



Data-Driven Player Recruitment for Manchester United

Manchester United aims to strengthen its squad with strategic player additions based on data-driven insights and tactical appropriateness. This presentation outlines our recruitment strategy to identify two key players within a €60M budget.

Club Context & Objectives



Rich Legacy

20 English league titles, 12 FA Cups, and 3 UEFA Champions League trophies.



Recent Struggles

Finished 8th in 2023-24, lowest since 1989-90 season.



Project Objectives

Identify two positions for reinforcement within €60M budget.



Data-Driven Approach

Use advanced analytics to justify recruitment decisions.



Tactical System Under Ruben Amorim

Formation: 3-4-3

The team operates with a fluid system that seamlessly transitions between defensive and offensive phases. The wing-backs provide essential width and depth, allowing the team to stretch the opposition and create dangerous attacking opportunities.

In the center of the pitch, the central midfielders play a crucial role. They control the tempo of the game and offer defensive cover, ensuring a balance between possession and protection. This allows the team to maintain control and dictate the flow of the match.

Up front, the forwards engage in relentless pressing, disrupting the opposition's build-up play. Their intelligent movement and positioning create space for their teammates, enabling the team to launch effective counterattacks and create goal-scoring chances.



Amorim's system emphasizes ball progression, positional play, and overloads to stretch opposition defenses horizontally.

Key Weaknesses Identified

Midfield Transitions

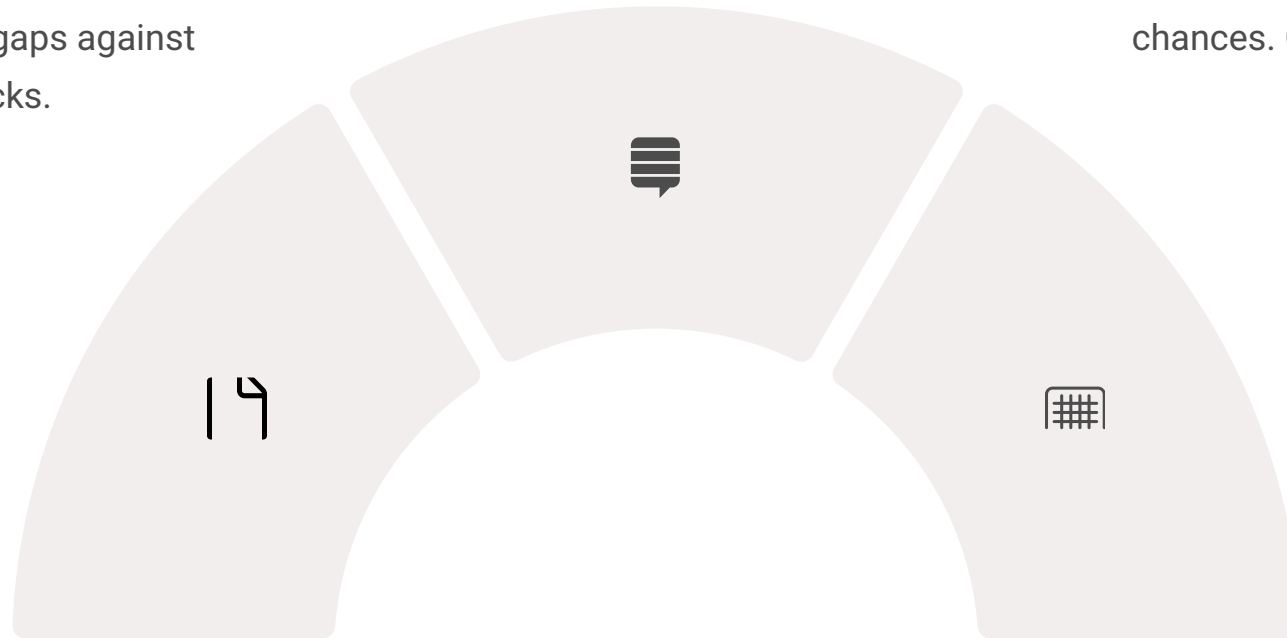
Inconsistent link between defense and attack. Lack of quick vertical passing options.

Defensive Gaps

Vulnerable during set-pieces. High defensive line leaves gaps against counter-attacks.

Attacking Inefficiencies

Struggles to convert possession into chances. Over-reliance on Bruno Fernandes.



Transfer Strategy



Budget Constraints

€60M cap for two top targets



Tactical Fit

Players must align with Amorim's system



Data-Driven Selection

Performance metrics guide decisions

Data-Driven Player Recruitment for Manchester United

A comprehensive, data-driven recruitment plan for Manchester United to support the club's return to elite competitiveness under new manager Ruben Amorim. The project followed a structured analytical process, including:

Historical and Tactical Analysis

Reviewed team performance across the 2021–2024 seasons to identify tactical gaps.

Performance Data Evaluation

Analyzed key player metrics to pinpoint potential recruits fitting Amorim's system.

Targeted Recruitment

Focused on central midfield and defense to address critical weaknesses.

Position 1: Central Midfielder

- **Key Performance Metrics Focused:**
- Pass completion %
- Progressive Passes per 90
- Final Third Entries or Key Passes per 90
- Progressive carries per 90
- Pressures per 90
- Duels won
- Tackles + Interceptions per 90

Position 2: Central Defender

- **Key Performance Metrics Focused:**
- Progressive Passes per 90
- Aerial Duels Won %
- Tackles + Interceptions per 90
- Clearances + Blocks per 90
- Errors Leading to Shots per 90
- Pass Completion % Under Pressure



Position 1: Central Midfielder

Key Requirements

- Technical proficiency
- Box-to-box ability
- Progressive passing

Performance Metrics

- Pass completion %
- Progressive carries per 90
- Duels won

Top Targets

- Carlos Alcaraz - Southampton FC (£14M)
- Jakub Moder - Brighton FC (£12M)
- Asher Agbinone - Bournemouth FC (£5M)

Position 2: Central Defender

Key Requirements

- Physical attributes
- Mental resilience
- Ball-playing ability

Performance Metrics

- Aerial duels won %
- Tackles + Interceptions
- Progressive passes

Top Targets

- Caleb Kporha - Crystal Palace FC (£1M)
- Eiran Cashin - Brighton FC (£8M)
- Nasser Djiga - Wolves FC (£10M)





Conclusion & Recommendations



Primary Midfielder Target

Carlos Alcaraz (£14M) - Multi-phase engine with elite ball retention



Primary Defender Target

Caleb Kporha (£1M) - Composure-first defender with reliable ball circulation



Budget Impact

Combined value of £15M, well within the £60M constraint



Expected Impact

Significant improvement in midfield transitions and defensive solidity