connect with one.

As well as scoring the winning goal that night, the 35-year-old Hummels brought all his defensive know-how to bear, contributing ten clearances, three interceptions and two blocked shots – the most of any Dortmund player in each of those categories. "His positioning and reading of the game were faultless. It was about being well organised, protecting the box, winning headers, blocks and interceptions, and making sure Mbappé never had space to run into," said Solskjær and that know-how is highlighted in this sequence of images as Hummels stalls the progress of winger Bradley Barcola.

From an educational perspective, the lesson here is that it is not always necessary to make the tackle. Instead, Hummels employs the three Ds: delay, deny and dictate. In other words, you delay by slowing the speed of the attack; you deny the opposition the pass; and then you look to dictate the direction in which they move the ball. In the process, Hummels allows others to get back, and Dortmund have eight men in their defensive third by the time Warren Zaïre-Emery picks up the loose ball.



Dortmund centre-back Mats Hummels thwarts a Paris counterattack



"The positioning of Hummels was faultless and his reading of the game was too. He was always in control."

OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJÆR
ON MATS HUMMELS



Nico Schlotterbeck keeps tabs on Kylian Mbappé



GIOVANNI VAN BRONCKHORST
TECHNICAL OBSERVER



VAN BRONCKHORST ON THE MID-BLOCK

Technical observer Giovanni van Bronckhorst offers the following tips on setting up a team to defend in a mid-block

"The first thing you do is drill the movements, so if the ball moves, the team moves. And if you're working with units, maybe another group moves the ball and you concentrate as defenders on where you have to be when the ball is in certain areas. So if I'm a left-back and the ball is on our right side, I have to come in and make sure the distances between me and my centre-backs are not that big and, similarly, the distances with my midfield."

"For players, it is easier when it's clear what their tasks are. When a certain player from the opposition has the ball, your team need to know who is responsible for that player."

Another question to consider is when to press – and deciding on specific trigger moments, according to Van Bronckhorst.

"When is the moment we will start a full press? It might be a ball from the opposition central defender to the full-back, or a ball to the No6. It also depends on your opponents' strengths. If they have a six who is always playing balls through the lines, you don't want to give him space. But if it's a player who always plays from left to right, that is not so dangerous when he has the ball."



TEAM OF THE SEASON



THIS TEAM WAS SELECTED BY UEFA'S TECHNICAL OBSERVER PANEL BASED ON PERFORMANCES IN THE 2023/24 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE.

Finalists Real Madrid and Dortmund each supplied four players for the observers' selection with five clubs represented overall

The UEFA Technical Observers' Panel recognised the achievements of finalists Real Madrid and Borussia Dortmund by selecting four players from each club for the UEFA Champions League 2023/24 Team of the Season.

The Madrid quartet comprises full-back Dani Carvajal, both a defensive leader and important attacking outlet on the right, and centre-back Antonio Rüdiger who excelled against Erling Haaland in the quarter-finals and ended the season with more blocks (19) than any other player. Jude Bellingham's brilliant first season at the Santiago Bernabéu means a place for him further upfield together with the six-goal Vinicius Júnior.

From Dortmund, there are three members of a back line that earned six clean sheets: goalkeeper Gregor Kobel, centre-back Mats Hummels – so key to the semi-final triumph over Paris Saint-Germain when he won 15 of his 17 duels – and the forward-looking left-back Ian Maatsen. Marcel Sabitzer, joint-first for assists alongside Bellingham and Vinicius Júnior with five each, features in the midfield.

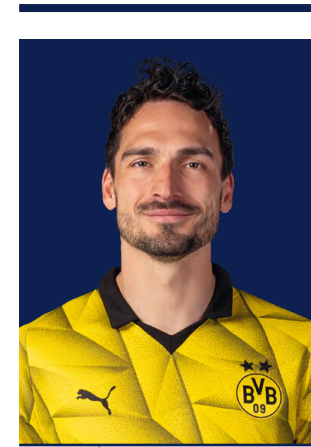
The other three players selected are Paris midfielder Vitinha, highly influential as Marco Verratti's replacement in the pivot role for Paris Saint-Germain; the season's joint-top scorer, Harry Kane, from Bayern München; and Phil Foden, who at 24, had his most productive campaign yet at Manchester City.



BVB
GREGOR KOBEL
GK DORTMUND

Made more saves (46) and kept more clean sheets than any other keeper.

82%
SAVE PERCENTAGE ACROSS HIS 12 APPEARANCES



BVB
MATS HUMMELS
DEF DORTMUND

Ranked first for tackles, clearances, interceptions and recoveries.

53
TACKLES – THE MOST IN THE COMPETITION



BVB
IAN MAATSEN
DEF DORTMUND

Looked to get on the ball and progress either from left-back or by moving inside.

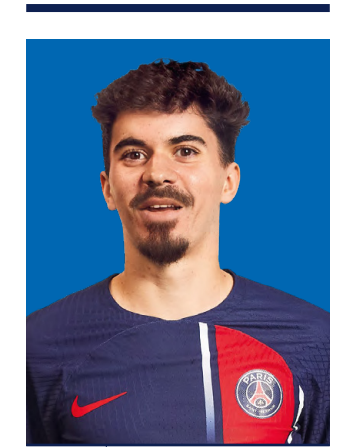
8
CROSSES BLOCKED, RANKED FIRST IN THE COMPETITION



BVB
MARCEL SABITZER
MID DORTMUND

The Austrian combined clever running in behind defences with an eye for a pass.

5
ASSISTS, RANKED JOINT-FIRST IN COMPETITION



PSG
VITINHA
MID PARIS

Showed excellent mobility, passing ability and intelligence in midfield pivot role.

73
BALL RECOVERIES, RANKED THIRD IN COMPETITION



REAL MADRID
DANI CARVAJAL
DEF REAL MADRID

Determined defending, positional awareness and six goals in all competitions.

2
HIS FINAL GOAL WAS HIS SECOND IN 89 UCL APPEARANCES



REAL MADRID
ANTONIO RUDIGER
DEF REAL MADRID

Steely defending of his box, with crucial blocks and interceptions.

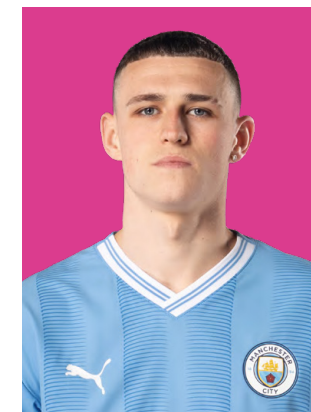
5
SHOTS BLOCKED IN SECOND LEG AT MANCHESTER CITY



REAL MADRID
JUDE BELLINGHAM
MID REAL MADRID

Prodigious maturity and attacking threat with late runs into box, regular goals and assists.

19
KEY PASSES, SECOND ONLY TO TONI KROOS IN MADRID SQUAD



MANCHESTER CITY
PHIL FODEN
FOR MAN CITY

Scored five times and shone with precision and close control in tight spaces.

248
PASSES IN ATTACKING THIRD, RANKED THIRD IN COMPETITION



FC BAYERN MÜNCHEN
HARRY KANE
FOR BAYERN MÜNCHEN

Added four assists to his goals and dropped off to supply balls from deep.

8
GOALS AND THROUGH BALLS, UNSURPASSED FOR EACH



REAL MADRID
VINICIUS JUNIOR
FOR REAL MADRID

Combined speed and dribbling with excellent movement and greater central threat.

85
TAKE-ONS (44% SUCCESS RATE), RANKED FIRST OVERALL



AWARD WINNERS

Vinícius Júnior was the observers' pick as Player of the Season after another title-winning campaign while Real Madrid team-mate Jude Bellingham took the Young Player prize

PLAYER OF THE SEASON VINÍCIUS JÚNIOR

The Brazilian scored in a second final as he continued his evolution into one of the world's most dangerous forwards

Two years ago, Vinícius Júnior – then aged 21 years 320 days – became Real Madrid's second-youngest scorer in a European Cup final with his winner against Liverpool. Fast forward to 1 June this year and with his close-range finish against Borussia Dortmund, the Brazilian – at 23 years 325 days – achieved a more striking milestone as

2023/24 CHAMPIONS LEAGUE STATS

APPEARANCES: 10
MINUTES PLAYED: 901
GOALS: 6
ASSISTS: 5
DRIBBLES: 80
TOP SPEED: 34.7KM/H

the youngest player to have scored in two Champions League finals, taking the record previously held by Lionel Messi.

Where his first final goal made him the Champions League's Young Player of the Season, this year's ensured he took the senior prize after a campaign in which he scored six goals and provided the assist for another five. There were highly significant goals too, beyond the one he lifted past Gregor Kobel at Wembley. Witness the decisive home strike against a tricky opponent in Leipzig in the last 16 second leg, and his double at Bayern München in the opening instalment of the semi-finals, including a late penalty equaliser.

After that latter match, Carlo Ancelotti applauded the progress made by a player who, since Karim Benzema's departure last summer, has operated more in central areas, such as when coming inside at home against Manchester City, rather than remaining in his previously habitual position on the left.

"There will be more goals the more he learns the art of playing down the middle," said Ancelotti. "He has learned to move well without the ball, and to attack a player behind. He has learned it well – good movement – and he keeps his cool in front of goal." That movement was illustrated by his first goal that night as he moved short to go long, drawing Bayern centre-back Minjae Kim upfield before spinning behind him to accelerate onto a Toni Kroos through ball.

As a result, Vinícius Júnior produced his most prolific season in a Real shirt, with 24 goals in all competitions – two more than in 2021/22. The data suggests his mix of speed and dribbling is troubling defenders more than ever. When he recorded a competition-best total of 84 take-ons in 2021/22, his success rate was 38%; this season, he produced 85 with a 44% success rate. Crucially, he is getting into the box more too. As he told Real Madrid TV in March: "I'm unstoppable, because when I'm not playing well as a winger, I go central and the opponents don't know how to defend against me." Bold words backed up by his actions on the field.

YOUNG PLAYER OF THE SEASON JUDE BELLINGHAM

The England midfielder added some crucial goals to his game in a spectacular first season in Madrid

How to sum up Jude Bellingham's whirlwind first year with Real Madrid? Perhaps with his own verdict after Madrid's final triumph against the club he had left the previous summer: "I can't have dreamed it much better than this."

The enormous potential of the now 20-year-old was no secret after three impressive seasons with Borussia Dortmund, the club he had joined from boyhood team Birmingham City. Yet when his most prolific campaign previously (2022/23) had yielded 14 goals, did anyone really foresee his instant flood of goals in Spain?

His 94th-minute winner on his first Champions League appearance against Union Berlin said that the young Englishman with the arms outstretched in celebration was ready to embrace it all. And how. He found the net in each of his first four games in both La Liga and the Champions League. By mid-February, he had reached the 20-goal mark. By the season's end he had 23 in all competitions. And not just any old goals. He hit a 92nd-minute winner in his first Clásico in Barcelona in October, having equalised earlier in the game. In the return fixture, he repeated the trick, scoring in the 91st

minute to secure a 3-2 victory and end what was, by his standards, a six-game 'drought' as he recovered sharpness after an injury.

Carlo Ancelotti warrants praise for unleashing him in a more attacking role than he had played in Germany, the youngster operating in a flexible front three alongside Vinícius Junior and Rodrygo. As Bellingham told UEFA: "When I have the freedom to come low, go high, run past the last line and get the ball to feet and create, I just feel so good and feel like I can involve myself in any element of the game and try and do my defensive work as well. The credit has to go to the coach for giving me that kind of licence."

In the group stage win at Napoli, match observer Ole Gunnar Solskjær noted his late runs from deep and ability to sniff out opportunities – and take them. That ability is inherited from his father Mark, a prolific scorer in amateur football who used to sport a Madrid shirt with 'Zidane 5' on the back at home. Young Jude now wears that number for real and with Zinedine Zidane watching, he ended his dream first year at his 'home' national stadium against his old club, laying off the ball for Vinícius Junior to clinch victory. It was his fifth assist of the campaign. No other player managed more.

2023/24 CHAMPIONS LEAGUE STATS

APPEARANCES: 11
MINUTES PLAYED: 993
GOALS: 4
ASSISTS: 5
PASSING ACCURACY: 90.5%
DISTANCE COVERED: 117.5KM



Vinícius Júnior embraces the trophy (main image); Jude Bellingham was directly involved in nine Champions League goals

GOALS OF THE SEASON

Federico Valverde's superb volley was the standout finish for the technical observers from another collection of stunning strikes



At the conclusion of Real Madrid's quarter-final against Manchester City, Federico Valverde reflected that he had simply been too tired to take a penalty in the second leg. Fortunately for this team, the Uruguayan had still had the strength in his legs to shoot in the 79th minute of the first leg eight days earlier. What followed was not just an important goal – securing his side a 3-3 draw – but one that UEFA's Technical Observers' Panel judged as the 2023/24 UEFA Champions League Goal of the Season.

It was a brilliantly controlled volley from the Madrid midfielder who, running onto the cross from Vinícius Júnior, positioned his body well to keep the shot down, sending the ball flying across City goalkeeper Stefan Ortega and inside the far post. Even Pep Guardiola, the opposition manager, doffed his cap: "When Vinícius crosses and Valverde volleys like that, what can you do except applaud?"

It was not the only volley among the top ten with Barcelona winger Raphinha's second-ranked strike against Paris Saint-Germain belonging in that category as well as Tetê's effort for Galatasaray against Copenhagen. By contrast, the only header was Niclas Füllkrug's third-placed effort for Borussia Dortmund against Atlético, the centre-forward soaring high at the near post following an excellent run and cross by Marcel Sabitzer.

Finally, fans of long-range shooting had two goals to admire – Phil Foden's top-corner drive from inside the D against Madrid and Braga winger Bruma's thunderous shot from even further back at Union Berlin, which was the solitary set-piece effort on the list.

Fede Valverde volleys in (main image);
Raphinha celebrates in Paris (top);
Niclas Füllkrug guides his header in



TOP 10 GOALS

- 1 FEDERICO VALVERDE**
 Real Madrid 3-3 Man City
 Quarter-final first leg, 09/04/2024
 His only European goal of 2023/24 showcases superb technique as he meets Vinícius Júnior's cross with a precise, angled volley.
- 2 RAPHINHA**
 Paris 2-3 Barcelona
 Quarter-final first leg, 10/04/2024
 Pedri lifts a gorgeous pass over the Paris back line and Raphinha caps a clever run with a wonderfully controlled volley.
- 3 NICLAS FÜLLKRUG**
 Dortmund 4-2 Atlético de Madrid
 Quarter-final second leg, 16/04/2024
 Marcel Sabitzer runs behind the defence and crosses to the near post where Füllkrug leaps above his marker to head into the far corner.
- 4 PHIL FODEN**
 Real Madrid 3-3 Man City
 Quarter-final first leg, 09/04/2024
 Foden takes one touch to get the ball out of his feet before finding the top corner with a sweet connection.
- 5 BRUMA**
 Union Berlin 2-3 Braga
 Matchday 2, 03/10/2023
 Zalazar aims a corner to Ricardo Horta, outside the box, and he lays it off for Bruma to unleash a shot from over 25 metres.
- 6 KYLIAN MBAPPÉ**
 Real Sociedad 1-2 Paris
 Round of 16 second leg, 05/03/2024
 Mbappé steps in from the byline, steals space from his marker by feigning to shoot, then lashes the ball inside the far post from a tight angle.
- 7 RODRYGO**
 Real Madrid 4-2 Napoli
 Matchday 5, 29/11/2023
 Fed by Brahim Díaz, the Brazilian cuts in from the left and finds the top corner from inside the penalty box.
- 8 JUDE BELLINGHAM**
 Napoli 2-3 Real Madrid
 Matchday 2, 03/10/2023
 Bellingham shows strength, speed and skill to evade five blue shirts before, without breaking his stride, shooting low into the corner.
- 9 TETÊ**
 Galatasaray 2-2 Copenhagen
 Matchday 1, 20/09/2023
 The substitute's late equaliser is a beautifully guided volley from just inside the box after he connects with Wilfried Zaha's cross.
- 10 ALPHONSO DAVIES**
 Real Madrid 2-1 Bayern
 Semi-final second leg, 08/05/2024
 Harry Kane's diagonal pass tees up Davies to run at Antonio Rüdiger and he cuts inside before an explosive top-corner finish.



Kevin De Bruyne fires in against Real Madrid

GOALSCORING

Champions Real Madrid were the comeback kings in a season which saw a notable increase in comeback victories and late winners

There were 375 goals in the 2023/24 Champions League campaign – a scoring rate of exactly three per game. The top-scoring teams were Manchester City and Real Madrid, who each managed 28 goals, albeit City, who played three fewer games, had the competition's best rate for minutes per goal, with one every 33.2 minutes.

COMEBACKS ON THE RISE

In 2023/24, the opening goal in a game appeared slightly less valuable a currency than previously, owing to a notable increase in comeback victories – 19 in all, which was significantly more than the 12 seen in 2022/23.

This meant that where 12 months earlier, teams scoring first had a 90% chance of at least avoiding defeat, that figure dropped to 84%. And where teams who scored first ended up victorious in 75% of matches in 2022/23, this time they won only 66% of the time.

The team with the most comebacks were Real Madrid, who came from behind to win four times – against Napoli (twice) and Union Berlin in the group stage and, most memorably, against Bayern in the semi-final second leg when substitute Joselu scored after 88 and 91 minutes to earn a 2-1 victory. Not since 2016/17 had a team produced more turnarounds – and that was Real Madrid too, with five.

Institutional memory is one possible factor, as Carlo Ancelotti noted when he mentioned the belief that never fades at a club where such late shows seem almost a fact of life. "It has happened again," he said. "[Thanks to] a crowd who push, a stadium that helps, a fantastic atmosphere and players who don't stop believing it can be."

COMEBACK WINS

Manchester United 2-3 Galatasaray, group stage
Copenhagen 1-2 Bayern, group stage
Copenhagen 4-3 Manchester United, group stage
Lens 2-1 Arsenal, group stage
Union Berlin 2-3 Braga, group stage
Napoli 2-3 Real Madrid, group stage
Real Madrid 4-2 Napoli, group stage
Union Berlin 2-3 Real Madrid, group stage
Atlético 3-2 Feyenoord, group stage
Celtic 1-2 Lazio, group stage
Milan 2-1 Paris Saint-Germain, group stage
Newcastle 1-2 Milan, group stage
Manchester City 3-2 Leipzig, group stage
Antwerp 2-3 Shakhtar, group stage
Antwerp 1-4 Porto, group stage
Barcelona 2-1 Porto, group stage
Atlético 2-1 Inter, round of 16, second leg
Barcelona 1-4 Paris Saint-Germain, quarter-final, second leg
Real Madrid 2-1 Bayern, semi-final, second leg

GOALLESS DRAWS

Bayern v Copenhagen, group stage
Real Sociedad v Salzburg, group stage
Inter v Real Sociedad, group stage
Milan v Newcastle, group stage
Dortmund v Milan, group stage

Match observer Roberto Martínez touched on the mental side too when he said: "From a technical and tactical and physical point of view, there is no rational reason why Real Madrid in the last few Champions Leagues have produced some incredible things in the last ten minutes at home. That is the craziness of the Bernabéu and it's incredible how the psychological aspect in football is so important." On such nights, he added, opposition players are taken far "out of their comfort zone" – and Real Madrid take advantage.

STRIKING LATE

Late winners were also on the rise in 2023/24, with 24 matches decided by goals scored in the last 15 minutes – a substantial increase on the ten seen in 2022/23.

The impact of substitutes warrants consideration here, as in 17 of the 24 matches it was a player who came off the bench who produced the winning strike. Take Manchester City, for example, who trailed Leipzig both home and away in the group stage but emerged victorious each time, thanks to goals by substitutes Julian Álvarez and Jérémy Doku.

This is an era when coaches can send on five substitutes and, as Rafael Benítez observed, these tend to be attacking players with



Elye Wahi celebrates his winner at home against Arsenal

TOP SCORERS

	8	Harry Kane	Bayern
	8	Kylian Mbappé	Paris
	6	Erling Haaland	Man. City
	6	Antoine Griezmann	Atlético
	6	Vinícius Júnior	Real Madrid

fresh legs – and clubs at the elite end, in particular, have forwards and wingers on the bench who "can make a difference".

The average number of substitutions per 90 minutes was 4.2 in the 2023/24 campaign and the coach who made the most changes per game was Simone Inzaghi at Inter (precisely five).

A particularly striking example of a coach making match-winning changes came from Xavi at Barcelona. In the 3-2 quarter-final first-leg victory at Paris Saint-Germain, Pedri – with his first and second touches of the ball – set up Raphinha to make it 2-2 within a minute of his introduction. Then another substitute, Andreas Christiansen, headed the winner two minutes after entering the action.

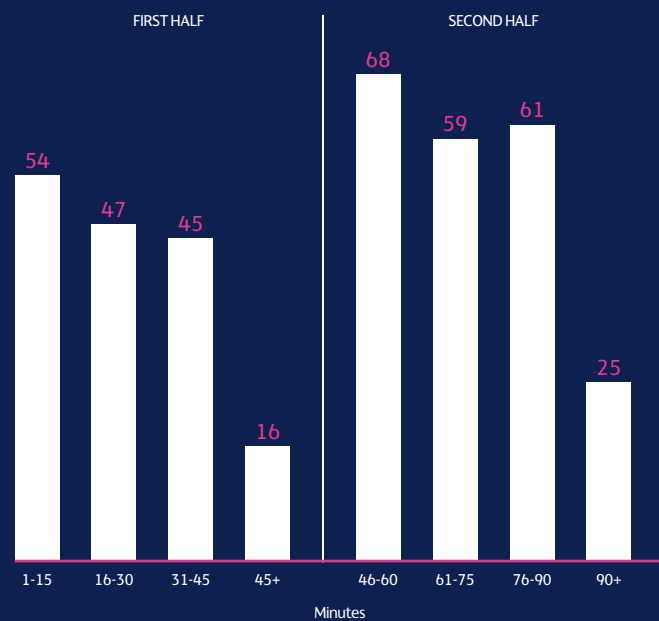
A breakdown of the goal times in the Champions League typically highlights that the closing stages are a productive period as games open up with defenders tiring and teams chasing goals. The 2023/24 campaign was no different, with a total of 86 goals scored between the 76th minute and the end of added time – 23% of the overall total of 375. Equally, it was no surprise that a higher portion of goals (57%) came in the second half of matches.

That said, it is interesting to note that the period from 1–15 minutes witnessed the most goals (47 of them) in the first half and similarly that there were more goals scored from 46–60 minutes (68) than between 76–90 minutes in the second half.

According to one experienced coach, we are seeing teams being sent out to start on the front foot, pressing high and playing with high energy, in a bid to get that often-crucial opening goal. He also wondered whether teams conceding early in the second period may be the result of their failure to refocus fully after the half-time break – especially if they had spent the first period defending a lot.

If the surfeit of goals early in each half went contrary to the norm of recent seasons, there was fresh evidence to heed the old warning about teams being at their most vulnerable after just scoring a goal. Among the 47 goals scored within five minutes of the previous one in a game, 29 of them (62%) were by the side that had just conceded – which also reflects in the rise in comeback victories.

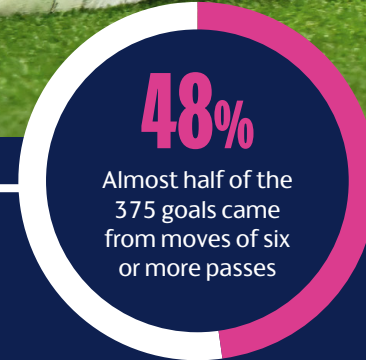
WHEN THE GOALS WERE SCORED



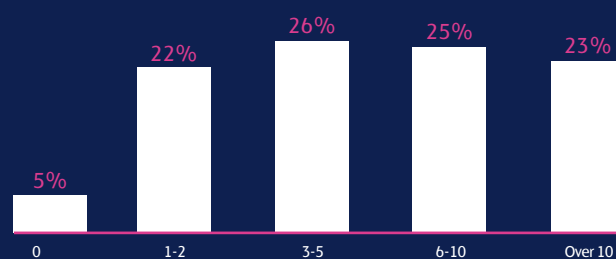
OPEN PLAY GOALS BY TYPE OF ATTACK



A delighted Vinicius Junior after scoring to put the final beyond doubt



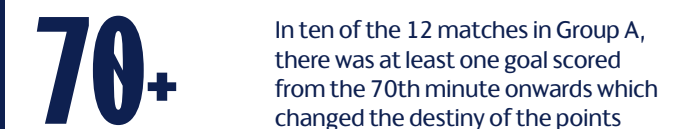
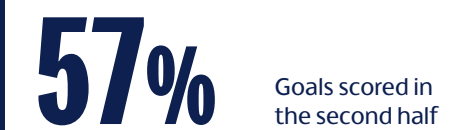
NUMBER OF PASSES PRIOR TO GOAL - OPEN PLAY



The chart (left) for the number of open-play passes prior to goals shows that teams used a variety of approaches. If roughly one fifth (22%) of goals were scored after just one or two passes, a similar amount (23%) followed moves involving ten or more passes. Teams using more passes are looking to create gaps or find spaces by moving the ball around and, with it, the opposition.

LATE WINNERS

- Man United 2-3 Galatasaray, group stage (Icardi 81)
- Bayern 2-1 Galatasaray, group stage (Kane 80, 86)
- Copenhagen 4-3 Man United, group stage (Lerager 83, Bardghji 87)
- Sevilla 2-3 PSV, group stage (Gudelj 81og, Pepi 90+2)
- Lens 2-1 Sevilla, group stage (Fulgini 90+6)
- Real Madrid 1-0 Union Berlin, group stage (Bellingham 90+4)
- Braga 1-2 Napoli, group stage (Niakaté 88og)
- Union Berlin 2-3 Braga, group stage (André Castro 90+4)
- Napoli 2-3 Real Madrid, group stage (Meret 78 og)
- Real Madrid 4-2 Napoli, group stage (Paz 84, Joselu 90+4)
- Union Berlin 2-3 Real Madrid, group stage (Ceballos 89)
- Salzburg 0-1 Inter, group stage (Martínez 85)
- Celtic 1-2 Lazio, group stage (Pedro Rodríguez 90+5)
- Lazio 2-0 Celtic, group stage (Immobile 82, 85)
- Celtic 2-1 Feyenoord, group stage (Lagerbielke 90+1)
- Newcastle 1-2 Milan, group stage (Chukwueze 84)
- Leipzig 1-3 Man City, group stage (Álvarez 84, Doku 90+2)
- Man City 3-2 Leipzig, group stage (Álvarez 87)
- Antwerp 3-2 Barcelona, group stage (Ilenikhena 90+2)
- Porto 1-0 Arsenal, round of 16, first leg (Galeno 90+4)
- Inter 1-0 Atlético, round of 16, first leg (Arnautović 79)
- Atlético 2-1 Inter, round of 16, second leg (Depay 87)
- Paris Saint-Germain 2-3 Barcelona, quarter-final, first leg (Christensen 77)
- Real Madrid 2-1 Bayern, semi-final, second leg (Joselu 88, 90+1)

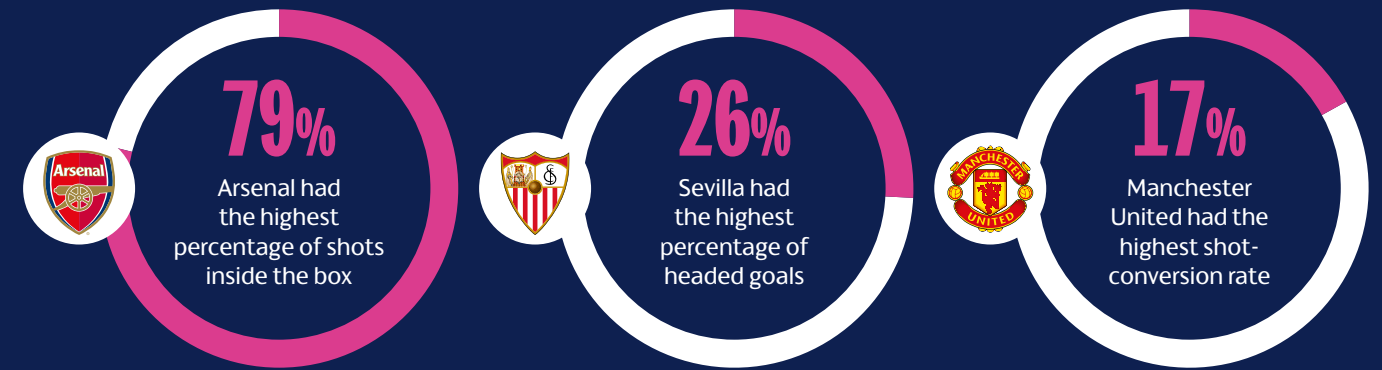




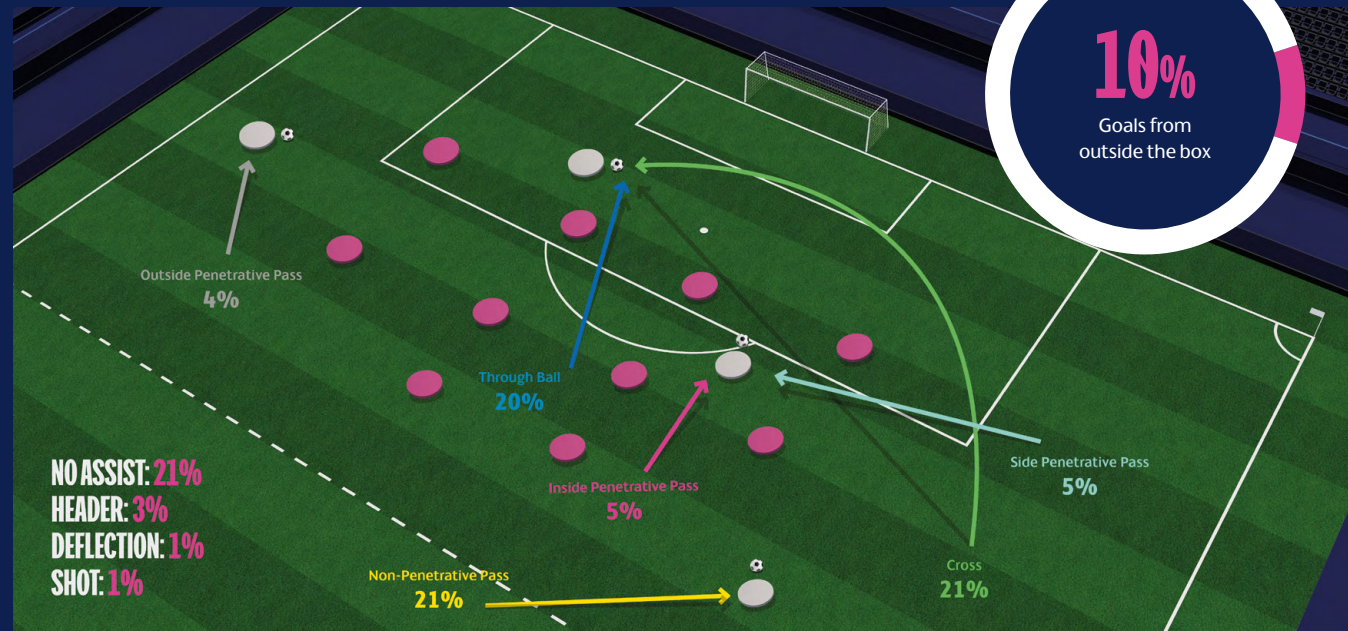
GETTING ASSISTANCE

A breakdown of the different goal assists reveals that three types were almost equally profitable: crosses and non-penetrative passes (21% each) and through balls (20%). Goals which required no assist – such as when the scorer collected a loose ball, won the ball from the opposition or collected a deflected pass – accounted for 21% too.

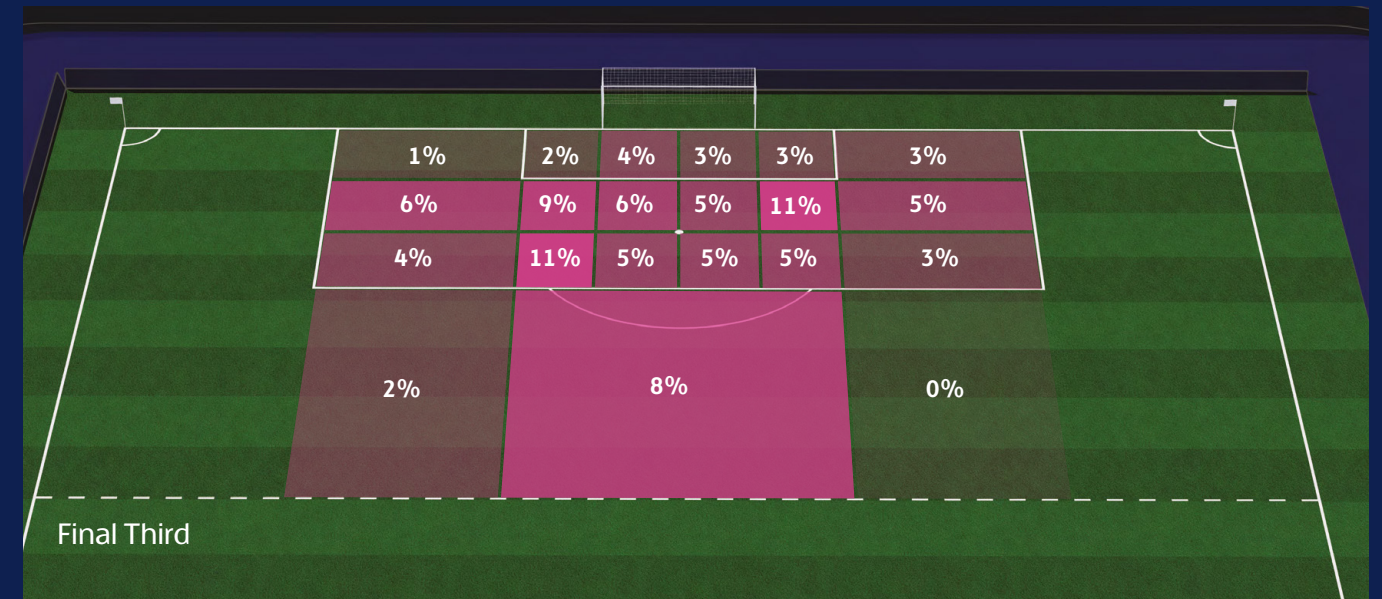
The high number of goals from through balls is worth noting. This can be linked to transitional moments when opposition teams are more open and their defence disrupted, though this category also includes passes that cut through a low block.



TYPE OF ASSIST - OPEN PLAY

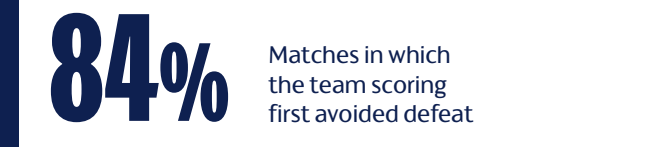
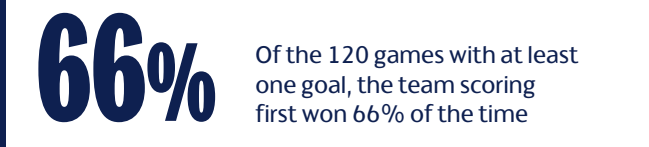


SHOT LOCATION - OPEN PLAY

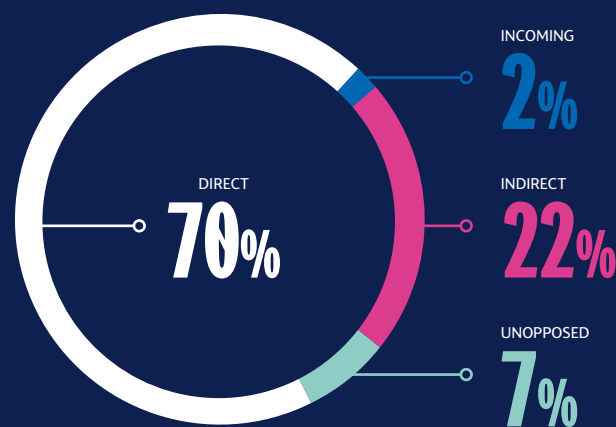


Time and space are at a premium in the Champions League, as this pie chart underlines. Indeed, only 7% of goals saw the scorer unopposed. Instead, 90% of the time the scorer had at least one opponent within five metres (the measure for indirect pressure). For 70% of the goals, the scorer faced direct pressure, meaning at least one defender was looking to apply a defensive action to thwart him.

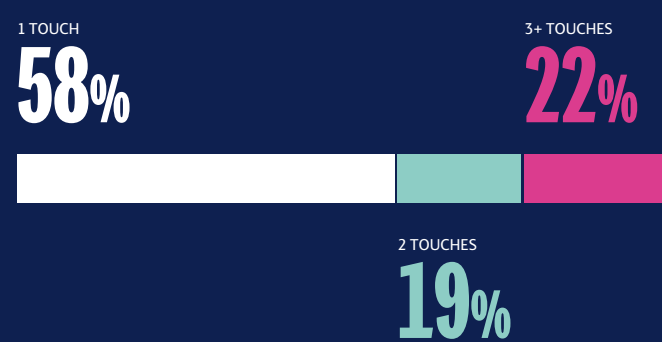
Given the lack of time and space for attackers in the Champions League, it is crucial that they are aware of the defenders around them and the need to take as few touches as possible – and the data highlights this, given that 58% of goals this season were from a one-touch finish.



PRESSURE ON SCORER



SHOT TOUCHES



BOX OF TRICKS

The shot-location map above indicates the popularity of cutbacks as a route to goal, showing a high number of goals coming from the horizontal channel between the penalty spot and five-metre box. To be even more specific, 31% of shots from inside that channel were hit within the width of the five-metre box.

Focusing on the two horizontal channels between the five-metre box and the edge of the penalty area, it is interesting to observe the higher percentage of goals coming from the sides of this central area of the penalty box, rather than the two vertical channels most central to the goal which are more likely to be blocked by defenders.

In terms of shots from outside the box, these accounted for 10% of all goals. Four clubs – Young Boys, Newcastle, Lazio and PSV – registered over 40% of their shots from outside the box but only managed one goal apiece from long range. In contrast, Manchester City were the side with most goals from outside the penalty area with six – and three of them came in the same game, their 3-3 draw at Real Madrid.



Manchester City's Joško Gvardiol hammers a shot from range into the net against Real Madrid



BUILD-UP

Playing out from the back was a continuing trend in the knockout stages with success to be had from sustained passing moves

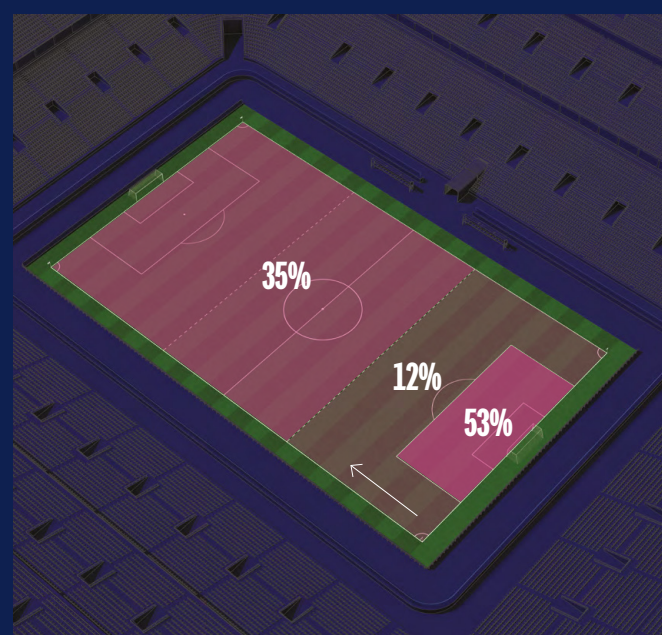
THE LONG AND THE SHORT OF IT

Every goal kick from the 2023/24 knockout stage, numbering more than 400, was put under the microscope by UEFA's performance analysts in a study of how teams are building play. It was noted that teams in the knockout stage set up predominantly to play short from goal kicks, with three quarters (76%) classed as such. Indeed, the most common goal-kick scenario featured the team spreading to play short and playing the first pass within their own defensive third (65%).

Success was measured in terms of progressing with the ball to the opposition half and the success rate from setting up short was virtually the same regardless of whether the pass went short (39%) or longer into the middle or final third (38%).

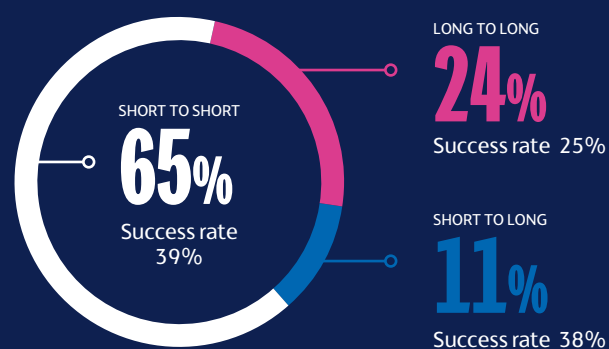
The two maps below show the location of first passes and their success rate. The first map shows that almost two thirds of the time (65%), the first pass from a goal kick was within the taker's defensive third. As for the varying success rates, playing the first pass 'short' proved to be more successful than going 'long', with goal kicks played beyond the penalty box but within the defensive third proving to be the most productive (53%).

FIRST PASS END LOCATION

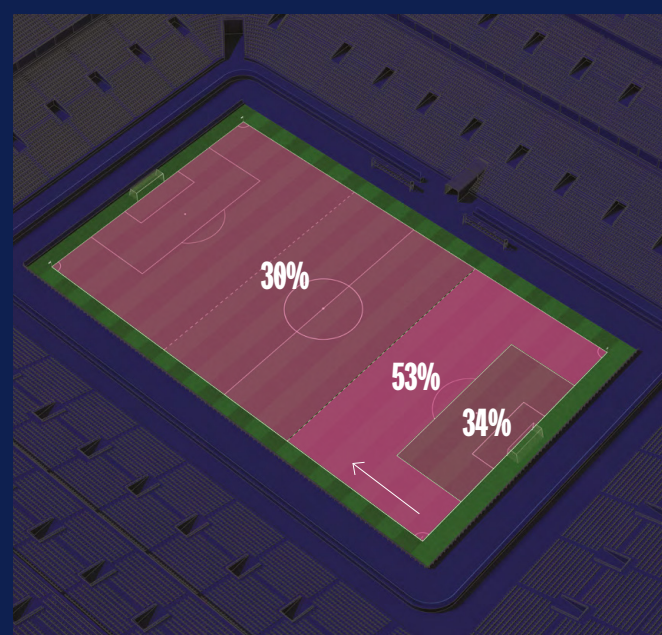


Building from deep carries an element of risk, yet there are rewards to be had for those teams who do get it right. This analysis of the knockout stage shows that passing moves from deep of between six and ten passes had a notably high success rate (67%) in terms of progressing the ball into the opposition half. That said, it is worth bearing in mind this includes those cases where the opposition dropped off and so enabled the team in possession to advance beyond halfway. To single out one team in particular, semi-finalists Bayern ended the knockout rounds with the highest number of ball progressions using a minimum of six passes, helped no doubt by the presence of players adept at delivering a line-breaking pass, like centre-back Dayot Upamecano and midfielder Joshua Kimmich.

PASS LENGTH SUCCESS RATE



SUCCESS RATE %



DEFINITIONS

Set up short: when a team is open/spread out and looking to offer short options near the ball

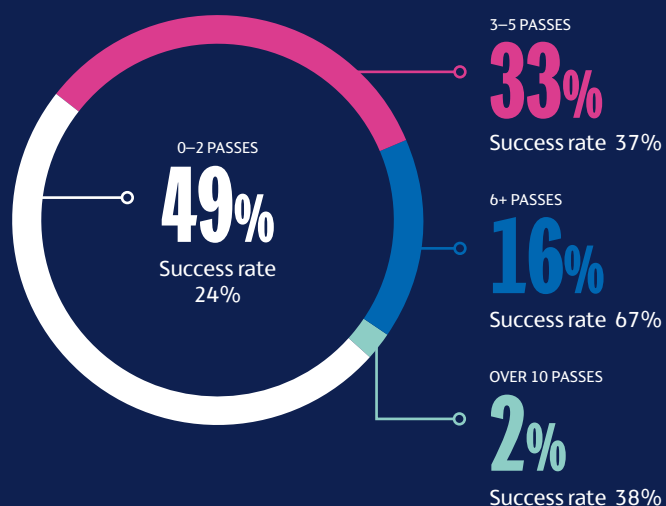
Set up long: when a team are pushing players higher up the pitch, towards the halfway line, with no outfield player in their defensive third

(Play) to long: when the first pass is played beyond the defensive third

(Play) to short: when the first pass is played within the defensive third

Example: short to long: this is when a team is offering short options, but the first pass goes longer, into the middle/final third

PASSES IN BUILD UP FROM THE BACK



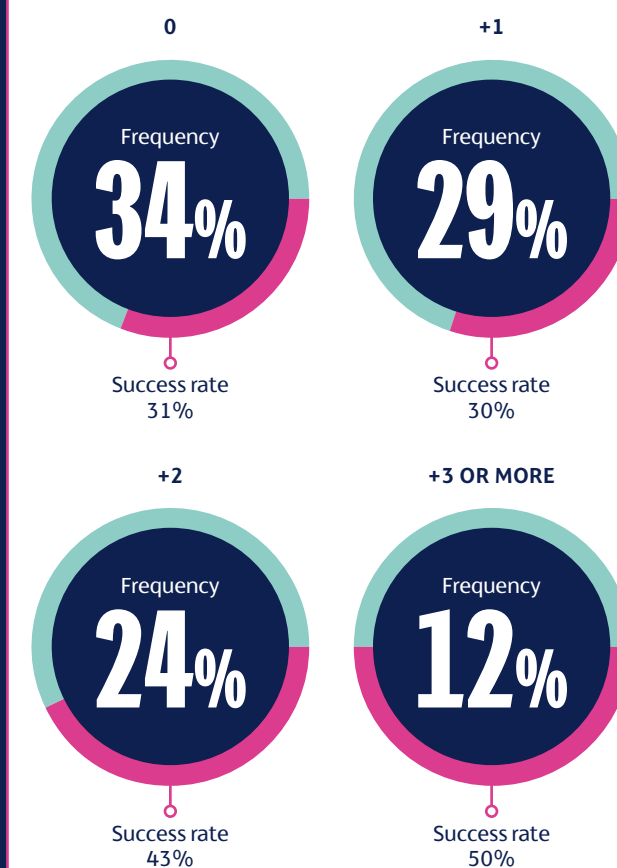
The table above also shows that virtually half (49%) of build-ups from the back comprised no more than two passes. Teams may have attempted to play more than two passes but were unsuccessful, as seen by the low success rate here for advancing the ball into opposition territory (24%).

The focus of the final chart (above right) is attacking balance in the defensive third. To explain this to the casual reader, it means looking at the number of outfield players in the defensive third for the team building up from the back and comparing it to the number of opposition players.

The data reflects the trend for player-to-player orientation – that is to say the most frequent scenario (34%) in the knockout rounds was for teams playing out to have an equal number of players as their opponents who were pressing them. Overall, there was scarcely any difference between the success rate of teams building without an extra man (31%) and those who had one more player in the defensive third than their opponents (30%). Not surprisingly, once teams began dropping more players into their defensive third – or the opposition dropped off – it became easier to progress the ball – as reflected by the rising success rate in cases of an attacking balance of +2 and +3 or more.

This image (right) provides an example of Paris Saint-Germain building up with a +1 advantage against Newcastle in their tie

ATTACKING BALANCE IN DEFENSIVE THIRD



at St James' Park. It shows the home side pressing high up the pitch, as they did particularly on goal kicks that night, yet with the advantage of an extra player, the visitors were able to find solutions. On other occasions, Paris Saint-Germain profited from good movement off the ball, creating support around the man on the ball to pass and move their way beyond the press.



33% Exactly one third of build-ups from goal kicks in the knockout stage involved between three and five passes and no team progressed the ball more this way than runners-up Dortmund



FINAL-THIRD ENTRIES

Pedri carries the ball forward as Fabian Ruiz tracks him

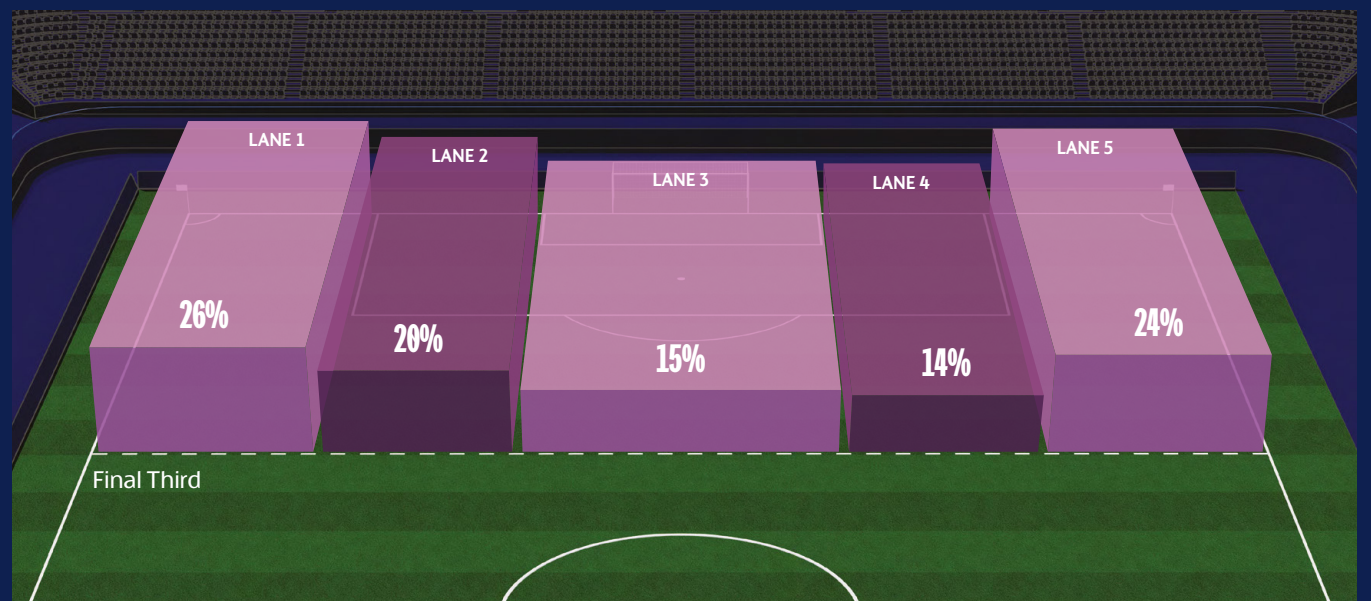
Final-third entries from wide positions proved effective for shots on goal, but champions Real Madrid were characterised by an equally potent central threat

In which areas of the pitch do elite teams enter the final third in attacks leading to a shot? This was another question posed by UEFA's performance analysis unit, which took as its sample the 13 matches from the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final of the 2023/24 competition.

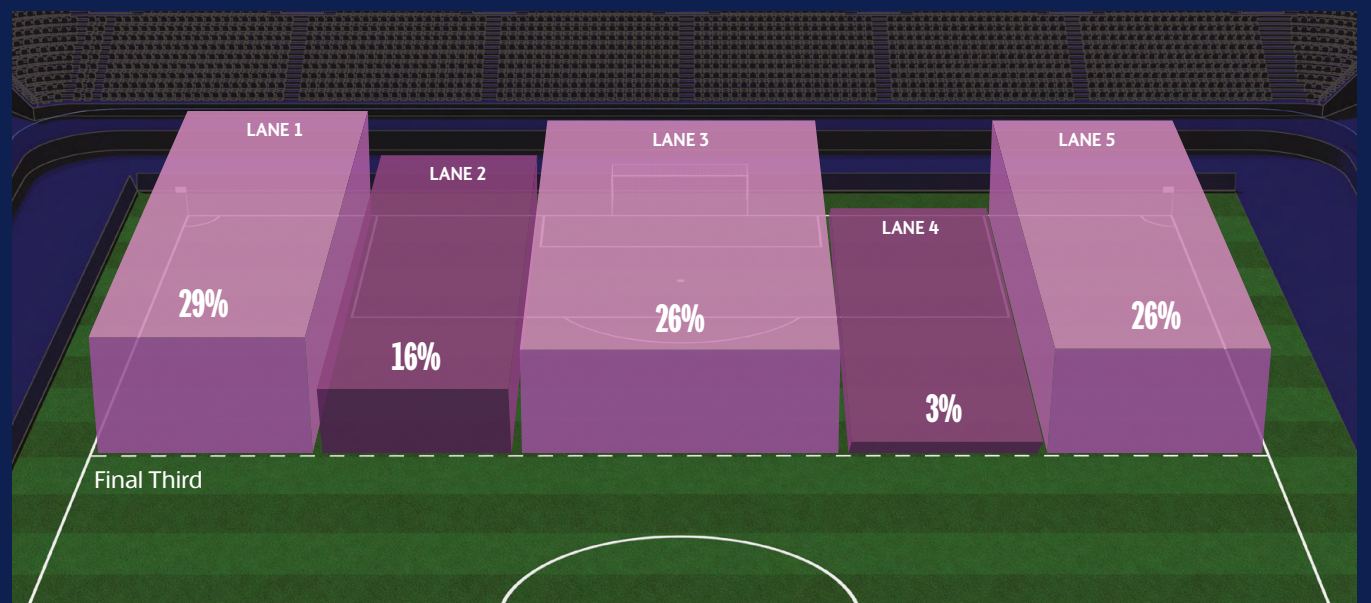
The data is made up of every possession in the final third which ended with an attempt on goal, blocked shots included. The top graphic on P49 shows that 50% of all shots came after players had entered the final third from the wide areas (lanes 1 and 5).

Regarding the category of the attacks from out wide, in lanes 1 and 5, the majority were from controlled possessions – that is, playing against a low block (a 50% share for lane 1 attacks and 44% for lane 5). The attacks that brought shots from the central swathe of the pitch (lane 3) featured more of a balance between organised possessions and pressing regains.

AVERAGE ENTRY LOCATION LEADING TO THE SHOT



REAL MADRID ENTRY LOCATION LEADING TO THE SHOT



The above map of Real Madrid's entry locations shows the variety of their attacking threat. Not only did they attack via wide areas – familiar hunting ground for Vinícius Júnior on the left and Rodrygo on the right – but through the centre too (26%). Indeed, while more attacks came from their left wing (29%) than anywhere else, with both Vinícius Júnior's threat from there and Jude Bellingham's deployment closer to that side, the fact the former was seen in a central role in 2023/24 helped give Madrid that threat centrally too – as seen, for example, when the Brazilian raced clear to score following Toni Kroos' brilliant through ball at Bayern in the semi-finals. That particular attack was categorised as a breakthrough (attacks in which the offensive team managed to break through the opposition block and create an opportunity before their rivals could reorganise defensively) and, overall, 32% of Real Madrid's attacks leading to shots came from that source, while 35% came from organised possessions.



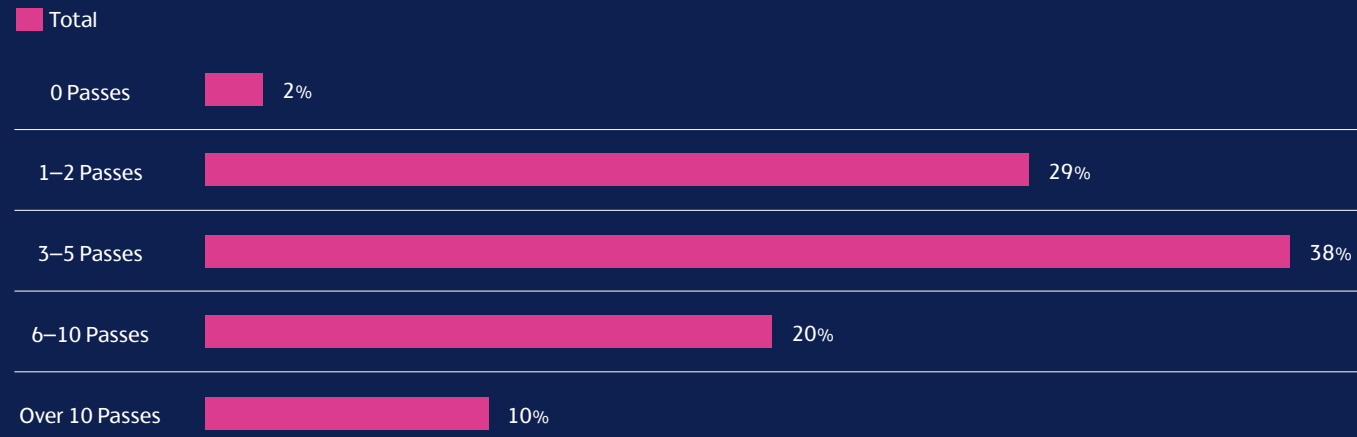
The focus now turns to the number of passes in those attacks which took teams into the final third and concluded with a shot. As is displayed in the chart below, almost two fifths (38%) of such moves contained between three and five passes. Within that number, 31% came from organised possessions against a low block, while 28% were from breakthroughs.

Bayern and Real Madrid had the most shots following moves of between three and five passes, though one of the outstanding examples came from Barcelona with Raphinha's second goal in their quarter-final win at Paris Saint-Germain. After João Cancelo's regain, the full-back played short to İlkay Gündoğan, who found Pedri, who, in turn, lifted a sublime ball over the home defence for Raphinha's volleyed finish.

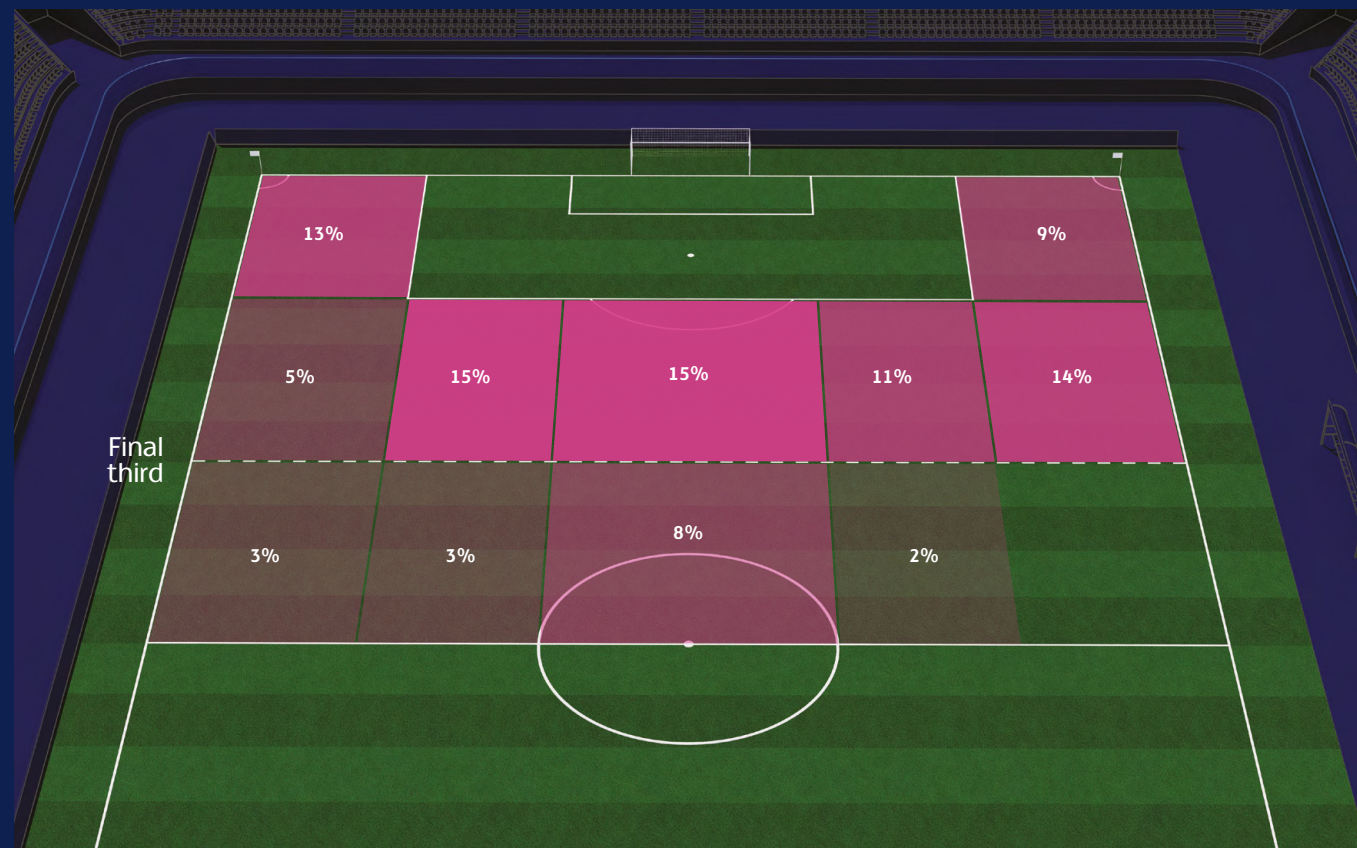


Pedri's pass breaks through Paris Saint-Germain's defensive shape before Raphinha's volleyed finish

NUMBER OF PASSES WHEN ENTERING FINAL THIRD LEADING TO SHOT



PASS LOCATION OF ATTEMPTS BREAKING INTO PENALTY BOX

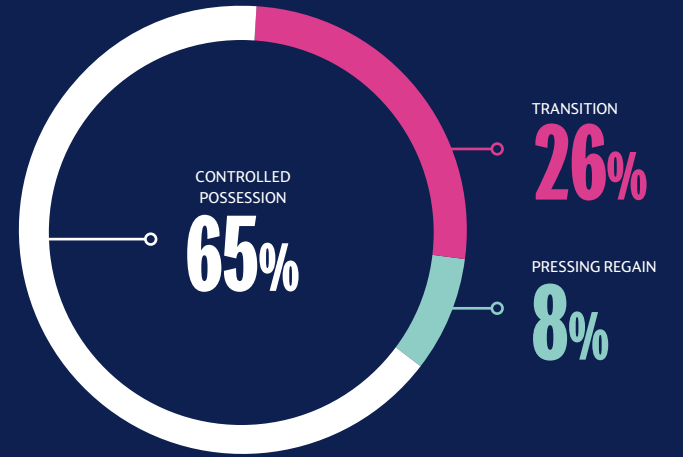


As a final point, regarding the second-most productive category – 1–2 passes (29%) – it is no surprise that the most prominent kind of attack here was the transition (44%).

Controlled possession (65%) was the most common type of attack leading to a shot in the final third, though transition moments were productive too as the source of just over one quarter (26%) of shots. Paris Saint-Germain were notable contributors to that latter category as the side with the most shots following counterattacks from their own half.

Finally, UEFA's performance analysts also considered how teams entered the penalty box, in open play, in moves which created a shooting opportunity. Individual actions (47%), which meant players breaking into the box by running with the ball or dribbling, had the lion's share followed by through balls (21%) and crosses (15%). And as the location map (bottom left) illustrates, almost half of entries into the box came from lanes 2, 3 and 4 in the final third.

ATTACK TYPE LEADING TO SHOT WHEN ENTERING FINAL THIRD (OPEN PLAY)



Dani Carvajal heads in the opening goal of the final



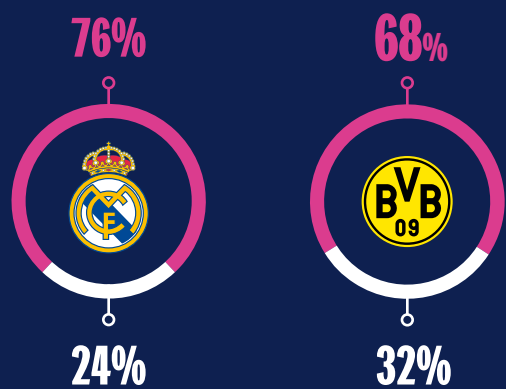
PRESSING IN THE FINAL

Borussia Dortmund and Real Madrid's pressing strategies at Wembley perfectly represented the shifts in momentum during the final

On a night when Madrid had more of the ball, registering a 57% share of possession, they also produced more pressing actions than BVB. From within a mid-block, the sides were even in terms of their pressing output – 11 for Madrid, 12 for Dortmund – but the difference was the Spanish team's more aggressive approach higher up the field, which ensured they ended the match with 35 pressing actions overall, ten more than their opponents.

NUMBER OF PRESSING ACTIONS BY SHAPE

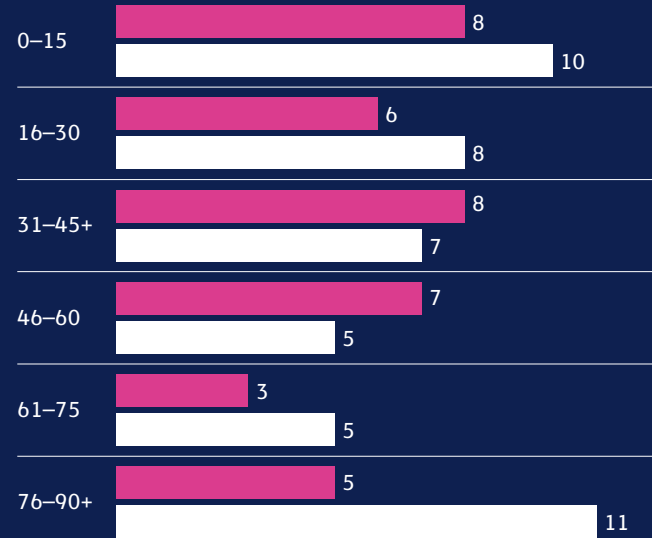
■ High block ■ Mid block



As the pie charts indicate, three-quarters of Madrid's pressing work was in a high block which can be seen as an attempt to disrupt Dortmund in their build-up – something the German side had done well in previous rounds (see P26).

NUMBER OF PRESSING ACTIONS BY TIME PERIOD

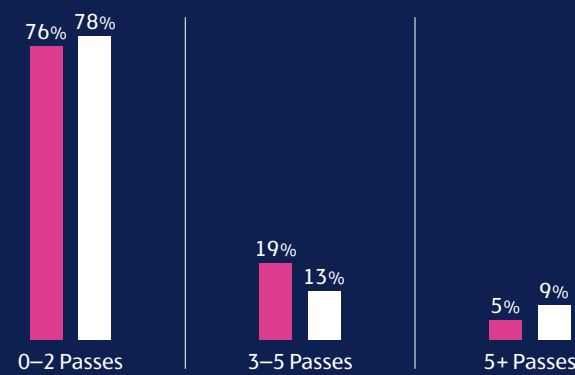
■ Borussia Dortmund ■ Real Madrid



This breakdown of pressing actions by 15-minute periods reflects the ebb and flow of a final in which Dortmund ended the first half stronger before Madrid took control from around the hour mark. Madrid, as the chart shows, pressed with marginally more intensity at the start of the game and then to a far greater degree in the last 15 minutes when a regain in the final third brought their second goal. "After 60 minutes of the game, we had full control," said Carlo Ancelotti and in that final half-hour Madrid produced twice as many pressures – 16 to eight by Dortmund. The second-half switch of Federico Valverde to a more central midfield position was a clear factor in this upsurge in intensity: after 22 pressures in the first period, when he played on the right, the Uruguayan made 44 when operating centrally after the break.

NUMBER OF PASSES PRIOR TO FIRST PRESS

■ Borussia Dortmund ■ Real Madrid



The key point from this breakdown of the number of passes prior to the first press is that both teams sought to apply pressure early – within a maximum of two passes – as often as possible. In Dortmund's case all but 5% of their pressing actions came within a maximum of five Madrid passes. As for Ancelotti's side, they were more selective: 9% of the time they allowed Dortmund to play more than five passes before initiating the press.

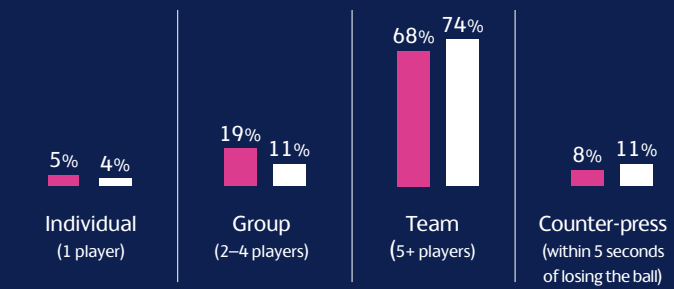


Real Madrid's Ferland Mendy is put under pressure

Pressing as a team was the predominant approach from each side at Wembley. In Madrid's case almost three-quarters (74%) of their pressing actions came this way – that is, with five or more players and/or in a high block. Counter-pressing was less significant albeit it was following a counter-press, with Karim Adeyemi dispossessing Eduardo Camavinga, that Dortmund nearly scored the opening goal when Niclas Füllkrug shot against the post.

TYPE OF PRESSURE

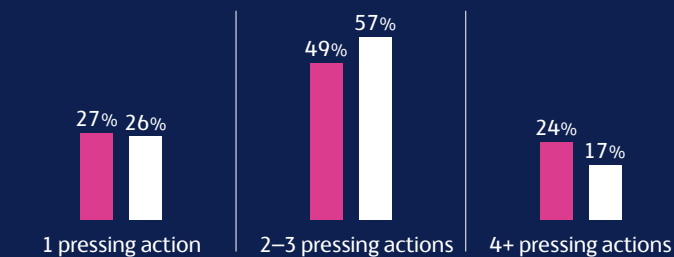
■ Borussia Dortmund ■ Real Madrid



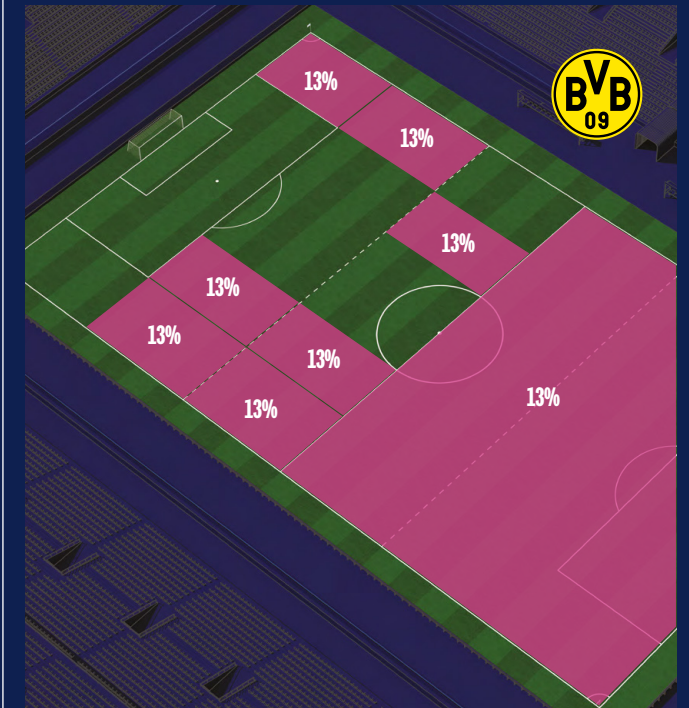
Another aspect considered by UEFA's performance analysts was the intensity of the teams' pressing work and this chart below shows that Dortmund produced more sustained spells of four or more pressing actions, constituting 24% of their overall output. From a Madrid perspective, they had players with the technical quality and composure to withstand such pressure, showing the ability to retain possession and not be forced into long passes.

INTENSITY OF THE PRESSURE

■ Borussia Dortmund ■ Real Madrid



REGAIN PRESS LOCATIONS



Finally, it is interesting to see the areas of the pitch where the two finalists' pressing efforts bore fruit with regains. For Madrid, as the map above displays, almost half of their regains (41%) came after BVB had crossed the halfway line. Dortmund, for their part, had more success regaining the ball in the wide areas.

Madrid's regains within their attacking third – in the central area (12%) and on the right (18%) – may be attributed partly to Rodrygo, who began the game more centrally and then switched to the right with Valverde's above-mentioned move inside. Rodrygo applied 93 individual pressures overall, more than any other player, with 50% of them high pressures.



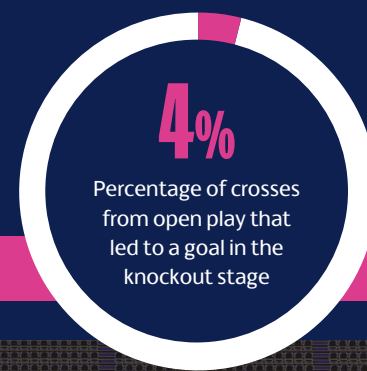
CROSSING

Cutbacks proved the most effective type of cross in the knockout stage, leading to a shot nearly 40% of the time



Raphaël Guerreiro of Bayern München whips in a cross

opportunity before their rivals could reorganise defensively. Meanwhile, transitions—that is, winning the ball in a transitional moment in the opposition half—were also productive, yielding shots 26% of the time. Semi-finalists Paris Saint-Germain had the most attempts from crosses following transitions, whereas Bayern—the other beaten semi-finalists—had the most shots from crosses from controlled possessions.

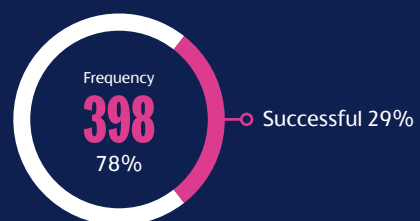


OPEN-PLAY CROSS LOCATIONS

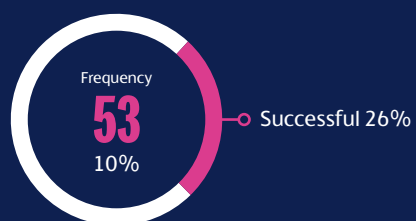


ATTACK TYPE LEADING TO CROSS

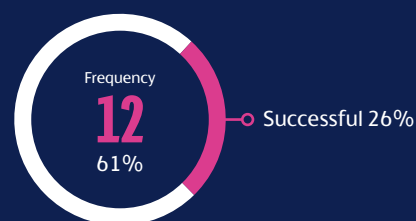
CONTROLLED POSSESSION



TRANSITION



PRESSING REGAIN



What is the value of a cross in the UEFA Champions League? This was a question asked by UEFA's performance analysis unit in a study of all 512 crosses delivered from open play during the knockout stage of the 2023/24 campaign. The analysis showed that there were 145 shots following crosses from open play, meaning one for every 3.5 crosses delivered. Overall, 4% of open-play crosses produced a goal.

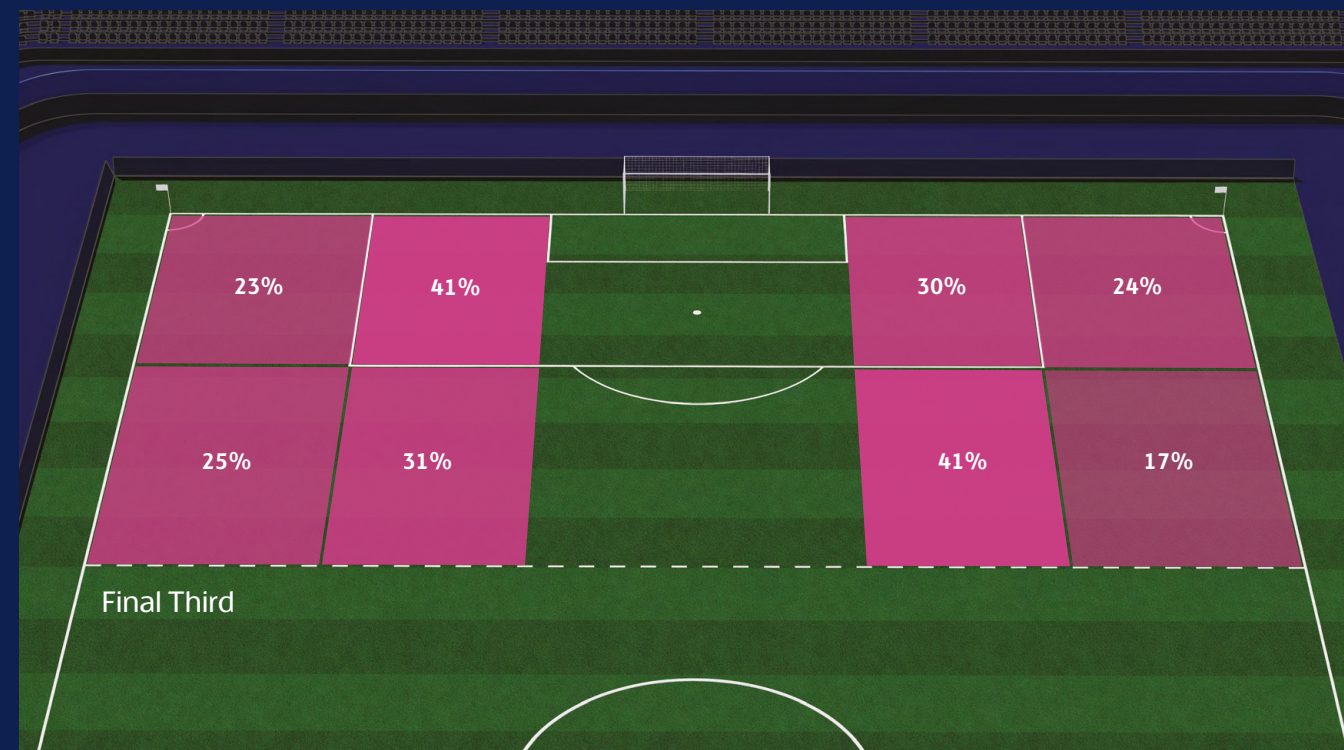
Among teams that progressed out of the group stage in 2023/24, Inter had the highest average number of open-play crosses per game with 15.2, followed by PSV Eindhoven (14.9) and Paris Saint-Germain (14.5). Inter were also the team who had the most open-play crosses that led to a shot overall, with 36. Next best on this list were Barcelona and Real Madrid with 30 each. Unlike that pair, Simone Inzaghi's Inter played only eight matches, yet their attacking strategy included wing-backs who kept their width and looked to play crosses into two strikers.

The graphic above provides a breakdown of the different types of attack which led to crossing opportunities and it shows that more than three quarters of all open-play crosses (78%) came from controlled possessions against a low defensive block. Within the controlled possession category, breakthrough attacks had a high success rate of 33%. To be specific, these were attacks in which the offensive team managed to break through the opposition block and create a crossing

41%

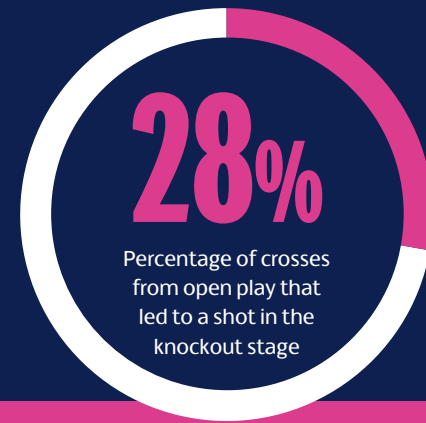
Percentage of Real Sociedad's open-play crosses which were cutbacks or low deliveries

SUCCESS RATE OF CROSS LOCATIONS

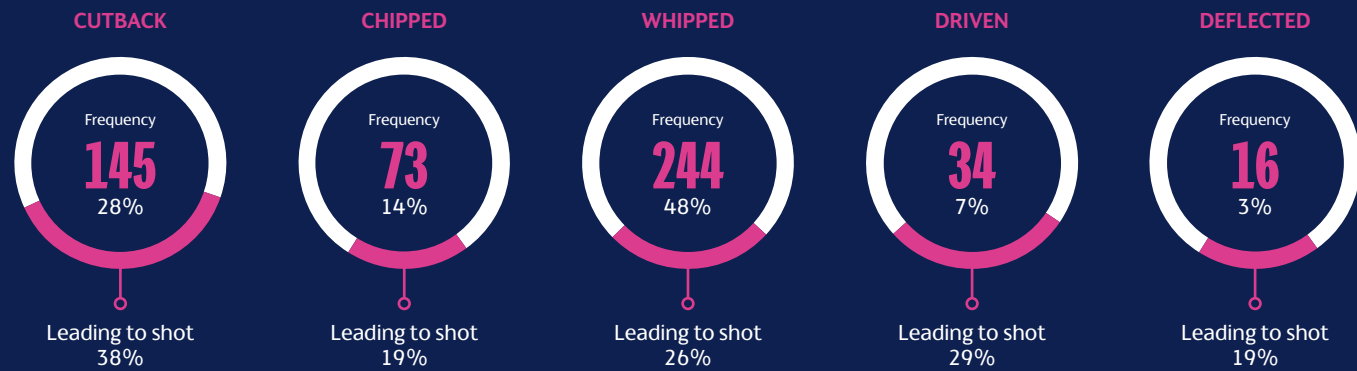




When it came to crossing locations, the two maps on P55 show, firstly, the areas from which open-play crosses were delivered and secondly, and more pertinently, from where they were most effective. The first map shows that teams were crossing from a variety of areas of the pitch, with 33% of crosses delivered from the wider spaces outside of the penalty box in lanes 1 and 5 and fractionally more (34%) from within the penalty box as they looked for the inside spaces which are popular for cutbacks or low driven centres. The second map reinforces this last point by highlighting the locations from which crosses had the highest rate of success (i.e. yielding a shot): lane 2 inside the box and lane 4, in the half-spaces outside the box (41% in each case).



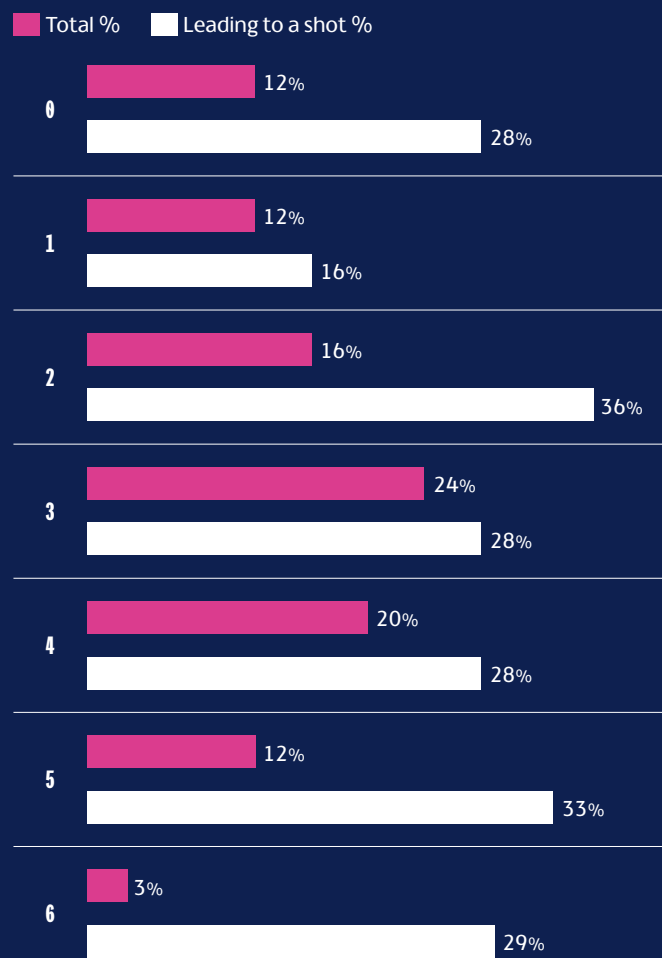
CROSS FREQUENCY BY DELIVER TYPE



The most effective type of crosses in the 2023/24 knockout stage were cutbacks, which led to a shot almost two fifths of the time (38%). Driven balls (29%) were marginally the most popular and they were the second most likely way of creating a shooting chance from a cross (29%). Paris Saint-Germain with their fast wingers were the team who created the most shots from cutbacks with 12 in total, followed by Bayern (eight) and Real Madrid (seven). Two teams who relied heavily on cutbacks in the knockout stage were Porto and Real Sociedad – over half of Porto's crosses and 41% of La Real's, though the sample size for both was small, covering only the two legs of their round of 16.



NUMBER OF ATTACKERS IN THE PENALTY BOX



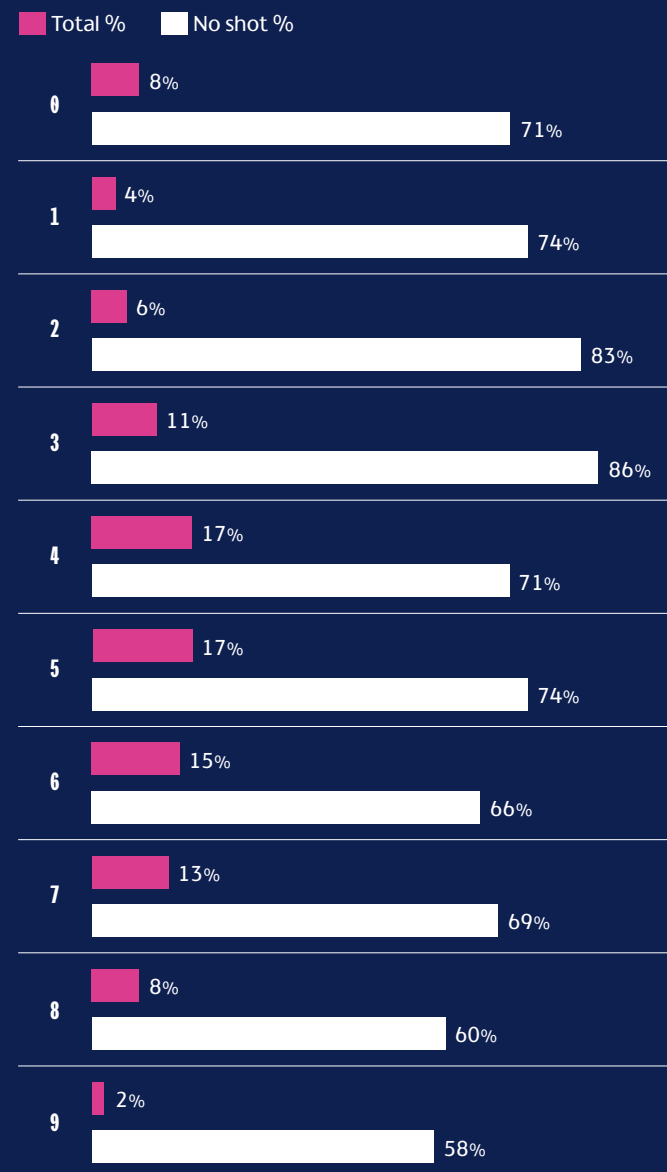
UEFA's analysts also looked at the number of attacking players in the box when open-play crosses came in during the knockout stage. The chart shows that in almost two-thirds of cases (59%), the attacking team had a minimum of three players in the penalty area when the cross arrived.

Manchester City stood out for the high ratio of occasions (59%) when they had between four and five men in the box looking to connect with an open-play cross and, as the chart shows, when teams did have five players attacking a cross, there was a 33% chance of a shot.

That said, it is worth noting too that a high number of attackers did not automatically translate to a greater likelihood of a shot – as evidenced by the 36% success rate for crosses when only two attackers were in the area. In cases such as at the end of a quick counterattack, the reduced number of defenders would make it easier for forwards to attack empty space, be it by creating space for themselves by dragging a defender to one area in order to exploit the other, or by getting on the blind side to connect with the cross.



DEFENDERS IN THE BOX



To shift the focus to the number of defenders in the box, the most common scenario was for four or five players to be defending the area from open-play crosses (17% each). Yet however many players a team had back, there was no guarantee of successfully stopping every cross – even in those rare instances where nine players were defending their area, they dealt with the cross only 58% of the time.

The Manchester City v Real Madrid quarter-final offered a notable example for the UEFA analysts as 11 times in that game Carlo Ancelotti's visitors had eight players packing their box to defend an open-play cross – and on one of those occasions, Kevin De Bruyne scored the equalising goal. From a coaching perspective, this is a reminder that having more bodies back does not necessarily mean a more secure penalty box and it is important for players to understand their individual roles and responsibilities.

11

Number of times Real Madrid had eight players back in their box to defend an open-play cross in their match at Manchester City



Antoine Griezmann fires in against Celtic

SET PLAYS

While Atlético de Madrid scored the most goals from set plays, champions Real Madrid were particularly effective in attacking and defending from corners

GOALS SCORED FROM SET PLAYS

Over the course of the 2023/24 campaign, there was a total of 66 set-play goals scored, penalties not included. This represented an 18% portion of the overall total of 375 goals – a marginal increase on the 16% of the previous three seasons. The team who scored the most from this source were Atlético de Madrid (six), followed by the previous year's most prolific set-play scorers, Manchester City (five).

With the inclusion of the 29 penalties that were also scored, exactly one quarter of all goals (25%) came via dead balls. As for the percentage share of penalties, they amounted to 8% of the overall total, continuing the downward trend since 2020/21 when spot kicks accounted for 15% of all goals.

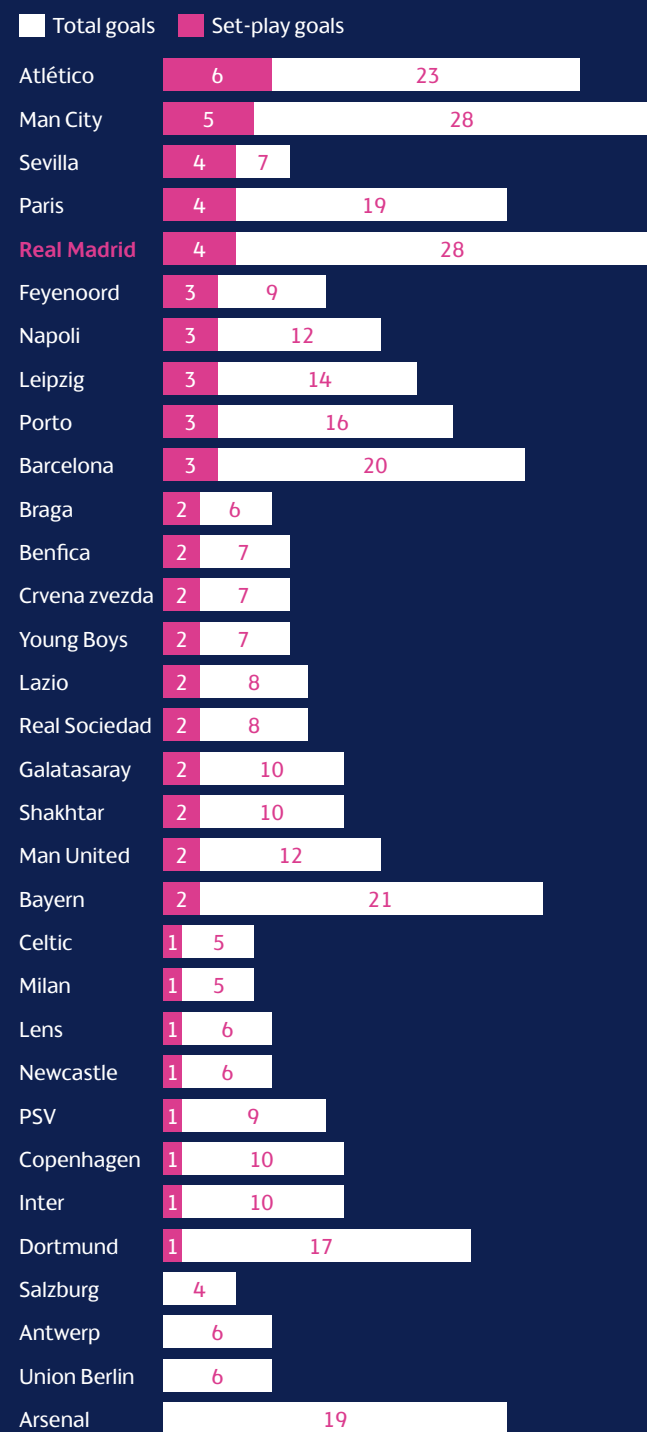
For Diego Simeone's Atlético, their six set-play goals represented just over one quarter (26%) of their overall total of 23 goals scored. However, no club relied more on set plays for goals than Sevilla, whose tally of seven goals included four from dead balls. A year earlier, 50% of their goals were from set pieces and that percentage rose to 57% in 2023/24.

The importance of set plays was underlined in the season's closing stages by headed goals from Dortmund's Mats Hummels and Real Madrid's Dani Carvajal in the semi-finals and final respectively – and, for the record, these were two of 23 headed goals scored by teams attacking a set play, with the other two being own goals.

While Hummels' goal was Dortmund's only strike from a set play, Madrid ranked joint third in the table, alongside Paris Saint-Germain and Sevilla, albeit their set-piece strikes accounted for only 14% of their total.

Four teams did not manage a single goal from a set play – Antwerp, Arsenal, Salzburg and Union Berlin. In the case of Arsenal, this contrasted notably with their success from set plays in the Premier League where they scored 22 set-piece goals.

SET-PLAY GOALS SCORED



GOALS CONCEDED FROM SET PLAYS

Newcomers Antwerp were not just among the teams to not score from a set play, they also conceded the most, with five against. It may not be entirely coincidental that they were the team with the lowest ratio of success in aerial duels (40%). Copenhagen (43%) and Paris Saint-Germain (44%) were similarly among the bottom five-ranked clubs for aerial duels and conceded four times each from set plays.

No team conceded a higher proportion of goals from dead balls than Crvena zvezda with four of their ten goals against (40%) coming this way. At the other end of the scale, neither Porto nor Galatasaray let in a single goal from set plays.

SET-PLAY GOALS CONCEDED





DIRECT FREE-KICKS

There were seven goals from direct free-kick strikes in the 2023/24 campaign, with Galatasaray's Hakim Ziyech leading the way, with two in a single game in the 3-3 group-stage draw with Manchester United.

Manchester City contributed two such goals to the list, starting with Julián Álvarez's strike against Crvena zvezda on Matchday 1. Indeed, with Feyenoord's Calvin Stengs and Lens' Angelo Fulgini also scoring that week – against Celtic and Sevilla respectively – the opening round of fixtures featured as many direct free-kicks (three) as the entire 2022/23 campaign.

The other Manchester City free-kick which found the net was the only one of the knockout stage, and it came from Bernardo Silva, with his early effort in the 3-3 quarter-final draw at Real Madrid. It prompted praise from Roberto Martínez for the 'clever thinking' of Silva, who caught out goalkeeper Andriy Lunin with his shot from a distance of 28 metres – and from a position, in the inside-left channel, from which Lunin would have likely anticipated a cross into the box.



GOALS FROM CORNERS

There was no more significant goal scored from a corner in 2023/24 than Dani Carvajal's near-post breakthrough header from a Toni Kroos delivery in the final. Overall, 13% of goals during the season came from corners, albeit, unlike that Carvajal effort, the majority came from second contacts. This highlights the importance of not only focusing on winning the first ball but also the second ball and securing possession thereafter.

As the chart shows, the previously mentioned Carvajal header was one of four Madrid goals from a corner – a total matched only by neighbours Atlético and Paris Saint-Germain. Meanwhile, Sevilla's dead-ball prowess was reflected by the fact they had the best ratio of corners per goal. While the tournament average was a goal every 27 corners, Sevilla scored three times from a total of 30 flag-kicks – including first-contact headers from Lucas Ocampos and Nemanja Gudelj, each time from an Ivan Rakitić delivery.

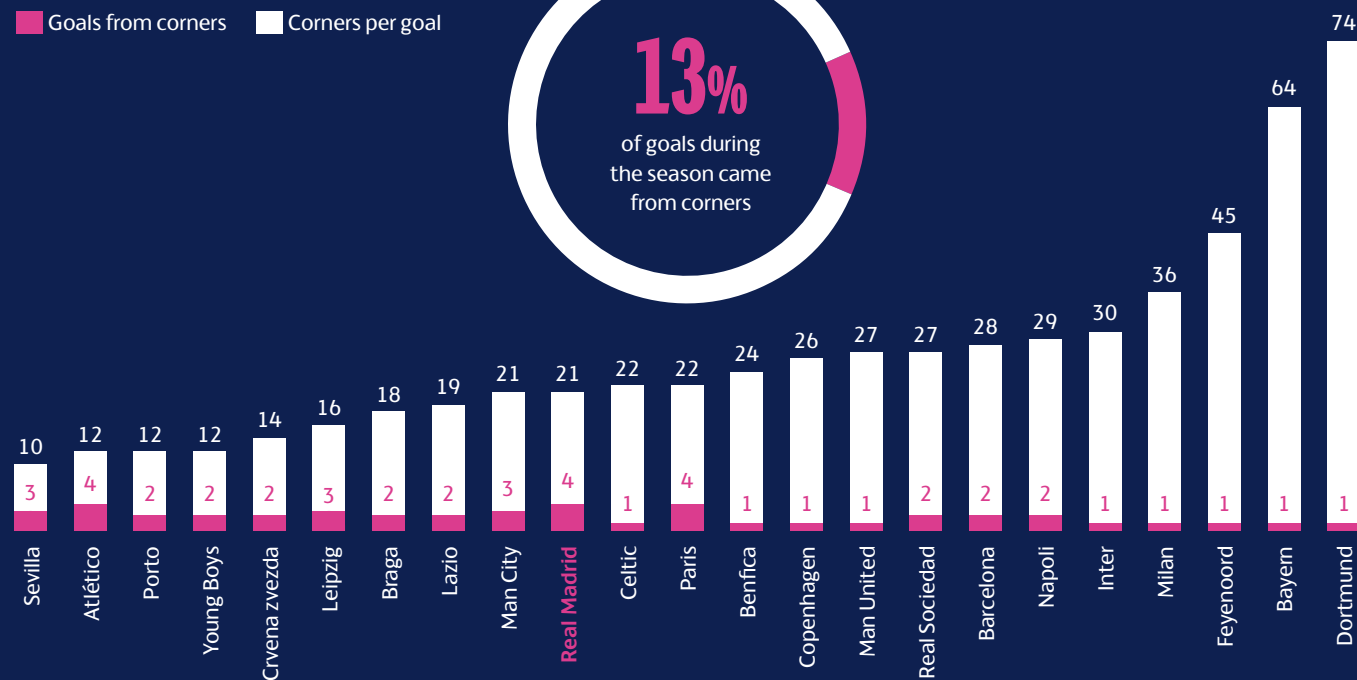
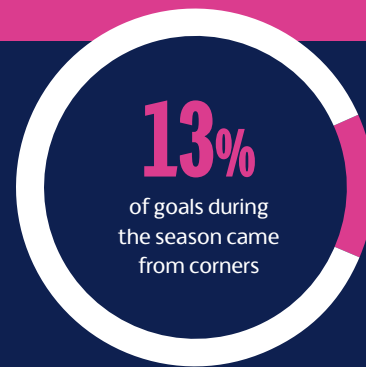
The team with the lowest corners-per-goal ratio were Dortmund, whose solitary strike was the fruit of 74 corners overall. However, its value was enormous: the far-post header by Mats Hummels from a Julian Brandt delivery secured their semi-final second-leg win at Paris Saint-Germain. It was Hummels' first goal in the competition's knockout rounds since 2012/13 and took his team through to their first final since then. Finally, while Dortmund were among nine teams with just one goal from a corner, another nine managed none at all – matching the number from the previous season.

HEADING FOR GOAL

Overall, 25 of the goals from set plays were headers, including two own goals. To break this down, 19 of that number were from corners and six from free-kicks. Not all of the headers came from the scorer connecting with a first-time ball into the box, as some were from second-phase crosses.

CORNERS

Goals from corners Corners per goal



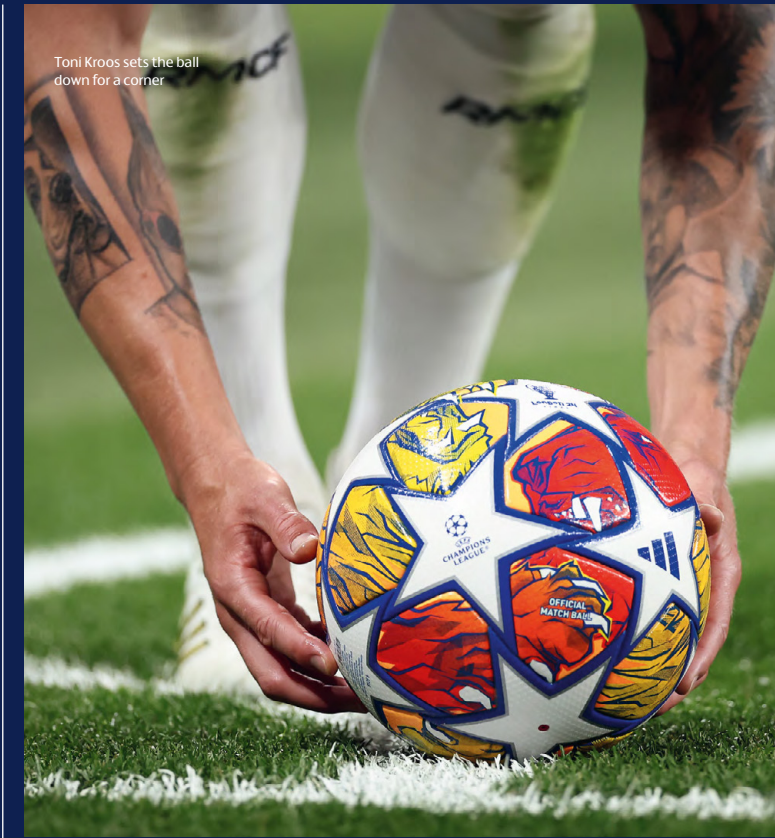
GOALS CONCEDED FROM CORNERS

To shift the focus to goals conceded from corners, six sides each leaked three – with Feyenoord the most vulnerable, given they conceded one from every eight corners faced.

Four teams proved especially solid, as none of Porto (43 corners), Inter (35), Galatasaray (29) and Sevilla (28) lost a single goal from a corner. Champions Real Madrid conceded just one goal from 78 corners faced, which came on matchday two away to Napoli. On this point, assistant coach Davide Ancelotti has a reputation for strong set-play strategies. Real Madrid got plenty of bodies around their goal – and had defenders with desire and aggression such as Antonio Rüdiger, Nacho and Carvajal.

DEFENDING CORNERS

Team	Goals Conceded From Corners	Corners Per Goal Conceded
Arsenal	1	27
Bayern	1	41
Barcelona	1	43
Braga	1	32
Lazio	1	37
Leipzig	1	29
Lens	1	32
Manchester City	1	26
Manchester United	1	29
Napoli	1	50
Newcastle United	1	39
PSV	1	34
Real Madrid	1	78
Real Sociedad	1	30
Salzburg	1	32
Shakhtar	1	28
Antwerp	2	15
Atlético	2	32
Benfica	1	17
Celtic	2	18
Dortmund	2	44
Milan	2	14
Copenhagen	2	16
Crvena zvezda	2	14
Feyenoord	2	8
Paris Saint-Germain	2	18
Union Berlin	2	18
Young Boys	2	12



PORTO'S DEFENSIVE SET-UP

Porto did not concede a single goal from a corner and the example (below left), from their game at Barcelona, shows their defenders working hard to deny home players space to attack the ball, and leaving room for keeper Diogo Costa to come out to attack the ball.

ARSENAL'S FAR-POST ROUTINE

Arsenal's failure to score from a set play did not mean they lacked invention – as seen by this clever routine in their group-stage home fixture with Sevilla. Sevilla, facing a corner early in the game, defended zonally with a line of players protecting the front-post area. Arsenal took advantage, with a ball by Gabriel Martinelli to the back post, where, with the help of team-mates blocking their markers, Kai Havertz had a free header. Unfortunately for Arsenal, he mistimed his effort.





GOALKEEPING

Gregor Kobel led the way with goals prevented and clean sheets, while tactics around short goal kicks continued to emerge



Dortmund keeper Gregor Kobel leaps into action against AC Milan

DEFENDERS STEP TO THE TASK

As coaches search for different strategies to bypass the opposition press, a trend has developed for defenders, rather than goalkeepers, to take goal kicks. In 2023/24, almost one third (32%) of goal kicks in the UEFA Champions League were taken this way, with the defender initiating the build-up from the back.

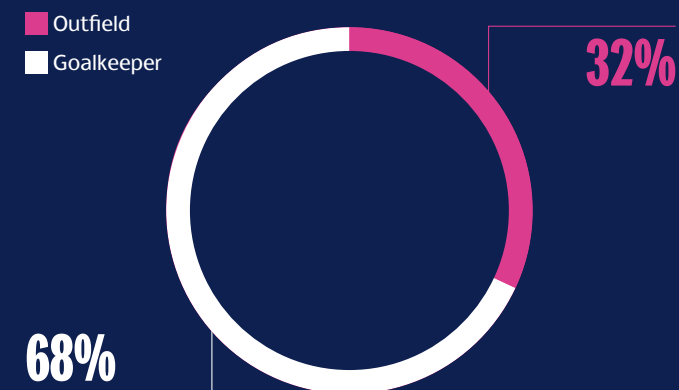
When the defender plays short to the goalkeeper, this usually gives the latter more time on the ball before the opposition attackers can get close to apply pressure. "He has a couple more seconds because he can go deeper and the distance is further away from the opposition player who is closing him," explained UEFA observer Packie Bonner, adding that the extra time and different angle gained can help the goalkeeper "see where the press is coming" and, with it, where the best pass may be played.

Another advantage that coaches have identified with this approach is that whereas when the goalkeeper takes a short kick, typically with two centre-backs in close proximity, one on either side, only having one centre-back in the penalty area with the goalkeeper allows the other defender to move outside the box. This positioning helps create superiority elsewhere on the field when building play.

It is worth adding that not every goal kick by an outfield player went

short. One intriguing example came in Real Madrid's quarter-final at Manchester City when midfielder Fede Valverde attempted a couple of kicks over the home side's man v man press in an attempt to release a forward higher up the pitch. From the perspective of a goalkeeping expert, kicking the ball hard and flat requires a different skill from delivering a long, floated goal kick – and Madrid soon reverted to a more familiar approach.

GOAL KICK - STARTING PLAYER



SHORT ORDER

The trend for teams to play short from goal kicks continued in 2023/24. Indeed, over the five seasons since the rule change to permit a player to receive a goal kick inside their own box, the percentage of goal kicks played short has doubled to the point where almost half go to a player inside the area – from 24% in 2019/20 to 48% in 2023/24.

Feyenoord did not survive the group stage, finishing third in Group E, yet under coach Arne Slot they recorded the highest percentage of goal kicks played short to a player in the box – 69%.

Timon Wellenreuther, in goal for their first two games, and Justin Bijlow, who took the role thereafter, were integral to Slot's build-up strategy, holding a "prominent role", according to UEFA observer Frans Hoek. "It's not a coincidence, as they tried to play it short most of the time," he explained. "They wanted to bring the opponent in more and create some spaces."

Accordingly, Feyenoord also recorded the shortest average passing distance at goal kicks (17.6m). Elaborating on their approach under Slot, who was subsequently appointed as head coach of Liverpool, match observer Aljoša Asanović added: "It started from the goalkeeper, who plays well with his feet, with the ball then played to one of the stoppers, who are calm on the ball and not afraid to pass the ball into the middle."

Under the guidance of Maurizio Sarri, Lazio aimed to progress with short build-up play from goal kicks. In the first leg of the round of 16 tie against Bayern, the German side pressed Lazio high from goal kicks, with Harry Kane pressing the centre-backs and goalkeeper, forcing the ball wide.

"Bayern looked to press aggressively once the ball was in wide areas, but Lazio escaped the pressure well at times," observed Aitor Karanka. An example of this is when the hosts progressed the ball through short, sharp passes and clever movement. Lazio's midfield trio demonstrated good flexibility in their positioning, with Matteo Guendouzi dropping back while Danilo Cataldi stepped forward. "There was also good movement from Luis Alberto, coming inside," added Karanka.

It is interesting to note that Celtic, who finished bottom of Feyenoord's group, ranked third in both of these goal kick metrics, indicating their commitment to building play from the back under Brendan Rodgers, with the goalkeeper opening the game up short to his defenders.



Lazio progress with movement off the ball

If Celtic fell short of the knockout stage, some of the teams who favoured a less elaborate build-up enjoyed longer runs in the competition. Indeed, of the eight sides with the longest average passing distance from goal kicks, four of them reached the last 16: Atlético, Porto, Copenhagen and Real Sociedad.

In the case of Real Sociedad, only 14% of their goal kicks were played inside their box, while the average distance of goalkeeper Álex Remiro's kicks was 52.8m. As Asanović said after observing their home win over Benfica: "They did not complicate the build-up. The goalkeeper hit the ball into the middle of the pitch and with a quick reaction to the second ball, they would gain possession."

GOAL KICKS RECEIVED INSIDE OWN BOX

2023/24	48%
2022/23	44%
2021/22	39%
2020/21	36%
2019/20	24%



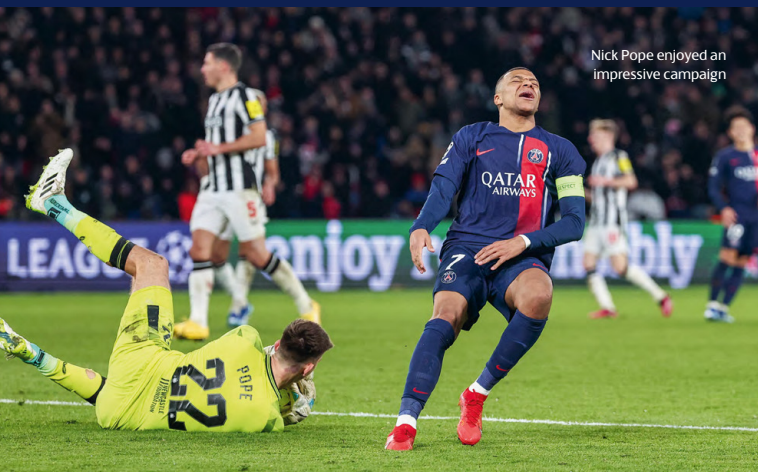
KEEPING CONTROL

Dortmund goalkeeper Gregor Kobel was named in the 2023/24 UEFA Champions League Team of the Season and the statistics help to explain why. The Swiss international ended the campaign having prevented the most goals (6.86) and made the most saves (46). "He is a good shot-stopper with great reflexes," said Hoek. "In addition, he showed he was decent in one-v-ones and brave with through balls."

While Inter's experienced Swiss goalkeeper Yann Sommer ended the season with the highest save percentage (86%), the efforts of Newcastle's Nick Pope warrant a mention too after a debut UEFA Champions League campaign in which he ranked second in both the goals prevented (4.86) and save percentage (83%) categories.

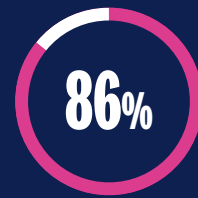
CLEAN SHEETS

	Gregor Kobel	6
	Manuel Neuer	4
	David Raya	4
	Álex Remiro	4
	Yann Sommer	4
	Gianluigi Donnarumma	3
	Ivan Provedel	3

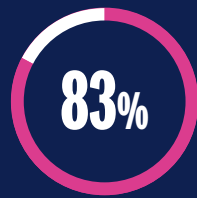


Nick Pope enjoyed an impressive campaign

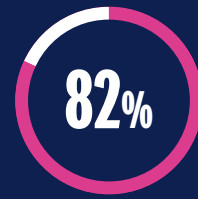
SAVE PERCENTAGE



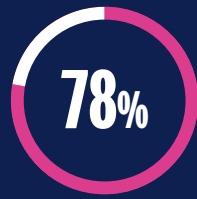
Yann Sommer
Inter



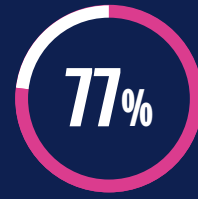
Nick Pope
Newcastle



Gregor Kobel
Dortmund



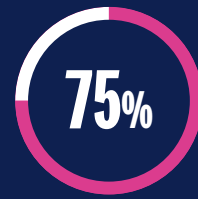
Andriy Lunin
Real Madrid



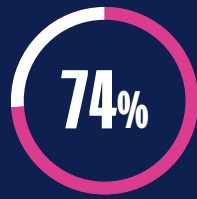
Alexander Schlager
Salzburg



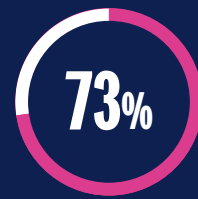
Álex Remiro
Real Sociedad



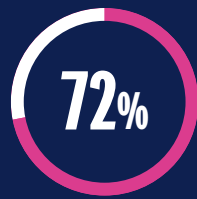
Jan Oblak
Atlético



Anthony Racioppi
Young Boys



Péter Gulácsi
Leipzig



Gianluigi Donnarumma
Paris Saint-Germain

PERCENTAGE OF GOAL KICKS RECEIVED INSIDE OWN BOX

Top five	
	Feyenoord 69%
	Bayern 68%
	Celtic 67%
	Paris Saint-Germain 64%
	Lazio 62%

Bottom five	
	Real Sociedad 14%
	Newcastle 18%
	Sevilla 28%
	Union Berlin 29%
	Copenhagen 31%

GOALS PREVENTED



Gregor Kobel
Dortmund



Nick Pope
Newcastle



Anatolij Trubin
Benfica



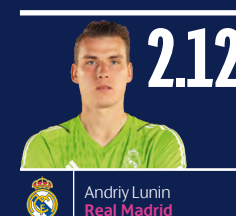
Anthony Racioppi
Young Boys



Manuel Neuer
Bayern



Yann Sommer
Inter



Andriy Lunin
Real Madrid



Justin Bijlow
Feyenoord

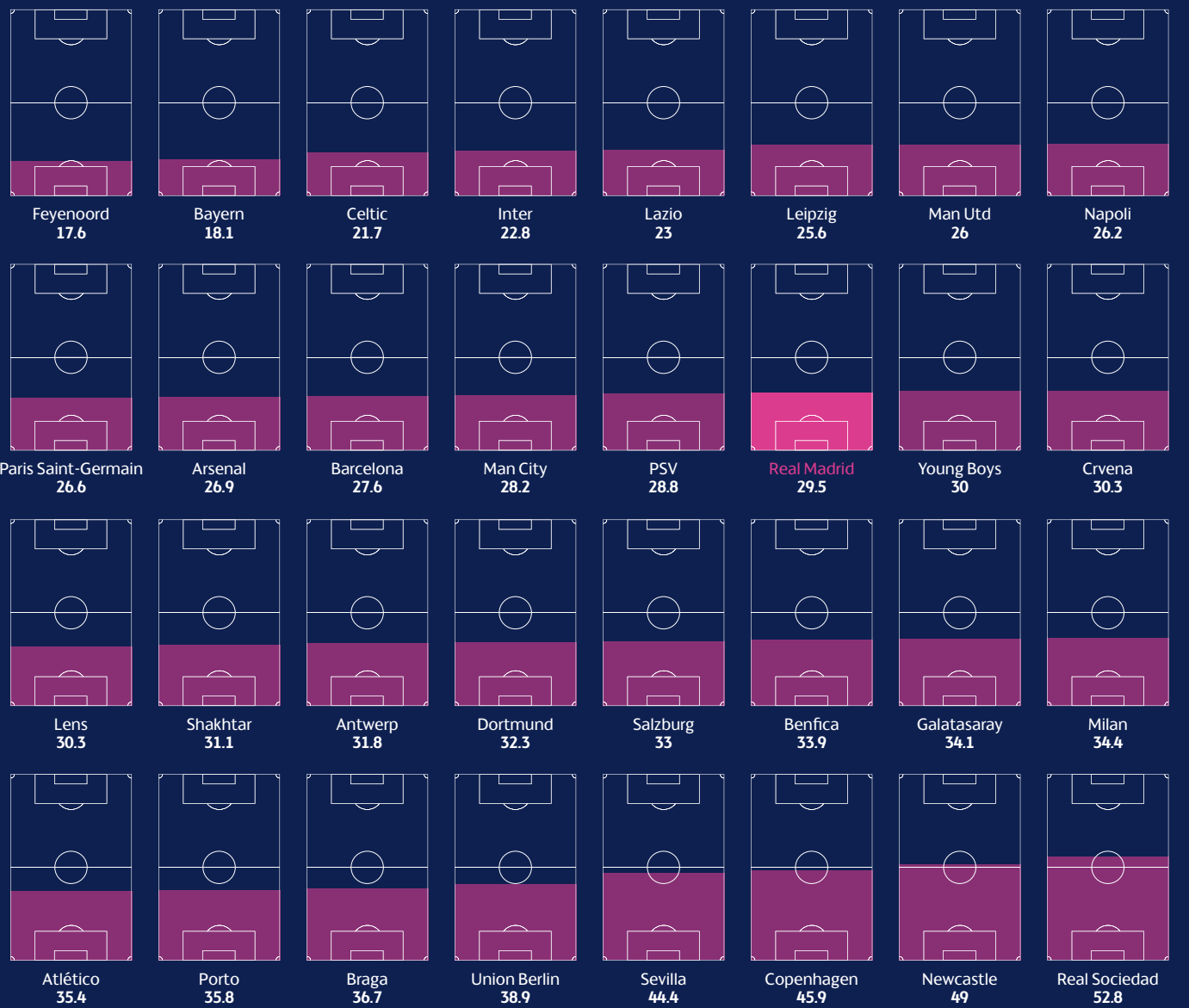


Álex Remiro
Real Sociedad



Ivan Provedel
Lazio

AVERAGE GOAL KICK DISTANCE (M)





FITNESS

Copenhagen led the way for distance covered both individually and collectively, while Karim Adeyemi recorded the top speed

PLAYER AVERAGE DISTANCE PER GAME (KM)

	Rasmus Falk	Copenhagen	13.01
	Callum McGregor	Celtic	12.83
	Fredrik Aursnes	Benfica	12.73
	Mads Bidstrup	Salzburg	12.58
	João Neves	Benfica	12.5
	Bruno Guimarães	Newcastle	12.38
	Joshua Kimmich	Bayern	12.15
	Inbeom Hwang	Crvena zvezda	12.12
	Diogo Leite	Union Berlin	12.07
	Benjamin Pavard	Inter Milan	12.02

Minimum of 3 games played

It is no surprise that the majority of players ranked in the top ten for the highest average distance covered per game are midfielders. Nor that all of them bar Joshua Kimmich and Benjamin Pavard played in teams who had, on average, less of the ball than their opponents.

In the case of the top-ranked Copenhagen midfielder Rasmus Falk, he had a screening role in the centre of the pitch for a team who were the hardest-running in the competition. Stefan Kuntz described him as "the lungs" of the Danish side while David Adams, technical observer for their win over Manchester United, said: "He's hard-working out of possession with the capacity to cover a lot of distance and recover the ball effectively."

Meanwhile, the fact Benfica and Salzburg are among the top three teams for recoveries helps to explain the presence of Fredrik Aursnes and Mads Bidstrup, players operating at full-back and in midfield for those two teams. On an individual level, João Neves, Bruno Guimarães and Aursnes were all ranked among the top ten players for most recoveries.

A word, too, for the enduring powers of stamina of Bayern midfielder Kimmich, who appears in the top ten for the fourth consecutive campaign.

TEAM AVERAGE DISTANCE PER GAME (KM)

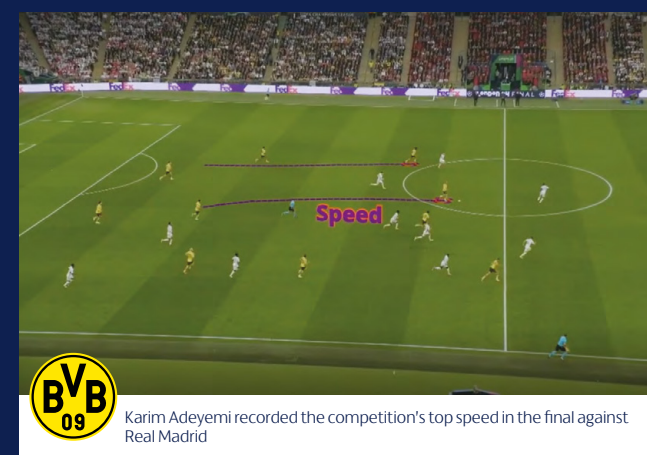
	Copenhagen	126.88
	Porto	126.79
	Inter Milan	124.31
	Union Berlin	123.68
	Arsenal	123.40
	Lazio	123.14
	Salzburg	122.97
	Atlético	122.47
	Man. City	121.34
	Feyenoord	121.12
	Celtic	120.06
	Leipzig	119.28
	Young Boys	118.90
	Newcastle	118.71
	Barcelona	118.53
	Benfica	118.29
	Napoli	117.82
	Dortmund	117.60
	Shakhtar	117.27
	Antwerp	116.93
	PSV	116.87
	Lens	116.34
	Real Sociedad	116.33
	Man. United	116.27
	Crvena zvezda	115.84
	Bayern	115.40
	Milan	115.21
	Real Madrid	114.61
	Sevilla	114.52
	Paris	113.69
	Braga	113.60
	Galatasaray	113.55

Copenhagen were the team who ran the most in a single game last season, and this season they put in the hard yards once again, with their average distance of 126.88km per game being unsurpassed by any other side. One obvious factor was their low share of possession – only newcomers Union Berlin averaged less than their 39% – while Aitor Karanka, observer for their visit to Manchester United, noted a counterattacking approach which featured "a commitment to breaking in numbers".

If it is understandable to see a correlation between less possession and more running, it is worth pointing out that two of top three teams for dominating possession – Arsenal and Manchester City – feature in the top ten here.

TOP SPEEDS (KM/H)

	Karim Adeyemi	Dortmund	37.6
	Nuno Mendes	Paris	37.2
	Kylian Mbappé	Paris	36.1
	Achraf Hakimi	Paris	36
	Erling Haaland	Man. City	36
	Federico Valverde	Real Madrid	35.9
	Loïs Openda	Leipzig	35.7
	Marcus Rashford	Man. United	35.7
	Daizen Maeda	Celtic	35.6
	Alfonso Davies	Bayern	35.5



There are some serial speedsters among this term's top ten, not least Kylian Mbappé (2019/20, 2021/22) and Alphonso Davies (2022/23) who have both recorded the maximum velocity in past seasons. Yet this year nobody could match the Borussia Dortmund winger Karim Adeyemi. A year earlier, Dortmund coach Edin Terzić compared him jokingly with the Road Runner cartoon character following a sprint of 36.1km/h when scoring a breakaway goal against Chelsea. He outdid that with top-ranked sprint of 37.6km/h in this year's final when he raced through from halfway. This time there was no goal at the end of it yet his contribution throughout the season was noted by the observers, who cited his speed and inventive movement as key to the trouble he gave defences with his runs in behind.

AVERAGE SPRINTS PER GAME

	Vinícius Júnior	Real Madrid	32
	Anthony Gordon	Newcastle	31
	Noa Lang	PSV	31
	Galeno	Porto	30
	Daizen Maeda	Celtic	29
	Achraf Hakimi	Paris	29
	Aleksa Terzić	Salzburg	29
	Meschack Elia	Young Boys	29
	Sheraldo Becker	Real Sociedad	28
	Pepê	Porto	28
	Gabriel Martinelli	Arsenal	28

Sprints classified as over 25km/h
Minimum of 3 games played

"With his movement and how quick he is with the ball, he is always dangerous," said Giovanni van Bronckhorst of Vinícius Júnior – and as this table shows, he seldom stopped moving this season, recording the highest average number of sprints per match. Runs in behind are a key feature of attacking play today and the Brazilian, with those trademark bursts from the left, produced plenty for Real Madrid once more. So too did a newcomer to the competition, Newcastle United winger Anthony Gordon, who, in the words of David James, showed "excellent movement to get into attacking positions" and also worked hard defensively. It is telling that all the players listed above filled wide roles as it is on the wings where players can find the space to run at high speed.



PUTTING THEORY INTO PRACTICE



Edin Terzić looks on during a Dortmund training session

Our technical team suggests four drills to help coaches equip their teams to face the latest challenges in the game

The analysis conducted during the UEFA Champions League aims to translate observations from senior club matches into actionable insights for elite youth development. By examining performance metrics and trends from these matches, valuable insights can be derived to design targeted training exercises. The following exercises are designed to incorporate these identified trends, ensuring that players are well-prepared to meet current challenges.

BUILDING WITH AN OVERLOAD

This drill aims to teach players the plus-two overload strategy to achieve numerical superiority during the build-up phase.



NUMBERS

13 + Goalkeeper / 20 + Goalkeeper

ORGANISATION

Ball can start from

- Goal kick
- Goalkeeper in hands
- Opposition start with ball + give to goalkeeper

- Blues to progress ball through small goals or big goals
- Pinks to win it back and score
- Progress 11 v 10
- Use overloads to progress

COACHING POINTS

8 v 6

- Use +2 to create overload
- Draw the team on one side to switch to the other side quickly to progress into small goals
- Overplay passing lines – horizontally and vertically
- Use of rotations
- Use goalkeeper as spare player and other spare outfield player to progress
- If the ball is on one side – opposite come in, in case of ball loss

11 v 10

- Pink back line not allowed over yellow line

BREAKING THROUGH A MID-BLOCK

Here players are working on how to break through an opponent's mid-block defence with runs into space behind their defensive line.



CREATING CROSSING OPPORTUNITIES

This drill looks at passing options and the timing of runs to create crossing opportunities from the half-spaces outside the box to penetrate a low-block.



NUMBERS

20 + 2 Goalkeepers

ORGANISATION

- Free touches in middle third, two touches in the end zone
- Start with no defenders allowed in each end zone
- Progress to only one defender allowed into end zone to defend after ball is played in
- Unlimited attackers
- When goalkeeper has the ball, no attackers are allowed in the end zone to press
- End zone line is offside line

COACHING POINTS

- Runs in behind
- Fill the goal zone
- Play forward and in behind
- Timing of runs in behind
- Work moment to play in behind – slide pass / chip pass / diagonal
- Progress ball as close as possible to end line so final pass is shorter
- Runs in behind from opposite so ball is diagonal and goalkeeper is less likely to intercept
- Use various formations for both teams

NUMBERS

10 + 6 + Goalkeeper

ORGANISATION

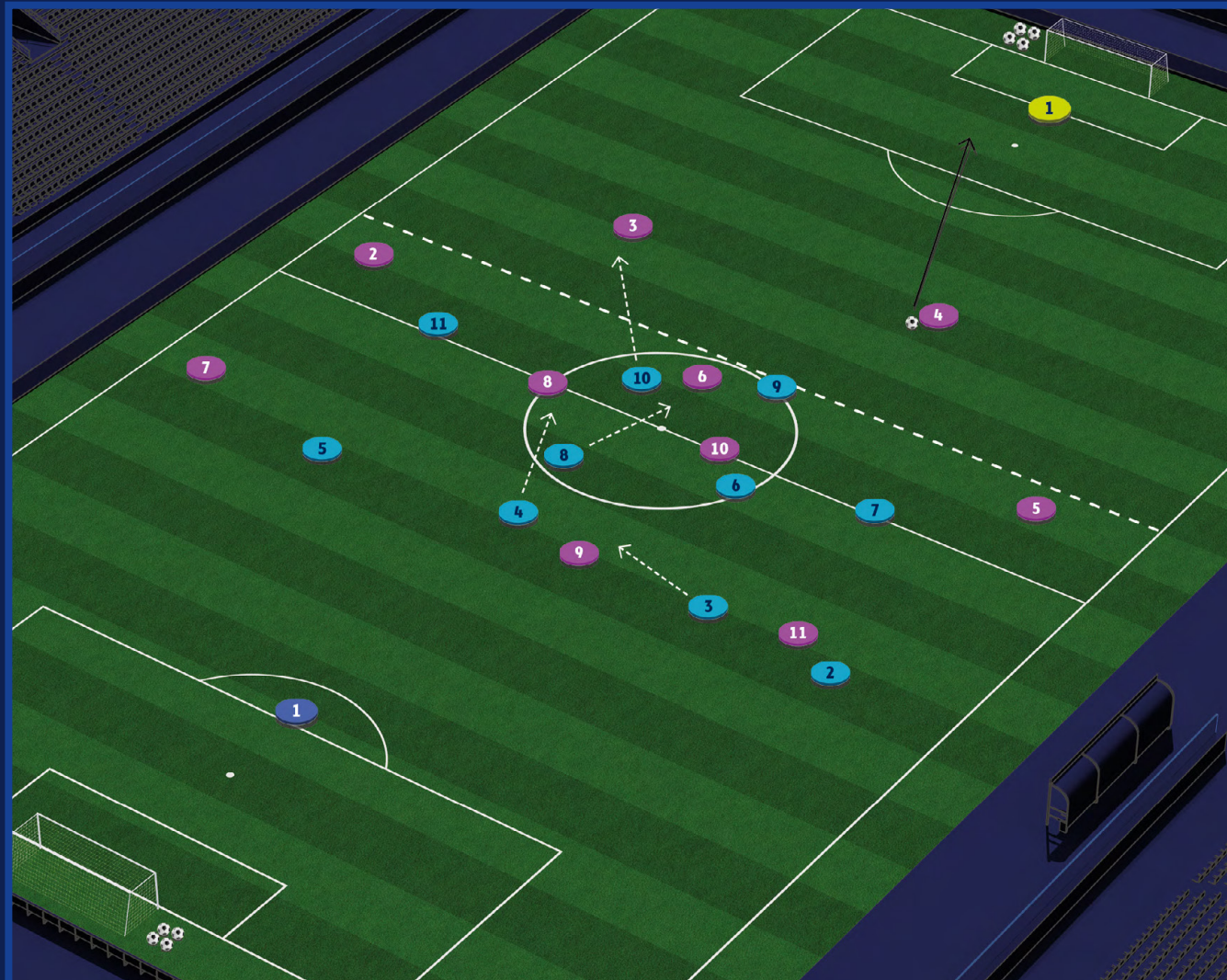
- Blue team always starts with the ball
- Must switch the play from one side to the other before attacking – they can switch multiple times if needed
- Pinks start on the edge of the box and can defend "live"
- Blues have to score from a cut back or ball played back to half space outside the box + cross

COACHING POINTS

- Side pocket players must run in behind full-back
- Choice for wide players is to play the ball for the deep run or play the ball backwards to the edge player
- If the player tracks the run of the player in behind and the cross from the "golden zone" is blocked – option to play back to edge player to cross from half space outside the box
- Details on crossing to beat the first defender
- Timing on runs from opposite side in between gaps
- Second balls – rest defence to maintain the attack

MAN-FOR-MAN PRESSING

Here the coach works on implementing man-for-man pressing across the pitch, with players jumping centrally to apply pressure triggered by a pass to the goalkeeper.



NUMBERS

13 + Goalkeeper / 20 + Goalkeeper

ORGANISATION

- Pinks always start with the ball
- Blues must start behind the ball and the objective is to force the ball back to the goalkeeper
- Blue striker + CM + CB jump centrally
- Blues win the ball and counter attack
- After winning the ball, blues play direct to score in 6 seconds

COACHING POINTS

- Go all the way with your player – especially jumping CB – play man-v-man forcing outside
- Force outside – no passes through
- Use throw-in line as extra defender
- Wide players – wingers + FBs close the centre and force outside
- Back lines squeeze halfway line with side on body shape ready to protect the depth
- Mark inside shoulder to force play wide – dont allow switches of play
- If player beaten 1v1 all retreat back behind the ball to reset the press





ARSENAL FC



ENG

GROUP B	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
PSV W 4-0	LEN L 2-1	SEV W 1-2	SEV W 2-0	LEN W 6-0
PSV D 1-1	POR L 1-0	POR W 1-0*	BAY D 2-2	BAY L 1-0

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names *AET; 4-2 pens

COACH



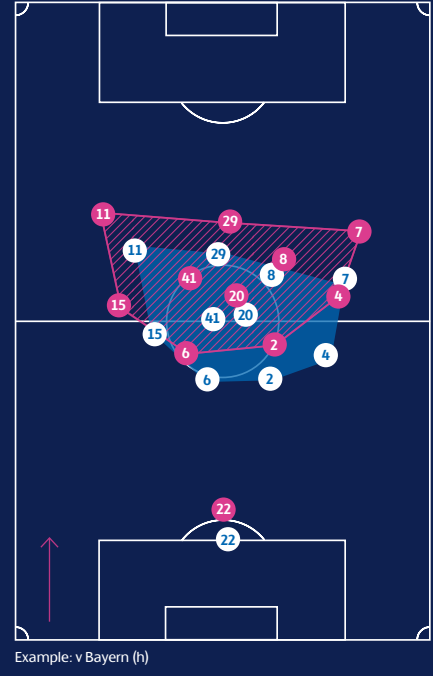
MIKEL ARTETA
 BORN: 26/04/1982, San Sebastián (ESP)
 NATIONALITY: Spanish
 HEAD COACH: Since 22/12/2019
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	10	5	2	3 50%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	34	20	6	8 59%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Built up with 1-3-2-2-3 with full-back (Tomiyasu, Zinchenko) moving into midfield
 - Good physicality with pace and energy in defensive transitions
 - Passed with speed and accuracy, mixing short passes and passes in behind opposition.
 - Impact of Rice in midfield: first in team for line-breaking passes into final third
 - White supporting Saka on right wing with overlapping runs, e.g. v Bayern (h)
 - Flexibility and movement with players finding space between lines (Saka, Havertz, Trossard)
 - Influence of Ødegaard: off the ball led the press, on it provided composure and vision

SHAPE

1-4-3-3, defending with 1-4-4-2
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION
 56%
 Max. 66% v Lens (a)
 Min. 43% v Sevilla (a)
 UCL rank: 3

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	25%
Middle third	55%
Attacking third	20%

514 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 703 v Lens (a)
 Min. 421 v Sevilla (a)
 UCL rank: 11=

87% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 90% v Bayern München (a)
 Min. 81% v Sevilla (a)
 UCL rank: 5=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	33 (6% of total)	UCL rank: 30=
Medium	184 (36%)	UCL rank: 26=
Short	296 (58%)	UCL rank: 1=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	9.5	UCL rank	2
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

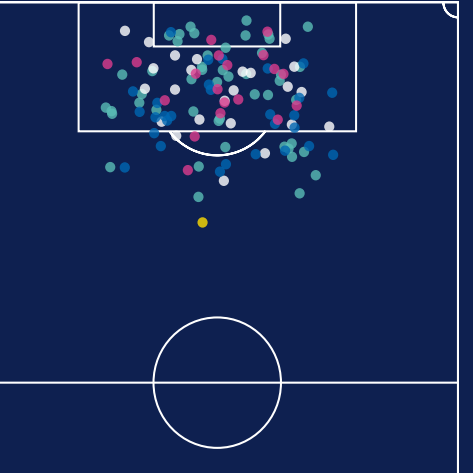
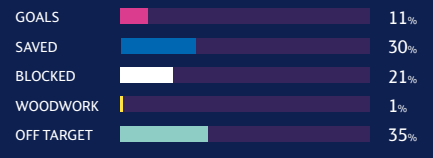
Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED
 123.4 km
 Max. 159.2 v Porto (h)
 Min. 115.7 v Porto (a)
 UCL rank: 5

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 19 GOALS**
1.8 per match; UCL rank: 7
- 13.5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 121 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
11.7 per match; UCL rank: 23
- 43 ON TARGET**
4.2 per match; UCL rank: 21



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Aaron Ramsdale	1	90		
22 David Raya	9	840		

DEFENDERS

2 William Saliba	10	901		
4 Ben White	10	754	1	
6 Gabriel	10	930		
15 Jakub Kiwior	7	383		
17 Cédric	1	61		
18 Takehiro Tomiyasu	6	388	1	
35 Oleksandr Zinchenko	6	277		

MIDFIELDERS

5 Thomas Partey	1	4		
8 Martin Ødegaard	9	752	2	2
19 Leandro Trossard	9	535	4	1
20 Jorginho	9	530	1	
21 Fábio Vieira	3	86		
25 Mohamed Elneny	2	62		
29 Kai Havertz	10	832	1	
41 Declan Rice	10	840		

FORWARDS

7 Bukayo Saka	9	725	4	4
9 Gabriel Jesus	8	407	4	3
10 Emile Smith Rowe	3	42		
11 Gabriel Martinelli	6	483	2	2
14 Eddie Nketiah	6	135	1	
24 Reiss Nelson	5	174	2	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
 26.3

CARDS
 14 0

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Gabriel Jesus	4	15	8	2.2
2 Bukayo Saka	4	13	6	1.6
3 Leandro Trossard	4	9	6	1.6

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Bukayo Saka	4	13	2.1
2 Gabriel Jesus	3	5	0.8
3 Martin Ødegaard	2	9	1.2

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 William Saliba	782	618	89	34
2 Gabriel	704	561	91	28
3 Declan Rice	590	485	89	25

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Declan Rice	54	10	13
2 William Saliba	50	4	7
3 Gabriel	46	7	3

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID



ESP

GROUP E	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
LAZ D 1-1	FEY W 3-2	CEL D 2-2	CEL W 6-0	FEY W 1-3
LAZ W 2-0	INT L 1-0	INT W 2-1*	DOR W 2-1	DOR L 4-2

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names *AET; 3-2 pens

COACH



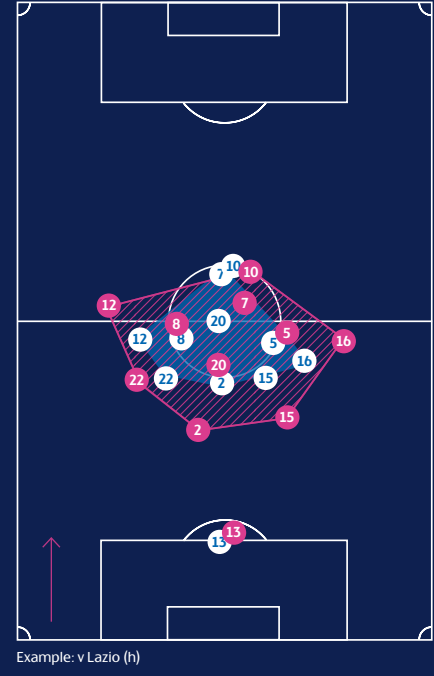
DIEGO SIMEONE
 BORN: 28/04/1970, San Nicolás (ARG)
 NATIONALITY: Argentinian
 HEAD COACH: Since 23/12/2011
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 4

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	105	52	25	28 50%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	133	75	26	32 56%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Built up in 1-4-4-2 with a wing-back (Lino) stepping up into midfield
 - High-pressing team but comfortable in mid-block with counterattacking ability
 - Leadership, organisational skills and decision-making of Koke
 - Intelligent Griezmann bringing movement and passing between lines
 - Griezmann first for key passes in competition (26)
 - Energy and versatility of Llorente
 - Averaged 49% possession, combined direct play with patient passing when opponent dropped

SHAPE

1-3-5-2; 1-5-4-1 when defending
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION
 49%
 Max. 65% v Celtic (h)
 Min. 34% v Dortmund (h)
 UCL rank: 14=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	31%
Middle third	51%
Attacking third	19%

551 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 774 v Celtic (h)
 Min. 321 v Dortmund (h)
 UCL rank: 6

86% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 93% v Celtic (h)
 Min. 78% v Dortmund (h)
 UCL rank: 9=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	48 (9% of total)	UCL rank: 20=
Medium	199 (36%)	UCL rank: 26=
Short	304 (55%)	UCL rank: 5=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	17	UCL rank	29
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

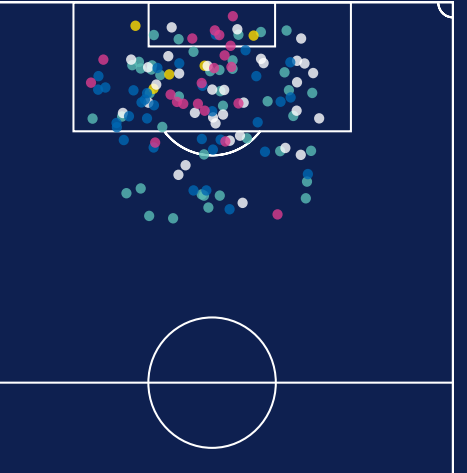
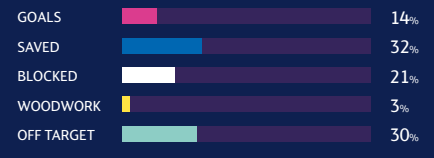
Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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DISTANCE COVERED
 122.5 km
 Max. 161.9 v Inter (h)
 Min. 111.1 v Feyenoord (h)
 UCL rank: 8

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 23 GOALS**
2.2 per match; UCL rank: 2
- 16.9 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.6 per match; UCL rank: 9=
- 137 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
13.3 per match; UCL rank: 16
- 53 ON TARGET**
5.3 per match; UCL rank: 7=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

13 Jan Oblak	10	930		
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DEFENDERS

2 José María Giménez	7	482	1	
3 César Azpilicueta	6	288		
4 Çağlar Söyüncü	2	58		
15 Stefan Savić	6	414		
16 Nahuel Molina	10	791	3	
17 Javi Galán	2	73		
22 Mario Hermoso	9	818	1	1
23 Reinildo	1	22		
27 Ilias Kostis	1	1		

MIDFIELDERS

5 Rodrigo De Paul	8	616	1	
6 Koke	9	771	1	
8 Saúl Ñíguez	10	433	1	
12 Samuel Lino	7	507	3	3
14 Marcos Llorente	9	649	2	
25 Rodrigo Riquelme	8	316		
20 Axel Witsel	10	887		
24 Pablo Barrios	7	258	1	1

FORWARDS

7 Antoine Griezmann	10	821	6	1
9 Memphis Depay	3	102	1	
10 Ángel Correa	10	318	1	
19 Álvaro Morata	10	667	5	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
 28.4

CARDS
 26 1

Sent off: De Paul v Celtic (a)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Antoine Griezmann	6	22	10	4.8
2 Álvaro Morata	5	25	10	4.6
3 Samuel Lino	3	18	8	2

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Nahuel Molina	3	6	1
2 Samuel Lino	3	2	0.4
3 Marcos Llorente	2	13	1.8

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Koke	666	556	90	29
2 Mario Hermoso	662	574	87	40
3 Axel Witsel	563	440	95	31

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Koke	47	11	3
2 Nahuel Molina	46	15	7
3 Axel Witsel	46	4	11

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



ROYAL ANTWERP FC



BEL

GROUP H	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
BAR L 5-0	SHK L 2-3	POR L 1-4	POR L 2-0	SHK L 1-0
				BAR W 3-2

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



MARK VAN BOMMEL

BORN: 22/04/1977, Maasbracht (NED)

NATIONALITY: Dutch

HEAD COACH: From 01/07/2022 to 30/06/2024

UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

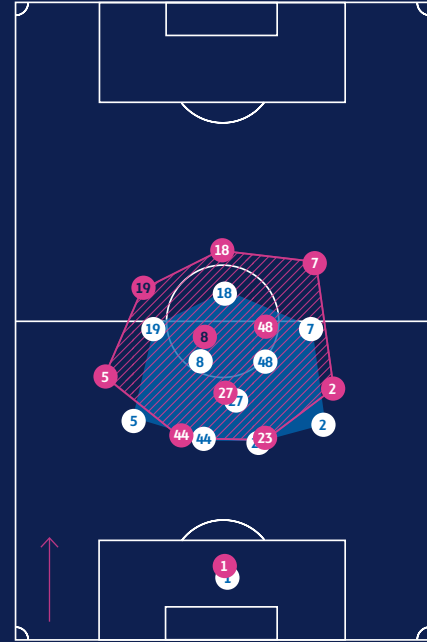
- KEY FEATURES**
- Experience and passing range of centre-back Alderweireld
 - Kept distances compact with good organisation in defensive block
 - Aggressive in pressure – e.g. pressing high, man to man at Porto
 - Flexibility in build-up; try to play through thirds yet some direct play
 - Quick passing combinations; look to wings for crossing opportunities
 - Vermeeren linking midfield/attack with impressive passing, vision, creativity
 - Most goals conceded in group stage – 17

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	15	1	4	10%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	37	14	9	38%

SHAPE

1-4-3-3, 1-4-2-3-1, 1-4-5-1

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Barcelona (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

42%

Max. 57% v Shakhtar (a)
Min. 30% v Barcelona (a)
UCL rank: 29

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	37%
Middle third	47%
Attacking third	16%

397 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 517 v Shakhtar (h)
Min. 290 v Barcelona (h)
UCL rank: 24

83% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 86% v Shakhtar (a)
Min. 73% v Porto (a)
UCL rank: 15

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	56 (14% of total)	UCL rank: 1
Medium	159 (40%)	UCL rank: 7
Short	182 (46%)	UCL rank: 31

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	13.8	UCL rank	17
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	4	UCL rank	24
---------	---	----------	----

DISTANCE COVERED

116.9 km

Max. 121.9 v Porto (h)
Min. 112.2 v Barcelona (a)
UCL rank: 20

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

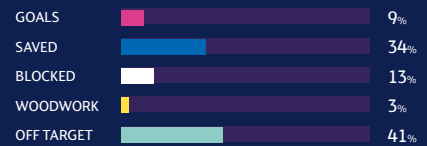
ATTEMPTS

6 GOALS
1 per match; UCL rank: 23

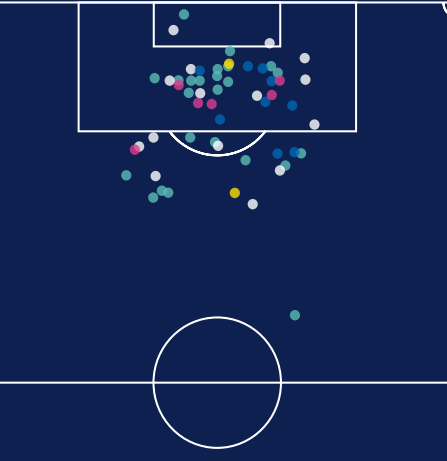
6.2 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1 per match; UCL rank: 27

56 GOAL ATTEMPTS
9.3 per match; UCL rank: 30

22 ON TARGET
3.7 per match; UCL rank: 24



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Jean Butez	5	450		
91 Senne Lammens	1	90		

DEFENDERS

2 Ritchie De Laet	4	224		
5 Owen Wijndal	6	451		
23 Toby Alderweireld	5	450		
27 Mandela Keita	3	263		
33 Zeno Van Den Bosch	3	94		
34 Jelle Bataille	6	409	1	
44 Soumaula Coulibaly	6	540		
52 Kobe Corbanie	2	34		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Gyran Kerk	5	207		
8 Alhassan Yusuf	6	380	1	1
19 Chidera Ejuke	4	152		
24 Jurgen Ekkelenkamp	4	274		
48 Arthur Vermeeren	6	540	1	2

FORWARDS

9 George Ilenikhena	6	153	1	
10 Michel-Ange Balikwisha	5	385	1	
11 Arbnor Muja	5	359	1	
18 Vincent Janssen	6	411	1	
55 Anthony Valencia	3	35		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

24.4

CARDS

19 2

Sent off: Ekkelenkamp v Porto (a), Muja v Shakhtar (a)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Vincent Janssen	1	12	4	1.0
2 Arbnor Muja	1	11	6	0.8
3 Arthur Vermeeren	1	5	2	0.5

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Arthur Vermeeren	2	3	0.4
2 Jelle Bataille	1	4	0.9
3 Alhassan Yusuf	1	1	0.2

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Soumaula Coulibaly	336	260	91	23
2 Toby Alderweireld	317	245	83	38
3 Jelle Bataille	216	184	78	39

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Arthur Vermeeren	40	8	7
2 Soumaula Coulibaly	31	3	7
3 Alhassan Yusuf	28	6	3

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



FC BARCELONA



ESP

GROUP H	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
ANT W 5-0	POR W 0-1	SHK W 2-1	SHK L 1-0	POR W 2-1
				ANT L 3-2
				NAP D 1-1
				NAP W 3-1
				PAR W 2-3
				PAR L 1-4

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



XAVI HERNÁNDEZ

BORN: 25/01/1990, Terrassa (ESP)

NATIONALITY: Spanish

HEAD COACH: From 06/11/2021 to 27/02/2024

UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

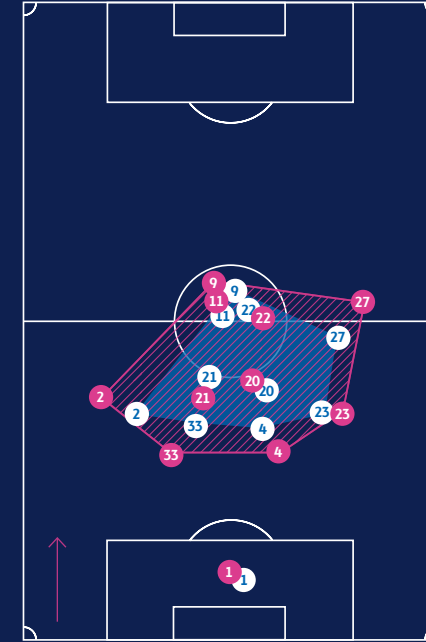
- KEY FEATURES**
- Full-back Cancelo second in competition for tackles (32) and third for duels (124, 61% success rate)
 - Impact of Cubarsí with accurate line-breaking passes from the back
 - Balance in midfield with De Jong sitting, Gündoğan driving forward
 - Gündoğan's experience and eye for pass; second in competition for chances created (24)
 - Dangerous runs from deep e.g. Fermín v Napoli, Raphinha v Paris
 - Quick, skilful wingers with 1v1 ability (Yamal)
 - Most crosses from open play between group stage and quarter-finals (133)

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	18	8	3	7	44%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	26	10	7	9	38%

SHAPE

1-4-3-3; also 3-4-3 and 1-3-2-5 on the ball, 1-4-5-1 off it

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Paris (a)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

55%

Max. 70% v Antwerp (h)
Min. 33% v Paris (h)
UCL rank: 4

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	25%
Middle third	51%
Attacking third	24%

530 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 798 v Antwerp (h)
Min. 284 v Paris (h)
UCL rank: 7

87% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 94% v Antwerp (h)
Min. 72% v Paris (h)
UCL rank: 5

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	47 (9% of total)	UCL rank: 20
Medium	224 (42%)	UCL rank: 5
Short	260 (49%)	UCL rank: 24

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	11.7	UCL rank	7
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	7	UCL rank	2
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DISTANCE COVERED

118.5 km

Max. 122.6 v Shakhtar Donetsk (a)
Min. 113.6 v Paris (h)
UCL rank: 15

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

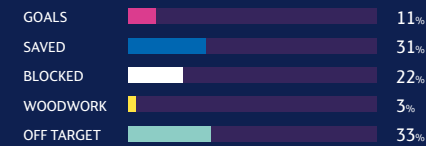
ATTEMPTS

20 GOALS
2 per match; UCL rank: 4

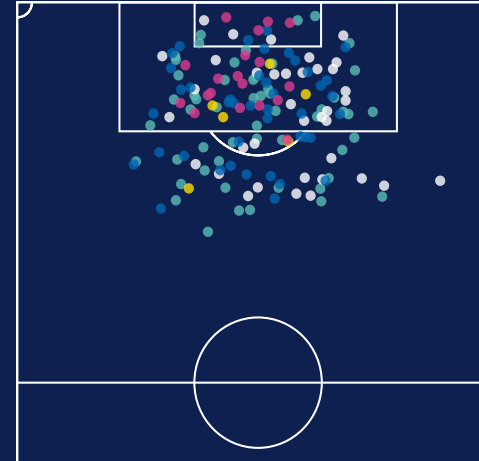
17.1 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.7 per match; UCL rank: 7

158 GOAL ATTEMPTS
15.8 per match; UCL rank: 4

57 ON TARGET
5.7 per match; UCL rank: 3



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Marc-André ter Stegen	8	720		
13 Iñaki Peña	2	180		

DEFENDERS

2 João Cancelo	10	810	2	1
3 Alejandro Balde	6	329		
4 Ronald Araújo	8	659		
5 Iñigo Martínez	4	318		
15 Andreas Christensen	7	440	1	
17 Marcos Alonso	3	139		
23 Jules Koundé	8	720		
30 Marc Casado	2	22		
33 Pau Cubarsí	3	270		
39 Héctor Fort	1	60		

MIDFIELDERS

6 Gavi	3	229	1	
8 Pedri	6	327	3	
18 Oriol Romeu	7	344		
20 Sergi Roberto	5	202	1	
21 Frenkie de Jong	5	395		
22 İlkay Gündoğan	10	835	4	

FORWARDS

7 Ferran Torres	8	376	3	1
9 Robert Lewandowski	9	736	3	
11 Raphinha	7	472	3	4
14 João Félix	9	368	3	1
27 Lamine Yamal	10	579	2	
32 Fermín	8	277	2	1
38 Marc Guiu	2	33	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

25.4

CARDS

31 2

Sent off: Gavi v Porto (a), Araújo v Paris (h)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Raphinha	3	24	13	2.5
2 Robert Lewandowski	3	22	10	3.0
3 João Félix	3	17	7	1.6

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 İlkay Gündoğan	4	20	3.7
2 Raphinha	4	8	1.4
3 Pedri	3	2	0.8

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 İlkay Gündoğan	558	479	91	21
2 Jules Koundé	512	411	88	34
3 João Cancelo	500	459	88	31

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 João Cancelo	47	32	19
2 İlkay Gündoğan	42	5	6
3 Lamine Yamal	40	7	7

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



FC BAYERN MÜNCHEN



GER

GROUP A	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL		
MUN W 4-3	COP W 1-2	GAL W 1-3	GAL W 2-1	COP D 0-0	MUN W 0-1	LAZ L 1-0	LAZ W 3-0	ARS D 2-2	ARS W 1-0	RMA D 2-2	RMA L 2-1

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



THOMAS TUCHEL

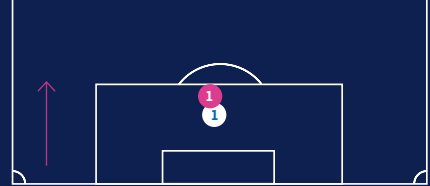
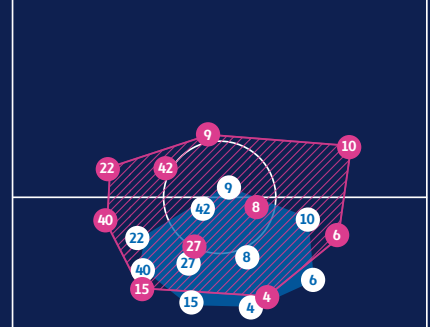
BORN: 29/08/1973, Krumbach (GER)
 NATIONALITY: German
 HEAD COACH: From 24/03/2023 to 18/05/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 2

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	67	40	11	60%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	86	52	14	60%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Decision-making and line-breaking passes of midfield pivot Kimmich
 - Looked for overloads in central areas, helped by forwards dropping back
 - Kane and Musiala dropped into No10 positions, forming box with 2 midfielders
 - Musiala's key role in using speed and agility to carry ball forward
 - Kane falling deep to supply wingers – first for through balls in Champions League (8)
 - Threat on transitions; talented wingers with speed and 1v1 ability
 - Good defensive discipline, e.g. compact structure in semi-final at Madrid

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1
3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Arsenal (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION
55%

Max. 62% v Copenhagen (h)
 Min. 41% v Arsenal (a)
 UCL rank: 4=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	32%
Middle third	49%
Attacking third	20%

560 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 691 v Lazio (a)
 Min. 365 v Arsenal (a)
 UCL rank: 5

88% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 94% v Real Madrid (h)
 Min. 82% v Arsenal (a)
 UCL rank: 4

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	45 (8% of total)	UCL rank: 22=
Medium	251 (45%)	UCL rank: 1
Short	265 (47%)	UCL rank: 29=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	14.5	UCL rank	21
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED
115.4 km

Max. 122 v Real Madrid (a)
 Min. 107.2 v Real Madrid (h)
 UCL rank: 26

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

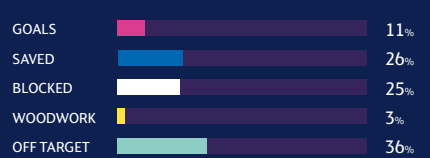
ATTEMPTS

21 **GOALS**
 1.8 per match; UCL rank: 7=

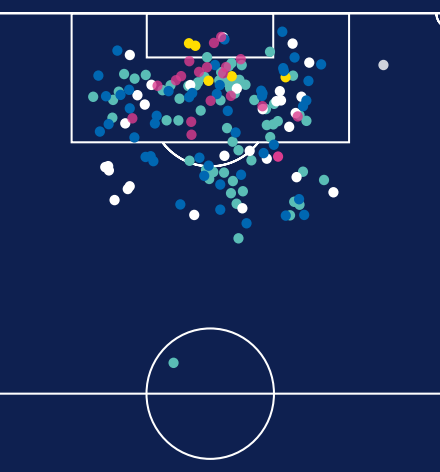
19.4 **EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
 1.6 per match; UCL rank: 9=

169 **GOAL ATTEMPTS**
 14.1 per match; UCL rank: 12

51 **ON TARGET**
 4.3 per match; UCL rank: 20



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Manuel Neuer	9	810		
26 Sven Ulreich	3	270		

DEFENDERS

2 Dayot Upamecano	7	500		
3 Kim Min-Jae	9	658		
4 Matthijs de Ligt	6	467	1	
15 Eric Dier	5	450		
19 Alphonso Davies	10	704	1	
20 Bouna Sarr	1	12		
22 Raphaël Guerreiro	7	388	2	
40 Noussair Mazraoui	8	649		
41 Frans Krätzig	1	4		

MIDFIELDERS

6 Joshua Kimmich	12	1080	1	2
8 Leon Goretzka	10	761	1	
27 Konrad Laimer	11	771	1	
42 Jamal Musiala	11	882	2	1
45 Aleksandar Pavlovic	3	206		

FORWARDS

7 Serge Gnabry	7	200	2	
9 Harry Kane	12	1064	8	4
10 Leroy Sané	12	929	2	2
13 Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting	5	40		
11 Kingsley Coman	7	449	2	
25 Thomas Müller	9	424	1	1
39 Mathys Tel	8	139	2	1

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
27.5

CARDS
16 1
 Sent off: Upamecano v Lazio (a)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Harry Kane	8	36	16	6.8
2 Leroy Sané	2	25	11	1.9
3 Jamal Musiala	2	23	6	2.1

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Harry Kane	4	10	1.3
2 Joshua Kimmich	2	24	3.0
3 Leroy Sané	2	16	1.8

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Joshua Kimmich	844	717	91	23
2 Kim Min-Jae	601	467	93	35
3 Dayot Upamecano	542	446	93	30

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Joshua Kimmich	58	16	11
2 Leon Goretzka	50	9	19
3 Alphonso Davies	49	9	5

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



SL BENFICA



POR

GROUP D	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL
SAL L 0-2	INT L 1-0	SOC L 0-1	SOC L 3-1	INT D 3-3	SAL W 1-3				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



ROGER SCHMIDT

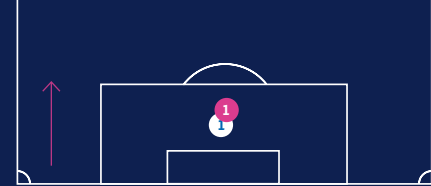
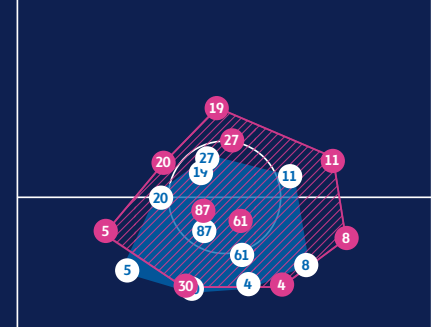
BORN: 13/03/1967, Kierspe (GER)
 NATIONALITY: German
 HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2022
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	37	14	12	38%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	99	52	23	53%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Play from back, using width well with full-backs going high and wide
 - Look to get forward with vertical play; quick forward passes and runs
 - Mobile, disciplined and co-ordinated in their pressing
 - Good flexibility and rotations to use space – e.g. for attacking full-backs (Aursnes)
 - Intelligent play between lines of influential Rafa Silva and João Mário
 - Veteran Di María's impact with movement, link-up play, quality on ball
 - João Neves second in group stage for duels – 101 with 60.4% success rate

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1, shift to 1-4-4-2 out of possession
3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Inter (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION
49%

Max. 57% v Salzburg (a)
 Min. 38% v Real Sociedad (h)
 UCL rank: 14=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	31%
Middle third	50%
Attacking third	20%

460 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 547 v Inter (a)
 Min. 358 v Real Sociedad (h)
 UCL rank: 16

81% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 87% v Inter (h)
 Min. 76% v Real Sociedad (h)
 UCL rank: 23=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	44 (10% of total)	UCL rank: 14=
Medium	168 (57%)	UCL rank: 21=
Short	247 (54%)	UCL rank: 8=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	14.3	UCL rank	20
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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DISTANCE COVERED
118.3 km

Max. 123.6 v Salzburg (a)
 Min. 112.1 v Real Sociedad (a)
 UCL rank: 16

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

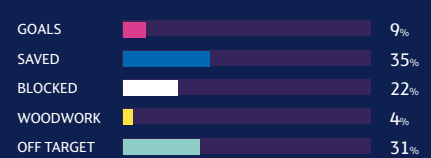
ATTEMPTS

7 **GOALS**
 1.2 per match; UCL rank: 17=

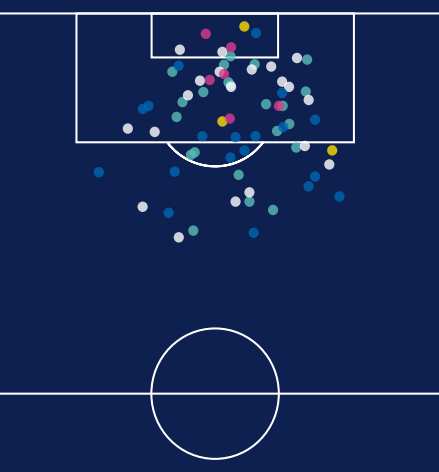
7.9 **EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
 1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=

71 **GOAL ATTEMPTS**
 11.8 per match; UCL rank: 21=

28 **ON TARGET**
 4.7 per match; UCL rank: 13=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Anatolij Trubin	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

4 António Silva	4	277		
5 Morato	5	434		
6 Alexander Bah	3	193		
13 David Jurásek	3	128		
14 Juan Bernat	2	111		
30 Nicolás Otamendi	6	540	1	
44 Tomás Araújo	3	159		

MIDFIELDERS

8 Fredrik Aursnes	6	540	1	
10 Orkun Kökçü	5	264		
20 João Mário	5	324	3	
22 Chiquinho	5	55		
61 Florentino	3	111		
87 João Neves	6	540		

FORWARDS

7 David Neres	3	178		
9 Arthur Cabral	4	120	1	
11 Ángel Di María	5	416	1	1
17 Gonçalo Guedes	2	27		
19 Casper Tengstedt	4	135	2	
27 Rafa Silva	6	505	2	
33 Petar Musa	6	233		
47 Tiago Gouveia	3	29		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
26.1

CARDS
10 2
 Sent off: António Silva v Salzburg (h) & v Inter (h)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 João Mário	3	7	3	1.5
2 Rafa Silva	2	12	4	2.3
3 Ángel Di María	1	12	5	0.3

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Casper Tengstedt	2	1	0.1
2 Ángel Di María	1	8	1.8
3 Fredrik Aursnes	1	5	1.2

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 João Neves	348	274	82	32
2 Nicolás Otamendi	319	219	86	33
3 Fredrik Aursnes	285	219	79	33

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 João Neves	50	18	10
2 Fredrik Aursnes	45	8	3
3 Nicolás Otamendi	33	4	11

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



SC BRAGA



POR



CELTIC FC



SCO

GROUP C	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
NAP L1-2	UNB W2-3	RMA L1-2	RMA L3-0	UNB D1-1
NAP L2-0				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



ARTUR JORGE
 BORN: 01/01/1972, Braga (POR)
 NATIONALITY: Portuguese
 HEAD COACH: From 01/07/2022 to 03/04/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

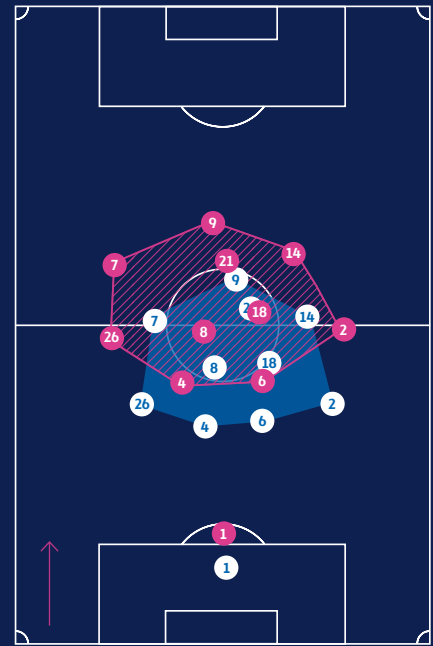
Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	6	1	1	4 17%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	20	9	2	9 45%

- ### KEY FEATURES
- Technically/tactically strong with good combination play and passing
 - Fourth in group stage for pass completion in final third – 87%
 - Strength in duels and reading of game by midfield anchor Al Musrati
 - Aggressive midfield pressing; mainly immediate press on losing ball
 - Quick wingers with 1v1 ability (Bruma) and overlapping full-backs
 - Second-most crosses from open play in group stage – 99
 - Horta's intelligent play between lines and passing ability

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1, 1-4-3-3, 1-4-4-1-1 defensively

3 In possession | **5** Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

53%

Max. 64% v Union Berlin (a)
 Min. 48% v Real Madrid (h)
 UCL rank: 8=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	26%
Middle third	54%
Attacking third	21%

518 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 587 v Union Berlin (a)
 Min. 460 v Napoli (a)
 UCL rank: 10

87% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 90% v Real Madrid (a)
 Min. 82% v Napoli (h)
 UCL rank: 5=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	Medium	Short	Average	UCL rank
52 (10% of total)	196 (38%)	271 (52%)	13.8	17=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	UCL rank
13.8	17=

RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	UCL rank
3	28=

DISTANCE COVERED

113.6 km

Max. 118.5 v Union Berlin (a)
 Min. 108.2 v Union Berlin (h)
 UCL rank: 31

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

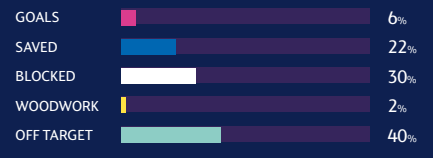
ATTEMPTS

6 GOALS
1 per match; UCL rank: 23=

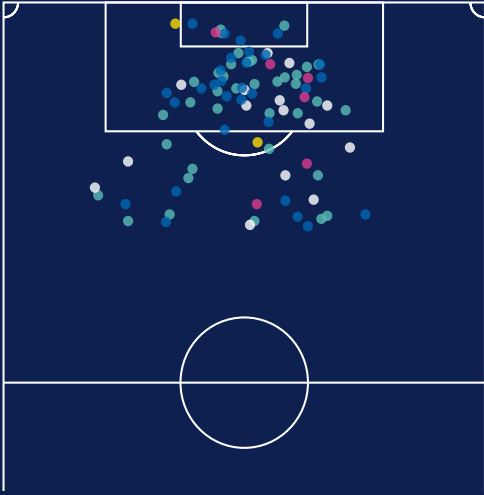
8.6 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.4 per match; UCL rank: 14=

90 GOAL ATTEMPTS
15 per match; UCL rank: 10

22 ON TARGET
3.7 per match; UCL rank: 24=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

GOALKEEPERS	App	Min	G	A
1 Matheus	6	540		

DEFENDERS

2 Victor Gómez	4	314		
4 Sikou Niakaté	5	390	1	
5 Serdar Saatçı	4	324		
6 José Fonte	4	360		
17 Josafat Mendes	5	205		
19 Adrián Marín	2	22		
26 Cristian Borja	6	518		
47 Diogo Fonseca	1	17		

MIDFIELDERS

8 Al Musrati	5	308		
10 André Horta	3	31		
16 Rodrigo Zalazar	6	397	1	
18 Vitor Carvalho	5	266		
22 Pizzi	2	50		
28 João Moutinho	5	290		
88 André Castro	1	4	1	

FORWARDS

7 Bruma	5	371	2	1
9 Abel Ruiz	6	211		
11 Roger Fernandes	1	9		
14 Álvaro Djaló	5	409	2	
20 Rony Lopes	1	2		
21 Ricardo Horta	6	503	3	
23 Simon Banza	6	340	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

27.6

CARDS

11 Sent off: Niakaté v Union Berlin (h)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Bruma	2	12	5	0.7
2 Álvaro Djaló	2	9	4	1.9
3 Sikou Niakaté	1	3	1	0.9

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Ricardo Horta	3	10	1.8
2 Rodrigo Zalazar	1	9	1.9
3 Bruma	1	6	0.6

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Al Musrati	292	235	89	24
2 João Moutinho	268	223	93	28
3 Cristian Borja	266	230	90	27

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Rodrigo Zalazar	30	9	2
2 Al Musrati	28	7	8
3 Cristian Borja	28	7	3

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

GROUP E	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
FEY L2-0	LAZ L1-2	ATM D2-2	ATM L6-0	LAZ L2-0
FEY W2-1				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



BRENDAN RODGERS
 BORN: 26/01/1973, Carrlough (NIR)
 NATIONALITY: Northern Irish
 HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2023
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

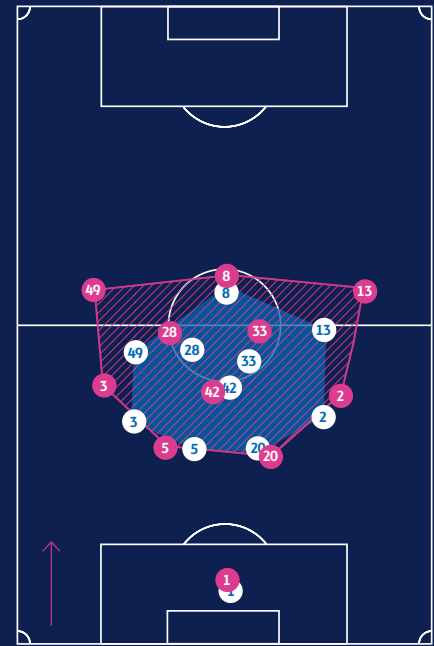
Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	24	3	6	15 13%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	92	36	21	35 39%

- ### KEY FEATURES
- Back four defending narrow and compact
 - Strong mid-press; high press at opposition goal kicks
 - One full-back forward at a time; left-back Taylor moved inside to help with build-ups
 - Holding midfielder McGregor in controlling role, supporting full-backs
 - Hard-working wingers able to play as wide forwards or come into pockets, freeing space for others
 - Fast attacking transitions and four players back for balance to defend transitions
 - Fewest shots in group stage – 46

SHAPE

1-4-3-3; 1-4-4-2, 1-4-4-1-1 when defending

3 In possession | **5** Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

48%

Max. 55% v Lazio (h)
 Min. 35% v Atlético de Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 17=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	40%
Middle third	47%
Attacking third	13%

530 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 670 v Atlético de Madrid(h)
 Min. 404 v Feyenoord (a)
 UCL rank: 7=

85% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 88% v Lazio (a)
 Min. 81% v Feyenoord (a)
 UCL rank: 12=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	Medium	Short	Average	UCL rank
35 (7% of total)	226 (43%)	268 (51%)	16.2	28

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	UCL rank
16.2	28

RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	UCL rank
5	12=

DISTANCE COVERED

120.1 km

Max. 128.2 v Atlético de Madrid (h)
 Min. 111.6 v Atlético de Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 11

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

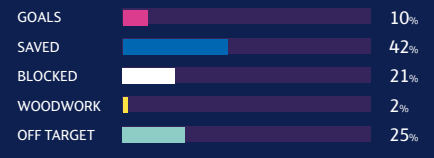
ATTEMPTS

5 GOALS
0.8 per match; UCL rank: 30=

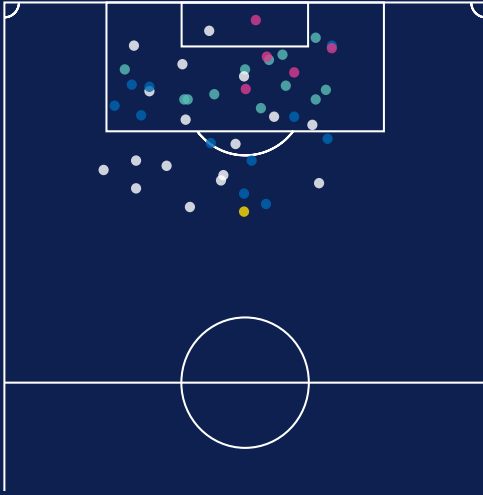
5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
0.8 per match; UCL rank: 32

46 GOAL ATTEMPTS
7.7 per match; UCL rank: 32

22 ON TARGET
3.7 per match; UCL rank: 24=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

GOALKEEPERS	App	Min	G	A
1 Joe Hart	6	540		

DEFENDERS

2 Alistair Johnston	6	540		
3 Greg Taylor	6	540		
4 Gustaf Lagerbielke	2	78	1	
5 Liam Scales	6	540		
6 Nathaniel Phillips	2	90		
20 Cameron Carter-Vickers	4	298		
41 Reo Hatate	3	137		
57 Stephen Welsh	1	75		
68 Mitchel Frame	1	15		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Luis Palma	5	268	2	
8 Kyogo Furuhashi	6	452	2	
13 Hyun-Jun Yang	4	209		
15 Odin Thiago Holm	2	55		
24 Tomoki Iwata	3	61		
28 Paulo Bernardo	6	310		
33 Matt O'Riley	6	487	3	
42 Callum McGregor	6	521		
49 James Forrest	3	93		

FORWARDS

14 David Turnbull	2	33		
19 Hyeong-Gyu Oh	5	100		
38 Daizen Maeda	4	285	1	
90 Mikey Johnston	2	97		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

25.6

CARDS

16 Sent off: Lagerbielke v Feyenoord (a), Thiago Holm v Feyenoord (a), Maeda v Atlético de Madrid (a)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Kyogo Furuhashi	2	10	5	1.5
2 Luis Palma	2	6	5	1.1
3 Gustaf Lagerbielke	1	1	1	0.8

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Matt O'Riley	3	12	1.7
2 Daizen Maeda	1	1	0.1
3 Greg Taylor	0	3	0.6

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Liam Scales	581	460	89	30
2 Greg Taylor	391	327	85	47
3 Alistair Johnston	352	303	81	47

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Liam Scales	37	5	0
2 Greg Taylor	35	8	4
3 Matt O'Riley	33	8	7

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



FC COPENHAGEN



DEN

GROUP A	ROUND OF 16						QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
GAL D 2-2	BAY L 1-2	MUN L 1-0	MUN W 4-3	BAY D 0-0	GAL W 1-0	MCI L 1-3	MCI L 3-1		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral, see page 5 for full club names

COACH



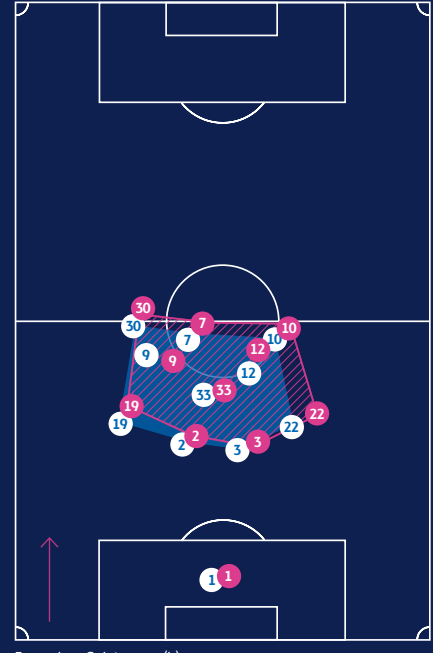
JACOB NEESTRUP
 BORN: 08/03/1988, Copenhagen (DEN)
 NATIONALITY: Danish
 HEAD COACH: Since 20/09/2022
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

- KEY FEATURES**
- Strong mentality with defensive discipline and organisation
 - First for clearances in group stage for team (149) and player (Vavro – 41)
 - Narrow front three screening centrally out of possession, with midfield trio wider
 - Composure and organisational ability of midfield pivot Falk
 - Overloading wide areas with athletic full-backs and wide men
 - Attacking transitions: vertical passing, breaking at speed and in numbers
 - Dribbling and creativity from Elyounoussi, Achouri

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	12	2	4	6	17%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	18	6	6	6	33%

SHAPE

1-4-3-3, 1-4-5-1; also back 5 v Man City
■ 3 In possession | ■ 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION
39%
 Max. 52% v Man United (h)
 Min. 21% v Man City (h)
 UCL rank: 31

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	38%
Middle third	43%
Attacking third	19%

391 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 517 v Man United (a)
 Min. 209 v Man City (a)
 UCL rank: 26

80% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 88% v Man United (h), Man City (a)
 Min. 68% v Galatasaray (h), Man City (h)
 UCL rank: 25=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	44 (11% of total)	UCL rank: 8=
Medium	131 (34%)	UCL rank: 32
Short	216 (55%)	UCL rank: 5=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	18.2	UCL rank	30
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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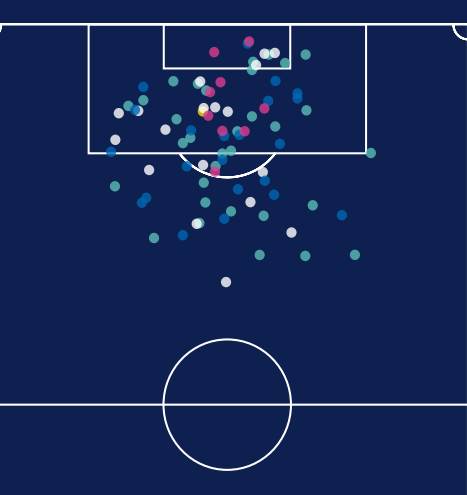
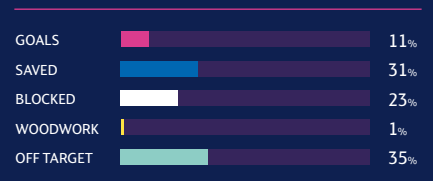
DISTANCE COVERED

126.9 km
 Max. 134.3 v Man United (a)
 Min. 121.3 v Galatasaray (a)
 UCL rank: 1

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 10 GOALS**
1.3 per match; UCL rank: 15=
- 9.6 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.2 per match; UCL rank: 25
- 84 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
10.5 per match; UCL rank: 26
- 29 ON TARGET**
3.6 per match; UCL rank: 28



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



FK CRVENA ZVEZDA



SRB

GROUP G	ROUND OF 16						QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
MCI L 3-1	YB D 2-2	LEI L 3-1	LEI L 1-2	YB L 2-0	MCI L 2-3				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral, see page 5 for full club names

COACH



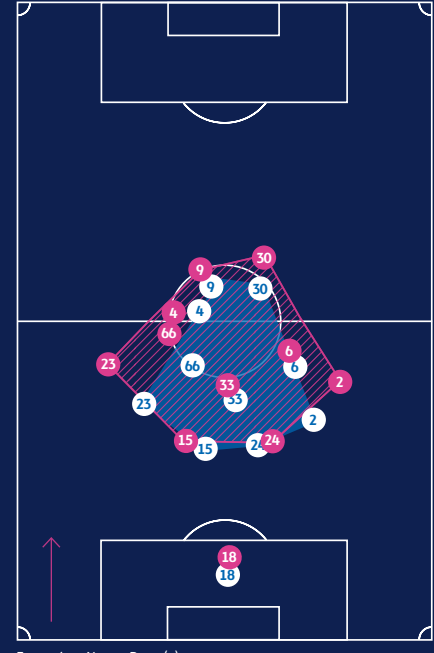
BARAK BAKHAR
 BORN: 21/09/1979, Tzrufa (ISR)
 NATIONALITY: Israeli
 HEAD COACH: From 01/07/2023 to 20/12/2023
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

- KEY FEATURES**
- Effective defending in mid-block
 - Centre-back Dragović second in group stage for clearances – 34
 - Rotations with Rodić stepping up on left from centre-back/full-back
 - Look for fast attacking transitions
 - Bukari threat with speed and runs in behind
 - No9 Ndiaye able to hold ball and link play
 - Direct play with 41% of passes going forward

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	12	1	1	10	8%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	85	27	19	39	32%

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1, 1-4-3-1-2, 1-4-4-2; also used 1-5-3-2
■ 3 In possession | ■ 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION
40%
 Max. 53% v Young Boys (a)
 Min. 24% v Manchester City (a)
 UCL rank: 30

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	39%
Middle third	45%
Attacking third	16%

330 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 442 v Leipzig (h)
 Min. 234 v Manchester City (a)
 UCL rank: 32

78% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 81% v Leipzig (h)
 Min. 69% v Young Boys (h)
 UCL rank: 30=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	44 (13% of total)	UCL rank: 3=
Medium	130 (39%)	UCL rank: 10=
Short	157 (47%)	UCL rank: 29=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	11.9	UCL rank	9=
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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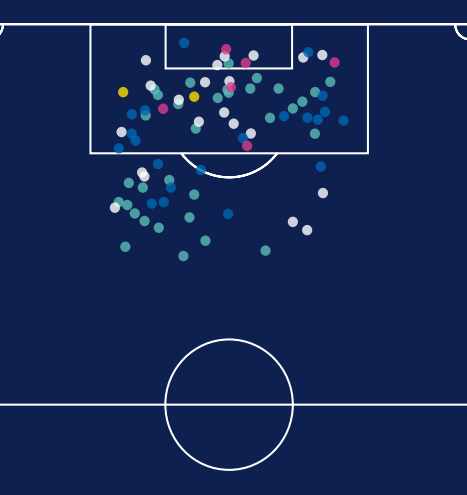
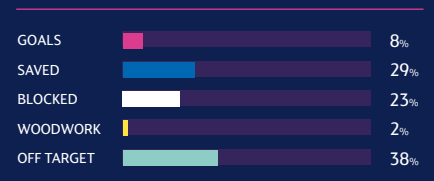
DISTANCE COVERED

115.8 km
 Max. 117.5 v Leipzig (h)
 Min. 114.5 v Young Boys (h)
 UCL rank: 25

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 7 GOALS**
1.2 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 8.9 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.5 per match; UCL rank: 13
- 83 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
13.8 per match; UCL rank: 13
- 27 ON TARGET**
4.5 per match; UCL rank: 16=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Kamil Grabara	8	720		
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DEFENDERS

2 Kevin Diks	8	708		
3 Denis Vavro	8	708		
6 Christian Sørensen	3	43		
19 Elias Jelert	7	587		
20 Nicolai Boilesen	3	92		
22 Peter Ankersen	7	464		
24 Birger Meling	3	192	1	
26 Scott McKenna	2	180		
27 Valdemar Lund	2	27		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Viktor Claesson	7	481		
8 Magnus Mattsson	2	113	1	
10 Mohamed Elyounoussi	8	686	3	
12 Lukas Lerager	6	540	3	1
36 William Clem	1	68		
39 Oscar Højlund	6	46		
47 Victor Froholdt	1	58		

FORWARDS

9 Diogo Gonçalves	7	535	2	1
11 Jordan Larsson	5	101		
14 Andreas Cornelius	3	80		
18 Orri Óskarsson	6	142	1	
30 Elias Achouri	8	557	1	
33 Rasmus Falk	7	630	1	
40 Rooney Bardghji	4	144	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
26

CARDS
19 2
 Sent off: Jelert v Galatasaray (a), Lerager v Galatasaray (h)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Mohamed Elyounoussi	3	17	8	2.2
2 Lukas Lerager	3	6	4	1.4
3 Diogo Gonçalves	2	12	4	1.9

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Elias Achouri	1	4	1.6
2 Diogo Gonçalves	1	4	0.7
3 Rasmus Falk	1	3	0.5

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Denis Vavro	381	271	83	42
2 Kevin Diks	374	272	91	30
3 Rasmus Falk	353	268	86	30

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Mohamed Elyounoussi	45	9	11
2 Peter Ankersen	39	8	10
3 Elias Achouri	37	11	2

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

18 Omri Glazer	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

2 Kosta Nedeljković	4	238		
3 Miloš Degenek	1	8		
5 Uroš Spajić	1	65		
15 Aleksandar Dragović	6	540		
23 Milan Rodić	6	417		
24 Nasser Djiga	6	540		

MIDFIELDERS

4 Mirko Ivanić	5	376	1	
6 Marko Stamenic	4	299	1	
8 Guélor Kanga	3	148	1	
10 Aleksandar Katai	5	76	1	
20 Kings Kangwa	1	9		
30 Osman Bukari	6	487	2	2
33 Srdjan Mijailović	6	488		
37 Vladimir Lučić	6	202		
66 Hwang In-Beom	6	531	1	1
70 Uroš Kabić	1	12		
80 Stefan Mitrović	3	211		

FORWARDS

9 Cherif Ndiaye	6	360	1	
14 Peter Olayinka	5	174		
17 Jean-Philippe Krasso	4	108	1	
22 Jovan Mijatović	4	115		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
26.4

CARDS
21 0

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Osman Bukari	2	12	2	1.0
2 Hwang In-Beom	1	13	4	0.9
3 Cherif Ndiaye	1	9	6	2.9

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Osman Bukari	2	9	1.4
2 Hwang In-Beom	1	15	0.8
3 Mirko Ivanić	1	4	0.8

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Aleksandar Dragovic	256	163	90	37
2 Hwang In-Beom	238	179	81	35
3 Nasser Djiga	211	142	83	35

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Hwang In-Beom	43	10	5
2 Nasser Djiga	33	4	12
3 Osman Bukari	32	3	2

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



BORUSSIA DORTMUND



GER

GROUP F	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
PAR L 2-0	MIL D 0-0	NEW W 0-1	NEW W 2-0	MIL W 1-3
PAR D 1-1	PSV D 1-1	PSV W 2-0	ATL L 2-1	ATL W 4-2
PAR W 0-1	PAR W 0-1	RMA L 0-2		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



EDIN TERZIĆ

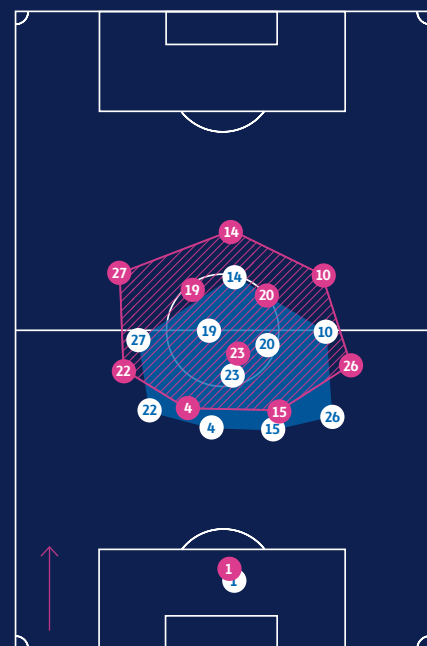
BORN: 30/10/1982, Menden (GER)
 NATIONALITY: German
 HEAD COACH: From 01/07/2022 to 13/06/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	25	11	7	44%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	25	11	7	44%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Build from back, with Can supporting centre-backs
 - Füllkrug an option for longer balls, with attackers playing off him
 - Sought overloads in final third with wingers inside and full-backs high
 - Threat from clever runs in behind, e.g. Brandt v Atlético
 - Speed and 1v1 ability of wingers Sancho, Adeyemi
 - Defensive leadership, composure and experience of Hummels
 - Most tackles overall in competition – 20.8 per game on average

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1
3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION **46%**

Max. 62% v Atlético (a)
 Min. 31% v Paris (a)
 UCL rank: 19=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	33%
Middle third	50%
Attacking third	17%

429 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 649 v Atlético (a)
 Min. 295 v Paris (a)
 UCL rank: 19=

82% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 89% v Atlético (a)
 Min. 73% v Newcastle (a)
 UCL rank: 19=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	43 (10% of total)	UCL rank: 14=
Medium	159 (37%)	UCL rank: 21=
Short	227 (53%)	UCL rank: 12=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	15.2	UCL rank	27
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	4	UCL rank	24=
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DISTANCE COVERED

117.6 km

Max. 120.6 v PSV (a), PSV (h)
 Min. 111.7 v Real Madrid (n)
 UCL rank: 18

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

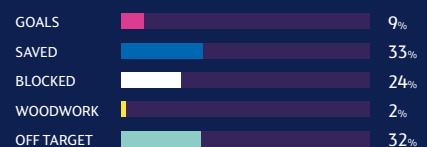
ATTEMPTS

17 **GOALS**
 1.3 per match; UCL rank: 15=

17.3 **EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
 1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=

171 **GOAL ATTEMPTS**
 13.2 per match; UCL rank: 17

63 **ON TARGET**
 4.8 per match; UCL rank: 11=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Gregor Kobel	12	1080		
33 Alexander Meyer	1	90		

DEFENDERS

4 Nico Schlotterbeck	12	976	2	
5 Ramy Bensebaini	5	374		
15 Mats Hummels	13	1170	1	1
22 Ian Maatsen	7	630	1	
23 Emre Can	11	913		
25 Niklas Süle	6	395		
26 Julian Ryerson	10	897		

MIDFIELDERS

6 Salih Özcan	9	439		
7 Giovanni Reyna	2	21		
8 Felix Nmecha	8	347	1	
10 Jadon Sancho	7	563	1	
11 Marco Reus	13	485	2	1
17 Marius Wolf	6	284		
19 Julian Brandt	12	789	2	2
20 Marcel Sabitzer	12	929	1	5
43 Jamie Bynoe-Gittens	7	202	1	

FORWARDS

9 Sébastien Haller	4	61	1	
14 Niclas Füllkrug	13	1040	3	2
18 Youssoufa Moukoko	4	17		
21 Donyell Malen	8	459	1	
27 Karim Adeyemi	12	709	2	1

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **26.7**

CARDS **23** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Niclas Füllkrug	3	35	11	5.4
2 Julian Brandt	2	19	6	1.4
3 Karim Adeyemi	2	15	8	1.8

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Marcel Sabitzer	5	9	1.5
2 Julian Brandt	2	26	2.2
3 Niclas Füllkrug	2	17	1.1

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Mats Hummels	708	493	87	38
2 Nico Schlotterbeck	665	486	85	41
3 Emre Can	494	393	86	30

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Mats Hummels	81	29	25
2 Nico Schlotterbeck	66	15	11
3 Julian Ryerson	59	17	4

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



FEYENOORD



NED

GROUP E	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
CEL W 2-0	ATM L 3-2	LAZ W 3-1	LAZ L 1-0	ATM L 1-3
CEL L 2-1				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



ARNE SLOT

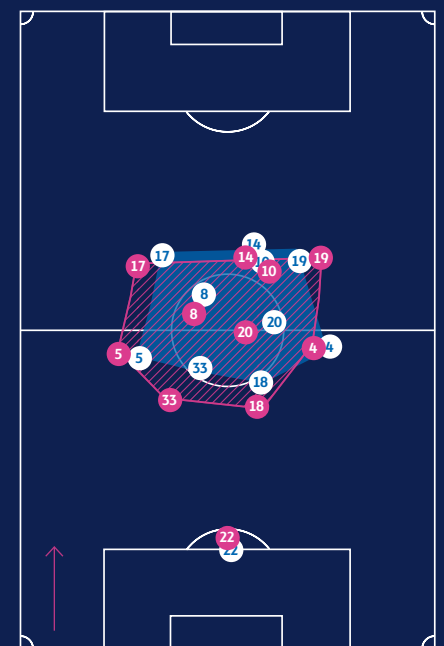
BORN: 17/09/1978, Bergentheim (NED)
 NATIONALITY: Dutch
 HEAD COACH: From 01/07/2021 to 31/05/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	6	2	0	33%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	57	25	18	44%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Build from back with overloads in central areas
 - Strong mid-press; look to counter-press whenever possible
 - Creativity of Stengs, with clever positioning between lines, dropping into pockets
 - No 10 Stengs joint-first for key passes in group stage – 16
 - Geertuida reading game and using ball well at centre-back or right-back
 - Look to wide players for 1v1s and penetrating runs in final third
 - Striker Giménez a threat going behind opposition defences

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1; 1-4-3-3; also 1-4-4-2 defensive at Lazio
3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION **54%**

Max. 64% v Lazio (a)
 Min. 46% v Lazio (h)
 UCL rank: 6=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	32%
Middle third	50%
Attacking third	18%

564 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 677 v Lazio (a)
 Min. 481 v Celtic (a)
 UCL rank: 3

87% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 90% v Lazio (a)
 Min. 83% v Celtic (a)
 UCL rank: 5=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	36 (6% of total)	UCL rank: 30=
Medium	243 (43%)	UCL rank: 2=
Short	285 (51%)	UCL rank: 15=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	12.7	UCL rank	14
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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DISTANCE COVERED

121.1 km

Max. 126.2 v Lazio (h)
 Min. 115 v Atlético de Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 10

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

9 **GOALS**
 1.5 per match; UCL rank: 13=

10.8 **EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
 1.8 per match; UCL rank: 5=

91 **GOAL ATTEMPTS**
 15.2 per match; UCL rank: 9

32 **ON TARGET**
 5.3 per match; UCL rank: 7=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Justin Bijlow	4	360		
22 Timon Wellenreuther	2	180		

DEFENDERS

2 Bart Nieuwkoop	3	81		
3 Thomas Beelen	1	79		
4 Lutsharel Geertruida	6	540		
5 Quilindschy Hartman	6	540		
15 Marcos Lopez	1	45		
18 Gernot Trauner	4	282		
33 Dávid Hancko	6	540	1	

MIDFIELDERS

6 Ramiz Zerrouki	5	355	1	
8 Quinten Timber	6	466	1	
10 Calvin Stengs	6	472	1	1
16 Thomas van den Belt	1	36		
20 Mats Wieffer	6	470	1	1
27 Antoni Milambo	2	35		
32 Ondřej Lingr	4	66		

FORWARDS

7 Alireza Jahanbakhsh	4	70	1	
9 Ayase Ueda	5	149	1	
11 Javairo Dilrosun	1	11		
14 Igor Paixão	6	401		
17 Luka Ivanušec	5	204	1	
19 Yankuba Minteh	4	197	1	
25 Leo Sauer	2	13		
29 Santiago Giménez	4	348	2	1

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **24.3**

CARDS **14** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Santiago Giménez	2	11	6	2.3
2 Yankuba Minteh	1	10	5	1.3
3 Dávid Hancko	1	7	2	1.6

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Calvin Stengs	1	16	1.9
2 Quinten Timber	1	6	0.6
3 Mats Wieffer	1	3	0.2

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Dávid Hancko	561	429	91	23
2 Lutsharel Geertruida	430	375	93	30
3 Quilindschy Hartman	352	305	81	35

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Mats Wieffer	50	5	10
2 Dávid Hancko	46	2	5
3 Lutsharel Geertruida	39	9	5

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



GALATASARAY AŞ



TUR

GROUP A	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
COP D 2-2	MUN W 2-3	BAY L 1-3	BAY L 2-1	MUN D 3-3
COP L 1-0				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

OKAN BURUK

BORN: 19/10/1973, Istanbul (TUR)
 NATIONALITY: Turkish
 HEAD COACH: Since 23/06/2022
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

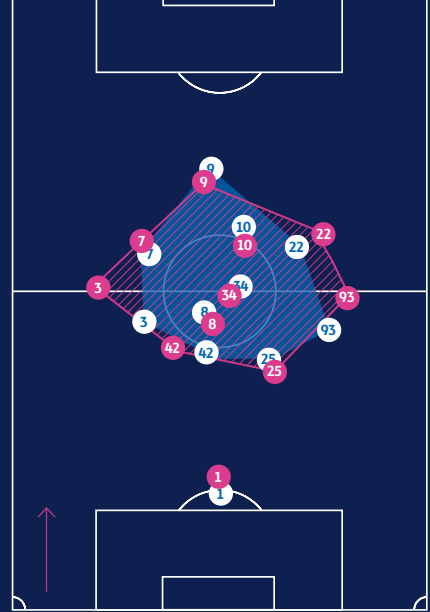
	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	12	2	2	8	17%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	31	13	4	14	42%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Organised, narrow and disciplined defensive unit
 - Full-backs (Boey) getting forward to support attacks
 - Torreira's key midfield role, screening and playmaking
 - First for ball recoveries in group stage – 367
 - Fast attacking transitions; applied counter-press immediately where possible
 - Attacking guile of No 10 Mertens – four big chances created
 - Look to play behind defence, with Icardi's penetrating runs

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1 when attacking; 1-4-4-1-1/1-4-4-2 out of possession

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Copenhagen (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

53%

Max. 63% v Copenhagen (h), Copenhagen (a)
 Min. 39% v Bayern (a)
 UCL rank: 8=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	27%
Middle third	53%
Attacking third	20%

462 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 583 v Copenhagen (h)
 Min. 356 v Bayern (a)
 UCL rank: 14

79% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 84% v Copenhagen (h)
 Min. 70% v Man United (a)
 UCL rank: 27=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	47 (10% of total)	UCL rank: 14=
Medium	170 (37%)	UCL rank: 21=
Short	245 (53%)	UCL rank: 12=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	9.7	UCL rank	3
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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DISTANCE COVERED

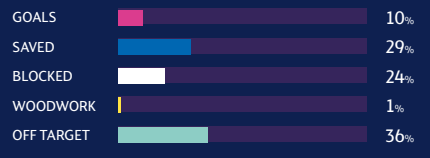
113.6 km

Max. 117.5 v Man United (a)
 Min. 108.3 v Man United (h)
 UCL rank: 32

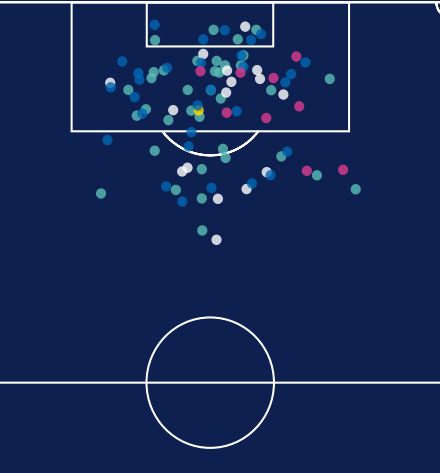
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 10 GOALS**
1.7 per match; UCL rank: 10=
- 10 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.7 per match; UCL rank: 7=
- 92 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
15.3 per match; UCL rank: 8
- 30 ON TARGET**
5 per match; UCL rank: 10



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



FC INTERNAZIONALE MILANO



ITA

GROUP D	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
SOC D 1-1	BEN W 1-0	SAL W 2-1	SAL W 0-1	BEN D 3-3
SOC D 0-0	ATL W 1-0	ATL L 2-1*		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names *AET: 3-2 pens

COACH

SIMONE INZAGHI

BORN: 05/04/1976, Piacenza (ITA)
 NATIONALITY: Italian
 HEAD COACH: Since 03/06/2021
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

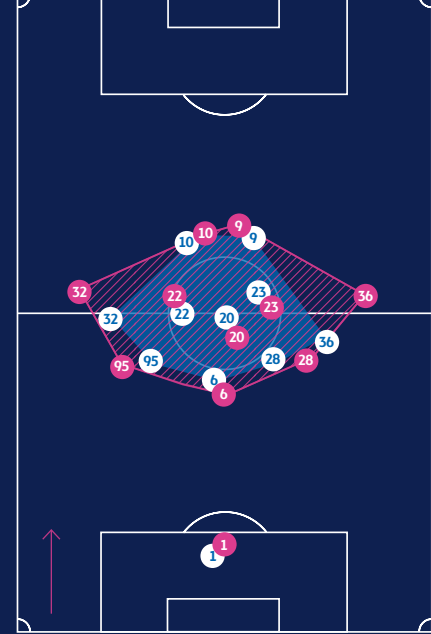
	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	37	17	11	9	46%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	63	29	13	21	46%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Powerful defensive structure with strong centre-back trio
 - Invited opposition pressure, then looked to play beyond line of press
 - Good ball circulation before line-breaking passes by defenders (Pavard, Acerbi)
 - Fast transitions with quick, vertical passes and forward runs
 - Positional flexibility with midfielders dropping into defence to help circulate ball
 - Wide rotations as centre-backs and midfielders stepped out and wing-backs inside
 - Third-most crosses per game on average – 16 with 31% completion rate

SHAPE

1-3-5-2, 1-5-3-2; also 1-4-3-3 in attack

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Atlético (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

53%

Max. 59% v Benfica (a)
 Min. 45% v Real Sociedad (h)
 UCL rank: 8=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	38%
Middle third	48%
Attacking third	14%

514 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 615 v Atlético (h)
 Min. 426 v Real Sociedad (h)
 UCL rank: 11=

85% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 92% v Benfica (a)
 Min. 80% v Real Sociedad (h)
 UCL rank: 12=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	42 (8% of total)	UCL rank: 22=
Medium	211 (41%)	UCL rank: 6
Short	261 (51%)	UCL rank: 15=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	15.1	UCL rank	24=
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	4	UCL rank	24=
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DISTANCE COVERED

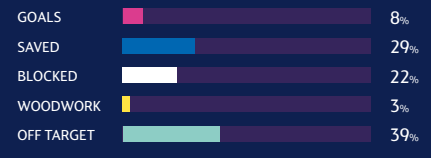
124.3 km

Max. 157.9 v Atlético (a)
 Min. 117.2 v Real Sociedad (a)
 UCL rank: 3=

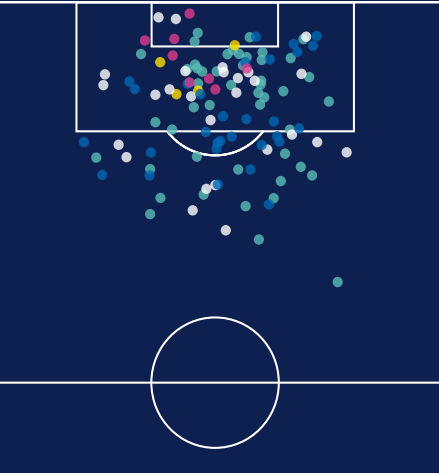
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 10 GOALS**
1.2 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 16.4 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
2 per match; UCL rank: 5
- 119 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
14.3 per match; UCL rank: 11
- 38 ON TARGET**
4.6 per match; UCL rank: 15



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Fernando Muslera	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

3 Angeliño	6	428		
6 Davinson Sánchez	4	360	2	
23 Kaan Ayhan	5	384		
25 Victor Nelsso	4	102		
42 Abdülkerim Bardakçı	6	540		
88 Kazımcan Karataş	1	74		
93 Sacha Boey	6	540	1	

MIDFIELDERS

8 Kerem Demirbay	2	61		
22 Hakim Ziyech	5	251	2	1
27 Sérgio Oliveira	5	124		1
34 Lucas Torreira	6	498		
91 Tanguy Ndombélé	4	90		

FORWARDS

7 Kerem Aktürkoğlu	6	440	2	
9 Mauro Icardi	6	519	2	
10 Dries Mertens	5	200		
14 Wilfried Zaha	6	401	1	1
20 Tetê	5	230	1	1
53 Barış Alper Yılmaz	5	123		1
94 Cédric Bakambu	2	37		1

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **28.8**

CARDS **15** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Mauro Icardi	2	21	6	4.2
2 Kerem Aktürkoğlu	2	18	6	2.1
3 Hakim Ziyech	2	7	4	0.2

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Davinson Sánchez	2	2	0.3
2 Hakim Ziyech	1	6	1.1
3 Wilfried Zaha	1	4	0.5

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Abdülkerim Bardakçı	387	267	82	37
2 Lucas Torreira	311	203	87	29
3 Sacha Boey	291	240	80	45

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Lucas Torreira	61	7	8
2 Sacha Boey	48	12	6
3 Abdülkerim Bardakçı	45	9	11

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Yann Sommer	7	660		
77 Emil Audero	1	90		

DEFENDERS

2 Denzel Dumfries	5	332	1	
6 Stefan de Vrij	6	498		
15 Francesco Acerbi	6	421		1
28 Benjamin Pavard	5	480		
30 Carlos Augusto	7	474		
31 Yann Bissec	3	171		1
32 Federico Dimarco	7	365		1
36 Matteo Darmian	7	405		
95 Alessandro Bastoni	7	501		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Juan Cuadrado	2	113		
14 Davy Klaassen	4	83		
16 Davide Frattesi	7	449	1	1
20 Hakan Çalhanoğlu	6	513		1
21 Kristjan Asllani	6	202		
22 Henrikh Mkhitaryan	7	520		1
23 Nicolò Barella	8	468		1

FORWARDS

8 Marko Arnautović	4	193	2	
9 Marcus Thuram	8	458		1
10 Lautaro Martínez	8	531	2	1
70 Alexis Sánchez	8	335		2

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **29.4**

CARDS **18** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Lautaro Martínez	2	34	12	5.1
2 Marko Arnautović	2	7	3	2.9
3 Alexis Sánchez	2	3	3	1.3

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Davide Frattesi	2	6	0.5
2 Nicolò Barella	1	13	1.6
3 Hakan Çalhanoğlu	1	13	1.3

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Stefan de Vrij	422	329	94	19
2 Hakan Çalhanoğlu	409	341	88	24
3 Alessandro Bastoni	366	290	87	28

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Henrikh Mkhitaryan	42	5	8
2 Hakan Çalhanoğlu	38	5	6
3 Stefan de Vrij	33	5	5

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

GROUP E		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
ATM D 1-1	CEL W 1-2	FEY L 3-1	FEY W 1-0	CEL W 2-0	ATM L 2-0	BAY W 1-0
				BAY L 3-0		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

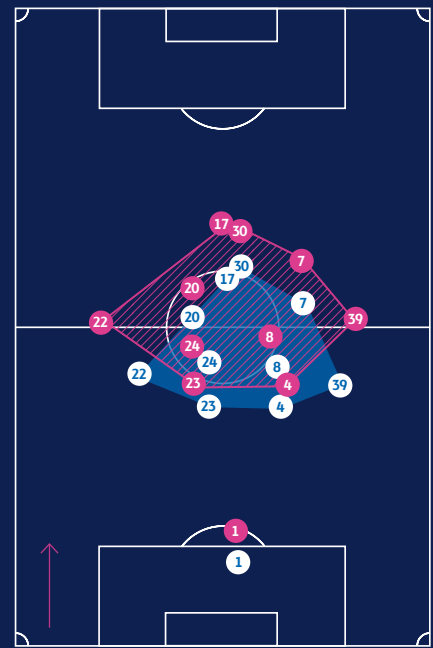
MAURIZIO SARRI
 BORN: 10/01/1959, Naples (ITA)
 NATIONALITY: Italian
 HEAD COACH: From 09/06/2021 to 12/03/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 1

- ### KEY FEATURES
- Strong organisation with disciplined, compact defence – three clean sheets in four home matches
 - Good rotations on wings with overlapping, attacking full-backs (Lazzari, Marušić)
 - Physicality and industry of Guendouzi in midfield
 - Attacking midfielders led press with wingers staying narrow to profit from regains
 - Quick transitions with good vertical play and powerful, penetrating runs
 - Creativity and set pieces of No10 Luis Alberto – made 21 chances
 - Experienced centre-forward in four-goal Immobile

	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	30	15	4	11	50%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	75	42	14	19	56%

SHAPE

1-4-3-3, 1-4-5-1 out of possession
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSESSION	POSESSION POSITION
44%	First third 33%
Max. 54% v Feyenoord (a) Min. 36% v Feyenoord (h) UCL rank: 22=	Middle third 52%
	Attacking third 15%

499 PASSES ATTEMPTED	86% PASS ACCURACY
Max. 623 v Feyenoord (a) Min. 372 v Feyenoord (h) UCL rank: 13	Max. 89% v Atlético (h) Min. 81% v Feyenoord (h) UCL rank: 9=

PASS DISTANCE*		
Long	35 (7% of total)	UCL rank: 25=
Medium	193 (39%)	UCL rank: 10=
Short	271 (54%)	UCL rank: 8=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION	Average	UCL rank
	19.8	31

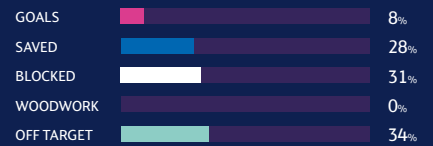
RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD	Average	UCL rank
	3	28=

DISTANCE COVERED	
123.1 km	Max. 128.1 v Celtic (a) Min. 119.2 v Atlético (a) UCL rank: 6

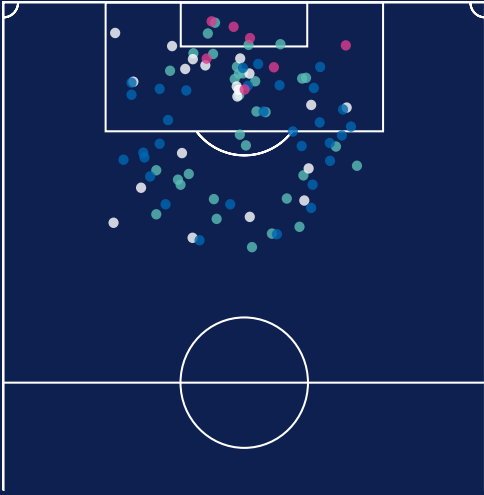
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 8 GOALS**
1 per match; UCL rank: 23=
- 10.7 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 93 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
11.6 per match; UCL rank: 24
- 28 ON TARGET**
3.5 per match; UCL rank: 29=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

94 Ivan Provedel	8	720	1
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DEFENDERS

3 Luca Pellegrini	4	160	
4 Patric	5	369	
13 Alessio Romagnoli	6	540	1
15 Nicolò Casale	2	180	
23 Elseid Hysaj	5	343	
29 Manuel Lazzari	7	423	
34 Mario Gila	4	351	

MIDFIELDERS

5 Matías Vecino	6	473	1
6 Daichi Kamada	7	257	
7 Felipe Anderson	8	546	1
8 Matteo Guendouzi	8	492	1
10 Luis Alberto	8	646	1
32 Danilo Cataldi	5	156	
65 Nicolò Rovella	3	136	
77 Adam Marušić	7	514	

FORWARDS

9 Pedro Rodríguez	8	187	2
17 Ciro Immobile	8	507	4
18 Gustav Isaksen	5	243	1
19 Taty Castellanos	7	213	
20 Mattia Zaccagni	6	464	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
28.5	25 0

GOALS	G	S	OT	xG
1 Ciro Immobile	4	10	5	3.1
2 Pedro Rodríguez	2	4	3	1
3 Matías Vecino	1	7	1	0.6

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP	xA
1 Luis Alberto	1	20	2.2
2 Felipe Anderson	1	10	1
3 Gustav Isaksen	1	4	0.5

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Luis Alberto	451	400	85	33
2 Alessio Romagnoli	364	279	91	38
3 Patric	306	224	86	39

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Alessio Romagnoli	33	4	2
2 Luis Alberto	32	2	7
3 Felipe Anderson	30	7	12

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

GROUP G		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
YB W 1-3	MCI L 1-3	CRV W 3-1	CRV W 1-2	MCI L 3-2	YB W 2-1	RMA L 0-1
				RMA D 1-1		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

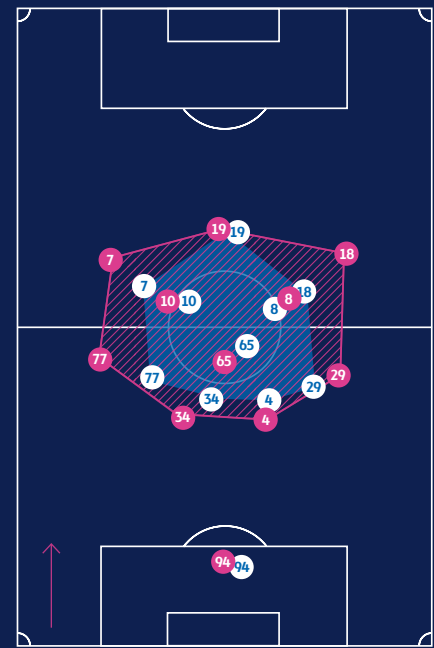
MARCO ROSE
 BORN: 11/09/1976, Leipzig (GER)
 NATIONALITY: German
 HEAD COACH: Since 08/09/2022
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

- ### KEY FEATURES
- 1-4-2-2-2, 1-4-4-2; also used back five
 - Clear identity with talented individuals and tactical flexibility
 - Counter-pressing team looking to dominate central areas with six players
 - In possession, athletic full-backs pushed high with wingers inside
 - Good transitions to defence, reverting to flat 1-4-4-2
 - Defend from inside out, pressing centrally, leaving flanks to opponent
 - Excellent attacking transitions with mobile attacking players
 - Speed and creativity of wingers Olmo and Simons

	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	29	13	4	12	45%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	80	45	16	19	56%

SHAPE

1-4-4-2 with midfield diamond;
 1-4-1-3-2, 1-4-2-3-1 out of possession
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSESSION	POSESSION POSITION
46%	First third 37%
Max. 65% v Crvena zvezda (h) Min. 30% v Manchester City (a) UCL rank: 19=	Middle third 46%
	Attacking third 17%

447 PASSES ATTEMPTED	84% PASS ACCURACY
Max. 560 v Crvena zvezda (h) Min. 327 v Manchester City (a) UCL rank: 18	Max. 87% v Crvena zvezda (h) Min. 79% v Young Boys (a) UCL rank: 14

PASS DISTANCE*		
Long	35 (8% of total)	UCL rank: 22=
Medium	170 (38%)	UCL rank: 14=
Short	242 (54%)	UCL rank: 8=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION	Average	UCL rank
	14.2	19

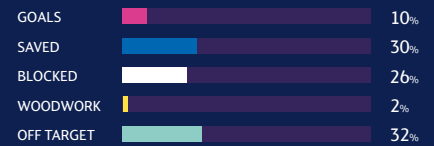
RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD	Average	UCL rank
	4	24=

DISTANCE COVERED	
123.0 km	Max. 128.0 v Benfica (a) Min. 116.7 v Real Sociedad (a) UCL rank: 12

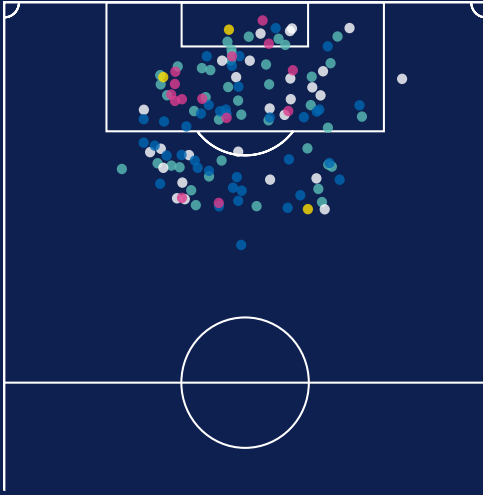
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 14 GOALS**
1.8 per match; UCL rank: 7=
- 12.5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.6 per match; UCL rank: 9=
- 124 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
15.5 per match; UCL rank: 7
- 42 ON TARGET**
5.3 per match; UCL rank: 7



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Péter Gulácsi	3	270	
21 Janis Blaswich	5	450	1

DEFENDERS

2 Mohamed Simakan	7	599	1
3 Christopher Lenz	2	92	
4 Willi Orbán	2	180	1
16 Lukas Klostermann	6	353	
22 David Raum	7	630	1 2
23 Castello Lukeba	7	620	
39 Benjamin Henrichs	6	493	2

MIDFIELDERS

6 Eljif Elmas	2	20	
8 Amadou Haidara	5	266	
13 Nicolas Seiwald	4	272	
14 Christoph Baumgartner	6	113	1
18 Fábio Carvalho	3	121	
24 Xaver Schlager	8	624	1 2
44 Kevin Kampl	7	282	2

FORWARDS

7 Dani Olmo	3	180	1
9 Yussuf Poulsen	7	339	1
10 Emil Forsberg	6	411	1
11 Timo Werner	4	46	
17 Loïs Openda	8	558	4
20 Xavi Simons	8	598	2 2
30 Benjamin Šeško	8	403	2

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
26.5	19 0

GOALS	G	S	OT	xG
1 Loïs Openda	4	29	9	3.6
2 Xavi Simons	2	18	7	1.3
3 Benjamin Šeško	2	15	8	2.9

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP	xA
1 David Raum	2	17	2.6
2 Xavi Simons	2	17	1.3
3 Xaver Schlager	2	10	0.3

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Castello Lukeba	401	323	90	34
2 Xaver Schlager	340	255	86	30
3 Mohamed Simakan	304	217	82	36

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Xaver Schlager	46	15	5
2 Xavi Simons	43	2	4
3 Benjamin Henrichs	36	14	3

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



RC LENS



FRA

GROUP B		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
SEV D 1-1	ARS W 2-1	PSV D 1-1	PSV L 1-0	ARS L 6-0	SEV W 2-1				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



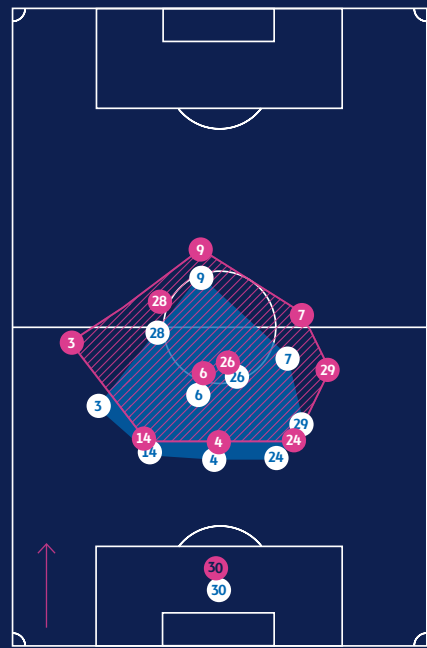
FRANCK HAISE
 BORN: 15/04/1971, Mont-Saint-Aignan (FRA)
 NATIONALITY: French
 HEAD COACH: From 25/02/2020 to 30/06/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	6	2	2	33%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	8	2	3	25%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Strong defensive qualities and work hard for each other
 - Compact shape with back five and narrow midfield four when defending
 - Wing-backs step high and wide as targets when building from back
 - In mid-press, front five press opposition with tight spaces in middle of pitch
 - Wing-back Frankowski second-most open-play crosses in group stage – 27
 - Look for counters with fast, dangerous attacking transitions
 - Strong target striker with hold-up ability in Wahi

SHAPE

1-3-4-2-1; 1-5-4-1 out of possession
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION
44%

Max. 55% v PSV (a)
 Min. 34% v Arsenal (h)
 UCL rank: 22=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	32%
Middle third	54%
Attacking third	15%

387 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 477 v Arsenal (a)
 Min. 309 v Sevilla (h)
 UCL rank: 27

79% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 86% v Arsenal (a)
 Min. 75% v Sevilla (a), Sevilla (h)
 UCL rank: 27=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	39 (10% of total)	UCL rank: 14=
Medium	137 (35%)	UCL rank: 29=
Short	211 (55%)	UCL rank: 5=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	14.7	UCL rank: 22=
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	3	UCL rank: 28=
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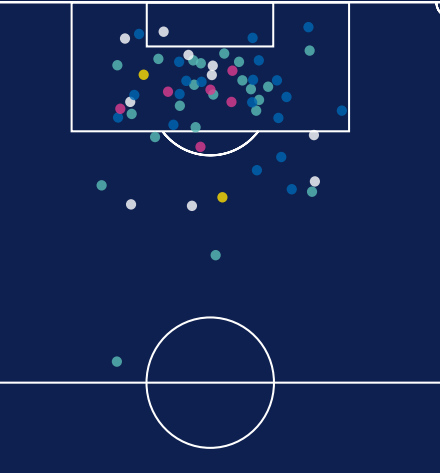
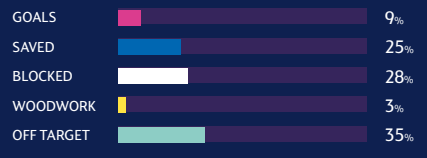
DISTANCE COVERED
116.3 km

Max. 121.2 v PSV (a)
 Min. 111.9 v Sevilla (h)
 UCL rank: 22

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 6** GOALS
1 per match; UCL rank: 23=
- 6.2** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1 per match; UCL rank: 27=
- 60** GOAL ATTEMPTS
10 per match; UCL rank: 28
- 17** ON TARGET
2.8 per match; UCL rank: 32



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



MANCHESTER CITY FC



ENG

GROUP G		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
CRV W 3-1	LEI W 1-3	YB W 1-3	YB W 3-0	LEI W 3-2	CRV W 2-3	COP W 1-3	COP W 3-1	RMA D 3-3	RMA D 1-1*

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



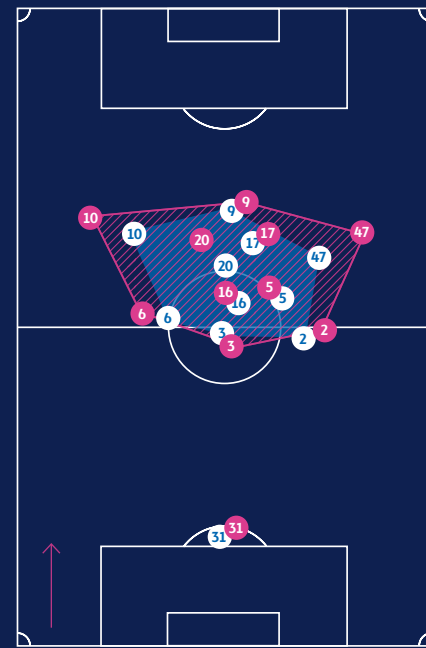
PEP GUARDIOLA
 BORN: 18/01/1971, Santpedor (ESP)
 NATIONALITY: Spanish
 HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2016
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 7

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	171	109	35	27	64%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	179	116	35	28	65%

- KEY FEATURES**
- 1-3-2-5 in build-up with Stones/Akanji joining Rodri to give numerical advantage in midfield
 - Highest average possession in competition – 70%
 - Invited opposition to press in order to get ball behind midfield and into the Bs
 - Patient approach with excellent timing of when to penetrate and play into final third
 - Influence of Rodri with awareness, ability to retain ball and to play line-breaking passes
 - Wingers stayed wide to stretch play: Haaland provided verticality with runs in behind
 - Individuals with 1v1 ability, e.g. Doku third for ball carries after 1v1

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1; 1-4-1-4-1 out of possession
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION
70%

Max. 79% v Copenhagen (a)
 Min. 61% v Real Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 1

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	18%
Middle third	53%
Attacking third	29%

742 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 830 v Copenhagen (a)
 Min. 670 v Crvena zvezda (a)
 UCL rank: 1

92% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 93% v Crvena (h), Young Boys (a), Leipzig (h), Copenhagen (a, h)
 Min. 91% v Crvena (a), Real Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 1

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	34 (5% of total)	UCL rank: 32
Medium	276 (57%)	UCL rank: 21=
Short	432 (58%)	UCL rank: 1=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	11.9	UCL rank: 9=
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank: 12=
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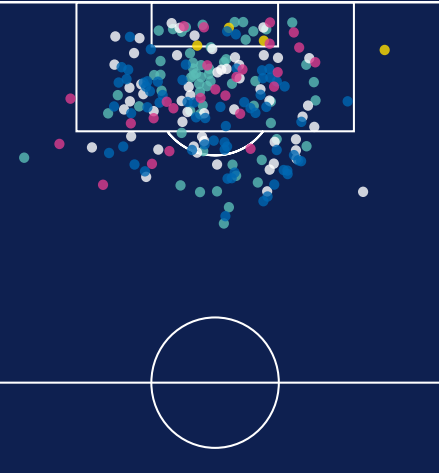
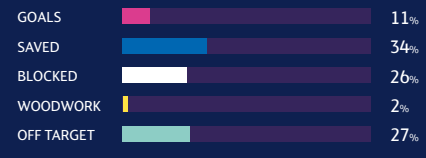
DISTANCE COVERED
121.3 km

Max. 154.3 v Real Madrid (h)
 Min. 113.7 v Copenhagen (a)
 UCL rank: 9

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 28** GOALS
2.7 per match; UCL rank: 1
- 25.1** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
2.4 per match; UCL rank: 1
- 216** GOAL ATTEMPTS
20.9 per match; UCL rank: 1
- 85** ON TARGET
8.2 per match; UCL rank: 1



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

30 Brice Samba	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

2 Ruben Aguilar	2	99		
3 Deiver Machado	5	371		
4 Kevin Danso	6	540		
14 Facundo Medina	6	495		
21 Massadio Haidara	4	115		
24 Jonathan Gradit	6	511		
25 Abdoukodie Khusanov	2	29		
29 Przemyslaw Frankowski	6	528	1	2

MIDFIELDERS

6 Salis Abdul Samed	6	495		
10 David Pereira Da Costa	3	113		
18 Andy Diouf	2	37		
23 Neil El Aynaoui	3	137		
26 Nampalys Mendy	6	371		
28 Adrien Thomasson	5	224	1	

FORWARDS

7 Florian Sotoca	6	468	1	
9 Elye Wahi	6	460	2	1
11 Angelo Fulgini	6	289	2	
22 Wesley Saïd	3	52		
27 Morgan Guilavogui	4	68		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
27

CARDS
25 1
Sent off: Guilavogui v PSV (a)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Elye Wahi	2	14	3	1.1
2 Angelo Fulgini	2	7	4	1.4
3 Adrien Thomasson	1	5	1	0.4

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Przemyslaw Frankowski	2	8	0.7
2 Florian Sotoca	1	4	0.8
3 Elye Wahi	1	1	0.2

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Facundo Medina	264	188	86	38
2 Jonathan Gradit	259	159	79	51
3 Przemyslaw Frankowski	218	199	77	34

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Kevin Danso	41	2	4
2 Facundo Medina	33	6	5
3 Przemyslaw Frankowski	32	16	6

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

18 Stefan Ortega	3	270		
31 Ederson	7	660		

DEFENDERS

2 Kyle Walker	6	505		
3 Rúben Dias	9	766	1	
5 John Stones	6	341	1	
6 Nathan Aké	7	382		
21 Sergio Gómez	5	195		
24 Joško Gvardiol	6	569	1	1
25 Manuel Akanji	8	667	2	
82 Rico Lewis	7	548	2	

MIDFIELDERS

4 Kalvin Phillips	4	128	1	
8 Mateo Kovačić	6	434		
10 Jack Grealish	8	534	2	
16 Rodri	8	697	1	2
17 Kevin De Bruyne	2	202	2	1
20 Bernardo Silva	8	536	2	
27 Matheus Nunes	7	424	1	
32 Micah Hamilton	2	106	1	
47 Phil Foden	8	684	5	3
56 Jacob Wright	1	2		
76 Mahamadou Susoho	1	14		

FORWARDS

9 Erling Haaland	9	778	6	1
11 Jérémy Doku	7	300	1	1
19 Julián Álvarez	7	279	5	2
52 Oscar Bobb	4	217	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
25.7

CARDS
10 0

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Erling Haaland	6	43	22	7.0
2 Phil Foden	5	33	12	3.3
3 Julián Álvarez	5	15	10	1.7

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Phil Foden	3	12	3.2
2 Rodri	2	14	1.6
3 Jack Grealish	2	14	1.6

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Rúben Dias	927	773	96	28
2 Rodri	924	839	92	21
3 Manuel Akanji	639	542	95	27

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Rodri	52	11	6
2 Rúben Dias	40	8	9
3 Joško Gvardiol	31	6	8

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



MANCHESTER UNITED FC



ENG

GROUP A		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
BAY L 4-3	GAL L 2-3	COP W 1-0	COP L 4-3	GAL D 3-3	BAY L 0-1				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



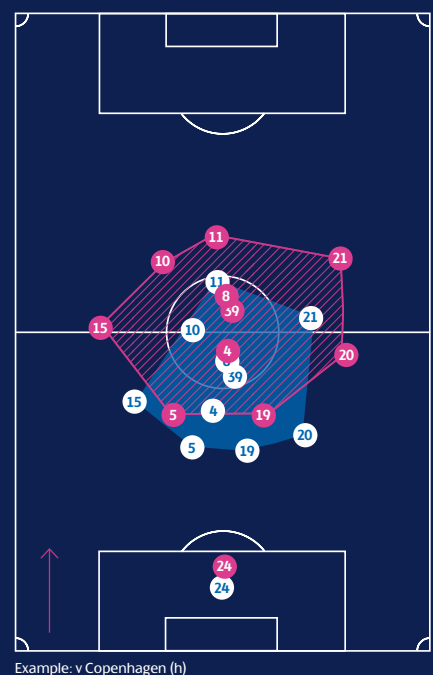
ERIK TEN HAG
 BORN: 02/02/1970, Haaksbergen (NED)
 NATIONALITY: Dutch
 HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2022
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

- ### KEY FEATURES
- Attempts to build from back mixed with Onana's long passing
 - Second in group stage for aerial duel win percentage – 59%
 - Rotation of midfielders dropping deep to join build-up
 - Playmaking ability of Bruno Fernandes
 - Good combinations in wide areas with full-back/winger/attacking midfielder
 - Look for counterattacks and fast transitions with Rashford's speed, Højlund's powerful running
 - Defended with high intensity; second in group stage for ball recoveries – 367

	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	38	18	8	12	47%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	74	39	18	17	53%

SHAPE

1-4-3-2-1 – variously 1-4-1-4-1, 1-4-4-2, 1-4-3-3
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

46%

Max. 55% v Galatasaray (a)
 Min. 41% v Bayern (a), Bayern (h)
 UCL rank: 19=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	31%
Middle third	50%
Attacking third	18%

429 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 511 v Copenhagen (h)
 Min. 307 v Galatasaray (a)
 UCL rank: 19=

82% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 86% v Bayern (a)
 Min. 75% v Galatasaray (a)
 UCL rank: 19=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	49 (11% of total)	UCL rank: 8=
Medium	161 (37%)	UCL rank: 21=
Short	220 (51%)	UCL rank: 15=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	15.2	UCL rank	26
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED

116.3 km

Max. 124.1 v Copenhagen (h)
 Min. 109.5 v Galatasaray (a)
 UCL rank: 24

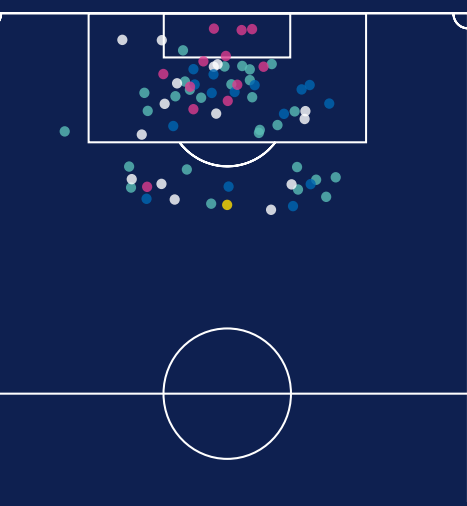
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 12** GOALS
2 per match; UCL rank: 4=
- 10.5** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.8 per match; UCL rank: 5=
- 71** GOAL ATTEMPTS
11.8 per match; UCL rank: 21=
- 27** ON TARGET
4.5 per match; UCL rank: 16=

GOALS	14%
SAVED	32%
BLOCKED	18%
WOODWORK	1%
OFF TARGET	35%

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

24 André Onana	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

2 Victor Lindelöf	4	297		
5 Harry Maguire	4	310	1	
6 Lisandro Martínez	1	90		
15 Sergio Reguilón	2	153		
19 Raphaël Varane	4	335		
20 Diogo Dalot	6	462		
23 Luke Shaw	2	135	1	
29 Aaron Wan-Bissaka	3	213	1	
35 Jonny Evans	2	65		

MIDFIELDERS

4 Sofyan Amrabat	5	327		
7 Mason Mount	2	91		
8 Bruno Fernandes	6	540	2	2
14 Christian Eriksen	4	204	1	
18 Casemiro	2	167	2	
28 Facundo Pellistri	3	108		
37 Kobbie Mainoo	2	42		
39 Scott McTominay	5	381	1	1
46 Hannibal Mejbri	2	60		

FORWARDS

9 Anthony Martial	4	46	1	
10 Marcus Rashford	4	289	2	
11 Rasmus Højlund	6	489	5	
17 Alejandro Garnacho	6	302	1	1
21 Antony	4	233		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

26.6

CARDS

13 **2**

Sent off:
 Casemiro v Galatasaray (h),
 Rashford v Copenhagen (a)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Rasmus Højlund	5	11	6	3.5
2 Bruno Fernandes	2	15	4	1.7
3 Casemiro	2	5	2	1.0

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Bruno Fernandes	2	12	1.3
2 Marcus Rashford	2	5	1.2
3 Christian Eriksen	1	3	0.8

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Bruno Fernandes	261	220	75	34
2 Raphaël Varane	233	176	88	35
3 Diogo Dalot	227	173	79	34

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Diogo Dalot	39	5	3
2 Bruno Fernandes	35	6	3
3 Sofyan Amrabat	21	5	3

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



AC MILAN



ITA

GROUP F		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
NEW D 0-0	DOR D 0-0	PAR L 3-0	PAR W 2-1	DOR L 1-3	NEW W 1-2				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



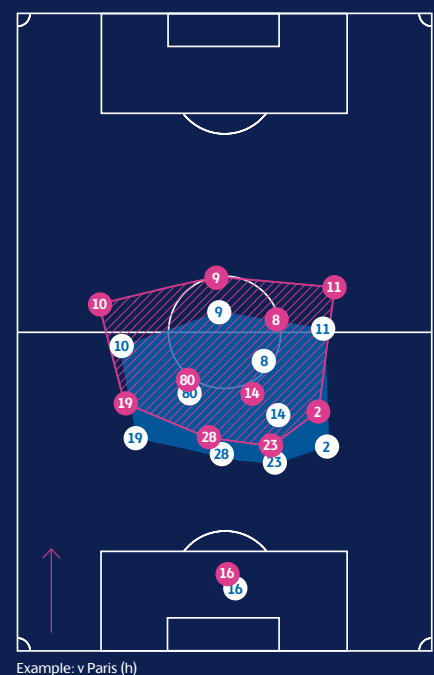
STEFANO PIOLI
 BORN: 20/10/1965, Parma (ITA)
 NATIONALITY: Italian
 HEAD COACH: From 09/10/2019 to 25/05/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

- ### KEY FEATURES
- Disciplined defensive structure with two midfielders supporting back four
 - Penetration from flanks with combinations between full-backs and wingers
 - Best crossing accuracy in group stage – 40%
 - Threat on attacking transitions with ball-carrying ability of Rafael Leão, Loftus-Cheek
 - Giroud the focal point for long passes, allowing for mixed approach in build-up
 - Speed and individual brilliance of Rafael Leão – third for take-ons in group stage (43)
 - Fifth for total shots (95) but lowest shot-conversion rate of group stage – 5.3%

	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	24	8	6	10	33%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	65	30	16	19	46%

SHAPE

1-4-3-3, 1-4-2-3-1, 1-4-4-1-1 out of possession
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

44%

Max. 54% v Dortmund (h)
 Min. 31% v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 22=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	30%
Middle third	51%
Attacking third	19%

365 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 502 v Dortmund (h)
 Min. 255 v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 30

83% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 91% v Dortmund (h)
 Min. 76% v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 15=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	38 (10% of total)	UCL rank: 14=
Medium	142 (39%)	UCL rank: 10=
Short	185 (51%)	UCL rank: 15=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	13.3	UCL rank	16
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	3	UCL rank	28=
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DISTANCE COVERED

115.2 km

Max. 118.8 v Dortmund (h)
 Min. 110.9 v Newcastle (h)
 UCL rank: 27

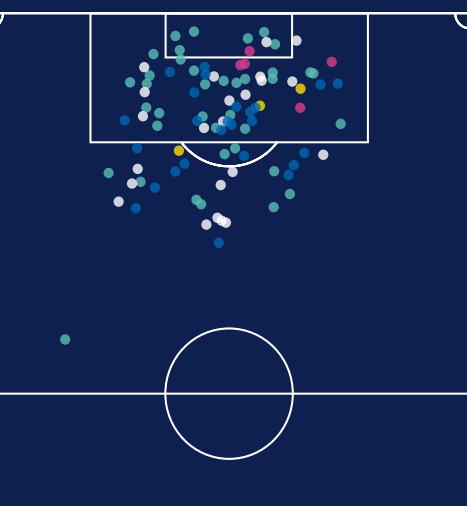
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 5** GOALS
0.8 per match; UCL rank: 30=
- 9.9** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.6 per match; UCL rank: 9=
- 95** GOAL ATTEMPTS
15.8 per match; UCL rank: 4=
- 29** ON TARGET
4.8 per match; UCL rank: 11=

GOALS	5%
SAVED	28%
BLOCKED	24%
WOODWORK	3%
OFF TARGET	40%

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

16 Mike Maignan	6	531		
57 Marco Sportiello	1	9		

DEFENDERS

2 Davide Calabria	6	429	1	
19 Theo Hernández	6	540	1	
20 Pierre Kalulu	1	90		
23 Fikayo Tomori	6	539		
24 Simon Kjær	1	1		
28 Malick Thiaw	5	368		
42 Alessandro Florenzi	4	157		
95 Davide Bartesaghi	1	2		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Yacine Adli	3	122		
8 Ruben Loftus-Cheek	4	325		
14 Tijjani Reijnders	6	479		
32 Tommaso Pobega	4	149		
33 Rade Krunic	4	210		
80 Yunus Musah	5	352		

FORWARDS

9 Olivier Giroud	6	512	1	2
10 Rafael Leão	5	442	1	
11 Christian Puljišić	6	440	1	
15 Luka Jovič	2	30		
17 Noah Okafor	3	34	1	
21 Samuel Chukwueze	4	166	2	
70 Chaka Traorè	1	13		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

26.1

CARDS

17 **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Samuel Chukwueze	2	9	4	0.9
2 Olivier Giroud	1	13	7	2.6
3 Rafael Leão	1	11	4	1.1

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Oliver Giroud	2	2	0.4
2 Theo Hernández	1	8	0.6
3 Davide Calabria	1	7	0.7

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Theo Hernández	258	213	82	40
2 Fikayo Tomori	256	186	90	37
3 Tijjani Reijnders	200	174	90	27

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Fikayo Tomori	32	9	10
2 Davide Calabria	30	14	3
3 Theo Hernández	27	5	5

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



SSC NAPOLI



ITA

GROUP C		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
BRA	RMA	UNB	UNB	RMA	BRA	BAR	BAR		
W 1-2	L 2-5	W 0-1	D 1-1	L 4-2	W 2-0	D 1-1	L 1-3		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



FRANCESCO CALZONA
 BORN: 24/10/1968, Vibo Valentia (ITA)
 NATIONALITY: Italian
 HEAD COACH: From 19/02/2024 to 05/06/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

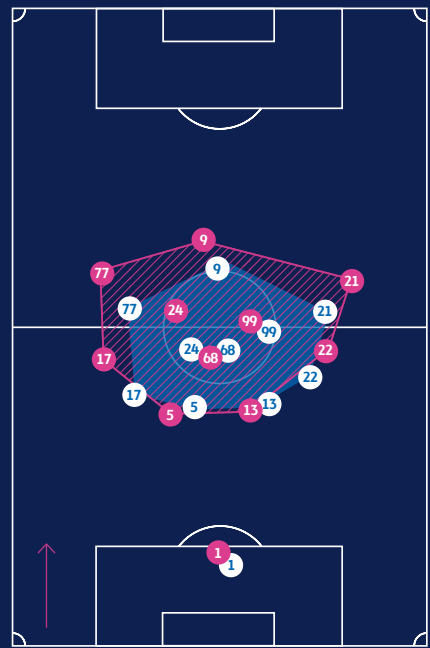
	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	2	0	1	1	0%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	2	0	1	1	0%

- ### KEY FEATURES
- Willing to defend on front foot, back four going 1v1 with opponents
 - Pressing high and accumulated players in attacking third
 - Full-backs giving options in wide areas, Di Lorenzo combining with Politano
 - Lobotka's composure on ball key to escaping press and opening up game
 - Talented wingers with 1v1 ability (Kvaratskhelia, Politano)
 - Kvaratskhelia first for take-ons in group stage – 52 (46% success rate)
 - Quick, strong target striker Osimhen, with aerial power and hold-up ability

SHAPE

1-4-3-3; 1-4-1-4-1 defensive shape

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Barcelona (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

54%

Max. 73% v Union Berlin (h)
 Min. 47% v Braga (a)
 UCL rank: 6=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	28%
Middle third	53%
Attacking third	19%

524 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 743 v Union Berlin (h)
 Min. 415 v Braga (a)
 UCL rank: 9

86% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 90% v Real Madrid (h)
 Min. 81% v Braga (a)
 UCL rank: 9=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	37 (7% of total)	UCL rank: 25=
Medium	188 (36%)	UCL rank: 26=
Short	299 (57%)	UCL rank: 4

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	12.1	UCL rank	11
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED

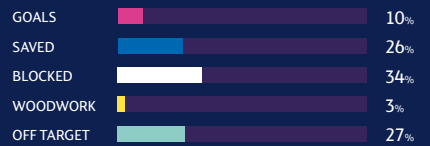
117.8 km

Max. 124.5 v Union Berlin (h)
 Min. 111.7 v Real Madrid (h)
 UCL rank: 17

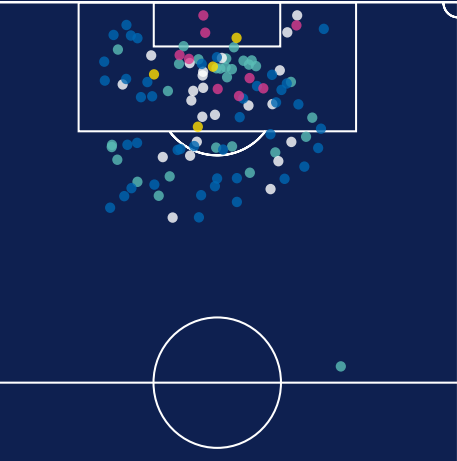
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 12** GOALS
1.5 per match; UCL rank: 13=
- 10.7** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 109** GOAL ATTEMPTS
13.6 per match; UCL rank: 14
- 33** ON TARGET
4.1 per match; UCL rank: 22



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



NEWCASTLE UNITED FC



ENG

GROUP F		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
MIL	PAR	DOR	DOR	PAR	MIL				
D0-0	W4-1	L0-1	L2-0	D1-1	L1-2				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



EDDIE HOWE
 BORN: 29/11/1977, Amersham (ENG)
 NATIONALITY: English
 HEAD COACH: Since 08/11/2021
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

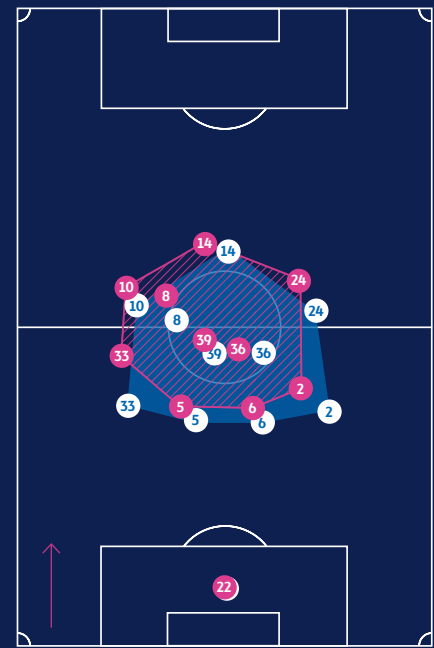
	Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	6	1	2	3	17%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	6	1	2	3	17%

- ### KEY FEATURES
- Reliable goalkeeper in Pope; most goals prevented in group stage – 4.86
 - Good defensive shape; compact and organised in low block
 - Attacking role of right-back Trippier as source of crosses
 - Strong collective spirit seen in aggressive work out of possession
 - Press high and in numbers, risking man for man at back, e.g. home v Paris
 - Midfield link-up play of Bruno Guimarães, able to receive under pressure
 - Dangerous attacking transitions with speed of Gordon and Almirón

SHAPE

1-4-3-3; also 1-4-4-2, 1-4-5-1

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Paris (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

44%

Max. 59% v Dortmund (h)
 Min. 27% v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 22=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	28%
Middle third	51%
Attacking third	21%

386 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 471 v Dortmund (a)
 Min. 245 v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 28

81% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 85% v Milan (a), Dortmund (a)
 Min. 68% v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 23=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	43 (11% of total)	UCL rank: 8=
Medium	152 (39%)	UCL rank: 10=
Short	192 (50%)	UCL rank: 21=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	12.9	UCL rank	15
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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DISTANCE COVERED

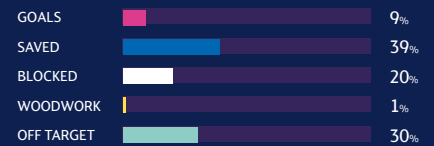
118.7 km

Max. 123.3 v Paris (h)
 Min. 114.0 v Dortmund (a)
 UCL rank: 14

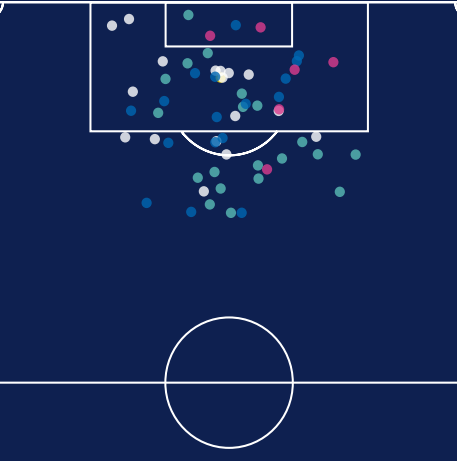
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 6** GOALS
1 per match; UCL rank: 23=
- 5.9** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1 per match; UCL rank: 27=
- 62** GOAL ATTEMPTS
10.3 per match; UCL rank: 27
- 27** ON TARGET
4.5 per match; UCL rank: 16=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Alex Meret	8	720		
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DEFENDERS

3 Natan	6	451	1	
5 Juan Jesus	5	430		
6 Mário Rui	4	214	1	
13 Amir Rrahmani	7	553	1	
17 Mathías Olivera	6	326		
22 Giovanni Di Lorenzo	8	720	1	1
55 Leo Østigård	4	185	1	
59 Alessandro Zanoli	1	3		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Elif Elmas	5	144		
8 Hamed Traorè	2	100		
20 Piotr Zieliński	6	468	1	1
24 Jens Cajuste	6	158		
29 Jesper Lindstrøm	4	60		
68 Stanislav Lobotka	8	681		
99 André-Frank Zambo Anguissa	7	628	1	1

FORWARDS

9 Victor Osimhen	6	459	2	1
18 Giovanni Simeone	6	94	1	
21 Matteo Politano	8	582	1	2
26 Cyril Ngonge	1	1		
70 Gianluca Gaetano	1	21		
77 Khvicha Kvaratskhelia	8	672	1	
81 Giacomo Raspadori	8	250	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

26.6

CARDS

14 **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Victor Osimhen	2	16	6	2.4
2 Matteo Politano	1	13	6	0.6
3 Giovanni Di Lorenzo	1	10	4	0.4

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Matteo Politano	2	10	1.3
2 Khvicha Kvaratskhelia	1	18	2.2
3 Piotr Zieliński	1	10	1

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Giovanni Di Lorenzo	463	411	84	37
2 Amir Rrahmani	438	318	89	36
3 Stanislav Lobotka	413	330	92	25

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 André-Frank Zambo Anguissa	45	6	8
2 Stanislav Lobotka	40	5	10
3 Matteo Politano	36	1	1

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Martin Dúbravka	1	90		
22 Nick Pope	5	450		

DEFENDERS

2 Kieran Trippier	6	512	1	
4 Sven Botman	1	90		
5 Fabian Schär	6	540	1	
6 Jamaal Lascelles	5	450		
13 Matt Targett	2	21		
20 Lewis Hall	1	45		
21 Tino Livramento	3	270		
33 Dan Burn	4	278	1	

MIDFIELDERS

7 Joelinton	4	335	1	
8 Sandro Tonali	3	162		
24 Miguel Almirón	6	413	1	1
23 Jacob Murphy	3	87	1	
28 Joe Willock	2	101		
32 Elliot Anderson	2	43		
36 Sean Longstaff	5	354	1	
39 Bruno Guimarães	6	540	1	
67 Lewis Miley	3	171	1	

FORWARDS

9 Callum Wilson	4	237		
10 Anthony Gordon	6	439		
14 Alexander Isak	5	312	1	1
15 Harvey Barnes	1	1		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE

26.8

CARDS

11 **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Miguel Almirón	1	12	4	1.4
2 Joelinton	1	7	4	0.5
3 Alexander Isak	1	6	3	1.4

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Kieran Trippier	1	7	1.4
2 Bruno Guimarães	1	4	1.1
3 Miguel Almirón	1	4	0.7

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Kieran Trippier	304	245	83	41%
2 Bruno Guimarães	287	228	82	27%
3 Fabian Schär	283	219	87	37%

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Bruno Guimarães	49	11	6
2 Kieran Trippier	34	6	5
3 Fabian Schär	30	7	6

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN



FRA

GROUP F	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
DOR W 2-0	NEW L 4-1	MIL W 3-0	MIL L 2-1	NEW D 1-1
DOR D 1-1	SOC W 2-0	SOC W 1-2	BAR L 2-3	BAR W 1-4
DOR L 1-0	DOR L 0-1			

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

LUIS ENRIQUE

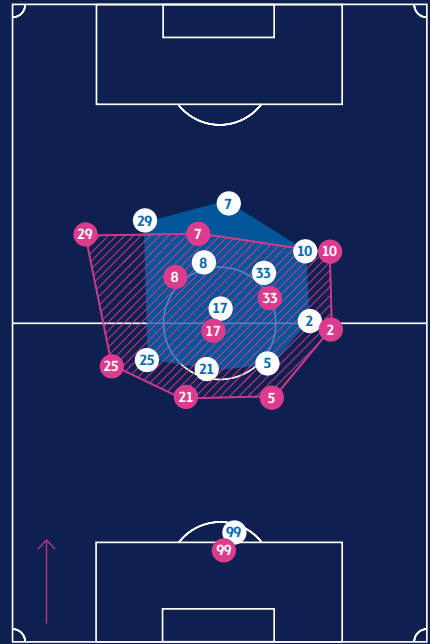
BORN: 08/05/1970, Gijón (ESP)
 NATIONALITY: Spanish
 HEAD COACH: Since 05/07/2023
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	45	29	5	11	64%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	48	30	6	12	63%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Shift to back three in build-up with Hakimi pushing up from right-back
 - Vitinha dictating play centrally – fourth in UCL for line-breaking passes into final third
 - Fluidity of front players, e.g. Dembélé threat when operating centrally
 - Strong counterattacking with individual quality, pace and directness of forwards
 - Speed, 1v1s and finishing of Mbappé – first in UCL for take-ons with 81 (44% success rate)
 - Second in Champions League for chances created per match (14)
 - High press with players going man to man across pitch

SHAPE

1-4-3-3
■ 3 In possession | ■ 5 Out of possession



Example: v Barcelona (a)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

64%

Max. 73% v Newcastle (a)
 Min. 56% v Real Sociedad (a)
 UCL rank: 2

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	26%
Middle third	50%
Attacking third	25%

601 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 760 v Newcastle (h)
 Min. 470 v Real Sociedad (a)
 UCL rank: 2

89% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 92% v Newcastle (h)
 Min. 84% v Real Sociedad (a, h)
 UCL rank: 3

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	42 (7% of total)	UCL rank: 25=
Medium	259 (43%)	UCL rank: 2
Short	301 (50%)	UCL rank: 21=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	9.2	UCL rank	1
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED

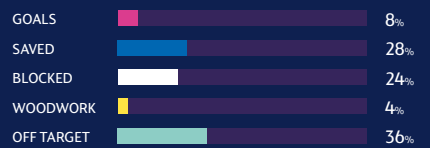
113.7 km

Max. 120.8 v Newcastle (h)
 Min. 110 v Borussia Dortmund (a, SF)
 UCL rank: 30

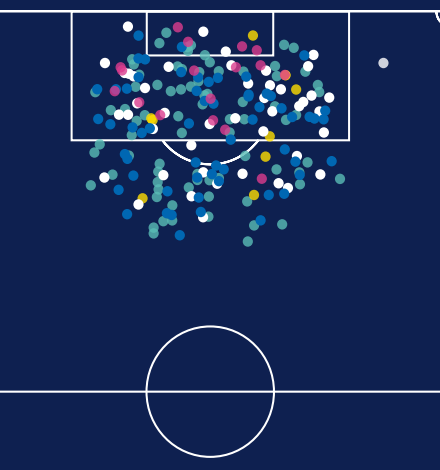
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 19 GOALS**
1.6 per match; UCL rank: 12
- 24.9 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
2.1 per match; UCL rank: 2
- 214 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
17.8 per match; UCL rank: 2
- 67 ON TARGET**
5.6 per match; UCL rank: 4



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



FC PORTO



POR

GROUP H	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
SHK W 1-3	BAR L 0-1	ANT W 1-4	ANT W 2-0	BAR L 2-1
SHK W 5-3	ARS W 1-0	ARS L 1-0*		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names *AET: 4-2 pens

COACH

SÉRGIO CONCEIÇÃO

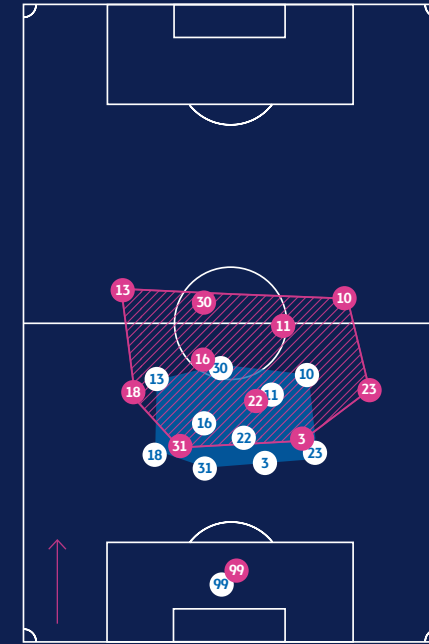
BORN: 15/11/1974, Coimbra (POR)
 NATIONALITY: Portuguese
 HEAD COACH: From 01/07/2017 to 04/06/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	50	25	7	18	50%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	64	30	10	24	47%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Clear playing identity: aggressive with and without the ball
 - Second overall for tackles (161) between group stage and round of 16
 - Varied build-up; used 'box midfield' to create central overloads
 - González and Varela key in both build-up and defensive transitions
 - Wingers doubled up with midfielders to close space centrally e.g. v Arsenal
 - Quick, direct attacking with fast runners (Pepê) and 1v1s (Conceição)
 - Creative, forward-looking attacker in Galeno – five goals, four assists

SHAPE

1-4-3-3; 1-4-4-2 offensive formation, 1-4-1-4-1 defensive shape
■ 3 In possession | ■ 5 Out of possession



Example: v Arsenal (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

48%

Max. 68% v Antwerp (h)
 Min. 36% v Arsenal (h)
 UCL rank: 17=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	34%
Middle third	49%
Attacking third	17%

416 **PASSES ATTEMPTED**
 Max. 655 v Antwerp (h)
 Min. 274 v Arsenal (h)
 UCL rank: 22

82% **PASS ACCURACY**
 Max. 91% v Shakhtar Donetsk (a)
 Min. 70% v Arsenal (a)
 UCL rank: 19=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	49 (12% of total)	UCL rank: 7
Medium	158 (38%)	UCL rank: 14=
Short	209 (50%)	UCL rank: 21=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	12.3	UCL rank	12
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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DISTANCE COVERED

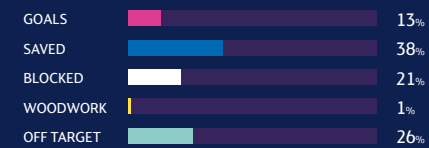
126.8 km

Max. 155.8 v Arsenal (a)
 Min. 114.5 v Arsenal (h)
 UCL rank: 2

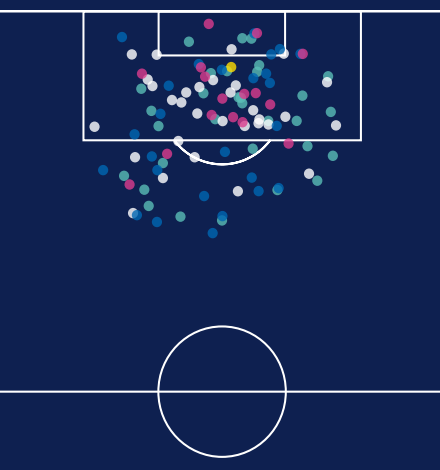
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 16 GOALS**
1.9 per match; UCL rank: 6
- 11.7 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)**
1.4 per match; UCL rank: 14=
- 104 GOAL ATTEMPTS**
12.5 per match; UCL rank: 18
- 46 ON TARGET**
5.5 per match; UCL rank: 5=



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

99 Gianluigi Donnarumma	12	1080		
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DEFENDERS

2 Achraf Hakimi	11	981	1	1
5 Marquinhos	10	900	2	
21 Lucas Hernández	11	842	1	
25 Nuno Mendes	5	421		
26 Nordi Mukiele	3	56		
35 Lucas Beraldo	5	408		
37 Milan Škriniar	6	539	1	

MIDFIELDERS

4 Manuel Ugarte	8	392		
8 Fabián Ruiz	9	621	2	
15 Danilo	3	159		
17 Vitinha	12	914	2	1
19 Kang-in Lee	9	342	1	1
28 Carlos Soler	2	9		
33 Warren Zaïre-Emery	11	905	1	3

FORWARDS

7 Kylian Mbappé	12	1080	8	
9 Gonçalo Ramos	7	211		
10 Ousmane Dembélé	11	954	2	2
11 Marco Asensio	6	119		
23 Randal Kolo Muani	10	472	1	
29 Bradley Barcola	10	475	1	1

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **25.1**

CARDS **30** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Kylian Mbappé	8	51	27	8.2
2 Ousmane Dembélé	2	33	10	3.0
3 Vitinha	2	22	6	1.3

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Warren Zaïre-Emery	3	9	1.0
2 Ousmane Dembélé	2	22	2.2
3 Fabián Ruiz	2	9	1.2

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Achraf Hakimi	815	768	87	37
2 Marquinhos	796	637	91	31
3 Vitinha	715	576	94	21

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Achraf Hakimi	78	14	12
2 Vitinha	73	11	13
3 Warren Zaïre-Emery	57	8	7

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

99 Diogo Costa	8	750		
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DEFENDERS

2 Fábio Cardoso	3	269		
3 Pepe	7	660	2	
4 David Carmo	4	360		
12 Zaidu	4	308		
15 Jorge Sánchez	6	182		
18 Wendell	5	388		
31 Otávio	2	210	1	

MIDFIELDERS

6 Stephen Eustáquio	8	533	1	
8 Marko Grujić	3	48		
16 Nico González	6	222		
17 Ivã Jaime	4	89		
20 André Franco	4	240	1	
22 Alan Varela	8	706		
28 Romário Baró	1	64		

FORWARDS

9 Mehdi Taremi	7	545	2	2
10 Francisco Conceição	8	241	1	1
11 Pepê	7	643	1	2
13 Galeno	7	651	5	4
19 Danny Namaso	3	13		
21 Fran Navarro	1	7		
23 João Mário	8	594	1	
29 Toni Martínez	2	6		
30 Evanilson	7	489	4	1
70 Gonçalo Borges	3	32		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **25.8**

CARDS **17** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Galeno	5	16	11	3.1
2 Evanilson	4	14	7	1.8
3 Mehdi Taremi	2	22	9	2.6

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Galeno	4	5	0.7
2 Pepê	2	10	1
3 Mehdi Taremi	2	6	1

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Pepe	463	337	86	39
2 Alan Varela	365	262	90	27
3 Diogo Costa	337	248	74	42

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Alan Varela	50	6	8
2 Galeno	38	5	8
3 Pepe	36	8	8

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



PSV EINDHOVEN



GROUP B		ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
ARS L 4-0	SEV D 2-2	LEN D 1-1	LEN W 1-0	SEV W 2-3	ARS D 1-1	DOR D 1-1	DOR L 2-0	

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



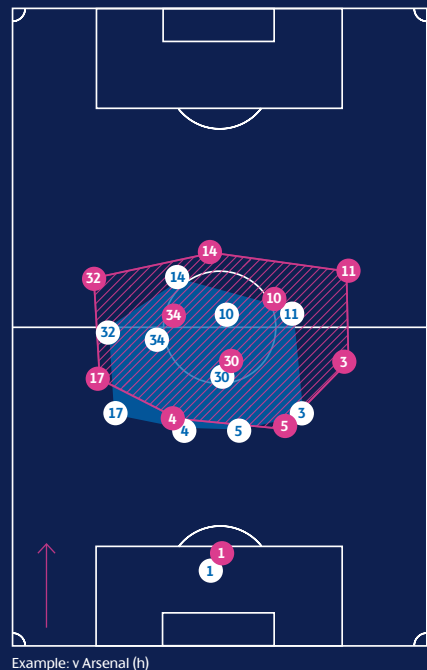
PETER BOSZ
 BORN: 21/11/1963, Apeldoorn (NED)
 NATIONALITY: Dutch
 HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2023
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	20	4	6	10	20%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	72	31	18	23	43%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Strong playing identity: press high across the pitch and play forward
 - Centre-backs able to build play from back (Schouten)
 - Midfield pivot Veerman key for his composure and forward passes
 - Veerman fifth in group stage for line-breaking passes into attacking third – 26
 - Quick diagonal passes from deep for the wingers to create 1v1s or 2v1s
 - Wingers with good dribbling skills (Bakayoko, Lozano)
 - Aerial threat of experienced target striker De Jong

SHAPE

1-4-3-3, defending with 1-4-1-4-1
■ 3 In possession | ■ 5 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS

9 GOALS
1.1 per match; UCL rank: 22

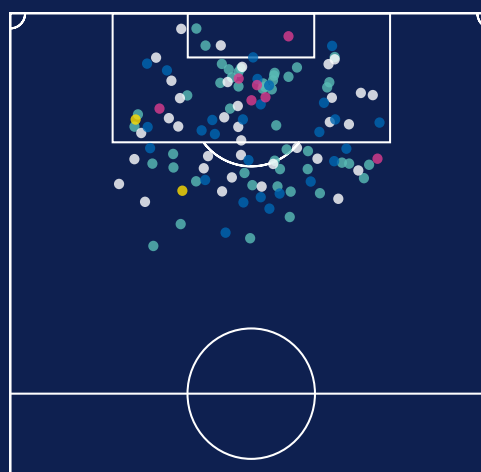
11.1 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.4 per match; UCL rank: 14=

126 GOAL ATTEMPTS
15.8 per match; UCL rank: 4=

46 ON TARGET
5.8 per match; UCL rank: 2

GOALS	7%
SAVED	33%
BLOCKED	19%
WOODWORK	2%
OFF TARGET	39%

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Walter Benítez	8	720		
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DEFENDERS

3 Jordan Teze	8	720	1	
4 Armando Obispo	2	91		
5 André Ramalho	6	424		
6 Armel Bella-Kotchap	2	84		
8 Sergiño Dest	8	646	1	
17 Mauro Júnior	3	183		
18 Olivier Boscagli	7	613		
30 Patrick van Aanholt	2	99		
35 Fredrik Oppegård	1	1		

MIDFIELDERS

10 Malik Tillman	8	505	1	
20 Guus Til	5	184		
22 Jerdy Schouten	7	622		
23 Joey Veerman	7	579		
26 Isaac Babadi	2	20		

FORWARDS

7 Noa Lang	2	166		
9 Luuk De Jong	7	627	3	
11 Johan Bakayoko	8	653	1	1
14 Ricardo Pepi	8	133	1	1
27 Hirving Lozano	7	378		
32 Yorbe Vertessen	5	158	1	2
34 Ismael Saibari	7	317	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **25.2**

CARDS **13** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Luuk de Jong	3	23	7	3.8
2 Johan Bakayoko	1	24	10	1.2
3 Ismael Saibari	1	11	6	1.9

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Yorbe Vertessen	2	1	0.2
2 Johan Bakayoko	1	18	2.4
3 Sergiño Dest	1	8	0.4

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Olivier Boscagli	437	300	81	46
2 Joey Veerman	412	305	80	40
3 Jerdy Schouten	366	263	91	30

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Jordan Teze	53	9	7
2 Olivier Boscagli	51	7	11
3 Jerdy Schouten	48	9	5

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



REAL MADRID CF



GROUP C		ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
UNB W 1-0	NAP W 2-3	BRA W 1-2	BRA W 3-0	NAP W 4-2	UNB W 2-3	LEI W 0-1	LEI D 1-1	MCI D 3-3
								MCI D 1-1*
								BAY D 2-2
								BAY W 2-1
								DOR W 0-2

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



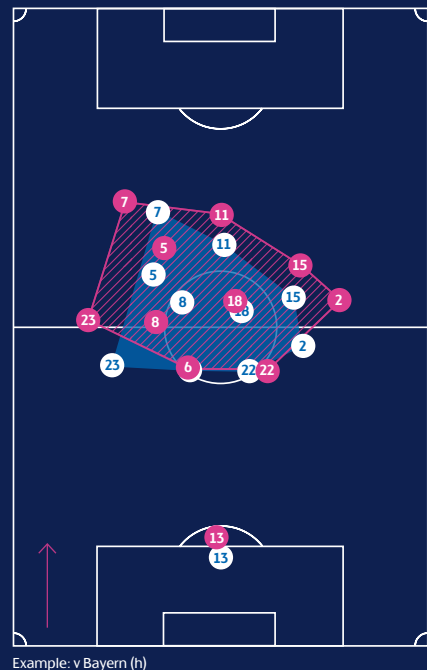
CARLO ANCELOTTI
 BORN: 10/06/1959, Reggiolo (ITA)
 NATIONALITY: Italian
 HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2021
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 9

Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	204	118	44	42	58%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	252	147	54	51	58%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Defensive discipline, keeping compact shape in mid/low block
 - Individuals with composure and skill to play out of pressure
 - Kroos pivotal in dictating play from deep and set-piece delivery
 - Forward-looking full-backs e.g. Carvajal high on right or inside
 - Flexible, interchanging front three; Bellingham's runs from deep
 - Counterattacking threat with speed of Vinicius Júnior and Rodrygo
 - Character and mentality to survive v Manchester City and Bayern

SHAPE

1-4-4-2, variations in possession with 1-4-3-1-2, 1-4-2-3-1
■ 3 In possession | ■ 5 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS

28 GOALS
2.1 per match; UCL rank: 3

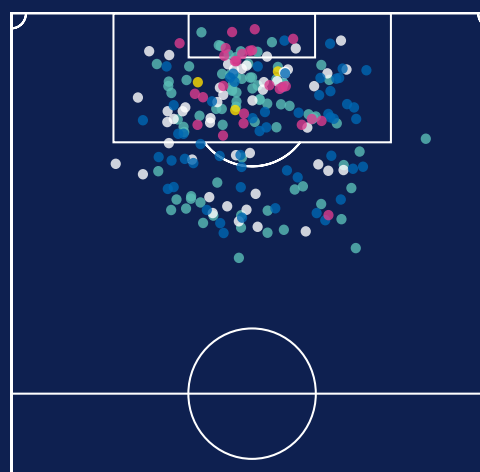
25.4 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.9 per match; UCL rank: 4

214 GOAL ATTEMPTS
16.1 per match; UCL rank: 3

74 ON TARGET
5.5 per match; UCL rank: 5=

GOALS	11%
SAVED	30%
BLOCKED	24%
WOODWORK	1%
OFF TARGET	33%

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Thibaut Courtois	1	90		
13 Andriy Lunin	8	750		
25 Kepa Arrizabalaga	4	360		

DEFENDERS

2 Dani Carvajal	10	846	1	
3 Éder Militão	3	12		
4 David Alaba	3	251	1	
6 Nacho	12	981		
20 Fran García	4	189	1	
22 Antonio Rüdiger	12	1039	1	
23 Ferland Mendy	11	871		

MIDFIELDERS

5 Jude Bellingham	11	993	4	5
8 Toni Kroos	12	861	2	
10 Luka Modrić	11	416		
12 Eduardo Camavinga	11	790	1	
15 Federico Valverde	13	1068	1	1
17 Lucas Vázquez	9	373	1	
18 Aurélien Tchouameni	8	603		
19 Dani Ceballos	3	152	1	
21 Brahim Díaz	9	323	2	1
32 Nicolás Paz	3	39	1	

FORWARDS

7 Vinicius Júnior	10	901	6	5
11 Rodrygo	13	1021	5	2
14 Joselu	11	273	5	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **27.7**

CARDS **22** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Vinicius Júnior	6	30	13	4.5
2 Rodrygo	5	38	19	6.1
3 Joselu	5	30	9	5.4

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Jude Bellingham	5	19	2.2
2 Vinicius Júnior	5	15	2.6
3 Toni Kroos	2	22	2.0

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Toni Kroos	882	729	95	34
2 Nacho	660	517	95	31
3 Antonio Rüdiger	650	528	91	35

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Toni Kroos	61	12	12
2 Federico Valverde	55	13	13
3 Eduardo Camavinga	47	13	9

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



REAL SOCIEDAD DE FÚTBOL



ESP



FC SALZBURG



AUT

GROUP D	ROUND OF 16						QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
INT D1-1	SAL W0-2	BEN W0-1	BEN W5-1	SAL D0-0	INT D0-0	PAR L2-0	PAR L1-2		

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

IMANOL ALGUACIL

BORN: 04/07/1971, Orio (ESP)

NATIONALITY: Spanish

HEAD COACH: Since 27/12/2018

UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

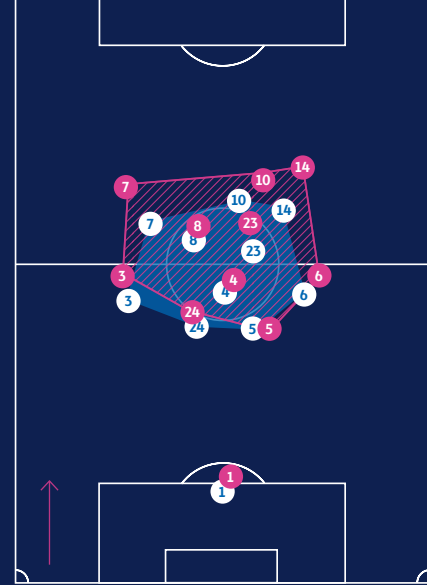
Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	8	3	3	2	38%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	24	9	9	6	38%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Used long goal kicks, playing for second balls; forced mistakes through pressing
 - Pressing style – first for duels/aerial duels contested up to round of 16
 - First in group stage for possession won in attacking third – 48
 - Forward-looking full-backs playing high with wingers inside
 - Zubimendi bringing balance as midfield pivot
 - Intelligent No 10 Oyarzabal influential between the lines, linking play
 - Kubo second for key passes between group stage and round of 16 (19)

SHAPE

1-4-3-3; 4-5-1; 1-4-1-4-1 out of possession

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

52%

Max. 71% v Salzburg (h)
Min. 38% v Paris (a)
UCL rank: 12

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	26%
Middle third	54%
Attacking third	20%

461 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 603 v Salzburg (h)
Min. 337 v Paris (a)
UCL rank: 15

82% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 87% v Benfica (a)
Min. 74% v Paris (h)
UCL rank: 19=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	49 (11% of total)	UCL rank: 8=
Medium	186 (40%)	UCL rank: 7=
Short	226 (49%)	UCL rank: 24=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	10.2	UCL rank	4
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	9	UCL rank	1
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DISTANCE COVERED

116.3 km

Max. 118.8 v Inter (a)
Min. 112.3 v Salzburg (h)
UCL rank: 23

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

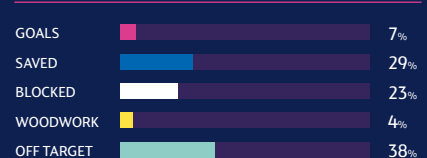
ATTEMPTS

8 GOALS
1 per match; UCL rank: 23=

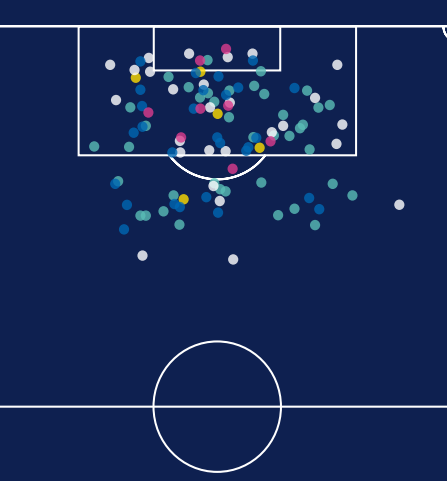
10.5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=

107 GOAL ATTEMPTS
13.4 per match; UCL rank: 15

35 ON TARGET
4.4 per match; UCL rank: 19



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Alejandro Remiro	8	720		
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DEFENDERS

2 Álvaro Odriozola	3	96		
5 Aritz Elustondo	5	170		
17 Kieran Tierney	2	66		
18 Hamari Traoré	7	530		
20 Jon Pacheco	5	121		
24 Robin Le Normand	7	573		
25 Javier Galán	2	178		
29 Aihen Muñoz	6	474	1	
42 Jon Aramburu	1	2		

MIDFIELDERS

4 Martin Zubimendi	8	713		
5 Igor Zubeldia	8	693		
8 Mikel Merino	7	630	2	1
10 Mikel Oyarzabal	7	587	2	
12 Arsen Zakharyan	5	217		
16 Jon Ander Olasagasti	1	7		
22 Beñat Turrientes	6	188		
23 Brais Méndez	7	531	3	1
28 Jon Magunacelaya	1	13		

FORWARDS

7 Ander Barrenetxea	7	399	1	1
9 Carlos Fernández	4	65		
11 Sheraldo Becker	1	61		
11 Mohamed-Ali Cho	4	130		
14 Takefusa Kubo	8	563		
19 Umar Sadiq	4	101		
21 André Silva	2	92		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **25.7**

CARDS **18** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Brais Méndez	3	14	6	1.9
2 Mikel Merino	2	14	4	2.1
3 Mikel Oyarzabal	2	10	9	2.2

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Mikel Merino	1	8	0.5
2 Brais Méndez	1	7	0.5
3 Ander Barrenetxea	1	5	1.2

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Martin Zubimendi	441	335	88	29
2 Igor Zubeldia	429	302	87	32
3 Mikel Merino	321	257	79	37

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Mikel Merino	55	8	4
2 Martin Zubimendi	53	7	7
3 Igor Zubeldia	42	12	8

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

GROUP D	ROUND OF 16						QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
BEN W0-2	SOC L0-2	INT L2-1	INT L0-1	SOC D0-0	BEN L1-3				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

GERHARD STRUBER

BORN: 24/01/1977, Kuchl (AUT)

NATIONALITY: Austrian

HEAD COACH: From 31/07/2023 to 15/04/2024

UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

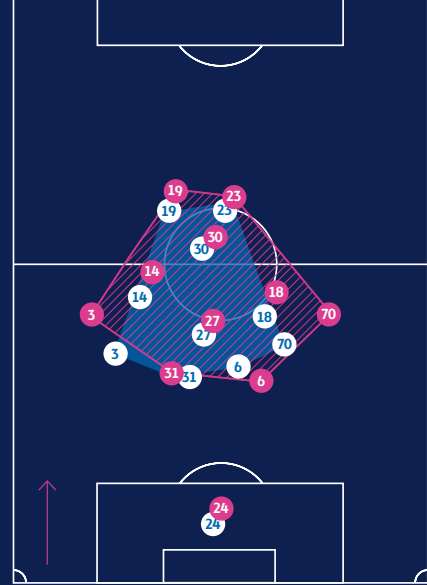
Matches	W	D	L	Win%	
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	6	1	1	4	17%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	16	7	2	7	44%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Goalkeeper Schlager builds up game with short and long passes
 - Defend with high intensity always putting the opponents under pressure
 - Pavlović leader in defence: effective in 1v1s, defending space between lines, and composure with ball
 - Fast transitions to attack with quick forward combinations and powerful runs
 - Influential midfielders – Bidstrup bringing balance and Sučić the ability to combine
 - Potential of Gloukh with technique, game intelligence, 1v1 ability and set-piece delivery
 - Fewest goals scored in group stage – 4

SHAPE

1-4-4-2 midfield diamond; 1-4-1-3-2; 1-4-2-3-1 out of possession

3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

43%

Max. 50% v Inter (h)
Min. 29% v Real Sociedad (a)
UCL rank: 27=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	37%
Middle third	47%
Attacking third	16%

392 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 437 v Benfica (h)
Min. 255 v Real Sociedad (a)
UCL rank: 25

78% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 83% v Inter (a), Inter (h)
Min. 68% v Real Sociedad (a)
UCL rank: 30=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	52 (13% of total)	UCL rank: 3=
Medium	158 (40%)	UCL rank: 7=
Short	182 (46%)	UCL rank: 31=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	11.5	UCL rank	6
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED

123.0 km

Max. 128.0 v Benfica (a)
Min. 116.7 v Real Sociedad (a)
UCL rank: 7

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

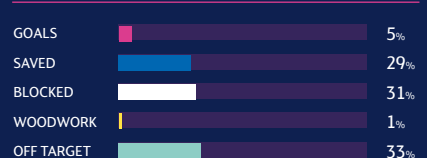
ATTEMPTS

4 GOALS
0.7 per match; UCL rank: 32

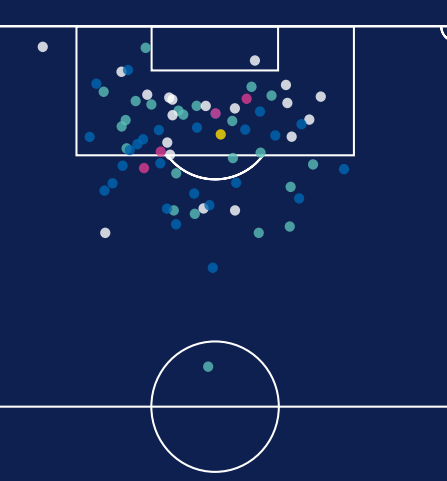
7.5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=

73 GOAL ATTEMPTS
12.2 per match; UCL rank: 20

23 ON TARGET
3.8 per match; UCL rank: 23



*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

24 Alexander Schlager	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

3 Aleksa Terzić	2	180		
4 Kamil Piątkowski	3	181		
6 Samson Baidoo	5	302		
17 Andreas Ulmer	3	219		
22 Oumar Solet	3	154		
31 Strahinja Pavlović	6	494		
39 Leandro Morgalla	1	45		
70 Amar Dedić	6	540		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Nicolás Capaldo	4	210		
8 Dijon Kameri	1	8		
10 Luka Sučić	6	391	1	
14 Maurits Kjærgaard	3	206	1	
18 Mads Bidstrup	6	495		
27 Lucas Gourna-Douath	5	400		
30 Oscar Gloukh	6	481	2	1
32 Amankwah Forson	4	66		

FORWARDS

11 Fernando	1	35		
19 Karim Konaté	5	238		
20 Sékou Koita	2	66		
21 Petar Ratkov	6	211		
23 Roko Šimić	6	340	1	1
45 Dorgeles Nene	4	139		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE **22.6**

CARDS **18** **0**

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Oscar Gloukh	2	7	4	1.2
2 Roko Šimić	1	8	4	1.2
3 Luka Sučić	1	8	2	0.3

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Oscar Gloukh	1	8	1.1
2 Roko Šimić	1	3	0.6
3 Maurits Kjærgaard	1	2	0.1

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Strahinja Pavlović	315	214	82	39
2 Alexander Schlager	236	150	75	51
3 Lucas Gourna-Douath	215	159	86	21

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Mads Bidstrup	41	15	7
2 Strahinja Pavlović	35	6	5
3 Lucas Gourna-Douath	32	8	12

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



SEVILLA FC



FC SHAKHTAR DONETSK



GROUP B		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
LEN D 1-1	PSV D 2-2	ARS L 1-2	ARS L 2-0	PSV L 2-3	LEN L 2-1				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

DIEGO ALONSO

BORN: 16/04/75, Montevideo (URU)
NATIONALITY: Uruguayan
HEAD COACH: From 10/10/23 to 16/12/23
UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

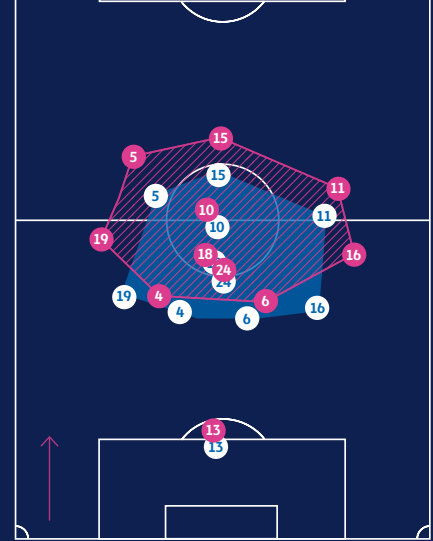
*José Luis Mendilibar in charge MD1-2

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	4	0	0	4 0%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	4	0	0	4 0%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Use left-right switch of play to release full-back Navas
 - Attempt passing game through the thirds
 - Ability to carry the ball of Navas, Lukebakio, Ocampos
 - Set-piece excellence and eye for pass of Rakitić – three assists
 - Joint-first for goals from corners in group stage – 3
 - Experienced older squad, struggled to sustain intensity at times
 - Four points dropped due to goals in added time

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1, morphing to 1-4-3-3 on the ball; 1-4-4-2 when defending



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

49%

Max. 65% v Lens (a)
Min. 37% v PSV (a)
UCL rank: 14=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	34%
Middle third	52%
Attacking third	15%

412 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 568 v Lens (a)
Min. 267 v PSV (a)
UCL rank: 23

80% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 85% v Lens (a)
Min. 70% v PSV (a)
UCL rank: 25=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	53 (13% of total)	UCL rank: 3=
Medium	158 (38%)	UCL rank: 14=
Short	200 (49%)	UCL rank: 24=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	12.6	UCL rank	13
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED

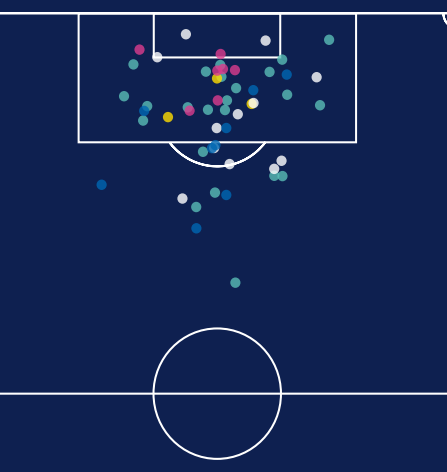
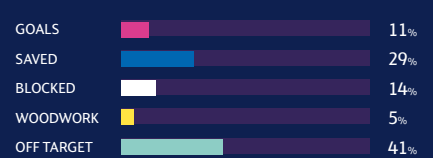
114.5 km

Max. 116.6 v Arsenal (h)
Min. 113.4 v Lens (h), PSV (h), Lens (a)
UCL rank: 29

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 7 GOALS** 1.2 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 5.9 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)** 1 per match; UCL rank: 27=
- 53 GOAL ATTEMPTS** 8.8 per match; UCL rank: 31
- 18 ON TARGET** 3 per match; UCL rank: 31



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Marko Dmitrović	4	360		
13 Ørjan Nyland	2	180		

DEFENDERS

3 Adriá Pedrosa	4	329		
4 Sergio Ramos	5	450	2	1
14 Tanguy Nianzou	2	31		
19 Marcos Acuña	3	197		1
22 Loïc Badé	2	93		
27 Kike Salas	2	166		

MIDFIELDERS

6 Nemanja Gudelj	6	540	2	
8 Joan Jordán	2	82		
10 Ivan Rakitić	6	459		3
18 Djibril Sow	6	372		
20 Fernando	4	330		
21 Óliver Torres	3	101		
24 Boubakary Soumaré	4	215		
26 Juanlu	6	321	1	

FORWARDS

5 Lucas Ocampos	5	347	1	
7 Suso	2	82		
9 Rafa Mir	2	37		
11 Dodi Lukébakio	4	247		
12 Mariano Díaz	3	60		
15 Youssef En-Nesyri	6	513	2	
16 Jesús Navas	4	219		
17 Erik Lamela	3	186		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE 29.2

CARDS 16 2

Sent off: Ocampos v PSV (h), Fernando v PSV (h)

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Youssef En-Nesyri	2	10	5	1.8
2 Sergio Ramos	2	8	2	1.8
3 Nemanja Gudelj	2	4	3	0.4

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Ivan Rakitić	3	14	1.9
2 Sergio Ramos	1	2	0.4
3 Juanlu	1	1	0.3

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Sergio Ramos	316	238	85	33
2 Nemanja Gudelj	315	242	88	37
3 Ivan Rakitić	260	189	81	33

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Ivan Rakitić	36	4	3
2 Sergio Ramos	25	2	4
3 Juanlu	24	8	2

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

GROUP H		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
POR L 1-3	ANT W 2-3	BAR L 2-1	BAR W 1-0	ANT W 1-0	POR L 5-3				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH

MARINO PUŠIĆ

BORN: 18/08/71, Mostar (CRO)
NATIONALITY: Croatian
HEAD COACH: Since 24/10/2023
UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

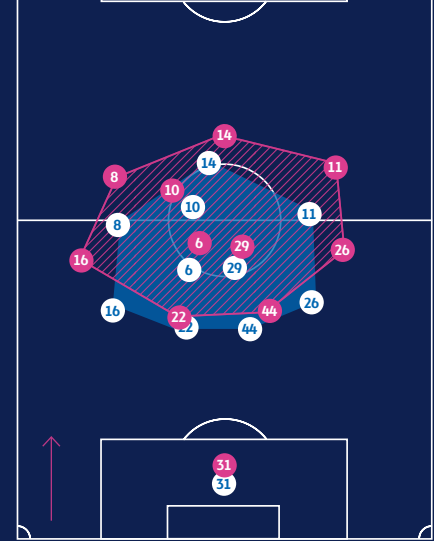
*Patrick van Leeuwen in charge MD1-2

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	4	2	0	2 50%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	6	2	1	3 33%

- KEY FEATURES**
- Compact and organised defensively, often sitting back in mid/low block
 - Patient in build-up if more direct at times with diagonal balls out wide
 - Experienced Stepanenko shielding in front of back four, launching counterattacks
 - Switches of play to find 1v1s in wide areas, using pace of attackers
 - No 10 Sudakov the leader in attack: quick, technical and eye for pass
 - Good attacking transitions, with penetrating runs and passes in behind
 - Zubkov joint-first in group stage for big chances created – 5

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1; 1-4-4-2 in defence



AVERAGES

POSSESSION

44%

Max. 51% v Porto (a)
Min. 33% v Barcelona (h)
UCL rank: 22=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	41%
Middle third	46%
Attacking third	13%

421 PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 461 v Antwerp (a)
Min. 363 v Barcelona (h)
UCL rank: 21

83% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 89% v Porto (h)
Min. 75% v Barcelona (h)
UCL rank: 15=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	47 (11% of total)	UCL rank: 8=
Medium	146 (35%)	UCL rank: 29=
Short	227 (54%)	UCL rank: 8=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	15.1	UCL rank	24=
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED

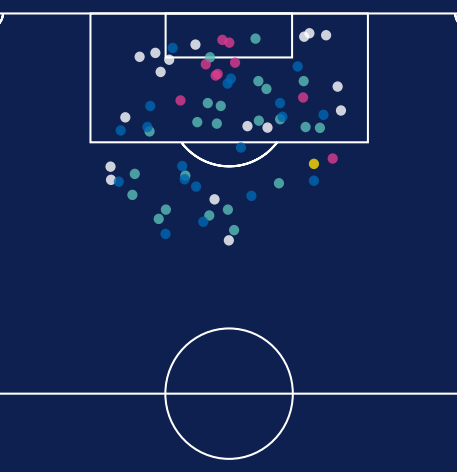
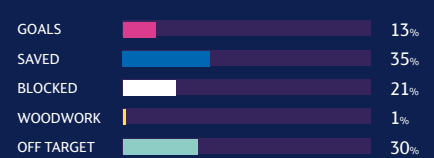
117.3 km

Max. 123.7 v Barcelona (a)
Min. 112.6 v Porto (a)
UCL rank: 19

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 10 GOALS** 1.7 per match; UCL rank: 10=
- 7.5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)** 1.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 69 GOAL ATTEMPTS** 11.5 per match; UCL rank: 25
- 28 ON TARGET** 4.7 per match; UCL rank: 13=



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

31 Dmytro Riznyk	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

3 Stav Lemkin	1	65		
5 Valeriy Bondar	4	360		
13 Giorgi Gocholeishvili	4	284		1
16 Irakli Azarov	4	295		1
22 Mykola Matviyenko	5	450		1
26 Yukhym Konoplia	3	256		1
44 Yaroslav Rakitskyi	5	344		1

MIDFIELDERS

6 Taras Stepanenko	6	496	1	
7 Eguinaldo	3	15		1
8 Dmytro Kryskiv	5	391		
9 Marian Shved	2	4		
10 Georgiy Sudakov	6	540	1	
11 Oleksandr Zubkov	6	535	2	
21 Artem Bondarenko	4	220		
25 Novatus Miroshi	1	90		
29 Yehor Nazaryna	4	203	1	
39 Newerton	4	217		
90 Olexiy Kashchuk	1	25		

FORWARDS

14 Danylo Sikan	6	479	4	1
18 Kevin Kelsy	5	131	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE 24

CARDS 15 0

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Danylo Sikan	4	11	7	3.0
2 Georgiy Sudakov	1	10	2	1.1
3 Mykola Matviyenko	1	3	2	0.5

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Oleksandr Zubkov	2	7	0.8
2 Danylo Sikan	1	6	0.1
3 Irakli Azarov	1	5	0.5

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Georgiy Sudakov	280	252	82	26
2 Mykola Matviyenko	254	198	86	42
3 Taras Stepanenko	227	176	86	28

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Oleksandr Zubkov	28	6	2
2 Dmytro Kryskiv	28	3	1
3 Georgiy Sudakov	25	2	6

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



1. FC UNION BERLIN



GROUP C		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
RMA	BRA	NAP	NAP	BRA	RMA				
L1-0	L2-3	L0-1	D1-1	D1-1	L2-3				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



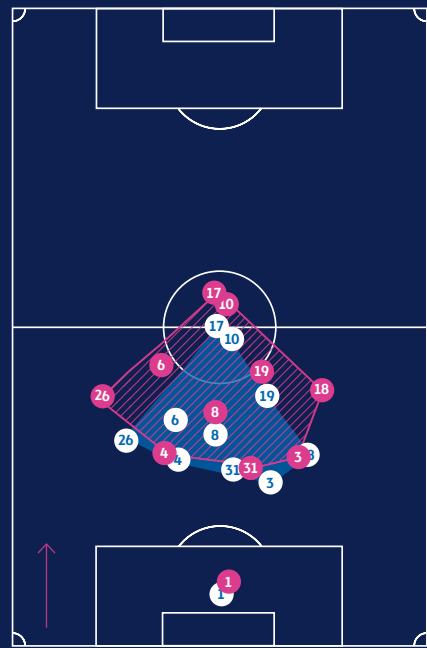
NENAD BJELICA
 BORN: 20/08/71, Osijek (CRO)
 NATIONALITY: Croatian
 HEAD COACH: From 27/11/2023 to 06/05/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0
 *Urs Fischer in charge MD1-4

- KEY FEATURES**
- Well-organised, disciplined team often sitting deep, set up to counter
 - Goalkeeper varies in opening the game up to his defenders and kicking long
 - Tight defensive structure, looking to close space centrally
 - Building up using wing-backs (Rousillon) – responsibility to get forward and provide crosses
 - Balanced attacks with four players to defend against counterattack
 - Fast attacking transitions, with Becker's penetrating runs in behind
 - Highest percentage of forward passes in group stage – 41%

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	14	2	5	7 14%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	53	22	16	15 42%

SHAPE

1-5-3-2, 1-3-5-2, 1-4-1-4-1
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Real Madrid (h)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION
 33%
 Max. 47% v Braga (a)
 Min. 25% v Real Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 32

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	35%
Middle third	50%
Attacking third	15%

334 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 475 v Braga (a)
 Min. 263 v Real Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 31

76% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 86% v Braga (a)
 Min. 68% v Real Madrid (a)
 UCL rank: 32

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	47 (14% of total)	UCL rank: 1=
Medium	128 (38%)	UCL rank: 14=
Short	159 (48%)	UCL rank: 27=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	22	UCL rank	32
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	5	UCL rank	12=
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DISTANCE COVERED
 123.7 km
 Max. 128.3 v Napoli (a)
 Min. 120.5 v Braga (a)
 UCL rank: 4

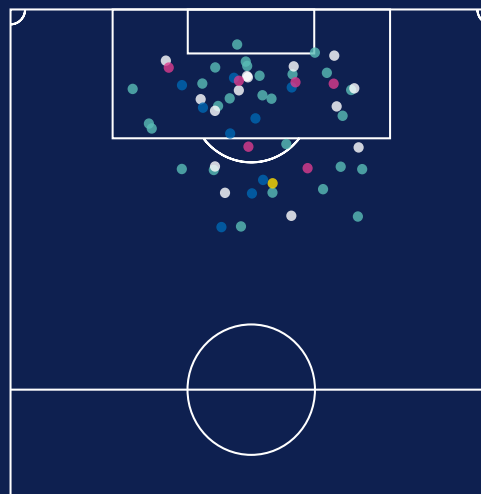
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 6** GOALS
1 per match; UCL rank: 23=
- 5.7** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1 per match; UCL rank: 27=
- 57** GOAL ATTEMPTS
9.5 per match; UCL rank: 29
- 21** ON TARGET
3.5 per match; UCL rank: 29=

GOALS	9%
SAVED	33%
BLOCKED	13%
WOODWORK	2%
OFF TARGET	44%

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Frederik Ronnow	6	540		
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DEFENDERS

3 Paul Jaeckel	3	175		
4 Diogo Leite	6	540		
5 Danilho Doekhi	3	260		
6 Robin Gosens	6	443	1	
18 Josip Juranović	5	416		
23 Leonardo Bonucci	3	260		
26 Jérôme Roussillon	4	262	1	
28 Christopher Trimmel	3	124		
31 Robin Knoche	3	270		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Brenden Aaronson	6	134		
8 Rani Khedira	4	293		
19 Janik Haberer	5	358		
20 Aïssa Laïdouni	6	276	1	
29 Lucas Tousart	5	238	1	
33 Alex Král	6	247	1	1
36 Aljoscha Kemlein	1	7		

FORWARDS

10 Kevin Volland	5	233	1	
11 David Fofana	4	198	1	
17 Kevin Behrens	5	301		
27 Serraldo Becker	5	365	2	1

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
 28.4

CARDS
 16 0

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Serraldo Becker	2	11	7	1.3
2 David Fofana	1	8	4	0.9
3 Robin Gosens	1	5	1	0.4

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Serraldo Becker	1	7	0.5
2 Jérôme Roussillon	1	4	0.5
3 Aïssa Laïdouni	1	2	0.3

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Diogo Leite	303	207	82	47
2 Robin Knoche	175	132	86	37
3 Frederik Ronnow	167	91	63	71

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Diogo Leite	35	5	5
2 Josip Juranović	27	1	2
3 Robin Gosens	25	3	3

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value



BSC YOUNG BOYS



GROUP G		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
LEI	CRV	MCI	MCI	CRV	LEI				
L1-3	D2-2	L1-3	L3-0	W2-0	L2-1				

Matches: Pink = home, white = away, blue = neutral; see page 5 for full club names

COACH



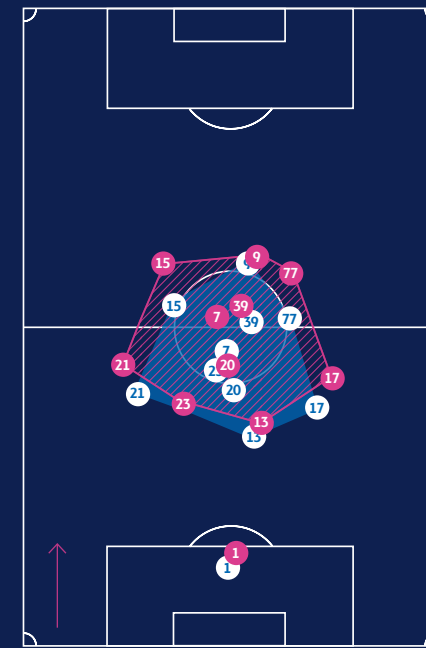
RAPHAËL WICKY
 BORN: 26/04/77, Leuggem (SUI)
 NATIONALITY: Swiss
 HEAD COACH: From 01/07/2022 to 04/03/2024
 UEFA CLUB TROPHIES WON: 0

- KEY FEATURES**
- Compact shape in mid-block; looking to fast wide players on transitions
 - In build-up working the ball wide for crosses into box
 - Use of diagonal balls to full-backs e.g. mobile, athletic Garcia on left
 - Garcia third in group stage for completed crosses (13) with 34.2% cross success rate
 - Creator Ugrinic able to control tempo with vision, awareness, good positions between lines
 - Physical team with strength and presence in box – two goals from corners
 - Showed character, e.g. with aggressive high press at home v City

Matches	W	D	L	Win%
UEFA Champions League (Group stage to final)	14	6	1	7 43%
UEFA club competition (including qualifying)	32	14	4	14 44%

SHAPE

1-4-2-3-1, 1-4-3-3, 1-4-4-2; also used back five
 3 In possession | 5 Out of possession



Example: v Crvena zvezda (a)

AVERAGES

POSSESSION
 43%
 Max. 55% v Leipzig (h)
 Min. 29% v Manchester City (a)
 UCL rank: 27=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	36%
Middle third	48%
Attacking third	17%

369 PASSES ATTEMPTED
 Max. 502 v Leipzig (h)
 Min. 282 v Manchester City (a)
 UCL rank: 29

79% PASS ACCURACY
 Max. 85% v Manchester City (h)
 Min. 72% v Crvena zvezda (a)
 UCL rank: 27=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	49 (13% of total)	UCL rank: 3=
Medium	142 (38%)	UCL rank: 14=
Short	178 (48%)	UCL rank: 27=

PASSES PER DEFENSIVE ACTION

Average	10.8	UCL rank	5
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RECOVERIES IN ATTACKING THIRD

Average	6	UCL rank	3=
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DISTANCE COVERED
 118.9 km
 Max. 125.7 v Manchester City (h)
 Min. 112.5 v Manchester City (a)
 UCL rank: 13

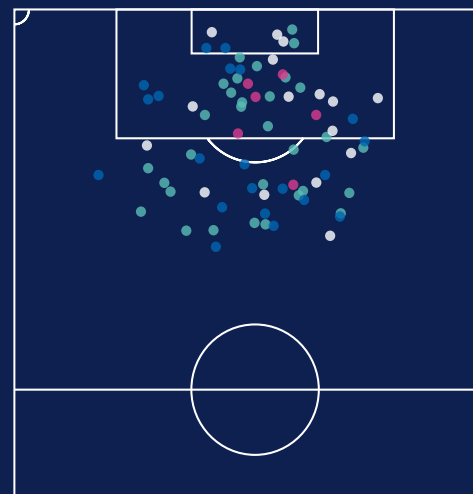
*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%

ATTEMPTS

- 7** GOALS
1.2 per match; UCL rank: 17=
- 6.5** EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.1 per match; UCL rank: 26
- 74** GOAL ATTEMPTS
12.3 per match; UCL rank: 19
- 22** ON TARGET
3.7 per match; UCL rank: 24=

GOALS	9%
SAVED	27%
BLOCKED	26%
WOODWORK	0%
OFF TARGET	38%

*Decimal points account for the extra/missing 1%



PLAYER STATISTICS

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Anthony Racioppi	5	450		
26 David von Ballmoos	1	90		

DEFENDERS

4 Aurele Amenda	4	314		
13 Mohamed Ali Camara	5	450	1	
17 Saidy Janko	5	324		
19 Noah Persson	3	36		
21 Ulisses Garcia	6	505		
23 Loris Benito	5	407	1	
27 Lewin Blum	4	217	1	
28 Fabian Lustenberger	1	90		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Filip Ugrinic	6	518	1	1
8 Łukasz Łakomy	1	20		
14 Miguel Chaiwa	3	57		
20 Cheikh Niasse	6	535	1	
22 Donat Rudhani	1	9		
30 Sandro Lauper	4	280		
39 Darian Males	6	164		

FORWARDS

9 Cédric Itten	4	280	1	
11 Ebrima Colley	2	127	1	
15 Meschack Elia	6	500	2	
18 Jean-Pierre Nsame	4	160	1	
35 Silvere Ganvoula	6	113		
77 Joel Monteiro	4	264	1	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE
 25.7

CARDS
 15 1

GOALS

	G	S	OT	xG
1 Meschack Elia	2	7	3	0.7
2 Filip Ugrinic	1	9	3	0.5
3 Cédric Itten	1	8	5	1.3

G = Goals; S = Shots; OT = On Target; xG = Expected Goals

CHANCE CREATION

	A	KP	xA
1 Filip Ugrinic	1	8	0.5
2 Joel Monteiro	1	4	1.1
3 Cheikh Niasse	1	4	0.4

A = Assists; KP = Key Passes; xA = Expected Assists

PASSES

	Att	R	S%	PF%
1 Ulisses Garcia	257	230	78	47
2 Loris Benito	243	170	88	46
3 Cheikh Niasse	231	169	83	25

Att = Attempted; R = Passes Received; S = Successful; PF = Pass Forward

DEFENDING

	BR	TW	I
1 Ulisses Garcia	44	9	4
2 Filip Ugrinic	34	9	5
3 Cheikh Niasse	31	5	17

BR = Balls Recovered; TW = Tackles Won; I = Interceptions

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

THE CHAMPIONS

2024 Real Madrid CF	1989 AC Milan
2023 Manchester City FC	1988 PSV Eindhoven
2022 Real Madrid CF	1987 FC Porto
2021 Chelsea FC	1986 FC Steaua București
2020 FC Bayern München	1985 Juventus
2019 Liverpool FC	1984 Liverpool FC
2018 Real Madrid CF	1983 Hamburger SV
2017 Real Madrid CF	1982 Aston Villa FC
2016 Real Madrid CF	1981 Liverpool FC
2015 FC Barcelona	1980 Nottingham Forest FC
2014 Real Madrid CF	1979 Nottingham Forest FC
2013 FC Bayern München	1978 Liverpool FC
2012 Chelsea FC	1977 Liverpool FC
2011 FC Barcelona	1976 FC Bayern München
2010 FC Internazionale Milano	1975 FC Bayern München
2009 FC Barcelona	1974 FC Bayern München
2008 Manchester United FC	1973 AFC Ajax
2007 AC Milan	1972 AFC Ajax
2006 FC Barcelona	1971 AFC Ajax
2005 Liverpool FC	1970 Feyenoord
2004 FC Porto	1969 AC Milan
2003 AC Milan	1968 Manchester United FC
2002 Real Madrid CF	1967 Celtic FC
2001 FC Bayern München	1966 Real Madrid CF
2000 Real Madrid CF	1965 FC Internazionale Milano
1999 Manchester United FC	1964 FC Internazionale Milano
1998 Real Madrid CF	1963 AC Milan
1997 Borussia Dortmund	1962 SL Benfica
1996 Juventus	1961 SL Benfica
1995 AFC Ajax	1960 Real Madrid CF
1994 AC Milan	1959 Real Madrid CF
1993 Olympique de Marseille	1958 Real Madrid CF
1992 FC Barcelona	1957 Real Madrid CF
1991 FK Crvena zvezda	1956 Real Madrid CF
1990 AC Milan	

CREDITS

Technical observer group

David Adams, Wayne Allison, Aljoša Asanović, Rafael Benítez, Packie Bonner, Justin Cochrane, Frank de Boer, Jean-François Domergue, Dušan Fitzel, Steffen Freund, Frans Hoek, David James, Aitor Karanka, Stefan Kuntz, Dirk Kuyt, Hans Leitert, Claude Makélélé, Roberto Martínez, Ginés Meléndez, Mixu Paatelainen, Marians Pahars, Stipe Pletikosa, Peter Rudbæk, Willi Ruttensteiner, Thomas Schaaf, Ole Gunnar Solskjær, Gareth Southgate, Jaap Stam, Giovanni van Bronckhorst, Jack Wilshere

UEFA deputy general secretary

Giorgio Marchetti

UEFA head of technical development and education

Olivier Doglia

UEFA supervisor performance analysis

Atle Rosseland

UEFA writer

Simon Hart

UEFA performance analysis team

Krzysztof Waloszczyk, Jason Todd, Thomas Churchill-Cooper

Technical observer coordinator

Andrew Sam

Data and video collection support

RedZone Analysis Limited, StatsPerform, UEFA Data Services

Analysis software

HUDL SportsCode, Catapult, Angles, VIZ Libero (VIZRT)

Managing editor

Michael Harrold

Art director

Oliver Meikle

Design

André Viegas, Tom Radford, Andrea Silva

Sub-editors

Jade Craddock, Andrew Haslam, Luke Nicoli, Aaryan Parasnis

Artworking

Deborah Mullen, Florentyne Katakwe

Production

Stuart Knapman

Photography

Getty Images, UEFA

Print

Artgraphic Cavin, Grandson

Designed and produced by TwelfthMan on behalf of UEFA

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UEFA
ROUTE DE GENÈVE 46
CH-1260 NYON 2
SWITZERLAND
TELEPHONE: +41 848 00 27 27
TELEFAX: +41 848 01 27 27
UEFA.com

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