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UEFA's technical observers gather at the final in Madrid

ANALYSING THE ACTION

UEFA'S TECHNICAL OBSERVERS MET IN MADRID FOLLOWING THE FINAL TO DISCUSS THE SEASON'S TRENDS AND TALKING POINTS

This review of the 2018/19 UEFA Champions League season serves as a record of a campaign that spanned 125 matches between the start of the group stage last September and the final in Madrid on 1 June.

The 20th UEFA Champions League technical report of its kind, it aims to provide a meaningful analysis of the action via the input of UEFA's Technical Observers' Group.

There was a member of this group at every fixture played in the knockout rounds and their insights provide the basis for the trends and talking points covered in the report, as well as informing the reflections on the playing styles of the top 16 clubs that feature in the team profiles section.

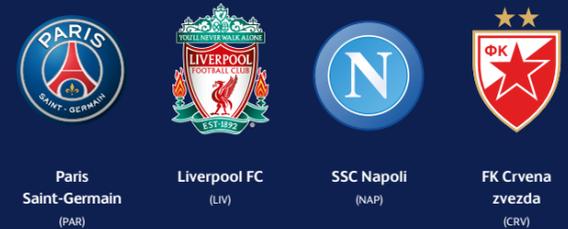
UEFA's team of technical observers for 2018/19 comprised Cristian Chivu (Romania), Roberto Martínez (Spain), Ginés Meléndez (Spain), David Moyes (Scotland), Michael O'Neill (Northern Ireland), Mixu Paatelainen (Finland), Peter Rudbaek (Denmark), Thomas Schaaf (Germany) and Gareth Southgate (England). Packie Bonner (Republic of Ireland) joined the group for the final at the Estadio Metropolitano.

The report is backed by statistical analysis and with the tendencies identified in the following pages, UEFA aims to provide a meaningful tool for coaches across the continent. It will be made available to members of the coaching family and, hopefully, will help development coaches stay aware of the prevailing styles and strategies, as well as the qualities required, at the elite end of the club game.

GROUP A



GROUP C



GROUP E



GROUP G



GROUP B



GROUP D



GROUP F



GROUP H



THE ROUTE TO MADRID

SHOCK RESULTS AND STUNNING COMEBACKS WERE IN EVIDENCE IN THIS SEASON'S UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE AS TWO ENGLISH CLUBS NAVIGATED THRILLING PATHS TO THE ESTADIO METROPOLITANO



Lucas Moura (right) equalises for Tottenham against Barcelona in their Group B meeting to secure Spurs a place in the last 16

GROUP STAGE

A season that would be defined by nights of heart-pounding drama and barely conceivable comebacks began with some small hints of the paths its eventual protagonist teams would take.

Liverpool's first two games of the group stage featured 90th-minute winning strikes – one in their favour against Paris Saint-Germain, the other bringing defeat in Naples. In an up-and-down autumn, they would lose all three Group C away games, including a 2-0 reverse at Crvena zvezda.

Yet while Liverpool did not reproduce their attacking menace of the previous campaign – scoring nine group stage goals compared with 23 – they now had a goalkeeper exuding assurance in Alisson Becker and they earned the three points required from their must-win final fixture against Napoli at Anfield thanks to the Brazilian's last-gasp stop from Arkadiusz Miliik. It left the teams tied on nine points, with Carlo Ancelotti's men eliminated for having scored fewer goals.

Tottenham Hotspur, starting as they would go on, had their own close shave in Group B where they faced three former champions in Barcelona, Internazionale and PSV Eindhoven. Last-minute losers at Inter on matchday one, Spurs had just one point after three games yet then came through several tests of nerve: after Wembley wins over PSV and Inter via goals in the last ten minutes, Lucas Moura's 85th-minute equaliser at Barcelona squeezed them into the last 16 with eight points (ahead of Inter on head-to-head away goals).

If the two finalists were still finding their stride, other clubs had raced out of the blocks. Barcelona (the only eventual semi-finalist to do so), Bayern München and Porto all won their groups without losing a game; in the case of Niko Kovač's Bayern, by shrugging off some shaky domestic results with the boost of eight Robert Lewandowski goals.

Unbeaten Ajax followed the Bavarians out of Group E – an impressive feat in itself by the four-time European champions who had set off on 25 July in the second qualifying round, and had last reached the knockout rounds in 2005/06.

It was Schalke, meanwhile, who advanced behind Porto in Group D, having achieved four clean sheets – a total bettered only by



Dortmund players celebrate their second goal in a 4-0 victory against Atlético de Madrid

compatriots Borussia Dortmund, who finished top of Group A thanks to an eye-catching 4-0 home success over second-placed Atlético de Madrid, Diego Simeone's heaviest European defeat at the Atleti helm.

Across the Spanish capital, defending champions Real Madrid entered 2018/19 missing a departed match winner in Cristiano Ronaldo – and the coach who had guided them to a hat-trick of triumphs, Zinedine Zidane. First Julen Lopetegui and then Santi Solari held the reins during the autumn as Madrid won Group G ahead of Roma – despite two losses to CSKA Moskva, the section's bottom side (the latter, 0-3 in December, marking their biggest home reverse in UEFA club competition).

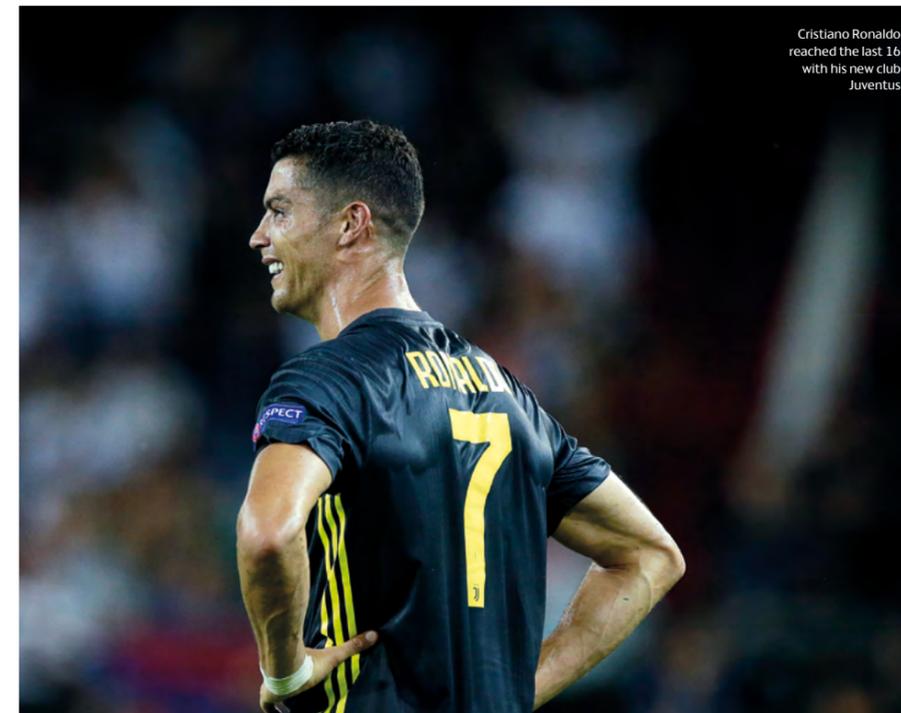
Ronaldo's new UEFA Champions League chapter with Juventus began with a red card in Valencia yet the Italian title holders still won Group H with the help of a victory at another of his old sides, Manchester United. Although United would part ways with José Mourinho by Christmas, they made it to the last 16 with the help of a late comeback win at Juventus

– two set-piece goals overturning Ronaldo's goal-of-the-season strike.

While United managed just one home goal, their neighbours Manchester City hit six in one match alone against Shakhtar Donetsk. Pep Guardiola's men had slipped up 2-1 at home to Lyon in their first Group F fixture but ended as group winners with an unsurpassed 16-goal tally. Lyon did not win again after matchday 1 but still followed City through after five straight draws.

In the same section, finally, Hoffenheim finished winless on their UEFA Champions League group stage debut – a fate shared with PSV, AEK Athens and a Monaco side guided for their last four matches by Thierry Henry.

Hoffenheim's fellow newcomers, Young Boys, posted their first win on matchday 6 against already qualified Juventus. As for Crvena zvezda, new to the UEFA Champions League group stage, if not a competition they had won in 1991, their victory over Liverpool in front of an impassioned Belgrade crowd – the first victory by any Balkan side in the post-1992 era – would feel even more of a collector's item by the season's end.



Cristiano Ronaldo reached the last 16 with his new club Juventus

12

Barcelona topped their group for the 12th year running

3

For the third consecutive year the eventual champions were group runners-up

275

Goals scored in the group stage

5

Goalless draws from 96 group fixtures

7

Four months after putting six past Shakhtar, City hit seven against Schalke

10

For the first time in ten years all four English sides made it to the round of 16

4

Number of ties in which teams overturned first-leg deficits



Romelu Lukaku gives Manchester United an early lead in Paris

ROUND OF 16

There were just as many victories recorded away as at home in the round of 16 (seven apiece) and none was as dramatic as Manchester United's at Paris Saint-Germain.

United, by now, were being led by Ole Gunnar Solskjær, who as a player at Old Trafford had scored the goal that completed a stunning, stoppage-time turnaround in the 1999 UEFA Champions League final. Twenty years on, they shredded another script, becoming the first team in European Cup history to win a tie after losing the first leg at home by two goals or more.

Their 3-1 success in Paris came without the suspended Paul Pogba, sent off in a 2-0 first-leg loss. United completed 226 passes to their hosts' 695 but after Romelu Lukaku's two first-half goals, they got the third required when Marcus Rashford converted a 94th-minute penalty awarded for handball against Presnel Kimpembe after consultation with VAR.

Ajax achieved their own famous fightback by eliminating holders Real Madrid with a 4-1 triumph at the Santiago Bernabéu. Beaten 2-1 in the home first leg, Erik ten Hag's team attacked Madrid with a block of four forwards (their formation morphing from 4-3-3 to 4-2-4 as they flew upfield) and no one illustrated their attacking brilliance better than Dušan Tadić. Scorer of one goal and provider of two others, he memorably escaped Casemiro with a roulette turn before supplying David Neres for his goal – and earned himself a rare 10/10 rating from France's L'Equipe newspaper in the process.

It was Madrid's earliest elimination since 2010 and their neighbours Atlético suffered their own stumble, letting a 2-0 first-leg advantage over Juventus slip through their fingers in Turin. The architect of their demise was Ronaldo, an old nemesis from Madrid derbies. His eighth UEFA Champions League hat-trick included two headers, showcasing his remarkable ability to jump early and hang in the air.

Along with two Spanish casualties, the round of 16 marked the end of the road for the remaining three Bundesliga clubs – ensuring no German representation in the quarter-finals for the first time since 2006. All three fell to Premier League opposition.

Bayern München's defensive organisation frustrated Liverpool in a goalless draw at Anfield, but they missed the suspended



Naby Keita of Liverpool is surrounded by Bayern München players

Joshua Kimmich in the return and Jürgen Klopp's men prevailed with goals from Sadio Mané (2) and Virgil van Dijk.

Missing Harry Kane and Dele Alli for their tie with Borussia Dortmund, meanwhile, Tottenham found a different source of inspiration in Jan Vertonghen, who, switched to a wing-back role, scored one goal and made another in a 3-0 home success that set up a 4-0 overall scoreline.

There was an even greater margin of victory in the other Anglo-German duel between Manchester City and Schalke. While it took a 90th-minute Raheem Sterling breakaway strike – the through ball delivered by his goalkeeper, Ederson – to secure ten-man City's 3-2 victory in Gelsenkirchen, the second leg was an entirely one-sided affair: 7-0 to City. In his last match as Schalke coach, Domenico Tedesco saw his team's five-

man back line hold out for 35 minutes before the floodgates opened, the visitors exposed repeatedly by longer passes behind their defence for City's quick forwards to sprint on to.

As for Barcelona, they finished 5-1 aggregate victors against Lyon after the first leg in France ended goalless. In the Camp Nou return, the scoreboard read 2-1 with 13 minutes remaining before Lionel Messi netted his second and then teed up two more goals on the counter.

While Barcelona were bound for a 12th consecutive quarter-final, the team who beat them at that stage the year before, Roma, fell short. Nineteen-year-old Nicolò Zaniolo's two goals in a 2-1 win against Porto at the Stadio Olimpico – the first UEFA Champions League double by an Italian teenager – had raised Roman hopes, but Sérgio Conceição's side responded at home, prevailing 3-1 after extra time. Another tie turned on its head.



Donny van de Beek helps Ajax through with a goal away to Juventus

QUARTER-FINALS

"Football can be crazy sometimes." So said Tottenham Hotspur goalkeeper Hugo Lloris at the conclusion of a remarkable quarter-final with Manchester City, a seven-goal contest in England's northwest that went the way of the less-fancied team – though only after the Tottenham players had, literally, picked themselves up off the floor after a VAR ruling annulled Raheem Sterling's riotously celebrated, stoppage-time 'winner' for offside.

The all-Premier League contest had begun with City aiming to overturn a 1-0 deficit from a first leg at Spurs' new stadium where Pep Guardiola had set out with a rare sense of caution, fielding two holding midfielders and keeping Kevin De Bruyne on the bench until the 89th minute. With Guardiola perhaps mindful of the previous season's quarter-final first-leg defeat at Liverpool, this was City with the safety catch on. After Lloris had saved Sergio Agüero's first-half penalty, they

ended up succumbing to Heung-Min Son's 78th-minute strike following a Fabian Delph defensive lapse.

De Bruyne did start the return and teed up a Sterling strike after four minutes. Somehow, by the 21st minute City had three goals but Spurs had two. Starting with a midfield diamond, Mauricio Pochettino's side had sought to attack City through the middle, sensing an opportunity for their quick front players against City's centre-backs, and it paid off during an astonishing first quarter as they profited from uncustomary slips by Aymeric Laporte to score twice through Son, shining in Kane's ongoing absence. This gave them the edge on away goals – and they held on to it after Agüero and Fernando Llorente traded second-half strikes. City would end the season with a domestic treble, but with European glory once again out of reach.

If Spurs' progress was not anticipated, the

same applied to Ajax, who had begun their campaign in the second qualifying round but now overcame Juventus to reach their first UEFA Champions League semi-final since 1997. They did so with another exceptional away display. As in their 1-1 first-leg draw in Amsterdam, they shrugged off the setback of a Cristiano Ronaldo goal and responded swiftly through Donny van de Beek. His intelligent forward runs in support of the front three were a strong feature of Ajax's play and he was in the right place to steer in a close-range equaliser before Matthijs de Ligt capped a dominant display by leaping to power in a header from Lasse Schöne's corner for the winning goal.

The two other quarter-finals provided more easily predicted outcomes with victories for Barcelona and Liverpool. In Barcelona's case they profited from an early own goal to win at Manchester United and then, after a first-minute reprieve when Marcus Rashford clipped the crossbar, ran out ultimately convincing 3-0 winners at the Camp Nou where Lionel Messi punished uncertain defending with two goals and Philippe Coutinho added a third.

Liverpool, for their part, ended up with the same five-goal victory margin against Porto that they had earned in the clubs' last-16 meeting in 2018, though this contest was closer than the scoreboard would suggest. Porto, despite missing suspended skipper Héctor Herrera, matched their hosts for attempts on target at Anfield but conceded to Naby Keïta's deflected shot and Roberto Firmino while seeing Moussa Marega foiled by the foot of Alisson Becker. At the Estádio do Dragão, where Liverpool had won 5-0 a year earlier, the Reds showed resilience in the face of an early storm, and then the clinical touch that Porto were lacking as each of their front three found the net before Virgil van Dijk's second set-piece header of the campaign sealed a 4-1 triumph.



A Philippe Coutinho goal completes Barcelona's win against Manchester United

3

Kevin De Bruyne assists in Man City's second leg against Tottenham

5

Goals in the first 21 minutes of the City-Spurs second leg

22

Years since Ajax had last reached the semi-finals



Georginio Wijnaldum scored twice as Liverpool made a remarkable comeback against Barcelona

33

Years since a team last overturned a 3-0 European Cup semi-final deficit (Barcelona v IFK Göteborg)

16

Open-play crosses by Liverpool at home against Barcelona

2 min 57 secs

The total time that Tottenham held the aggregate advantage against Ajax

SEMI-FINALS

In the 64-year history of the European Cup, it is doubtful there have ever been two back-to-back semi-final nights quite like it. After all, if one footballing miracle is something to savour, then the second week of May 2019 presented two in a row as Liverpool demolished a three-goal deficit against Barcelona and then, on the very next evening, Tottenham Hotspur did the same in the space of 41 second-half minutes away at Ajax.

For Liverpool, theirs was a recovery to rival the famous 2005 final triumph against AC Milan in Istanbul. When Lionel Messi hit a majestic 30-metre free-kick to put Ernesto Valverde's men 3-0 up in the first leg, the tie looked over; indeed it probably would have been had Ousmane Dembélé not fluffed the night's very last kick in front of Alisson Becker. Yet Liverpool had played well: they had 52% of possession, created chances (with Mohamed Salah hitting a post), and saw Barcelona misplace 88 passes in the face of the visitors' disorienting high tempo. Indeed, at 1-0, it had taken a defensive switch by Valverde, sending on Néelson Semedo for Philippe Coutinho, to counter the threat of Andy Robertson and stem the flow.

Back on Merseyside, Liverpool were missing Salah and Roberto Firmino but gained an early foothold through Divock Origi's goal and Anfield, where past Lazarus acts ensure hope is never far away, believed once more. Save for a spell of control before half-time, which led to openings for Messi, Coutinho and Jordi Alba, Barcelona struggled to build attacks owing to Liverpool's energy and intense pressing, which brought 11 interceptions and left Messi and Luis Suárez as peripheral figures. And they had no answer to Liverpool's crossing either, which yielded the two Georginio Wijnaldum strikes that brought the tie level early in the second period, before Trent Alexander-Arnold's quickly taken corner caught Barcelona napping – and Origi applied the killer touch.

A night to "remember forever" is how Jürgen Klopp described it, and just 24 hours later, we had another. Ajax were by now in a strong position to advance to the final following a 1-0 first-leg win in London. Donny van de Beek had delivered the only goal during an opening half

of Frenkie de Jong-inspired supremacy, with David Neres later striking a post. Yet while Spurs had improved in the first leg after a tactical switch – from a back three to a four with a midfield diamond – they found the going no easier over in Amsterdam. By the 35-minute mark Ajax's aggregate advantage stood at 3-0, thanks to a Matthijs de Ligt header and Hakim Ziyech's fiercely curled finish.

Then came Mauricio Pochettino's half-time introduction of Fernando Llorente, a

target striker to put Ajax's centre-backs under pressure and create space for Lucas Moura. Suddenly, with the Brazilian's two goals in quick succession, Tottenham needed just one more to advance on the away-goals rule. Ziyech hit the goalframe at the other end, yet ultimately Ajax wilted: Llorente beat De Ligt to a high ball, Dele Alli touched it on and Lucas's low shot rolled into the bottom corner. There were 95 minutes and one second on the clock, and Spurs were in the final.



Tottenham turned around a three-goal deficit against Ajax

SALAH SETS REDS ON THE ROAD TO GLORY



Mohamed Salah puts Liverpool ahead with an early penalty

AN EARLY PENALTY PROVED TOO MUCH FOR TOTTENHAM AS LIVERPOOL CLAIMED THE TROPHY FOR A SIXTH TIME

If the knockout phase of the 2018/19 UEFA Champions League had resembled a road of unexpected twists, the final followed a course that was set inside two minutes. Or 107 seconds to be precise.

That, after all, was all the time it took for Mohamed Salah to convert the penalty kick awarded by Damir Skomina, the Slovenian referee, for a handball offence against Moussa Sissoko. In the collective view of UEFA's technical observers it proved the defining moment. As one of them commented: "Practically everything changed after 30 seconds."

Indeed, just 21 seconds had passed when Sadio Mané checked back on himself on the left-hand corner of the Tottenham Hotspur box and chipped over the first cross of the night, with Sissoko standing barely two metres away, right arm extended to signal to a team-mate. The ball struck his underarm and Liverpool had their penalty.

Salah, whose participation in the previous year's final against Real Madrid had ended with an early injury and teary departure, had the chance to make amends and his finish was fierce, the ball rising over Hugo Lloris as Tottenham's goalkeeper dived to his left. Salah kneeled and kissed the turf and, if a personal demon had been exorcised, the impact on the psychology of the entire final was even more significant.

As Mauricio Pochettino, Tottenham's manager, later noted, it was "mentally tough" to concede so early in their first UEFA Champions League final. Only Paolo Maldini, for AC Milan in 2005, had struck an earlier final



Tottenham fans display a sea of white flags in Madrid

39%

Liverpool were the first side since Internazionale in 2010 to win the final despite having a smaller share of possession

4

Divock Origi's strike meant a substitute has scored in the final for four years running

6

Spurs were the sixth first-time finalist in a row to have lost the showpiece (after Valencia, Bayer 04 Leverkusen, Monaco, Arsenal and Chelsea)

goal and where that Istanbul contest featured an astonishing Liverpool fightback, this goal left the Reds with something to defend. For a team who had lost their last two European finals – and a manager, Jürgen Klopp, seeking to avoid a third UEFA Champions League final defeat and earn his first trophy with Liverpool – it seemed to prompt a shift in strategy. The Estadio Metropolitano witnessed few of the forward runs by full-backs and midfielders that usually pepper Liverpool's play. Instead we saw a safety-first, sit-deep approach, illustrated by the Reds' eventual statistic of 39% possession, and 189 passes completed to Spurs' 428.

Amid all the colour the two sets of supporters had transported to the eastern edge of Madrid – with their respective 'home' ends each awash with flags before kick-off – one of the largest Liverpool banners was arrestingly simple: a silver European Cup and five stars against a red backcloth. Liverpool had come for a sixth and their response to the early goal underlined this was all that mattered.

For the neutral, it meant this second all-English UEFA Champions League final had little of the intensity and end-to-end thrills of Premier League football, and if the Madrid heat was a mitigating factor, there was also the impact of a three-week break since the domestic season's end.

Altogether, it made for a scruffy start. Passes went astray across the pitch; Salah, Toby Alderweireld, then Trent Alexander-Arnold setting an unhappy trend. If Harry Winks stood out for his neatness on the ball for Spurs, Liverpool's more direct approach – evidenced by the 70-metre ball by Virgil van Dijk to Mané that yielded their first corner – was proving more effective.

Alexander-Arnold, playing in his second UEFA Champions League final already at 20, was not far wide with a shot fizzed from 25 metres and he showed his defensive awareness soon after when covering for his centre-backs with a vital interception as Heung-Min Son threatened to run clear.

On a night when Alexander-Arnold's attacking game was less prominent, Liverpool actually registered only one completed cross, though there was certainly danger in Andy Robertson's first centre, which would have reached Salah at the back post but for Danny Rose's alertness. It was the Liverpool left-back too who later drew Lloris's only save of the game, after he had run unchallenged from his own half and unleashed a rising shot.

For UEFA's technical observers, Tottenham deserved praise for the way they built up past the first line of Liverpool's press, the two centre-backs linking with midfielders Sissoko and Winks to work the ball out to the full-backs, yet beyond the halfway line they had less success.

The tireless Rose earned a roar of appreciation when pulling a ball down to earth and bursting away from Jordan Henderson yet, in keeping with the overall tone, he spoiled his good work with a pass behind Son and into touch. Indeed, not until the final moments of the half did a Tottenham player get a clear sight of goal, and even then Christian Eriksen's effort from the edge of the 'D' flew high into the bank of red behind Alisson Becker.

It did not help, of course, that their captain and centre-forward, Harry Kane, was struggling to impose himself against Liverpool's centre-backs on his first appearance since sustaining ankle ligament damage in the quarter-final first leg. When Diego Simeone gambled on Diego Costa's fitness ahead of the 2014 final, the Atlético

de Madrid forward lasted only nine minutes. Pochettino had put his faith in his captain but only Roberto Firmino touched the ball as little as Kane did in the first period (11 times each).

That said, Tottenham had not led at half-time in a single fixture en route to Madrid, yet kept finding ways to win. And their start to the second period, attacking the end where their fans were congregated, was purposeful, even if the end product remained absent.

Son and Kieran Trippier worked a crossing opportunity down the right but Dele Alli failed to connect with the ball at the back post. "Oh when the Spurs go marching in" came the cry of encouragement from their supporters but when Sissoko marched through Liverpool's midfield line to give his team a four against three, Winks lost his one-on-one duel with Robertson – one of ten recoveries by the left-back.

Collectively Liverpool's defenders had the bit between their teeth, their organisation commendable. Alexander-Arnold blocked a Dele Alli shot after the midfielder had brought down Trippier's lofted pass. Then Joël Matip muscled aside Kane to clear the loose ball.



Divock Origi seals the game with Liverpool's second goal

While taking no risks, Klopp's men knew one long pass to Salah offered not just an outlet, but the promise of a second goal. Georginio Wijnaldum's ball gave the Egyptian a run at goal and, stepping on to his left foot, he sought to bend a shot around Jan Vertonghen but the defender, one of Spurs' strongest performers, read his intentions and blocked. Alisson, with an eye-catching, 80-metre driven pass down the right, then sent Salah away again to spark another scare in the Spurs box.

With Firmino struggling for fitness, Klopp made his first change when replacing him with Divock Origi after 58 minutes. It would prove a decisive switch, though it was James Milner, his next substitute, who threatened first, following fine work by Mané. Carrying the ball from his own half, the Senegalese escaped Eriksen with some cute footwork before feeding Salah, who teed up Milner for a shot that whistled past the post.

As for Pochettino, his first substitution – replacing Winks with Spurs' semi-final hero Lucas Moura – highlighted the need for a greater goal threat. And that threat finally grew as the Londoners went for broke. Son supplied Dele on the left side of the box but his attempted lob dropped softly into Alisson's arms.

Son then headed for goal himself, surging on to Dele's pass and cutting between Van Dijk and Matip, only for the Dutchman to shift gears and usher the ball behind before the Spurs man could shoot – a show of the authority that would bring Liverpool's imperious centre-back the UEFA observers' man of the match award.

Entering the 80th minute, Son eventually did test Alisson, who pushed away his 25-metre drive and when Rose put the ball back in the box, Lucas missed Tottenham's best chance of the night, a low snapshot from 15 metres that lacked the pace and power to beat his compatriot.

Last to try was Eriksen, with a curling free-kick after a trip on Rose on the left edge of the area, but Alisson foiled him too and instead, it was a set play at the other end that settled the outcome. Son, at the near post, failed to get a firm head to Milner's corner from the right and the ball flew on to Van Dijk in the vicinity of the penalty spot. Though Eric Dier blocked his attempt, Vertonghen inadvertently diverted the bouncing ball to Matip who turned it on to Origi, standing free to his left. The Belgian took one touch, then buried a left-foot strike into the far corner. Origi, Liverpool's match winner against Barcelona, had done it again.

"We've conquered all of Europe, we're never gonna stop," sang the Liverpool fans. Alisson, for one, was certainly not stopping, diving low to halt one final Son attempt and then collecting Kane's drive in his midriff. With it, the Brazilian equalled the record for eight saves in a UEFA Champions League final.

Here, to quote Klopp, was "a keeper who makes difficult things look easy" – and a player whose impact on this final could not have been more different than that of his predecessor, Loris Karius, 12 months previously. For Klopp, the disappointment of Kyiv and those other lost finals could give way to something else. He had his first European Cup, Liverpool their sixth. This had been a night for getting over the line. As the veteran Milner raised six digits to the fans, drawing a giant cheer, that was the sole number that counted now.

Liverpool's jubilant players lift the club's sixth European Cup



MATCH STATISTICS

MADRID 19 FINAL

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 0-2 LIVERPOOL

SATURDAY 1 JUNE 2019
Estadio Metropolitano, Madrid

GOALS

0-1 Salah 2 (pen), 0-2 Origi 87

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

- 1 Lloris
- 2 Trippier
- 4 Alderweireld
- 5 Vertonghen
- 3 Rose
- 8 Winks (27 Lucas 66)
- 17 Sissoko (15 Dier 74)
- 20 Dele (18 Llorente 81)
- 23 Eriksen
- 7 Son
- 10 Kane

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES

- 13 Vorm
- 6 Sánchez
- 11 Lamela
- 12 Wanyama
- 16 Walker-Peters
- 21 Foyth
- 22 Gazzaniga
- 24 Aurier
- 33 Davies

COACH

Mauricio Pochettino

LIVERPOOL

- 13 Alisson
- 66 Alexander-Arnold
- 32 Matip
- 4 Van Dijk
- 26 Robertson
- 14 Henderson
- 3 Fabinho
- 5 Wijnaldum (7 Milner 62)
- 11 Salah
- 9 Firmino (27 Origi 58)
- 10 Mané (12 Gomez 90)

UNUSED SUBSTITUTES

- 22 Mignolet
- 6 Lovren
- 15 Sturridge
- 18 Moreno
- 20 Lallana
- 21 Oxlade-Chamberlain
- 23 Shaqiri
- 24 Brewster
- 62 Kelleher

COACH

Jürgen Klopp

REFEREE

Damir Skomina (SVN)

ATTENDANCE

63,272

TEAM SHAPES



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	LIVERPOOL
0	2
61%	39%
16	14
8	3
6	5
2	6
0	0
8	9
0	0
0	0
528	280
428	189
103.4km	105km



Jürgen Klopp has a close bond with his players

KLOPP CLASS

AFTER TWO FINAL DEFEATS, 2019 BROUGHT A LONG-AWAITED UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TRIUMPH FOR AN INSPIRATIONAL COACH WHO HAS REBUILT LIVERPOOL IN HIS OWN IMAGE

For a man who has described himself as the "reserve tank" for his Liverpool players, ever-ready to provide a shot of motivation from the sidelines, there was something serene, almost subdued, about Jürgen Klopp in the initial moment or two of his hour of triumph.

The camera that followed his movements before and after referee Damir Skomina blew the final whistle on the 2019 UEFA Champions League final showed him respond with a rare calm. Before Skomina's last blast, he had already made his way towards Mauricio Pochettino to offer an embrace to his Tottenham Hotspur counterpart.

As pandemonium erupted around him, Klopp shook the hand of the fourth official, then looked up to his family in the stand, putting two hands to his mouth to send up a kiss to his wife Ulla. There were hugs with members of Liverpool's backroom staff but not until he had helped Jan Vertonghen, the Spurs centre-back, rise from the turf did the big white grin appear on his face as he looked back up to his family and began seeking out his own players.

This was the moment Klopp had long waited for, following previous UEFA Champions League final losses with Borussia Dortmund in 2013 and Liverpool in 2018. Before this third final he had summoned the German equivalent of third time lucky ("All the best things come in threes") when recalling his 2004 success in leading Mainz into the Bundesliga following two consecutive near-misses in the pursuit of promotion from the second division.

The hope too was to avoid a third final reverse in UEFA competitions since arriving at Anfield. He has yet to lose a home European tie as Liverpool manager but had suffered defeat in the UEFA Europa League decider at the end of his first season, as well as the Kyiv heartache of 2018. Indeed, overall Klopp had lost six straight finals, as Dortmund and Liverpool manager, prior to the night of 1 June.

There was a business-like approach to this year's final. Where 12 months earlier, Liverpool had flown into Kyiv on the Thursday for the Saturday evening match,



Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino congratulates Jürgen Klopp after the final

now they arrived the day before as for any other European away fixture. If that was a minor difference, they had undergone the same training camp in Marbella as a year before but unlike then, Klopp reflected, this time they had fortune on their side – a penalty in their favour from the game's first attack. "You need luck in a final and we never had it [before], it was the first time," he said. "Whether it was a lucky penalty for us, I don't know. We take it, of course."

Klopp, speaking some five weeks after the final, reflected that this incident coloured everything. "None of the boys had doubts about how we would react if we were one-nil down, but if you're one-nil up, it changes it from 'You can win something', to 'Now you can lose something'. It's a little

"THIS IS ABOUT HEART AND SOUL AND A FANTASTIC EMPATHY THAT HE CREATES WITH HIS PLAYERS"

difference, but it has a big impact. That's one reason why we were not flying in the game. It was like, 'OK, be solid here!'

It was far removed from the heavy-metal football that was once a popular synonym for Klopp's style; this was a mature performance from a team whose manager has undergone his own steady evolution. The 2018/19 season was Klopp's first full campaign coaching without Zeljko Buvac, an old team-mate from Mainz who had followed him to Dortmund and then Liverpool as his assistant. Klopp had always been the man to lead team shape and set-piece work but now, following the departure of his right-hand man, is understood to have become more forthright in his decision-making.

This is not to say Klopp is an authoritarian figure. Last summer he moved quickly to bring back Pep Lijnders to Anfield following the Dutchman's departure for a brief spell as head coach of NEC Nijmegen. Lijnders, assistant first-team coach, is his chief planner, while fellow assistant Peter Krawietz, an analyst nicknamed 'The Eye', had worked with Klopp previously at Dortmund and Mainz. Together the trio made tweaks to Liverpool's approach, seeking alternative strategies against wary opponents who were now less open. With this appreciation that they could no longer just rely on lightning counterattacks, one area of attention was working on retaining the ball better in midfield.

Klopp fosters close co-operation with this pair as well as his head of fitness and conditioning, Andreas Kornmayer, and his goalkeeper coach, John Achterberg, and offered a noteworthy comment on leadership in the run-up to the final. "I need experts around me," he said. "That's what leadership is: have strong people around you with a better knowledge in different departments than yourself."

Yet whatever the strength of the structure around him (and this includes Michael Edwards, the sporting director who recommended Mohamed Salah's signing), it is Klopp's personality and galvanising presence that have transformed a club that, prior to his arrival, had not played UEFA Champions League knockout football since 2009. Even an old rival, José Mourinho, was

moved to praise the 52-year-old after Liverpool's remarkable recovery against Barcelona. "For me this remontada [fightback] has one name: Jürgen. I think this is not about tactics, this is not about philosophy; this is about heart and soul and a fantastic empathy that he creates with that group of players."

Those bonds were evident in the celebrations with his players in Madrid, in the way both Alisson Becker and Virgil van Dijk enveloped their 1.91m-tall coach in bear hugs, lifting him off his feet. Alisson has praised Klopp for treating his players "like sons". Klopp's message to each player as he saluted them on the pitch was a simple, heartfelt "thank you".

After the dust had settled, he reflected on what Liverpool's triumph meant to him. "By far the best part of the final was all the things that happened around me," he said. "In the first week of my holiday,

I think I watched 1,000 videos, which I usually don't do, but the thing is you have only your own view in a situation like that. That's quite limited, so you miss things and I didn't want to miss anything.

"It's so nice all the relief, the power and the emotions in those celebrations. It's all about that. I know what people think about footballers and managers, but money is not what drives us. These pictures are what we want to see, to put in our minds and keep forever. I will never forget one single moment, and I was so exhausted after the game that I sat in the coaches' dressing room together with my colleagues. I enjoyed it so much, having a beer, sitting there, half-naked, talking to the guys who worked the whole year, and I didn't even go out into the players' dressing room. I was just sitting there and I thought, 'Wow, it's unbelievable'. After the game was one of the best moments in my life, 100%."



Jürgen Klopp holds the trophy aloft at last

RESULTS

GROUP STAGE

GROUP A	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Borussia Dortmund	6	4	1	1	10	2	13
Club Atlético de Madrid	6	4	1	1	9	6	13
Club Brugge	6	1	3	2	6	5	6
AS Monaco FC	6	0	1	5	2	14	1

18/09	Brugge	0-1	Dortmund	06/11	Monaco	0-4	Brugge
18/09	Monaco	1-2	Atlético	06/11	Atlético	2-0	Dortmund
03/10	Atlético	3-1	Brugge	28/11	Atlético	2-0	Monaco
03/10	Dortmund	3-0	Monaco	28/11	Dortmund	0-0	Brugge
24/10	Brugge	1-1	Monaco	11/12	Brugge	0-0	Atlético
24/10	Dortmund	4-0	Atlético	11/12	Monaco	0-2	Dortmund

GROUP E	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Bayern München	6	4	2	0	15	5	14
AFC Ajax	6	3	3	0	11	5	12
SL Benfica	6	2	1	3	6	11	7
AEK Athens FC	6	0	0	6	2	13	0

19/09	Ajax	3-0	AEK Athens	07/11	Bayern	2-0	AEK Athens
19/09	Benfica	0-2	Bayern	07/11	Benfica	1-1	Ajax
02/10	Bayern	1-1	Ajax	27/11	AEK Athens	0-2	Ajax
02/10	AEK Athens	2-3	Benfica	27/11	Bayern	5-1	Benfica
23/10	AEK Athens	0-2	Bayern	12/12	Ajax	3-3	Bayern
23/10	Ajax	1-0	Benfica	12/12	Benfica	1-0	AEK Athens

ROUND OF 16

12 February–13 March

Manchester United	3-3	Paris
First leg 0-2	(Man United win on away goals)	Second leg 3-1

Roma	3-4	Porto
First leg 2-1		Second leg 1-3 (aet)

Tottenham Hotspur	4-0	Borussia Dortmund
First leg 3-0		Second leg 1-0

Ajax	5-3	Real Madrid
First leg 1-2		Second leg 4-1

Lyon	1-5	Barcelona
First leg 0-0		Second leg 1-5

Liverpool	3-1	Bayern München
First leg 0-0		Second leg 3-1

Schalke	2-10	Manchester City
First leg 2-3		Second leg 0-7

Atlético Madrid	2-3	Juventus
First leg 2-0		Second leg 0-3

PLAY-OFFS – LEAGUE PATH

(Aggregate scores played over two legs; the first-named club played at home in the first leg)

Benfica	5-2	PAOK	Ajax	3-1	Dynamo Kyiv
First leg 1-1		Second leg 4-1	First leg 3-1		Second leg 0-0

GROUP B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Barcelona	6	4	2	0	14	5	14
Tottenham Hotspur FC	6	2	2	2	9	10	8
FC Internazionale Milano	6	2	2	2	6	7	8
PSV Eindhoven	6	0	2	4	6	13	2

18/09	Barcelona	4-0	PSV	06/11	Tottenham	2-1	PSV
18/09	Inter	2-1	Tottenham	06/11	Inter	1-1	Barcelona
03/10	Tottenham	2-4	Barcelona	28/11	PSV	1-2	Barcelona
03/10	PSV	1-2	Inter	28/11	Tottenham	1-0	Inter
24/10	PSV	2-2	Tottenham	11/12	Barcelona	1-1	Tottenham
24/10	Barcelona	2-0	Inter	11/12	Inter	1-1	PSV

GROUP F	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester City FC	6	4	1	1	16	6	13
Olympique Lyonnais	6	1	5	0	12	11	8
FC Shakhtar Donetsk	6	1	3	2	8	16	6
TSG 1899 Hoffenheim	6	0	3	3	11	14	3

19/09	Shakhtar	2-2	Hoffenheim	07/11	Lyon	2-2	Hoffenheim
19/09	Man City	1-2	Lyon	07/11	Man City	6-0	Shakhtar
02/10	Hoffenheim	1-2	Man City	27/11	Hoffenheim	2-3	Shakhtar
02/10	Lyon	2-2	Shakhtar	27/11	Lyon	2-2	Man City
23/10	Hoffenheim	3-3	Lyon	12/12	Shakhtar	1-1	Lyon
23/10	Shakhtar	0-3	Man City	12/12	Man City	2-1	Hoffenheim

QUARTER-FINALS

9–17 April

Liverpool	6-1	Porto
First leg 2-0		Second leg 4-1

Tottenham	4-4	Manchester City
First leg 1-0	(Tottenham win on away goals)	Second leg 3-4

Ajax	3-2	Juventus
First leg 1-1		Second leg 2-1

Manchester United	0-4	Barcelona
First leg 0-1		Second leg 0-3

PLAY-OFFS – CHAMPIONS PATH

(Aggregate scores played over two legs; the first-named club played at home in the first leg)

Crvena zvezda	2-2*	Salzburg	BATE	2-6	PSV	Young Boys	3-2	Dinamo Zagreb	Vidi	2-3	AEK Athens
First leg 0-0		Second leg 2-2	First leg 2-3		Second leg 0-3	First leg 1-1		Second leg 2-1	First leg 1-2		Second leg 1-1

*Crvena zvezda win on away goals

GROUP C	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Paris Saint-Germain	6	3	2	1	17	9	11
Liverpool FC	6	3	0	3	9	7	9
SSC Napoli	6	2	3	1	7	5	9
FK Crvena zvezda	6	1	1	4	5	17	4

18/09	Liverpool	3-2	Paris	06/11	Crvena zvezda	2-0	Liverpool
18/09	Crvena zvezda	0-0	Napoli	06/11	Napoli	1-1	Paris
03/10	Paris	6-1	Crvena zvezda	28/11	Paris	2-1	Liverpool
03/10	Napoli	1-0	Liverpool	28/11	Napoli	3-1	Crvena zvezda
24/10	Paris	2-2	Napoli	11/12	Liverpool	1-0	Napoli
24/10	Liverpool	4-0	Crvena zvezda	11/12	Crvena zvezda	1-4	Paris

GROUP G	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid CF	6	4	0	2	12	5	12
AS Roma	6	3	0	3	11	8	9
FC Viktoria Plzeň	6	2	1	3	7	16	7
PFC CSKA Moskva	6	2	1	3	8	9	7

19/09	Real Madrid	3-0	Roma	07/11	CSKA	1-2	Roma
19/09	Viktoria Plzeň	2-2	CSKA	07/11	Viktoria Plzeň	0-5	Real Madrid
02/10	CSKA	1-0	Real Madrid	27/11	CSKA	1-2	Viktoria Plzeň
02/10	Roma	5-0	Viktoria Plzeň	27/11	Roma	0-2	Real Madrid
23/10	Roma	3-0	CSKA	12/12	Real Madrid	0-3	CSKA
23/10	Real Madrid	2-1	Viktoria Plzeň	12/12	Viktoria Plzeň	2-1	Roma

SEMI-FINALS

30 April–8 May

Tottenham	3-3	Ajax
First leg 0-1	(Tottenham win on away goals)	Second leg 3-2

Barcelona	3-4	Liverpool
First leg 3-0		Second leg 0-4

GROUP D	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Porto	6	5	1	0	15	6	16
FC Schalke 04	6	3	2	1	6	4	11
Galatasaray AS	6	1	1	4	5	8	4
FC Lokomotiv Moskva	6	1	0	5	4	12	3

18/09	Galatasaray	3-0	Lokomotiv	06/11	Porto	4-1	Lokomotiv
18/09	Schalke	1-1	Porto	06/11	Schalke	2-0	Galatasaray
03/10	Lokomotiv	0-1	Schalke	28/11	Lokomotiv	2-0	Galatasaray
03/10	Porto	1-0	Galatasaray	28/11	Porto	3-1	Schalke
24/10	Lokomotiv	1-3	Porto	11/12	Galatasaray	2-3	Porto
24/10	Galatasaray	0-0	Schalke	11/12	Schalke	1-0	Lokomotiv

GROUP H	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	6	4	0	2	9	4	12
Manchester United FC	6	3	1	2	7	4	10
Valencia CF	6	2	2	2	6	6	8
BSC Young Boys	6	1	1	4	4	12	4

19/09	Young Boys	0-3	Man United	07/11	Valencia	3-1	Young Boys
19/09	Valencia	0-2	Juventus	07/11	Juventus	1-2	Man United
02/10	Juventus	3-0	Young Boys	27/11	Man United	1-0	Young Boys
02/10	Man United	0-0	Valencia	27/11	Juventus	1-0	Valencia
23/10	Young Boys	1-1	Valencia	12/12	Young Boys	2-1	Juventus
23/10	Man United	0-1	Juventus	12/12	Valencia	2-1	Man United

FINAL

1 June



Tottenham

0-2



Liverpool

MADRID 19
FINAL

SQUAD OF THE SEASON

CHAMPIONS LIVERPOOL FILLED SIX OF THE 20 PLACES IN THE TECHNICAL OBSERVERS' ALL-STAR SELECTION



	ALISSON BECKER
LIVERPOOL	
GK	2018/19 13 APPS
Two-footed goalkeeper with strong anticipation; made vital saves v Napoli and in final.	
6	8
CLEAN SHEETS	SAVES IN THE FINAL



	MARC-ANDRÉ TER STEGEN
BARCELONA	
GK	2018/19 11 APPS
Quarter-back keeper with superb distribution, short and long, and key saves when required such as at Lyon.	
6	
CLEAN SHEETS	

For the UEFA technical observers, meeting the morning after Liverpool's final triumph, the task of selecting their UEFA Champions League squad of the season was the cause of considerable debate.

In the end, their 20-man selection contained individuals from seven different clubs, with winners Liverpool represented by half a dozen players – starting with their two key men in the final, goalkeeper Alisson Becker and defensive leader Virgil van Dijk.

Runners-up Tottenham Hotspur were represented by three players, including Lucas Moura, who did not start the final but had scripted one of the season's most remarkable stories with his semi-final hat-trick in Amsterdam.

Not surprisingly given their outstanding contribution to the campaign, there was room for five players from semi-finalists Ajax, including three essential pieces of the team's spine in Matthijs de Ligt, Frenkie de Jong and Dušan Tadić. If Ajax's De Ligt, at 19, was the youngest player to feature, Lyon were another club showcasing fresh talent in their dynamic 22-year-old midfielder Tanguy Ndombélé.

Overall, this was a squad that recognised not just consistency over a full campaign but big impacts on big matches – such as Cristiano Ronaldo's round of 16 hat-trick for Juventus against Atlético de Madrid and Kevin De Bruyne's trio of assists for Manchester City in their home quarter-final against Tottenham.

Of course, Lionel Messi ticks both of those boxes and the tournament's top scorer featured as one of two Barcelona players, together with goalkeeper Marc-André ter Stegen.

Inevitably, given the plethora of elite individuals to choose from, other noteworthy performers narrowly missed out – including Messi's Blaugrana team-mate Gerard Piqué and the influential Manchester City midfielder Bernardo Silva.



	VIRGIL VAN DIJK
LIVERPOOL	
DEF	2018/19 12 APPS 2 GOALS
Unflappable leader who brings aerial power in both boxes, speed on ground, and excellence in 1v1s.	
34.5	58
KM/H (ranked first)	CLEARANCES (ranked second)



	TRENT ALEXANDER-ARNOLD
LIVERPOOL	
DEF	2018/19 11 APPS 0 GOALS
Youngster's crossing ability was a major asset for the Reds and brought their semi-final winner.	
22	
CROSSES COMPLETED OF 73 ATTEMPTED (ranked second)	



	MATTHIJS DE LIGT
AJAX	
DEF	2018/19 11 APPS 2 GOALS
Prodigious teenager showed composure, leadership and a goal threat in skipping Ajax to the semis.	
68	
AERIAL DUELS WON (67.6% ranked third)	



	ANDY ROBERTSON
LIVERPOOL	
DEF	2018/19 12 APPS 0 GOALS
Constant threat down Liverpool's left with his well-timed runs into the final third.	
653	520
PASSES ATTEMPTED	COMPLETED



	JAN VERTONGHEN
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	
DEF	2018/19 10 APPS 1 GOAL
Outstanding both with the ball and defensively, forming impressive pairing with Alderweireld.	
71	
DEFENSIVE INTERVENTIONS	



	MOUSSA SISSOKO
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	
MID	2018/19 10 APPS 0 GOALS
Came of age as a Spurs player with his midfield dynamism and driving runs from deep.	
94%	
PASS COMPLETION IN QUARTER-FINAL FIRST LEG	



HAKEM ZIYECH
 AJAX
 MID 2018/19 | 11 APPS | 3 GOALS
 Left-footed wide man shone with his vision and penetrating runs, connecting superbly with Tadić.
 9 BIG CHANCES CREATED (ranked first) | 67 TAKE-ONS



KEVIN DE BRUYNE
 MANCHESTER CITY
 MID 2018/19 | 4 APPS | 0 GOALS
 Stamped his class on quarter-final v Spurs, driving City on with a trio of assists.
 4 ASSISTS IN 247 MINUTES PLAYED



FRENKIE DE JONG
 AJAX
 MID 2018/19 | 12 APPS | 0 GOALS
 Pivotal in defensive midfield role, controlling the tempo with a rare composure under pressure.
 92% PASSING ACCURACY IN SEMI-FINAL



RAHEEM STERLING
 MANCHESTER CITY
 FWD 2018/19 | 10 APPS | 5 GOALS
 Constant menace for full-backs with his quick feet; earned his best goal tally yet in the competition.
 82 DRIBBLES | 24 KEY PASSES (ranked third)



LIONEL MESSI
 BARCELONA
 FWD 2018/19 | 10 APPS | 12 GOALS
 Outright top scorer for the first time since 2011/12 and author of the campaign's finest free-kick strike.
 17 THROUGH BALLS (ranked first)



DUŠAN TADIĆ
 AJAX
 FWD 2018/19 | 12 APPS | 6 GOALS
 Key figure in Ajax attack, holding ball up and orchestrating moves from 'false nine' position.
 37 CHANCES CREATED | 33 KEY PASSES (both ranked first)



TANGUY NDOMBÉLÉ
 LYON
 MID 2018/19 | 8 APPS | 2 GOALS
 Influential midfielder with intelligence to solve tactical problems; excelled in group stage games v Manchester City.
 387 PASSES ATTEMPTED | 341 COMPLETED (88%)



GEORGINO WIJNALDUM
 LIVERPOOL
 MID 2018/19 | 12 APPS | 2 GOALS
 Versatile and assured in possession, the unsung midfielder snatched the spotlight with a semi-final double v Barcelona.
 OVER 10.7km COVERED IN SIX OF EIGHT FULL APPEARANCES



DAVID NERES
 AJAX
 FWD 2018/19 | 11 APPS | 2 GOALS
 Skilful winger shone in Ajax front four; struck important goals v Real Madrid and Juventus.
 1 SPRINT EVERY 1.69 MINUTES



SADIO MANÉ
 LIVERPOOL
 FWD 2018/19 | 13 APPS | 4 GOALS
 Liverpool's most effective forward in 2018/19 with his speed, direct running and 1v1 threat.
 1 SPRINT EVERY 1.63 MINUTES | 1,150 MOST MINUTES PLAYED BY AN OUTFIELDER



CRISTIANO RONALDO
 JUVENTUS
 FWD 2018/19 | 9 APPS | 6 GOALS
 Hit the observers' goal of the season as well as a much-savoured hat-trick v Atlético de Madrid.
 WAS INVOLVED IN 8 OF JUVENTUS' 14 GOALS



LUCAS MOURA
 TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
 FWD 2018/19 | 12 APPS | 5 GOALS
 Scored the Camp Nou equaliser that propelled Spurs into the last 16 – and an unforgettable semi-final treble.
 32.8 KM/H (Spurs' quickest sprinter)

WALKING A FINE LINE

TACTICAL FLEXIBILITY, THE INTENSITY OF THE ENGLISH GAME AND AJAX'S RUN TO THE LAST FOUR WERE ALL HOT TOPICS FOR UEFA'S TECHNICAL OBSERVERS IN MADRID

Kevin De Bruyne was at the heart of Manchester City's tussle with Tottenham



FLEXIBILITY EXCEEDS PHILOSOPHY

If every coach has their own idea of how they like to see football played, one striking feature of UEFA Champions League football in 2018/19 was the number of times the men in the technical area shifted their approach throughout matches, making tweaks here and there to nullify their opponents' strengths or exploit their weaknesses.

In the words of one close observer of Tottenham Hotspur's progress to the final, Mauricio Pochettino, for instance, "always has a plan B and a plan C". Spurs' flexibility means regular changes of formation – and Pochettino does not delay in making decisions. In the semi-final home leg against Ajax, for example, the Argentinian set his team up with a back three, but by the midway point of the first half had switched to a back four with midfield diamond (1-4-1-2-1-2) in an attempt to gain some control. He admitted after the match that his starting shape had been "maybe a mistake" but he had acted quickly to remedy it.

Some might see the elite coach as a chess player, moving their pieces amid a flurry of arm movements from the touchline. The observer's report of Manchester City's visit to Schalke noted a series of tweaks by Pep Guardiola: 1-4-1-2-3 to start; then 1-4-2-1-3 in the face of a temporary loss of control; then 1-4-1-2-3 once more; then 1-4-2-2-1 after Nicolás Otamendi's red card.

Guardiola offered another example when City hosted Tottenham in the quarter-final. The visitors' early success, with two goals for Heung-Min Son, brought a swift switch: Spurs' threat was coming through the centre of the pitch, via their midfield diamond, so Guardiola altered his starting formation of 1-4-3-3 to reassert control. He brought Kevin De Bruyne back inside to play closer to İlkay Gündoğan in the middle and, with the support of the two Silvas, Bernardo and David, this meant a midfield four at times in the latter part of the first period. By the closing minutes of the match, though, with City chasing goals, they finished up with just three defenders and four up front. As for Pochettino, he altered Spurs' shape after the early flood of goals. Tottenham had started with two up front in Lucas Moura and Son, but the latter now dropped to the left side of a flat four-man midfield, with Dele Alli supporting Lucas in a 4-4-1-1 set-up.

One question that arose in the post-final discussion between UEFA's technical observers was whether we are seeing a new age of pragmatism with regards to coaches' strategies. Liverpool offered an example in the final where they played a low-risk game in a departure from the high-speed, high-intensity football that had swept aside Barcelona and so many others. Jürgen Klopp's approach paid off on the night, although had the game gone against Liverpool, would there have been questions asked of Klopp's cautious approach? After all, witness the way Guardiola's choice of two holding midfielders for the quarter-final defeat at Tottenham dominated the post-mortem.

Coaches walk a fine line in a sport where little details can determine the biggest of matches – and act as the crude arbiter of whether a decision was 'right' or 'wrong'. Roberto Martínez, the Belgium coach and UEFA technical observer, praised the bravery of Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde, when he made a defensive-looking switch with his side leading 1-0 at home to Liverpool by withdrawing Philippe Coutinho in favour of Nélon Semedo; in reality it helped to address the threat Andy Robertson was posing down Liverpool's left and restore Barcelona's balance.

In the technical observers' discussion of broader questions of flexibility, there were varying views expressed: one coach commented that young players today grow up playing different positions and therefore have the adaptability to cope with tactical changes. Another, playing devil's advocate, asked whether we might be seeing too much flexibility – and too many different demands on players.

To return to Pochettino, finally, one last point centred on his second-half introduction of Fernando Llorente to spark Tottenham's second-half fightback at Ajax. The fact it wreaked such havoc in the Ajax defence, where Llorente dominated centre-backs Daley Blind and Matthijs de Ligt, raised the question of whether the overriding tendency for very structured build-up play means that teams can no longer handle the lesser-seen, old-fashioned threat of high balls up to a big target man. Given Barcelona's similar struggles with Liverpool's stream of crosses in the other semi-final (like Ajax the next night, they faced 16 from open play), it can be affirmed that to win this competition, the capability to cope with different challenges is a vital asset.

PREMIER LEAGUE POWER AND COMEBACK KINGS

If the all-English UEFA Champions League final proved anti-climactic, the manner in which Liverpool and Tottenham Hotspur advanced to Madrid had the whole of Europe talking about the power of Premier League football. There were different factors cited, including the collective economic might of England's top division and the influence of the outstanding coaches and players recruited from around the world who have raised the tactical and technical demands. But top of the list was the intensity of the English game. This means both the on-field tempo and the intense demands of a division where the high level of competition means teams cannot let their standards drop.

That Liverpool lost just one match in the 2018/19 Premier League yet still did not capture the title reinforces the argument of one UEFA observer that "every game mentally and physically is at a different level to any other league in Europe". Though some would dispute this, it seems reasonable to suggest the English calendar offers stern tests more regularly – in terms of high intensity, high tempo games – than Ajax, for example, face in the Eredivisie. Similarly those clubs who win their national leagues with large points margins may suffer in the UEFA Champions League owing to the absence of a serious threat that keeps their competitive levels sky-high week in, week out. As a consequence, the mental and physical resilience of the English participants stood out to the point where Jürgen Klopp was describing his players as "mentality giants".

Even before one extraordinary week in May, we saw Manchester United recover from their 2-0 home defeat to oust Paris Saint-Germain in the last 16. And then for something even more remarkable as Liverpool and Tottenham raised the intensity levels to max against Barcelona and Ajax – and both opponents duly crumbled.

In Barcelona's case it was not for the first time. One extraordinary statistic in the wake of those semi-finals was that, since 2017, the UEFA Champions League has witnessed as many comebacks from a first-leg deficit of three goals or more as it had over the preceding three decades. Barcelona were authors of one such comeback – against Paris in March

NEVER SAY DIE

Since 2017, there have been as many recoveries after losing the first leg by at least three goals as there were in the 20 seasons between 1987 and 2016.

COMEBACKS BY THREE GOALS OR MORE SINCE 2017

LIVERPOOL 4-3 BARCELONA
(0-3, 4-0) 2018/19 SEMI-FINAL

ROMA 4-4 BARCELONA
(1-4, 3-0, away goals) 2017/18 QUARTER-FINAL

BARCELONA 6-5 PARIS
(0-4, 6-1) 2016/17 ROUND OF 16

COMEBACKS BY THREE GOALS OR MORE 1987–2016

DEPORTIVO 5-4 MILAN
(1-4, 4-0) 2003/04 QUARTER-FINAL

WERDER BREMEN 5-3 DYNAMO BERLIN
(0-3, 5-0) 1988/89 FIRST ROUND

GALATASARAY 5-3 NEUCHÂTEL XAMAX
(0-3, 5-0) 1988/89 SECOND ROUND

2017 – yet it was the memory of their defeat at Roma in 2018 that seemed to flash back at them once Liverpool had scored their first goal at Anfield. In Rome they had lost a 4-1 lead in a 3-0 second-leg defeat; on Merseyside, they collapsed in the same way. In both instances, they had no answer to the speed and power and intensity of their hosts, and one UEFA observer suggested that the limited defensive contributions of Lionel Messi and Luis Suárez did not help in the away tie: "You have to defend with 11 players."

Of course, there was also the Anfield factor at work. As the same observer said, this is a club with a deep-rooted belief in their powers of recovery, gained from so many past triumphs, and a crowd who respond to the high energy of their team, which, in turn, energises their players further. A virtuous circle.

KEEPING AHEAD OF THE REST

One of the abiding images created by a goalkeeper in the 2018/19 was that of Ederson, the Manchester City custodian, collecting a ball on the 'D' of his penalty box during the visit to Schalke, stepping forward five metres and launching a long, diagonal ball that landed at Raheem Sterling's feet just outside the opposition area. Sterling's marker lost his balance, and with one touch from the forward the ball was in the net. Goal: Sterling; 80-metre assist: Ederson. And an emphatic illustration of the accuracy that today's elite goalkeepers can achieve with their feet.

It is not just their accuracy but their ability to influence the flow of a match too. UEFA's technical observers cited Gianluigi Buffon's contribution to Paris Saint-Germain's victory at Manchester United as a case in point. After seeing his team struggle with United's high press in the opening period of the game, the experienced Italian took the decision to push his team-mates up and start playing long – and thereby dilute United's threat.

This ability to read a game and play both short and long, seeing space higher up the pitch, is imperative and few do it better than Barcelona's Marc-André ter Stegen, who draws comparison to an American football quarterback for his range of passing, be it picking out a full-back pushed on high or knocking a ball up to Lionel Messi as the Argentinian maestro dropped into midfield.

Another who excels with his feet is Liverpool's two-footed Alisson Becker; one discussion point that arose in the post-final meeting was the difference between him and Tottenham Hotspur's Hugo Lloris. Ten of Alisson's 27 attempted passes in the final went into the opposition half and the view of the UEFA observers was that he showed greater confidence in his long-range accuracy – and ability to mix it up – than the predominantly left-footed Lloris who played 42 of his 54 attempted passes within his own half.

Former Republic of Ireland goalkeeper and UEFA technical advisor Packie Bonner led the reflection on goalkeeping in which a variety of opinions were aired. One view was that as well as focusing on developing two good feet, it was essential for young goalkeepers to have

two good hands first and foremost – and that there was a danger of this being overlooked. The need for goalkeepers to work on their positioning – their recovery after stepping out to build play – was another matter; the modern netminder has a tendency to stray into 'riskier' positions, and for this Bonner stressed the need for goalkeeper coaches with a good understanding of the game and an effective collaboration with the head coaches on team tactics.



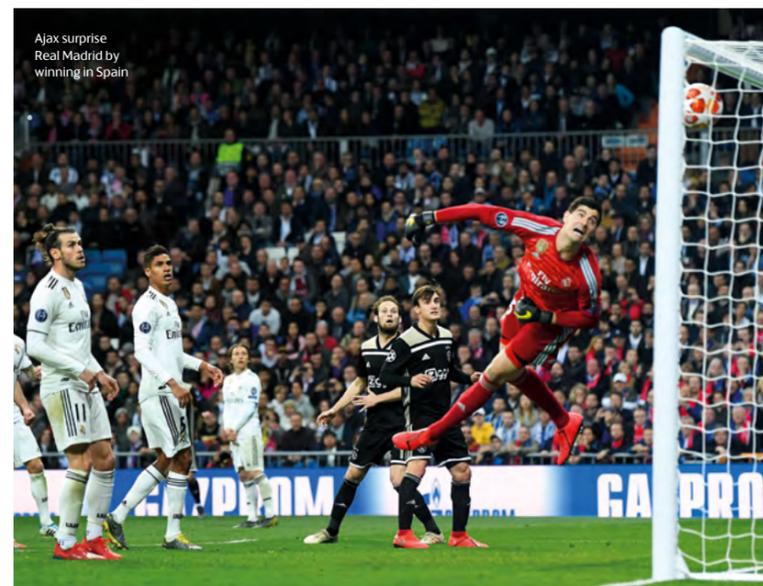
Alisson Becker was singled out for the mixed range of his passing

APPLAUSE FOR AJAX

"Refreshing." "Innovative." "A big plus for the tournament." These were some of the UEFA observers' views on the imprint that Dutch champions Ajax left on the tournament this year – views doubtless shared by neutrals far and wide. The efforts of Erik ten Hag's team in reaching the semi-final, and coming within seconds of a first UEFA Champions League final since 1996, were all the more impressive for their youthful composition. Six of the side that started the stunning 4-1 win at Real Madrid – a result that ended Madrid's 1,011-day reign as European champions – were aged 22 or under. Four of them were products of Ajax's academy while a fifth, André Onana, had made his professional debut with the club. Only four, moreover, had had the experience of Ajax's UEFA Europa League final appearance two years earlier.

What is more, they had got to the semi-final the hard way, coming through three qualifying rounds last summer, before going on to become the first team in 14 years to reach the last four from outside Europe's five biggest leagues. They did so playing the Ajax way too – with exceptional levels of belief and control, freedom and composure, as they won in successive rounds at Madrid, Juventus and Tottenham Hotspur. Over the season only Liverpool created more big chances than their 28; only Tottenham managed more key passes than their 124.

UEFA's technical observers were unanimous in their admiration of Ajax's efforts with particular praise for Barcelona-bound midfielder Frenkie de Jong's ability to find the right pass at the right time. Dušan Tadić's embracing of the UEFA Champions League challenge at the age of 30, meanwhile, was one of the season's feelgood stories. Although Ten Hag had a more conventional alternative for the centre-forward slot in Kasper Dolberg, it was the Serbian who stole the limelight as a false nine, holding the ball up and combining to spectacular effect with the quick, younger talents around him. The concentration of wealth among certain leagues and clubs during the quarter-century since Ajax's fourth and last European Cup triumph has made it harder than ever for a team from a smaller nation like the Netherlands to travel so far into the competition. Economic forces would prompt the departure of key players in the months that followed, but Ajax certainly made their fans dream. Even Tottenham's Christian Eriksen could not hide his sympathy for his old club when that dream was finally extinguished in the final moments of their semi-final. "Over the two games they played the better football," he said. "In the end we were just lucky we scored."



Ajax surprise Real Madrid by winning in Spain

A SQUAD GAME

Fifty years after the first substitutions in a European Cup final, the 2019 showpiece in Madrid highlighted the extent to which football has become a squad game. It was not just for the fact Divock Origi's strike for Liverpool provided the fifth goal by a substitute in the last six finals but also for the impression made by two different images – one before the match, the other afterwards. Before kick-off the customary team photos featured not just the starting XIs but each team's substitutes too – a message of inclusivity, that 'we're all in this together'. Afterwards, meanwhile, the forest of bodies on the platform where Liverpool received their trophy – an assembly of first-team regulars, fringe squad members and Jürgen Klopp's support staff numbering more than 50 – underlined in bold the scale of the enterprise within today's elite clubs. As Gareth Southgate, the England manager and UEFA technical observer, reflected, the modern coach has the challenge of leading not just a large squad of players but a complex and broad staff too. It is a challenge that both Klopp and his Tottenham Hotspur counterpart Mauricio Pochettino have embraced, excelling in their leadership of these groups, with their ability to empathise, to connect and to persuade players to buy into their vision.



VAR came to Tottenham's rescue in Manchester

THE AWAY GOAL, 50 YEARS ON

It is also 50 years since the away-goals rule first settled a European Cup tie. That was in the second round of the 1968/69 competition, as Danish forward Jørn Bjerregaard's strike at the Santiago Bernabéu edged Rapid Wien past Real Madrid despite a 2-1 loss in Spain (aggregate score: 2-2). The topic of away goals was discussed at the UEFA Elite Club Coaches Forum in September 2018 with top European coaches asking for a review of the away-goals rule in European competitions.

The away goals question came up during the UEFA technical observers' meeting in Madrid too, where there were various views expressed. For one coach, the rule brings a welcome element of jeopardy – and with it the accompanying tension and excitement witnessed in the Paris-Man United, Man City-Tottenham and Ajax-Tottenham matches. Another argued the rule was unfair. A third coach speculated about the possibility of playing extra time in ties that ended with the aggregate scores level.

It is interesting to note that in that inaugural season of away goals in the European Cup, visiting sides failed to score in 46% of the matches played across the round of 16, quarter-finals and semi-finals. The season before that, the percentage figure was even higher at 57%. The equivalent percentage for 2018/19 was 29%, indicating that today – when away trips hold far fewer surprises and playing conditions are increasingly uniform – an away goal is a less precious currency.

VAR'S SUDDEN IMPACT

Nobody who was at Manchester City's stadium on 17 April 2019 will forget the eruption of noise that greeted the sight of Raheem Sterling's shot rolling into the net off Hugo Lloris's left boot two minutes and 22 seconds into added time. Nor will they forget the pushing of the stop button on those City celebrations when, little over a minute later, referee Cüneyt Çakır signalled the goal's annulment after a VAR review had showed an offside offence against Sergio Agüero in the build-up. After that release of emotion, City did not have their fifth goal and it was Tottenham Hotspur heading for the last four.

If the 2018 FIFA World Cup was the first high-profile international tournament to feature VAR, the new technology made its first appearance in the UEFA Champions League from the round of 16 of the 2018/19 competition onwards following successful technological testing and the training of referees. At every stadium, a VAR team – a video assistant referee, an assistant video assistant referee and two video operators – was in place to support the referee and help him take correct decisions in four match-changing situations: goals, penalty decisions, direct red card incidents and mistaken identity.

Prior to the round of 16, representatives of the clubs involved – coaches, coaching staff and club delegates – received a presentation from Roberto Rosetti, UEFA's chief refereeing officer, on the workings of the system. Come the final on 1 June, VAR was used to confirm the handball decision made by referee Damir Skomina against Tottenham's Moussa Sissoko for Liverpool's penalty – an award made in keeping with the current interpretation of the handball rule.

This stricter interpretation was explained by Rosetti ahead of the knockout stage when he said: "When the arm is totally out of the body above the shoulder it should be penalised. If the defender is making the body bigger in order to block the ball it is not fair." In March, IFAB subsequently confirmed the changed handball rule for 2019/20, with an offence committed if a player makes his body bigger with his arm, or if the arm is above shoulder height.



Raheem Sterling scored five goals, his season-best

PUTTING THE BALL IN THE NET

WHILE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF GOALS DROPPED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THREE YEARS, THE SCORING RATE REMAINED RELATIVELY HIGH COMPARED TO PREVIOUS SEASONS

A total of 366 goals were scored in the 2018/19 UEFA Champions League, rattled in at a rate of 2.93 per match. This marked a fall from the previous two years – 401 was the record figure posted in 2017/18, 380 the year before – but it was still the fourth-highest total since the current format was established in 2003.

The second halves of matches produced more goals than the first – 206 to 159 – with the latter stages proving especially productive as games opened up due to teams chasing a result and players beginning to tire. If we add the 76–90 minute period to the goals struck in added time, the combined total for goals scored from 76 minutes onwards was 88 – virtually a quarter of the overall number (24%).

Quarter-finalists Manchester City finished as the top scorers with 30 strikes from their ten matches, while Paris Saint-Germain recorded the second-highest goals-per-game ratio (2.5), having hit 20 in eight matches before elimination. As for Liverpool, the eventual champions ended the season with 24 goals – 17 fewer than when finishing runners-up in 2018, albeit with four fewer in the goals-against column too.

366
Goals scored in the 2018/19 competition

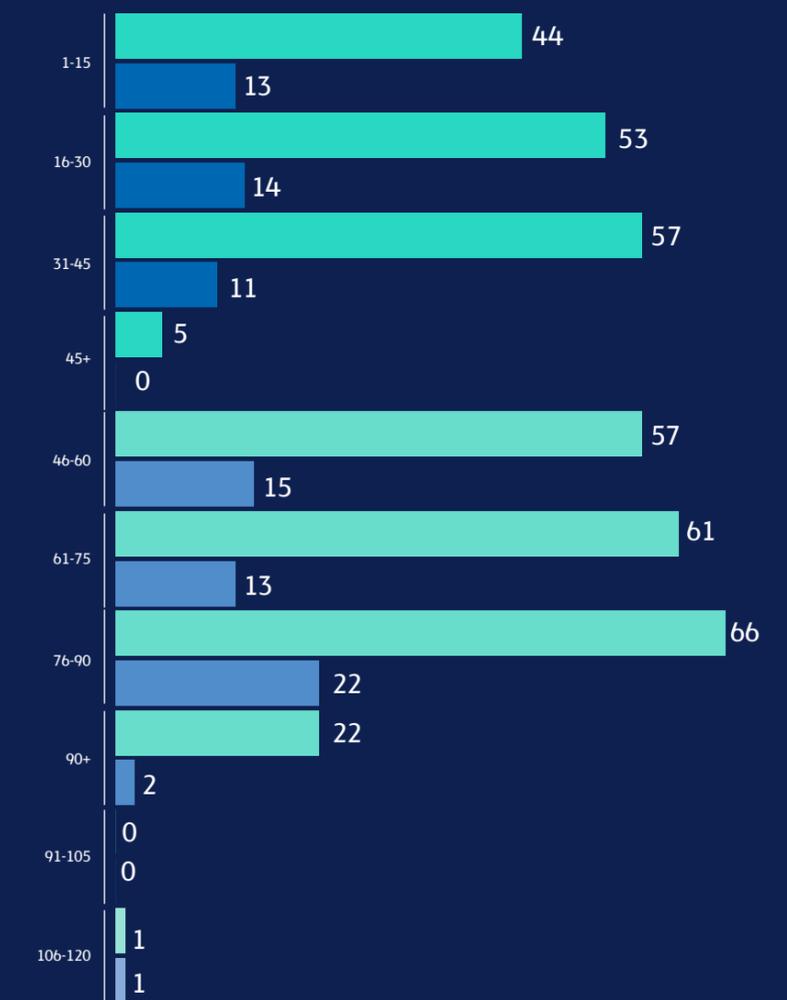
7
Number of 0-0 draws

3
Goals-per-game ratio of top scorers Manchester City

GOAL TIMES

FULL SEASON	First half	Second half	Extra time
366 goals	159	206	1

KNOCKOUT STAGE	First half	Second half	Extra time
91 goals	38	52	1



40%
Tottenham hit eight of their 20 goals after the 75th minute

21
Matches won with goals after the 75-minute mark

GOALS PER SEASON

(in current 125-match format)



2018/19 COMEBACKS

Seven of the season's 12 comebacks featured a winning goal scored after 80 minutes – evidence of how the competition can test teams' stamina and concentration levels until the last kick.

GROUP STAGE

INTERNAZIONALE	2-1	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
(winning goal time: 90+2 mins)		
MONACO	1-2	ATLÉTICO MADRID
(45+1 mins)		
HOFFENHEIM	1-2	MANCHESTER CITY
(87 mins)		
PSV EINDHOVEN	1-2	INTERNAZIONALE
(60 mins)		
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	2-1	PSV EINDHOVEN
(89 mins)		
JUVENTUS	1-2	MANCHESTER UNITED
(90 mins)		
CSKA MOSKVA	1-2	VIKTORIA PLZEŇ
(81 mins)		
MANCHESTER CITY	2-1	HOFFENHEIM
(61 mins)		

KNOCKOUT STAGE

SCHALKE 04	2-3	MANCHESTER CITY
(90 mins)		
JUVENTUS	1-2	AJAX
(67 mins)		
MANCHESTER CITY	4-3	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
(59 mins)		
AJAX	2-3	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR
(90+6 mins)		

HOW THE GOALS WERE SCORED

Just over a quarter (25.68%) of the total of 366 goals scored in 2018/19 came from crosses and cut-backs, underlining once more the importance of good wing play.

The second biggest source of goals was combinations, a broad category that included everything from the 20-pass Barcelona move leading to Lionel Messi's hat-trick strike against PSV Eindhoven to the first UEFA Champions League goal by German club Hoffenheim – scored via a lovely chip by Florian Grillitsch following a high-class give-and-go with Leonardo Bittencourt.

CATEGORY	ACTION	GROUP STAGE	KNOCKOUT	TOTAL	
SET PLAY	Corners	28	14	42	
	Free-kicks (direct)	8	3	11	
	Free-kicks (indirect)	11	1	12	
	Penalties	25	9	34	
	Throw-ins	0	1	1	
OPEN PLAY	Combinations	50	9	59	
	Crosses/cutbacks	69	25	94	
	Through balls	29	11	40	
	Long passes	6	5	11	
	Individual action/solo runs	8	2	10	
	Shots from outside box	20	3	23	
	Defensive errors	18	6	24	
	Own goals	3	2	5	
	Total		275	91	366

THE ADVANTAGE OF SCORING FIRST

For all of the headlines generated by dazzling comebacks in two-legged ties during the 2018/19 campaign, the statistics show that the teams who claimed the opening goal in UEFA Champions League games this season avoided defeat in 92% of cases.

Moreover, while recent technical reports have highlighted a steady rise in comeback victories – from five in 2014/15 to 20 in 2017/18 – this season yielded a 40% drop in fightbacks over 90 minutes, with 12 recorded among the 98 matches that produced a victory.

It is worth noting that eight of these wins were achieved by the visiting team. One of UEFA's technical observers wondered whether some home sides might have slipped into defensive mode once they gained a lead, sitting back and inviting pressure against opponents now with nothing to lose. Another possible factor cited was the ability of coaches to carry on making changes in search of a match-winning solution.

SPEED OF SCORING

The average time taken to score a goal in the 2018/19 season was 12.50 seconds – with just 3.89 passes required. Not all teams took quite so 'long', though, with Liverpool offering a noteworthy example thanks to their pace and directness when attacking the opposition. For Jürgen Klopp's men, the average length of time in possession before scoring was 7.81 seconds, with an average of 2.51 passes. This speed served them well – as witnessed, for instance, on their quarter-final trip to Porto, where they required just three passes to transport the ball from the edge of their own box to the back of Iker Casillas's net for Mohamed Salah's breakaway goal.

It has been well documented in recent technical reports how teams' high pressing allows them to strike fast following regains in opposition territory. In 2017/18, the average figures read 12.26 seconds in possession and 4.03 passes. However, 12 months on, the actual

time in possession reached a seven-season high, with even Liverpool – reflecting their desire for more midfield control – spending fractionally longer in possession than their previous campaign's average of 7.68 seconds.

The identity of some of the teams taking a more scenic route to goal was of little surprise. One of the finest goals of Ajax's splendid season, in their home group fixture against Bayern München, was 18 passes in the making; that is what it took before Dušan Tadić converted Donny van de Beek's low centre from the right to conclude a move the Serbian had begun with a left-wing throw-in 45 seconds earlier.

Semi-finalists Barcelona, meanwhile, ended the season with averages of 16.13 seconds and 5.9 passes, which was more than double Liverpool's statistics. As for beaten finalists Tottenham Hotspur, they finished with figures of 14.95 seconds and 5.11 passes – the highest of the four Premier League clubs.

AVERAGE TIME/PASSES NEEDED TO SCORE A GOAL

	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19
SECS. IN POSSESSION	10.30	11.45	11.66	11.51	10.58	12.26	12.50
PASSES IN BUILD-UP	3.40	3.91	3.94	3.74	3.68	4.03	3.89

SOLO ARTISTS

The forensic attention to detail found in today's elite game is one possible explanation for the fewer goals scored from solo runs compared with decades past. Nevertheless, the 2018/19 season featured some fine examples, such as Barcelona's Ousmane Dembélé breaking from his own half to score in eye-catching fashion against Tottenham Hotspur. Meanwhile, Messi left two Lyon defenders heading for a different postcode as he twisted into the box before scoring against the French club – and Neymar had the same effect on Crvena zvezda goalkeeper Milan Borjan after cutting in from the left to strike in Belgrade.

Raheem Sterling and David Neres also capped exciting runs with memorable individual strikes, though arguably the best old-fashioned dribble came from Bayern München veteran Arjen Robben who, in his final campaign, evaded four Benfica defenders before finding the top corner of the net in a 5-1 group stage victory.

In the case of Sterling and Robben, both cut inside on to their stronger foot before scoring into the far corner – and this is one of the more common open-play goals according to UEFA technical adviser and former goalkeeper Packie Bonner. For him, the movement today's forwards can summon when striking the ball makes these shots extremely difficult for goalkeepers (illustrated by a review of the competition's 25 goals from outside the box). Whereas in the past defenders sought to force their opponents inside and into traffic, now – unless a team has two holding midfielders – there can be more space to exploit there.

6

Liverpool were the team with the most headed goals, followed by Porto (5)

8

Eight players scored from direct free-kicks in 2018/19 – a narrow increase on the seven in 2017/18. Lionel Messi, Neymar and Leroy Sané each converted two apiece, in Neymar's case both in the same game (v Crvena zvezda). The other successful takers were Eren Derdiyok, Alex Grimaldo, Isco, Juan Mata and Lasse Schöne

34

A record-equalling number of penalties were converted, matching the 34 scored in 2000/01 when there was a second group stage (and 32 more matches played)

185

Of the 366 goals, just over half came from regains in the final third

RISKY BUSINESS

Another tendency noted by more than one UEFA observer concerns goals conceded by teams following mistakes made when trying to play out from the back in the face of high-pressing opponents. It was not just the lower-placed teams either, for while there were noteworthy examples involving Crvena zvezda, Galatasaray, Hoffenheim and Lokomotiv Moskva, Manchester City and Tottenham Hotspur were just as culpable against more than one opponent. In the case of City, they leaked goals against Lyon and Spurs after errors; Spurs against PSV Eindhoven and Barcelona.

Overall, 36 goals came from loose opposition passes, and 50.6% of all goals came from regains in the final third. Even the much-praised Ajax pivot Frenkie de Jong was at fault for one lost ball, which brought a Bayern goal in Amsterdam

during the group stage. That said, few teams were as ruthless at exploiting rivals' mistakes as Ajax, who profited from a lapse in their own half by each of AEK Athens, Real Madrid and Juventus.

To end on a positive note, it is worth highlighting once more the quality of the forward play produced in the UEFA Champions League – and not just from those sides who journeyed deep into the competition. Consider this snapshot from the group fixture between Napoli and Crvena zvezda, two clubs eliminated early. At one end Marek Hamšík, from the Napoli side of the centre circle, releases Dries Mertens to score with a classic, defence-splitting ball 35 metres down the middle. Then, five minutes later at the other end, Marko Marin plays a slick reverse pass to release El Fardou Ben Nabouhane behind his marker to strike for the Serbian team. Football to applaud.



Napoli through pass v Crvena zvezda



Crvena zvezda through pass v Napoli

MESSI BACK ON TOP

Lionel Messi finished as the UEFA Champions League's outright leading scorer for the first time since 2011/12, and the fifth time overall. The Argentinian, who had finished joint-top scorer in 2014/15, also registered the second-most shots (54) and the most shots from open play (21). He scored six of his goals against English clubs, and nine with his left foot – while not converting a single attempt with his head.

Messi's team-mate Luis Suárez found the net just once but worked hard occupying defenders, as with his decoy run to pull two defenders to the right as Messi embarked on a diagonal run inside from right to left before scoring against Manchester United. This was a goal indicative of much of Barcelona's best attacking work, which originated down the right before the final action followed on the left, usually via Messi. Of Suárez's support role, it should be noted there were three other Messi goals in which the Uruguayan selflessly let the ball run by in the lead-up – including two dummies in the group stage victory at Tottenham Hotspur.



Lionel Messi averaged a goal every 69 minutes

TOP SCORERS

Players (5 or more goals)	Goals	xG	Shots	Shots on target	Shot conversion	Mins per goal
Lionel Messi	12	6.47	54	26	22.2%	69.8
Robert Lewandowski	8	6.90	26	17	30.8%	89.1
Cristiano Ronaldo	6	4.91	48	13	12.5%	124.8
Sergio Agüero	6	5.59	30	16	20%	84.8
Moussa Marega	6	5.69	26	15	23.1%	140
Dušan Tadić	6	4.79	21	10	28.6%	180
Andrej Kramarić	5	2.35	18	8	27.8%	96.2
Paulo Dybala	5	3.66	21	10	23.8%	103.6
Neymar	5	3.44	24	16	20.8%	106.4
Mohamed Salah	5	7.08	52	15	9.6%	211.6
Harry Kane	5	3.20	32	15	15.6%	155.4
Lucas Moura	5	3.44	26	10	19.2%	145
Raheem Sterling	5	3.01	23	10	21.7%	174.2
Edin Džeko	5	3.51	29	14	17.2%	114

Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

92.6%

Lionel Messi's goal attempts with his left foot

56

Hakim Ziyech had the most shots

4

Cristiano Ronaldo scored four of his six goals with his head, facilitated by a Juventus side which registered the most open-play crosses (155)

3

Liverpool's Divock Origi scored with each of his three shots in the competition. Also in the '100% club' with two goals apiece were Barcelona's Gerard Piqué and Crvena zvezda's Milan Pavkov, who hit a double v Liverpool

RONALDO STRIKES AGAIN

FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW, UEFA'S TECHNICAL OBSERVERS PICKED A CRISTIANO RONALDO GOAL AS THE BEST OF THE SEASON

At their meeting the morning after the final in Madrid, the UEFA Technical Observers' Group had the task of selecting the best goals of the campaign – not easy given the high standard of so many on the 50-strong 'short' list drawn from the 366 scored overall.

The first-choice goal, in the end, came from a familiar source: Cristiano Ronaldo, supplying the season's best strike for the third time in five years.

This was the first year since 2011/12 that the Portuguese forward had not appeared top of the competition's scoring chart yet he certainly embellished the 2018/19 highlights reel with this wondrous effort.

As in 2017/18, his winning goal was a volley but where that had been a bicycle kick for Real Madrid against Juventus, this one was struck on the run – for Juventus. It came in the group stage against his former club Manchester United and was a triumph of movement, technique and timing as he stole away from Victor Lindelöf, reading perfectly the flight of Leonardo Bonucci's ball as it fell over his shoulder and thrashing it beyond David de Gea.

Semi-finalists Barcelona provided five of the top ten – and the best-rated Blaugrana effort belonged to Lionel Messi with his exceptional 30-metre free-kick in the first leg of the last-four encounter with Liverpool. Messi's left foot has cast so many spells and here, fittingly, was another piece of magic to deliver his 600th goal for the club: the distance from goal and

presence of Alisson Becker between the posts meant contact, pace, trajectory and accuracy all had to be perfect, and so they were.

Completing the top three was Sadio Mané's splendidly improvised finish to open the scoring during Liverpool's last-16 success at Bayern München. Reaching Virgil van Dijk's long pass up the inside-left channel ahead of Rafinha, he killed the ball with his first touch, twisted past the outrushing Manuel Neuer with his second and then, with his third, lifted the ball over the two remaining red-shirted obstacles between him and the empty net.

The other goals in the top ten caught the eye for a variety of reasons. Barcelona midfielder Ivan Rakitić had both feet off the ground as he met a high-bouncing ball with an acrobatic volley that flew more than 25 metres into the Tottenham Hotspur net at Wembley in the group stage. Other long-range efforts were Leroy Sané's swerving free-kick for Manchester City in the group stage home victory over Hoffenheim, and Philippe Coutinho's curled strike for Barcelona against their quarter-final victims, Manchester United.

Arguably the best-worked team goal on the list was Kylian Mbappé's for Paris Saint-Germain in the round of 16 at United. Winning the ball midway inside their own half, the visitors worked it forward in a seven-man sequence culminating with Juan Bernat's turn and forward pass to Angel Di María, whose ploy of springing forward whenever Paris regained possession now gained its reward. The Argentinian speared a superbly placed cross past the first defender and into the path of Mbappé, whose electric surge between United's two centre-backs was followed by an ice-cool finish.

Joining Mbappé in the top ten were two other speed merchants: Man City's Raheem Sterling for the dribble and curling finish from the edge of the box against Shakhtar Donetsk, and Ousmane Dembélé, whose group stage goal for Barcelona against Tottenham began with his winning the ball inside his own half, continued with a 40-metre dash upfield and concluded with the young Frenchman displaying the calmness to apply the brakes, wrongfoot Harry Winks and sweep the ball home.

Finally, another Barcelona forward, Luis Suárez, showcased a different speed – of thought – with the last goal on the list, against his old club Liverpool. The Uruguayan's movement and anticipation paid off as he timed perfectly his run between the two centre-backs to meet Jordi Alba's cross with a sliding touch and open the scoring in the semi-final first leg at the Camp Nou.

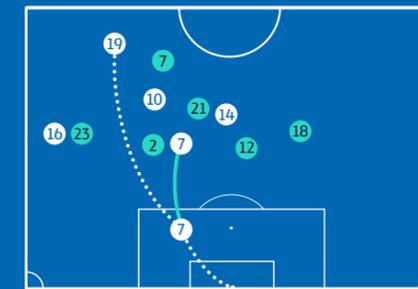
TOP TEN GOALS

1

CRISTIANO RONALDO

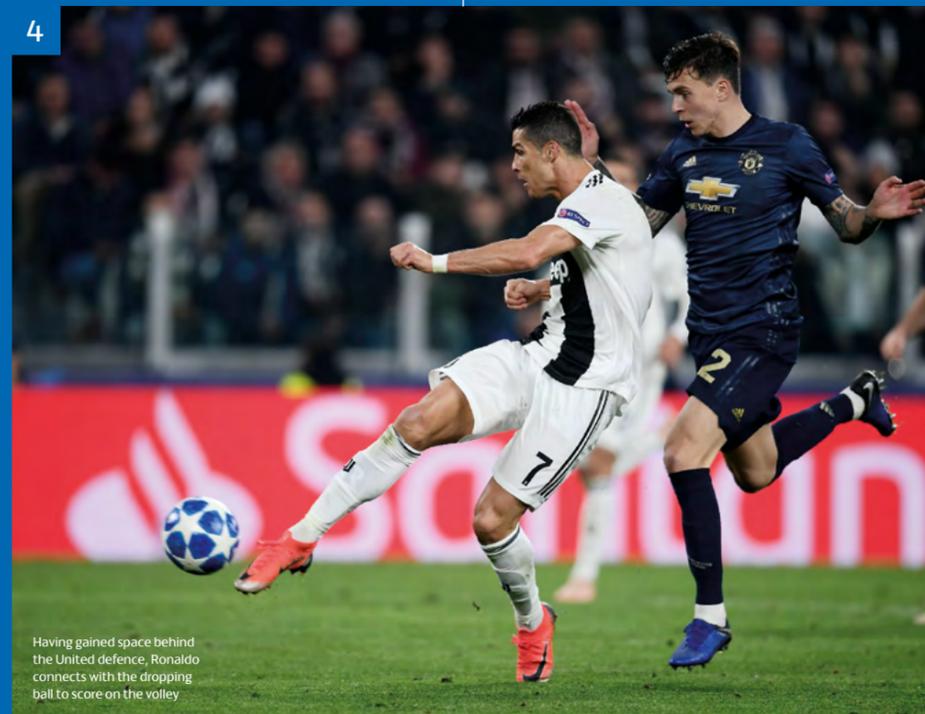
JUVENTUS 1-2 MANCHESTER UNITED

As a long pass from Leonardo Bonucci drops over his shoulder, Ronaldo delivers a magnificently controlled volley.

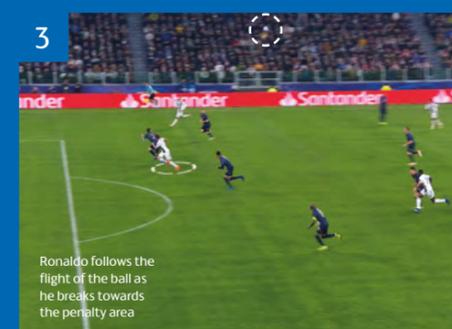


..... BALL MOVEMENT
— PLAYER MOVEMENT

4



Having gained space behind the United defence, Ronaldo connects with the dropping ball to score on the volley.



2 **LIONEL MESSI**
BARCELONA 3-0 LIVERPOOL
A free-kick of supreme power and precision that flies past Alisson from 30 metres.

3 **SADIO MANÉ**
BAYERN 1-3 LIVERPOOL
Beats Rafinha to a long pass forward, controls, turns the goalkeeper and chips home.

4 **IVAN RAKITIĆ**
TOTTENHAM 2-4 BARCELONA
The high bounce is no deterrent as Rakitić executes a flying volley from distance.

5 **LEROY SANÉ**
MANCHESTER CITY 2-1 HOFFENHEIM
A powerfully struck, swerving free-kick that beats the diving Baumann.

6 **KYLIAN MBAPPÉ**
MANCHESTER UNITED 0-2 PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN
An impressive team transition capped by Mbappé's startling acceleration and finish.

7 **RAHEEM STERLING**
MANCHESTER CITY 6-0 SHAKHTAR DONETSK
Sterling twists away from two markers before curling a shot into the far corner.

8 **OUSMANE DEMBÉLÉ**
BARCELONA 1-1 TOTTENHAM
Dembélé combines high speed with a calm finish to conclude a 40-metre individual counter.

9 **PHILIPPE COUTINHO**
BARCELONA 3-0 MANCHESTER UNITED
The Brazilian opens up and sends a long-range shot curling over David de Gea.

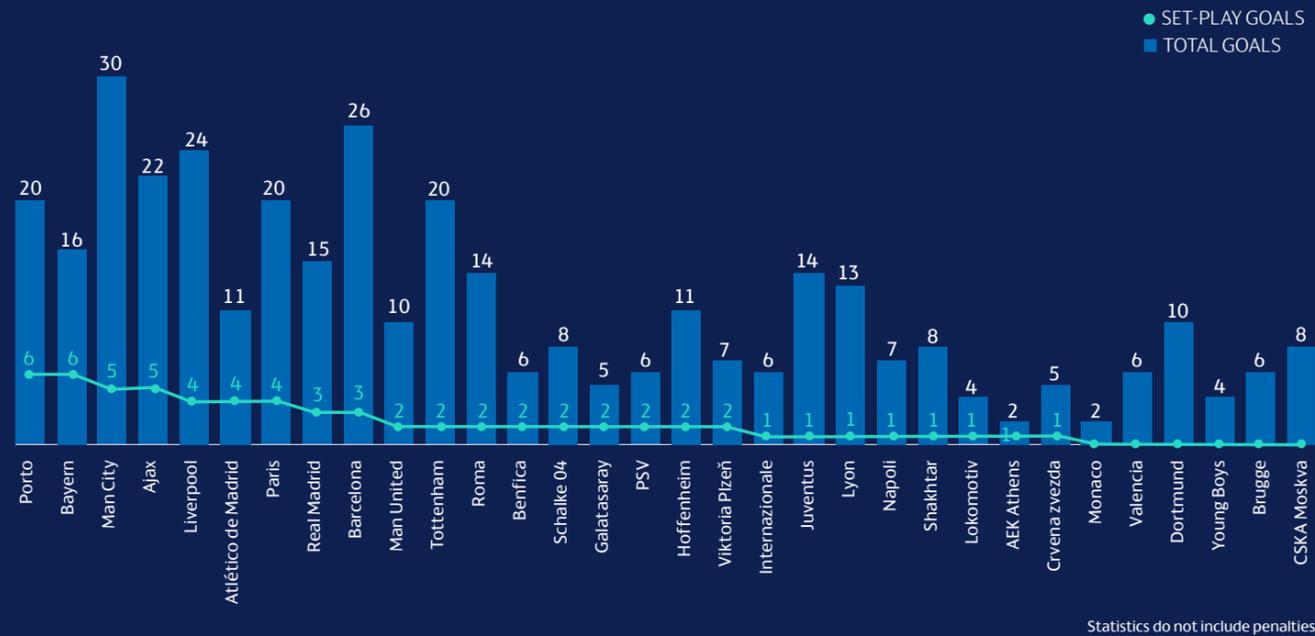
10 **LUIS SUÁREZ**
BARCELONA 3-0 LIVERPOOL
Combines clever movement with a deft sliding finish to Jordi Alba's low cross.

SET PLAYS

The number of goals scored from dead-ball situations continues to fall

Of the 366 goals scored in the 2018/19 UEFA Champions League, 66 of them – or 18% – came from set plays. This marked a fall in set-piece goals for the second season running, even if for some teams they remained an important source of goals – Bayern München and Porto scored six apiece from set plays, while Divock Origi struck for Liverpool in both the semi-final and final following corners.

SET-PLAY GOALS SCORED BY EACH TEAM



SET-PLAY GOALS AND EACH TEAM'S xG



5

Bayern München scored the joint-highest number of goals from corners during the tournament

31%

Almost a third of Bayern's goals came from corners

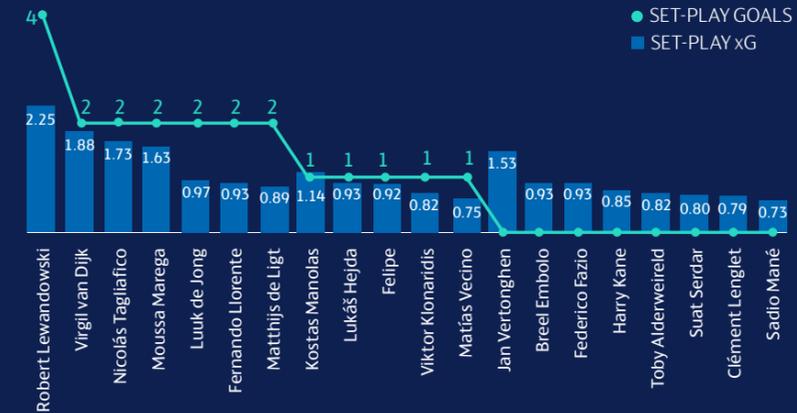
0.39

Bayern had the highest xG from corners per 90 minutes

4

Robert Lewandowski's goals from set plays. He also had the highest xG (2.25)

xG FROM SET PLAYS



GOAL TYPE 2018/19

Goals from corners	42
Goals from free-kicks	12
Goals from direct free-kicks	11
Penalty goals	34
Throw-in set play	1

	SET-PLAY GOALS	PENALTY GOALS	OPEN-PLAY GOALS
2018/19	66	34	266
2017/18	70	28	303
2016/17	73	33	274
2015/16	65	25	257
2014/15	69	31	261



DEFENDING WITH A HIGH LINE

Another play that generated comment was that of defending dead balls – particularly from wide positions – with a markedly high line. Ajax offered a notable example of this tactic in their semi-final first leg at Tottenham, taking up a defensive line approximately ten metres beyond the edge of their own box.

On the motives for this strategy, Roberto Martínez, one of UEFA's technical observers, explained that teams with less aerial power might prefer to try playing offside in these positions; also the high line allows their goalkeeper more space to attack as the ball comes in. It was also observed of Ajax that when defending set plays, they kept two wide players slightly ahead of their colleagues, ready for the counterattack.

As this second example from Internazionale shows, not every team defended wide set plays with a high line. In their group fixture against Tottenham, the Italian club's players took up a position right on the edge of their box – approximately seven metres deeper than Ajax.

Liverpool's defenders, similarly, held a line on the perimeter of their penalty box when catching offside two Paris players for Marquinhos' disallowed strike in the second half of the group-stage match at the Parc des Princes.

CORNERS: ZONAL AND MIXED DEFENDING



Bayern v Benfica



Atlético v Brugge

Robert Lewandowski's 50th UEFA Champions League goal in Bayern's group stage win over Benfica raised two points about defending from corners. As noted by UEFA's technical observers, there is an increased tendency towards zonal defending today, yet in this instance, the short Bayern corner, with Arjen Robben feeding Joshua Kimmich, served to bring a Benfica man out of his zone. Additionally when Lewandowski's subsequent header went in off the far post, the visitors' zonal strategy meant there was no Benfica player there protecting it, as was prevalent in the past.

This image shows Atlético de Madrid defending a corner with every player back in their box. They used a mixed set-up with three players marking zonally and the rest man-for-man, with Rodri, their tallest outfield player (1.91m), stood in the central zone.

4.4:1

Atlético had the lowest corners-to-shots-conceded ratio, conceding a shot every 4.4 corners

0

Atlético did not concede a single goal from a corner (35 faced)

CORNERS-TO-GOALS-CONCEDED RATIO



*8 teams did not concede from a corner: Atlético de Madrid, Inter, Napoli, Paris, PSV, Real Madrid, Valencia, Young Boys

CORNERS-TO-SHOTS-CONCEDED RATIO



9:1

Benfica had the highest corners-to-goals-conceded ratio, conceding a goal every 9 corners (but one of the lowest corners-to-shots-conceded ratios)

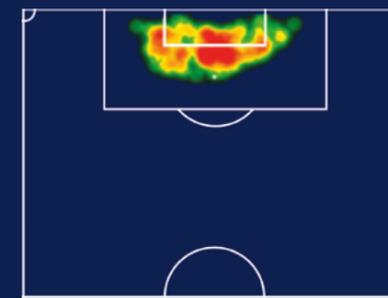
5

Porto scored the joint-highest number of goals from corners

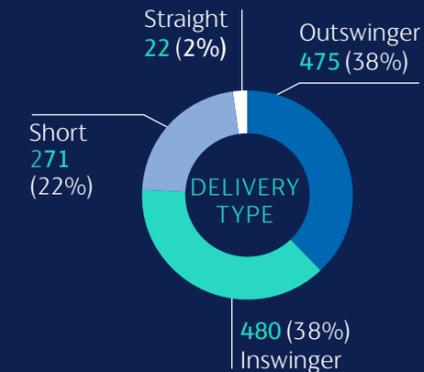
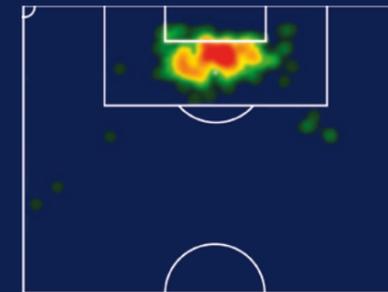
9.2:1

Porto had the highest corners-to-goals ratio

INSWINGER CORNERS



OUTSWINGER CORNERS



TOTAL CORNERS 1,248

3:1 One shot every 3 corners

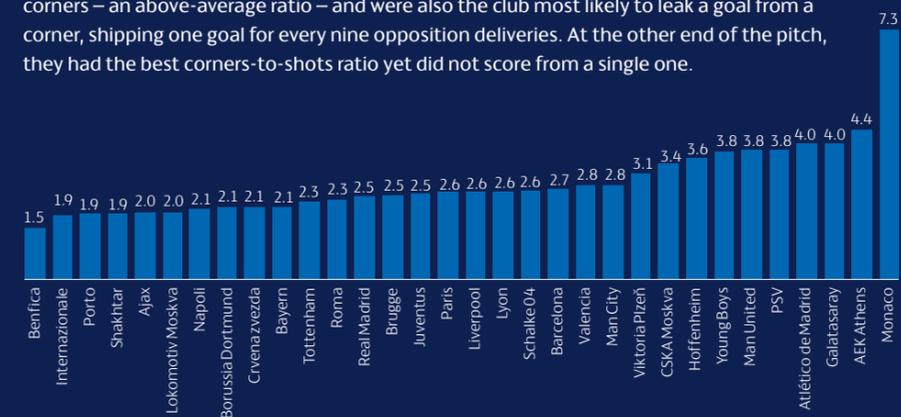


TOTAL GOALS 42

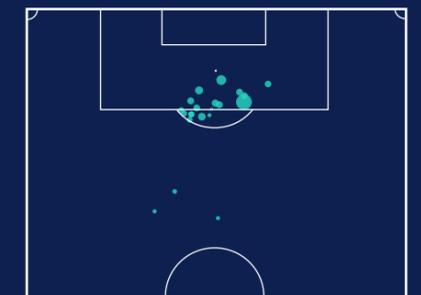
30:1 One goal every 30 corners

CORNERS-TO-SHOTS RATIO

Benfica had mixed fortunes from set plays. They conceded an opportunity from every 3.4 corners – an above-average ratio – and were also the club most likely to leak a goal from a corner, shipping one goal for every nine opposition deliveries. At the other end of the pitch, they had the best corners-to-shots ratio yet did not score from a single one.



BENFICA SHOT LOCATIONS FROM CORNERS



Benfica had the highest corners-to-goals-conceded ratio (but one of the lowest corners-to-shots-conceded ratios).

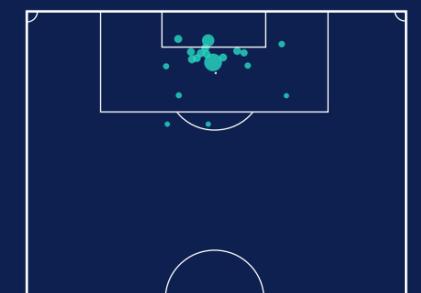
Circles are scaled by quality of chance

CORNERS-TO-GOALS RATIO



*9 teams did not score from a corner: Man United, Benfica, Monaco, Valencia, Dortmund, Barcelona, Young Boys, Brugge, CSKA Moskva

PORTO SHOT LOCATIONS FROM CORNERS

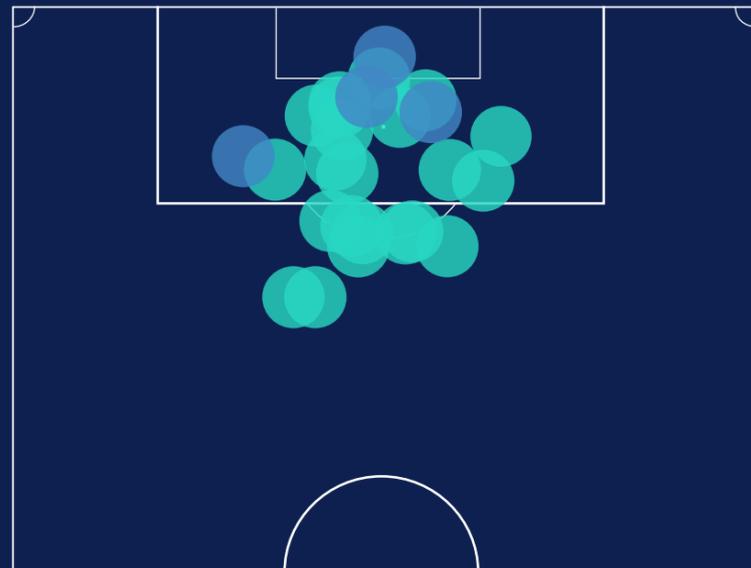




Porto v Liverpool

LIVERPOOL SHOT LOCATIONS FROM CORNERS

● Shots ● Goals



Liverpool v Barcelona

INSWINGING v OUTSWINGING CORNERS

Virgil van Dijk's goal at Porto was a header following Sadio Mané's near-post flick-on of an inswinging corner. The big Dutchman also headed a goal at Bayern from an outswinging delivery from the other side. Liverpool's varied threat was evident again early in the final when Hugo Lloris struggled to deal with two inswinging corners with five Liverpool players crowding the space around him. In the end, it was a second-phase goal from a corner that brought Divock Origi's clinching goal in Madrid and the Reds were not alone in profiting in this way. Overall there were eight goals from the second phase at corners – and one argument is that defending teams are vulnerable in these situations because of their focus on springing quick counterattacks.

The position of Mohamed Salah for Liverpool's attacking set plays was also noteworthy. The Egyptian was positioned on the edge of the penalty area and carried a threat from there, having five shots on goal when latching on to balls cleared to the perimeter of the box. With his speed, Salah could also help out defensively when the opposition countered; for instance, when Porto sprang forward quickly following a Liverpool corner in the quarter-final at Anfield, Salah sprinted back and dispossessed Otávio right on the edge of his own penalty box.

Before the season began, Jürgen Klopp and his players and coaching staff took a decision to spend more time practising set plays. Their attention to detail paid off throughout the season – and never more so than in their semi-final comeback against Barcelona. Another part of their strategy was to keep the ball moving quickly, to help sustain the pressure on opponents, and with Klopp's match analysts having observed how Barcelona players became distracted when a decision went against them, there was even an instruction passed on to the club's ball boys prior to the Blaugrana's visit that they should return the ball as swiftly as possible to help the team maintain the intensity. And so it was that Trent Alexander-Arnold was able to send over the quick corner that caught Barcelona unprepared as Origi scored his team's fourth.



Juventus v Ajax



Ajax v Tottenham

THE ART OF BLOCKING

In their analysis of set plays in the competition, UEFA's technical observers noted that teams were evidently working on ways to block opposition players as deliveries came into the box, as a means of allowing team-mates a free run at the ball. One such example was Cristiano Ronaldo's headed goal for Juventus against Ajax in the quarter-finals. As Miralem Pjanić prepared to take the corner, Ronaldo's starting position was beyond the back post but his marker, Matthijs de Ligt, could not keep close to him as he sped around the thicket of bodies in the middle of the area to meet the ball with a strong header. De Ligt himself was the beneficiary for his opening goal of the semi-final second leg against Tottenham. As Lasse Schöne lined up his corner, Spurs centre-back Jan Vertonghen had an eye on De Ligt to try to anticipate his movement, but he was unable to follow him because of Donny van de Beek backing into him to bar his path – a coming-together that left him on the floor as the Ajax defender soared to score.

PRESSING

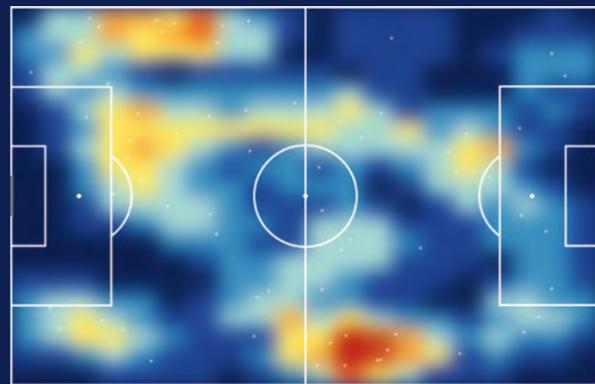
Teams playing at high intensity find that the pressing game pays dividends

TOTTENHAM v LIVERPOOL: TWO DIFFERENT APPROACHES

FINAL

Of all their 13 matches in the 2018/19 competition, Tottenham Hotspur's lowest number of pressures in a match (64) came in the final. The fact they had a large share of possession might be cited as a factor yet they had also had more of the ball in the semi-final second leg at Ajax, when they posted more than double the total of pressures managed in Madrid – many of them higher up the pitch.

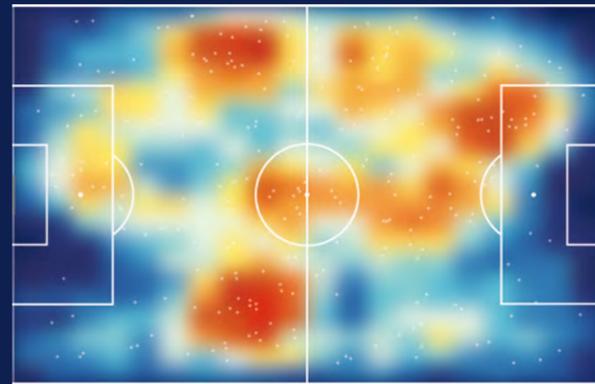
TOTTENHAM PRESSING →



Tottenham's compact shape out of possession meant Harry Kane was often seen pressing the centre backs alone, which allowed them time to play longer passes aimed for Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mané

Liverpool pressed high as would be expected, with – as the screenshot highlights – their front three stationed close to the edge of the Spurs box when Mauricio Pochettino's men sought to play out from the back. To be fair to Tottenham, they got past this first line of the Liverpool press quite effectively though the heat map shows the pressure that was then exerted on their full-backs by Reds players.

LIVERPOOL PRESSING ←



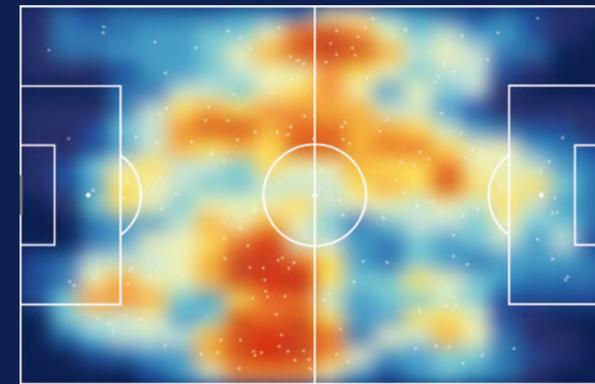
Salah was the final's highest-pressing player (34 times)

LIVERPOOL v BARCELONA: THE RED STORM

SEMI-FINAL, SECOND LEG

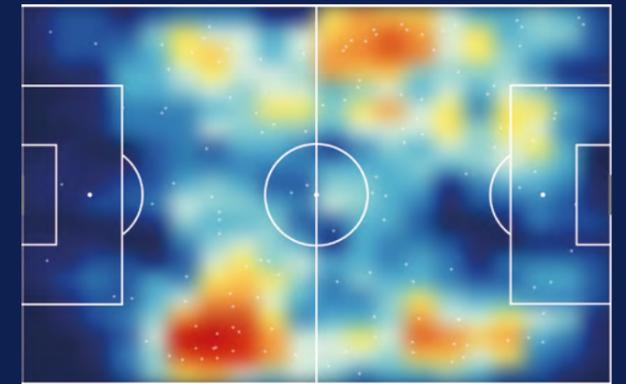
Liverpool played with extraordinary intensity both in and out of possession at Anfield. They pressed high up the pitch and responded instantly and with high intensity whenever they lost the ball. The energy and organisation of their pressing game made it very difficult for Barcelona to build from the back in their preferred style.

LIVERPOOL PRESSING →



Barcelona failed to press with the usual vigour when they lost the ball. Instead they defended from a mid-block and did this, more often than not, with eight men because they allowed Lionel Messi and Luis Suárez to stay up the pitch and wait for the ball to be regained. As the scoreline indicated, they were unable to cope with Liverpool's intensity and barrage of crosses.

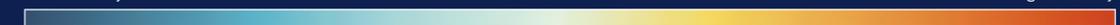
BARCELONA PRESSING ←



HEAT MAP KEY

Low intensity

High intensity



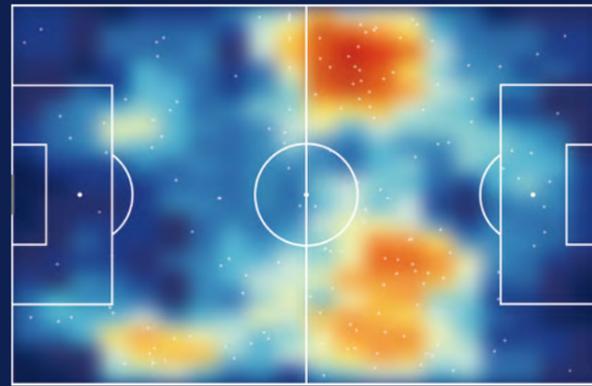
*Pressures: the numbers of times a player pressures an opposition player per 90
Data provided by Statsbomb

AJAX v TOTTENHAM: SPURS' BIG PUSH

SEMI-FINAL, SECOND LEG

The heat map highlights Spurs' efforts in a fixture where they pressed high up the pitch, particularly in a second half where full-backs Kieran Trippier and Danny Rose drove upfield at every opportunity as Mauricio Pochettino's men went for broke.

TOTTENHAM PRESSING →

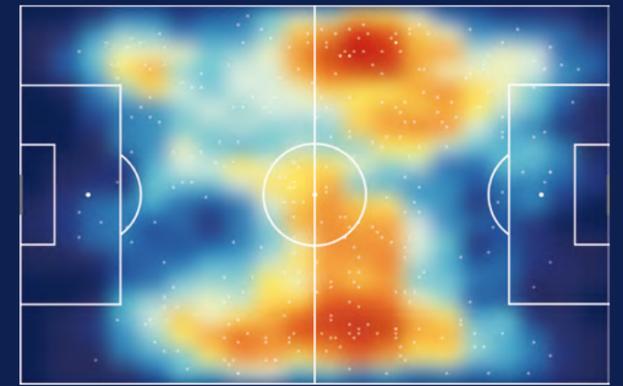


AJAX v REAL MADRID: SUCCESS WITH THE COUNTER PRESS

ROUND OF 16, FIRST LEG

Ajax applied such high pressure that they were able to recover many balls in the opposition half, creating many problems for Madrid with their aggression and determination – and indeed scoring after left-back Nicolás Tagliafico had harassed Lucas Vázquez into losing the ball in his own half (below).

AJAX PRESSING →

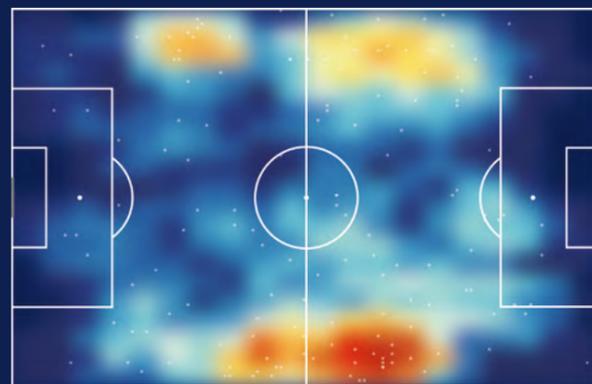


TOTTENHAM v DORTMUND: WING-BACKS LEAD THE WAY

ROUND OF 16, FIRST LEG

At Wembley against Dortmund, Spurs had a 1-3-4-1-2 shape out of possession and this meant the onus was on wing-backs Serge Aurier and Jan Vertonghen to press high up the pitch. Once they won the ball (Aurier registered 25 pressures and Vertonghen 18), they were instrumental in possession: the Belgian crossing for Heung-Min Son's goal (right) and then scoring himself from an Aurier centre.

TOTTENHAM PRESSING →

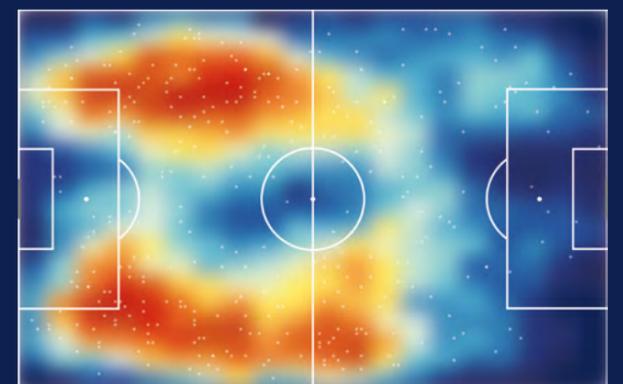


REAL MADRID v AJAX: PRESSING TO THE MAX

ROUND OF 16, SECOND LEG

At the Santiago Bernabéu, Ajax recorded the most pressures in a single game across their UEFA Champions League campaign this season (333). They applied pressure across the pitch, particularly in wide areas in their own half, with three of their goals coming from quick breaks after they had won the ball back. The front four of Dušan Tadić, David Neres, Hakim Ziyech and Donny van de Beek showed admirable discipline in defending every ball that was lost – and doing it immediately and high up the pitch. In the process, they denied Madrid the space to build up play, forcing them to look long.

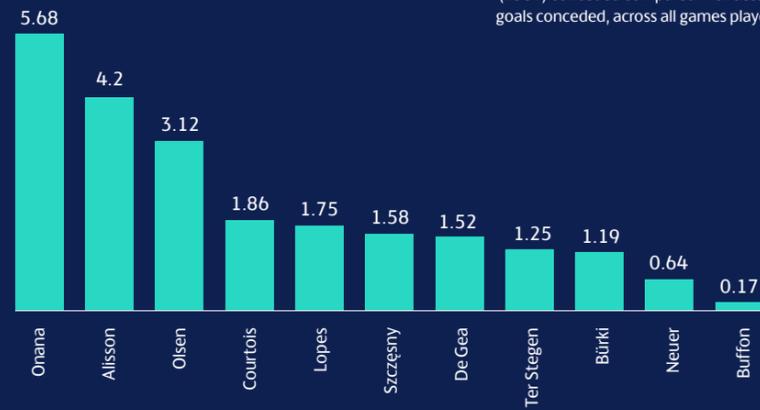
AJAX PRESSING →



GOALKEEPING

In a team known for its attacking prowess, Alisson ensured Liverpool's success was built from the back. Here we look at the key goalkeeping statistics from the 2018/19 campaign

GOALS PREVENTED



Goals prevented measures xG on target (xGOT) conceded compared with actual goals conceded, across all games played



André Onana was the top-ranked goalkeeper for goals prevented (5.68) – and for an illustration of his sharp reflexes, just revisit his point-blank save from Fernando Llorente in the semi-final second leg against Tottenham Hotspur.



Alisson Becker's last-minute, close-range stop from Napoli's Arkadiusz Miliak was crucial in getting Liverpool out of the group stage and he ranked second (4.2).

ALISSON BECKER
13 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 12 (AVE 0.9)
xGOT CONCEDED 16.2 (AVE 1.25)
CLEAN SHEETS 6 (AVE 0.46)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 57 (Ave 4.3) → 78%
SAVES: 46 (Ave 3.5) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

ANDRÉ ONANA
12 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 13 (AVE 1.08)
CONCEDED 18.68 (AVE 1.56)
CLEAN SHEETS 4 (AVE 0.33)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 54 (Ave 4.5) → 76%
SAVES: 40 (Ave 3.3) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

HUGO LLORIS
11 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 15 (AVE 1.3)
xGOT CONCEDED 13.78 (AVE 1.27)
CLEAN SHEETS 4 (AVE 0.3)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 45 (Ave 4) → 67%
SAVES: 30 (Ave 2.7) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

MARC-ANDRÉ TERSTEGEN
11 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 9 (AVE 0.8)
xGOT CONCEDED 10.25 (AVE 0.93)
CLEAN SHEETS 6 (AVE 0.54)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 37 (Ave 3.3) → 76%
SAVES: 27 (Ave 2.4) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

IKER CASILLAS
10 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 15 (AVE 1.5)
xGOT CONCEDED 13.77 (AVE 1.33)
CLEAN SHEETS 1 (AVE 0.1)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 40 (Ave 4) → 63%
SAVES: 22 (Ave 2.2) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

EDERSON
10 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 12 (AVE 1.2)
xGOT CONCEDED 10.69 (AVE 1.07)
CLEAN SHEETS 3 (AVE 0.3)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 33 (Ave 3.3) → 64%
SAVES: 21 (Ave 2.1) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

WOJCIECH SZCZĘSNY
10 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 9 (AVE 0.9)
xGOT CONCEDED 9.58 (AVE 0.96)
CLEAN SHEETS 5 (AVE 0.5)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 31 (Ave 3.1) → 69%
SAVES: 23 (Ave 2.3) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

DAVID DE GEA
9 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 9 (AVE 1)
xGOT CONCEDED 9.52 (AVE 1.06)
CLEAN SHEETS 3 (AVE 0.33)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 32 (Ave 3.5) → 71%
SAVES: 24 (Ave 2.6) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

JAN OBLAK
8 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 9 (AVE 1.1)
xGOT CONCEDED 7.82 (AVE 0.98)
CLEAN SHEETS 4 (AVE 0.5)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 19 (Ave 2.3) → 53%
SAVES: 10 (Ave 1.2) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

MANUEL NEUER
8 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 8 (AVE 1)
xGOT CONCEDED 8.64 (AVE 1.08)
CLEAN SHEETS 4 (AVE 0.5)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 31 (Ave 3.8) → 75%
SAVES: 23 (Ave 2.8) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

ANTHONY LOPES
8 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 13 (AVE 1.6)
xGOT CONCEDED 14.75 (AVE 2.00)
CLEAN SHEETS 1 (AVE 0.12)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 48 (Ave 6) → 73%
SAVES: 35 (Ave 4.3) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

ROMAN BÜRKI
7 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 6 (AVE 0.8)
xGOT CONCEDED 7.19 (AVE 1.03)
CLEAN SHEETS 4 (AVE 0.57)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 24 (Ave 3.4) → 76%
SAVES: 17 (Ave 2.4) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

ROBIN OLSEN
6 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 9 (AVE 1.5)
xGOT CONCEDED 12.12 (AVE 1.91)
CLEAN SHEETS 2 (AVE 0.33)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 38 (Ave 6.3) → 76%
SAVES: 29 (Ave 4.8) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

RALF FÄHRMANN
6 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 14 (AVE 2.3)
xGOT CONCEDED 11.97 (AVE 2.00)
CLEAN SHEETS 2 (AVE 0.33)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 30 (Ave 5) → 53%
SAVES: 16 (Ave 2.6) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

THIBAUT COURTOIS
5 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 8 (AVE 1.6)
xGOT CONCEDED 9.86 (AVE 1.97)
CLEAN SHEETS 2 (AVE 0.4)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 28 (Ave 5.6) → 71%
SAVES: 20 (Ave 4) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

GIANLUIGI BUFFON
5 GAMES

GOALS CONCEDED 6 (AVE 1.2)
xGOT CONCEDED 6.17 (AVE 1.23)
CLEAN SHEETS 1 (AVE 0.2)

SHOTS ON TARGET FACED: 15 (Ave 3) → 65%
SAVES: 9 (Ave 1.8) → SAVE PERCENTAGE

xGOT conceded includes the original xG of the shot but also the goalmouth location where the shot ended up

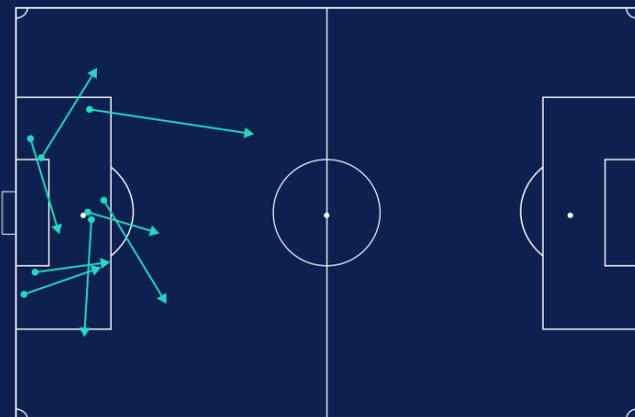
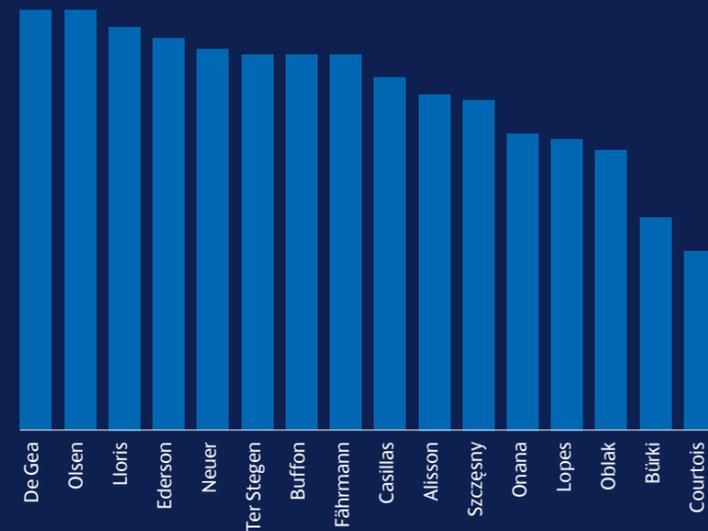
PASSING

Ederson ranked top for pass completion among keepers (89%) in 2018/19 and also posted the shortest average pass length (35m). At the other end of the scale, Jan Oblak had the longest average pass length (55m) and the lowest pass completion rate (53%), owing to Atlético's style of play.

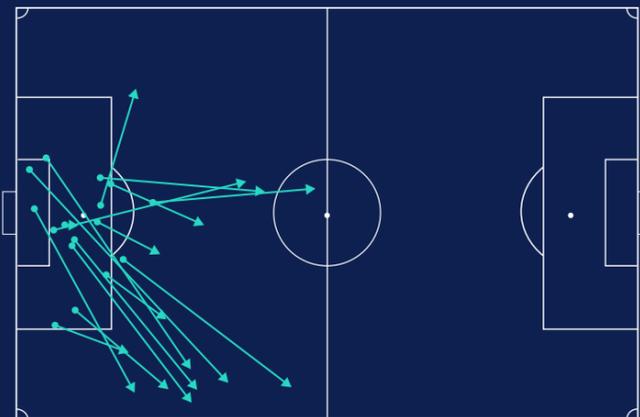
Of goalkeepers from the last 16 clubs, David de Gea and Robin Olsen ranked highest for pressured pass completion (75%). Thibaut Courtois was the second most-pressured goalkeeper of all 32 in the competition (15.8% of his passes being made under pressure) and completed 32% of his passes.

Looking at the goalkeepers overall, Monaco's Diego Benaglio was joint-top for pressured pass completion (75%) and second for pass completion (83%).

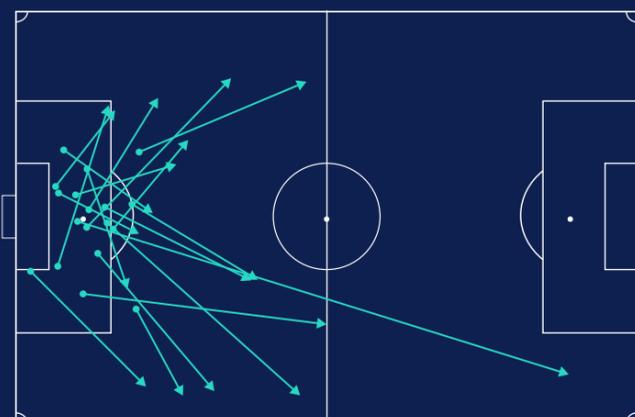
PRESSURED PASS COMPLETION %



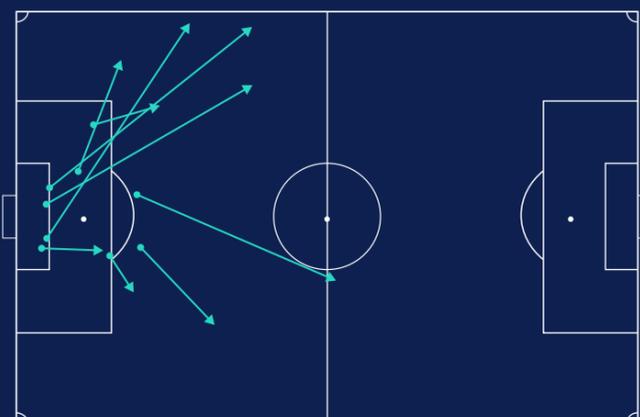
Onana completed passes under pressure



Ter Stegen completed passes under pressure



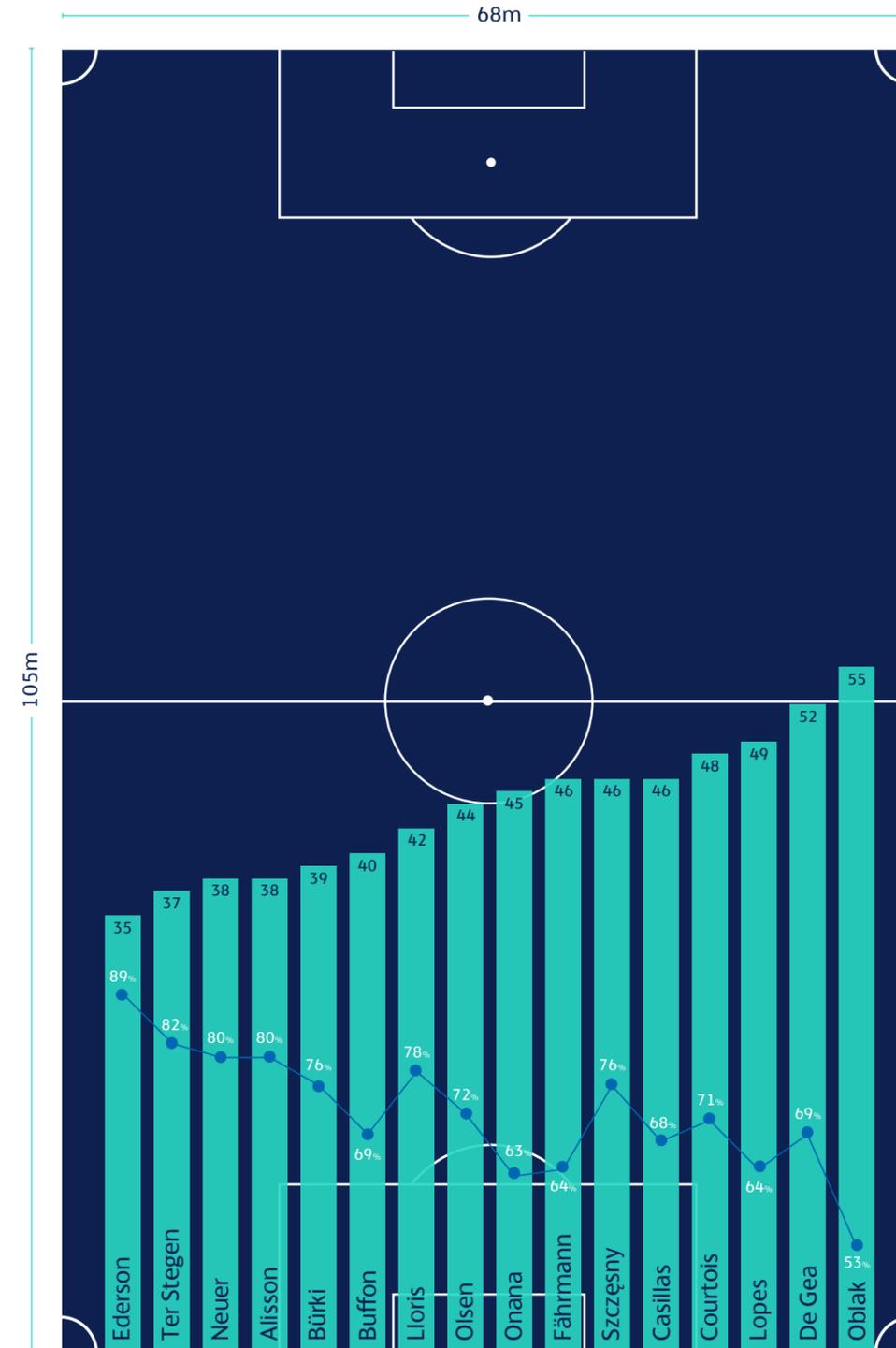
Alisson completed passes under pressure



Lloris completed passes under pressure

Data provided by Statsbomb

PASS DISTANCE AND COMPLETION RATE



LENGTH COMPLETION

78%

Alisson ranked top for save percentage

0.82

Ter Stegen ranked top for lowest average goals against per game

75%

David de Gea and Robin Olsen ranked highest for pressured pass completion

6.3

Robin Olsen faced the highest number of shots per game and made the highest number of saves on average (4.8)

2.38

Jan Oblak faced the fewest number of shots on target on average per game

FITNESS

While a centre-back led the way for top speed, full-backs and midfielders featured prominently in the other fitness categories

SPEED

The rising speed of the 21st century game was underlined by the fact the 2018/19 campaign featured 696 sprints in excess of 30km/h. Wide players or forwards recorded most of the top speeds, though it was a centre-back, Liverpool's Virgil van Dijk, who registered the fastest sprint of the season, in the semi-final first leg at Barcelona.

FASTEST SPRINTS (KM/H)

Virgil van Dijk	Liverpool	34.5 v Barcelona (a)
Leroy Sané	Man City	34.4 v Hoffenheim (h)
Kyle Walker	Man City	34.2 v Tottenham (h)
Gareth Bale	Real Madrid	33.8 v Roma (h)
Breel Embolo	Schalke	33.5 v Galatasaray (a)
Rafa Silva	Benfica	33.5 v Bayern (a)
Leroy Sané	Man City	33.5 v Lyon (a)
Taison	Shakhtar	33.3 v Hoffenheim (h)
Loris Benito	Young Boys	33.3 v Man United (h)
Christian Fassnacht	Young Boys	33.3 v Man United (h)
Garry Rodrigues	Galatasaray	33.3 v Schalke (h)
Juan Cuadrado	Juventus	33.3 v Man United (h)
Gabriel	Valencia	33.3 v Young Boys (h)
Maxwel Cornet	Lyon	33.3 v Man City (h)
Éder Militão	Porto	33.3 v Roma (a)
Romelu Lukaku	Man United	33.3 v Barcelona (h)
Sergio Busquets	Barcelona	33.3 v Liverpool (h)

MOST SPRINTS – AVERAGE PER MATCH (PLAYED SIX MATCHES OR MORE)

Dušan Tadić (Ajax)	62.25
José Callejón (Napoli)	55.83
Sadio Mané (Liverpool)	54.38
Dele Alli (Tottenham)	53.75
Ivan Perišić (Inter)	53.17
Raheem Sterling (Man City)	51.7
Lorenzo Insigne (Napoli)	49.33
Mário Rui (Napoli)	49.17
Jordi Alba (Barcelona)	48.45
Denzel Dumfries (PSV)	48.38

Dušan Tadić's importance as the link man in the Ajax attack is highlighted by his place at the top of this ranking. While it is no surprise to see other prominent forward players like Sadio Mané featured, the presence of three full-backs in this top ten reflects the up-and-down attacking brief they are asked to fulfil.

LONG DISTANCE

The proportion of midfielders among those players who covered the most ground on average in 2018/19 highlights the need for stamina and mobility among footballers

operating in that area of the pitch. It is testimony to the enduring fitness levels of Liverpool's James Milner that, at 33, he features in the top five.

AVERAGE DISTANCE COVERED (METRES PER MIN – PLAYED SIX MATCHES OR MORE)

Marcelo Brozović (Internazionale)	137.3
Matías Vecino (Internazionale)	137.0
Marek Hamšík (Napoli)	136.2
Christian Eriksen (Tottenham)	135.5
James Milner (Liverpool)	135.0
Maycon (Shakhtar)	134.8
Miralem Pjanić (Juventus)	133.3
Koke (Atlético Madrid)	133.1
Djibril Sow (Young Boys)	132.8
Dele Alli (Tottenham)	132.1
Donny van de Beek (Ajax)	132.0
Fred (Man United)	131.5
Fabián Ruiz (Napoli)	130.0
Dušan Tadić (Ajax)	129.7
Lorenzo Insigne (Napoli)	129.7

POSSESSION

Results are not always determined by teams dominating the ball

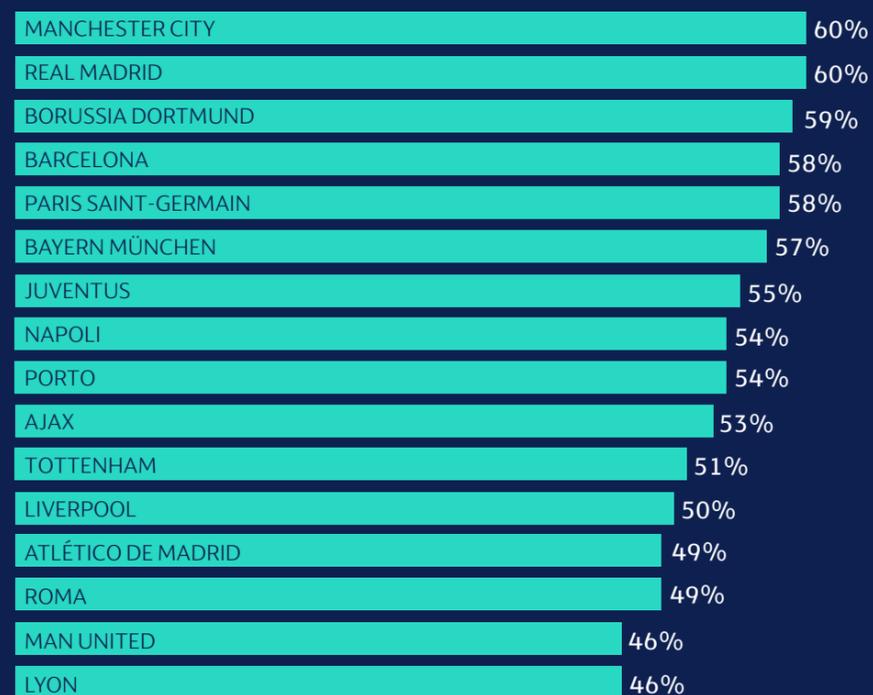
Possession may be regarded as nine-tenths of the law, but not in UEFA Champions League football. Of the 26 matches in the knockout rounds that produced a victory, there were 12 wins posted by teams with the lesser share of possession, only one less than the 13 by teams with the lion's share (with one match ending with a 50-50 split).

Champions Liverpool underlined that domination of the ball is not the only strategy for winning football matches, posting four of

their five knockout-stage victories in games where they had less of it – while losing 3-0 at Barcelona in a match where they actually had more possession than their hosts.

Across the thirds of the pitch, Atlético de Madrid and Real Madrid were the sides who had most possession in the attacking third (25% each). Borussia Dortmund and Manchester City had most in the middle third (56% each), and Crvena zvezda in the defensive third (42%).

AVERAGE POSSESSION (TOP 16 TEAMS)



AVERAGE POSSESSION IN ATTACKING THIRD (TOP TEN)



POSSESSION ACROSS THE THIRDS

56%

Manchester City and Dortmund had the highest average possession in the middle third of the pitch of all 32 competing clubs. In their home group fixture against Club Brugge, Dortmund had 70% of their possession in the central third; City had 64% in that area in the 7-0 win over Schalke

20%

Atlético de Madrid had the least possession overall in the defensive third; Man City had the second-least (22%)

17%

Bayern München had the third-least possession in the attacking third, with only AEK and Crvena zvezda recording less

Real Madrid, featuring Luka Modrić, had the joint highest possession figures





AEK ATHENS FC



GROUP E	ROUND OF 16					QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
AJX L 3-0	SLB L 2-3	BAY L 0-2	BAY L 2-0	AJX L 0-2	SLB L 1-0						

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
42%	First third 33%
Max. 61% v Benfica (h) Min. 36% v Bayern (h) UCL rank: 28	Middle third 53%
	Final third 14%

DISTANCE COVERED	
108,739m	Max. 112,341m v Bayern (h) Min. 103,241m v Ajax (h) UCL rank: 24

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
380	81%
Max. 600 v Benfica (h) Min. 293 v Ajax (a) UCL rank: 28	Max. 91% v Benfica (h) Min. 74% v Ajax (a) UCL rank: 23=

PASS DISTANCE	
Long 69 (18% of total)	UCL rank: 11
Medium 215 (57%)	UCL rank: 29
Short 97 (25%)	UCL rank: 28=

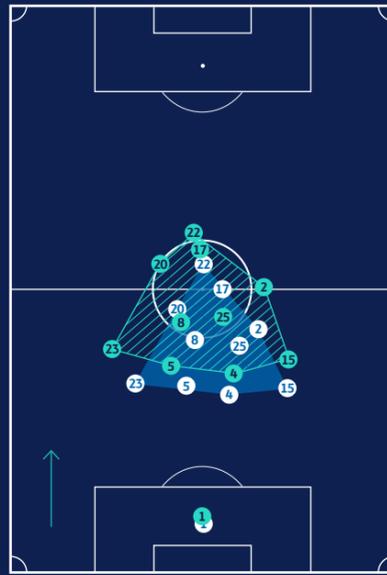
BYPASSED*	Total	Average	
Opponents	1825	304	UCL rank: 26
Defenders	299	50	UCL rank: 22

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

SHAPE

Example: v Ajax (a)

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



COACH

MARINOS OUZOUNIDIS
 BORN: 10/10/1968, Alexandroupoli (GRE)
 NATIONALITY: Greek
 HEAD COACH: 25/05/2018 to 05/02/2019
 EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	6	0	0	6
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	21	6	4	11

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Vassilis Barkas	6	540		
DEFENDERS				
2 Michalis Bakakis	6	520		
4 Marios Oikonomou	4	338	1	
5 Vasilis Lampropoulos	3	270		
12 Rodrigo Galo	5	115		
15 Uroš Ćosić	4	292		
19 Dmytro Chygrynskiy	5	450		
23 Niklas Hult	6	540	1	
MIDFIELDERS				
8 André Simões	4	349		
11 Yannis Gianniotas	2	49		
20 Petros Mantalos	6	435		
25 Kostas Galanopoulos	6	490		
39 Erik Morán	2	100		
95 Alef	4	200		
FORWARDS				
9 Giorgos Giakoumakis	3	48		
10 Marko Livaja	1	67		
14 Tasos Bakasetas	2	180		
17 Viktor Klonaridis	5	317	2	
22 Ezequiel Ponce	6	492		
31 Lucas Boye	4	122		

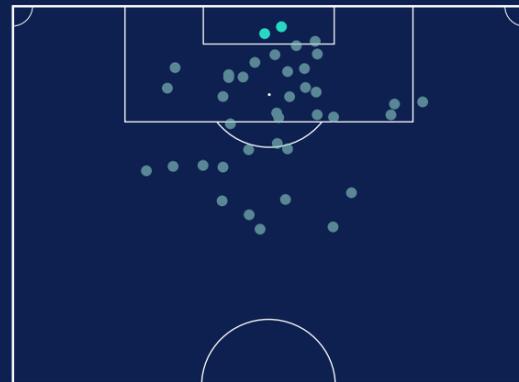
App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS	
25	15 2	Sent off: Galanopoulos v Benfica (a); Livaja v Ajax (h)



Viktor Klonaridis in action against Ajax

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

2	GOALS 0.33 per match; UCL rank: 31=
37	ATTEMPTS 6.2 per match; UCL rank: 32
9	ON TARGET 1.5 per match; UCL rank: 32
4.7	EXPECTED GOALS (xG) 0.8 per match; UCL rank: 31

GOALS	5%
SAVES	18%
BLOCKED	33%
WOODWORK	0%
WIDE	44%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Niklas Hult	234	183	78
2 André Simões	215	192	89
3 Dmytro Chygrynskiy	213	196	92

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Niklas Hult	1	4
2 Marios Oikonomou	1	1
3 Petros Mantalos	0	8

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Dmytro Chygrynskiy	41	8	8
2 Michalis Bakakis	28	8	13
3 Kostas Galanopoulos	27	4	11

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Viktor Klonaridis	2	9	4	2.5
2 Ezequiel Ponce	0	8	1	0.6
3 Tasos Bakasetas	0	4	1	0.2

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals



AFC AJAX



GROUP E	ROUND OF 16					QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
AEK W 3-0	BAY D 1-1	SLB W 1-0	SLB D 1-1	AEK W 0-2	BAY D 3-3	RM L 1-2	RM W 1-4	JUV D 1-1	JUV W 1-2	TOT W 0-1	TOT L 2-3*

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

*Tottenham win on away goals

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
53%	First third 29%
Max. 62% v AEK (h), AEK (a) Min. 43% v Bayern (a), Tottenham (h) UCL rank: 11	Middle third 49%
	Final third 21%

DISTANCE COVERED	
112,231m	Max. 118,635m v Bayern (a) Min. 104,883m v Benfica (h) UCL rank: 7

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
513	83%
Max. 696 v AEK (a) Min. 390 v Tottenham (h) UCL rank: 11	Max. 88% v AEK (h), AEK (a) Min. 78% v BAY (a), RM(a), TOT (a) UCL rank: 17=

PASS DISTANCE*	
Long 55 (11% of total)	UCL rank: 29
Medium 298 (58%)	UCL rank: 16
Short 161 (31%)	UCL rank: 6

BYPASSED**	Total	Average	
Opponents	4592	383	UCL rank: 10
Defenders	762	64	UCL rank: 4

*Decimal points account for the missing 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

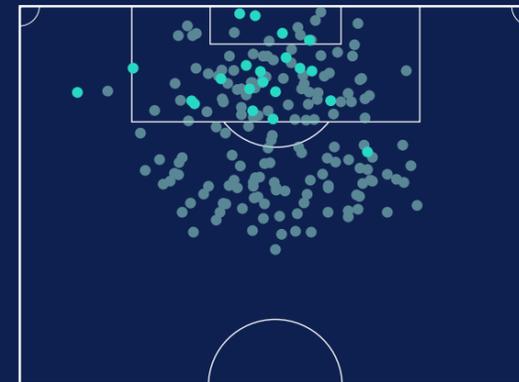
SHAPE

Example: v AEK (a)

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



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

22	GOALS 1.83 per match; UCL rank: 8=
185	ATTEMPTS 15.4 per match; UCL rank: 6
70	ON TARGET 5.8 per match; UCL rank: 6
22.6	EXPECTED GOALS (xG) 1.9 per match; UCL rank: 9

GOALS	12%
SAVES	26%
BLOCKED	25%
WOODWORK	2%
WIDE	35%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Frenkie de Jong	828	749	90
2 Daley Blind	802	674	84
3 Matthijs de Ligt	605	530	88

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Dušan Tadić	5	33
2 Hakim Ziyech	3	21
3 Lasse Schöne	2	16
4 David Neres	2	10

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Matthijs de Ligt	94	12	15
2 Daley Blind	84	11	20
3 Frenkie de Jong	83	16	19

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Dušan Tadić	6	21	10	4.8
2 Hakim Ziyech	3	56	21	4.5
3 Donny van de Beek	3	21	11	4.3

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

ERIK TEN HAG
 BORN: 02/02/1970, Haaksbergen (NED)
 NATIONALITY: Dutch
 HEAD COACH: Since 28/12/2017
 EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	12	6	4	2
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	24	12	9	3

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
24 André Onana	12	1080		
DEFENDERS				
2 Rasmus Kristensen	1	9		
3 Joël Veltman	5	310		
4 Matthijs de Ligt	11	990	2	
5 Maximilian Wöber	4	251		
16 Lisandro Magallán	2	9		
17 Daley Blind	12	1080		
31 Nicolás Tagliafico	10	900	3	
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Donny van de Beek	12	985	3	2
8 Daley Sinkgraven	2	94		
12 Noussair Mazraoui	11	827	2	
15 Carel Eiting	1	90	1	
19 Zakaria Labyad	1	4		
20 Lasse Schöne	11	886	1	2
21 Frenkie de Jong	11	986		
22 Hakim Ziyech	11	985	3	3
30 Dani de Wit	2	32		
40 Jurgen Ekkelenkamp	1	15		
FORWARDS				
7 David Neres	11	852	2	2
9 Klaas Jan Huntelaar	5	96	2	
10 Dušan Tadić	12	1080	6	5
25 Kasper Dolberg	9	297		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS	
24.6	28 1	Sent off: Wöber v Bayern (h)

KEY FEATURES

- Basic 1-4-2-3-1 formation; also used 1-4-3-3, 1-4-4-1-1
- Defend far up pitch, winning ball back with high press
- Leadership in back line of De Ligt; aerial threat in opposition box
- Midfield pivot De Jong controls possession from deep; clever passing and composure
- Strong in possession; one-touch passing and combinations; technical quality to go 1v1
- Offensive full-backs (Tagliafico) with good sense of reading space to create overloads
- Wingers cutting inside; sharp penetrating runs between lines
- Tadić pivotal with clever movement, hold-up play, linking with wingers



CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID



GROUP A			ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
MON W 1-2	BRU W 3-1	BVB L 4-0	BVB W 2-0	MON W 2-0	BRU D 0-0	JUV W 2-0	JUV L 3-0			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSESSION	POSESSION POSITION
49%	First third 20%
Max. 59% v Club Brugge (h) Min. 35% v Dortmund (h) UCL rank: 16=	Middle third 55%
	Final third 25%

DISTANCE COVERED
108,491m
Max. 111,647m v Club Brugge (h) Min. 102,803m v Monaco (a) UCL rank: 25

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
503	83%
Max. 699 v Club Brugge (h) Min. 323 v Juventus (h) UCL rank: 13	Max. 89% v Monaco (h) Min. 74% v Juventus (h) UCL rank: 17=

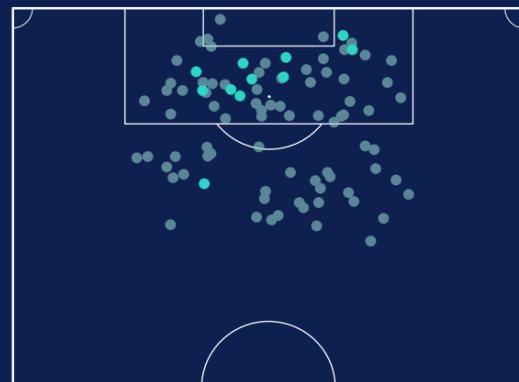
PASS DISTANCE*		
Long	63 (12% of total)	UCL rank: 18=
Medium	288 (57%)	UCL rank: 18
Short	152 (30%)	UCL rank: 8

BYPASSED**		
Opponents	2928	366 UCL rank: 13
Defenders	435	54 UCL rank: 17

*Decimal points account for the missing 1%

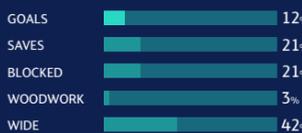
**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

11	GOALS	1.38 per match; UCL rank: 14
87	ATTEMPTS	10.9 per match; UCL rank: 27
30	ON TARGET	3.8 per match; UCL rank: 21
8.2	EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.0 per match; UCL rank: 28



PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Koke	499	438	88
2 Rodri	461	422	92
3 Saúl Ñíguez	330	274	83

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Antoine Griezmann	2	11
2 Koke	1	11
3 Filipe Luís	1	7

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Rodri	46	7	12
2 Diego Godín	37	2	9
3 Filipe Luís	36	10	16

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Antoine Griezmann	4	22	11	2.7
2 Koke	2	6	2	0.6
3 José María Giménez	2	3	2	0.4

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

	DIEGO SIMEONE
BORN: 28/04/1970, Buenos Aires (ARG)	
NATIONALITY: Argentinian	
HEAD COACH: Since 23/12/2011	
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 4	

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	60	33	16	11
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	85	53	17	15

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
13 Jan Oblak	8	720		
DEFENDERS				
2 Diego Godín	6	540	1	
3 Filipe Luís	5	405	1	
4 Santiago Arias	4	347		
15 Stefan Savić	1	82		
20 Juanfran	5	450		
21 Lucas Hernández	5	450		
24 José María Giménez	5	360	2	
35 Francisco Montero	2	135		
MIDFIELDERS				
5 Thomas	6	418	1	
6 Koke	7	562	2	1
8 Saúl Ñíguez	8	631	1	
10 Ángel Correa	8	353	1	
11 Thomas Lemar	7	410	1	
14 Rodri	8	606		
18 Gelson Martins	2	88		
23 Vitolo	4	96		

FORWARDS				
7 Antoine Griezmann	8	720	4	2
9 Nikola Kalinić	3	110		
19 Diego Costa	4	307	1	1
22 Álvaro Morata	2	122		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
25.6	24 Sent off: Savić v Monaco (h)

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-4-2, switching to 1-4-4-1-1 when defending
- Experienced goalkeeper Oblak with outstanding all-round game
- Drop deep out of possession, with narrow back four
- Good organisation and discipline, allied with know-how and mental strength
- Compact midfield shape; width from overlapping full-backs (Filipe Luís)
- Rodri controller of tempo in midfield
- Counter with fast pass forward and wide players joining attack
- Mobility of Griezmann pivotal to attacking game



FC BARCELONA



GROUP B			ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL		
PSV W 4-0	TOT W 2-4	INT W 2-0	INT D 1-1	PSV W 1-2	TOT D 1-1	OL D 0-0	OL W 5-1	MU W 0-1	MU W 3-0	LIV W 3-0	LIV L 4-0

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSESSION	POSESSION POSITION*
58%	First third 28%
Max. 68% v PSV (h) Min. 48% v Liverpool (h) UCL rank: 4=	Middle third 52%
	Final third 21%

DISTANCE COVERED
105,851m
Max. 113,931m v Tottenham (h) Min. 100,712m v PSV (a) UCL rank: 29

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
695	89%
Max. 809 v Man. United (h) Min. 533 v Tottenham (h) UCL rank: 2	Max. 92% v Man. United (a), (h) Min. 82% v Liverpool (a) UCL rank: 3=

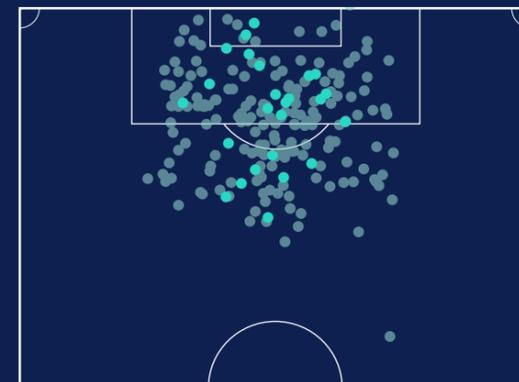
PASS DISTANCE		
Long	67 (10% of total)	UCL rank: 13=
Medium	420 (60%)	UCL rank: 3
Short	208 (30%)	UCL rank: 1

BYPASSED**		
Opponents	6016	501 UCL rank: 1
Defenders	701	58 UCL rank: 8

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

26	GOALS (1 own goal)	2.17 per match; UCL rank: 3
199	ATTEMPTS	16.6 per match; UCL rank: 3
77	ON TARGET	6.4 per match; UCL rank: 5
23.5	EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	2.0 per match; UCL rank: 5



PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Sergio Busquets	995	927	93
2 Ivan Rakitić	927	854	92
3 Jordi Alba	921	798	87

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Luis Suárez	5	19
2 Jordi Alba	5	18
3 Lionel Messi	3	24

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Gerard Piqué	74	8	12
2 Sergio Busquets	70	20	15
3 Jordi Alba	68	8	17

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Lionel Messi	12	54	26	6.5
2 Philippe Coutinho	3	33	14	2.8
3 Ousmane Dembélé	3	18	8	2.5

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

	ERNESTO VALVERDE
BORN: 09/02/1964, Viandar de la Vera (ESP)	
NATIONALITY: Spanish	
HEAD COACH: Since 29/05/2017	
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0	

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	36	19	8	9
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	109	61	19	29

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Marc-André ter Stegen	11	990		
13 Jasper Cillessen	1	90		
DEFENDERS				
2 Néelson Semedo	10	554		
3 Gerard Piqué	11	990	2	
15 Clément Lenglet	12	1000		
18 Jordi Alba	11	990	1	5
23 Samuel Umtiti	1	79		
24 Thomas Vermaelen	2	91		
27 Juan Miranda	1	90		
MIDFIELDERS				
4 Ivan Rakitić	12	1020	1	2
5 Sergio Busquets	12	1033		
6 Denis Suárez	2	24		
8 Arthur	9	566		
12 Rafinha	2	79	1	
20 Sergi Roberto	9	709		
22 Arturo Vidal	11	356		
26 Carles Aleñá	3	92		

FORWARDS				
7 Philippe Coutinho	12	860	3	2
9 Luis Suárez	10	900	1	5
10 Lionel Messi	10	837	12	3
11 Ousmane Dembélé	8	417	3	1
14 Malcom	3	39	1	
19 Munir	2	65		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
27.2	21 Sent off: Umtiti v PSV (h)

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3; shifting to 1-4-4-1-1 with Messi behind Suárez, or 1-4-4-2
- Build play from goalkeeper Ter Stegen, via short and long passes
- Attacking full-backs, notably Alba breaking down left and supplying crosses
- One-touch combinations; collective press on losing ball, seeking high regains
- Piqué bringing defensive leadership at back
- Balanced midfield with Busquets sitting deep
- Suárez stretching defenders to make space for match-winner Messi's diagonal runs
- Messi playing inside width of penalty box; dribbles, changes of direction, finishing



FC BAYERN MÜNCHEN



GROUP E		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
SLB	AJX	AEK	AEK	SLB	AJX	LIV	LIV		
W 0-2	D 1-1	W 0-2	W 2-0	W 5-1	D 3-3	D 0-0	L 1-3		

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
57%	First third 33%
Max. 64% v AEK (a)	Middle third 50%
Min. 45% v Ajax (a)	Final third 17%
UCL rank: 6	

DISTANCE COVERED	
112,222m	Max. 115,561m v Benfica (h)
	Min. 108,687m v AEK (a)
	UCL rank: 8

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
594	87%
Max. 704 v AEK (a)	Max. 90% v AEK (a), Benfica (h)
Min. 469 v Ajax (a)	Min. 83% v Ajax (a)
UCL rank: 7	UCL rank: 6=

PASS DISTANCE*		
Long	76 (13% of total)	UCL rank: 3
Medium	384 (65%)	UCL rank: 7
Short	134 (23%)	UCL rank: 12

BYPASSED**		
Opponents	3491	436 UCL rank: 5
Defenders	532	67 UCL rank: 2

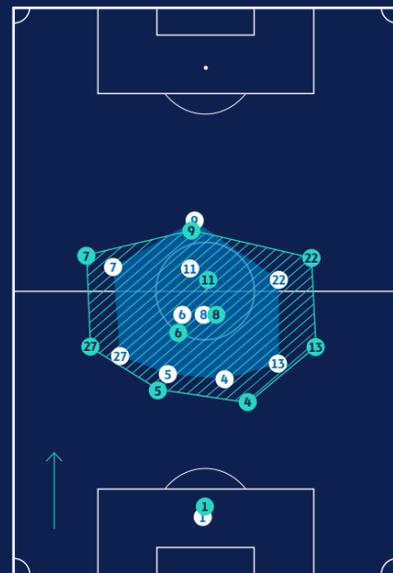
*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

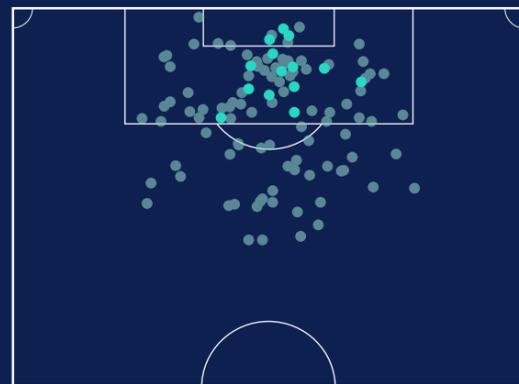
SHAPE

Example: v Liverpool (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

16 GOALS (1 own goal)	2 per match; UCL rank: 4=
109 ATTEMPTS	13.6 per match; UCL rank: 14
45 ON TARGET	5.6 per match; UCL rank: 7=
15.5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.9 per match; UCL rank: 7



PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Joshua Kimmich	499	456	91
2 Mats Hummels	450	407	90
3 Jérôme Boateng	426	379	89

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Joshua Kimmich	2	14
2 Serge Gnabry	2	5
3 David Alaba	2	4

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 David Alaba	47	6	16
2 Mats Hummels	46	16	11
3 Niklas Süle	44	5	9

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Robert Lewandowski	8	26	17	6.9
2 Arjen Robben	2	13	7	1.5
3 Franck Ribéry	1	8	5	1.1

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH NIKO KOVAČ



BORN: 15/10/1971, BERLIN (GER)
NATIONALITY: Croatian
HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2018
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	8	4	3	1
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	8	4	3	1

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Manuel Neuer	8	720		
DEFENDERS				
4 Niklas Süle	6	451		
5 Mats Hummels	6	539	1	
8 Javi Martínez	6	520	1	
13 Rafinha	6	367	1	
17 Jérôme Boateng	5	450		
27 David Alaba	7	630	2	
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Thiago Alcántara	5	388	1	
7 Franck Ribéry	7	440	1	
10 Arjen Robben	4	314	2	1
11 James Rodríguez	5	336	1	
18 Leon Goretzka	6	326		
20 Wooyeong Jeong	1	9		
32 Joshua Kimmich	7	630	2	
35 Renato Sanches	6	125	1	

FORWARDS				
2 Sandro Wagner	3	20		
9 Robert Lewandowski	8	713	8	
22 Serge Gnabry	7	446	2	
25 Thomas Müller	6	353		
29 Kingsley Coman	3	129	1	

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
28	12 Sent off: Müller v Ajax (a)

KEY FEATURES

- Variations of 1-4-2-3-1
- Calm distribution from Neuer, feeding ball to central defenders or midfield pivot
- Compact defensive unit with narrow back four
- Attacking full-backs, but alternating to maintain balance
- Two midfield pivots; one stays deep, other steps forward; diagonal balls to wings
- Wide attackers stay out on flanks to provide width; pace, 1 v 1 ability
- High press, with fast transitions after regains in opposition half
- Strong set-piece threat, with penalty-box instincts of Lewandowski



SL BENFICA



GROUP E		ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
BAY	AEK	AJX	AJX	BAY	AEK				
L 0-2	W 2-3	L 1-0	D 1-1	L 5-1	W 1-0				

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
44%	First third 33%
Max. 57% v AEK (h)	Middle third 49%
Min. 39% v AEK (a)	Final third 18%
UCL rank: 25=	

DISTANCE COVERED	
111,150m	Max. 115,785m v Bayern (h)
	Min. 105,608m v Ajax (a)
	UCL rank: 16

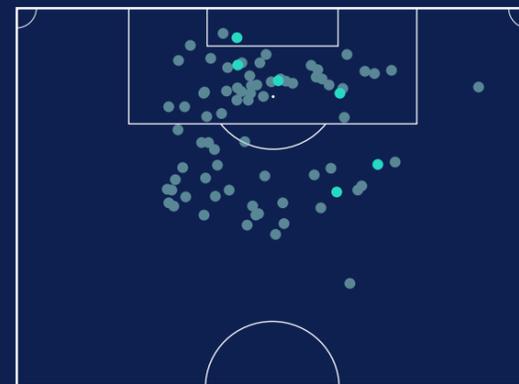
PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
440	82%
Max. 550 v AEK (h)	Max. 87% v AEK (h)
Min. 338 v AEK (a)	Min. 77% v Ajax (h)
UCL rank: 22	UCL rank: 21=

PASS DISTANCE		
Long	61 (14% of total)	UCL rank: 20=
Medium	256 (58%)	UCL rank: 24
Short	124 (28%)	UCL rank: 16=

BYPASSED*		
Opponents	1869	312 UCL rank: 23
Defenders	328	55 UCL rank: 14

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

6 GOALS	1 per match; UCL rank: 20=
80 ATTEMPTS	13.3 per match; UCL rank: 16
32 ON TARGET	5.3 per match; UCL rank: 10=
6.4 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.1 per match; UCL rank: 26



PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Alex Grimaldo	297	257	87
2 André Almeida	261	219	84
3 Rúben Dias	258	229	89

A = Attempted; C = Completed

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 André Almeida	42	11	14
2 Ljubomir Fejsa	37	14	6
3 Alex Grimaldo	35	17	7

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

SHAPE

Example: v AEK (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



COACH RUI VITÓRIA



BORN: 16/04/1970, Alverca do Ribatejo (POR)
NATIONALITY: Portuguese
HEAD COACH: 11/06/2015 to 03/01/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	29	10	4	15
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	39	13	8	18

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
99 Odisseus Vlachodimos	6	540		
DEFENDERS				
2 German Conti	3	270		
3 Alex Grimaldo	6	540	2	
6 Rúben Dias	5	405		
25 Cristian Lema	1	45		
33 Jardel	4	360		
34 André Almeida	6	540		
MIDFIELDERS				
5 Ljubomir Fejsa	5	436		
8 Gabriel	4	219		
16 Alfa Semedo	3	132	1	
17 Andrija Živković	2	70		
18 Eduardo Salvio	4	245	1	
21 Pizzi	6	322	1	
27 Rafa Silva	6	369		
79 João Félix	1	77		
83 Gedson Fernandes	6	465	1	1

FORWARDS				
10 Jonas	2	114	1	1
11 Franco Cervi	6	308		
14 Haris Seferović	6	426	1	
30 Nicolas Castillo	1	13		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
25.4	15 Sent off: Dias v AEK (a)



Swiss striker Haris Seferović



CLUB BRUGGE



GROUP A	ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
BVB L 0-1	ATL L 3-1	MON D 1-1	MON W 0-4	BVB D 0-0	ATL D 0-0			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
41%	First third 28%
Max. 55% v Monaco (h) Min. 30% v Dortmund (a) UCL rank: 29=	Middle third 54%
	Final third 19%

DISTANCE COVERED	
112,073m	Max. 114,510m v Dortmund (h) Min. 105,989m v Atlético (h) UCL rank: 9

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
425	82%
Max. 538 v Monaco (h) Min. 361 v Dortmund (a) UCL rank: 24	Max. 91% v Monaco (h) Min. 75% v Atlético (h) UCL rank: 21=

PASS DISTANCE	
Long	64 (15% of total) UCL rank: 17
Medium	262 (62%) UCL rank: 23
Short	99 (23%) UCL rank: 26

BYPASSED**	Total	Average
Opponents	1923	321 UCL rank: 21
Defenders	292	49 UCL rank: 24

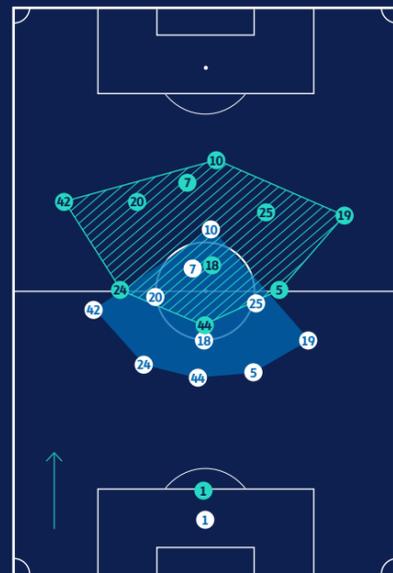
*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

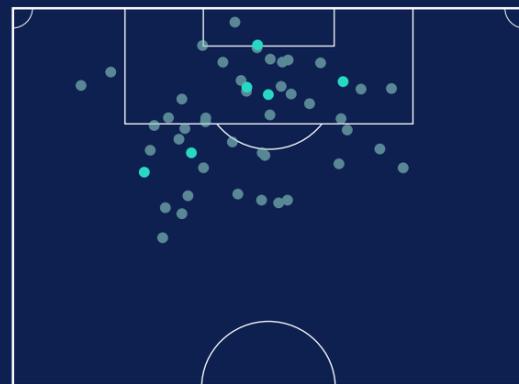
SHAPE

Example: v Monaco (h)

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



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

6	GOALS 1 per match; UCL rank: 20=
48	ATTEMPTS 8 per match; UCL rank: 30
16	ON TARGET 2.7 per match; UCL rank: 28=
5.5	EXPECTED GOALS (xG) 0.9 per match; UCL rank: 29

GOALS	12%
SAVES	20%
BLOCKED	18%
WOODWORK	0%
WIDE	49%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Benoit Poulain	356	301	85
2 Stefano Denswil	324	285	88
3 Hans Vanaken	266	229	86

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Mats Rits	2	0
2 Hans Vanaken	1	8
3 Ruud Vormer	0	5

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Stefano Denswil	43	4	9
2 Benoit Poulain	42	4	15
3 Brandon Mechele	33	8	15

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
2 Hans Vanaken	2	9	2	1.8
1 Wesley	2	7	4	0.8
3 Ruud Vormer	1	5	2	0.5

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

IVAN LEKO



BORN: 07/02/1978, Split (CRO)
NATIONALITY: Croatian
HEAD COACH: 01/07/2017 to 21/05/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	6	1	3	2
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	12	2	5	5

SQUAD

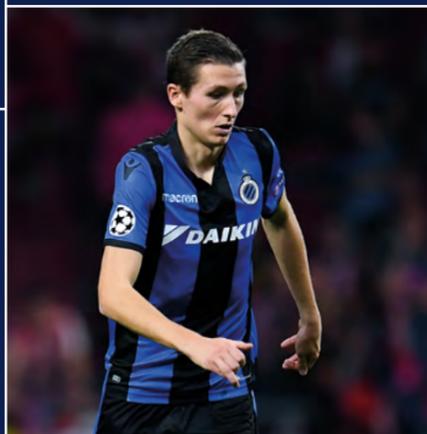
	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Karlo Letica	3	270		
22 Ethan Horvath	3	270		
DEFENDERS				
4 Luan Peres	1	21		
5 Benoit Poulain	6	540		
15 Matej Mitrović	1	90		
21 Dion Cools	2	118		
24 Stefano Denswil	6	540		
35 Saulo Decarli	1	1		
44 Brandon Mechele	5	450		
77 Clinton Mata	4	208		
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Sofyan Amrabat	2	180		
11 Krépin Diatta	2	7		
16 Siebe Schrijvers	2	72		
18 Marvelous Nakamba	5	394		
19 Thibault Vlietinck	4	208		
20 Hans Vanaken	6	540	2	1
25 Ruud Vormer	6	540	1	
26 Mats Rits	5	270	2	

FORWARDS

7 Wesley	6	521	2
9 Jelle Vossen	1	82	
10 Rezaei Kaveh	2	97	
42 Emmanuel Bonaventure	3	179	
47 Arnaut Groeneveld	2	166	1
80 Loïs Openda	5	109	
89 Cyril Ngonge	1	69	

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
23.9	8 0



Hans Vanaken played every minute in the group stage



FK CRVENA ZVEZDA



COACH

VLADAN MILOJEVIĆ



BORN: 09/03/1970, Arandelovac (SRB)
NATIONALITY: Serbian
HEAD COACH: Since 05/06/2017
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

GROUP C	ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
NAP D 0-0	PAR L 6-1	LIV L 4-0	LIV W 2-0	NAP L 3-1	PAR L 1-4			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
35%	First third 42%
Max. 39% v Liverpool (a) Min. 31% v Paris (a) UCL rank: 32	Middle third 46%
	Final third 13%

DISTANCE COVERED	
112,941m	Max. 119,626m v Napoli (a) Min. 104,305m v Paris (a) UCL rank: 5

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
325	75%
Max. 466 v Napoli (a) Min. 245 v Paris (a) UCL rank: 31	Max. 83% v Napoli (a) Min. 66% v Liverpool (h) UCL rank: 32

PASS DISTANCE	
Long	54 (17% of total) UCL rank: 30=
Medium	183 (56%) UCL rank: 32
Short	88 (27%) UCL rank: 30

BYPASSED**	Total	Average
Opponents	1355	226 UCL rank: 32
Defenders	230	38 UCL rank: 31

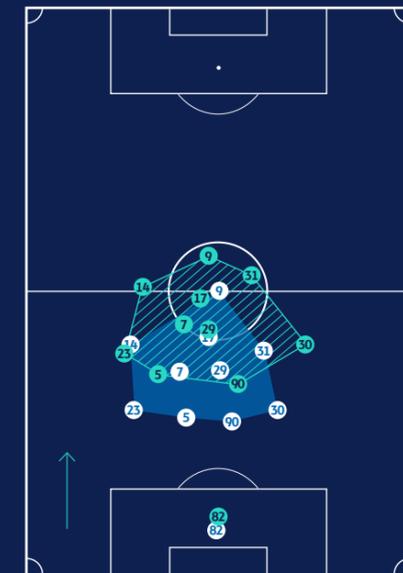
*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

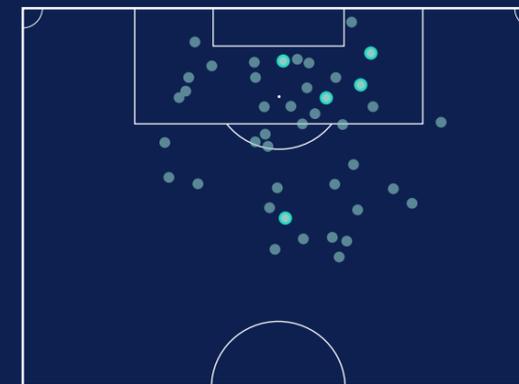
SHAPE

Example: v Paris (h)

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



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

5	GOALS 0.83 per match; UCL rank: 27=
43	ATTEMPTS 7.2 per match; UCL rank: 31
16	ON TARGET 2.7 per match; UCL rank: 28=
2.9	EXPECTED GOALS (xG) 0.5 per match; UCL rank: 32

GOALS	12%
SAVES	26%
BLOCKED	17%
WOODWORK	0%
WIDE	45%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Milan Borjan	205	132	64
2 Miloš Degenek	185	145	78
3 Marko Marin	158	124	78

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Marko Marin	2	6
2 Lorenzo Ebecilio	1	1
3= Goran Čaušić	0	3
3= Milan Rodić	0	3

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Nenad Krstičić	37	6	16
2 Miloš Degenek	27	4	13
3 Filip Stojković	25	6	13

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Milan Pavkov	2	2	2	0.4
3 Marko Marin	1	6	4	0.4
2 El Fardou Ben Nabouhane	1	6	3	0.6

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
82 Milan Borjan	6	540		
DEFENDERS				
5 Miloš Degenek	6	540		
15 Srđan Babić	3	225		
23 Milan Rodić	5	450		
30 Filip Stojković	5	419		
77 Marko Gobeljić	4	301	1	
90 Vujadin Savić	3	225		
MIDFIELDERS				
3 Branko Jovičić	4	238		
7 Nenad Krstičić	5	433		
11 Lorenzo Ebecilio	4	113	1	
14 Slavoljub Srnić	3	244		
17 Marko Marin	5	417	1	2
20 Goran Čaušić	5	311		
21 Veljko Simić	5	207		
29 Dušan Jovančić	5	265		
FORWARDS				
9 Milan Pavkov	4	216	2	
19 Nikola Stojiljković	1	45		
28 Dejan Joveljić	2	49		
31 El Fardou Ben Nabouhane	6	513	1	
99 Richmond Boakye	3	189		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
26.4	17 0



Marko Marin scored once and had two assists during the group stage



PFC CSKA MOSKVA



GROUP G	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
PLZ D 2-2	RM W 1-0	ASR L 3-0	ASR L 1-2	PLZ L 1-2
	RM W 0-3			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
46%	First third 31%
Max. 55% v Plzeň (a)	Middle third 49%
Min. 30% v Real Madrid (h)	Final third 21%
UCL rank: 20=	

DISTANCE COVERED
112,035m
Max. 117,488m v Real Madrid (h)
Min. 109,477m v Roma (a)
UCL rank: 10

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
419	81%
Max. 478 v Roma (h)	Max. 86% v Plzeň (a)
Min. 314 v Real Madrid (h)	Min. 75% v Real Madrid (h)
UCL rank: 25	UCL rank: 23=

PASS DISTANCE*
Long 68 (16% of total) UCL rank: 12
Medium 239 (57%) UCL rank: 26
Short 113 (27%) UCL rank: 22

BYPASSED**	Total	Average
Opponents	1851	309
Defenders	337	56

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

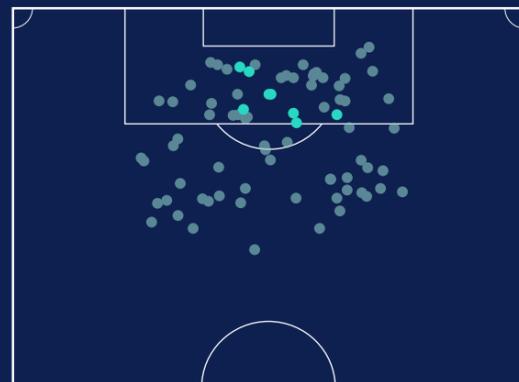
SHAPE

Example: v Real Madrid (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

8 GOALS	1.33 per match; UCL rank: 15=
77 ATTEMPTS	12.8 per match; UCL rank: 17=
30 ON TARGET	5 per match; UCL rank: 14
7.1 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.2 per match; UCL rank: 21

GOALS	12%
SAVES	26%
BLOCKED	17%
WOODWORK	0%
WIDE	45%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Ivan Oblyakov	243	202	83
2 Kirill Nababkin	230	203	88
3 Rodrigo Becão	229	197	86

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Nikola Vlašić	2	16
2 Mário Fernandes	1	9
3= Ilzat Akhmetov	1	3
3= Arnór Sigurdsson	1	3

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Rodrigo Becão	41	8	10
2 Kirill Nababkin	40	8	7
3 Nikita Chernov	30	4	4

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Nikola Vlašić	3	15	8	2.1
2 Fedor Chalov	2	10	7	0.6
3 Arnór Sigurdsson	2	10	5	0.6

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

VIKTOR GONCHARENKO
BORN: 10/06/1977, Khoyniki (BLR)
NATIONALITY: Belarusian
HEAD COACH: Since 12/12/2016
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

TOTAL	W	D	L	
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	30	7	6	17
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	91	37	25	29

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Ilya Pomazun	1	90		
22 Georgi Kyrnats	1	1		
35 Igor Akinfeev	5	450		

DEFENDERS				
2 Mário Fernandes	6	462	1	
3 Nikita Chernov	5	353		
14 Kirill Nababkin	6	540		
23 Hördur Magnússon	3	236		
42 Georgi Schennikov	3	213	1	
50 Rodrigo Becão	6	540		

MIDFIELDERS				
8 Nikola Vlašić	6	540	3	2
10 Alan Dzagoev	3	172		
15 Dmitri Efremov	3	115		
17 Arnór Sigurdsson	6	355	2	1
20 Konstantin Kuchaev	2	19		
25 Kristijan Bistrovic	2	180		
29 Jaka Bijol	3	270		
77 Ilzat Akhmetov	4	301	1	
80 Khetag Khosonov	2	47		
98 Ivan Oblyakov	6	488		

FORWARDS			
9 Fedor Chalov	6	503	2
11 Abel Hernández	1	6	
19 Takuma Nishimura	2	2	
75 Timur Zhamaletdinov	2	26	

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
23.3	16 2
	Sent off: Akinfeev v Real Madrid (h); Magnússon v Roma (h)



Nikola Vlašić after scoring the winner against Real Madrid



BORUSSIA DORTMUND



COACH

LUCIEN FAVRE
BORN: 02/11/1957, Saint-Barthélemy (SUI)
NATIONALITY: Swiss
HEAD COACH: Since 22/05/2018
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

GROUP A	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
BRU W 0-1	MON W 3-0	ATL W 4-0	ATL L 2-0	BRU D 0-0
	MON W 0-2	TOT L 3-0	TOT L 0-1	

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
59%	First third 25%
Max. 70% v Club Brugge (h)	Middle third 56%
Min. 45% v Tottenham (a)	Final third 19%
UCL rank: 3	

DISTANCE COVERED
114,346m
Max. 117,561m v Monaco (a)
Min. 108,346m v Atlético (a)
UCL rank: 3

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
726	90%
Max. 1029 v Club Brugge (h)	Max. 93% v Club Brugge (h)
Min. 542 v Atlético (h)	Min. 85% v Atlético (h)
UCL rank: 1	UCL rank: 1=

PASS DISTANCE*
Long 63 (9% of total) UCL rank: 18=
Medium 462 (64%) UCL rank: 1
Short 201 (28%) UCL rank: 2

BYPASSED**	Total	Average
Opponents	3467	433
Defenders	434	54

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

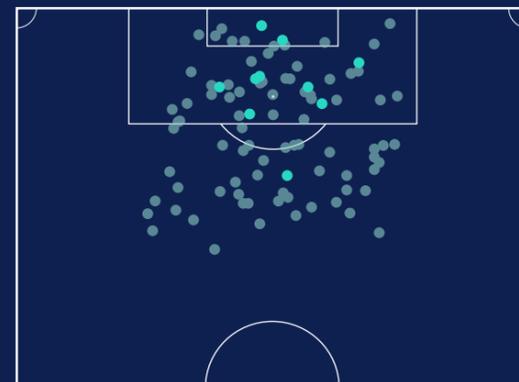
SHAPE

Example: v Atlético (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

10 GOALS	1.25 per match; UCL rank: 17
94 ATTEMPTS	11.8 per match; UCL rank: 24
32 ON TARGET	4 per match; UCL rank: 20
12.4 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.6 per match; UCL rank: 16

GOALS	11%
SAVES	22%
BLOCKED	23%
WOODWORK	1%
WIDE	43%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Axel Witsel	620	593	96
2 Manuel Akanji	567	544	96
3 Abdou Diallo	535	492	92

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Achraf Hakimi	3	3
2= Jadon Sancho	1	9
2= Marco Reus	1	9
4 Raphaël Guerreiro	1	8

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Abdou Diallo	44	8	8
2 Manuel Akanji	42	7	9
3 Axel Witsel	37	9	7

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Raphaël Guerreiro	4	10	4	2.7
2 Marco Reus	1	10	3	1.5
3 Axel Witsel	1	10	3	0.4

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

TOTAL	W	D	L	
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	9	4	1	4
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	73	30	18	25

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Roman Bürki	7	630		
35 Marwin Hitz	1	90		

DEFENDERS				
2 Dan-Axel Zagadou	4	347		
4 Abdou Diallo	7	620		
5 Achraf Hakimi	5	370	3	
13 Raphaël Guerreiro	6	284	4	
16 Manuel Akanji	5	450		
26 Łukasz Piszczek	5	450		
29 Marcel Schmelzer	3	193		
36 Ömer Toprak	3	270		

MIDFIELDERS				
6 Thomas Delaney	6	297		
11 Marco Reus	6	524	1	1
17 Sergio Gómez	1	1		
19 Mahmoud Dahoud	5	317		
22 Christian Puljić	7	454	1	
23 Shinji Kagawa	1	28		
28 Axel Witsel	7	629	1	
33 Julian Weigl	4	289		
34 Jacob Bruun Larsen	5	150	1	1

FORWARDS				
7 Jadon Sancho	7	438	1	1
9 Paco Alcácer	5	356	1	1
10 Mario Götze	6	437		
20 Maximilian Philipp	2	86	1	
27 Marius Wolf	4	211		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
25.3	11 0

KEY FEATURES

- Variations on 1-4-2-3-1, including 1-4-3-3/1-4-1-4-1 v Tottenham
- Compact defensive lines; at Spurs dropped to mid-block before starting pressure
- Defensively solid in group stage with five clean sheets
- Effective use of full-backs to provide width
- Balance from screening midfielder Witsel, dropping back to build from deep
- Quick passing game; swift counterattacks after regaining possession
- Youthful, energetic individuals; fast winger with dribbling, crossing ability in Sancho
- Runs from deep from attacking midfielders Götze and Reus



GALATASARAY AŞ



GROUP D	ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
LMO W 3-0	POR L 1-0	SCH D 0-0	SCH L 2-0	LMO L 2-0	POR L 2-3			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
54%	First third 28%
Max. 62% v Porto (h) Min. 45% v Porto (a) UCL rank: 8=	Middle third 53%
	Final third 19%

DISTANCE COVERED	
102,172m	Max. 103,332m v Porto (a) Min. 100,366m v L. Moskva (h) UCL rank: 32

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
476	83%
Max. 592 v Schalke (a) Min. 297 v Porto (a) UCL rank: 17	Max. 88% v Schalke (a) Min. 70% v Porto (a) UCL rank: 17=

PASS DISTANCE	
Long 72 (15% of total)	UCL rank: 6=
Medium 300 (63%)	UCL rank: 13=
Short 103 (22%)	UCL rank: 24

BYPASSED*	Total	Average	
Opponents	1804	301	UCL rank: 27
Defenders	212	35	UCL rank: 32

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

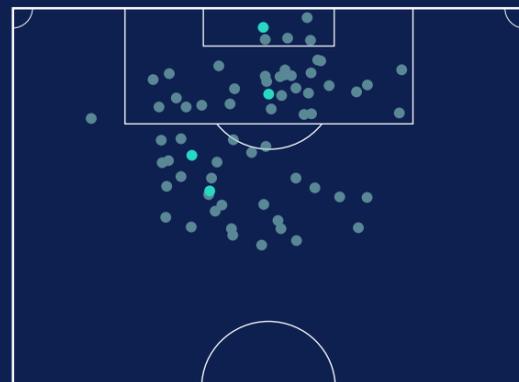
SHAPE

Example: v Porto (a)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



5	GOALS 0.83 per match; UCL rank: 27=
71	ATTEMPTS 11.8 per match; UCL rank: 20=
22	ON TARGET 3.7 per match; UCL rank: 22
9.9	EXPECTED GOALS (xG) 1.7 per match; UCL rank: 14

GOALS	7%
SAVES	22%
BLOCKED	26%
WOODWORK	1%
WIDE	43%

Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Ozan Kabak	290	263	91
2 Serdar Aziz	250	229	92
3 Ryan Donk	249	219	88

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Garry Rodrigues	1	9
2 Sofiane Feghouli	0	7
3 Henry Onyekuru	0	6

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Serdar Aziz	28	4	3
2 Martin Linnes	27	10	1
3 Maicon	27	6	6

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Eren Derdiyok	2	8	3	2.5
2 Garry Rodrigues	1	15	7	1.6
3 Sofiane Feghouli	1	6	1	1.7

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH FATIH TERIM

BORN: 04/09/1953, Adana (TUR)
NATIONALITY: Turkish
HEAD COACH: Since 22/12/2017
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 1

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	47	14	9	24
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	76	32	16	28

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Fernando Muslera	6	540		
DEFENDERS				
2 Mariano Ferreira	3	182		
3 Maicon	4	287		
4 Serdar Aziz	4	360		
14 Martin Linnes	5	403		
19 Ömer Bayram	2	53		
43 Ozan Kabak	4	360		
55 Yuto Nagatomo	5	442		
MIDFIELDERS				
8 Selçuk İnan	5	101	1	
10 Younès Belhanda	4	327		
15 Ryan Donk	6	473		
17 Badou Ndiaye	5	425		
20 Emre Akbaba	1	90		
25 Fernando	4	325		
35 Yunus Akgün	1	4		
89 Sofiane Feghouli	3	137	1	

	App	Min	G	A
FORWARDS				
7 Garry Rodrigues	6	513	1	1
9 Eren Derdiyok	4	332	2	
11 Sinan Gümüş	3	223		
21 Henry Onyekuru	5	323		
88 Muğdat Çelik	3	39		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
28.7	15 Sent off: Ndiaye v Lokomotiv Moskva (h)



Garry Rodrigues runs at the Porto defence



TSG 1899 HOFFENHEIM



COACH JULIAN NAGELSMANN

BORN: 23/07/1987, Landsberg am Lech (GER)
NATIONALITY: German
HEAD COACH: 11/02/2016 to 30/06/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

GROUP F	ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
SHK D 2-2	MC L 1-2	OL D 3-3	OL D 2-2	SHK L 2-3	MC L 2-1			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
46%	First third 31%
Max. 58% v Shakhtar Donetsk (h) Min. 36% v Man. City (h) UCL rank: 20=	Middle third 50%
	Final third 19%

DISTANCE COVERED	
114,997m	Max. 116,877m v Lyon (h) Min. 113,619m v Man. City (h) UCL rank: 2

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
428	84%
Max. 631 v Shakhtar Donetsk (h) Min. 287 v Shakhtar Donetsk (a) UCL rank: 23	Max. 87% v Lyon (h) Min. 79% v Man. City (h) UCL rank: 13=

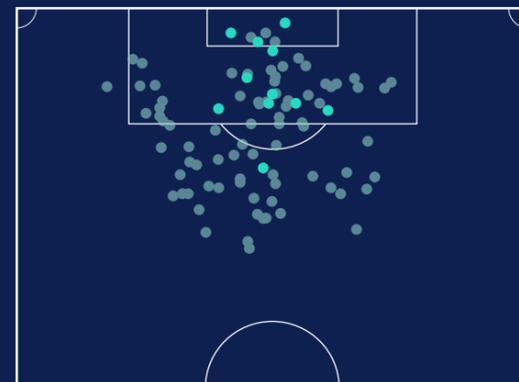
PASS DISTANCE*	
Long 59 (14% of total)	UCL rank: 22=
Medium 272 (64%)	UCL rank: 22
Short 97 (23%)	UCL rank: 28=

BYPASSED**	Total	Average	
Opponents	1913	319	UCL rank: 22
Defenders	317	53	UCL rank: 19

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



11	GOALS 1.83 per match; UCL rank: 8=
92	ATTEMPTS 15.3 per match; UCL rank: 7=
32	ON TARGET 5.3 per match; UCL rank: 10=
11.2	EXPECTED GOALS (xG) 1.9 per match; UCL rank: 11

GOALS	12%
SAVES	23%
BLOCKED	24%
WOODWORK	1%
WIDE	41%

Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Kevin Vogt	256	237	93
2 Ermin Bičakčić	229	208	91
3 Florian Grillitsch	215	178	83

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Kerem Demirbay	2	6
2 Andrej Kramarić	1	8
3 Ishak Belfodil	1	6

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Kevin Vogt	38	1	3
2 Kerem Demirbay	28	4	4
3 Florian Grillitsch	26	5	11

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Andrej Kramarić	5	18	8	2.4
2 Ishak Belfodil	1	9	5	1.8
3 Florian Grillitsch	1	5	1	0.5

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	6	0	3	3
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	14	1	5	8

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Oliver Baumann	6	540		
DEFENDERS				
2 Joshua Brenet	2	135		
3 Pavel Kadeřábek	6	540	1	
4 Ermin Bičakčić	3	253		
15 Kasim Adams Nuhu	2	141		
16 Nico Schulz	5	445	1	
21 Benjamin Hübner	1	90		
24 Justin Hoogma	1	90		
25 Kevin Akpoguma	2	180		
38 Stefan Posch	2	180		
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Håvard Nordtveit	3	185	1	
8 Dennis Geiger	1	63		
10 Kerem Demirbay	5	370	2	
11 Florian Grillitsch	6	415	1	
13 Leonardo Bittencourt	3	142	1	
17 Steven Zuber	3	102	1	
18 Nadiem Amiri	1	27		
22 Kevin Vogt	4	360		
32 Vincenzo Grifo	1	5		
37 Robin Hack	1	5		

	App	Min	G	A
FORWARDS				
9 Reiss Nelson	5	113		
19 Ishak Belfodil	5	347	1	1
27 Andrej Kramarić	6	481	5	1
28 Ádám Szalai	5	272		
34 Joelinton	5	390	1	1

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
25.1	15 Sent off: Nuhu v Lyon (a); Szalai v Shakhtar Donetsk (h)



Andrej Kramarić struck five group stage goals



FC INTERNAZIONALE MILANO



GROUP B	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
TOT W 2-1	PSV W 1-2	BAR L 2-0	BAR D 1-1	TOT L 1-0
PSV D 1-1				

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
48%	First third 34%
Max. 60% v PSV (h)	Middle third 48%
Min. 37% v Barcelona (a)	Final third 19%
UCL rank: 18	

DISTANCE COVERED
111,742m
Max. 116,257m v Barcelona (h)
Min. 108,092m v Tottenham (h)
UCL rank: 11

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
488	83%
Max. 676 v PSV (h)	Max. 87% v PSV (a)
Min. 387 v Barcelona (h)	Min. 77% v Barcelona (a)
UCL rank: 14	UCL rank: 17=

PASS DISTANCE
Long 72 (15% of total) UCL rank: 6=
Medium 292 (60%) UCL rank: 17
Short 124 (25%) UCL rank: 16=

BYPASSED**	Total	Average
Opponents	2075	346
Defenders	307	51

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

SHAPE

Example: v Barcelona (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



COACH

LUCIANO SPALLETTI
 BORN: 07/03/1959, Certaldo (ITA)
 NATIONALITY: Italian
 HEAD COACH: 09/06/2017 to 30/05/2019
 EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	57	24	12	21
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	118	61	21	36

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Samir Handanovič	6	540		
DEFENDERS				
2 Šime Vrsaljko	2	97		
6 Stefan de Vrij	5	442	1	
18 Kwadwo Asamoah	6	519	1	
23 João Miranda	3	188		
33 Danilo D'Ambrosio	4	360		
37 Milan Škriniar	6	540		
MIDFIELDERS				
8 Matías Vecino	5	450	1	1
11 Keita Baldé	4	72		
14 Radja Nainggolan	4	282	1	
16 Matteo Politano	6	454	1	
20 Borja Valero	6	231		
44 Ivan Perišić	6	501		
77 Marcelo Brozović	6	535		
87 Antonio Candreva	5	137		
FORWARDS				
9 Mauro Icardi	6	540	4	
10 Lautaro Martínez	3	53		

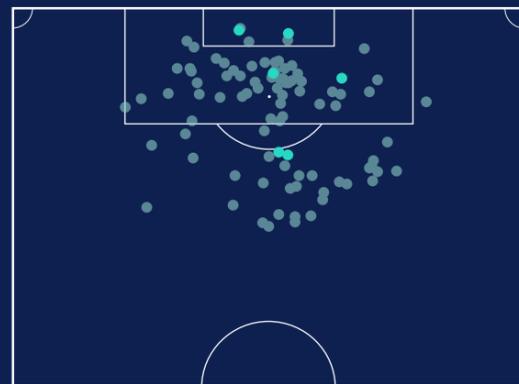
App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
28.1	15 0



Marcelo Brozović attempted the most passes for Inter

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

6 GOALS	1 per match; UCL rank: 20=
92 ATTEMPTS	15.3 per match; UCL rank: 7=
27 ON TARGET	4.5 per match; UCL rank: 15
8.7 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.5 per match; UCL rank: 17

GOALS	7%
SAVES	22%
BLOCKED	32%
WOODWORK	0%
WIDE	40%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Marcelo Brozović	443	388	88
2 Milan Škriniar	345	320	93
3 Kwadwo Asamoah	282	233	83

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Matteo Politano	1	11
2= Kwadwo Asamoah	1	4
2= Matías Vecino	1	4
3 Stefan de Vrij	1	0

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Milan Škriniar	49	18	2
2 Marcelo Brozović	38	7	9
3 Kwadwo Asamoah	38	5	8

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Mauro Icardi	4	21	8	3.6
2 Matías Vecino	1	12	1	1.2
3 Radja Nainggolan	1	8	3	0.3

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals



JUVENTUS



GROUP H	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
VAL W 0-2	YB W 3-0	MU W 0-1	MU L 1-2	VAL W 1-0
YB L 2-1	ATL L 2-0	ATL W 3-0	AJX D 1-1	AJX L 1-2

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
55%	First third 25%
Max. 62% v Atlético (a)	Middle third 55%
Min. 42% v Ajax (a)	Final third 20%
UCL rank: 7	

DISTANCE COVERED
109,763m
Max. 115,890m v Young Boys (a)
Min. 104,061m v Valencia (a)
UCL rank: 20

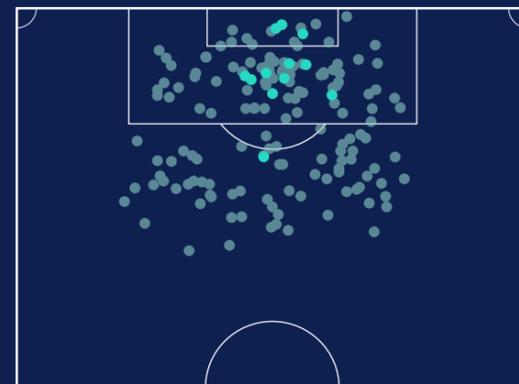
PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
540	87%
Max. 666 v Man. United (a)	Max. 90% v MU (a), (h), ATL (a)
Min. 392 v Ajax (a)	Min. 78% v Ajax (h)
UCL rank: 8	UCL rank: 6=

PASS DISTANCE
Long 72 (13% of total) UCL rank: 6=
Medium 340 (63%) UCL rank: 8
Short 128 (24%) UCL rank: 13=

BYPASSED*	Total	Average
Opponents	3764	376
Defenders	572	57

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

14 GOALS	1.4 per match; UCL rank: 13
151 ATTEMPTS	15.1 per match; UCL rank: 10
43 ON TARGET	4.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=
19.3 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.9 per match; UCL rank: 8

GOALS	9%
SAVES	18%
BLOCKED	26%
WOODWORK	3%
WIDE	44%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Leonardo Bonucci	697	626	90
2 Miralem Pjanić	667	595	89
3 Alex Sandro	447	387	87

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Cristiano Ronaldo	2	15
2 João Cancelo	2	5
3 Leonardo Bonucci	2	3

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Miralem Pjanić	59	10	16
2 Leonardo Bonucci	57	5	12
3 Alex Sandro	40	8	11

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Cristiano Ronaldo	6	48	13	4.9
2 Paulo Dybala	5	21	10	3.7
3 Miralem Pjanić	2	16	5	2.1

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

MASSIMILIANO ALLEGRI
 BORN: 11/08/1967, Livorno (ITA)
 NATIONALITY: Italian
 HEAD COACH: 16/07/2014 to 30/06/2019
 EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	86	39	25	22
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	88	40	26	22

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Wojciech Szczęsny	10	900		
DEFENDERS				
2 Mattia De Sciglio	4	309		
3 Giorgio Chiellini	6	540		
4 Medhi Benatia	1	90		
12 Alex Sandro	9	742		
15 Andrea Barzagli	3	106		
19 Leonardo Bonucci	10	900	2	
20 João Cancelo	7	479	2	
24 Daniele Rugani	4	271		
MIDFIELDERS				
5 Miralem Pjanić	10	813	2	1
6 Sami Khedira	4	105		
14 Blaise Matuidi	9	683	1	
23 Emre Can	6	335		
30 Rodrigo Bentancur	7	550		
33 Federico Bernardeschi	8	552	1	
37 Leonardo Spinazzola	1	67		

FORWARDS	App	Min	G	A
7 Cristiano Ronaldo	9	749	6	2
10 Paulo Dybala	9	518	5	
11 Douglas Costa	5	157		
16 Juan Cuadrado	5	329	1	
17 Mario Mandžukić	8	579	1	
18 Moise Kean	3	67		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
28.5	16 1

Sent off: Ronaldo v Valencia (a)

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3 in possession; out of it, 1-4-4-2 and 1-4-4-1-1 (at Ajax)
- Solid goalkeeper Szczęsny an able replacement for departed Buffon
- Compact defensive block; deny opposition space between lines
- High tempo, instant pressing, and aggression in fightback v Atlético
- Lots of crosses from attacking full-backs, notably Alex Sandro down left
- On regain, look for quick pass to striker or wide players, then play in behind
- Aerial power in opposition box from Ronaldo, Mandžukić
- Desire, winning mentality and scoring threat of Ronaldo



OLYMPIQUE LYONNAIS



FRA

GROUP F	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
MC W 1-2	SHK D 2-2	HOF D 3-3	HOF D 2-2	MC D 2-2	SHK D 1-1	BAR D 0-0	BAR L 5-1			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

46%

Max. 51% v SHK (h), HOF (h)
Min. 37% v Man. City (a)
UCL rank: 20=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	30%
Middle third	52%
Final third	18%

DISTANCE COVERED

110,692m

Max. 115,194m v Man. City (a)
Min. 105,459m v Barcelona (a)
UCL rank: 17

467

PASSES ATTEMPTED
Max. 545 v Shakhtar Donetsk (h)
Min. 317 v Man. City (a)
UCL rank: 20

85%

PASS ACCURACY
Max. 88% v Man. City (h)
Min. 75% v Man. City (a)
UCL rank: 10=

PASS DISTANCE*

Long	58 (12% of total)	UCL rank: 25
Medium	281 (60%)	UCL rank: 19
Short	128 (27%)	UCL rank: 13=

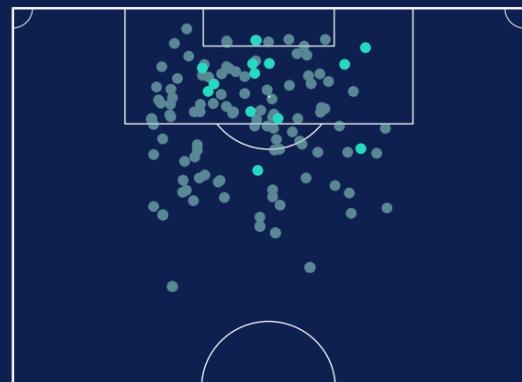
BYPASSED**

Total	Average	
Opponents	2485	311 UCL rank: 24
Defenders	364	46 UCL rank: 27

*Decimal points account for the missing 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

13

GOALS
1.63 per match; UCL rank: 11

116

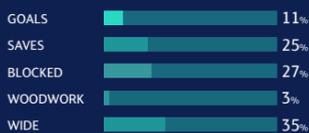
ATTEMPTS
14.5 per match; UCL rank: 12

41

ON TARGET
5.1 per match; UCL rank: 13

12.6

EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.6 per match; UCL rank: 15



PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Marcelo	429	384	90
2 Tanguy Ndombele	387	341	88
3 Jason Denayer	375	349	93

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Memphis Depay	3	22
2 Nabil Fekir	2	12
3= Houssem Aouar	1	7
3= Bertrand Traoré	1	7

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Jason Denayer	47	7	11
2 Lucas Tousart	46	14	4
3 Marcelo	45	4	18

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Nabil Fekir	3	26	11	1.8
2 Maxwel Cornet	3	7	4	1.5
3 Tanguy Ndombele	2	9	2	0.6

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH BRUNO GENESIO



BORN: 01/09/1966, Lyon (FRA)
NATIONALITY: French
HEAD COACH: 24/12/2015 to 30/06/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

TOTAL	W	D	L	
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	14	3	8	3
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	32	14	10	8

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Anthony Lopes	8	664		
30 Mathieu Gorgelin	1	56		
DEFENDERS				
4 Rafael	3	240		
5 Jason Denayer	8	720		
6 Marcelo	8	720		
14 Léo Dubois	5	285	1	
15 Jérémy Morel	1	90		
20 Fernando Marçal	3	270		
22 Ferland Mendy	8	707	1	
23 Kenny Tete	3	196		
MIDFIELDERS				
7 Martin Terrier	3	159		
8 Houssem Aouar	7	630	1	
12 Jordan Ferri	1	8		
24 Pape Cheikh	5	102		
27 Maxwel Cornet	5	214	3	
28 Tanguy Ndombele	8	637	2	
29 Lucas Tousart	7	482	1	
FORWARDS				
9 Moussa Dembélé	6	296	1	
10 Bertrand Traoré	8	320	1	1
11 Memphis Depay	8	618	1	3
18 Nabil Fekir	6	506	3	2

FORWARDS

9 Moussa Dembélé	6	296	1	
10 Bertrand Traoré	8	320	1	1
11 Memphis Depay	8	618	1	3
18 Nabil Fekir	6	506	3	2

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

AVERAGE AGE

23.7

CARDS

13 0

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-2-3-1; also used 1-4-3-3, 1-4-4-1-1
- Influential goalkeeper Lopes; good shot-stopping ability
- Strong centre-backs (Denayer, Marcelo) in narrow back four
- Open, attractive football; good attacking combinations
- Powerful Ndombele able to break lines with dribbling, passing ability
- High pressing by midfielders and forwards; lots of pace to counterattack
- Quick, direct, energetic attacking players
- No conventional front man; fluid attacking shape; Depay dropping between lines



MANCHESTER CITY FC



ENG

GROUP F	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
OL L 1-2	HOF W 1-2	SHK W 0-3	SHK W 6-0	OL D 2-2	HOF W 2-1	SCH W 2-3	SCH W 7-0	TOT L 1-0	TOT W 4-3*	

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

*Tottenham win on away goals

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

60%

Max. 66% v Schalke (h)
Min. 50% v Shakhtar Donetsk (a)
UCL rank: 1=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	22%
Middle third	56%
Final third	22%

DISTANCE COVERED

109,220m

Max. 113,804m v SHK (a)
Min. 103,560m v Schalke (h)
UCL rank: 22

655

PASSES ATTEMPTED
Max. 794 v Schalke (h)
Min. 526 v Hoffenheim (h)
UCL rank: 5

90%

PASS ACCURACY
Max. 93% v Schalke (h)
Min. 88% v Tottenham (a)
UCL rank: 1=

PASS DISTANCE

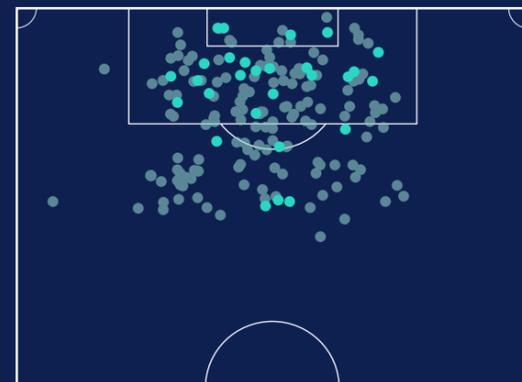
Long	54 (8% of total)	UCL rank: 30=
Medium	446 (68%)	UCL rank: 2
Short	156 (24%)	UCL rank: 7

BYPASSED*

Total	Average	
Opponents	4661	466 UCL rank: 3
Defenders	667	67 UCL rank: 3

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

30

GOALS
3 per match; UCL rank: 1

181

ATTEMPTS
18.1 per match; UCL rank: 2

70

ON TARGET
7 per match; UCL rank: 2

23.4

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



PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Aymeric Laporte	831	772	93
2 Kyle Walker	587	544	93
3 İlkay Gündoğan	522	482	92

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Leroy Sané	5	9
2 Riyad Mahrez	4	9
3 Kevin De Bruyne	4	6

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Aymeric Laporte	60	9	16
2 Fernandinho	46	9	19
3 Kyle Walker	37	1	6

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Sergio Agüero	6	30	16	5.6
2 Raheem Sterling	5	23	10	3.0
3 Gabriel Jesus	4	21	10	3.9

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH JOSEP GUARDIOLA



BORN: 18/01/1971, Santpedor (ESP)
NATIONALITY: Spanish
HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2016
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 5

TOTAL	W	D	L	
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	113	69	23	21
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	120	74	24	22

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
31 Ederson	10	900		1
DEFENDERS				
2 Kyle Walker	10	746		
3 Danilo	2	119		
4 Vincent Kompany	4	205		
5 John Stones	6	421		
14 Aymeric Laporte	10	882	2	
22 Benjamin Mendy	2	174		
30 Nicolás Otamendi	5	402		
MIDFIELDERS				
7 Raheem Sterling	10	871	5	2
8 İlkay Gündoğan	8	590	1	
17 Kevin De Bruyne	4	247	4	
18 Fabian Delph	6	257		
19 Leroy Sané	8	395	4	5
20 Bernardo Silva	8	578	4	1
21 David Silva	9	719	3	1
25 Fernandinho	8	643		
26 Riyad Mahrez	6	388	1	4
35 Oleksandr Zinchenko	5	337	1	
47 Phil Foden	4	120	1	
FORWARDS				
10 Sergio Agüero	7	510	6	1
33 Gabriel Jesus	6	375	4	

FORWARDS

10 Sergio Agüero	7	510	6	1
33 Gabriel Jesus	6	375	4	

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

AVERAGE AGE

26.3

CARDS

16 1 Sent off: Otamendi v Schalke (a)

KEY FEATURES

- Flexible 1-4-3-3
- High pressing with high defensive line; compact shape with back four
- Always looking to build from the back and through the middle before playing wide
- Strong attacking threat down left with overloads
- One sitting midfielder, other two play at back of opposition midfielders
- Excellent in possession; plenty of creativity in midfield
- Preference for short passing but also hit longer pass to get players in behind or wide
- Very wide attackers; come inside to join world-class striker Agüero



MANCHESTER UNITED FC



GROUP H	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS			SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
YB W0-3	VAL D0-0	JUV L0-1	JUV W1-2	YB W1-0	VAL L2-1	PAR L0-2	PAR W1-3*	BAR L0-1	BAR L3-0

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names * Man. United win on away goals

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

46%

Max. 61% v Young Boys (h)
Min. 32% v Paris (a)
UCL rank: 20=

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	26%
Middle third	52%
Final third	22%

DISTANCE COVERED

105,825m

Max. 112,306m v Paris (a)
Min. 99,559m v Valencia (h)
UCL rank: 31

468

PASSES ATTEMPTED
Max. 662 v Young Boys (h)
Min. 282 v Paris (a)
UCL rank: 19

86%

PASS ACCURACY
Max. 89% v Young Boys (h)
Min. 80% v Paris (a)
UCL rank: 9

PASS DISTANCE

Long	56 (12% of total)	UCL rank: 28
Medium	274 (59%)	UCL rank: 21
Short	138 (29%)	UCL rank: 10

BYPASSED*

	Total	Average	
Opponents	3439	344	UCL rank: 17
Defenders	499	50	UCL rank: 23

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

SHAPE

Example: v Paris (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



COACH* OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJÆR

BORN: 26/02/1973, Kristiansund (NOR)
NATIONALITY: Norwegian
HEAD COACH: Since 19/12/2018
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	4	1	0	3
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	36	16	6	14

SQUAD

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 David de Gea	9	810		
22 Sergio Romero	1	90		

DEFENDERS

2 Victor Lindelöf	7	630		
3 Eric Bailly	4	306		
4 Phil Jones	3	270		
12 Chris Smalling	8	720		
16 Marcos Rojo	1	45		
20 Diogo Dalot	4	243		
23 Luke Shaw	8	720		
25 Antonio Valencia	3	252		

MIDFIELDERS

6 Paul Pogba	9	729	2	1
8 Juan Mata	6	275	1	
14 Jesse Lingard	6	296		
15 Andreas Pereira	4	190		
17 Fred	6	461		
18 Ashley Young	7	582	1	
21 Ander Herrera	2	169		
27 Marouane Fellaini	5	302	1	
31 Nemanja Matić	6	540		
39 Scott McTominay	3	270		
54 Mason Greenwood	1	3		

FORWARDS

7 Alexis Sánchez	4	211		
9 Romelu Lukaku	9	546	2	1
10 Marcus Rashford	10	724	2	1
11 Anthony Martial	8	506	1	
44 Tahith Chong	1	10		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists
*José Mourinho was in charge for matchdays 1 to 6

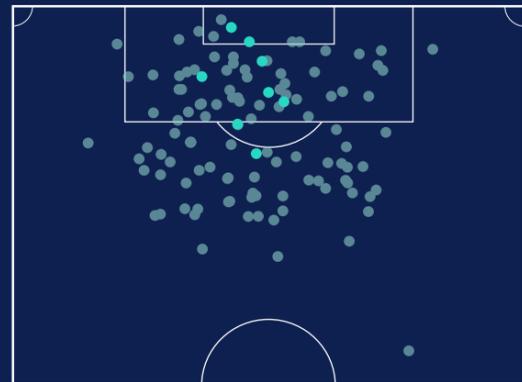
AVERAGE AGE
25

CARDS
21 Sent off: Pogba v Paris (h)

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3; also deployed three centre-backs v Paris and Barcelona
- Use of deep block in Paris; compact shape with little space for opponents
- Attacking full-backs provide supply of crosses (Young)
- Passing and technical ability of midfielders Pogba, McTominay
- Speed on transitions; strong counterattacking threat with Rashford, Lukaku
- Impressive resilience in away wins at Juventus, Paris
- Danger in 1v1 situations due to quick, talented forwards

ATTEMPTS



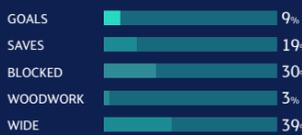
Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

10 GOALS (1 own goal)
1 per match; UCL rank: 20=

118 ATTEMPTS
11.8 per match; UCL rank: 20=

32 ON TARGET
3.2 per match; UCL rank: 25

10.5 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
1.1 per match; UCL rank: 27



PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Paul Pogba	458	393	86
2 Nemanja Matić	425	385	91
3 Luke Shaw	405	350	86

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Paul Pogba	1	17
2 Marcus Rashford	1	8
3 Ashley Young	1	5

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Luke Shaw	45	10	9
2 Chris Smalling	42	8	9
3 Fred	38	7	5

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Marcus Rashford	2	31	10	3.0
2 Paul Pogba	2	15	8	1.8
3 Romelu Lukaku	2	10	4	1.8

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals



AS MONACO FC



GROUP A	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS			SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
ATL L1-2	BVB L3-0	BRU D1-1	BRU L0-4	ATL L2-0	BVB L0-2				

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION

47%

Max. 61% v Club Brugge (h)
Min. 40% v Dortmund (h)
UCL rank: 19

POSSESSION POSITION

First third	31%
Middle third	50%
Final third	19%

DISTANCE COVERED

111,205m

Max. 119,593m v Dortmund (h)
Min. 100,455m v Atlético (h)
UCL rank: 15

474

PASSES ATTEMPTED
Max. 680 v Club Brugge (h)
Min. 375 v Club Brugge (a)
UCL rank: 18

84%

PASS ACCURACY
Max. 88% v Atlético (a)
Min. 78% v Atlético (h)
UCL rank: 13=

PASS DISTANCE

Long	67 (14% of total)	UCL rank: 13=
Medium	300 (63%)	UCL rank: 13=
Short	107 (23%)	UCL rank: 23

BYPASSED*

	Total	Average	
Opponents	2074	346	UCL rank: 16
Defenders	292	49	UCL rank: 25

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

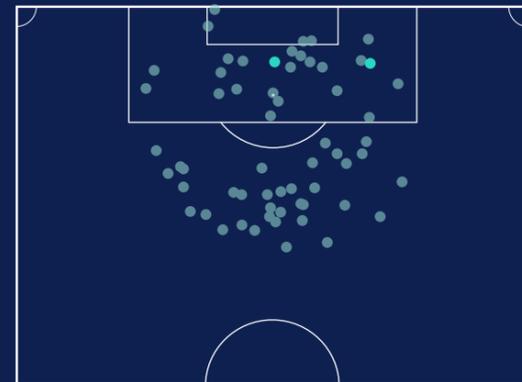
SHAPE

Example: v Dortmund (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

2 GOALS
0.33 per match; UCL rank: 31=

60 ATTEMPTS
10 per match; UCL rank: 29

17 ON TARGET
2.8 per match; UCL rank: 27

5.1 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)
0.9 per match; UCL rank: 30



COACH* THIERRY HENRY

BORN: 17/08/1977, Les Ulis (FRA)
NATIONALITY: French
HEAD COACH: 13/10/2018 to 24/01/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	4	0	1	3
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	4	0	1	3

SQUAD

App Min G A

GOALKEEPERS

1 Danijel Subašić	1	45		
16 Diego Badaglio	5	405		
40 Loïc Badiaashile	1	90		

DEFENDERS

3 Antonio Barreca	1	90		
5 Jemerson	5	450		
6 Kévin N'Doram	1	90		
19 Djibril Sidibé	4	334		
21 Julien Serrano	1	12		
24 Andrea Raggi	4	360		
25 Kamil Glik	5	436		
32 Benoît Badiashile	2	180		
38 Almamy Touré	1	14		
39 Benjamin Henrichs	4	296		
46 Giulian Biancone	2	168		

MIDFIELDERS

4 Jean-Eudes Aholou	3	176		
8 Youri Tielemans	6	540		
11 Adama Traoré	1	21		
15 Youssef Ait Bennasser	3	248		
17 Aleksandr Golovin	3	230	1	
20 Nacer Chadli	5	314		
29 Samuel Grandsir	3	187	1	
36 Sofiane Diop	4	268		
42 Han-Noah Massengo	3	181		
45 Kephren Thuram-Ulien	2	48		

FORWARDS

9 Radamel Falcao	5	340		
10 Stevan Jovetić	1	12		
22 Jordi Mboula	1	32		
34 Moussa Sylla	6	344	1	
41 Gobe Gouano	1	29		

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists
*Leonardo Jardim was in charge for matchdays 1 and 2

AVERAGE AGE
24.9

CARDS
13 0



Youri Tielemans was the heartbeat of the Monaco midfield

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Youri Tielemans	357	303	85
2 Jemerson	245	226	92
3 Youssef Ait Bennasser	204	181	89

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Aleksandr Golovin	1	3
2= Youri Tielemans	0	6
2= Radamel Falcao	0	6
3 Moussa Sylla	0	4

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Youri Tielemans	39	9	10
2 Kamil Glik	27	6	7
3 Jemerson	27	4	6

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Moussa Sylla	1	6	3	0.7
2 Samuel Grandsir	1	2	1	0.6
3 Youri Tielemans	0	12	7	0.4

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals



SSC NAPOLI



COACH CARLO ANCELOTTI

BORN: 10/06/1959, Reggiolo (ITA)
NATIONALITY: Italian
HEAD COACH: Since 23/05/2018
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 6

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	160	88	38	34
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	207	116	47	44

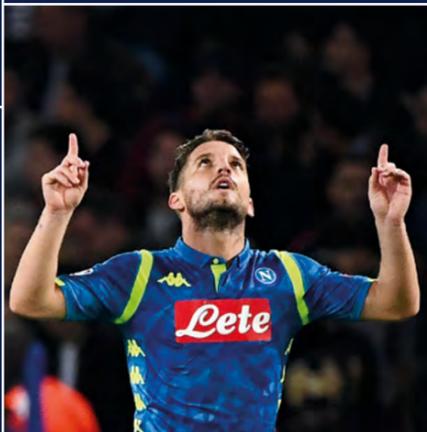
SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
25 David Ospina	6	540		
DEFENDERS				
6 Mário Rui	6	520		
19 Nikola Maksimović	5	436	1	
23 Elseid Hysaj	3	149		
26 Kalidou Koulibaly	6	540		
31 Faouzi Ghoulam	1	20		
33 Raúl Albiol	6	495		
MIDFIELDERS				
5 Allan	6	511		
8 Fabián Ruiz	6	471	1	
11 Adam Ounas	2	22		
17 Marek Hamšík	6	456	1	1
20 Piotr Zieliński	6	181		
30 Marko Rog	2	8		
FORWARDS				
7 José Callejón	6	517	2	
9 Simone Verdi	1	22		
14 Dries Mertens	6	375	3	
24 Lorenzo Insigne	6	490	3	
99 Arkadiusz Milik	4	187		

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

AVERAGE AGE 27.1

CARDS 13 0



Dries Mertens after scoring in the 2-2 draw away to Paris



PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN



COACH THOMAS TUCHEL

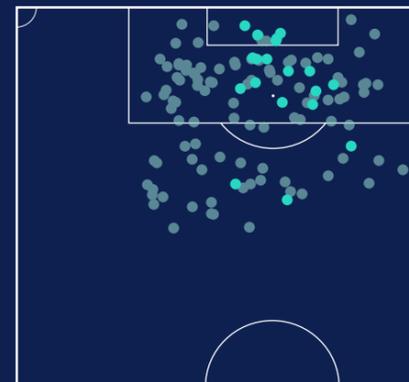
BORN: 29/08/1973, Krumbach (GER)
NATIONALITY: German
HEAD COACH: Since 14/05/2018
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	18	9	4	5
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	36	20	8	8

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Gianluigi Buffon	5	450		
16 Alphonse Areola	3	270		
DEFENDERS				
2 Thiago Silva	7	616		
3 Presnel Kimpembe	8	647	1	
4 Thilo Kehrer	7	488		
5 Marquinhos	7	630	1	
12 Thomas Meunier	5	363	1	2
13 Dani Alves	3	204		
14 Juan Bernat	8	675	3	
31 Colin Dagba	1	9		
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Marco Verratti	7	601		
8 Leandro Paredes	2	35		
11 Ángel Di María	8	661	2	3
23 Julian Draxler	7	284	1	
25 Adrien Rabiot	5	282		
FORWARDS				
7 Kylian Mbappé	8	701	4	4
9 Edinson Cavani	7	415	2	2
10 Neymar	6	532	5	1
17 Eric Maxim Choupo-Moting	4	50		
27 Moussa Diaby	1	7		

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

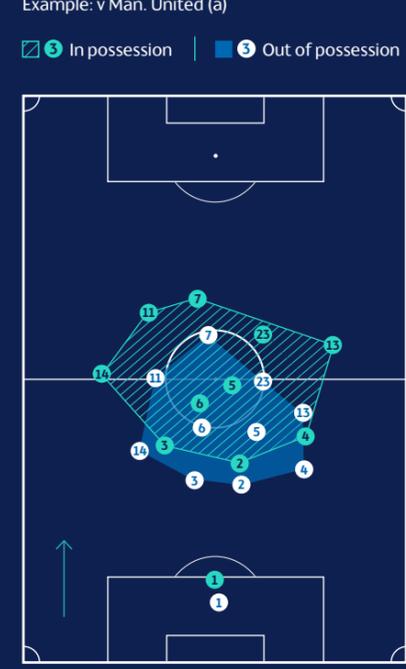
PASSES	A	C	%
1 Marco Verratti	594	557	94
2 Thiago Silva	560	528	94
3 Presnel Kimpembe	510	477	94

A = Attempted; C = Completed

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Marco Verratti	55	16	5
2 Presnel Kimpembe	53	8	12
3 Thiago Silva	51	4	11

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

SHAP



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Kylian Mbappé	4	11	
2 Ángel Di María	3	18	
3= Thomas Meunier	2	2	
3= Edinson Cavani	2	2	

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Neymar	5	24	16	3.4
2 Kylian Mbappé	4	29	11	5.8
3 Juan Bernat	3	9	5	1.6

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

GROUP C	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL	
CRV D 0-0	LIV W 1-0	PAR D 2-2	PAR D 1-1	CRV W 3-1	LIV L 1-0

AVERAGES

POSSESSION 54%

Max. 65% v Crvena zvezda (a)
 Min. 44% v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 8=

POSSESSION POSITION*

First third	28%
Middle third	54%
Final third	19%

DISTANCE COVERED

111,562m

Max. 116,607m v CRV (h)
 Min. 106,121m v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 13

666

PASSES ATTEMPTED

Max. 866 v Crvena zvezda (h)
 Min. 494 v Paris (h)
 UCL rank: 3

85% PASS ACCURACY

Max. 89% v Liverpool (h)
 Min. 77% v Liverpool (a)
 UCL rank: 10=

PASS DISTANCE*

	Total	Average	UCL rank
Long	89 (13% of total)		UCL rank: 1
Medium	408 (61%)		UCL rank: 4
Short	169 (25%)		UCL rank: 5

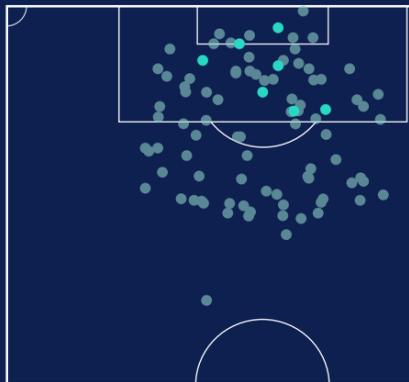
BYPASSED**

	Total	Average	UCL rank
Opponents	2855	476	UCL rank: 2
Defenders	436	73	UCL rank: 1

*Decimal points account for the 1% difference

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

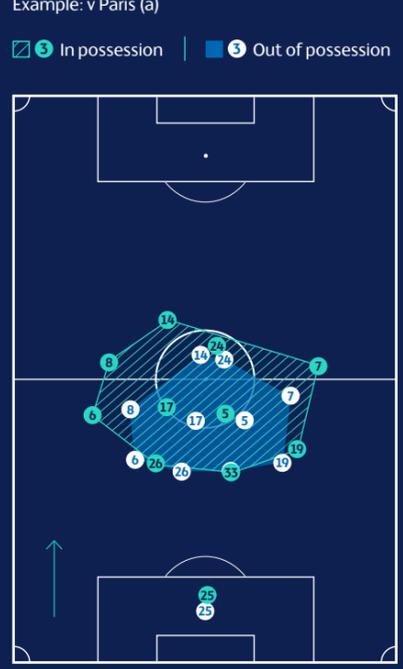
PASSES	A	C	%
1 Kalidou Koulibaly	468	413	88
2 Marek Hamšík	455	408	90
3 Raúl Albiol	420	387	92

A = Attempted; C = Completed

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Kalidou Koulibaly	68	9	12
2 Allan	56	22	5
3 Raúl Albiol	34	1	8

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

SHAPE



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 José Callejón	2	15	
2= Marek Hamšík	1	6	
2= Fabián Ruiz	1	6	
3 Nikola Maksimović	1	4	

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Dries Mertens	3	19	10	3.5
2 Lorenzo Insigne	3	18	6	3.0
3 Marek Hamšík	1	2	1	0.8

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals



FC VIKTORIA PLZEŇ



GROUP G	ROUND OF 16						QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
CSM D 2-2	ASR L 5-0	RM L 2-1	RM L 0-5	CSM W 1-2	ASR W 2-1							

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
41%	First third 34%
Max. 46% v CSKA Moskva (a) Min. 37% v Real Madrid (a) UCL rank: 29=	Middle third 46%
	Final third 20%

DISTANCE COVERED	Max. 114,049m v Real Madrid (h) Min. 104,775m v Roma (a) UCL rank: 21
109,647m	

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
374	80%
Max. 405 v Real Madrid (h) Min. 341 v Roma (h) UCL rank: 30	Max. 83% v Real Madrid (h) Min. 76% v CSKA Moskva (h) UCL rank: 27=

PASS DISTANCE	Long 71 (19% of total) UCL rank: 9= Medium 206 (55%) UCL rank: 30 Short 98 (26%) UCL rank: 27
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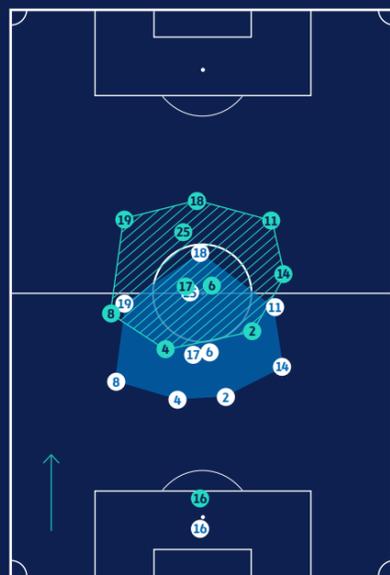
BYPASSED*	Total	Average
Opponents	1744	291 UCL rank: 29
Defenders	300	50 UCL rank: 21

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

SHAPE

Example: v CSKA Moskva (a)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



COACH



PAVEL VRBA
 BORN: 06/12/1963, Přerov (CZE)
 NATIONALITY: Czech
 HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2017
 EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	18	4	3	11
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	76	41	14	21

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Matúš Kozáčik	2	180		
16 Aleš Hruška	4	360		
DEFENDERS				
2 Lukáš Hejda	6	451	1	
4 Roman Hubník	6	540		
8 David Limberský	6	495	1	
14 Radim Řezník	5	450		
24 Milan Havel	4	224		
44 Luděk Perníca	1	90		1
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Roman Procházka	5	425	1	
7 Tomáš Hořava	5	215		
9 Martin Zeman	1	71		
10 Jan Kopic	4	296	2	
11 Milan Petržela	4	227		
17 Patrik Hrošovský	6	540	1	1
19 Jan Kovařík	4	360	1	1
25 Aleš Čermák	5	349	1	
26 Daniel Kolář	2	90		
90 Ubong Ekpai	2	33		
FORWARDS				
15 Michael Krmenčík	3	242	2	
18 Tomáš Chory	3	247	1	
37 Jakub Řezníček	6	55		

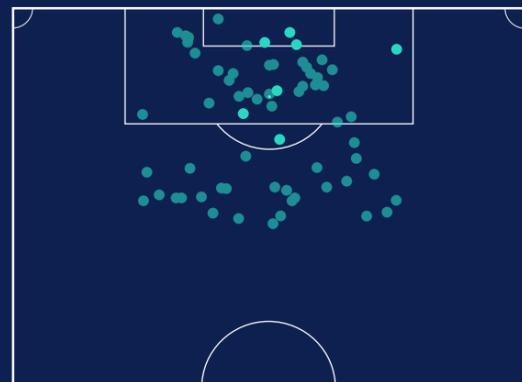
App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
29.4	10 0



Both Michael Krmenčík's goals came on matchday one

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

7 GOALS	1.17 per match; UCL rank: 18=
68 ATTEMPTS	11.3 per match; UCL rank: 26
21 ON TARGET	3.5 per match; UCL rank: 23
8.6 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.4 per match; UCL rank: 18

GOALS	11%
SAVES	20%
BLOCKED	31%
WOODWORK	0%
WIDE	38%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Patrik Hrošovský	304	279	92
2 David Limberský	253	207	82
3 Roman Hubník	190	156	82

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Jan Kopic	2	4
2= Aleš Čermák	1	6
2= Jan Kovařík	1	6
3 Patrik Hrošovský	1	5

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Roman Hubník	51	10	12
2 Patrik Hrošovský	29	9	5
3 Lukáš Hejda	26	7	11

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Michael Krmenčík	2	8	3	1.5
2= Roman Procházka	1	8	5	1.1
2= Jan Kovařík	1	5	2	1.2

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals



FC PORTO



COACH



SÉRGIO CONCEIÇÃO
 BORN: 15/11/1974, Coimbra (POR)
 NATIONALITY: Portuguese
 HEAD COACH: Since 08/06/2017
 EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

GROUP D	ROUND OF 16						QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
SCH D 1-1	GAL W 1-0	LMO W 1-3	LMO W 4-1	SCH W 3-1	GAL W 2-3	ASR L 2-1	ASR W 3-1*	LIV L 2-0	LIV L 1-4			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

*after extra time

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
54%	First third 30%
Max. 61% v Lokomotiv Moskva (a) Min. 38% v Galatasaray (a) UCL rank: 8=	Middle third 51%
	Final third 20%

DISTANCE COVERED	Max. 143,008m v Roma (h) Min. 102,761m v Schalke (a) UCL rank: 12
111,596m	

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
463	80%
Max. 603 v Lokomotiv Moskva (a) Min. 310 v Galatasaray (a) UCL rank: 21	Max. 85% v LMO (a), ASR (h) Min. 71% v GAL (a), LIV (a) UCL rank: 27=

PASS DISTANCE	Long 71 (15% of total) UCL rank: 9= Medium 277 (60%) UCL rank: 20 Short 116 (25%) UCL rank: 20=
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BYPASSED**	Total	Average
Opponents	3307	331 UCL rank: 19
Defenders	468	47 UCL rank: 26

**Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

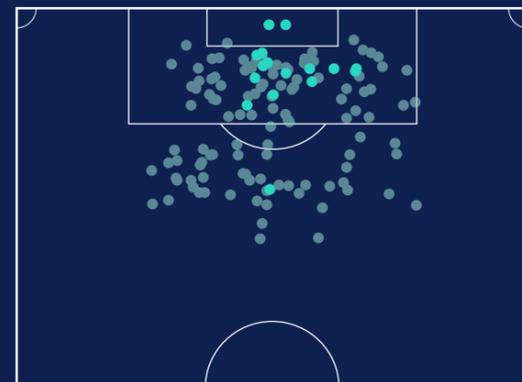
SHAPE

Example: v Liverpool (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

20 GOALS	2 per match; UCL rank: 4=
134 ATTEMPTS	13.4 per match; UCL rank: 15
54 ON TARGET	5.4 per match; UCL rank: 9
17.3 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.7 per match; UCL rank: 12

GOALS	15%
SAVES	24%
BLOCKED	18%
WOODWORK	2%
WIDE	41%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Felipe	574	476	83
2 Danilo	517	463	90
3 Héctor Herrera	440	370	84

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Alex Telles	3	19
2 Jesús Corona	2	8
3 Yacine Brahimi	2	6

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Felipe	97	8	23
2 Danilo	67	8	14
3 Éder Militão	60	14	17

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Moussa Marega	6	26	15	5.7
2 Jesús Corona	3	11	5	1.1
3 Héctor Herrera	2	14	6	1.1

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Iker Casillas	10	930		
DEFENDERS				
2 Maxi Pereira	8	634		
3 Éder Militão	9	823	2	
4 Diogo Leite	1	90		
13 Alex Telles	10	930	1	3
18 Jorge	1	17		
28 Felipe	10	930	1	
33 Pepe	3	300		
MIDFIELDERS				
5 Chidozie Awaziem	1	8		
6 Bruno Costa	2	26		
8 Yacine Brahimi	9	624	2	
10 Óliver Torres	5	351	2	
16 Héctor Herrera	9	834	2	1
22 Danilo	10	930		
24 Riechedly Bazoer	1	7		
25 Otávio	8	516	2	1
27 Sérgio Oliveira	4	97	1	

FORWARDS

7 Hernâni	6	124	1	
9 Vincent Aboubakar	1	60		
11 Moussa Marega	9	840	6	2
17 Jesús Corona	8	561	3	2
20 Adrián López	4	119	1	
21 André Pereira	4	62		
29 Francisco Soares	4	275	1	1
37 Fernando	4	143		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
27.3	20 0

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-4-2 with fluid diamond, morphing to 1-2-4-2-2 when attacking
- Aggressive, intense, high pressing game (Herrera); compact defensive line
- Strong attacking full-back (Alex Telles); 1v1 ability; excellent set-piece delivery
- Build up from defence through midfield; occasional use of longer balls
- Fluid approach, lots of movement, interchanging of positions in opposition half
- Wide forwards stay narrow, combining well with full-backs for flow of crosses
- Influential individuals with skill, intelligence (Brahimi, Otávio)
- Speed and running power of Marega in attack, offering option of going deep



PSV EINDHOVEN



GROUP B	ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
BAR L 4-0	INT L 1-2	TOT D 2-2	TOT L 2-1	BAR L 1-2	INT D 1-1			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
37%	First third 37%
	Middle third 45%
	Final third 19%

Max. 44% v Internazionale (h)
Min. 32% v Barcelona (a)
UCL rank: 31

DISTANCE COVERED

110,286m	Max. 112,582m v Tottenham (h) Min. 106,251m v Barcelona (a) UCL rank: 19
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322

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
Max. 426 v Internazionale (h) Min. 196 v Tottenham (a) UCL rank: 32	Max. 81% v Barcelona (h) Min. 64% v Tottenham (a) UCL rank: 31

PASS DISTANCE

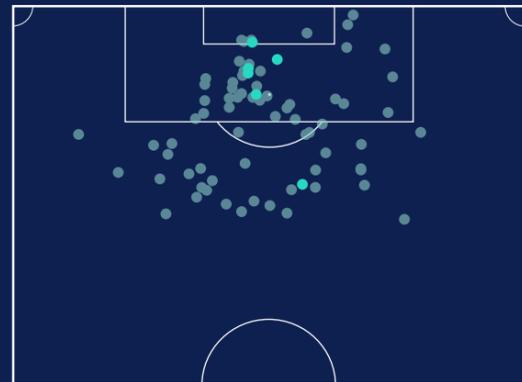
		UCL rank:
Long	61 (19% of total)	20=
Medium	187 (58%)	31
Short	74 (23%)	32

BYPASSED**	Total	Average	UCL rank:
Opponents	1525	254	31
Defenders	235	39	29

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

6	GOALS	1 per match; UCL rank: 20=
74	ATTEMPTS	12.3 per match; UCL rank: 19
26	ON TARGET	4.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=
7.4	EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.2 per match; UCL rank: 20

GOALS	8%
SAVES	27%
BLOCKED	19%
WOODWORK	7%
WIDE	40%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Nick Viergever	200	177	89
2 Pablo Rosario	200	164	82
3 Jeroen Zoet	192	123	64

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Hirving Lozano	1	15
2= Steven Bergwijn	1	6
2= Angelino	1	6
3 Gastón Pereiro	1	5

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Nick Viergever	37	2	6
2 Daniel Schwaab	35	4	10
3 Denzel Dumfries	34	5	8

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Luuk de Jong	3	14	7	2.1
2 Hirving Lozano	2	19	4	1.9
3 Pablo Rosario	1	6	3	0.2

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH MARK VAN BOMMEL



BORN: 22/04/1977, Maasbracht (NED)
NATIONALITY: Dutch
HEAD COACH: Since 22/06/2018
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	6	0	2	4
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	8	2	2	4

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Jeroen Zoet	6	540		

DEFENDERS

2 Nicolas Isimat-Mirin	1	24		
4 Nick Viergever	6	516		
5 Daniel Schwaab	5	450		
6 Angelino	6	540	1	
20 Trent Sainsbury	2	99		
22 Denzel Dumfries	6	540		

MIDFIELDERS

7 Gastón Pereiro	6	393	1	
8 Jorrit Hendrix	6	521		
18 Pablo Rosario	6	532	1	1
25 Érick Gutiérrez	4	96		
32 Michal Sadílek	1	25		

FORWARDS

9 Luuk de Jong	6	531	3	
10 Maximiliano Romero	1	11		
11 Hirving Lozano	6	540	2	1
14 Donyell Malen	6	172		
17 Steven Bergwijn	5	404	1	
19 Cody Gakpo	1	7		

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
23.9	14 0



Hirving Lozano scored in both of PSV's draws



REAL MADRID CF



GROUP G	ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
ASR W 3-0	CSM L 1-0	PLZ W 2-1	PLZ W 0-5	ASR W 0-2	CSM L 0-3	AJX W 1-2	AJX L 1-4	

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
60%	First third 24%
	Middle third 51%
	Final third 25%

Max. 70% v CSKA Moskva (a)
Min. 50% v Ajax (a)
UCL rank: 1=

DISTANCE COVERED

109,005m	Max. 116,272m v Plzeň (a) Min. 104,127m v CSKA Moskva (h) UCL rank: 23
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663

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
Max. 815 v CSKA Moskva (a) Min. 539 v Ajax (h) UCL rank: 4	Max. 91% v Plzeň (h) Min. 80% v Ajax (h) UCL rank: 5

PASS DISTANCE*

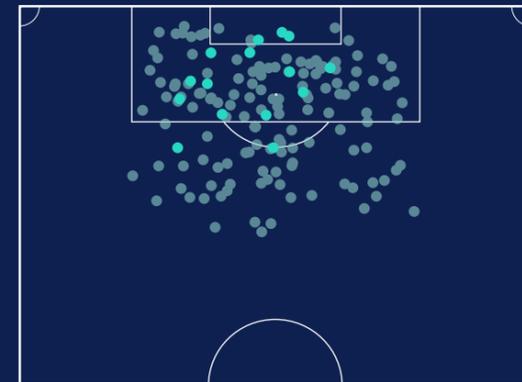
		UCL rank:
Long	81 (12% of total)	2
Medium	393 (59%)	5
Short	189 (28%)	3

BYPASSED**	Total	Average	UCL rank:
Opponents	3609	451	4
Defenders	488	61	7

*Decimal points account for the missing 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

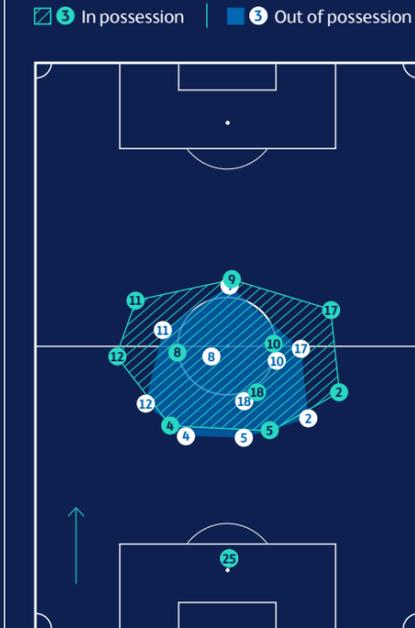
Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Toni Kroos	692	641	93
2 Casemiro	405	366	90
3 Luka Modrić	377	333	88

A = Attempted; C = Completed

SHAPE

Example: v Roma (a)



COACH SANTIAGO SOLARI



BORN: 07/10/1976, Rosario (ARG)
NATIONALITY: Argentinian
HEAD COACH: 29/10/2018 to 11/03/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	5	3	0	2
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	5	3	0	2

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Keylor Navas	3	270		
25 Thibaut Courtois	5	450		

DEFENDERS

2 Dani Carvajal	6	419	1	
3 Jesús Vallejo	1	90		
4 Sergio Ramos	5	419		
5 Raphaël Varane	4	360		
6 Nacho	5	450		
12 Marcelo	4	344	1	1
19 Álvaro Odriozola	3	227		
23 Sergio Reguilón	4	360	1	
31 Javier Sánchez	2	121		

MIDFIELDERS

8 Toni Kroos	8	645	1	1
10 Luka Modrić	6	467	1	
14 Casemiro	6	505	1	
15 Federico Valverde	4	139		
17 Lucas Vázquez	6	386	1	1
18 Marcos Llorente	2	148		
20 Marco Asensio	7	301	2	
22 Isco	4	251	1	
24 Dani Ceballos	3	185		

FORWARDS

7 Mariano Díaz	5	73	1	
9 Karim Benzema	8	587	4	2
11 Gareth Bale	7	489	3	2
28 Vinícius Júnior	4	234	2	

App = Appearances; Min = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists
*Julen Lopetegui was in charge for matchdays 1 to 3

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
27.5	14 1

Sent off: Nacho v Ajax (h)

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3
- Experienced team with patience, composure, tournament know-how
- Strong, determined leader Ramos providing authority and aerial power
- Forward-minded full-backs; rapid transitions from defence to attack
- One screening midfielder Casemiro, albeit less effective than in previous years
- Clever midfield pair of Kroos and Modrić with skill to construct
- Talented individuals with 1v1 ability, including pacy Vinícius Júnior on left flank
- Influential forward Benzema dropping deep to link play



AS ROMA



GROUP G	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
RM L3-0	PLZ W5-0	CSM W3-0	CSM W1-2	RM L0-2	PLZ L2-1	POR W2-1	POR L3-1*			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names *after extra time

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
49%	First third 32%
Max. 62% v Plzeň (h), Plzeň (a) Min. 41% v Real Madrid (a), Porto (a) UCL rank: 16=	Middle third 48%
	Final third 20%

DISTANCE COVERED	Max. 141,773m v Porto (a) Min. 105,511m v Plzeň (a) UCL rank: 4
114,156m	

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
482	84%
Max. 733 v Plzeň (h) Min. 346 v Porto (h) UCL rank: 15	Max. 91% v Plzeň (h) Min. 76% v Porto (h) UCL rank: 13=

PASS DISTANCE	Long 67 (14% of total) UCL rank: 13= Medium 299 (62%) UCL rank: 15 Short 116 (24%) UCL rank: 20=
---------------	--

BYPASSED*	Total	Average
Opponents	3151	394
Defenders	497	62

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

SHAPE

Example: v Real Madrid (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



COACH EUSEBIO DI FRANCESCO



BORN: 08/09/1969, Pescara (ITA)
NATIONALITY: Italian
HEAD COACH: 13/06/2017 to 07/03/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	20	10	2	8
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	30	13	6	11

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Robin Olsen	6	570		
83 Antonio Mirante	2	180		
DEFENDERS				
2 Rick Karsdorp	2	76		
3 Luca Pellegrini	2	26		
5 Juan Jesus	3	212		
11 Aleksandar Kolarov	8	661	1	
15 Iván Marcano	2	167		
18 Davide Santon	4	258	1	
20 Federico Fazio	6	540		
44 Kostas Manolas	7	660	1	
MIDFIELDERS				
4 Bryan Cristante	7	515		
7 Lorenzo Pellegrini	6	395	1	3
16 Daniele De Rossi	4	305	1	
17 Cengiz Ünder	6	437	3	2
19 Ante Ćorić	1	26		
22 Nicolò Zaniolo	7	385	2	
24 Alessandro Florenzi	8	618	1	
27 Javier Pastore	1	59		
42 Steven Nzonzi	8	610		

FORWARDS				
8 Diego Perotti	2	148		
9 Edin Džeko	6	570	5	4
14 Patrik Schick	6	250		
34 Justin Kluivert	5	319	1	
92 Stephan El Shaarawy	4	263	1	

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
27.1	13 Sent off: Pellegrini v Plzeň (a)

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-3; also 1-3-4-3, 1-4-5-1, 1-4-2-3-1
- Tactically disciplined team, sticking tightly to framework
- Compact defence and high pressing; hard-working, athletic players
- Experience of De Rossi in final campaign for club
- Aerial power in both boxes through Džeko and centre-backs
- Attacking full-backs provide width; crossing ability of Kolarov
- Two narrow wide forwards, feeding off Džeko, attacking space behind
- Threat of Zaniolo, coming inside with 1v1 ability
- Džeko the experienced target man; makes well-timed runs



FC SCHALKE 04



GROUP D	ROUND OF 16				QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
POR D1-1	LMO W0-1	GAL D0-0	GAL W2-0	POR L3-1	LMO W1-0	MC L2-3	MC L7-0			

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
44%	First third 33%
Max. 57% v Lokomotiv Moskva (h) Min. 34% v Man. City (a) UCL rank: 25=	Middle third 49%
	Final third 18%

DISTANCE COVERED	Max. 112,806m v L. Moskva (h) Min. 99,261m v Man. City (a) UCL rank: 27
106,987m	

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
376	80%
Max. 537 v Lokomotiv Moskva (h) Min. 298 v Porto (h) UCL rank: 29	Max. 84% v GAL (h), LMO (h) Min. 69% v Porto (h) UCL rank: 27=

PASS DISTANCE	Long 59 (16% of total) UCL rank: 22= Medium 234 (62%) UCL rank: 27 Short 83 (22%) UCL rank: 31
---------------	--

BYPASSED*	Total	Average
Opponents	2102	263
Defenders	346	43

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

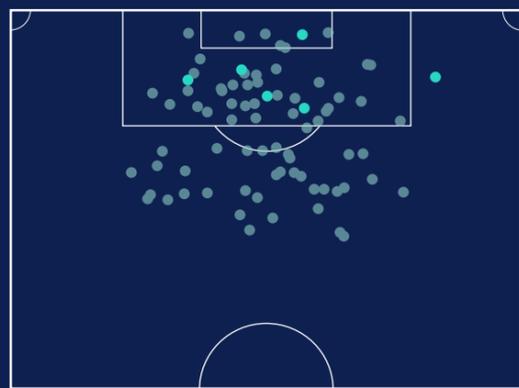
SHAPE

Example: v Man. City (h)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



8 GOALS	1 per match; UCL rank: 20=
82 ATTEMPTS	10.3 per match; UCL rank: 28
27 ON TARGET	3.4 per match; UCL rank: 24
10.8 EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.4 per match; UCL rank: 19

GOALS	10%
SAVES	25%
BLOCKED	34%
WOODWORK	0%
WIDE	31%

Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%	CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Matija Nastasić	290	265	91	1 Yevhen Konoplyanka	1	8
2 Benjamin Stambouli	262	203	77	2 Weston McKennie	1	5
3 Salif Sané	257	223	87	3 Suat Serdar	1	3

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I	GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Benjamin Stambouli	47	13	11	1 Nabil Bentaleb	3	5	3	2.4
2 Salif Sané	46	5	12	2 Breel Embolo	1	9	5	2.4
3 Naldo	32	2	5	3 Mark Uth	1	9	4	0.9

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

COACH DOMENICO TEDESCO



BORN: 12/09/1985, Rossano (ITA)
NATIONALITY: Italian/German
HEAD COACH: 09/06/2017 to 14/03/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	8	3	2	3
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	8	3	2	3

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Ralf Fährmann	6	540		
35 Alexander Nübel	2	180		
DEFENDERS				
3 Hamza Mendyl	6	367		
5 Matija Nastasić	6	540		
13 Sebastian Rudy	4	240		
14 Abdul Rahman Baba	1	74		
24 Bastian Oczipka	2	180		
26 Salif Sané	6	540		
27 Jeffrey Bruma	2	180		
29 Naldo	4	360		
MIDFIELDERS				
2 Weston McKennie	6	373	1	1
6 Omar Mascarell	3	225		
8 Suat Serdar	7	503	1	
10 Nabil Bentaleb	6	422	3	
15 Ahmed Kutucu	1	18		
17 Benjamin Stambouli	5	431		
18 Daniel Caligiuri	6	512		
25 Amine Harit	5	140		
28 Alessandro Schöpf	4	298	1	
39 Benjamin Goller	1	59		

FORWARDS				
7 Mark Uth	5	395	1	
9 Franco Di Santo	1	90		
11 Yevhen Konoplyanka	6	462	1	
19 Guido Burgstaller	6	231	1	1
22 Steven Skrzybski	4	92		
23 Cedric Teuchert	2	83		
36 Breel Embolo	5	385	1	

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
25.9	17 0

KEY FEATURES

- 1-3-4-3, morphing to 1-5-4-1 out of possession
- Compact defence, with deep block; well-organised in defensive set plays
- Power and leadership of Sané in central defence; ball-playing ability
- Wing-backs (Caligiuri) pushing up and providing crosses
- Skilful, influential playmaker in Bentaleb
- In possession, look to construct play through middle of pitch
- Quick, direct counters on regains; use of diagonal balls
- Lightning pace of Embolo a weapon for penetrating defences



FC SHAKHTAR DONETSK



GROUP F						ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
HOF	OL	MC	MC	HOF	OL								
D 2-2	D 2-2	L 0-3	L 0-0	W 2-3	D 1-1								

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION		POSSESSION POSITION*	
50%		First third	31%
		Middle third	52%
		Final third	18%
Max. 62% v Hoffenheim (h) Min. 41% v Man. City (a) UCL rank: 13=			

DISTANCE COVERED	
116,039m	
Max. 117,550m v Man. City (a) Min. 111,901m v Hoffenheim (h) UCL rank: 1	

PASSES ATTEMPTED		PASS ACCURACY	
514		87%	
Max. 560 v Lyon (h) Min. 464 v Hoffenheim (a) UCL rank: 10			
Max. 90% v Hoffenheim (h) Min. 83% v Man. City (a) UCL rank: 6=			

PASS DISTANCE		
Long	57 (11% of total)	UCL rank: 26=
Medium	318 (62%)	UCL rank: 10
Short	139 (27%)	UCL rank: 9

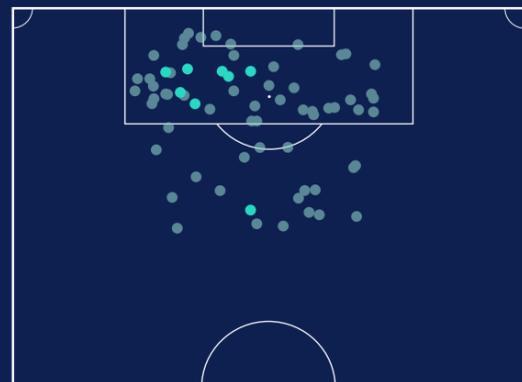
BYPASSED**		
Opponents	2122	354 UCL rank: 14
Defenders	325	54 UCL rank: 16

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

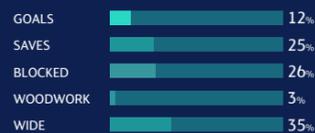
**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

Decimal points account for the extra 1%

ATTEMPTS



8	GOALS	1.33 per match; UCL rank: 15=
71	ATTEMPTS	11.8 per match; UCL rank: 20=
26	ON TARGET	4.3 per match; UCL rank: 17=
6.9	EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.2 per match; UCL rank: 24



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES				CHANCE CREATION				
1	Taras Stepanenko	334	297	89	1	Ismaily	3	5
2	Ismaily	283	247	87	2	Taison	1	10
3	Taison	282	246	87	3	Alan Patrick	1	8

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION				GOALS					
1	Ismaily	3	5	1	Júnior Moraes	3	13	6	1.8
2	Taison	1	10	2	Ismaily	2	13	7	1.2
3	Alan Patrick	1	8	3	Taison	2	10	7	1.9

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING				GOALS						
1	Mykola Matviyenko	36	5	13	1	Júnior Moraes	3	13	6	1.8
2	Taras Stepanenko	32	11	6	2	Ismaily	2	13	7	1.2
3	Ismaily	31	12	7	3	Taison	2	10	7	1.9

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS				DEFENDING					
1	Júnior Moraes	3	13	6	1	Toby Alderweireld	75	7	12
2	Ismaily	2	13	7	2	Kieran Trippier	57	10	11
3	Taison	2	10	7	1.9	Jan Vertonghen	57	3	18

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH PAULO FONSECA

BORN: 05/03/1973, Nampula (MOZ)
NATIONALITY: Portuguese
HEAD COACH: 31/05/2016 to 11/06/2019
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

TOTAL				
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	20	7	5	8
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	48	23	10	15

SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS				
30	Andriy Pyatov	6	540	

DEFENDERS				
2	Bogdan Butko	3	136	
4	Sergii Kryvtsov	5	450	
5	Davit Khocholava	3	225	
22	Mykola Matviyenko	5	450	
31	Ismaily	6	540	2 3
44	Yaroslav Rakits'kyy	4	360	
94	Oleg Danchenko	1	90	

MIDFIELDERS				
6	Taras Stepanenko	6	527	
7	Taison	5	437	2 1
9	Dentinho	2	11	
11	Marlos	3	267	1
21	Alan Patrick	5	205	1
23	Wellington Nem	2	82	
27	Maycon	6	451	1
50	Serhiy Bolbat	4	171	
74	Viktor Kovalenko	6	368	
99	Fernando	2	85	

FORWARDS				
8	Olarenwaju Kayode	3	41	
10	Júnior Moraes	6	506	3 1

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

AVERAGE AGE		CARDS	
27.5		10	0



Left-back Ismaily supplied two goals and three assists



TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR FC



COACH MAURICIO POCHETTINO

BORN: 02/03/1972, Murphy (ARG)
NATIONALITY: Argentinian
HEAD COACH: Since 27/05/2014
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

GROUP B												ROUND OF 16		QUARTER-FINALS		SEMI-FINALS		FINAL	
INT	BAR	PSV	PSV	INT	BAR	BVB	BVB	MC	MC	AJX	AJX	LIV							
L 2-1	L 2-4	D 2-2	W 2-1	W 1-0	D 1-1	W 3-0	W 0-1	W 1-0	L 4-3*	L 0-1	W 2-3*	L 0-2							

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

*Tottenham win on away goals

AVERAGES

POSSESSION		POSSESSION POSITION	
51%		First third	31%
		Middle third	49%
		Final third	20%
Max. 67% v PSV (h) Min. 37% v Man. City (a) UCL rank: 12			

DISTANCE COVERED	
112,816m	
Max. 120,399m v Barcelona (a) Min. 103,370m v Liverpool (n) UCL rank: 6	

PASSES ATTEMPTED		PASS ACCURACY	
512		84%	
Max. 706 v PSV (a) Min. 322 v Man. City (a) UCL rank: 12			
Max. 89% v Dortmund (h) Min. 74% v Ajax (h) UCL rank: 13=			

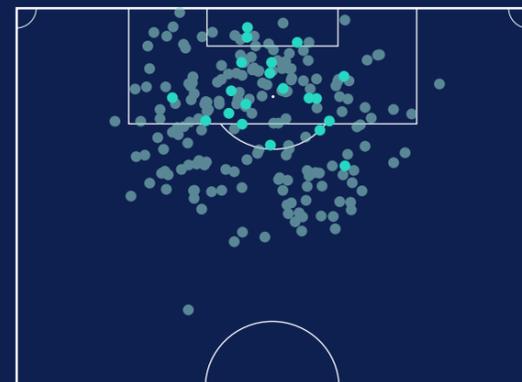
PASS DISTANCE*		
Long	73 (14% of total)	UCL rank: 5
Medium	314 (61%)	UCL rank: 11
Short	125 (24%)	UCL rank: 15

BYPASSED**		
Opponents	4918	378 UCL rank: 11
Defenders	741	57 UCL rank: 10

*Decimal points account for the missing 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



20	GOALS	1.54 per match; UCL rank: 12
199	ATTEMPTS	15.3 per match; UCL rank: 7=
73	ON TARGET	5.6 per match; UCL rank: 7=
21.5	EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.7 per match; UCL rank: 13



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES				CHANCE CREATION				
1	Toby Alderweireld	723	646	89	1	Christian Eriksen	3	24
2	Christian Eriksen	636	509	80	2	Dele Alli	3	10
3	Davinson Sánchez	512	466	91	3	Kieran Trippier	2	23

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION				GOALS					
1	Christian Eriksen	3	24	1	Harry Kane	5	32	15	3.2
2	Dele Alli	3	10	2	Lucas Moura	5	26	10	3.4
3	Kieran Trippier	2	23	3	Heung-Min Son	4	33	17	3.1

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING				GOALS						
1	Toby Alderweireld	75	7	12	1	Harry Kane	5	32	15	3.2
2	Kieran Trippier	57	10	11	2	Lucas Moura	5	26	10	3.4
2=	Jan Vertonghen	57	3	18	3	Heung-Min Son	4	33	17	3.1

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS				DEFENDING					
1	Harry Kane	5	32	15	1	Toby Alderweireld	75	7	12
2	Lucas Moura	5	26	10	2	Kieran Trippier	57	10	11
3	Heung-Min Son	4	33	17	3.1	Jan Vertonghen	57	3	18

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

TOTAL				
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	27	13	5	9
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	49	23	11	15

SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS				
1	Hugo Lloris	11	979	
13	Michel Vorm	2	99	
22	Paulo Gazzaniga	1	90	

DEFENDERS				
2	Kieran Trippier	8	626	2
3	Danny Rose	8	529	
4	Toby Alderweireld	12	1080	
5	Jan Vertonghen	10	849	1 1
6	Davinson Sánchez	8	631	
16	Kyle Walker-Peters	1	61	
21	Juan Foyth	2	100	
24	Serge Aurier	5	435	1
33	Ben Davies	9	567	1

MIDFIELDERS				
8	Harry Winks	10	676	
11	Erik Lamela	9	333	1 1
12	Victor Wanyama	6	292	
15	Eric Dier	6	267	
17	Moussa Sissoko	10	730	1
19	Moussa Dembélé	2	164	
20	Dele Alli	8	708	3
23	Christian Eriksen	12	1003	2 3
27	Lucas Moura	12	725	5

FORWARDS				
7	Heung-Min Son	12	906	4 1
10	Harry Kane	9	778	5 1
18	Fernando Llorente	9	235	2 1

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

AVERAGE AGE		CARDS	
26.5		23	1

KEY FEATURES

- 1-4-3-2-1, but tactically flexible with switches to three-man defence
- Influential goalkeeper Lloris; series of important saves
- Compact defence; well-organised at set pieces
- Vertonghen's aerial power and passing ability from the back
- Power and energy of Sissoko; breaking lines with strong running
- Patient build-up; also used long passes to Llorente to great effect
- Danger on counter with speed and movement of Son, Lucas; goals of Kane
- Spirit, resilience, mental toughness; finding different ways to win



VALENCIA CF



GROUP H	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
JUV L 0-2	MU D 0-0	YB D 1-1	YB W 3-1	JUV L 1-0
				MU W 2-1

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION
50%	First third 26%
	Middle third 53%
	Final third 21%

DISTANCE COVERED
107,644m

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
479	85%

PASS DISTANCE
Long 57 (12% of total)
Medium 306 (64%)
Short 117 (24%)

BYPASSED*	Total	Average
Opponents	2307	385
Defenders	343	57

*Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

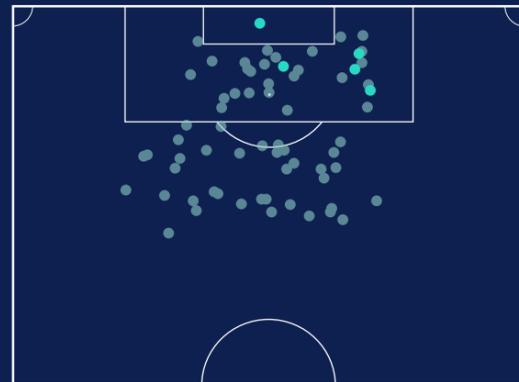
SHAPE

Example: v Juventus (a)

3 In possession | 3 Out of possession



ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

6	GOALS (1 own goal)	1 per match; UCL rank: 20=
71	ATTEMPTS	11.8 per match; UCL rank: 20=
18	ON TARGET	3 per match; UCL rank: 26
7.1	EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.2 per match; UCL rank: 23

GOALS	9%
SAVES	19%
BLOCKED	29%
WOODWORK	1%
WIDE	43%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Daniel Parejo	403	362	90
2 Geoffrey Kondogbia	265	232	88
3 Gabriel	254	230	91

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Carlos Soler	4	4
2 Rodrigo	0	11
3 Daniel Parejo	0	9

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Gabriel	56	7	9
2 Geoffrey Kondogbia	36	10	13
3 Mouctar Diakhaby	24	5	5

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Carlos Soler	2	12	5	0.7
2 Santi Mina	2	5	5	1.9
3 Michy Batshuayi	1	13	3	1.5

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

MARCELINO



BORN: 14/08/1965, Villaviciosa (ESP)
NATIONALITY: Spanish
HEAD COACH: Since 23/05/2017
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	6	2	2	2
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	40	22	9	9

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Jaime Doménech	1	90		
13 Neto	5	450		
DEFENDERS				
3 Rúben Vezo	3	150		
4 Jeison Murillo	1	90		
5 Gabriel	5	450		
12 Mouctar Diakhaby	3	270		
14 José Gayà	5	450		
15 Lato	1	51		
21 Cristiano Piccini	3	270		
24 Ezequiel Garay	3	219		
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Geoffrey Kondogbia	5	409		
7 Gonçalo Guedes	4	317		
8 Carlos Soler	6	390	2	4
10 Daniel Parejo	5	450		
11 Denis Cheryshev	3	107		
17 Francis Coquelin	4	278		
18 Daniel Wass	3	270		
20 Ferrán Torres	3	105		
FORWARDS				
9 Kevin Gameiro	5	128		
19 Rodrigo	6	427		
22 Santi Mina	4	223	2	
23 Michy Batshuayi	5	346	1	

9 Kevin Gameiro	5	128
19 Rodrigo	6	427
22 Santi Mina	4	223
23 Michy Batshuayi	5	346

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
25.7	20 0



Carlos Soler had a hand in all six Valencia goals



BSC YOUNG BOYS



GROUP H	ROUND OF 16	QUARTER-FINALS	SEMI-FINALS	FINAL
MU L 0-3	JUV L 3-0	VAL D 1-1	VAL L 3-1	MU L 1-0
				JUV W 2-1

Matches: Green = home, white = away, see page 5 for full club names

AVERAGES

POSSESSION	POSSESSION POSITION*
43%	First third 27%
	Middle third 54%
	Final third 20%

DISTANCE COVERED
111,510m

PASSES ATTEMPTED	PASS ACCURACY
407	81%

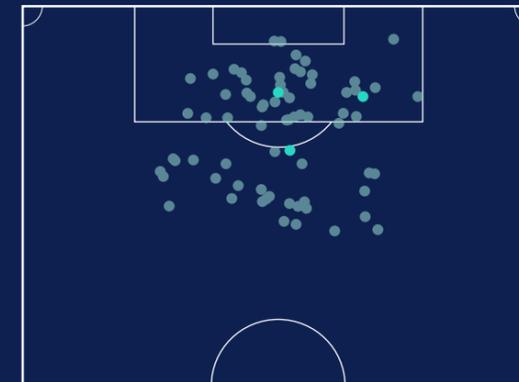
PASS DISTANCE
Long 65 (16% of total)
Medium 240 (59%)
Short 102 (25%)

BYPASSED**	Total	Average
Opponents	1782	297
Defenders	229	38

*Decimal points account for the extra 1%

**Number of players closer to their own goal than the ball before and after a successful pass is made and received.

ATTEMPTS



Expected goals (xG) give an indication of how many goals a player or team should have scored on average, given the shots they have taken

4	GOALS	0.67 per match; UCL rank: 29=
70	ATTEMPTS	11.7 per match; UCL rank: 25
16	ON TARGET	2.7 per match; UCL rank: 28=
6.6	EXPECTED GOALS (xG)	1.1 per match; UCL rank: 25

GOALS	5%
SAVES	18%
BLOCKED	26%
WOODWORK	1%
WIDE	49%

PLAYER STATISTICS

Where totals are equal, rank is decided by next value

PASSES	A	C	%
1 Djibril Sow	286	256	90
2 Loris Benito	267	213	80
3 Sandro Lauper	197	170	86

A = Attempted; C = Completed

CHANCE CREATION	A	KP
1 Christian Fassnacht	1	5
2 Nicolas Moumi Ngamaleu	1	0
3 Kevin Mbabu	0	12

A = Assists; KP = Key passes

DEFENDING	BR	TW	I
1 Sandro Lauper	48	10	11
2 Loris Benito	43	7	7
3 Djibril Sow	28	6	9

BR = Balls recovered; TW = Tackles won; I = Interceptions

GOALS	G	A	OT	xG
1 Guillaume Hoarau	3	12	5	2.1
2 Roger Assalé	1	9	1	0.9
3 Christian Fassnacht	0	11	4	0.6

G = Goals; A = Attempts; OT = On target; xG = Expected goals

COACH

GERARDO SEOANE



BORN: 30/10/1978, Lucerne (SUI)
NATIONALITY: Swiss
HEAD COACH: Since 01/07/2018
EUROPEAN TROPHIES WON: 0

	TOTAL	W	D	L
UEFA Champions League matches (Group stage to final)	6	1	1	4
European club competition matches (including qualifying)	8	2	2	4

SQUAD

	App	Min	G	A
GOALKEEPERS				
1 Marco Wölfli	2	180		
26 David von Ballmoos	4	360		
DEFENDERS				
4 Mohamed Ali Camara	4	348		
5 Steve von Bergen	5	405		
21 Ulisses Garcia	2	135		
22 Gregory Wüthrich	1	1		
23 Loris Benito	6	540		
43 Kevin Mbabu	5	450		
MIDFIELDERS				
6 Leonardo Bertone	3	105		
7 Miralem Sulejmani	5	345		
8 Djibril Sow	6	509		
13 Nicolas Moumi Ngamaleu	6	198	1	
16 Christian Fassnacht	6	385	1	
19 Thorsten Schick	2	95		
20 Michel Aebischer	4	226		
30 Sandro Lauper	5	405		
35 Sékou Sanogo	4	302		
FORWARDS				
17 Roger Assalé	5	380	1	
18 Jean-Pierre Nsame	4	138		
99 Guillaume Hoarau	5	409	3	

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

AVERAGE AGE	CARDS
25.6	16 2

Sent off: Camara v Juventus (a); Sanogo v Valencia (a)



Guillaume Hoarau (left) celebrates victory against Juventus



ROLL OF HONOUR

2019 Liverpool FC	1987 FC Porto
2018 Real Madrid CF	1986 FC Steaua București
2017 Real Madrid CF	1985 Juventus
2016 Real Madrid CF	1984 Liverpool FC
2015 FC Barcelona	1983 Hamburger SV
2014 Real Madrid CF	1982 Aston Villa FC
2013 FC Bayern München	1981 Liverpool FC
2012 Chelsea FC	1980 Nottingham Forest FC
2011 FC Barcelona	1979 Nottingham Forest FC
2010 FC Internazionale Milano	1978 Liverpool FC
2009 FC Barcelona	1977 Liverpool FC
2008 Manchester United FC	1976 FC Bayern München
2007 AC Milan	1975 FC Bayern München
2006 FC Barcelona	1974 FC Bayern München
2005 Liverpool FC	1973 AFC Ajax
2004 FC Porto	1972 AFC Ajax
2003 AC Milan	1971 AFC Ajax
2002 Real Madrid CF	1970 Feyenoord
2001 FC Bayern München	1969 AC Milan
2000 Real Madrid CF	1968 Manchester United FC
1999 Manchester United FC	1967 Celtic FC
1998 Real Madrid CF	1966 Real Madrid CF
1997 Borussia Dortmund	1965 FC Internazionale Milano
1996 Juventus	1964 FC Internazionale Milano
1995 AFC Ajax	1963 AC Milan
1994 AC Milan	1962 SL Benfica
1993 Olympique de Marseille	1961 SL Benfica
1992 FC Barcelona	1960 Real Madrid CF
1991 FK Crvena zvezda	1959 Real Madrid CF
1990 AC Milan	1958 Real Madrid CF
1989 AC Milan	1957 Real Madrid CF
1988 PSV Eindhoven	1956 Real Madrid CF

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Statistics have been provided by a number of different sources, which may lead to minor variations and discrepancies. The report aims to provide an appropriate mix of qualitative opinion and quantitative data and the statistics used have been carefully chosen with the intention of provoking investigation and discussion by the coaching community.

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