

N°50



Pro

BESOCCER



THE ENCYKLOPPEDIA





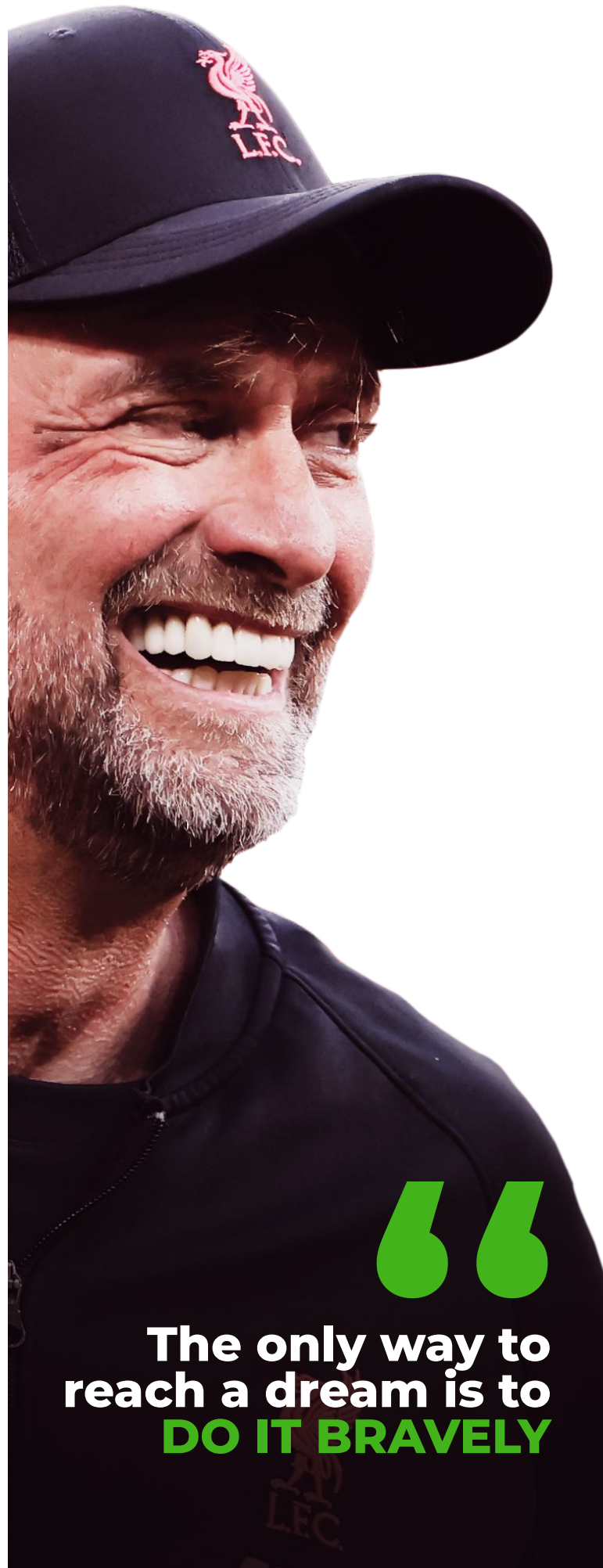
The Fifth Beatle

When we talk about **Jurgen Norbert Klopp**, we're talking about much more than a football manager. Although it is true that the German is going into his eighth season at **Liverpool** after narrowly missing out on a historic **quadruple**, it is also true that his influence goes way beyond the noble art of football.

An overwhelming **charisma**, a huge amount of **passion** for his job, a contagious **sense of humour** and **strong** religious, political and moral **views**, make his story a unique one. Defeat and failure have played a key role in it, especially when considering his struggle to get rid of the stigma of **losing** big games until not long ago..

Famous **footballing architect** from the sidelines, **Klopp** never hesitated in deflecting praise away from himself onto those who are around him. From his own footballers to even the cooks at **Melwood**, and, of course, his large and loyal **coaching staff**..

Legendary figure at **Mainz** and **Dortmund**, the German manager has found the perfect club in **Merseyside**; the **current destination** of a brilliant career in which few players with his stats as a footballer would be able to boast about having such ability as a coach.



The only way to reach a dream is to DO IT BRAVELY



It is said that the first comments made by **Jurgen Klopp** after arriving at **John Lennon Airport** in October 2015, hours before signing his contract at the Anfield club, were the following: “**Ok, let’s start building!**” Seven years after that moment, his legacy goes beyond results on the pitch and the trophies (six so far) that stand in the **Reds’** trophy cabinet. His influence extends across the whole **Merseyside** region, one of the most financially deprived in the UK.

Apart from having earned the honour of joining the list of the best managers in the club’s 130 year history (he is only the 21st) and being considered a club legend, the man from **Stuttgart** has become an **icon** for **Liverpool** fans, who have not hesitated in dubbing their hero as the ‘fifth **Beatle**’ after **Paul McCartney**, **John Lennon**, **George Harrison** and **Ringo Starr**, who have been synonymous with the city of Liverpool since long before Klopp’s arrival. Klopp’s name even appears adorned on a pub in the historic quarter of the city called Jurgen’s Bierhaus. The Liverpool boss had his picture taken there with fans last April.

Because of this and so much more, we want to dedicate the 50th edition of **BeSoccer Pro** by looking back at his life and analysing what he has done for football in detail. We will break down **the most important data of his career**, both on the touchline and on the field of play.

Players. allies, disciples, mentors and even his most bitter rivals. All of them have a special place reserved in **The Encikloppedia**.



ANFIELD. Built in **1884**, it has been the home of Liverpool FC since **1892**. It is expected that it will be hold around **61,000 people** in 2023, which will make it the sixth largest stadium in England. Its legendary atmosphere **won Jurgen Klopp over** from the start.



Anfield

10th August 2014. **Anfield** hosts **Borussia Dortmund** in a friendly (4-0) which is to be the rehearsal ahead of the 2014/15 season and the match which sees the **Liverpool** team officially presented in front of a disenchanted fanbase after they missed out on the **Premier League** a few months earlier. **Manchester City** won the league by just two points and that deprived **Brendan Rodgers'** side of the chance to end a domestic league drought which had lasted 24 years. The image of the legendary **Steven Gerrard** slipping in front of **Demba Ba** at Anfield resulted in a key goal in the title race and it was still fresh in Liverpool supporters' minds.

Nevertheless, as usual, the atmosphere to the south of **Stanley Park** is a rather festive one. There is a certain hope in the air of what the final season of the eternal captain at **Anfield Road** can bring. At the end of the day, despite the departure of **Luis Suarez** to **FC Barcelona**, players with the quality of **Philippe Coutinho**, **Raheem Sterling**, **Daniel Sturridge** or the recently arrived **Mario Balotelli**, make up a squad hungry for success and, of course, for revenge. In fact, the opponent that night, seems the ideal one to evaluate the true strengths of the English club ahead of the new season.

Finalists of the Champions League a year earlier and the Bundesliga runners-up at the time, Dortmund appear in the legendary Merseyside stadium led by one of the greatest icons in their history, Jurgen Klopp. The German manager, still as the visiting boss, is spotted by television cameras looking at the Liverpool club slogan in the tunnel which leads to the dressing rooms seconds before shaking hands with Brendan Rodgers. He would succeed Rogers at the club and sit on the bench which lies at the foot of the famous stand named after another Liverpool legend in **Kenny Dalglish**.

Neither of the two managers imagined that a season in which both sides failed to qualify for the Champions League would lead to one of the greatest love stories ever told: that of **Jurgen Norbert Klopp** and the **Anfield** supporters.

The truth is that the German's relationship with the Liverpool fans is very similar to what he had back in the day with the Mainz fans at **Bruchwegstadion**, and the Dortmund ones at **Signal Iduna Park**. For **Klopp**, a person who shows more passion than most, having a good relationship with those who pay his wages has always been a must. And, he certainly won them over! His fists in the air and hitting himself on his heart while looking at **The Kop** after every victory of the **125** he has won at **Anfield** up to now, has become a tradition. His own players and even the television cameramen usually remind him to perform that **ritual** if he ever forgets it.

Many people consider that his superb relationship with the crowd is largely responsible for the club's great results there since he took over at the club in October 2015. He has earned amazing stats, with a win percentage of **66.14%** and just **19** defeats in **189** competitive matches. The situation improves if we only speak about the **Premier League**, a competition in which **Liverpool** have been **unbeaten at home in four of his six full seasons** at the club. In other words, 76 encounters.

Surprisingly, only in one of those seasons, **2019/20**, they managed to lift the much sought after domestic trophy after a campaign which was interrupted by the pandemic. In the other two, **2018/19** and last season **2021/22**, they were just one point off the title. That is an unequivocal sign of the need to improve their away record, as well as at neutral venues, where their win percentage drops to **56.06%**, if they want to put an end to **Manchester City** and **Pep Guardiola's** dominance in the most powerful league in the world. We'll talk about them at length later on.

MOST GAMES
UNDER KLOPP AT ANFIELD



R. FIRMINO
152

MOST GAMES
UNDER KLOPP AT ANFIELD



M. SALAH
84

MOST WINS
UNDER KLOPP AT ANFIELD



R. FIRMINO
100

STREAKS OF KLOPP AT ANFIELD

SCORING 36 27/02/2019 - 28/09/2020	CLEAN SHEETS 7 14/12/2019 - 04/02/2020
WINS 14 30/11/2019 - 07/03/2020	LOSSES 6 21/01/2021 - 07/03/2021



Jürgen's citadel

No place like Anfield

	GAMES	WINS	% WINS	DRAWS	LOSSES	GAMES SCORING	% GAMES SCORING	CLEAN SHEETS	% CLEAN SHEETS	GOALS SCORED / 90'	GOALS CONCEDED / 90'
Champions League	26	17	65.38%	6	3	21	80.77%	15	57.69%	2.23	0.85
EFL Cup	10	3	30%	4	3	6	60%	4	40%	1.4	1.3
Europa League	6	5	83.33%	1	0	6	100%	3	50%	2.17	0.83
FA Cup	11	7	63.64%	2	2	9	81.82%	5	45.45%	1.73	0.82
Qualifying stage UCL	1	1	100%	0	0	1	100%	0	0%	4	2
Premier League	129	90	69.77%	29	10	116	89.92%	59	45.74%	2.35	0.77
TOTAL	183	123	67.21%	42	18	159	86.89%	86	46.99%	2.25	0.82







BAYERN MÜNCHEN. With 32 **Bundesliga** titles, six **European Cups** and another 43 trophies, both domestically and internationally, they are the greatest club in the history of German football and one of the greatest in Europe. **Klopp** loves seeing them lose.



Bayern

1st March 2013. Just two days after losing the **German Cup** quarter-final against **Bayern Munich** (1-0) thanks to an Arjen Robben goal, Jurgen Klopp tore into the Bavarian club during a press conference. “**They operate like the Chinese industry**: they observe what everyone does, invest money and contract different people to **better the original product**,” he said to the surprise of the journalists present. What the then **Borussia Dortmund** coach was probably not expecting was that, for him and for his team at least, the worst was still to come. Precisely, in May of that year.

His accusations of ‘**industrial espionage**’ would blow up in his face a few months later, when, Bayern Munich beat him for the 12th time in his career when they won the **Champions League** final at Wembley (1-2); and, on the other hand, when the buyout clause of **Mario Gotze**, 21, was activated. He came through the Dortmund academy and he was one of Klopp’s great proteges. Therefore, Bayern, who were waiting for their new coach **Pep Guardiola** to arrive, not only prevented the man from **Stuttgart** from winning his first Champions League trophy, but also deprived him of the opportunity of counting on one of the best Under 23 players in Europe. He had an **ELO** rating of around **86 points** at that time.

“**He’s left because he wanted to play under Guardiola**,” **Klopp** admitted after the transfer was completed. “I can’t shrink 15 centimetres and start speaking in Spanish so that he stays,” he joked. That’s how he is.

But he was not laughing a year later in the summer of 2014, when his top goalscorer and a consolidated global star in **Robert Lewandowski**, 25, confirmed his departure to the **Allianz Arena** after his contract at Dortmund expired. This was a tremendous blow to **Borussia Dortmund**, in general, and to their coach’s project, especially after losing 2-0 in the **German Cup final** against the team from Munich a few weeks earlier. Robben and Muller scored both goals in the second period of extra-time. That was Bayern’s first double under Guardiola after winning the 2013/14 **Bundesliga** campaign as well.



Therefore, it is not surprising that the current **Liverpool** manager cannot stand the sight of the Bavarians. This will be especially true after watching **Sadio Mane** make his move to Munich a few weeks after losing to **Real Madrid** in the **Champions League** final. His disdain for Bayern Munich, the team who have inflicted the most defeats on him in his career (16), was made clear when, in December 2016, after he had been at **Anfield** for more than year, he talked about **Mainz 05's** victory over Bayern moments after his own side defeated **Manchester City** (3-0). It is worth remembering that his first professional coaching job was at Mainz. "I'm not up to date with the other results (in the **Premier League**), but **I saw that Bayern lost**," he added. The comment went viral.

These feelings, however, have never been reciprocal. In fact, important figures connected to **Bayern Munich** have showered Klopp with praise on more than one occasion. "**Nothing would please me more than for him to come to Bayern**. He would fit in well. He is one of the best managers in the world. He brought the new football to Germany," said the legendary **Franz Beckenbauer** in 2019 in comments to Bild. **Uli Hoeness**, ex-Bayern president, even interviewed him to take replace **Ottmar Hitzfeld** in 2008, but **Jurgen Klinsmann** was selected instead.

Hasan Salihamidzic, sporting director at the club on **Sabener Strasse** since 2017, must also be attracted by the idea that some day Klopp will lead the club's project. He himself revealed in May 2022 that "**he could have gone to Bayern several times**," hinting that the attempts of his irremediable nemesis to sign him have never stopped. However, he made it clear at the same time that he would not change his life on Merseyside for "having won more trophies" in his life. Current Bayern manager **Julian Nagelsmann**, whose contract expires in **2026**, like Klopp's, can breathe easily.

Klopp's Nemesis

His stats against Bayern München

	GAMES	WINS	DRAWS	LOSSES	GOALS SCORED / 90'	GOALS CONCEDED / 90'	CONCEDING 3+ GOALS
B. Dortmund 	22	36.36%	18.18%	45.45%	1.41	1.5	18.18%
Mainz 05 	7	0%	14.29%	85.71%	1.57	3.43	71.43%
Liverpool 	2	50%	50%	0%	1.5	0.5	0%
TOTAL	31	29.03%	19.35%	51.61%	1.45	1.87	29.03%

MOST GOALS SCORED



R. Lewandowski

5

MOST GAMES PLAYED



N. Subotić, R. Weidenfeller,
M. Hummels, M. Schmelzer

17

MOST WINS



R. Lewandowski, K. Großkreutz
S. Kehl, M. Hummels, M. Schmelzer

7

MOST LOSSES



N. Subotić, R. Weidenfeller

9

MOST GOALS CONCEDED



R. Weidenfeller

26

Westfalia heist

Klopp pupils seduced by Bayern



37M€

Mario Götze

SEASON 13-14 AGE 21 ELO 86

Young star



0M€

Robert Lewandowski

SEASON 14-15 AGE 25 ELO 91

World star



35M€

Mats Hummels*

SEASON 16-17 AGE 27 ELO 85

Top player



32M€

Sadio Mané

SEASON 22-23 AGE 30 ELO 92

World star

*Left the club a year after Klopp arrived in Liverpool





MANCHESTER CITY FC. Founded in **1894**, the **Citizens**, have become the second best team in the **Premier League** era with six domestic titles to their name. For **Jurgen Klopp**, this team is to **Liverpool** what **Bayern Munich** are to **Borussia Dortmund**.



City, Manchester

If **Jurgen Klopp's** relationship with **Bayern Munich** is marked by frustration, the one he has with Manchester City since his arrival in the **United Kingdom** is synonymous. Both clubs have something in common: **Pep Guardiola**. In Germany and in England, the Catalan coach has prevented his German counterpart from dominating domestically. He only 'let' him win it once. It was after the 2019/20 campaign, when the **Reds** won their first **Premier League** title in 30 years. That was the season interrupted by the pandemic.

It was **Manuel Pellegrini** and not Guardiola who dealt Klopp his first major psychological blow when he was starting to build a project at **Anfield**. It happened when he won the 2016 **EFL Cup** on penalties (1-1). It was the first title which the new **Liverpool** had missed out on and, the fifth consecutive final that their new manager had lost.

Liverpool were unable to prevent **Leicester's** unexpected Premier League triumph in 2016, **Chelsea's** under **Antonio Conte** in 2017 and, of course, that of their Manchester neighbours, who earned the record number of points in a single league season (**100**) in 2018. However, reaching the **Champions League** final in **Kiev** against Real Madrid (1-3) gave them the impetus which was lacking in **Klopp's** project to aspire to something more than simply qualifying for the European tournament season after season. **It was time to fight for the Premier League title** and they made the signings of Alisson and Van Dijk.

They missed out on winning it a year later, in the 2018/19 season. The **97 points Liverpool** earned, which was the third highest ever in the competition back then, were not enough to beat **Manchester City**. At the same time, they achieved the second highest points tally, only behind their own record of 100. The same thing happened last season (2021/22), when **92 points** were not enough either for The **Reds** to become champions of England. In other words, two of the best 10 points tallies in **Premier League** history were not enough for them to win the title. Both of those were achieved by **Jurgen Klopp's** men.

Game of thrones

Klopp's squeeze on City

MOST POINTS EARNED IN PREMIER LEAGUE'S HISTORY

100	1°		MAN CITY 2017-18 PEP GUARDIOLA
99	1°		LIVERPOOL 2019-20 JÜRGEN KLOPP
98	1°		MAN CITY 2018-19 PEP GUARDIOLA
97	2°		LIVERPOOL 2018-19 JÜRGEN KLOPP
95	1°		CHELSEA 2004-05 JOSÉ MOURINHO
93	1°		CHELSEA 2016-17 ANTONIO CONTE
93	1°		MAN CITY 2021-22 PEP GUARDIOLA
92	1°		MAN UNITED 1993-94 SIR ALEX FERGUSON
92	2°		LIVERPOOL 2021-22 JÜRGEN KLOPP
91	1°		MAN UNITED 1990-00 SIR ALEX FERGUSON
91	1°		CHELSEA 2005-06 JOSÉ MOURINHO
90	1°		ARSENAL 2003-04 ARSÈNE WENGER
90	1°		MAN UNITED 2008-09 SIR ALEX FERGUSON



Many experts have compared the fierce battles that both Man City and Liverpool have had since the German moved to England to the ones that **Manchester United** and **Arsenal** had when **Sir Alex Ferguson** and **Arsene Wenger** were in charge of their respective clubs. Just like with Klopp and Guardiola, Ferguson got three of the 10 best Premier League points tallies, sharing the 'Top 10' with the legendary '**Invincibles**' of his French counterpart. In any case, the points tallies were not as high up in the top 10 as those of Klopp and Guardiola. Ferguson is the manager with most Premier League titles to his name (**13**).

The only league title **Jurgen Klopp** has won, the one in 2020, prevented Man City from winning every one of the last five editions. Even though the side from the **Etihad Stadium** are still coming out on top overall, few doubt that the influence of the ex-**Borussia Dortmund** man has prevented the Sky Blues from being the new **Bayern Munich**. Although they have lost more than half of the games they have played against the Bavarians, Klopp can boast about winning the head to head battles with Man City.

Of the 21 matches they have played against **Manchester City** in all competitions, **Klopp** has managed to win rate of **42.86%**, losing just **19.05%** of them. In addition, they have scored more goals per game than City (**1.67**). As far as trophies are concerned, **Liverpool** have won every possible one at least once since the German's arrival, including the **Champions League**, **UEFA Super Cup** and **Club World Cup**. They are three trophies which, at least as of June 2022, the club owned by **Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan** have not yet won.

	GAMES	WINS	DRAW	LOSSES	GOLES A FAVOR/90'	GOALS CONCEDED / 90'	CLEAN SHEETS	GAMES SCORING	SCORING 3 OR MORE GOALS	CONCEDING 3 OR MORE GOALS
	19	42.11%	36.84%	21.05%	1.74	1.63	21.05%	84.21%	31.58%	21.05%
	2	50%	50%	0%	1	0.5	50%	100%	0%	0%

TOTAL	21	42.86%	38.1%	19.05%	1.67	1.52	23.81%	85.71%	28.57%	19.05%
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MOST GOALS SCORED
S. MANÉ AND M. SALAH

7



MOST GAMES PLAYED
R. FIRMINO

19



MOST WINS
R. FIRMINO

8





DORTMUND. With more than **5 million inhabitants**, it is the largest city in the Ruhr region and where **Signal Iduna Park**, the home of **Borussia Dortmund**, is located. That is where Klopp won his first trophies as a coach, including two of the club's **five Bundesliga titles**.



Dortmund

Although his time at **Liverpool** is, without doubt, the most successful one of his career so far, whenever this finishes, a large part of the decisions **Jurgen Klopp** has made at **Anfield** both on and off the field, could not be understood without taking into account his time at **Signal Iduna Park**. In 2008, after leaving a **Mainz 05** side very close to promotion to the **Bundesliga**, he became Dortmund's new manager. He won more than half of the **319 matches** he took charge of, and he did so with an average of almost two goals per game (**1.96**). His style of play, epitomized by the constant pressing and attacking of his teams, we will talk about it in detail later on, led to clubs like **Manchester United** opening the doors to him. He politely declined the Red Devils' offer.

Despite not sharing a past with the city of **Dortmund**, something he did with **Mainz** after spending 18 years as a player and a coach there, Klopp did not take long in winning over the trust and affection of the fans. Not only because of his imposing **charisma**, but also because he took so little time in converting a club who were bankrupt, with a debt of close to **250 million euros** when arrived, into German champions. In his third season in charge (**2010/11**), he won his first **Bundesliga** title. This preceded an historic double the following campaign.

Ten years after that feat, Klopp is still the latest coach to have won the domestic league at a club which is not **Bayern Munich**. If he had not lost the **Champions League** final at **Wembley** against the Bavarians in 2013 (1-2), his legendary status at Dortmund would be even greater. At the end of the day, two of the five **Bundesligas** won by **Borussia Dortmund** were won under him. The club's five league titles took them level with **Borussia Monchengladbach** and ahead of **Werder Bremen's** tally of four.

These achievements would strongly attract the attention of Bayern Munich, whose sporting strategy in the following seasons would focus on '**dismantling Dortmund's ideal XI**', as we've seen in previous pages. Despite them trying to tempt their charismatic coach, they would fail in getting him onboard.



It was at **Wembley** where Jurgen Klopp's **Borussia Dortmund** reached their peak. They were runners-up in the **2013/14** season, 19 points behind the Bavarians, but they had a disastrous **2014/15** campaign. Despite coming seventh, which felt like a huge achievement after being in the relegation zone, Klopp took a difficult decision: that of leaving the club from **North Rhine-Westphalia** when he still had a year left on his contract. "I always said if some day I **felt I was not the perfect coach** for this club, I'd say so," he said in April 2015. The farewell he was given at **Signal Iduna Park** was fitting of a legend both on the pitch and as a person.

Despite the poor performances in the **Bundesliga** and the **Champions League**, he would still have the opportunity to say goodbye by winning another title before beginning a deserved - a later interrupted - sabbatical year. The final of the **German Cup**, which Dortmund made after eliminating **Pep Guardiola's Bayern Munich** in the semi-finals, would be his last match in charge of Dortmund. But **Dieter Hecking's Wolfsburg** prevented Klopp from signing off in style (1-3). The Dortmund supporters who had travelled to the **Olympic Stadium** in **Berlin** could not avoid feeling that, maybe, it was time for a change. Excluding the **German Super Cup**, **Jurgen Klopp** had then lost three finals in a row.

However, time would put Klopp's era at **Dortmund** into perspective. Since his departure, up to six people have sat on the **Signal Iduna Park** bench. **Marco Rose**, a disciple of his at **Mainz 05**, lasted just one season in the role. The club's CEO, **Hans Joachim-Watzke**, ended up admitting that his departure "**hurt for weeks**" and that he remembers frequently "**those times in which he used to listen and everything was fine.**"

Giants from the Ruhr

Klopp's happy era at Dortmund



GAMES	WINS	% WINS	GOALS SCORED/90'	GOALS CONCEDED/90'	GAMES SCORING	CLEAN SHEETS	SCORING 3 OR MORE GOALS
319	180	56.43%	1.96	1.04	84.64%	36.36%	34.48%





EDWARDS, MICHAEL. British football analyst. He worked as Liverpool's **sporting director** between **2016 and 2022** after occupying several roles at the club for over a decade. He is a **great friend of Jurgen Klopp**. However, he will not stay at Anfield next season.



Edwards, Michael

When **Jurgen Klopp** accepted the offer to manage **Liverpool**, he did so knowing that his way of working was going to change substantially, at least in terms of the building of the squad is concerned. This is because, he was used to working directly with the sporting director, a position which **Christian Heidel** and **Michael Zorc** held at **Mainz** and **Dortmund**, respectively. However, at Liverpool things were different. The German not only had to get used to a cold and rainy climate in **North-West England**, but also to adapting to building his squad without the daily support of a sporting director at his new club.

But the new main man in charge at **Anfield** soon discovered that he was not on his own. Far from it. **Ian Graham**, director of research at Liverpool, was one of the first to offer him his help when he entered the old **Melwood** training complex for the first time. He explained how the stats - precisely, **expected goals** (xG) - helped them to conclude that he must be **Brendan Rodgers'** successor, as well as his ability to find suitable footballers for his style of play. However, it would be **Michael Edwards**, the club's technical director, who would end up occupying the role **Klopp** was worried about at Liverpool.

The young British analyst, who was just 36 years old at the time, arrived at **Liverpool** from **Tottenham Hotspur** in 2011. In just five years, he had already occupied the roles of **chief analyst**, **director of technical performance** and that of **technical director**. His influence when it came to identifying and developing footballers was telling. Proof of it is that, ahead of the first summer transfer window with Klopp at the helm, in 2016, he was capable of persuading the manager that **Mohamed Salah**, from **Roma**, was the footballer to bolster his attack. Klopp had thought about **Julian Brandt**, of **Bayer Leverkusen**, who he had faced on several occasions during his time in Germany, but he decided to trust Edwards' judgement.

The rest is history.

Klopp and his coaching staff's good work during his first nine months on **Merseyside** were rewarded with a six year contract extension. This was news which came at the same time that **Michael Edwards** was promoted to **sporting director**, a new role created at the **Anfield** club. "Jurgen's faith and trust in what we do...has been a key factor in accepting this responsibility," said the new **Liverpool** sporting director after the news was confirmed. Although **Klopp** would continue having "the final say" in terms of signings, both would form an unbreakable alliance in one of the golden eras of the club.

Of the numerous operations Edwards has led in the last six years, the sale of **Philippe Coutinho** to **FC Barcelona** clearly stands out. It was an unpopular move back then, but it allowed the club to fulfil its philosophy of **financial self-management**. And, it allowed them to sign **Alisson Becker** and **Virgil Van Dijk**. This was completely different to the money the likes of **Paris Saint-Germain** and **Manchester City** were squandering. Although it is true that they were the most expensive signings in the club's history, it is also true that with **Michael Edwards** at the helm, Liverpool's signings and sales have led to them having a net profit of around **180 million euros**.

In other words, the **Reds** do not spend what they don't have on players and they only buy those who they really need for **Jurgen Klopp's** system. The most recent example is that of **Luis Diaz**. His performances have been excellent from day one. Now, the sporting director is leaving to look for new challenges, the German can only cross his fingers and hope that **Julian Ward**, his successor from next season, has taken good note of everything Edwards has done at the Premier League club.



The guru of Anfield

Michael Edwards' achievements

HIS BIGGEST TRANSFERS



HIS BIGGEST SALES



HIS MOST PROFITABLE SALES

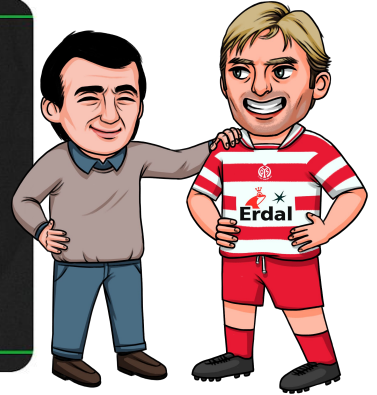


THE ACADEMY, SOURCE OF INCOME





FRANK, WOLFGANG. *Former German football player and coach who **took charge of 16 clubs** after ending his playing career, including Mainz 05. He trained Klopp there and the **Liverpool manager was amazed** by his knowledge of the novel **4-4-2 formation**.*



Frank, Wolfgang

In his time as a professional footballer, which was only at **Mainz 05**, **Jurgen Klopp** ended up being coached by up to 12 different managers until he himself took charge of the team in 2001. Only one of them, however (if we ignore **Manfred Lorenz**, who had four short caretaker spells at the club), ended up having two spells at the club in that period of time: **Wolfgang Frank**. Far from being considered a legend of German football, Frank had an interesting career as a striker before hanging up his boots. He played for the likes of **AZ Alkmaar** and **Borussia Dortmund**.

Born in **Reichenbach an der Fils** in 1951, in former West Germany, he was **Mainz 05's** fourth manager since **Klopp** joined Mainz in 1990. Unlike his predecessors, Frank managed to remain in the post for close to a year and a half between September 1995 and April 1997. It can be considered a record if we take into account that the average time in charge for managers at the club was less than one full season in the 1990s. **Their innovative tactical ideas** were largely to blame for that.

When he took over, Frank introduced what was then a new **4-4-2** formation at **Mainz**, the same system **Arrigo Sacchi** used to make Italy champions at the 1994 **World Cup** in the **USA**. His decision to get rid of the sweeper role, a tactic created by **Franz Beckenbauer** and widely used, caused controversy in the country, especially amongst the **Mainz 05** fans. It did not go down particularly well amongst the players in the dressing room either. Not initially, anyway.

When **Wolfgang Frank** took over at the club for the first time, **Klopp** was one of those who had been there the longest and, at the age of 28, he was well respected in the **Bruchwegstadion** dressing room. Far from being afraid, he embraced without hesitation the tactical methods of his new manager. Not only did he receive them as a breath of fresh air, but he also used them for his coaching model later on in life and, to develop a brand of football which would be recognised across the world of football. That was the beginnings of '**Gegenpressing**', a key part of his particular footballing ideology.



The idea of getting rid of the sweeper from his formation was not the only idea of **Arrigo Sacchi's** which Frank used to reconstruct that **Mainz 05** side. He also decided to constantly press their opponents non-stop with just one aim in mind: **regaining possession of the ball** as close to the opposing goal as possible. This tactic was implemented in order to attack the goal with a numerical advantage. It was a system in which **Jurgen Klopp** played a very important role, in both of **Wolfgang Frank's** spells at the club. Happy times on the banks of the **Rhine**.

Of the **120 matches** that Frank was Mainz coach, Klopp played in 95, starting 90 of them. In other words, he was a substitute just **5.26%** of the time. However, his goal scoring averages were affected by his mentor's presence, given that he went from being a striker to a defender. At the same time, the average number of minutes he played per match also decreased slightly. Nevertheless, his contribution in defence was key to helping his teammates keep a clean sheet **34.76%** of the time that he played during the Frank era.

Klopp saw his win and loss percentages improve notably under Frank with a win percentage of 37.89% and 31.58% for losses. For the other 11 coaches in charge, it was practically the reverse. That said, Frank's tactical work was not enough for Mainz 05 to get promoted from the **2. Bundesliga**. Only one person would better his stats in the coming years and take the team to the top flight for the first time. That person, you've guessed, it would be **Jurgen Norbert Klopp**.

Jürgen Klopp's **mentor**

Life in Mainz with or without Frank



WITHOUT FRANK



WITH FRANK



31.84%	WINS	37.89%
29.8%	DRAWS	30.53%
38.37%	LOSSES	31.58%
0.19	GOALS SCORED	0.11
91.02%	GAMES AS A STARTER	94.74%
8.98%	GAMES ON THE BENCH	5.26%
81.37	MINUTES EARNED	77.48
71.84%	GAMES WHERE THE TEAM SCORED	69.47%
26.53%	CLEAN SHEETS	34.74%



GEGENPRESSING. Name given to a style of play founded in Germany which is based on trying to **win the ball back immediately** after having lost it in areas of the pitch close to the opponent's goal. In other words: **'counterpressing'**. Klopp is its biggest exponent of it.



‘Gegenpressing’

As well as his sporting achievements, **Jurgen Klopp's** career on the bench has been marked by all sorts of **famous quotes**; some of them, quite controversial. Ahead of the clash with **Arsenal** in the **Champions League** group stage, the German coach was asked about his opponent's manager, **Arsene Wenger**, and if he considered himself to be among the candidates to take over some day at the **Emirates Stadium** in London. It was then when he said one of those phrases that will be remembered forever.

“He likes having the ball, passing it constantly... It's like an orchestra, but **the song they play is silent**. I like **heavy metal** more!”, the then **Borussia Dortmund** coach said while laughing profusely. His metaphors were misinterpreted by the British press, as an attack on the **Gunners** boss despite the praise he had given the Frenchman moments earlier. In any case, few could match Klopp for the level of excitement and adrenaline which his electric style of play caused. The same style of play which helped him take his team to **Wembley** just a few months later (which they lost to Bayern Munich).

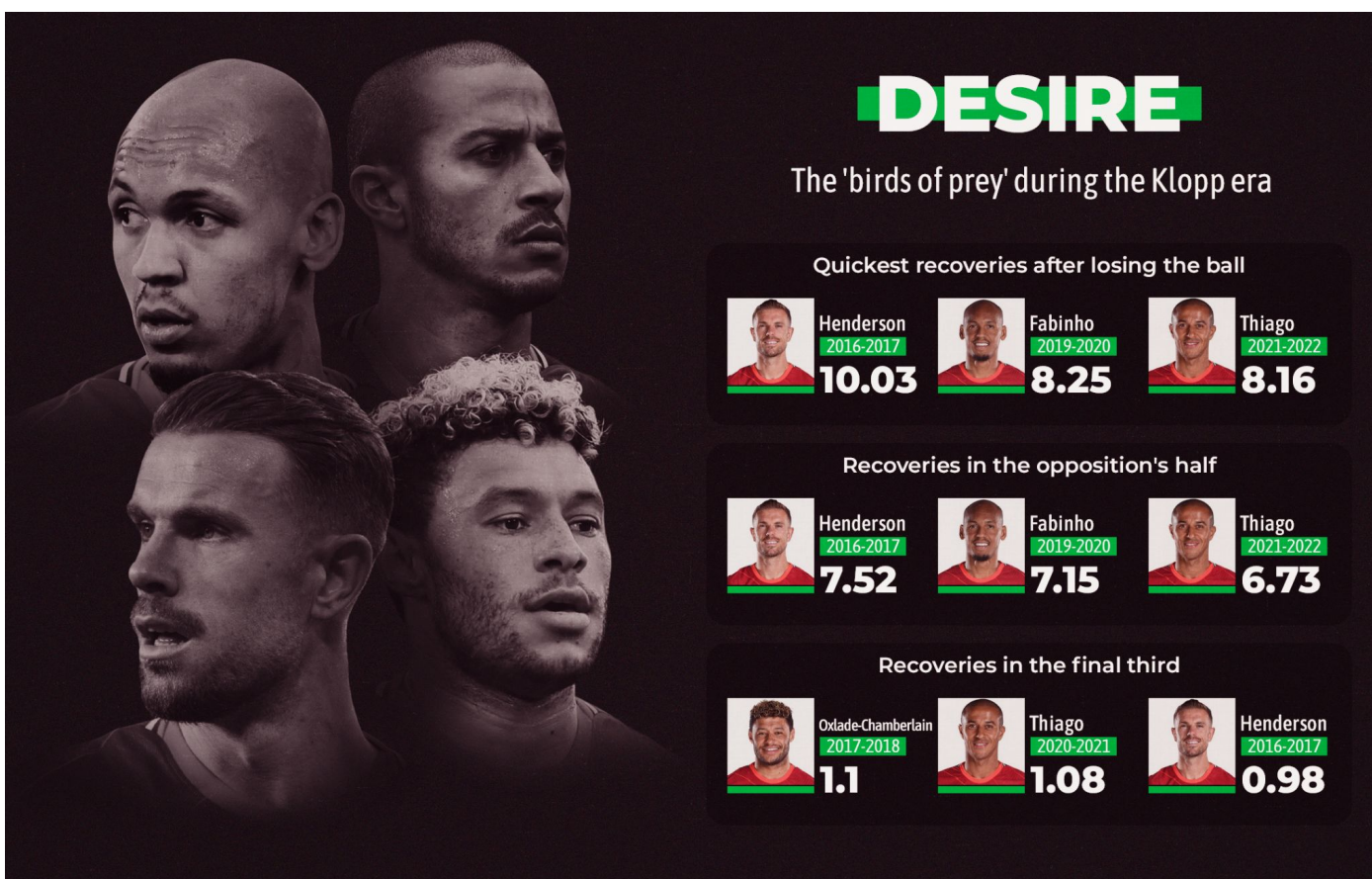
That achievement catapulted Klopp to the top of European football, generating a great interest in the football which had conquered those in **North-Rhine Westphalia**. Gradually, the term **‘Gegenpressing’** - which could be translated as **‘counterpressing’** - became more and more popular, reaching its height in 2015, coinciding with the arrival of the man from **Stuttgart** to **Liverpool**. Nevertheless, it was at Anfield, where this term has reached its maximum expression. It was not an immediate transformation, given that he replaced **Brendan Rodgers** with the season already underway, but he has more than made his mark on the pitch during his six full seasons at **Liverpool**.

In fact, Jordan Henderson is Liverpool's expert at ‘Gegenpressing’. The averages of **quick recoveries after losing the ball** (10.03) and **recoveries in the opposing half** (7.52) of the new captain, the first of the era post **Steven Gerrard**, are still the best out of any player which **Jurgen Klopp** has managed on the banks of the **Mersey**.

It is also worth highlighting the **0.98 recoveries in the final third** per 90 minutes by Henderson himself that season, because it is good proof of the sacrifice the English midfielder had to make until the club had enough money at their disposal to bolster the midfield. The first player to strengthen it a year and a half later was **Alexander Oxlade-Chamberlain**. He notably bettered the contribution of his teammate in this statistic (**1.10**) just after arriving on **Merseyside**. The signing of **Fabinho** in the 2018/19 season would make all the difference, with **Thiago's** contribution, although it may sound surprising, being key in the last two seasons.

However, speaking about players on an individual basis is not worth it. This is because, everyone in **Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool** side religiously fulfil the role they have been given since he took over at the club. Since August 2016, his squad has always been amongst the best out of the top leagues with regards to **rapid recoveries after losing the ball**, **recoveries in the opposition half**, **recoveries in the final third** of the pitch, together with **Bayern Munich**, Klopp's nemesis; **Manchester City**, his team to beat in England; and, surprisingly perhaps, Spanish side **SD Eibar**, coached by **Jose Luis Mendilibar**.

With data in hand and tactical evolutions related to **Positional Play** put to one side, there is no doubt at all over what Klopp's football philosophy is founded on: **recovering the ball back as close as possible to the opposition's goal**, exactly what 'Gegenpressing' is.

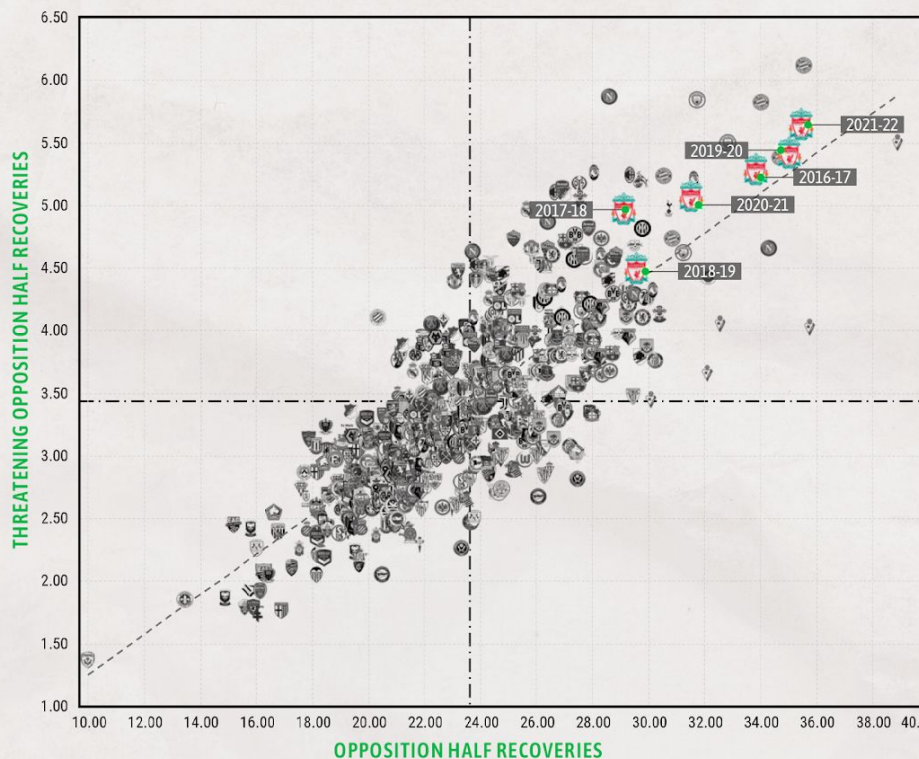


'Gegenpressing' way of life

Klopp's heavy metal Liverpool

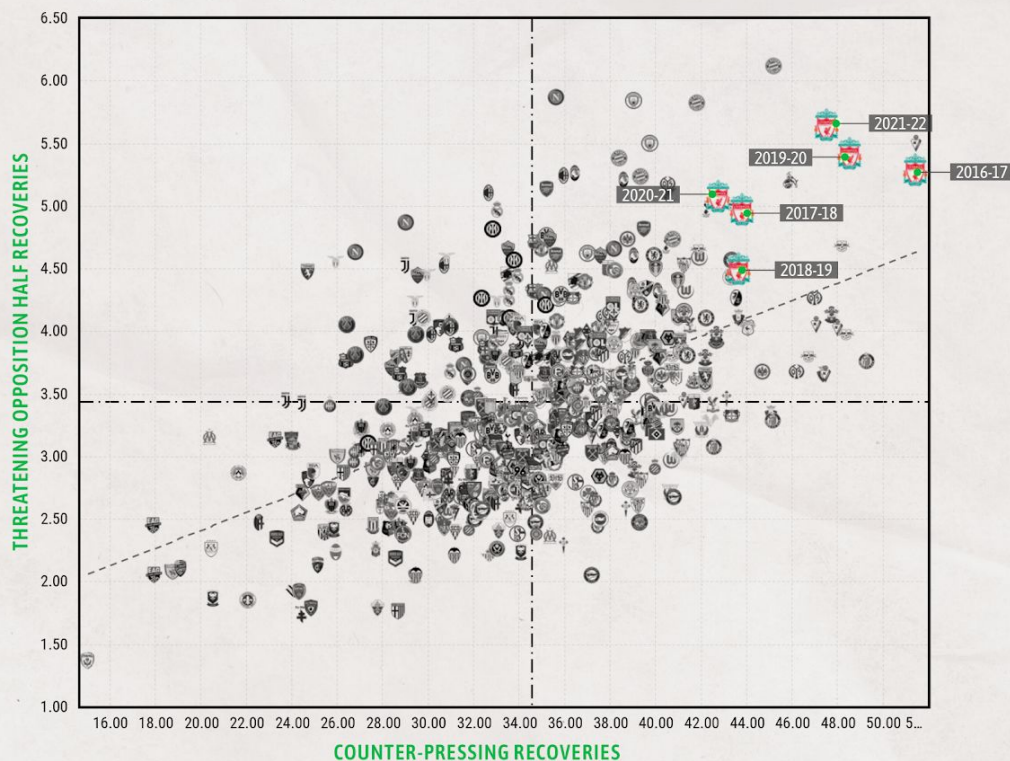
OPPOSITION HALF RECOVERIES vs THREATENING OPPOSITION HALF RECOVERIES

Top-5 European Leagues averages per game from the 2016-2017 to the 2021-2022 season



COUNTER-PRESSING RECOVERIES vs THREATENING OPPOSITION HALF RECOVERIES

Top-5 European Leagues averages per game from the 2016-2017 to the 2021-2022 season







HEIDEL, CHRISTIAN. German businessman whose work as sporting director at **Mainz 05** gave the club the best years in their history. He is known for having given **Jurgen Klopp** his first opportunity as coach. A decision which would mark his career, in a positive way.



Heidel, Christian

It was Autumn 2000 and **Mainz 05** needed a new coach after the sacking of **Rene Vandereycken**. The threat of relegation was once again hanging over the German club, whose sporting director, **Christian Heidel**, was under immense pressure. He needed something to turn the tide and he needed it now. The temptation to bring **Wolfgang Frank** back to the club for the third time was strong, but he had only been sacked by Mainz just a few months earlier. The squad did not have the quality to carry out his footballing philosophy. That said, that was the path which, in his opinion, the team had to take.

It was for that reason that Heidel decided on **Eckhard Krautzun**. Both had an interesting chat over the phone in which the coach, who had an inconsistent managerial career at teams like **Darmstadt, St. Pauli and Kaiserlautern**, showed great knowledge over the famous **4-4-2** formation which Frank had introduced with relative success previously. What the Mainz sporting director didn't know, as **Raphael Honigstein** writes in his book **Klopp Bring the Noise**, was that that knowledge had been transmitted to him the night before by one of his own players. This of course being **Jurgen Klopp**.

The farce did not take long to look obvious and, after getting just one victory in nine matches, the ball was once again in **Christian Heidel's** court. He was going through, probably, his most difficult period of his time in charge since taking the role in 1992. The executive manager had got tired of looking at stats in the legendary magazine 'Kicker' in search of candidates to coach **Mainz 05**. It was then when he met with the captain and spiritual leader of the dressing room and asked him a question which would change the history of German and European football forever: "**What do you think of the idea of being our coach?**"

"**I think it's a great idea!**", was the immediate response of **Klopp**, who did not hesitate in hanging up his boots at the age of 33 to manage his teammates at the time to 2. Bundesliga survival. The decision, many times classed by himself as "**kamikaze**", was the best that both could have made.



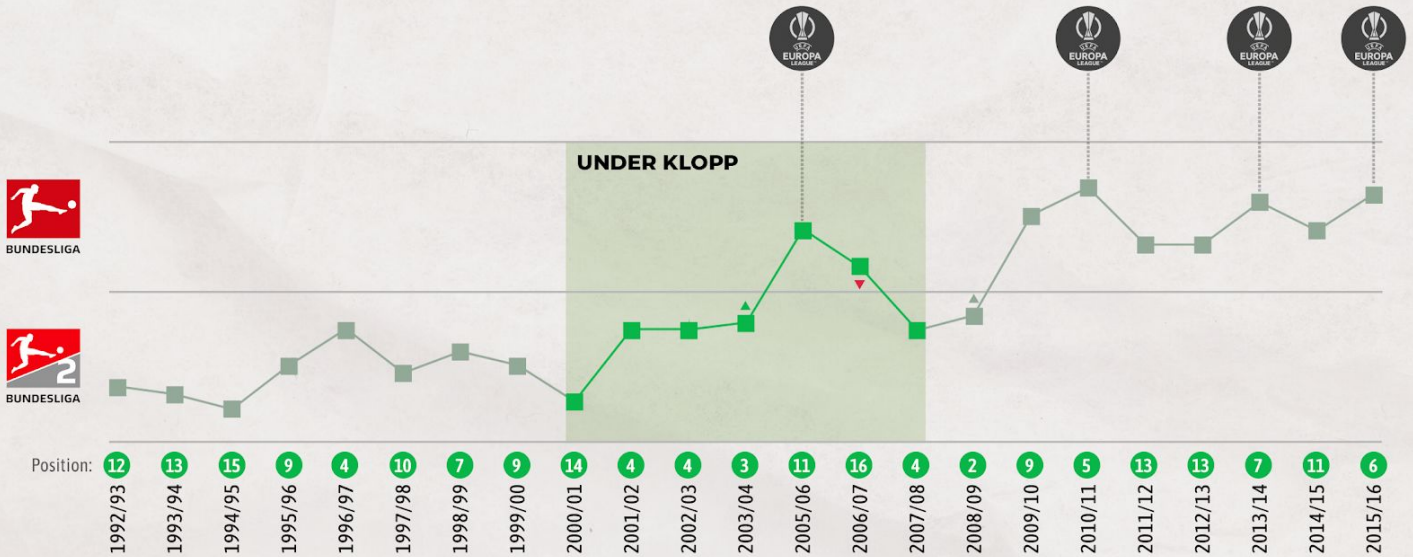
Many people ask themselves today whether someone else would have gone for this option had they been in Heidel's shoes. Would **Mainz 05** have been able to survive? Would **Jurgen Klopp's** career as manager have panned out in a similar fashion? Would his career have even started? Would **Christian Heidel** have triumphed finally? We'll never know. What we do know, however, is that the decision to put him in charge of the team changed the German club's destiny forever.

After years of concern, where they were only close to getting promoted on one occasion (**1996/97**), Mainz went through a radical sporting and social transformation once **Klopp** took over. After securing survival at the death in the final third of the **2000/01** season, the campaign in which he made his debut as a coach, he then secured two fourth placed finishes before securing promotion to the **Bundesliga** in 2004. A success based on complicity and the good relationship on the transfer front between the coach and sporting director. That laid down the foundations for the future.

Heidel's work was more important than ever before after Klopp's departure in 2008, when he moved to **Borussia Dortmund**. The soul of the club said goodbye, but his legacy allowed **Mainz 05** to return to the elite of the German football where they booked their place in the qualifying stages of the **Europa League** on three occasions until the departure of another key figure in **Christian Heidel**. His work at **Mainz** meant he was given the role of sporting director at **Schalke 04**, where he stayed for three seasons. In December 2020, he returned to what was always his home, ending the 2021/22 campaign in eighth position with **Bo Svensson** as the new coach.

Heidel factor

Trajectory of Mainz 05 in his first spell





INGLETHORPE, ALEX. *Former British footballer. He played for **Watford** and **Leyton Orient** before becoming a coach. He formed part of the Tottenham staff before becoming **Liverpool's Under 23 coach** in 2012. Two years later, he was promoted to **head of the Academy**.*



Inglethorpe, Alex

When **Jurgen Klopp** arrived at John Lennon Airport at 17:00 local time on 8th October 2015, the first thing he did was to go to the quiet town of **Formby**. There, he would live in the house which, until then, had been occupied by his predecessor, **Brendan Rodgers**. Shortly afterwards, at around 20.00, he headed for **Anfield** to sign the contract which would make him the new **Liverpool** manager for the next three seasons. That same night, the German boss invited his new coaching staff to dinner.

The meeting took place in the glamorous **Hope Street Hotel** in the city. His two confidantes, **Zeljko Buvac** and **Peter Krawietz**, attended the dinner, but they were not the only ones. The president of the club, Tom Werner, the CEO, Ian Ayre, and the new members of his coaching staff who were not sacked by the club. This included **Pepijn Lijnders**, first team coach, **John Achterberg**, goalkeeping coach, and **Alex Inglethorpe**, director of the Academy, were also present. The trio have played a key role in how events have developed since then, but we will focus our attention solely on Inglethorpe.

After settling in, and given that his new footballers were on international duty, the first thing **Klopp** did as Liverpool manager was to go to **Kirkby**, where **Liverpool's** Academy is based and where the Under 18 team were playing a match against **Stoke City**. The German took the time to watch the Under 18 and Under 14 sides. All of that was done in the company of Inglethorpe, with whom he has worked side by side since to develop young homegrown talent. An arduous job which has, without doubt, borne fruit.

Two of the boys involved in that youth match, **Rhian Brewster**, now a **Sheffield United** player, and **Oviemumo Ejaria**, currently at **Reading**, would make their professional debut, under Klopp a few years later. But, they would not be the only ones. His history of giving young talent an opportunity at his previous post at **Dortmund** helped **Alex Inglethorpe's** job as head of the club's academy tremendously.

The clearest example was **Mario Gotze**, one of his most successful pupils. It is true that irregularity and injuries have not helped the playmaker's development since he joined **Bayern Munich** but, he can boast, among many other things, of having won the **World Cup for Germany** in 2014. **Jonas Hofmann**, currently at **Borussia Monchengladbach**, and **Marvin Ducksch**, at **Werder Bremen**, are two other players to whom he gave their first professional opportunity and, who are still playing in the top flight today.

Of all of them, however, **Trent Alexander Arnold** currently leads the way. Not only was he **Kirkby's** first young talent to make his debut (in October 2016 at the age of **17**), but he has become Klopp's greatest masterpiece. As well as remaining in the team that gave him his footballing birth and 'raised' him, he is also the most improved performer since then. He has boosted his **ELO** (rating system) by no less than **53 points**. Few people today doubt that the 23-year-old right-back is a star at the age of **23**. His record speaks for itself. It was virtually impossible for **Ki-Jana Hoever** to make a name for himself against him at Liverpool, although, the 20-year-old is already playing in the **Premier League** with **Wolverhampton Wanderers**.

The cases of **Curtis Jones**, **Caoimhin Kelleher** and **Rhys Williams**, who will belong to the Reds, are also noteworthy, as is that of **Ryan Kent**, a key player in **Rangers'** run to the last **Europa League** final, which ended up, curiously, being won by **Erik Durm**, another former pupil of him at **Borussia Dortmund**. Even if they do not continue under him, none of them will forget who gave them their first opportunity.



Raised by Klopp

His best debutants so far

POS	Debut ELO	Current ELO
 ALEXANDER-ARNOLD LIVERPOOL	40	93
 MARIO GÖTZE EINTRACHT FRANKFURT	40	82
 RYAN KENT RANGERS FC	41	82
 HARRY WILSON FULHAM	42	79
 JONAS HOFMANN B. MÖNCHENGLADBACH	50	77
 MARVIN DUCKSCH WERDER BREMEN	46	75
 PEDRO CHIRIVELLA NANTES	33	73

POS	Debut ELO	Current ELO
 KORAY GÜNTER HELLAS VERONA	42	71
 CURTIS JONES LIVERPOOL	50	68
 NECO WILLIAMS LIVERPOOL*	46	68
 CAMERON BRANNAGAN OXFORD UNITED	37	65
 OVIEMUNO EJARIA READING	32	65
 YASIN OZTEKIN SAMSUNSPOR	41	65

*On loan at Fulham during the 2021-2022 season







JURGEN. Former footballer, now football coach born in **Stuttgart** in 1967. In addition to his sporting achievements, he is known for his **charisma** and sense of **humour**. Behind the coach there is also a father and a husband with strong **political** and **religious** beliefs.



Jurgen

There is much to talk about **Klopp** in terms of this report. Firstly, there is his career as a footballer and, secondly, there is his coaching career. Anyone can watch his games and work out how many minutes he played, how many goals he scored or how many trophies he has won since he retired. However, what few people can talk about is what lies beneath the surface; **the roots, the origins and the background** of a man made famous by football, but whose life is distanced from the glamour.

Born on **16th June 1967** in **Stuttgart** as the son of a Protestant mother (**Elisabeth**) and a Catholic father (**Norbert**), he grew up in the small town of Glatten with his parents and two older sisters, **Stefanie** and **Isolde**. It was there where he took his first steps as a footballer, without forgetting about his education. In fact, he turned down an offer from the **Eintracht Frankfurt** reserve team to finish his studies. He accepted the offer later, when he was travelling around Europe with friends after a disastrous season with **FC Pforzheim**. He made a 48-hour train journey from **Crete** (Greece) when he received the offer.

In **Frankfurt**, he combined his university degree in **sports science** with football and his night job in a pub. At the age of 21, his time at Eintracht came to an end. This almost coincided with the birth of his only son, **Marc**, the result of his relationship with his first wife, **Sabine**. In the meantime, he would go on to play for two minor clubs in the city, **Sindlingen** and **Rot-Weiss**. Then, he became a professional footballer in the summer of 1990 with a move to **Mainz 05**, the club around which his life would revolve for the next 18 years.

There, he would share a dressing room with **David Wagner**, who would later become one of his best friends and coach at **Huddersfield Town**, **Schalke 04** and **Young Boys**. In 2001, he would also become his pupil, due to Klopp's promotion to coaching the **Mainz 05** team. This almost overlapped with his **divorce**. But love would soon come knocking on his door again.



It was at the **Oktoberfest** in **Munich** that **Ulla Sandrock** crossed the path of the then **Mainz 05 coach**. They got married in 2005 and are still husband and wife today. The novelist, who has also worked as a teacher in the past, has always kept a low media profile, supporting her husband behind the scenes, especially when he **decided to donate one per cent of his annual salary** to the charity movement **Common Goal**. They both spend their summers in **Ibiza** and travel together wherever their team plays.

Despite the little free time he has, **Jurgen Klopp** also needs his moments of solitude; to put his mind at rest and leave football to one side. **To smoke a cigarette** in silence, looking out to sea. But he is not alone in those little moments either. He often enjoys spending time in the company of his dog **Emma**, his faithful companion, on walks through the woods and along the beaches of **Formby**, north of **Liverpool**. Occasionally he is seen watching the local boys and girls play on the (few) Sundays when he is not working.

Like many of his counterparts, **Klopp** keeps his personal life very private. He has turned down numerous offers to publish a book or film an autobiographical documentary and, he tends to choose his interviews very carefully. However, he is not so careful when expressing his political opinions, such as those concerning **Brexit**, when he labelled it “a nonsense” for a self-confessed **socialist** like him. **“There has not been a single time in history when dividing us has been a success,”** he told ‘The Guardian’ in 2018. **Homosexuality** in professional football or universal healthcare are other causes he has publicly defended tooth and nail.



pass-Nr
YNWA620226

Typ
M

Kode
D

[b] Geburtsname

1.[a] Name

[a] NORBERT

[b] KLOPP

2. Vornamen

JÜRGEN

3. Geburtstag

16.06.1967

6. Genurtsort

STUTTGART

7. Ausstellungsdatum
08.10.2015

9. Behörde

STADT DORTMUND

4. Geschlecht

M

5. Staatsangehörigkeit
DEUTSCH

8. Gültig bis

30.06.2026

10. Unterschrift der Inhaberin,
des Inhabers

M<D<<NORBERT<<JÜRGEN<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<
YNWA62026PL<<2013W2018K2019M2022P<<<<<<<<<4





KIEV. With **2.9 million inhabitants**, it was the seventh most populous European city before the war with **Russia**. The **Champions League final** was held there in 2018. A match that was to be a blow for **Jurgen Klopp**, but also a turning point in his career.



Kiev

2018 marked a milestone in **Jurgen Klopp's** career. A turning point. At the beginning of the same year, the German would finally see his desire to manage **Virgil Van Dijk** come true. Like **Alisson Becker**, who had arrived six months earlier, the Dutchman was to complete the development of the system of play that the **Liverpool** boss had had in mind since joining Liverpool. Both would put an end to the poor performances in defence that prevented the **Reds** from fighting for higher goals in the **Premier League** that **Pep Guardiola** would win for the first time that year.

It was a different situation in Europe. Despite **100 points** in the domestic championship, 25 more than their **Merseyside** rivals, **Manchester City** would be knocked out of the **Champions League** in the quarter-finals by a **Liverpool** side that won three of the four matches against the **Cityzens** that same season and emerged as a virtually unbeatable two-legged team in the top continental competition, knocking out **Porto** in the last 16 and **Roma** in the semi-finals. Only **Real Madrid** stood between Klopp and his first UCL title.

Circumstances, however, were not at all favourable to the German coach. Just days before the semi-final second leg, he lost **Zeljko Buvac**, his right-hand man since taking the reins at **Mainz 05** in February 2001. A 17-year relationship was ended on the verge of a European final because of the Bosnian coach's jealousy, who was challenged by the young assistant **Pepjin Linjders**. **Mohamed Salah's** injury happened coming together with **Sergio Ramos** and **Loris Karius'** embarrassing performance, after which he would never wear the England shirt again, sealed victory for **Zinedine Zidane's** side.

While defeat was a possibility - as in any single-leg final - it came as a bitter pill to swallow for the **Merseyside** outfit. It was not only a missed opportunity, but also **Jurgen Klopp's** third final loss in as many occasions at the **Anfield** helm. In Kiev, the German coach had his **sixth successive silver medal** in a major final since the 2013 defeat against **Bayern** at **Wembley**.

While social media and the local press debated whether or not to trust **Jurgen Klopp**'s ability to win titles at **Anfield**, the Reds were welcomed at the airport by their families. **"What's wrong with you?"** the fitness coach asked those who tearfully greeted the team. Far from giving up, Klopp headed home to **Formby** to bring the season to a close with his wife, staff and close friends. A video of him chanting **"Real Madrid got all the f***ing luck!"** soon went viral on social media.

"We were all drunk and we decided to record it (...) It wasn't a good time to make that decision," he later admitted. What began as "one of the worst nights" of his life turned into an almost prophetic act. "Perfect. We've hit rock bottom. **Now we can rise again like a phoenix,**" he said as he went through security at the airport in the **Ukrainian capital**, as he confessed to the 'PA' news agency. As he was about to board the plane back to England, a brief thought crossed his mind: **"Will we be back next year?"**

That team was still in the midst of a rebuilding process, despite how well it had been strengthened, and both **Jurgen Klopp** and the club's board were aware of this. The road they had travelled together for nearly three years could not end that way after that Champions League final in **Kiev**. That painful defeat against Real Madrid would give **Liverpool** the push they needed to challenge their rivals, **Manchester City**, for domestic supremacy and, why not, the coveted European crown. Nobody could have known at the time. Perhaps the tears, so to speak, prevented them from seeing what was really important.



Stage **fear**

Klopp's frustrated search for glory

 2008/2009  2 1 German Super Cup vs Jürgen Klinsmann	 2011/2012  0 4-3 0 German Super Cup vs Ralf Rangnick	 2011/2012  5 2 DFB Pokal vs Jupp Heynckes	 2012/2013  2 1 German Super Cup vs Jupp Heynckes
 2012/2013  1 2 Champions League vs Jupp Heynckes	 2013/2014  4 2 German Super Cup vs Pep Guardiola	 2013/2014  0 2 DFB Pokal vs Pep Guardiola	 2014/2015  2 0 German Super Cup vs Pep Guardiola
 2014/2015  1 3 DFB Pokal vs Dieter Hecking	 2015/2016  1 1-3 1 EFL Cup vs Manuel Pellegrini	 2015/2016  1 3 Europa League vs Unai Emery	 2017/2018  3 1 Champions League vs Zinedine Zidane
 2018/2019  0 2 Champions League vs Mauricio Pochettino	 2019/2020  1 4-5 1 Community Shield vs Pep Guardiola	 2019/2020  2 5-4 2 European Super Cup vs Frank Lampard	 2019/2020  1 0 Club World Cup vs Jorge Jesus
 2020/2021  1 5-4 1 Community Shield vs Mikel Arteta	 2021/2022  0 11-10 0 EFL Cup vs Thomas Tuchel	 2021/2022  0 5-6 0 FA Cup vs Thomas Tuchel	 2021/2022  0 1 Champions League vs Carlo Ancelotti







LEWANDOWSKI, ROBERT. Polish footballer born in Warsaw in 1988. Named **FIFA Player of the Year** in 2020 and 2021 and **Bundesliga** record breaker, he became world famous for his outstanding performances under Jurgen Klopp at **Borussia Dortmund**.



Lewandowski, Robert

They say that behind every great coach there is always a great team. The case of **Jurgen Klopp** is no different, although he has the particularity that the three teams he has managed so far underwent a big restructuring before making history. His time at the helm of **Borussia Dortmund** is perhaps the most significant in this respect, given the dire financial situation the **North Rhine-Westphalia** outfit were in when he arrived in 2018, with debts exceeding **250 million euros**.

This situation forced **Michael Zorc**, the club's living legend and sporting director of the club, to be ingenious when it came to putting together a competitive squad, such was the needed to cut costs. Signings such as **Neven Subotic** in 2008, whom Klopp had previously managed at **Mainz**, or **Mats Hummels** in 2009 from **Bayern Munich**, did not exceed **5 million euros**. Neither did that of the unknown **Robert Lewandowski** in 2010. The 21-year-old Polish striker came from **Lech Poznan** and, despite the fact that nobody seemed to have heard of him, he would change the future of the **Signal Iduna Park** outfit forever.

It would not be immediate, in any case. He made just **15 starts and scored nine goals** in his first season with the German club, 2010/2011, in which Borussia Dortmund won the Bundesliga for the fourth time in their history. It was the first domestic title for them in a decade. **Lucas Barrios**, with 16 goals to his name, would be considered the main protagonist on the pitch, but Lewandowski would take over the following season scoring **30 goals and providing 11 assists**, which, in addition to the league title, also helped them win the coveted **German Cup in 2012** after beating Bayern 5-2.

With the Paraguayan completely displaced, who would try his luck in Chinese football, **Robert Lewandowski** emerged as the first goalscorer to shine under **Klopp**. During the following season, 2012/2013 he would even improve on the previous season (**36 goals and 12 assists**), but to little avail. **That team had reached their prime**.



That became clear when **Bayern Munich** not only won the domestic championship with 91 points, 25 more than the runners-up, but also when they robbed Dortmund side of the chance to win their **second Champions League** in their history (they won the first in 1997 against Juve) in **London**. An **Arjen Robben** goal in the closing stages of the game put the final nail in the coffin of what could have been and never was. That game was set to determine whether Klopp's **Borussia Dortmund** still had a chance of making the leap to the next level. The feeling was extremely negative at the end of the game.

'Lewy's fourth and final season at Dortmund would end scoring **28 goals** and providing **8 assists** and a second runner-up finish. An insufficient milestone for a world-class player whose situation limited his many talents. The Pole let his contract expire in search of improving his career, clearly opting for the most famous German club: **Bayern Munich**.

The striker found his place in Munich, improving his goalscoring record and accumulating trophies in his trophy cabinet season after season. He finally won his long-awaited UCL title in 2020 as well as another **eight Bundesliga titles**, breaking several records set by the legendary **Gerd Muller** along the way and adding the **Golden Boots** in 2021 and 2022 to his trophy cabinet. All this under the orders of **Jupp Heynckes**, **Pep Guardiola**, **Carlo Ancelotti**, **Niko Kovac**, **Hansi Flick** and **Julian Nagelsmann**, of course, but it would be unfair to overlook the fact that it was **Jurgen Klopp** who 'took the leash' off the 'beast'.

A made in Klopp appetite

The insatiable Robert Lewandowski

LEWANDOWSKI'S STATS UNDER KLOPP AT DORTMUND

	Overall	Average
Games	187	
Minutes earned	14,227	76.1
Goals scored	103	0.6
Games scoring	74	39.57%
Scoring at least 1 goal	50	26.74%
Scoring at least 2 goals	20	10.7%
Scoring at least 3 goals	3	1.6%
Scoring at least 4 goals	1	0.53%
Scoring the opener	25	13.37%







MAINZ. The legend of **Jurgen Klopp**, who spent 17 years of his life in this small city of just **220,000 inhabitants** in the west of **Germany**, began to be forged in this small town on the **Rhine**. Enough to forge a strong bond with its inhabitants and his own sporting legend.



Mainz

The city of **Mainz** can boast many things despite its small size. One of them is undoubtedly the 'birth' of a legend. The legend of **Jurgen Klopp**. He may not have been an excellent footballer - he often describes himself as "a third division player" - but fate gave him one last chance at the age of 23, when **Mainz 05** turned their attention to him. The summer of 1990 was approaching and Mainz were facing a fierce playoff for promotion to the **Bundesliga 2** against **Rot-Weiss Frankfurt**, for whom he played.

The result was to be in **Mainz 05's** favour, apparently closing the door to professional football for **Klopp**. However, for **Robert Jung**, coach of the German team, the young attacker with long blond hair and bushy moustache who played for the rival team did not go unnoticed. So much so that he decided to give him a chance in the second tier of German football during the **1990-1991** season, the first of 18 seasons he would spend at the **Bruchwegstadion**, former Mainz 05's stadium.

As a player, Klopp's contribution to the team during the eleven years he was in the team was by no means insignificant. In addition to the **56 goals** he scored in **341 games**, he became a key figure in the dressing room. In the book **Klopp Bring the Noise**, the then sporting director of the club, **Christian Heidel**, claims that Klopp was **the real captain**, but it was **Dimo Wache** who wore the armband" due to his constant disagreements with his coaches. One of them, **Dietmar Constantini**, "took it off because he **always complained about his coaching tactics**".

The current **Liverpool** manager's mind was running at a much higher speed than his legs. As he approached football maturity, he moved further back on the pitch, from where he could see the game with even greater clarity. He did not hesitate when the head of the club's sporting department, Heidel, **offered him to take over the reins in the absence of reliable candidates** to prevent the team from returning sooner or later to the third tier of German football. What happened under his leadership was just the opposite.

Against all odds, and after making his debut with a 1-0 win over **Duisburg**, the 'rookie' Klopp managed to stay up with two games still to play, **winning six and drawing three vital games** in the last twelve games of the season. The confidence in the former player to lead the club from then on was total, and he responded in kind, making **Mainz 05** a clear contender for promotion ever since. They fell just short of promotion after two consecutive fourth-place finishes in 2002 and 2003.

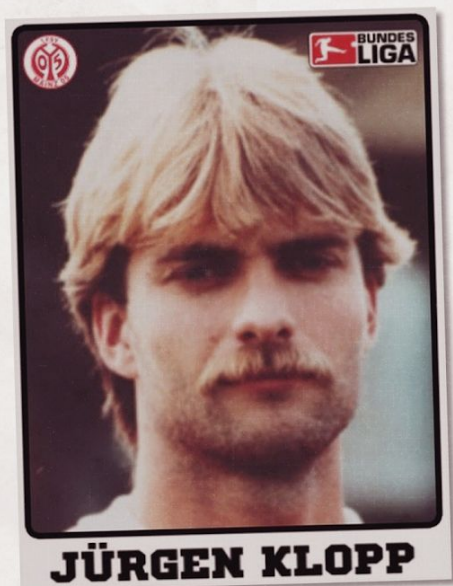
Mainz finally promoted to Bundesliga for the first time in their history in the summer of **2004**. The celebration was marked by tears of emotion from the crowd, the players and the coach himself. **Jurgen Klopp** had achieved what many had thought impossible. And in record time, just three and a half years after retiring. **Wolfgang Frank's** teachings undoubtedly made him a gifted pupil, but his own variants of the **4-4-2** and **pressing after losing the ball** made the real difference.

As well as being the first coach to lead Mainz to the **Bundesliga**, he was also the first to qualify for a continental competition - by chance, thanks to **Fair Play** - although his **Europa League** adventure would be rather brief. Not so was the journey that coach and club shared together. In 2008, after nearly two decades together, Klopp accepted an offer from **Borussia Dortmund**. He did so after falling just short of returning 'his' **Mainz 05** to the elite after failing to avoid relegation in 2007. Despite this, he was honourably farewelled by his players and fans. **Klopp**, who burst into tears on stage, was bidding farewell **610 games later**.



The **two faces** of Klopp

First division brain; third division feet



AS A PLAYER

Games	Wins	Draws	Losses	
340	114	102	124	
33.53% 30% 36.47%				
Goals/90' when played	GC/90' when not pl.	Goals scored/90'	Games where the team scored	Team clean sheets
1.31	1.36	0.16	71.18%	28.82%



AS A COACH

Games	Wins	Draws	Losses
270	109	78	83
40.37% 28.89% 30.74%			
GS/90'	GC/90'	Games scoring	Clean sheets
1.57	1.26	74.44%	25.19%





NORMAL. 1. Something that is in its natural state. 2. Habitual or ordinary. 3. Serving as a norm or rule. 4. Something that, by its nature, conforms to certain rules. None of these meanings is applicable to Jurgen Klopp.



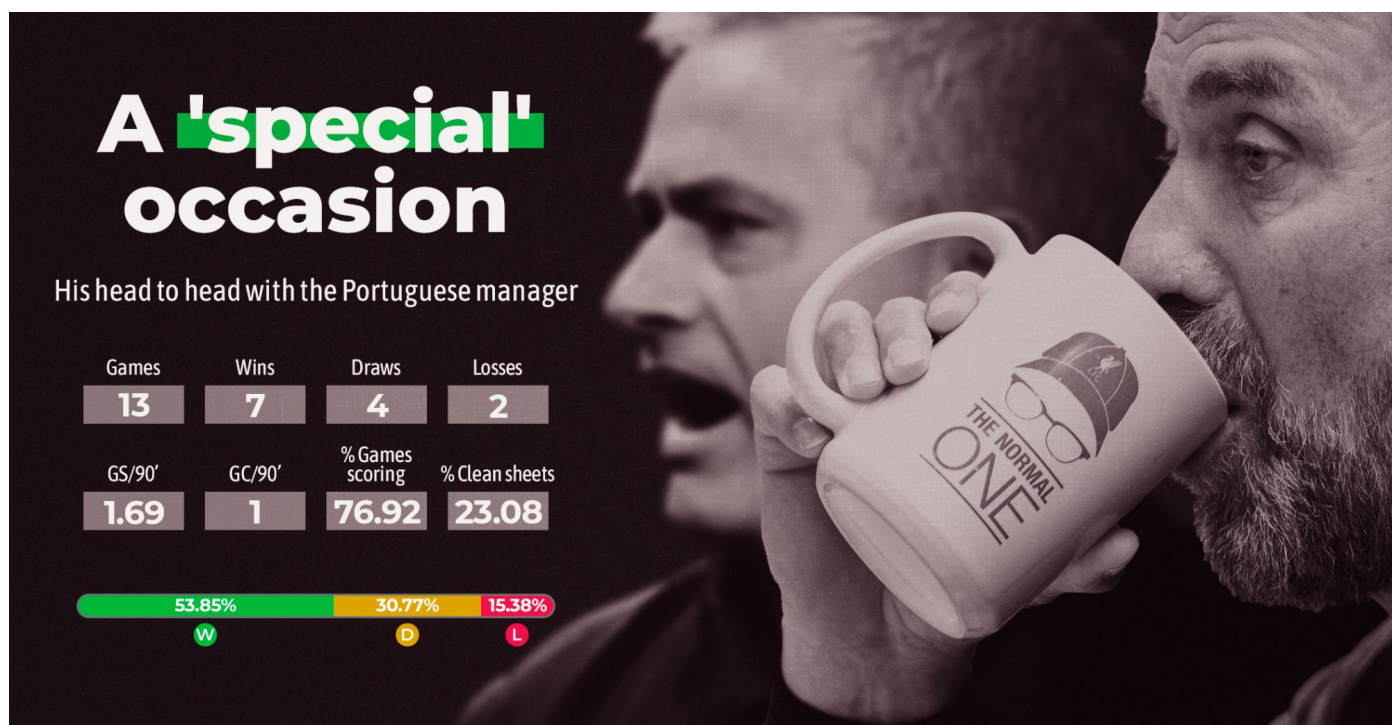
(The) Normal One

Few signings have created as much excitement as that of **Jurgen Klopp** at **Liverpool**. Despite not being a player with a world-class reputation or a manager with brilliant track record, the German's arrival on **Merseyside** sparked the interest of a clearly disenchanted fanbase. The former **Borussia Dortmund** boss was seen as a breath of fresh air, not only for his **exciting model of play**, but also for his **charisma** and **sense of humour**. He seemed, at first glance, the kind of person anyone would want to have in charge of their team.

The city went crazy on 8th October 2015, especially when the coach's private jet landed. He had not yet lifted the **Champions League**, but **Klopp** had certainly endeared himself to European football fans. His long career at first **Mainz** and then **Dortmund** made him the ideal candidate to rebuild the Reds' reputation and start writing a new page in the legendary history of the club, from which a few months earlier a legend of the stature of **Steven Gerrard** had departed.

After a brief visit to what would be - and still is - his place of residence during his time at the club and the signing of the first of his three contracts to date at **Anfield Road**, Klopp went off to rest. One of the most intense days of his professional life awaited him the following day. It had been a long time since the media hype surrounding the club had been so high. The British and German media, for the most part, turned the press room of Anfield into a hive of activity, which made him feel "uncomfortable". **Everyone wanted to get a headline out of him** - and they did!

When questioned about **Jose Mourinho**, who defined himself as **The Special One**, the German was emphatic: "I don't want to define myself". However, the move backfired. "Does anyone in this room think i can do miracles? No. I'm just a normal guy! I come from the **Black Forest**. My mother is probably watching this on the TV at home, unable to understand a word I'm saying, but very proud. I was a pretty poor player (...) and I just hope I enjoy my job. **I'm The Normal One**," he added. The laughs were widespread.



Klopp achieved with those words the exact opposite of what he intended. It took the marketing department of his new team 24 hours to launch a complete line of **merchandising** with his new nickname. Mugs, T-shirts, key rings... everything! However, that did not influence his understanding of his profession in any way. Where others would have locked themselves away in **Melwood** to start planning the rebuilding of the team, Klopp was visiting some of the best pubs in the city, to the surprise and delight of the Reds fans who bumped into him.

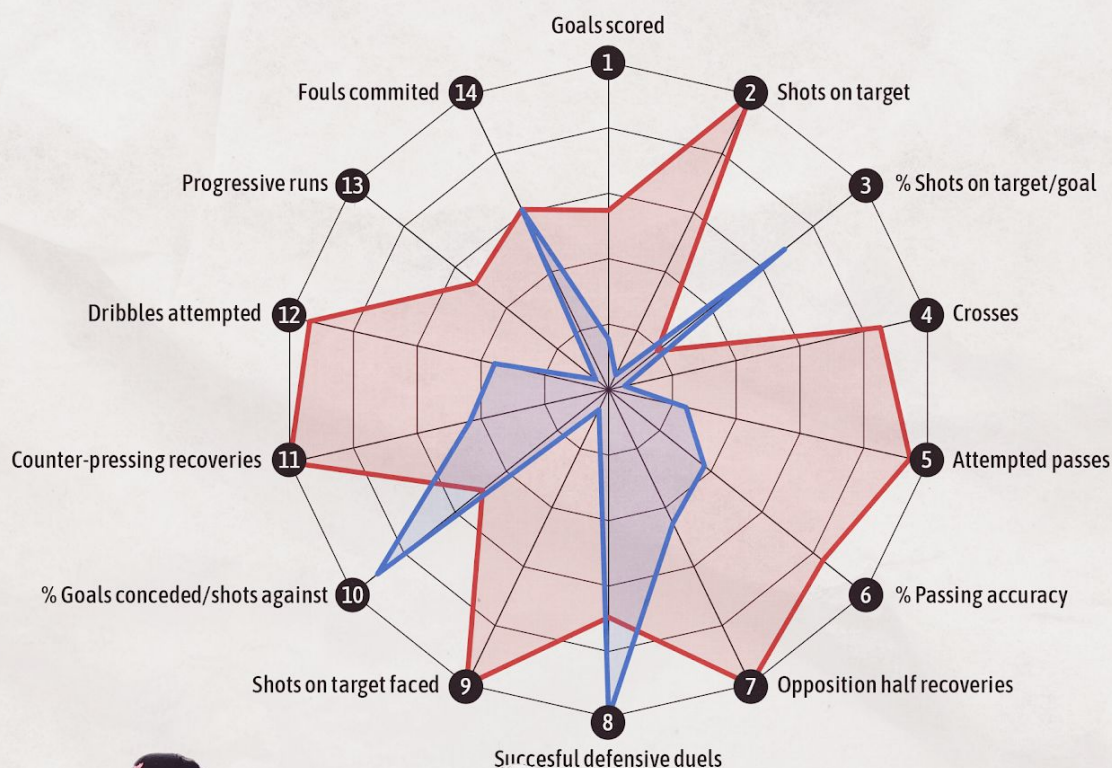
On a footballing level, it was also true that his track record could not compare with that of Mourinho, who was then in the third season of his second spell at **Chelsea** and had **24 titles** to his name compared to Klopp's six, half of which were **German Super Cups**. However, the German manager has been unbeatable against the Portuguese, winning seven (**54.85%**) of the 13 games they have met and scoring in **76.92%** of them. **'The Special One'** has barely beaten him on a couple of occasions to date.

Results that also support the **advanced stats**, for, the last nine times they faced each other in the Premier League, Liverpool were far better than **Chelsea** (1GP), **Manchester United** (5GP), and **Tottenham Hotspur** (3GP) in **goals** - scored and conceded, **shots on target** - for and against, **passes** - attempted and completed, **recovered balls** in the opposition half and **progressive runs** when **Jose Mourinho** was in charge. It could be said, therefore, that Klopp was a fair winner in those clashes.

Despite never having shown a fierce rivalry - at least not in public - the fact that **Jurgen Klopp** has replaced him as **Pep Guardiola's nemesis** is probably what bothers 'Mou' the most about the German coach.

Unmatched

Klopp frustrates The 'Special One'



KLOPP

MOURINHO

	KLOPP	MOURINHO
1	1.44	0.78
2	6.33	2.33
3	22.81	33.33
4	17.67	9.11
5	584.89	355.11
6	86.46	80.1
7	32.56	22.44
8	40.11	48.67
9	2.56	6.44
10	30.4	24.15
11	31.67	23.78
12	47.56	33.78
13	5.02	2.92
14	11.56	11.56

*Stats from the last 9 Premier League games they faced each other





ORIGI, DIVOCK. Born in **Ostend** on 18th April **1995**. A **Belgian** international, he came through the youth ranks at **Genk** before making his professional debut at **Lille**. He played as a centre-forward for **Liverpool** between 2014 and 2022 before joining **AC Milan**.



Origi, Divock

As fond as he is of praising his own players, there are few who **Jurgen Klopp** has defined as legends. The case of **Divock Origi**, in this respect, is truly special, as few regular substitutes would be considered as such by any manager, fan or football specialist. The Belgian, however, has made his mark at **Liverpool** despite his limited playing time compared to **Sadio Mane**, **Roberto Firmino** or **Mohamed Salah**, teammates and rivals for a place in the starting XI over the last five years.

“He is, and always will be for me, a club legend and **one of the most important players I have ever had in my charge**. It sounds really strange considering the (few) games he has played, but it is and has been an absolute pleasure to work with him,” the German coach said emphatically in the run-up to the final **Premier League** game of the 2021/2022 season, a 3-1 win over **Wolverhampton Wanderers** that could have decided the title. The Belgian was unable to play, however, due to injury, which also ruled him out of the **Champions League final** against **Real Madrid** in Kiev. His coach, however, decided to include him in the squad.

Despite the fact that his numbers are not huge compared to those of the strikers who have shared a dressing room with him at **Melwood**, the truth is that **Divock Origi** has shown an unusual love affair with the goal in moments that, in the end, have proved to be key for the team. We are talking, for example, about his brace against **Barcelona** in the semi-finals of the 2018/2019 **Champions League**. Not only did he open the scoring just minutes into the game, but he sealed one of the greatest comebacks in the history of the tournament (4-0) with a cheeky goal from a corner that caught the ‘Cule’ defence off guard. All this as a replacement for **Mohamed Salah**, who watched on from the sidelines due to injury, completely surpassing expectations.

A few weeks later he would score the final 2-0 against **Tottenham** in the final in **Madrid**, sealing the first title of the Klopp era on **Merseyside** and giving the club the **sixth Champions League title** in their history.

But the list of achievements of the Belgian international, who will play for **AC Milan** from the 2022/2023 season following the expiry of his **Liverpool** contract, does not end there. He will always be remembered for his last-gasp goal against **Everton** after the ball bounced twice off the top of the crossbar, misleading **Jordan Pickford**. The striker had been on the pitch for just six minutes - the remaining time when he came off the bench. **36.59** % of his goals for the German have come **in the last fifteen minutes**.

He always played well against the **Toffees**. After the bitter blow he gave them in 2018, a year later, at the start of the season that would end with the Reds winning the **Premier League** three decades later, he would score a vital brace in the title race that would also lead to **Marco Silva**'s sacking the following day at **Goodison Park**. More recently, in December 2021, he scored the winning goal against **Wolves** (0-1) in the 94th minute, giving his team three crucial points in the ultimately frustrated fight for the domestic title.

The English have a word that defines **Divock Origi** perfectly, and that is **gamechanger**. That is, someone who completely changes the game with his presence. A gamechanger whose impact far exceeds what is expected of him. After all, the Belgian has played far more games coming off the bench (**104**) than as a starter (**66**) in the Klopp era, with his goalscoring averages also being better as a substitute (**0.74** goals per 90') than starting (**0.51**). He shares with Roberto Firmino the honour of being **Liverpool**'s top scorer as a reserve (**12**), although his percentage overall (**29.27%**) far exceeds that of the Brazilian.



I am legend

Origi, a gamechanger like no other

ORIGI'S STATS UNDER KLOPP AT LIVERPOOL

	Games played	Min. earned	Goals scored	% GS	GS/90'
As a starter	66	5.090	29	70.73	0.51
From the bench	104	1.467	12	29.27	0.74

GOALS SCORED FROM 76' TO 90'

15



36.59%

KLOPP'S TOP GOALSCORERS FROM THE BENCH

		% from the bench
Divock Origi	12	29.27
Roberto Firmino	12	12.24
Daniel Sturridge	8	32
Christian Benteke	6	75
Mohamed Salah	6	3.85
Diogo Jota	5	14.71







PEP GUARDIOLA. *Former footballer and football coach born in **Santpedor** in **1971**. Considered by many, including **Jurgen Klopp**, the best coach in the history of world football not only for the **33 titles** he holds, but also for his recognisable footballing style.*



Pep

Jurgen Klopp's relationship with **Pep Guardiola** did not start well. The Catalan arrived in Munich in the summer of 2016 to replace **Jupp Heynckes**, who left the club after winning a historic treble and leaving **Borussia Dortmund** pipping to the post in both the **Bundesliga** and **Champions League**. **Mario Gotze**'s departure to **Bayern Munich** had only recently been confirmed following accusations of 'industrial espionage' by the German coach. It wasn't the right time for that to happen. Let's put it this way.

Dortmund would be the ones to give a warm welcome to the man who had conquered everything with **Barcelona**; the man who practically all football fans considered the best coach in the world. His first official match in charge of his new club would be the final of the national Supercup, which took place at the hostile ground of **Signal Iduna Park**. The home win (4-2) was uncontested. Rarely had **Klopp** celebrated his team's goals as he did on that occasion. It would be the first of his **nine victories** to date against his Spanish counterpart and, although nobody could have suspected it, also the beginning of **a beautiful friendship**..

Since then, Klopp and Guardiola have met on a total of **24 occasions**, with the balance being slightly in favour of the German, the only coach to have been the Spanish more times than the Spaniard has beaten him (**8**). The **seven draws** also attest to the close rivalry they have maintained over the years, during which they have not only developed a great admiration for each other, but also a mutual inspiration.

An example of this is **Liverpool**'s progressive evolution from direct, counter-attacking football towards a style that combines both aspects with the **Positional Play** that Pep himself developed so successfully not only in Spain, but also in Germany and, of course, in England. At the helm of **Manchester City**, the Catalan has seen how the influence of his admired Jurgen has greatly influenced his own tactical script. It is no coincidence that the **Cityzens** are currently one of the best counter-attacking teams in the world.



This football rivalry soon overshadowed **Pep Guardiola's** long-standing verbal and media rivalry with **Jose Mourinho**. Unlike the Portuguese, with whom he coincided at **Camp Nou** when he was still a player, the former Spain international shared no past with **Jurgen Klopp**; only the love of the game and the winning mentality that both have always instilled in their players. Gradually, and despite the **high level of pressure** that the games between them began to take on, admiration began to sprout.

However, the closeness of their meetings, in which Klopp's teams have conceded more goals (**1.7**) than they have scored (**1.5**) despite the positive balance of victories (**37.50%**), did not translate into their respective trophies. Pep had a huge advantage as, in his first season in the top flight (2008/2009), he led **Barcelona** to their first ever treble and, by the middle of his second (2009/2010), he had already added three more titles to the **Camp Nou** trophy cabinet. By the time **Klopp** won his first **Bundesliga** in 2011, the Spaniard had already accumulated ten of the 33 currently holds. To date, **the German has won 'only' twelve.**

Curiously, there are few major finals in which they have met. The first of them, in the 2014 **German Cup** (0-2), went Pep's way, as did the last one, the 2019 **Community Shield** (1-1, 4-5 on penalties), a trophy that they will play each other again on 30th July 2022. It will be the perfect appetizer ahead of a new **Premier League** season that looks exciting and the opportunity to break the 'technical tie' they hold in these matches thanks to the **German Super Cups** of 2013 and 2014 that Klopp won.



Clash of the titans

Klopp, Guardiola's worst nightmare

JÜRGEN KLOPP vs PEP GUARDIOLA:

	GAMES	WINS	DRAW	LOSSES	GOALS SCORED / 90'	GOALS CONCEDED / 90'	GAMES SCORING	CLEAN SHEETS
	8	3	1	4	1.4	1.4	62.50%	25.00%
	16	6	6	4	1.6	1.8	81.25%	18.75%
TOTAL	24	9	7	8	1.5	1.7	75.00%	20.83%

37.50%

W

29.17%

D

33.33%

L

MANAGERS* WHO FACED EACH OTHER MOST

P. Guardiola vs J. Mourinho




11 W 26 GP 8 W

C. Ancelotti vs L. Spalletti




8 W 25 GP 12 W

J. Klopp vs P. Guardiola




9 W 24 GP 8 W

M. Pochettino vs P. Guardiola




5 W 24 GP 14 W

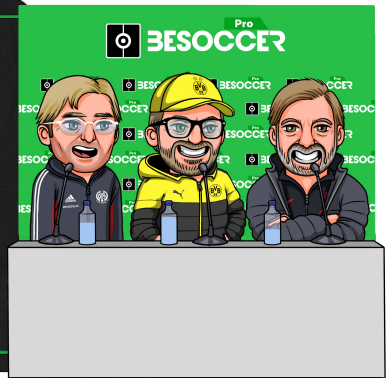
*On duty managers from the top European leagues

KLOPP AGAINST OTHER MANAGERS IN OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS

MOST GAMES PLAYED	MOST WINS	MOST LOSSES	MOST GOALS FOR	MOST GOALS AGAINST
Pep Guardiola 24	Dieter Hecking 11	Pep Guardiola 8	Dieter Hecking 45	Pep Guardiola 40
Dieter Hecking 21	Eddie Howe 10	Felix Magath 8	Pep Guardiola 36	Dieter Hecking 28
Thomas Schaaf 19	Pep Guardiola 9	Thomas Schaaf 7	Eddie Howe 31	Felix Magath 28
Thomas Tuchel 19	Thomas Schaaf 9	Carlo Ancelotti 5		
	Thomas Tuchel 9	Dieter Hecking 5		
		Ralf Rangnick 5		



QUOTE. 1. As a verb, it means to repeat or to copy out words from a text or speech written or spoken by another person. **2.** As a noun, it is a quotation from a text or speech. **Jürgen Klopp's** career is plenty of funny (and not so funny) ones.



Quotes

From the moment he had to face questions from the press every week - up to three times on more than one occasion - **Jürgen Klopp** has delighted us with small doses of **humour** and **geniality** through his quotes. There is no shortage of compilations to date of the German coach's **famous quotes** - some of which have already appeared in this report - and we are unlikely to see him ever bite his tongue. He did not so, for example, after the signing of his former pupil, **Shinji Kagawa**, by **Manchester United**.

"Is one of the best players in the world, and he now plays 20 minutes – on the left wing! My heart breaks. Really, **I have tears in my eyes**", declared **Klopp**, who wasn't even coaching Liverpool at that time and was already 'hitting out' at the **Red Devils**! And, although his players are the focus of most of his jokes, criticism and praise, there have been more than a few occasions when he has had to talk about himself. He unwittingly proclaimed himself '**The Normal One**' on his first day as **Liverpool** manager, but he has never been one for false modesty.. "I am not saying I am the best manager in the world. **But I'm quite good**", he once said.

His reputation as a group manager was also a topic of conversation at the press conference. "**My biggest skill is common sense**. I understand life", said the German coach at the time, who also admitted that "**crazy players love me** – I don't know why." A born motivator, he delivered one of his greatest quotes in the hours leading up to his first European final, in 2013, which would slip out of his mouth: "**The only way to reach a dream is to do it bravely.**"

His constant praise for **Pep Guardiola**, **Lionel Messi** and **Pele** and his criticism of **FIFA** and **UEFA** are constantly mixed with curious personal and not so personal anecdotes that usually catch journalists by surprise. One of the most talked about is how he knew he could replace Brendan Rodgers. "I heard from my agent that **Liverpool** is interested and I felt immediately, 'Oh God'. **It's like when I met my wife – I saw her and thought 'OK, I marry her'**", and it was like that with the club. It felt right from the first moment."

"Money isn't the most important thing. It is important, of course. I am not Mahatma Gandhi."

"Messi is the best. There must be life out there somewhere, on some other planet. Because he is too good and we are just too bad for him."

"I have no problem if someone wants to hug me – if I know him!"

"When I was a player, I played in empty stadiums – they [fans] were not banned, they were only not interested in the football we played!"

"Only stupid people are changed by success."

"Everybody in the stadium has to be in absolutely top shape. The guys who sell the hot dogs has to be in top shape."

"I have a second pair of glasses, but I can't find them. It's hard to find glasses without glasses!"

Jürgen Norbert Klopp







RENEW. 1. To make something new or to return it to its original state. 2. To re-establish or resume a relationship or something else that has been interrupted. 3. To resume, put back, or replace something. 4. To give new energy to do something.



Renewal

Jurgen Klopp's contract with **Liverpool** has long since become a major issue on the banks of the River **Mersey**. Specifically, since the German and his players ended a thirty-year drought in the **Premier League**. After renewing him for six years, until **2022**, nine months after landing in charge, the owners of the club, **Fenway Sports Group**, offered him another two seasons, until **2024**, just a few months before winning the coveted domestic title. For many Reds, however, a desperate countdown was beginning.

On more than few occasions **Kloppo** had made it clear that "I don't plan to retire in a dugout", implying that he would not follow in the footsteps of **Roy Hodgson** or **Claudio Ranieri**, who continued to coach past the age at which any ordinary person would retire. He had managed **Mainz 05** and **Borussia Dortmund** for seven seasons, If he fulfilled his new contract, he would have coached Liverpool for eight and a half seasons. **Was there a chance he would anticipate his farewell?** If he did it in **North Rhine-Westphalia**, when he was no longer considered the ideal man for the job, why wouldn't he also do it at **Anfield**, if it came to that?

There was not a single press conference during the 2021-2022 season in which Klopp was not questioned on the subject. The German was even annoyed on occasions, in fact, despite his usual sense of humour. The insistence was starting to be annoying, but the fans needed to know whether the architect of one of the best **Liverpool** ever would be leaving soon, who would replace him (**Steven Gerrard's** contract with **Aston Villa** expires in 2022) and whether his departure would coincide with that of a generation of excellent players who would, by then, be facing the inevitable final stretch of their football careers. The answers, against all odds, would come soon.

"Are we really leaving here in two years?" was the question **Ulla Sandrock** asked her husband, Jurgen Klopp, one ordinary morning. The writer and the former footballer had found in **Liverpool**, in general, and **Formby**, in particular, the ideal place to make a life for themselves. She wanted to stay longer. He agreed without complaint.



It did not take long for events to develop. After a brief discussion with his wife, according to the media reports at the time, **Jurgen Klopp** called his agent, **Marc Kosicke**, to say that he would be willing to sign a new contract if the club were willing to do so. The news sent **Fenway Sports Group's** headquarters in **Boston**, Massachusetts, into a frenzy, and they set about making their manager's wishes come true: two more years on his contract (his contract was set to expire in 2024) and **a considerable pay rise... for his coaching staff!** His financial conditions will remain unchanged until the end of his contract in **2026**.

The rumour began to spread in the early hours of the morning of 28th April 2022 on social media. By then, Klopp had already contacted **Peter Krawietz**, **Vitor Matos** and **Pepijn Lijnders** to see if they would like to stay with him another four years, and the answer was a resounding 'yes'. A few hours later, **Klopp** himself spoke to **Liverpool** fans to confirm what had been on the table all day. In an interview a few days later with 'The Athletic', **Tom Werner**, the British club's chairman, admitted that **"I held my breath until it happened"** despite knowing first-hand of the German manager's willingness to extend the adventure he began in October 2015 and which could see him surpass the legendary **Bob Paisley's** time at the club.

"Nobody wants to think about the day when Jurgen Klopp is no longer the coach of this team," Werner told the media, probably aware that the options to replace the German in the medium term are rather limited. For the time being, **the club has four more years** to at least try to do so.

History of Anfield

Most faithful managers to Liverpool

UNTIL 30th JUNE 2022

UNTIL 30th JUNE 2026

	SEASONS	TIME IN CHARGE
🇬🇧 Tom Watson	1896 - 1915	18 years, 9 months
🇸🇪 Bill Shankly	1959 - 1974	14 years, 7 months
🇬🇧 George Kay	1936 - 1951	14 years, 5 months
🇬🇧 Bob Paisley	1974 - 1983	8 years, 11 months
🇬🇧 George Patterson	1928 - 1936	8 years, 5 months
🇩🇪 JÜRGEN KLOPP	2015 - 2022	6 years, 8 months
🇪🇸 Rafa Benítez	2004 - 2010	6 years
🇫🇷 Gerard Houllier	1998 - 2004	5 years, 10 months
🇸🇪 Kenny Dalglish	1985 - 1991	5 years, 7 months
🇬🇧 Don Welsh	1951 - 1956	5 years, 2 months

	SEASONS	TIME IN CHARGE
🇬🇧 Tom Watson	1896 - 1915	18 years, 9 months
🇸🇪 Bill Shankly	1959 - 1974	14 years, 7 months
🇬🇧 George Kay	1936 - 1951	14 years, 5 months
🇩🇪 JÜRGEN KLOPP	2015 - 2026	10 years, 8 months
🇬🇧 Bob Paisley	1974 - 1983	8 years, 11 months
🇬🇧 George Patterson	1928 - 1936	8 years, 5 months
🇪🇸 Rafa Benítez	2004 - 2010	6 years
🇫🇷 Gerard Houllier	1998 - 2004	5 years, 10 months
🇸🇪 Kenny Dalglish	1985 - 1991	5 years, 7 months
🇬🇧 Don Welsh	1951 - 1956	5 years, 2 months





SEVILLA FC. One of the two teams that divide Sevillian football. Founded in **1890**, they have dominated the **Europa League**, previously named UEFA Cup, by winning the competition **six times**. They are also the team that have historically been **Klopp's** Achilles heel.



Sevilla

Every coach has their achilles heel. **Jurgen Klopp's** finds itself in the lower reaches of Europe. The southern Spanish side, **Sevilla**, have been his bane for years. **Juventus**, **Jahn Regensburg**, **Vlebert** and **Sion** have also never lost to the man from Stuttgart. But, a closer look into the details reveals that they have all only met him once or twice. **The Andalusian club** have been a serious stumbling block: no wins in seven meetings with three different teams, as well as in two different competitions (**Champions League** and **Europa League**).

His most painful loss to the Sevillians was when he was in charge of **Mainz 05**. Klopp's wild card side met Juande Ramos' imperious team in the **Europa League** round of 32. The first leg in **Seville** ended 0-0. However, Mainz fell 0-2 in front at home in the return fixture thanks to a **Kanoute** brace. He has been the German's main tormentor along with **Ben Yedder** (both players with three goals each). Of the three teams that Klopp has managed, his **Mainz** side were the only ones not to score a goal against the Andalusians. The most painful part of this story is the fact that Mainz's hopes of Europa League glory were dashed. Among the players in that squad was **Marco Rose**, the left-back who was already preparing to become a manager - playing in the group stages of Europe's second biggest competition.

This was a pill that **Klopp** would have to swallow five years later. This is despite another home and away tie against **Sevilla** with a stronger **Borussia Dortmund** team. Amongst the squad's armory were players like: **Lewandowski**, Kagawa, Sahin, **Hummels**, Subotic, **Weidenfeller**... The meet occurred in the Europa League group stages, just before the knock-out rounds. With **Paris Saint-Germain** leading the group, the Germans and the Spaniards were battling for the remaining ticket in the **Ramon Sanchez-Pizjuan**. Despite Kagawa's early goal (4'), **Romaric** and once again, **Kanoute** turned the game around in three minutes. Before the break, Subotic drew level. The match ended 2-2. A result that ultimately served **Gregorio Manzano** better than it did Klopp. In the first leg, in the renamed **Westfalenstadion (Signal Iduna Park)**, the Sevillians won 0-1.

The following dose of 'kryptonite' was the most painful of them all for **Klopp**. After being given the chance to manage **Liverpool**, he looked ready to lift his first title with them seven months later. He faced a side led by a mastermind of the competition, **Unai Emery**, in the **Europa League** final at **St. Jakob-Park**. Again Jurgen took a hammer blow. **Daniel Sturridge** painted the perfect picture after scoring in the 35th minute, but the Sevillians came back to haunt Klopp once more in the second half. **Kevin Gameiro** and a **Coke** brace snatched the trophy from The Reds.

In the 2017/18 Champions League, fate would pair the teams once more. They appeared in a forgiving group with **Spartak Moscow** and **Maribor**. **Klopp's** struggles continued, this time with **Eduardo Berizzo** at the Sevilla helm. However, a 2-2 draw in the first leg and 3-3 result in the second, did not prevent Liverpool from qualifying as group winners. How that tournament ended in **Kiev** is well known amongst Liverpool and football fans alike.

Sevilla have become somewhat of a historical figure for the manager. They are the **third highest scoring team against him** (over at least three matches), with an average of **1.86**/game. The other two are **Greuther Furth** (2.0) and **Bayern Munich** (1.87). Sevilla also rank third on the list of clubs that Klopp's teams have failed to score against across all meetings (**42.86%**). However, considering the quality of Klopp's current team, it is only a matter of time before he **gets his revenge** on Sevilla. Not often do we see a team choke so badly.



Indomitable

Jürgen Klopp's black beast

KLOPP GAMES AGAINST SEVILLA FC

2005/2006
 **0** **0** 
 Europa League
 vs Juande Ramos

2005/2006
 **0** **2** 
 Europa League
 vs Juande Ramos

2010/2011
 **0** **1** 
 Europa League
 vs Gregorio Manzano

2010/2011
 **2** **2** 
 Europa League
 vs Gregorio Manzano

2015/2016
 **1** **3** 
 Europa League
 vs Unai Emery

2017/2018
 **2** **2** 
 Champions League
 vs Eduardo Berizzo

2017/2018
 **3** **3** 
 Champions League
 vs Eduardo Berizzo

MOST GOALS SCORED AGAINST KLOPP'S TEAMS

	GP	⚽/90'
Greuther Fürth	12	2
Bayern München	31	1.87
Sevilla	7	1.86
Aston Villa	9	1.78
Stuttgart	20	1.75

MOST DIFFICULT TEAMS TO SCORE

	GP	% sin marcar
Kickers Offenbach FC	3	66.67
Arminia Bielefeld	12	50
Sevilla	7	42.86
Real Madrid	10	40
Alemannia Aachen	11	36.36







TUCHEL, THOMAS. Ex footballer and now manager, born on 29th August **1973**. Current **Chelsea** manager after previous seasons at **Mainz 05**, **Borussia Dortmund** and **PSG**. Injury forced him to hang up his boots earlier than planned. Considered as **Jurgen Klopp's** 'heir'.



Tuchel, Thomas

As what will occur one day at **Liverpool**, **Jurgen Klopp** broke **Borussia Dortmund** fans' hearts by deciding that he no longer wanted to manage the team. This happened in April 2015. As it is today, the managerial market was thin, and so a perfect replacement for Klopp was hard to find, but not impossible. Because of this, **Michael Zorc**, sporting director of Dortmund, decided to repeat what he had done in signing Klopp seven years previously: place a young talent at the helm. This came in the form of **Thomas Tuchel**.

The young, lesser known **42 year old** manager had led **Mainz 05** to notable success between 2009 and 2014. Before this, he began his playing career in **Augsburg's** academy. However, he was released from the club and his time on the pitch was cut short by a serious injury at 24 years of age when he was playing for **SSV Ulm**. Following this, **Ralf Rangnick**, at the time a young and promising coach, gave Tuchel a second chance in the beautiful game by appointing him as **Stuttgart's** youth team manager in the year 2000. Five years later, he repaid Rangnick's faith and led his youth team side to league champions.

Despite his success and development of players such as **Mario Gomez** and **Holger Badstuber**, among others, the club decided not to renew his contract. However, his complex tactical knowledge caught the attention of **Andreas Retting**, **Augsburg's** sporting director. Tuchel was then named academy coordinator at the club. Three years later, in 2007, he took the reins of the reserve team, in which **Julian Nagelsmann** played. Nagelsmann was promoted to a scout role a year later after suffering a career ending injury.

A number of professional teams expressed great interest in his capabilities, despite him having a notorious character. This in fact led him to **receiving fines on multiple occasions** for criticizing referees. However, this did nothing to impede **Christian Heidel's** decision in making him Mainz 05 head coach. This came after **Jurgen Klopp** had left his team for **Borussia Dortmund**, who had succeeded **Jorn Andersen**, the architect of **Mainz's** return to the **Bundesliga**.

In process

No choice against the master

KLOPP vs TUCHEL:

	GAMES	WINS	% VICTORIES	DRAWS	LOSSES	GS/90'	GC/90'	GAME SCORING	CLEANSHEETS
	10	7	70.00%	2	1	1.80	0.80	80.00%	30.00%
	9	2	22.22%	5	2	1.33	1.33	66.67%	22.22%
TOTAL	19	9	47.37%	7	3	1.58	1.05	73.68%	26.32%

Tuchel improved **Mainz 05's** results whilst Klopp was managing at the heights of German football. He always easily achieved league survival as well as two trips to the **Europa League**. His similarities to his predecessor grew closer still after his arrival at **Signal Iduna Park**. He won the **German Cup** there... but not the hearts of the fans. His bosses, **Michael Zorc** and **Hans-Joachim Watzke**, were not fond of him either and they lost all confidence in Tuchel after he criticized their transfer business. But, with this being said, he earned praise from **Pep Guardiola**, one of his fiercest managerial rivals, and lifted the **Champions League** in 2021.

As far as Klopp is concerned, they are only similar in the clubs they have managed. This is because they had varying degrees of success at **Mainz** and **Dortmund**. This is combined with the fact that in **19** meetings between the two, the **Liverpool** manager has won **47.37%** of them, losing on just three occasions to the man many consider as Klopp's footballing heir. Tuchel's managerial influences can be seen to come from **Ralf Rangnick** and **Pep Guardiola**. Meanwhile, **Klopp** himself has been an example to follow. However, this does not take away from the fact that the Dortmund fans saw, and expected him to be 'the new Klopp'.

However, last season saw Klopp's **Liverpool** sow the seed of what could be a true battle of footballing brains for years to come. The Reds first downed Tuchel's **Chelsea** in the **Carabao Cup** final, and then beat them to the **FA Cup** on penalties for a second time in the same season; both matches at **Wembley**. **The Blues** will now have it in for the current English and European runners up.

Tuchel being capable of taking Klopp's place as **Manchester City's** main rival is a different story.

Shared heritage

Their best common pupils



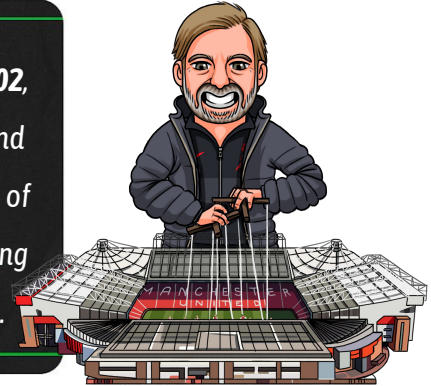
	MAXELO	GAMES		GOALS	
		KLOPP	TUCHEL	KLOPP	TUCHEL
P. Aubameyang	94	94	95	41	79
M. Reus	91	122	67	53	36
M. Hummels	91	244	50	22	3
L. Piszczek	90	191	77	9	7
H. Mkhitaryan	88	88	52	18	23
M. Ginter	87	20	82	0	4
S. Kagawa	87	109	76	35	19
N. Sahin	86	179	21	22	1
R. Weidenfeller	86	280	25	282*	34*
M. Schmelzer	86	233	86	4	1
N. Subotić	85	281	11	22	0
M. Götze	85	116	16	31	2
I. Gündogan	85	117	40	12	3
Sokratis	84	74	81	3	4
K. Kampl	82	16	3	0	0
N. Noveski	81	133	167	5	4
S. Bender	81	181	43	4	0
L. Karius	79	49	24	47*	31*
J. Hofmann	79	45	14	3	2
A. Ramos	78	29	50	6	13

*Goals conceded





MANCHESTER UNITED FC. Founded on 24th April 1902, the evolution of **Newton Heath LYR Football Club** and the most lauded club in English football. One half of the Northwest Derby with **Liverpool**. A happy hunting ground for **The Reds** since the arrival of **Jurgen Klopp**.



United, Manchester

When Klopp arrived at **Anfield**, he had a lot of work to do, and the remnants of previous projects to deal with. Another challenge he faced was one that was truly felt in the hearts of Liverpool fans. This being, to be the best in the north-west of England after years of **Manchester United** dominance. The **rivalry** began between workers from the two cities at the start of the 19th century and it soon translated onto the football pitch. Under the current Premier League format (starting in the 92/93 season), the **Red Devils** had the competition by the throat: **thirteen** titles to Liverpool's zero. In the last two decades, **Manchester City** rose to join the fight. However, with the German at the helm, this situation has been flipped on its head.

Considering the Premier League facts and figures before Klopp took charge of Liverpool, **Manchester United** were the team to have beaten The Reds the most times in the competition: **30** out of **55** meets, **54.55%**. To put this into context, **Chelsea** were the other team who had beaten The Reds more times than they lost, but this rivalry was much closer (**26-23**). The arrival of the ex **Borussia Dortmund** manager changed it all. Since he took the reins at Liverpool, he has only lost **twice** in **thirteen** league meetings with United, winning **five** of them. Adding to this an **FA Cup** clash and two **Europa League** meetings, Klopp's record against The Red Devils stands at **three** losses and **six** wins.

The events of last season are a true reflection of how things have changed. In their first meeting, the Liverpudlians inflicted a painful **0-5** defeat on the Mancunians. This was a result that instantly wrote itself into the **North-west Derby** history books. A scoreline that big had never before been achieved. Liverpool proved this was not a fluke in the return match after winning **4-0**. This proves just how much Klopp has uprooted 'the establishment'. Since his first match in the Premier League, Klopp has won a total of **556** points with **The Reds**. United have earned **464**. On average, his Liverpool side have won **13.1** points more in every season he has been manager.

That's all.

Nevertheless, this forward progression in the league has not culminated in many trophies. In fact, **Liverpool** have won 'just one' **Premier League** title since Klopp took over. However, this is still one more than **Manchester United** have managed over the same period. Moreover, The Reds' average league finishing position during Klopp's seven year reign is third. Meanwhile **The Red Devil's** is fourth. Added to this, is the fact that the man from **Stuttgart** has been battling with his good friend Pep Guardiola over the last four campaigns in an intense title fight. One that saw last season's race for first go down to the final day of the season.

In the pre-Klopp era, **Liverpool** scored **1.15** goals and conceded **1.42** in their meetings with their neighbors from **Manchester**. The German's influence has flipped this on its head. Now, it is **1.62** to **0.62**. Klopp's Liverpool side have conceded just one goal against Manchester United in the **Premier League** since he arrived. Highlighting the man from Stuttgart's dominance further, is the fact that four different coaches at United have faced him: **Ole-Gunnar Solskjaer** (6 matches), **Jose Mourinho** (5), **Louis Van Gaal** (1) and **Ralph Rangnick** (1). From this list, only the Portuguese and the Dutchman managed to defeat Klopp in the domestic league. Mourinho did so **2-1** in the 2017/18 season, while Van Gaal managed a **3-1** victory at the start of the 2015/16 campaign.

Solskjaer was the one to be on the receiving end of Klopp's fury the most times. In three out of their six encounters, his United side conceded more than one goal. In total, Klopp's Liverpool **scored twelve goals** in said meetings.

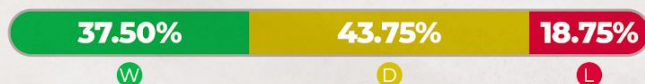


Kings of the North West

Liverpool claim the throne under Klopp

JÜRGEN KLOPP vs MANCHESTER UNITED:

	GAMES	WINS	DRAWS	LOSSES	GOALS SCORED / 90'	GOALS CONCEDED / 90'	GAMES SCORING	CLEAN SHEETS
Premier League	13	5	6	2	1.62	0.62	61.54%	53.85%
Europa League	2	1	1	0	1.5	0.5	100%	50%
FA Cup	1	0	0	1	2	3	100%	0%
TOTAL	16	6	7	3	1.63	0.75	68.75%	50%



JÜRGEN KLOPP vs ENGLISH TEAMS

	GP	WINS	DRAWS	LOSSES	GOALS SCORED / 90'	GOALS CONCEDED / 90'
Arsenal	24	50%	33.33%	16.67%	2.21	1.21
Man. City	21	42.86%	38.1%	19.05%	1.67	1.52
Chelsea	19	31.58%	47.37%	21.05%	1.37	1.11
Southampton	17	58.82%	17.65%	23.53%	2	0.65
Tottenham Hotspur	16	56.25%	37.5%	6.25%	1.63	1.06
Man. Utd	16	37.5%	43.75%	18.75%	1.63	0.75
Leicester	16	56.25%	12.5%	31.25%	1.81	1.31
Everton	15	60%	33.33%	6.67%	1.73	0.67
West Ham	15	60%	20%	20%	2.2	1.07
Crystal Palace	14	85.71%	0%	14.29%	2.71	0.93
Newcastle	12	58.33%	33.33%	8.33%	1.92	0.92
Watford	12	75%	8.33%	16.67%	2.83	0.83
Burnley	12	66.67%	16.67%	16.67%	1.83	0.83
AFC Bournemouth	10	80%	10%	10%	2.7	0.8
Brighton & Hove Albion	10	70%	20%	10%	2.1	0.7
Wolves	10	80%	0.00%	20%	1.8	0.6

*Premier League teams he has faced 10 times at least



2nd English teams he has beaten the least
2nd English team he has drawn against the most
5th English team he has scored against the least





VAN DIJK, VIRGIL. Footballer born in **Breda** on 8th July 1991. International player for **The Netherlands**, he developed on an upward trajectory at the clubs of **Groningen, Celtic y Southampton**. He is considered as one of the best CBs in **Premier League** history.



Van Dijk, Virgil

Although **Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool** will mostly be remembered for its front three of **Roberto Firmino, Sadio Mane** and **Mohamed Salah**, one of his most important and successful additions to his team was centreback, **Virgil Van Dijk**. It can be safely said that the Dutchman has been to the Anfield outfit what **Robert Lewandowski** was to Klopp's **Borussia Dortmund**: the key piece in the puzzle, the glue that binds everything and everyone together. The risks that the English club took in signing him were not exactly small either.

In summer 2017, the **Premier League** launched an investigation after **Southampton** accused **Liverpool** of making "illegal contact" with the player. The side from **Melwood** quickly played innocent and excused themselves of "any case of misunderstanding" which may have happened. **Michael Edwards** was then forced to stop any transfer dealings ahead of the **2017/18** season. This was in order to avoid the club from being sanctioned. Therefore, keeping their options open to grant both the manager's and the player's wishes in the future.

Six months later, in January 2018, **Virgil Van Dijk** became the most expensive centreback in the history of world football at a cost of **89.05 million euros**. As of today, only **Manchester United's Harry Maguire** came at a higher cost than him, but only by a slight margin. His incorporation ahead of the second half of the season was key in Liverpool's achievement of fourth place. On top of this, the Dutchman helped the Merseyside club reach the first of their three **Champions League** finals that they have reached under **Jurgen Klopp's** direction.

The following season, **Liverpool** finally got their hands on the Champions League trophy after a disappointing domestic campaign. In said season, **The Reds** kept a clean sheet in **50.98%** of their **51 matches** (26) in which Van Dijk played. In the 2021/22 campaign, over the same number of matches, this figure was improved, sitting at **56.86%** (29). This coincided with being **Premier League** and Champions League runners up, as well as winning the **Carabao Cup** and **FA Cup**.



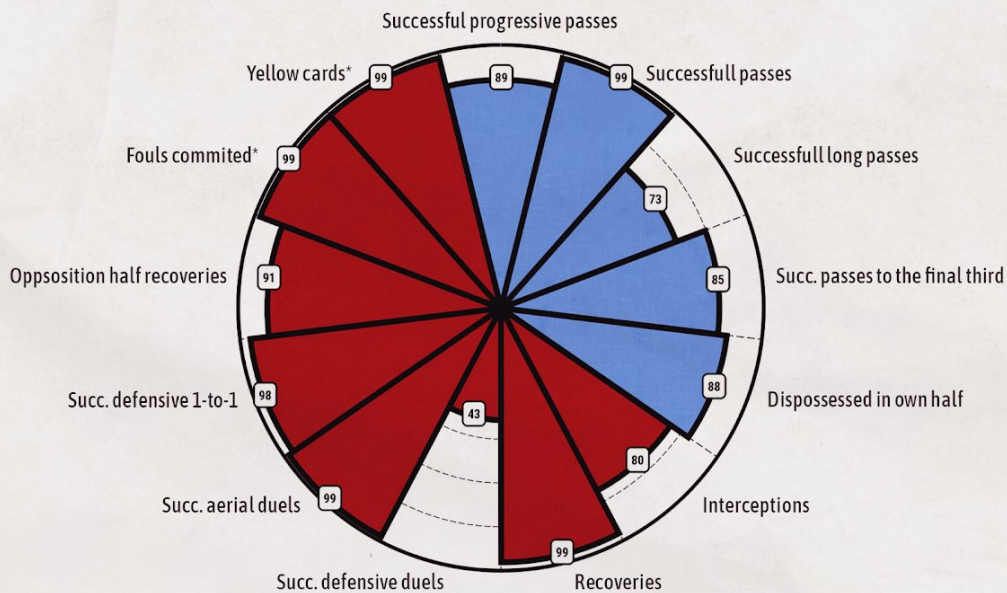
In October 2020, a few months after the team from **Anfield Road** lifted their first domestic league title in thirty years, **Jordan Pickford** inflicted a serious injury on Van Dijk. This caused a chasm in the **Liverpool** back line. Even with **Alisson Becker** between the sticks, The Reds conceded at least one goal in **60%** of their matches. More telling still, was that they conceded in **75%** of their matches in the following season after Van Dijk made his return and **only missed twelve matches**. **Jurgen Klopp** can be thankful for having such a 'beast' in his arsenal. Without him, the team have a **clean sheet** rate of **38.61%**. However, with the '**Giant of Breda**' in the side, this statistic is **45.86%**.

Additional analytics are telling of his influence on Liverpool and the world of football further still. According to **BeSoccer Pro**, **Virgil Van Dijk** has been the best player in his position in terms of **aerial duels won**, number of **recoveries** and **successful passes** per 90 minutes in all competitions since joining the English side. He has also committed the fewest **fouls** and received the fewest **yellow cards**. Added to this, he is not far behind the world leaders in **defensive one on one duels**.

His influence in The **Klopp** System is such that his new teammates instantly saw him as the third captain of the team. And so, the club took no time at all in offering him a long term contract in 2021, which runs until **2025**. This is in line with **Fabinho** (2026), **Alisson Becker** (2027), **Trent Alexander-Arnold** (2025) and club captain, **Jordan Henderson** (2025). His broad vision of play, tactical comprehension, physical power, passing precision and ability to snuff out danger in front of his own goalkeeper have made him a unanimously agreed candidate for the **Premier League's Hall of Fame** in the not so distant future.

The colossus from Breda

His performance in official competitions under Klopp



PASSING

DEFENSIVE

*Inverted metrics; the higher the percentile, less fouls have been committed and less cards have been shown







WANDA METROPOLITANO. *New home of Atletico Madrid since 16th September 2017, the date on which they played their first match there. It has a capacity of **68,456** and is a **UEFA** certified venue to host events of the highest order, like the **Champions League** final.*



Wanda Metropolitano

Klopp's greatest work of art appeared in East **Madrid**, in the **Wanda Metropolitano**. On 1st June 2019, Liverpool lifted their sixth **European Cup**; the German manager's first. The 'Holy Grail' Liverpool generation was worthy of such achievement. That day, Klopp also overcame his **stigma of losing** finals, something which had haunted him for years. His team that season (like every season) was more of a crushing machine than a pretty, ball-playing side. However, they did not exactly blow the competition away. They lost four matches on their way to the final, including a **3-0** defeat in the semi-final first leg at the **Camp Nou**. But, they left jaws dropping in the second leg after turning the tie around with a **4-0** win. Without doubt, a **Champions League 'crafted by Klopp'**.

With **Real Madrid** as an exception, there has never been a team to have reached the final of the tournament after losing so many times in the same edition of the competition. Usually, two losses results in elimination. In the final round of group stage fixtures, after having lost three away matches, a last ditch win against **Napoli** saw them reach the round of 16. **Alisson's** save against **Milik** during that game will live long in the memory of any Reds fan. The famous 4-0 against Barcelona will also never be forgotten by Liverpool and football fans alike. It was neither **Salah** nor **Firmino**, but **Wijnaldum** and **Origi** who appeared as heroes that day. One cannot also forget **Alexander-Arnold's** genius from the corner flag in that game.

That was **Liverpool** in a nutshell. However, they also imposed their dominance throughout their journey to the semifinals. They beat **Paris Saint-Germain** 3-2, **Red Star** 4-0, an unforgettable 1-3 result instigated by **Sadio Mane** against his now current club, **Bayern Munich**, and, the famous front three inflicted a 1-4 defeat on **Porto**.

The statistics of that squad reflect just how expertly Klopp was able to conduct his players to **all sing from the same hymn sheet**. His top goalscorer, **Mohamed Salah**, did not get more than five. **Nine other players made up their total of 25** in the tournament: Mane (4), Firmino (4), Origi (3), Wijnaldum (2), Van Dijk (2), Milner (2), Keita and Sturridge.

That **Liverpool** side scored almost two goals a game on average (**1.85**). Their matches were also exciting contests, as they conceded in seven of their thirteen games, an average of **0.92** per duel. Also, during that edition of the tournament, they were the team that **required the fewest shots on goal to score per game** with a figure of just six.

Although Salah was Klopp's top goalscorer, his trump card, as we have seen in the pages previous, was **Divock Origi**. The hero that marked the turnaround against Barcelona averaged **1.24** goals per 90 minutes played and was the best player at opening the scoring (**0.41**). However, the best statistic in terms of match winning goals went to **Roberto Firmino** (**0.12**). Another player who cannot be left out of the offensive figures is **Trent Alexander-Arnold**, a weapon down the right wing and from dead ball situations. He assisted the most goals (**4**), made **0.98** key passes per 90 minutes and completed **2.05** crosses a game in the 2018/19 **Champions League**.

All of this intensity and dominance came to a head in the final at the Metropolitano. However, the scoreline (the 2-0 did not come until the 87th minute) did not reflect this as much as the stats did: **14** shots (**8** on target), **9** from inside the area; **64%** possession ; and **408** passes completed to **Tottenham's 175**. Such dominance in the final may have had something to do with Jurgen Klopp's assistant, **Pepijn Lijnders**, organising a secret friendly against **Benfica B** during the training camp in **Marbella** leading up to the match. They used similar tactics to **Mauricio Pochettino** at the time.



ROAD TO MADRID

2018-2019 Champions League winners' stats

	Total	Average
Games	13	
Wins	8	61.54%
Draws	1	7.69%
Losses	4	30.77%
Goals scored	24	1.85
Goals conceded	12	0.92
Games scoring	9	69.23%
Clean sheets	6	46.15%

Most goals scored

Salah
5


Most assists made

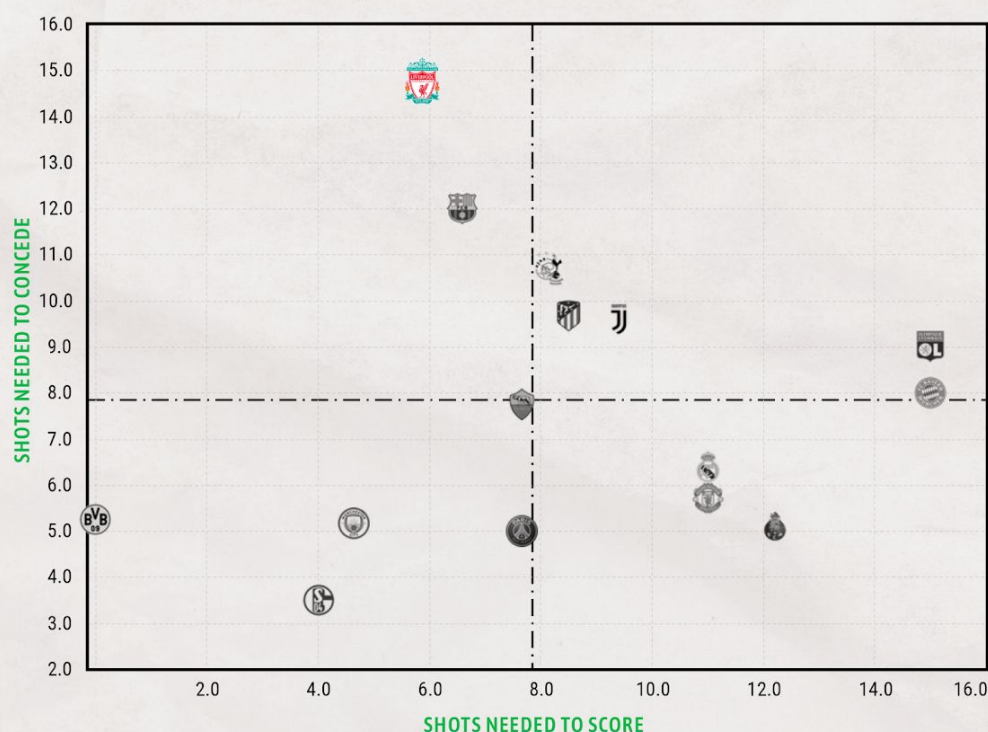
Alexander-Arnold
4


Hard to beat

Fastness led Liverpool to their sixth European Cup

SHOTS NEEDED TO SCORE vs SHOTS NEEDED TO CONCEDE

2018-2019 UEFA Champions League per game stats



2018-2019 CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PLAYERS' STATS

per 90 minutes

GOALS D. Origi 1.24	ASSISTS Alexander-Arnold 0.39	SHOTS IN THE POST M. Salah 0.17	WINNER GOALS R. Firmino 0.12
OPENER GOALS D. Origi 0.41	PENALTY GOALS J. Milner 0.2	SHOTS M. Salah 4.25	SHOTS ON TARGET M. Salah 1.45
KEY PASSES Alexander-Arnold 0.98	SUCC. DRIBBLES N. Keita 4.8	FOULS WON S. Mané 1.72	SUCC. PASSES Joe Gomez 58.85
FOULS COMMITTED Fabinho 2.23	CARDS SHOWN Fabinho 0.37	SUCC. CROSSES Alexander-Arnold 2.05	SUCC. AERIAL DUELS V. Van Dijk 3.42
INTERCEPTIONS J. Matip 8.25	SAVES Alisson 3.54	SAVES PER GOAL Alisson 3.83	% CLEAN SHEETS Alisson 46.2%



UEFA

CHAMPIONS

LEAGUE.





XENOPHILIA. *Sympathy for a foreigner or foreigners. In terms of **Jurgen Klopp**, it is a word which can be used to explain how his treatment of foreign players in his **Mainz 05, Borussia Dortmund** and **Liverpool** teams has improved each individual's performances.*



Xenophilia

Jurgen Klopp embracing **Sadio Mane, Robert Lewandowski, Thiago Alcantara**. The image has repeated itself throughout recent years and only the predicate has changed. We are of course talking about the special relationship that the German develops with his players. He maintains a special **aura of closeness** with them. This chemistry that he holds with his players has been a constant throughout his time as a manager. It can be said that he has developed a **special ability in dealing with foreign players**. The majority of those who have spent time with him, have seen their performance improve. There are of course exceptions, but they do not take away from the fact that Klopp has a father-like character which is able to capture the heart of a professional player.

To start with, he has worked with **78 players** of differing nationalities to his. **15** footballers at Mainz 05, **23** players at Borussia Dortmund and **30** men at Liverpool. Let's begin by using the best scale in measuring player performance that **BeSoccer Pro** has to offer: the **ELO**. The first insightful statistic is that **22 of those 78** footballers had an inferior ELO from their last match under Klopp in comparison to their first. Three players maintained the same score, while 53 showed an improved score. As always, this is according to our metrics.

Unsurprisingly, nine out of the 'Top 10' players with the highest ELO scores whilst being under Klopp's management, are from his current team, **Liverpool**. Moreover, seven out of said nine will play for him in the 22/23 season with the exceptions of **Wijnaldum** and **Mane**. **Robert Lewandowski** is the only one who sneaks in from another team. The Pole left everyone at **Borussia Dortmund** mourning his absence after he decided to move to Bayern Munich during his prime. In fact, despite this thinking, he has raised his bar of performance even higher in recent seasons. **Mane (94)**, **Salah (94)** and **Robertson (93)** complete the podium. **Alisson (92)** is the next player on the list before Lewandowski breaks the Liverpool streak. From there, **Virgil Van Dijk (91)** is next. Then: **Fabinho (88)**, **Wijnaldum (86)**, **Firmino (84)** and **Joel Matip (82)**.



In searching for the answer to which players have improved the most under Klopp's direction, we need look no further than **Mainz 05**. There, he took **Antonio da Silva**, the Brazilian attacking midfielder, from an ELO of 42, to an ELO of **78**, scored in his final match. He was not the only player who experienced a boost of 30 points or more. The Ukrainian, **Voronin**, also got a taste of this treatment who reached a high of 67 in the 02/03 season, and finished as Klopp's top goalscorer, not just in the team but also in the league. This was pivotal in **Mainz 05** achieving promotion to the **Bundesliga**. The third most improved player by the German manager was **Robert Lewandowski**. The Pole went **from 67 to 91 points** over the course of the four years he spent with him at Dortmund.

In the **Liverpool** ranks, the two full-backs of **Andy Robertson** and **Neco Williams** have experienced the **Klopp** boost the most after improving by **+19** and **+17** respectively. In fact, the Scotsman can be seen as a true reflection of the German's impact on **Anfield**. Klopp has raised many footballers to their best performances and in doing so, increased their value and grown the club. A prime example of this is **Coutinho**. He was sold to Barcelona for a fee of **135 million** euros. This was after the German coach had boosted his ELO score by 10 points, reaching a final value of **91**.

However, there have been a few examples that have gone against the grain. Klopp has experienced the devaluation of a handful of players. A clear example of this is **Xherdan Shaqiri**. He dropped 22 points under Klopp's watch, and **Simon Mignolet**, -21. Other examples are **Dede** (-16) and **Minamino** (-11).

'Kloppers' around the world

His best foreign players

		GAMES	FIRST GAME UNDER KLOPP		LAST GAME UNDER KLOPP		DIFFERENCE	
			ELO	AGE	ELO	AGE	ELO	AGE
 S. Mané		269	86	24	94	30	+8	+6
 M. Salah		254	89	25	94	29	+5	+4
 A. Robertson		224	74	23	93	28	+19	+5
 Alisson		184	86	25	92	29	+6	+4
 R. Lewandowski		187	67	21	91	25	+24	+4
 V. Van Dijk		181	82	26	91	30	+9	+4
 Fabinho		170	84	24	88	28	+4	+4
 G. Wijnaldum		237	84	25	86	30	+2	+5
 R. Firmino		320	74	24	84	30	+10	+6
 J. Matip		166	77	25	82	30	+5	+5
 L. Piszczek		191	71	25	78	29	+7	+4
 N. Sahin		179	65	19	74	26	+9	+7
 N. Noveski		133	57	25	70	29	+13	+4







YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE. Song written by **Richard Rodgers** and **Oscar Hammerstein** in 1945 for a musical. **Gerry & The Pacemakers'** version became **Liverpool's** club song in **1963** at the request of legendary manager and Scotsman, **Bill Shankly**.



You'll Never Walk Alone

The subject of **chemistry** has been handled previously in this report. Specifically, the bond the German creates between himself and others. **Jurgen Klopp** has maintained unity with his clubs, fans and coaching team throughout the years. This is in spite of the large salary differences between himself and the people around him. He has shown a serious **loyal** streak throughout his career. He continued at **Mainz 05** after the relegation, and he ignored the 'cat calls' from **Munich** and **Manchester**, and instead extended his contract with Liverpool until **2026**. He has given his all to the Merseyside club. That is where he feels most comfortable in guiding his harmonious footballing project.

Said contract extension with **Liverpool** is also a gesture of thanks. This is because, in no other post has Klopp felt such loyalty than that of the fans from **Anfield Road**. Through the highs and (not so frequent) lows, the Liverpool supporters have been by his side. A real point to consider is the fact that after so much time at the club, there has not been a slither of doubt from the fans in respect to Klopp's capabilities in directing the team. The tag **#KloppOut** has only ever been used on social media in a sarcastic manner when **The Reds** lost after an extensive run of victories. This is something that cannot be said of **Arsenal** legend, **Arsene Wenger's** final stage at the **London** club.

The death of his 81 year old mother, **Elisabeth**, in January 2021, was a telling time in terms of **Jurgen Klopp's** relationship with his fans. Due to **Coronavirus** restrictions, he was unable to attend his mother's funeral and so, the city of **Liverpool**, and those from **further afield**, wrote banners in support of the German manager at the most difficult of times. All of them expressed the same message: "**Jurgen, You'll Never Walk Alone**". It was without doubt, a watershed moment.

However, the Scousers' idolisation of him was tested after the loss to **Real Madrid** in the final of the last edition of the **Champions League**, which came just a week after also missing out on lifting the **Premier League** title by a single point, again to Pep Guardiola's City...

Jurgen Klopp's system of beliefs was supported to the core after **half a million fans** lined the streets of Liverpool to celebrate their heroes after yet another historic season. This was in spite of it ending in a week to forget. The scenes, painted with red **flairs, confetti** rain and world renowned DJ, **Calvin Harris**, spinning music, created a carnival atmosphere. This showed Klopp the true meaning of what it is to be a part of Liverpool Football Club. The famous line of "**You'll Never Walk Alone**" rang true whilst the players passed by their fans throughout the party, with everyone coming together in homage of the squad, coaching staff, and everyone else involved with the club.

"Without a shadow of a doubt, no club in the world – this world – that they lost the **Champions League** final the night before and the people arrive here in the shape they are, the mood they are. Absolutely outstanding. **This is the best club in the world** – I don't care what other people think!", declared a euphoric **Klopp** during the parade. His assistant, **Pepijn Lijnders**, accurately described what was happening along the banks of the **Mersey**: "Without doubt, there's something more important than winning: **fans being proud of you even when you lose**".

Although few doubted it, these scenes not only confirmed the **Liverpool** fans as some of the best in the world, but also **Jurgen Klopp** as one of the most loved managers at the club in its **130 years** of history. Whether or not he reaches the full potential of his talent as a coach in the coming years with his outstanding squad, what seems certain is that he will be backed by the **unconditional support** of the Liverpool fans who do not want to see anyone else but him directing the team.







ZORC, MICHAEL. *Ex player and Sporting Director. A true example of a **One Club Man** for **Borussia Dortmund**. He has been a stalwart of the club both on and off the pitch over the last four decades. He handed over his role to **Sebastian Kehl** ahead of the 2022/23 season.*



Zorc, Michael

It would be wrong to end this report without analyzing the impact of **Michael Zorc** not only on **Jurgen Klopp's** managerial career, but also on the history of **Borussia Dortmund**. Dortmund is his boyhood club and the institution to which he has given his heart and soul over the last 41 years of his life. He played his debut for the first team in **1981** and finally, after the conclusion of the 2021/22 season, he left his role as **sporting director**. A true **one club man** who brought success to the famous German outfit from North Rhine-Westphalia both on and off the pitch.

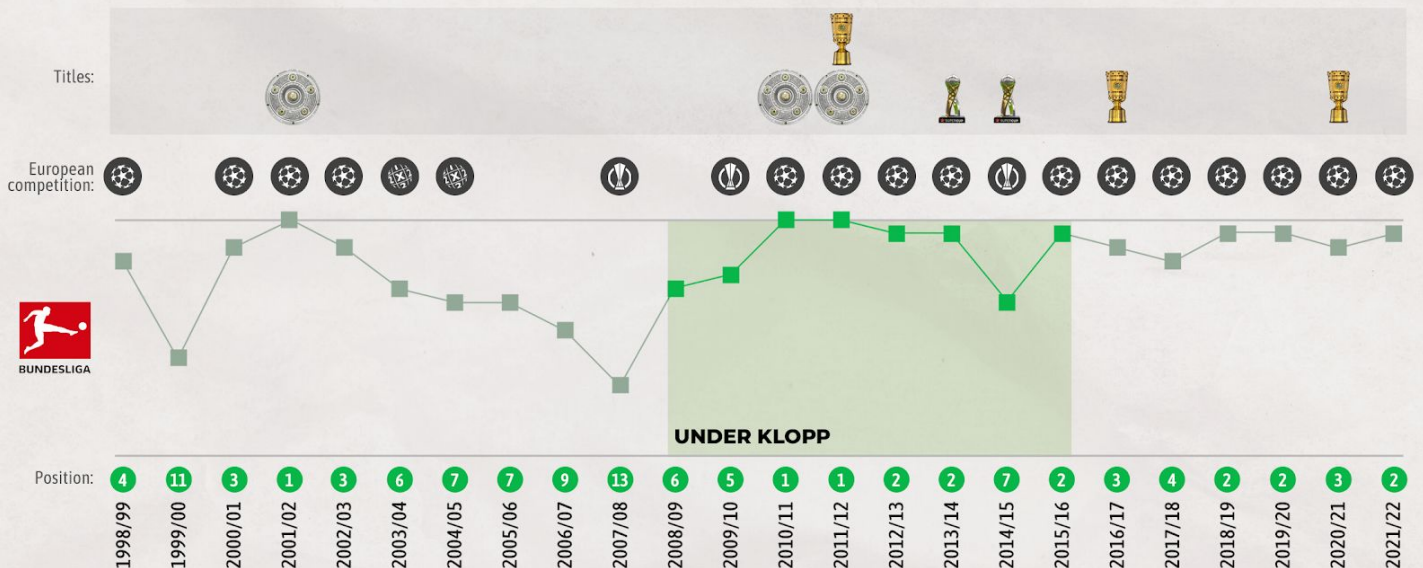
At 59 years old, Zorc has left a true legacy behind him after a long footballing career in **North Rhine-Westphalia**. He played in **463 matches**, scoring a total of **131 goals**. He won two **Bundesligas** with the club, a **German Cup**, two national **Supercups**, the extinct **Intercontinental Cup**, and Dortmund's only **Champions League** title, which currently stands proud in the club museum. His rise as a Dortmund player began at the start of the 1980s, when he was crowned European under 18 champion, as well as winning the under 20 World Cup with his country, for whom he never represented at the highest level.

In **1998**, after hanging up his boots aged 35, **Michael Zorc** gave his services to the club in a different light. He took charge of the sporting director role. Everything was going smoothly until **2003** when the results on the pitch began to dwindle. After fighting regularly for the domestic title and playing in Europe's most elite club competition, **Dortmund** saw themselves playing in the lowly **Intertoto Cup** and finishing in mid-table of the Bundesliga. However, it was the financial state of the club that was in real disarray.

In **2004**, due to the club's inability to afford their players' wages, the German outfit received a **loan** worth **two million euros** from arch rivals **Bayern Munich**. The loan was interest free and so it provided just what the club required financially considering the economic dead end it found itself in. At the end of the Noughties, Dortmund were more than **250 million euros** in debt. Zorc's task was therefore a clear one: sign cheap players and sell smartly.

The Zorc effect

Two decades of endless rebuilding



- Champions League
- Europa League
- Intertoto Cup
- Bundesliga
- DFL Pokal
- DFL-Supercup



A 'magician' from the Ruhr

Zorc's operations during the Klopp era

HIS BIGGEST TRANSFERS



HIS BIGGEST SALES



HIS MOST PROFITABLE SALES



*Bayern München activated his release clause. Borussia Dortmund wanted him to stay.



This situation was not unknown to **Jurgen Klopp**. He took the **Dortmund** job on the same wage as he was receiving at **Mainz**, and they were not exactly loaded with money. The pivotal factor however, was that **Mainz 05** played in the second division due to a practically inevitable relegation. The German coach perfectly understood the position the team found itself in and that he would have to lend a helping hand. Zorc was no unknown entity either, after having worked with **Christian Heidel** for many years. Both formed a firm working relationship.

Little by little, with the approval of club treasurer, **Hans-Joachim Watzke**, **Michael Zorc** provided **Klopp** with the tools necessary to improve the results on the football pitch. His work proved to be pivotal, demonstrated by signings such as: **Neven Subotic**, **Felipe Santana**, **Mats Hummels**, **Lucas Barrios**, **Kevin Grosskreutz**, **Shinji Kagawa**, **Lucas Piszczek** and **Robert Lewandowski**. These signings cost just **20 million euros** over the first three years of Klopp's reign at the club. This turned out to be all the time he needed to guide Dortmund's return to the top of the **Bundesliga**.

That title was followed by a 'double' and four qualifications for the **Champions League**, culminating in reaching the 2013 final. This was all thanks to the economic policy and practically faultless technical direction despite the losses of **Mario Gotze** and **Robert Lewandowski**. However, despite the investment gained from such success, Dortmund have still been unable to win the **Bundesliga** in the last decade. But, they have won two **German Cups**. This is a firm foundation that **Sebastian Kehl**, Klopp's ex pupil and signed by Zorc himself, can hope to now move forward with. He has been blessed with the past twenty years' good work and so, has the pressure on him to not take a step back.





FOOTBALL CREATES STATISTICS
STATISTICS CREATE A TOOL

