

Goalkeeper

In Possession

Quality distribution with feet and hands

Make smart decisions about when to play short and when to play long

Comfortable with the ball at his feet

Has a clear understanding of how we want to play

Excellent handling and shot stopping

Provide good support angles to help defenders maintain possession



Out of Possession

Communicate and organize the defense

Great shot stopping and handling

Brave

Dominates his penalty area

Hates conceding goals

Strong positioning

Skills

Handling and Diving

Receiving skills with both feet

Passing skills over all ranges with both the hands and feet

Variety of throws

Ready Position

Communication and Organization

Dealing with crosses

Full Backs

In Possession

Looks to start or support attacks

Offers width when we have possession

Comfortable with the technical skills required (pass, dribble, run with the ball)

Understands when to over/under lap to combine with other players

Ability to play with both feet

Great endurance to get up and down the line continually over 90 minutes



Out of Possession

Excellent defending in 1v1 situations

Understands their role in defending as part of a back 4

Can stop crosses coming in or block them when they do

Understands when to defend by showing attacker inside or outside

Understands how to position themselves and when to apply pressure

Understands when to look to intercept and the importance of recovery runs when out of position

Skills

Marking and Tracking runs

Intercepting and Tackling

Supporting and Covering

Heading

Receiving correctly dependent on pressure from opposition

Passing skills over all ranges with both feet

Combination play when over/under lapping

Running with the ball

Center Backs

In Possession

Offers support to the goalkeeper and depth to other players in the defending/midfield thirds

Retain possession and look to play forward when possible

Can carry the ball into the midfield third

Maintains defensive balance of team when in possession

Has ability to play a variety of passes over a variety of distances

Out of Possession

Excellent defending in 1v1 situations

Understands their role in defending as part of a back 4

Controls the space, along with the goalkeeper, between all defenders to stop penetration

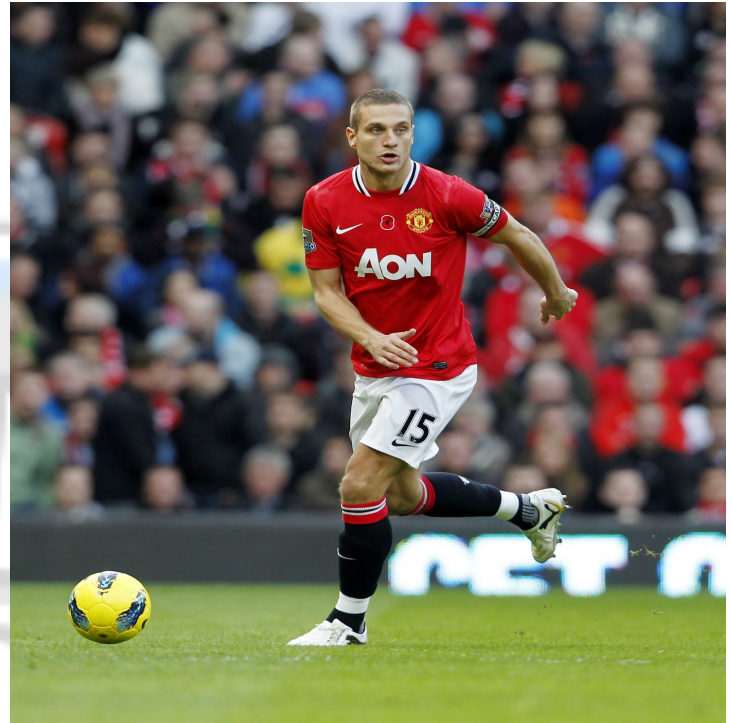
Strong in the air

Organizes the rest of the team defensively

Supports and covers for other defenders (central and flank)

Mark, track and control the forward(s) up against them

Understands the concept of zonal and man marking and when to change between each



Skills

Marking and Tracking runs

Intercepting and Tackling

Controlling 1v1 situations (delay, pressure, showing)

Heading

Receiving correctly dependent on pressure from opposition

Passing skills over all ranges with both feet

Combination play, specifically wall passes to create space to play forward

Running with the ball

Defensive Midfielders

In Possession

Provide defensive players with a passing option

Retain possession and look to play forward when possible

Gives structure and balance to the team when in possession

Has ability to play a variety of passes over a variety of distances

Recognizes their point in the midfield triangle (horizontal and vertical lines)

Can play through 360°

Out of Possession

Screens and protects the back 4

Look to mark, press, challenge for and intercept the ball when necessary

Is able to read and understand the game to prevent attacks

Replaces defenders when necessary and communicates with those ahead of him to maintain defensive shape (compact)

Understands the concept of zonal and man marking and when to change between each



Skills

360° Awareness

Intercepting and Tackling

Offers great support angles for whoever has the ball

Turning with and protecting the ball in possession

Receiving and play in tight spaces, under pressure

Passing skills over all ranges with both feet

Long range shooting

Reading the game

Wide Midfielders / Wingers

In Possession

Provide support to #9 or in wide areas in attacking or midfield third

Retain possession and receive to play forward

Create space for himself or for others with his movement

Can beat opponents 1v1 or through combining with others

Move into goalscoring positions when not directly involved in the play

Makes great decisions as to when to pass, dribble, shoot or run with the ball

Looks to score goals or create for others

Great receiving and turning skills

Can rotate with CF, AM and other winger when necessary

Out of Possession

React and recover to provide first line of defense

Assist FB defensively when necessary

Move to the inside defensively when ball is on opposite side of the field

Understands how to press and set “traps” to win back possession



Skills

Efficient receiving skills both aerially and on the ground

Good passer, especially with 1 touch

Great dribbler and ball manipulator

Combination play, especially with other attacking players to create goalscoring opportunities

Can cross with both feet, using 1 touch when necessary

Understands when to create width and when to come inside

Marking, pressing, showing and tracking defensively

Can score with both feet and head when necessary

Attacking Midfielder (#10)

In Possession

Play “between the lines” of opposition defense and midfield

Receives in space and looks to make dangerous passes

Create space for himself or for others with his movement

Can beat opponents 1v1 or through combining with others

Move into goalscoring positions by making runs beyond striker

Makes great decisions as to when to pass, dribble, shoot or run with the ball

Looks to score goals or create for others

Can rotate with CF, and wingers when necessary

Out of Possession

React and recover to provide first line of defense

Can assist in midfield when necessary

Understands how to press and set “traps” to win back possession

Tries to prevent forward passes into the midfield by “screening”



Skills

Efficient receiving skills both aerially and on the ground

Good passer, especially with 1 touch and with an element of disguise

Great dribbler and ball manipulator

Combination play, especially with other attacking players, to create goalscoring opportunities

360° Awareness both with and without the ball

Excellent close control to shield the ball under pressure

Marking, pressing, showing and tracking defensively

Can score with both feet and head when necessary

Striker

In Possession

Show for the ball to feet, as a target man or in behind

Receives under heavy pressure but maintains possession

Create space for himself or for others with his movement

Score goals with a variety of finishes and skills

Supply and create goals for other teammates

Looks to get in behind defenders whenever he has the opportunity

Can link with others with creative combination play

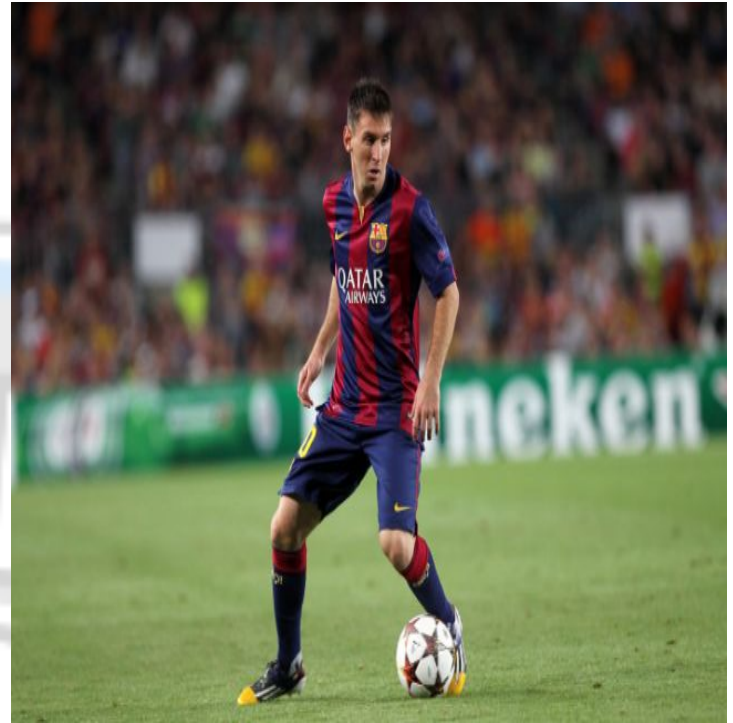
Can rotate with AM, and wingers when necessary

Out of Possession

React and recover to provide first line of defense

Understands how to press or position himself to make play predictable

Slows opposition down as much as possible to allow teammates to regain defensive shape



Skills

Movement that loses tight marking defenders

Moves defenders around to create space for other attacking players

Efficient receiving skills and ability to protect the ball under heavy pressure

Excellent in 1v1 situations

Excellent and efficient combination play, often with 1 touch

Can score goals with either foot, often with 1 touch

Heading for goal

Good timing to make runs behind defenses and stay onside