

SOCCER POSITIONS

1. GOALKEEPER

- THE MOST DEFENSIVE POSITION IN SOCCER
- MAIN JOB TO STOP OPPOSITION GOALS
- ALSO ORGANIZES THE DEFENSE AND BUILDS PLAY FROM THE BACK
- WEARS GLOVES, AND A DIFFERENT COLOURED JERSEY FROM TEAMMATES
- ONLY PLAYER WHO CAN USE THEIR HANDS IN THEIR 18-YARD BOX (APART FROM THROW-INS!)

2. FULL-BACK

- LINES UP EITHER SIDE OF THE DEFENSE
- MARKS OPPOSITION WINGERS
- PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR THE WIDE MIDFIELDER AHEAD OF THEM
- MAY OVERLAP AND SEND CROSSES INTO THE OPPOSITION BOX
- OFTEN TAKES THROW-INS

3. WING-BACK

- MODERN VARIATION OF THE FULL-BACK
- OVERLAPS AND SENDS CROSSES INTO THE OPPOSITION BOX
- STILL MARKS OPPOSITION WINGERS WHEN NEEDED
- EXPECTED TO STAY ON THEIR TOUCHLINE
- ONE OF THE MOST PHYSICALLY DEMANDING POSITIONS

4. CENTER-BACK (STOPPER)

- SHUTS DOWN OPPOSITION ATTACKERS
- MAY EMPLOY ZONAL OR MAN-MARKING STRATEGIES

- BRINGS THE BALL OUT FROM THE BACK
- OFTEN TALL AND PHYSICALLY STRONG
- BRAVERY AND HEADING ABILITY DESIRABLE, FOR USE IN EITHER BOX

5. CENTER-BACK (SWEEPER)

- A SAFETY NET FOR THE STOPPER(S) ALONGSIDE THEM
- RACES TO COVER GAPS WHEN DEFENSE IS BREACHED
- LESS CONCERNED WITH MAN-MARKING
- READS THE GAME FROM DEEP
- JOINS MIDFIELD BUILD-UP WHEN IN POSSESSION

6. CENTER-BACK (QUARTERBACK)

- SAME, CENTRAL DEFENSIVE POSITION AS THE STOPPER
- ALSO MORE LIKELY TO BE USED IN A BACK THREE
- KEEPING THE BALL AS IMPORTANT AS WINNING IT BACK
- CONFIDENT IN POSSESSION
- GREATER ONUS ON LONG, ACCURATE PASSES

7. DEFENSIVE MIDFIELDER (BALL-WINNER)

- SITS IN FRONT OF THE DEFENSE
- WINS THE BALL BACK WITH TACKLES AND INTERCEPTIONS
- COVERS TEAMMATES WHEN THEY GO FORWARD
- HARRIES OPPOSITION ATTACKERS
- PHYSICALLY FIT AND TENACIOUS

8. DEFENSIVE MIDFIELDER (DEEP-LYING PLAYMAKER)

- SITS IN FRONT OF THE DEFENSE
- CREATIVE PLAYMAKER FROM DEEP
- DISTRIBUTES TO TEAMMATES, NEAR AND FAR
- SETS THE TEAM'S TEMPO

- CAPABLE OF TACKLING, THOUGH A SECONDARY TASK

9. BOX-TO-BOX MIDFIELDER OR MEZZALA

- LINES UP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FIELD
- EQUALLY ADEPT AT ATTACKING AND DEFENDING
- MAINTAINS POSSESSION
- TRACKS BACK TO TACKLE AND BLOCK SHOTS
- BREAKS INTO THE OPPONENT'S BOX AND TRIES TO SCORE

10. WIDE MIDFIELDER

- PROVIDES WIDTH IN MIDFIELD
- GIVES FULL-BACKS DEFENSIVE PROTECTION
- COMPRESSES PLAY IN OPPONENTS' HALF
- MAY CROSS FROM DEEPER POSITIONS THAN WINGERS
- COMBINES SPEED AND STAMINA

11. ATTACKING MIDFIELDER

- DICTATES PLAY FROM BEHIND THE STRIKERS
- CREATES GOAL SCORING CHANCES FOR THE ATTACKERS
- TECHNIQUE AND CREATIVITY CRUCIAL
- ABILITY TO SHOOT FROM RANGE AN ADVANTAGE
- HISTORICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NO.10 JERSEY

12. WINGER

- THE WIDEST ATTACKING PLAYER
- TAKES ON OPPOSITION DEFENDERS
- PROVIDES CROSSES INTO THE BOX
- MEETS CROSSES FROM THE OPPOSITE WING
- OFTEN THE FASTEST PLAYER ON THE FIELD

13. FALSE 9

- STARTS UP FRONT NEAR THE OPPOSITION GOAL

- REPLACES THE TRADITIONAL STRIKER IN MOST FORMATIONS
- DROPS DEEP TO PULL OPPOSITION DEFENDERS OUT OF POSITION
- OFTEN A CONVERTED MIDFIELDER
- DRIBBLES AND CREATES CHANCES

14. INVERTED WINGER OR RAUMDEUTER

- DRIFTS INTO AREA BETWEEN OPPOSITION MIDFIELD AND DEFENSE
- STARTS FROM SIMILAR POSITION TO NO.10
- PROVIDES ASSISTS AND SCORES GOALS
- OFTEN SCORES FROM CLOSE RANGE
- ELUSIVE AND DIFFICULT TO MARK

15. FORWARD

- PLAYS BETWEEN MIDFIELD AND ATTACK
- ASSISTS THE STRIKER IN SCORING GOALS
- ELUSIVE AND DIFFICULT TO MARK
- MORE VERSATILE THAN THE TARGET-MAN
- VISION, TECHNICAL SKILL AND CREATIVITY

16. STRIKER

- CLOSEST PLAYER TO THE OPPONENT'S GOAL
- RESPONSIBLE FOR SCORING GOALS
- HOLDS THE BALL UP UNTIL TEAMMATES CAN JOIN THE ATTACK
- HARRIES OPPOSITION DEFENDERS
- PHYSICALLY STRONG