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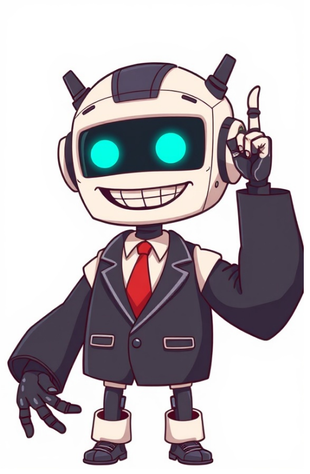

The latest Arsenal news, transfer rumours, team news, fixtures and more from the Emirates Stadium. Breaking AFC rumours & news now, 24/7. Founded in 1886, Arsenal are one of most successful and well-supported football clubs in the world. Arsenal have been a top-flight football club for over 90 years, the longest streak in English football history. Arsenal also have the record for the longest unbeaten run in England's top-flight, and their 2003-04 title-winning team under Arsene Wenger were nicknamed The Invincibles. NewsNow aims to be the world's most accurate and comprehensive Arsenal FC news aggregator, bringing you the latest Gunners headlines from the best Arsenal sites and other key national and international news sources. Whether it's the very latest transfer news from the Emirates Stadium, quotes from a Mikel Arteta press conference, match previews and reports, or news about the Gunners' progress in the Premier League, we've got it covered. Association football club in EnglandThis article is about the men's football club based in England. For the women's team, see Arsenal W.F.C. For other uses, see Arsenal (disambiguation).Football clubArsenalFull nameThe Arsenal Football Club[1]NicknamesThe Gunners Gooners (supporters)Founded11December 1886; 138 years ago(1886-12-11), as Dial SquareGroundEmirates StadiumCapacity60,704Coordinates513318.3N 00630.3W / 51.555083N 0.108417W / 51.555083; -0.108417OwnerKroenke Sports & EntertainmentCo-chairmenStan KroenkeJosh KroenkeManagerMikel Arteta202425Premier League, 2nd of 20Websitearsenal.comHome coloursAway coloursThird colours Current seasonDepartments of ArsenalMen's footballWomen's footballMen's academyWomen's academyThe Arsenal Football Club is a professional football club based in Islington, North London, England. They compete in the Premier League, the top tier of English football. In domestic football, Arsenal have won 13 league titles (including one unbeaten title), a record 14 FA Cups, 2 League Cups, 17 FA Community Shields and a Football League Centenary Trophy. In European football, they have won one European Cup Winners' Cup and one Inter-Cities Fairs Cup. In terms of trophies won, it is the third-most successful club in English football.[2]Arsenal was the first club from southern England to join the Football League in 1893, officially joining the First Division in 1904. Arsenal carries the longest active streak continuously in the top division (over 105 years and counting) & completed the 20th century with the highest average league position of any club.[3][4] Arsenal has won the second-most top-flight matches in English football history.[5] In the 1930s, Arsenal won five League Championships and two FA Cups, with another FA Cup and two more Championships coming after the war. In 197071, it won its first League and FA Cup double. Between 1989 and 2005, the club won five league titles and five FA Cups, including two more doubles. Between 1998 and 2017, Arsenal qualified for the UEFA Champions League for an English football record nineteen consecutive seasons.[6]In 1886, munitions workers at the Royal Arsenal in Woolwich founded the club as Dial Square. In 1913, the club crossed the city to Arsenal Stadium in Highbury, becoming close neighbours of Tottenham Hotspur, and creating the North London derby. Herbert Chapman won the club its first silverware, and his legacy enabled a trophy-laden period in the 1930s. He helped introduce the WM formation, floodlights, and shirt numbers;[7] he also added the white sleeves and brighter red to the club's jersey.[8] Arsne Wenger was the club's longest-serving manager and won the most trophies. He won a record seven FA Cups, and his third and final title-winning team set an English record for the longest top-flight unbeaten league run at 49 games between 2003 and 2004, receiving the nickname The Invincibles.In 2006, the club moved to the nearby Emirates Stadium. With an annual revenue of 616.6m in the 202324 season,[9] Arsenal was estimated to be worth US$3.4 billion by Forbes, making it the world's eighth-most valuable football club,[10] while also being one of the most followed sport teams in the world on social media.[11] The motto of the club is Victoria Concordia Crescit, Latin for "Victory Through Harmony".Further information: History of Arsenal F.C. (18861966), History of Arsenal F.C. (1966present), and Arsenal Football Club Museum Royal Arsenal squad in 1888. Original captain David Danskin sits on the right of the bench.In October 1886, Scotsman David Danskin and fifteen fellow munitions workers in Woolwich formed the Dial Square Football Club, named after a workshop at the heart of the Royal Arsenal complex. Each member contributed sixpence, and Danskin also added three shillings to help form the club.[12][note 1] Dial Square played their first match on 11 December 1886 against the Eastern Wanderers and won 60. The club had been renamed Royal Arsenal by January 1887,[15][16] and its first home was Plumstead Common,[15] though they spent most of their time playing at the Manor Ground. Their first trophies were the Kent Senior Cup and London Charity Cup in 188990 and the London Senior Cup in 189091; these were the only county association trophies Arsenal won during their time in South East London.[17][18] In 1891, Royal Arsenal became the first London club to turn professional.[19]Royal Arsenal was renamed for the second time upon becoming a limited liability company in 1893. They registered their new name, Woolwich Arsenal, with the Football League when the club ascended later that year.[20][21]:521 Woolwich Arsenal was the first southern member of the Football League, starting out in the Second Division and reaching the First Division in 1904. Falling attendances, due to financial difficulties among the munitions workers and the arrival of more accessible football clubs elsewhere in the city, led the club close to bankruptcy by 1910.[22][21]:112149 Businessmen Henry Norris and William Hall became involved in the club, and sought to move them elsewhere.[23][21]:2242In 1913, soon after relegation back to the Second Division, the club moved across the river to the new Arsenal Stadium in Highbury.[24][25][26] In 1919, the Football League controversially voted to promote The Arsenal, instead of relegated local rivals Tottenham Hotspur, into the newly enlarged First Division, despite only finishing fifth in the Second Division's last pre-war season of 191415. Later that year, The Arsenal started dropping "The" in official documents, gradually shifting its name for the final time towards Arsenal, as it is generally known today.[27]A bronze bust of Herbert Chapman stands inside the Emirates Stadium.With a new home and First Division football, attendances were more than double those at the Manor Ground, and Arsenal's budget grew rapidly.[28][29] With record-breaking spending and gate receipts, Arsenal quickly became known as the Bank of England club.[30][31]Arsenal's location and record-breaking salary offer lured star Huddersfield Town manager Herbert Chapman in 1925.[32][33] Over the next five years, Chapman built a revolutionary new Arsenal. Firstly, he appointed an enduring new trainer, Tom Whittaker who would one day rise to become a fabled Arsenal manager himself.[34] With the help of player Charlie Buchan, implemented the nascent WM formation which would serve as a stable bedrock to his outfit.[35][36] He also captured generational young talents such as Cliff Bastin and Eddie Hapgood, whilst also lavishing Highbury's high income on stars such as David Jack and Alex James.Transformed, Chapman's Arsenal claimed their first national trophy, the FA Cup in 1930, and League Championships followed in 193031 and 193233.[37] Chapman also presided over off-pitch changes: white sleeves and shirt numbers were added to the kit;[note 2] a Tube station was named after the club;[41][42] and the first of two opulent Art Deco stands was completed, with some of the first floodlights in English football.[29] Suddenly, in the middle of the 193334 season, Chapman died of pneumonia.[43]Chapman's death meant work was left to his colleagues Joe Shaw and George Allison, with both proving to be shrewd and consummate custodians of Chapman's excellent Arsenal team, seeing out a hat-trick of league wins with the 193334, 193435, and 193738 titles, and then furthermore winning the 1936 FA Cup.[44][45]World War II meant the Football League was suspended for seven years. While Arsenal were paraded by the nation as a symbol of solidarity with war efforts, the war took a huge toll on the team as the club had had more players killed than any top flight club.[46] Furthermore, debt from reconstructing an ambitious North Bank Stand redevelopment greatly bled Arsenal's resources.[47][29]Despite this period of turbulence and churn, Arsenal returned to win the league in the second post-war season of 194748. This was Tom Whittaker's first season as manager, and meant the club equalled the champions of England record.[4] Whittaker, despite his disarming humble and modest disposition, was oft-referred to as the "brains" behind charismatic Chapman's legendary Arsenal side.[48][49] He gathered a successful and highly skilled Arsenal side in spite of greatly limited resources, with a fiery and expansive style that drove great fanfare at the time.[50]They won a third FA Cup in 1950, and then won a record-breaking seventh championship in 195253, making Arsenal the most successful team in English history at the time.[51][52]Alan Ball (left) and Bertie Mee (who led Arsenal to their first double in 1971), pictured in 1972Arsenal were not to win the League or the FA Cup for another 18 years. The '53 Champions squad had aged, and the club failed to attract strong enough replacements.[53] Although Arsenal were competitive during these years, their fortunes had waned; the club spent most of the 1950s and 1960s in mid-table mediocrity.[54] Even former England captain Billy Wright could not bring the club any success as manager, in a stint between 1962 and 1966.[55]Arsenal tentatively appointed club physiotherapist Bertie Mee as acting manager in 1966 to incredulity by fans, sportsmedia press.[56][57] With new assistant Don Howe and new players such as Bob McNab and George Graham, Mee led Arsenal to their first League Cup finals, in 196768 and 196869. Next season saw a breakthrough, with Arsenal's first competitive European trophy, the 196970 Inter-Cities Fairs Cup. The season after, Arsenal achieved an even greater triumph with their first League and FA Cup double, and a new champions of England record.[58] This marked a premature high point of the decade; the Double-winning side was soon broken up and the rest of the decade was characterised by a series of near misses, with Arsenal finishing as FA Cup runners up in 1972, and First Division runners-up in 197273.[57]Former player Terry Neill succeeded Mee in 1976. At the age of 34, he became the youngest Arsenal manager to date.[59] With new signings like Malcolm Macdonald and Pat Jennings, and a crop of talent in the side like Liam Brady and Frank Stapleton, the club reached a trio of FA Cup finals (1978 FA Cup, 1979 FA Cup and 1980 FA Cup), and lost the 1980 European Cup Winners' Cup Final on penalties. The club's only trophy during this time was the 1979 FA Cup, achieved with a last-minute 32 victory over Manchester United, in a final is widely regarded as a classic.[60][61]Tony Adams statue outside the Emirates StadiumOne of Mee's double winners, George Graham, returned as manager in 1986, with Arsenal winning their first League Cup in 1987, Graham's first season in charge. New signings Nigel Winterburn, Lee Dixon and Steve Bould had joined the club by 1988 to complete the "famous Back Four", led by homegrown player Tony Adams.[62][note 3] Graham's credo of prioritising defensive excellence seemingly clashed with the club's traditionally expansive motifs in approaching football, and many had skepticism whether it would work with the young squad at the club in that time period; however, his methods quickly gained a cult following after initial successes.[63]The side immediately won the 1988 Football League Centenary Trophy, and followed it with the 198889 Football League title, snatched with a last-minute goal in the final game of the season against fellow title challengers Liverpool.[64] Graham's Arsenal won another title in 199091, losing only one match, won the FA Cup and League Cup double in 1993, and the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1994. Graham's reputation was tarnished when he was found to have taken kickbacks from agent Rune Hauge for signing certain players, and he was dismissed in 1995.[65][66] His replacement, Bruce Rioch, lasted for only one season, leaving the club after a dispute with the board of directors.[67]After completing the only unbeaten Premier League season, a unique gold trophy was commissioned to Arsenal.The club metamorphosed during the tenure of French manager Arsne Wenger, who was appointed in October 1996. Attacking football,[68] an overhaul of dietary and fitness practices,[note 4] and elite scouting[note 5] defined his reign. Accumulating key players from Wenger's homeland, such as Patrick Vieira and Thierry Henry, Arsenal won a second League and Cup double in 199798 and a third in 200102. In addition, the club reached the final of the 19992000 UEFA Cup, were victorious in the 2003 and 2005 FA Cup finals, and won the Premier League in 200304 without losing a single match, an achievement which earned the side the nickname "The Invincibles".[77] This feat came within a run of 49 league matches unbeaten from 7 May 2003 to 24 October 2004, a national record.[78]Arsenal finished in either first or second place in the league in eight of Wenger's first nine seasons at the club, although they never won the title in two consecutive seasons.[79] The club had never progressed beyond the quarter-finals of the Champions League until 200506; in that season, they became the first club from London to reach the final in the competition's fifty-year history, but were beaten 21 by Barcelona.[80] In July 2006, they moved into the Emirates Stadium, after 93 years at Highbury.[81] Arsenal reached the finals of the 2007 and 2011 League Cups, losing 21 to Chelsea and Birmingham City respectively. The club had not gained a trophy since the 2005 FA Cup until, spearheaded by club record acquisition Mesut zil, Arsenal beat Hull City in the 2014 FA Cup Final, coming back from a 20 deficit to win the match 32.[82] A year later, Arsenal completed another victorious FA Cup campaign,[83] and became the most successful club in the tournament's history by winning their 13th FA Cup in 201617. However, in that same season Arsenal finished fifth in the league, the first time they had finished outside the top four since before Wenger arrived in 1996.[84] In his 21st and final season, Arsenal under Arsene Wenger finished sixth and won the FA Community Shield.[85][86] Wenger departed Arsenal following the end of the season on 13 May 2018.[87]After conducting an overhaul in the club's operating model to coincide with Wenger's departure, Spaniard Unai Emery was named as the club's new head coach on 23 May 2018. He became the club's first ever 'head coach' and second manager from outside the United Kingdom.[88][89] In Emery's first season, Arsenal finished fifth in the Premier League and as runner-up in the Europa League.[90][91] On 29 November 2019, Emery was dismissed as manager and former player and assistant first team coach Freddie Ljungberg was appointed as interim head coach.[92][93][94]On 20 December 2019, Arsenal appointed former club captain Mikel Arteta as the new head coach.[95][96] Arsenal finished the 201920 season in eighth, their lowest finish since 199495, but beat Chelsea 21 to earn a record-extending 14th FA Cup win.[97] After the season, Arteta's title was changed from head coach to manager.[98] On 18 April 2021, Arsenal were announced as a founding club of the breakaway European competition The Super League;[99] they withdrew from the competition two days later amid near-universal condemnation.[100] Arsenal finished the 202021 season in eighth place once again, not qualifying for a European competition for the first time in 26 years.[101] The season after (202122), Arteta had assembled the youngest outfit in the Premier League with an average starting age of 24 years and 308 days more than a whole year younger than the next team.[102][103] They finished in fifth in the Premier League that year, and qualified for next season's UEFA Europa League.[104]By the 202223 season, Arsenal returned to the Champions League by coming second to Manchester City, setting a record for most time spent on top of the table without actually winning the league, ending on 84 points.[105] In the 202324 season, Arsenal beat Manchester City to claim their 17th FA Community Shield, they finished second in the Premier League to Manchester City with an improved 89 points from their previous campaign.[106] In the 202425 UEFA Champions League, they reached the semi-finals only to lose to PSG 31 on aggregate.[107] For the third season in a row Arsenal finished second, this time behind Liverpool, amassing a points tally of 74 in the 202425 Premier League season.[108]Crests of Arsenal F.C. prior to current crestRoyal Arsenal's first crest, adopted in 1888, two years after the formation of the club'Monogram' badge used in the 1930 FA Cup Final'Art Deco Crest'Version of the 'Art Deco Crest' worn in the 1952 FA Cup finalCannon featured on shirt from 1960s to 1990sVCC crest: used between 1949 and 2002Alternative versions of the VCC crestc.19901993c.19941995c.19962001200102 seasonUnveiled in 1888, Royal Arsenal's first crest featured three cannons viewed from above, pointing northwards, similar to the coat of arms of the Metropolitan Borough of Woolwich (nowadays transferred to the coat of arms of the Royal Borough of Greenwich). These can sometimes be mistaken for chimneys, but the presence of a carved lion's head and a cascabel on each are clear indicators that they are cannons.[109] This was dropped after the move to Highbury in 1913, only to be reinstated in 1922, when the club adopted a crest featuring a single cannon, pointing eastwards, with the club's nickname, The Gunners, inscribed alongside it; this crest only lasted until 1925, when the cannon was reversed to point westward and its barrel slimmed down.[109]In 1949, the club unveiled a modernised crest featuring the same style of cannon below the club's name, set in blackletter typography, and above the coat of arms of the Metropolitan Borough of Islington and a scroll inscribed with the club's newly adopted Latin motto, Victoria Concordia Crescit (VCC) "victory comes from harmony" coined by the club's programme editor Harry Homer.[109][110] For the first time, the crest was rendered in colour, which varied slightly over the crest's lifespan, finally becoming red, gold and green. Because of the numerous revisions of the crest, Arsenal were unable to copyright it.[111] Although the club had managed to register the crest as a trademark, and had fought (and eventually won) a long legal battle with a local street trader who sold "unofficial" Arsenal merchandise,[112] Arsenal eventually sought a more comprehensive legal protection. Therefore, in 2002 they introduced a new crest featuring more modern curved lines and a simplified style, which was copyrightable.[113]The cannon once again faces east, and the club's name is written in a sans-serif typeface above the cannon. Green was replaced by dark blue. The new crest was criticised by some supporters; the Arsenal Independent Supporters' Association claimed that the club had ignored much of Arsenal's history and tradition with such a radical modern design, and that fans had not been properly consulted on the issue.[114]Until the 1960s, a badge was worn on the playing shirt only for high-profile matches such as FA Cup finals, usually in the form of a monogram of the club's initials in red on a white background.[115]The monogram theme was developed into an Art Deco-style badge on which the letters A and C framed a football rather than the letter F, the whole set within a hexagonal border. This early example of a corporate logo, introduced as part of Herbert Chapman's rebranding of the club in the 1930s, was used not only on Cup Final shirts but as a design feature throughout Highbury Stadium, including above the main entrance and inlaid in the floors.[116]From 1967, a white cannon was regularly worn on the shirts, until replaced by the club crest, sometimes with the addition of the nickname "The Gunners", in the 1990s.[115]In the 201112 season, Arsenal celebrated their 125th anniversary. The celebrations included a modified version of the current crest worn on their jerseys for the season. The crest was all-white, surrounded by 15 oak leaves to the right and 15 laurel leaves to the left. The oak leaves represent the 15 founding members of the club who met at the Royal Oak pub. The 15 laurel leaves represent the design detail on the six pence pieces paid by the founding fathers to establish the club. The laurel leaves also represent strength. To complete the crest, 1886 and 2011 are shown on either sides of the motto "Forward" at the bottom of the crest.[117]Starting in the 202122 season, Adidas reintroduced the cannon-only crest on that season's away kit. It was the first time it had been seen on an Arsenal shirt since 1991. It would remain in use on the away kit in 202223 and in 202324 would be added to the third kit as well, before being used on all three kits in 202425 - marking the first time the crest would not be seen on an Arsenal kit since its introduction in 2002.[118]Wikimedia Commons has media related to Arsenal F.C. kits. Arsenal's original home colours. The team wore a similar kit (but with redcurrant socks) during the 200506 season. White sleeves first appeared on the shirt in 1933. Yellow shirt with blue trim and blue shorts are Arsenal's traditional away colours. Since the 1990s, Blue has been prominently used for either the away or third kit.For much of Arsenal's history, their home colours have been bright red shirts with white sleeves and white shorts, though this has not always been the case. The choice of red is in recognition of a charitable donation from Nottingham Forest, soon after Arsenal's foundation in 1886. Two of Dial Square's founding members, Fred Beardsley and Morris Bates, were former Forest players who had moved to Woolwich for work. As they put together the first team in the area, no kit could be found, so Beardsley and Bates wrote home for help and received a set of kit and a ball.[119] The shirt was redcurrant, a dark shade of red, and was worn with white shorts and socks with blue and white hoops.[120][121]In 1933, Herbert Chapman, wanting his players to be more distinctly dressed, updated the kit, adding white sleeves and changing the shade to a brighter pillar box red. Two possibilities have been suggested for the origin of the white sleeves. One story reports that Chapman noticed a supporter in the stands wearing a red sleeveless sweater over a white shirt; another was that he was inspired by a similar outfit worn by the cartoonist Tom Webster, with whom Chapman played golf.[122] Regardless of which story is true, the red-and-white shirts have come to define Arsenal, and the team have worn that combination ever since that time, aside from two seasons. The first was 196667, when Arsenal wore all-red shirts;[121] this proved unpopular, and the white sleeves returned the following season. The second was 200506, the last season that Arsenal played at Highbury, when the team wore commemorative redcurrant shirts similar to those worn in 1913, their first season in the stadium; the side reverted to their normal colours at the start of the next season.[122] In the 200809 season, Arsenal replaced the traditional all-white sleeves with red sleeves that bore a broad white stripe.[121]Arsenal's home colours have been the inspiration for at least three other clubs. In 1909, Sparta Prague adopted a dark red kit like the one Arsenal wore at the time;[122] in 1938, Hibernian adopted the design of the Arsenal shirt sleeves in their own green-and-white strip.[123] In 1941, Luis Robledo, an England-schooled founder of Santa Fe and a fan of Arsenal, selected the main colours for his newly created team. In 1920, Sporting Clube de Braga's manager returned from a game at Highbury and changed his team's green kit to a duplicate of Arsenal's red-with-white-sleeves-and-shorts, giving rise to the team's nickname of Os Arsenalistas.[124] These teams still wear those designs to this day.For many years Arsenal's away colours were white or navy blue. However, in 1968 the FA banned navy shirts (they looked too similar to referees' black kit), so in the 196970 season Arsenal introduced an away kit of yellow shirts with blue shorts. This kit was worn in the 1971 FA Cup Final when Arsenal beat Liverpool to secure the double for the first time in their history. The yellow and blue strip became almost as famous as their iconic red-and-white home kit.[125][126] Arsenal reached the FA Cup final again the following year wearing the red-and-white home strip and were beaten by Leeds United. Arsenal then competed in three consecutive FA Cup finals between 1978 and 1980 wearing their "lucky" yellow and blue strip,[125] which remained the club's away strip until the release of a green and navy away kit in 198283. The following season, Arsenal returned to the yellow and blue scheme, albeit with a darker shade of blue than before.When Nike took over from Adidas as Arsenal's kit provider in 1994, Arsenal's away colours were again changed to two-tone blue shirts and shorts. Since the advent of the lucrative replica kit market, the away kits have been changed regularly, with Arsenal usually releasing both away and third choice kits. During this period the designs have been either all blue designs, or variations on the traditional yellow and blue, such as the metallic gold and navy strip used in the 200102 season, the yellow and dark grey used from 2005 to 2007, and the yellow and maroon of 2010 to 2013.[127]Until 2014, the away kit was changed every season, and the outgoing away kit became the third-choice kit if a new home kit was being introduced in the same year.[128]After Puma began manufacturing Arsenal's kits in 2014, new home, away and third kits were released every season. In the 201718 season, Puma released a new colour scheme for the away and third kits. The away kit was a light blue, which faded to a darker blue near the bottom, while the third kit was black with red highlight. Puma returned to the original colour scheme for the 201819 season.[129] From the 201920 season Arsenal's kits are manufactured by Adidas.[130]Arsenal kits[131]PeriodKit manufacturerShirt sponsor (chest)Shirt sponsor (sleeve)18861930UnidentifiedNoneNone19301970Bukta19711981Umbro19811986JVC19861994Adidas19941999Nike19992002Dreamcast Sega20022006O220062014Emirates[132]20142018Puma20182019Visit Rwanda[133]2019presentAdidas[134]Manor Ground, Woolwich Arsenal vs. EvertonBefore joining the Football League, Arsenal played briefly on Plumstead Common, then at the Manor Ground in Plumstead, then spent three years between 1890 and 1893 at the nearby Invicta Ground. Upon joining the Football League in 1893, the club returned to the Manor Ground and installed stands and terracing, upgrading it from just a field. Arsenal continued to play their home games there for the next twenty years (with two exceptions in the 189495 season), until the move to north London in 1913.[135][136]Widely referred to as Highbury, Arsenal Stadium was the club's home from September 1913 until May 2006. The original stadium was designed by the renowned football architect Archibald Leitch, and had a design common to many football grounds in the UK at the time, with a single covered stand and three open-air banks of terracing.[29] The entire stadium was given a massive overhaul in the 1930s: new Art Deco West and East stands were constructed, opening in 1932 and 1936 respectively, and a roof was added to the North Bank terrace, which was bombed during the Second World War and not restored until 1954.[29]Highbury could hold more than 60,000 spectators at its peak, and had a capacity of 57,000 until the early 1990s. The Taylor Report and Premier League regulations obliged Arsenal to convert Highbury to an all-seater stadium in time for the 199394 season, thus reducing the capacity to 38,419 seated spectators.[137] This capacity had to be reduced further during Champions League matches to accommodate additional advertising boards, so much so that for two seasons, from 1998 to 2000, Arsenal played Champions League home matches at Wembley, which could house more than 70,000 spectators.[138]The North Bank Stand, Arsenal Stadium, HighburyExpansion of Highbury was restricted because the East Stand had been designated as a Grade II listed building and the other three stands were close to residential properties.[29] These limitations prevented the club from maximising matchday revenue during the 1990s and first decade of the 21st century, putting them in danger of being left behind in the football boom of that time.[139] After considering various options, in 2000 Arsenal proposed building a new 60,361-capacity stadium at Ashburton Grove, since named the Emirates Stadium, about 500metres south-west of Highbury.[140] The project was initially delayed by red tape and rising costs,[141] and construction was completed in July 2006, in time for the start of the 200607 season.[142] The stadium was named after its sponsors, the airline company Emirates, with whom the club signed the largest sponsorship deal in English football history, worth around 100 million.[143] Some fans referred to the ground as Ashburton Grove, or the Grove, as they did not agree with corporate sponsorship of stadium names.[144] The stadium will be officially known as Emirates Stadium until at least 2028, and the airline will be the club's shirt sponsor until at least 2024.[145][146] From the start of the 201011 season on, the stands of the stadium have been officially known as North Bank, East Stand, West Stand and Clock end.[147] The capacity of the Emirates now stands at 60,704.[148]Arsenal's players train at the Shenley Training Centre in Hertfordshire, a purpose-built facility which opened in 1999.[149] Before that, the club used facilities on a nearby site owned by the University College of London Students' Union. Until 1961 they had trained at Highbury.[150] Arsenal's Academy under-18 teams play their home matches at Shenley, while the reserves play their games at Meadow Park,[151] which is also the home of Boreham Wood. Both the academy under-18 team and the reserves occasionally play their big games at the Emirates in front of a crowd reduced to only the lower west stand.[152][153] A panorama of the Emirates Stadium before a matchFurther information: Arsenal F.C. supportersArsenal supportersArsenal's fanbase are referred to as "Gooners" the name derived from the club's nickname "The Gunners". Virtually all home matches sell out; in 200708 Arsenal had the second-highest average League attendance for an English club (60,070, which was 99.5% of available capacity),[154] and, as of 2015, the third-highest all-time average attendance.[155] Arsenal have the seventh highest average attendance of European football clubs only behind Borussia Dortmund, Barcelona, Manchester United, Real Madrid, Bayern Munich and Schalke 04.[156][157][158][159] The club's location, adjoining wealthy areas such as Canonbury and Barnsbury, mixed areas such as Islington, Holloway, Highbury, and the adjacent London Borough of Camden, and largely working-class areas such as Finsbury Park and Stoke Newington, has meant that Arsenal's supporters have come from a variety of social classes. Much of the Afro-Caribbean support comes from the neighbouring London Borough of Hackney and a large portion of the South Asian Arsenal supporters commute to the stadium from Wembley Park, North West of the capital. There is also traditionally a large Irish community that followed Arsenal, with the surrounding Islington and particularly the nearby Archway area having a large community of residents with Irish heritage.Like all major English football clubs, Arsenal have a number of domestic supporters' clubs, including the Arsenal Football Supporters' Club, which works closely with the club, and the Arsenal Independent Supporters' Association, which maintains a more independent line. The Arsenal Supporters' Trust promotes greater participation in ownership of the club by fans. The club's supporters also publish fanzines such as The Gooner, Gunflash and the satirical Up The Arse!There have always been Arsenal supporters outside London, and since the advent of satellite television, a supporter's attachment to a football club has become less dependent on geography. Consequently, Arsenal have a significant number of fans from beyond London and all over the world; in 2007, 24 UK, 37 Irish and 49 other overseas supporters' clubs were affiliated with the club.[160] A 2011 report by SPORT+MARKT estimated Arsenal's global fanbase at 113million.[161] The club's social media activity was the fifth highest in world football during the 201415 season.[162]The team's anthem is "The Angel (North London Forever)" by Louis Dunford.[163][164][165] The song is typically played at Arsenal home games before a match.In addition to the usual English football chants, Arsenal's supporters sing "One-Nil to the Arsenal" (to the tune of "Go West") and also regularly sing "Who's that team they call the Arsenal", "Good Old Arsenal" (to the tune of "Rule, Britannia!") and "We're the North Bank/Clock End Highbury". The fans also chant "Boring, Boring Arsenal" in self-deprecating reference to Arsenal's reputation during the 1970s and 1980s as an overly defensive, cautious team.[166]Main articles: North London derby, Arsenal F.C.Manchester United F.C. rivalry, Arsenal F.C.Chelsea F.C. rivalry, and Arsenal F.C.Manchester City F.C. rivalryArsenal playing against rivals Tottenham, in a game known as the North London derby, in November 2010Arsenal's longest-running and deepest rivalry is with their nearest major neighbour, Tottenham Hotspur; matches between the two are referred to as the North London derby.[167] There also exists a rivalry between Arsenal and Chelsea. In addition, Arsenal and Manchester United developed a strong on-pitch rivalry in the late 1980s, which intensified in the early 2000s when both clubs were competing for the Premier League title.[168][169][170]The club mascot is Gunnersaurus Rex, a smiling, seven-foot-tall green dinosaur, who first appeared at a home match against Manchester City in August 1994 (or 1993). He is based on a drawing by then-11-year-old Peter Lovell, whose design and another similar idea won a Junior Gunners contest; his official backstory is that he hatched from an egg found during renovations at Highbury.[171][172][173][174][175][176]The same performer, Jerry Quy, has been inside the suit from the start; in early October 2020, as part of cost-cutting brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the club made him redundant from that and his other part-time job in supporter liaison, together with 55 full-time employees, although they later said Gunnersaurus could return after spectators were allowed back in stadiums.[175][177][178] An online fundraiser was begun for Quy,[178] and Mesut zil offered to pay his salary himself as long as he remains with Arsenal.[179][180] In November 2020, in advance of COVID-19 regulations being relaxed to allow supporters to attend home games from 3 December, Arsenal announced that Gunnersaurus would return, to be played by a roster of people that could include Quy if he wished.[181][182]The largest shareholder on the Arsenal board is American sports tycoon Stan Kroenke.[183] Kroenke first launched a bid for the club in April 2007,[184] and faced competition for shares from Red and White Securities, which acquired its first shares from David Dein in August 2007.[185] Red & White Securities was co-owned by Russian billionaire Alisher Usmanov and London-based Iranian financier Farhad Moshiri, though Usmanov bought Moshiri's stake in 2016.[186] Kroenke came close to the 30% takeover threshold in November 2009, when he increased his holding to 18,594 shares (29.9%).[187][188] In April 2011, Kroenke achieved a full takeover by purchasing the shareholdings of Nina Bracewell-Smith and Danny Fiszman, taking his shareholding to 62.89%.[189][190] In May 2017, Kroenke owned 41,721 shares (67.05%) and Red & White Securities owned 18,695 shares (30.04%).[183] In January 2018, Kroenke expanded his ownership by buying twenty-two more shares, taking his total ownership to 67.09%.[191] In August 2018, Kroenke bought out Usmanov for 550m. Now owning more than 90% of the shares, he had the required stake to complete the buyout of the remaining shares and become the sole owner.[192] There has been criticism of Arsenal's poor performance since Kroenke took over, which has been attributed to his ownership.[193] Ivan Gazidis was the club's Chief executive from 2009 to 2018.[183][194]Arsenal's parent company, Arsenal Holdings plc, operates as an unlisted public limited company, whose ownership is considerably different from that of other football clubs. Only 62,219 shares in Arsenal have been issued,[183] and they are not traded on a public exchange such as the FTSE or AIM; instead, they are traded relatively infrequently on the ICAP Securities and Derivatives Exchange, a specialist market. On 29 May 2017, a single share in Arsenal had a mid price of 18,000, which sets the club's market capitalisation value at approximately 1,119.9m.[195] Most football clubs are not listed on an exchange, which makes direct comparisons of their values difficult. Consultants Brand Finance valued the club's brand and intangible assets at $703m in 2015, and consider Arsenal an AAA global brand.[196] Business magazine Forbes valued Arsenal as a whole at $2.238 billion (1.69 billion) in 2018, ranked third in English football.[197] Research by the Henley Business School ranked Arsenal second in English football, modelling the club's value at 1.118billion in 2015.[198][199]Arsenal's financial results for the 201920 season showed an after tax loss of 47.8m, due in part to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.[200] The Deloitte Football Money League is a publication that homogenises and compares clubs' annual revenue. Deloitte put Arsenal's footballing revenue in 2019 at 392.7m (445.6m),[201] ranking Arsenal eleventh among world football clubs.[162] Arsenal and Deloitte both listed the match day revenue generated in 2019 by the Emirates Stadium as 109.2m (96.2m).[201]Partly due to their proximity to the Alexandra Palace transmitter, Arsenal have appeared in a number of media "firsts". On 22 January 1927, their match at Highbury against Sheffield United was the first English League match to be broadcast live on radio.[202][203] A decade later, on 16 September 1937, an exhibition match between Arsenal's first team and the reserves was the first football match in the world to be televised live.[202][204] Arsenal also featured in the first edition of the BBC's Match of the Day, which screened highlights of their match against Liverpool at Anfield on 22 August 1964.[202][205] Sky's coverage of Arsenal's January 2010 match against Manchester United was the first live public broadcast of a sports event on 3D television.[202][206]As one of the most successful teams in the country, Arsenal have often featured when football is depicted in the arts in Britain. They formed the backdrop to one of the earliest football-related novels, The Arsenal Stadium Mystery (1939), which was made into a film in the same year.[207] The story centres on a friendly match between Arsenal and an amateur side, one of whose players is poisoned while playing. Many Arsenal players appeared as themselves in the film and manager George Allison was given a speaking part.[208] The book Fever Pitch by Nick Hornby was an autobiographical account of Hornby's life and relationship with football, and with Arsenal in particular. Published in 1992, it formed part of the revival and rehabilitation of football in British society during the 1990s.[209] The book was twice adapted for the cinemathe 1997 British film focuses on Arsenal's 198889 title win, and a 2005 American version features a fan of baseball's Boston Red Sox.[210]Arsenal have often been stereotyped as a defensive and "boring" side, especially during the 1970s and 1980s.[166][211] In the 1997 film The Full Monty the principal characters move forward in a line and raise their hands, deliberately mimicking the Arsenal defence's offside trap, in an attempt to co-ordinate their striptease routine.[208]Fifteen years later, an almost identical scene was included in the 2012 Disney science-fiction film John Carter (director and co-writer Andrew Stanton, a notable overseas supporter of the club), along with other visual cues and oblique dialogue hints and references to the club throughout the film.[212]Another film reference to the club's defence comes in the film Plunkett & Macleane, in which two characters are named Dixon and Winterburn after Arsenal's long-serving full backs the right-sided Lee Dixon and the left-sided Nigel Winterburn.[208]In August 2022, Amazon Prime Video released an eight-episode docuseries called All or Nothing: Arsenal.[213][214] It documented the club by spending time with the coaching staff and players behind the scenes both on and off the field throughout their 202122 season, in which they were the youngest team in the Premier League with an average starting age of 24 years and 308 days more than a whole year younger than the next team.[102][103]In 1985, Arsenal founded a community scheme, "Arsenal in the Community", which offered sporting, social inclusion, educational and charitable projects. The club support a number of charitable causes directly and in 1992 established The Arsenal Charitable Trust, which by 2006 had raised more than 2 million for local causes.[215] An ex-professional and celebrity football team associated with the club also raised money by playing charity matches.[216] The club launched the Arsenal for Everyone initiative in 2008 as an annual celebration of the diversity of the Arsenal family.[217] In the 200910 season Arsenal announced that they had raised a record breaking 818,897 for the Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity. The original target was 500,000.[218] In 2022, Arsenal and Adidas partnered up to launch the "No More Red" campaign to support the long-standing work being done by Arsenal in the Community to help keep young people safe from knife crime and youth violence. To promote the event, the club launched an exclusive all white kit that was not commercially available and only awarded to individuals who are making a positive difference in the community.[219]Save the Children has been Arsenal global charity partner since 2011 and have worked together in numerous projects to improve safety and well-being for vulnerable children in London and abroad. On 3 September 2016 The Arsenal Foundation has donated 1m to build football pitches for children in London, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan and Somalia thanks to The Arsenal Foundation Legends Match against Milan Glorie at the Emirates Stadium.[220] On 3 June 2018, Arsenal played Real Madrid in the Corazon Classic Match 2018 at the Bernabeu, where the proceeds went to Realtoo Real Madrid Foundation projects that are aimed at the most vulnerable children. In addition there will be a return meeting on 8 September 2018 at the Emirates stadium where proceeds will go towards the Arsenal foundation.[221]During 2007 in Pleiku, Vietnam, Arsenal partnered with the JMG Academy and the Hoang Anh Gia Lai Corporation to found a youth academy for the V.League 1 side Hong Anh Gia Lai,[222] which saw a selection of Vietnam-based players train with Arsenal;[223] the club ended their partnership with the club in 2017.[224] Additionally, the club formally partnered with a variety of clubs overseas including Virginia based Richmond Strikers and Cairo based Wadi Degla.[225][226]For a complete list of players, see List of Arsenal F.C. players with 100+ appearances, 2599 appearances and 124 appearances.See also: Arsenal Player of the SeasonAs of 1 September 2025[227]Note: Flags indicate national team as defined under FIFA eligibility rules; some limited exceptions apply. Players may hold more than one non-FIFA nationality.No.Pos. NationPlayer1GKESPDavid Raya2DFFRAWilliam Saliba3DFESPCristhian Mosquera4DFENGBen White5DFECUPiero Hincapi (on loan from Bayer Leverkusen)[228]6DFBRAGabriel Magalhes7FWENGBukayo Saka8MFNORMartin degaard (captain)[229]9FWBRAGabriel Jesus10MFENGEberechi Eze11FWBRAGabriel Martinelli12DFNEDJurrin TimberNo.Pos. NationPlayer13GKESPKepa Arrizabalaga14FWSWEViktor Gykeres16MFDENChristian Nrgaard19FWBELLeandro Trossard20FWENGNoni Madueke22MFENGEthan Nwaneri23MFESPMikel Merino29FWGERKai Havertz33DFITARiccardo Calafiori36MFESPMartn Zubimendi41MFENGDeclan Rice49DFENGMyles Lewis-SkellyNote: Flags indicate national team as defined under FIFA eligibility rules; some limited exceptions apply. Players may hold more than one non-FIFA nationality.No.Pos. NationPlayer15DFPOLJakub Kiwior (at Porto until 30 June 2026)17DFUKROleksandr Zinchenko (at Nottingham Forest until 30 June 2026)21MFPORFbio Vieira (at Hamburg until 30 June 2026)24FWENGReiss Nelson (at Brentford until 30 June 2026)No.Pos. NationPlayer31GKESTKarl Hein (at Werder Bremen until 30 June 2026)44DFALBMaldini Kacurri (at Morecambe until 30 June 2026)46FWNEDIsmeal Kabia (at Shrewsbury Town until 30 June 2026)Further information: Arsenal F.C. Under-21s and AcademyAs of 29 October 2025[230]Players with at least one first-team appearance for Arsenal.[231]Note: Flags indicate national team as defined under FIFA eligibility rules; some limited exceptions apply. Players may hold more than one non-FIFA nationality.No.Pos. NationPlayer35GKENGTommy Setford48DFENGJosh Nichols53FWENGCharles Sagoe JrNo.Pos. NationPlayer56FWENGMax Dowman71FWENGAndre Harriman-Annous78GKENGJack PorterSee also: List of Arsenal F.C. managersHaving served as Arsenal's club captain during his playing career, Arteta was appointed as manager in December 2019.[96]Arsne Wenger managed Arsenal from 1996 to 2018, he is the club's longest serving manager.[232]Management and staff as of 19 September 2025[233]PositionNameManager Mikel ArtetaAssistant coaches Albert Stuivenberg Miguel Molina[234]First team coach Gabriel Heinze[235]Set-piece coach Nicolas Jover[236]Goalkeeping coach Iaki Caa[237]Academy Manager Per MertesackerHead of Sports Medicine and Performance Zafar Iqbal[238]Sporting Director Andrea BertaChief Executive Officer Richard Garlick[239]Chief Commercial Officer Juliet SlotChief Financial Officer Stuart WiselyDirector of Football Operations James King[240]Arsenal board as of 19 September 2025PositionNameCo-chairman Stan Kroenke Josh KroenkeDirector Lord Harris of PeckhamNon-Executive Director Kelly Blaha[239] Otto Maly[239] Dave Steiner[239] Ben Winston[239]Further information: List of Arsenal F.C. records and statisticsThierry Henry is Arsenal's record goalscorer, with 228 goals in all competitions.[241]Arsenal's tally of 13 League Championships is the third highest in English football, after Liverpool (20) and Manchester United (20),[242] and they were the first club to reach a seventh and an eighth League Championship. As of June 2020, they are one of seven teams, the others being Manchester United, Blackburn Rovers, Chelsea, Manchester City, Leicester City and Liverpool, to have won the Premier League since its formation in 1992.[242]They hold the highest number of FA Cup trophies, with 14.[243] The club is one of only six clubs to have won the FA Cup twice in succession, in 2002 and 2003, and 2014 and 2015.[243] Arsenal have achieved three League and FA Cup "Doubles" (in 1971, 1998 and 2002), a feat only previously achieved by Manchester United (in 1994, 1996 and 1999).[79][244] They were the first side in English football to complete the FA Cup and League Cup double, in 1993.[245] Arsenal were also the first London club to reach the final of the UEFA Champions League, in 2006, losing the final 21 to Barcelona.[246]Arsenal have one of the best top-flight records in history, having finished below fourteenth only seven times. They have won the second most top flight league matches in English football, and have also accumulated the second most points,[5] whether calculated by two points per win[5] or by the contemporary points value.[247] They have been in the top flight for the most consecutive seasons (98 as of 202324).[4][248][249] Arsenal also have the highest average league finishing position for the 20th century, with an average league placement of 8.5.[3]Arsenal hold the record for the longest run of unbeaten League matches (49 between May 2003 and October 2004).[78] This included all 38 matches of their title-winning 200304 season, when Arsenal became only the second club to finish a top-flight campaign unbeaten, after Preston North End (who played only 22 matches) in 188889.[77][250] They also hold the record for the longest top flight win streak.[251] Arsenal set a Champions League record during the 200506 season by going ten matches without conceding a goal, beating the previous best of seven set by AC Milan. They went a record total stretch of 995minutes without letting an opponent score; the streak ended in the final, when Samuel Eto'o scored a 76th-minute equaliser for Barcelona.[80]David O'Leary holds the record for Arsenal appearances, having played 722 first-team matches between 1975 and 1993. Fellow centre half and former captain Tony Adams comes second, having played 669 times. The record for a goalkeeper is held by David Seaman, with 564 appearances.[252] Thierry Henry is the club's top goalscorer with 228 goals in all competitions between 1999 and 2012;[241] he surpassed Ian Wright's total of 185 in October 2005.[253] Wright's record had stood since September 1997, when he overtook the longstanding total of 178 goals set by winger Cliff Bastin in 1939.[254] Henry also holds the club record for goals scored in the League, with 175,[241] a record that had been held by Bastin until February 2006.[255] Declan Rice holds the Arsenal record signing price after a deal with West Ham United was completed in July 2023, for an initial 100 million. This easily surpassed the former record of 72 million for Nicolas Pepe.[256]Arsenal's record home attendance is 73,707, for a UEFA Champions League match against Lens on 25 November 1998 at Wembley, where the club formerly played home European matches because of the limits on Highbury's capacity. The record attendance for an Arsenal match at Highbury is 73,295, for a 00 draw against Sunderland on 9 March 1935,[252] while that at Emirates Stadium is 60,161, for a 22 draw with Manchester United on 3 November 2007.[257] Chart showing Arsenal's league positions since admission to the Football League in 1893Further information: List of Arsenal F.C. seasonsFor honours won by Academy teams, see Arsenal F.C. Under-23s and Academy Honours.Arsenal's first ever silverware was won as the Royal Arsenal in 1890. The Kent Junior Cup, won by Royal Arsenal's reserves, was the club's first trophy, while the first team's first trophy came three weeks later when they won the Kent Senior Cup.[258][259] Their first national senior honour came in 1930, when they won the FA Cup.[260] The club enjoyed further success in the 1930s, winning another FA Cup and five Football League First Division titles.[50][261] Arsenal won their first league and cup double in the 197071 season and twice repeated the feat, in 199798 and 200102, as well as winning a cup double of the FA Cup and League Cup in 199293.[262] The 200304 season was the only 38-match league season unbeaten in English football history. A special gold version of the Premier League trophy was commissioned and presented to the club the following season.[263]Arsenal F.C. honoursTypeCompetitionTitlesSeasonsDomesticFirst Division/Premier League[note 6]13193031, 193233, 193334, 193435, 193738, 194748, 195253, 197071, 198889, 199091, 199798, 200102, 200304FA Cup14192930, 193536, 194950, 197071, 197879, 199293, 199798, 200102, 200203, 200405, 201314, 201415, 201617, 201920EFL Cup[note 7]2198687, 199293FA Community Shield[note 8]171930, 1931, 1933, 1934, 1938, 1948, 1953, 1991,[note 9] 1998, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2020, 2023Football League Centenary Trophy11988ContinentalUEFA Cup Winners' Cup1199394Inter-Cities Fairs Cup1196970records shared recordWhen the FA Cup was the only national football association competition available to Arsenal, the other football association competitions were County Cups, and they made up many of the matches the club played during a season.[259] Arsenal's first first-team trophy was a County Cup, the inaugural Kent Senior Cup.[17] Arsenal became ineligible for the London Cups when the club turned professional in 1891, and rarely participated in County Cups after this.[19][264] Due to the club's original location within the borders of both the London and Kent Football Associations,[265] Arsenal competed in and won trophies organised by each.[17][264]During Arsenal's history, the club has participated in and won a variety of pre-season and friendly honours. These include Arsenal's own pre-season competition the Emirates Cup, begun in 2007.[266] During the wars, previous competitions were widely suspended and the club had to participate in wartime competitions. During WWII, Arsenal won several of these.^ Woolwich and Plumstead were officially part of Kent until the creation of the County of London in 1889.The Arsenal History provides primary sources on the name, first meeting, and first match.[13] Bernard Joy says Danskin was captain at founding.[14] Danskin was made official captain the next month.[15]^ The new shirts are exhibited in The Arsenal Shirt.[38] Newspaper accounts of the addition of white sleeves are provided by Mark Andrews.[39] The contemporary discussion around the first use of shirt numbers, and its initial trial by Chelsea F.C., is provided by Neil Glackin.[40]^ Martin Keown was the 'fifth' member of the Back Four, but did not play for the club between 1986 and 1993.^ These changes have received contemporary attention,[69] and later praise[70] and skepticism.[71] For context of the broader use of science in English football, see Soccer Science.[72]^ Several analyses indicate strong league performance across the Wenger period, given Arsenal's footballing outlays, including a regression analysis on wage bills,[73] regression on transfer spending,[74] regression on both,[75] and a bootstrapping approach for the period 200409.[76]^ Upon its formation in 1992, the Premier League became the top tier of English football; the Football League First and Second Divisions then became the second and third tiers, respectively. From 2004, the First Division became the Championship and the Second Division became League One.^ Until 2016, the unsponsored name of the EFL Cup was the Football League Cup.^ Until 2002, the FA Community Shield was known as the FA Charity Shield.^ The 1991 FA Charity Shield was shared with Tottenham Hotspur.^ "The Arsenal Football Club". Companies House. Archived from the original on 13 July 2022. Retrieved 14 February 2021.^ "Arsenal FC history, facts and records". footballhistory.org. Archived from the original on 25 September 2023. Retrieved 16 December 2023.^ a b Hodgson, Guy (17 December 1999). "Football: How consistency and caution made Arsenal England's greatest". The Independent. London. Archived from the original on 3 March 2016. Retrieved 13 May 2016.^ a b c Ross, James; Heneghan, Michael; Orford, Stuart; Culliton, Eoin (25 August 2016). "English Clubs Divisional Movements 18882016". Rec.Sport.Soccer Statistics Foundation. Archived from the original on 22 June 2023. 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Tell us what you want to knowChelsea's teenage sensation Estevao Willian, 18, starts for Chelsea with a returning Cole Palmer left on the bench.Chelsea have made just one change from the 3-0 win over Barcelona with Joao Pedro replacing Alejandro Garnacho. Arsenal have made three changes from their 3-1 win against Bayern Munich.Chelsea XI: Sanchez, Gusto, Chalobah, Fofana, Cucurella, Caicedo, James, Neto, Fernandez, Estevao, Joao Pedro.Subs: Jorgensen, Acheampong, Tosin, Badiashile, Andrey Santos, Palmer, Gittens, Garnacho, Delap.Two of Mikel Arteta's Arsenal changes are enforced through injury with William Saliba and Leandro Trossard replaced by Piero Hincapie and Gabriel Martinelli, with Riccardo Calafiori also replacing Miles Lewis-Skelly.Arsenal XI: Raya, Timber, Mosquera, Hincapie, Calafiori, Zubimendi, Rice, Eze, Martinelli, Merino, Saka.Subs: Kepa, Lewis-Skelly,There are five games in the Premier League on Sunday and BBC Sport will bring you every moment.Kick-off times 14:05 GMT unless statedFollow all of the action and reaction from the first four games hereAnd go here for Chelsea v ArsenalYou can also listen to today's 5 Live Premier League commentaries on most smart speakers. Just say "ask BBC Sounds to play Aston Villa v Wolves" or "ask BBC Sounds to play Chelsea v Arsenal", for instance.Find out more about how to listen to Premier League football on BBC SoundsThis is a big one - second versus first - and it is not the time to sit on the fence.I was right that Arsenal would wipe the floor with Tottenham - I went 3-0 and it was 4-1 - but I didn't get any extra prediction points for being so brave, and so close.I like what Enzo Maresca is doing at Chelsea and he is another manager who sticks to his principles in the way his team plays.Chelsea have kept three clean sheets in a row now too, so they are looking pretty solid at the back, but I still think Arsenal will be too powerful for them.Mikel Arteta's side showed how good they are when they beat Bayern Munich on Wednesday. They have shown they can beat any team in any way - out-muscle them, out-fight them or out-play them - and they will be ready for Chelsea too.Maresca might go with some pace up top again like he did against Barcelona's high line, but Arsenal will have too much nous for them and I actually think they will win pretty comfortably.Chelsea have made a really good start to the season but I don't see them, or anyone else, pushing Arsenal close in the title race.Sutton's prediction: 0-2Read the full predictions and have your say hereThe world champions face the team who are currently leading the way in Europe's premier competition as Chelsea host Arsenal at Stamford Bridge on Sunday (16:30 GMT).Arsenal have won six of their last seven in the Premier League while Chelsea have won five of their last six, and both impressed in their midweek exploits against Bayern Munich and Barcelona.The recent domestic blips for both came against Sunderland, who held Arsenal to a draw and beat Chelsea at Stamford Bridge.In fact, home form has been an issue for the Blues this season - with just 43.5% of their Premier League points coming at Stamford Bridge. Only Tottenham have earned a lower share of their points at home.Arsenal's win over Spurs cemented their excellent form in London derbies they have lost just three of their 40 derby matches in the Premier League since the start of 2022-23 (W28, D9), with just one of those defeats coming away from home.And they also have an excellent recent record at Stamford Bridge, where they are unbeaten in their past six league matches (W3, D3).The Gunners' form has been underpinned by the signings they made over the summer, with a new strength in depth allowing them to navigate injuries to crucial players and giving their title challenge added impetus.But while Arsenal have the meanest defence in the top flight, three of the six league goals they have conceded have come in their past two games, and after a run of eight clean sheets in all competitions, they have now conceded in their last three matches.In contrast, Chelsea have conceded just one goal in their previous five Premier League matches, and have been on the front foot in games, scoring the first goal in all of their last seven league fixtures.They still lack the consistency of Mikel Arteta's side but with Manchester City and Liverpool both looking fragile, could the Blues' youthful squad be emerging into Arsenal's biggest threat for the title?Both teams have a busy December with eight matches apiece entering that month by taking three points off a major rival could be pivotal in how their respective seasons pan out.Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta has been speaking to the media before Sunday's Premier League game against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge (16:30 GMT).Here are the key lines from his news conference:Arteta on Leandro Trossard, who was replaced in the first half of Wednesday's win over Bayern Munich: "With Leo there's another test today. We have to see how he's feeling. It doesn't look much, we still have a few hours, we have to wait and see. There is a potential chance [he will be available]."Gabriel Jesus played in a behind-closed-doors friendly on Thursday and looked "very positive", while Ethan Nwaneri also played "because he wanted some minutes". Arteta added: "We took that opportunity for the players who needed a bit of exposure and competition to provide that to them."On Viktor Gyokeres and Kai Havertz: "We have another day tomorrow so let's see how everybody is."Gabriel Magalhaes is "evolving well" in his recovery from injury: "We have to wait for that scan a little bit longer to be more precise in terms of the timings but I'm quite confident, especially with the way Gabi takes every injury and pushes everybody - he won't be that long."On facing second-placed Chelsea: "It's a big game, it is a big London derby. They are in really good form. We know the challenge and the opportunity we have on Sunday, so we are fully ready."Are the Blues Arsenal's closest title rivals?: "We are all there. They are there because they fully deserve everything they have done in last few years."On whether Sunday is his side's biggest game of the season so far: "For us it is because it is the next game. We live in the present and give the best possible preparation to win the game."Asked about Mikel Merino's performances as a striker, Arteta said: "He brings other things to the table. I think his intelligence, the way he competes, the way he masters a lot of the things that are crucial for us in any player, he's got them. Then he's a real threat. He could have scored two goals [against Bayern], he was involved in many positive actions, and his work was unbelievable again."On Declan Rice: "I think he has been immense from the start of the season. He is an incredible and crucial player for us."Follow all of Friday's Premier League news conferences and the rest of the day's football newsListen to live commentary of Chelsea v Arsenal on BBC Radio 5 Live on Sunday - coverage starts at 16:00 GMTArsenal have joined Manchester City in checking on Elche's 20-year-old Spanish midfielder Rodrigo Mendoza, with Real Madrid also interested. (Mail)Want more transfer stories? Read Friday's full gossip columnFollow the gossip column on BBC SportChris HowardFan writerGetty ImagesArsenal fans have collectively been telling themselves - as well as fans from other clubs - that "it's too early" and they "don't want to speak too soon" or words to that effect.But after another impressive display especially in that second half sooner or later we are going to have to put our hands up and say this team are the real deal. It is not arrogance. It is what pundits and others have been telling us all season, but we carry enough emotional baggage from past campaigns to admit it. Momentum in football is everything and after the second 'statement win' in a week, we are going to need to start thinking about this collective of players in the same way fans from other clubs are. The depth of this team was on display for all to see against Bayern Munich as Arsenal took off Leandro Trossard for Noni Madueke, who then went on to get the second goal that turned this game into a wonderful night. Momentum is everything and it feels like Arsenal have that right now. They go in to Sunday's massive away game at Chelsea with their tails up and, after the Blues got their own statement win on Tuesday, the Gunners showed that they could respond with what I think most of Europe will think is a more impressive result.What a time it is to be going in to this game at the weekend with the morale and confidence as high as it is for these Arsenal players. Us fans need to accept and realise just how impressive Arteta's side is. We need to 'own' that favourites tag - and so do the players.Find more from Chris Howard at Suburban Gooners and the Same Old Arsenal PodcastArsenal players have taken to social media to react to Wednesday's impressive 3-1 Champions League win over Bayern Munich.The Gunners inflicted Bayern's first defeat of the season amid a raucous atmosphere at Emirates Stadium.Did you know?Arsenal have won their first five matches in a Champions League season for the first time since 2005-06 - the season where they reached their only final in the competition. The Gunners are the only side with a 100% record in the Champions League this season.Noni Madueke scored his first goal for Arsenal, his first ever Champions League goal, and his first for any club since May when he scored for Chelsea against Djurgarden.This content isn't available anymore.There was an errorWe asked for your views on Arsenal's victory against Bayern Munich in the Champions League.Here are some of your comments:James: A fantastic performance overall. A cagey first half where I think both teams were trying to work each other out. Second half was pure dominance from Arsenal and great substitutions from Mikel Arteta inevitably proved the difference!Rachel: A remarkable match filled with outstanding individual performances but more than that, a perfect team effort. I feel so proud of these players wearing their hearts on their sleeves and giving everything for the badge. A superhuman show from Declan Rice but difficult to pick out one star performer. Delighted for everyone at the club.Jeffrey: A disciplined performance with the right amount of flair without looking like a team that had several players either out or returning. A classy performance.Joe: Rice might have had his best performance of his Arsenal career tonight and that is saying something. The most complete midfielder around right now. Ludicrously good.Gerard: Thought it was 50/50 at half-time and I was concerned. But the second-half performance was immense. There are always headline-grabbers but for me Mikel Merino and Martin Zubimendi were just phenomenal.Gavidoff: In the words of Queen: 'Don't stop me now - I'm having such a good time, I'm having a ball'. Let's go Gunners, all the way.Alex HowellArsenal reporterGetty ImagesArsenal had forwards Viktor Gyokeres, Kai Havertz and Gabriel Jesus all unavailable for the victory against Bayern Munich but Mikel Arteta was able to call on Noni Madueke and Gabriel Martinelli from the substitutes' bench.The Gunners have had injuries to a number of their forwards but, with captain Martin Odegaard returning and Gyokeres and Havertz progressing, Arteta's options look like they are going to get even better.After bringing in eight players in the summer, Arteta has been able to navigate the issues he has faced - Madueke scored his first goal for the club against Bayern, while Martinelli bagged his fourth in as many games in the Champions League."I couldn't have picked a better game to score my first Arsenal goal - I am so happy the team got the win as well," Madueke said."It's an incredible statement, but we know the work we put in. We go into these game with every confidence that we are going to win."I am a confident player. I don't like someone telling me I cannot do something. But my team-mates and the staff have belief in me."Former defender Matt Upson thinks the options Arsenal have are a big reason why Arteta is able to keep the standards so high."Arsenal's bench delivers in all areas, in terms of freshness and quality," he said."We are talking about multiple players coming on and having an impact. They are all scrapping for a starting position."I think that's the key. It isn't easy for a manager to keep a squad of this depth hungry, together and fighting for the shirt, but also responding in the right way when not in the team."Ultimately, Mikel Arteta has all his players pulling in the same direction. The goal is a Premier League title and getting as far as they can in the Champions League."Read Alex's full piece hereGetty ImagesFormer Arsenal defender Matt Upson says the Gunners are proving to be a formidable force this season because they are "all pulling in the same direction" and "having an impact."The Gunners have been excellent this season - winning 16, drawing two and losing just one of their matches across all competitions.Beating Bayern Munich means they have also won their first five matches in the Champions League for the first time since the 2005-06 season, when they reached their only final in the competition."The confidence is there for Arsenal," said Upson on BBC Radio 5 Live's Football Daily podcast. "You can feel it simmering all the time."They might have patches in a game where they might not play that well or they have games where they might not perform so well, but the foundation is built, so it doesn't drop below a certain level."Before with Arsenal, you'd have these brilliant flashes but then they would have matches where they tailed right off. We're not seeing that now."It's a 7/10 all the time. Sometimes it might even go to a 9/10, but they are just churning out these games."Arsenal's bench also delivers in all areas in terms of freshness and quality."We are talking about multiple players coming on and having an impact. They are all scrapping for a starting position."I think that's the key. It isn't easy for a manager to keep a squad of this depth hungry, together and fighting for the shirt, but also responding in the right way when not in the team."Ultimately, Mikel Arteta has all his players pulling in the same direction. The goal is a Premier League title and getting a far as they can in the Champions League."Listen to the Football Daily podcast on BBC SoundsThis content isn't available anymore.There was an errorArsenal boss Mikel Arteta, speaking to TNT Sports on what pleased him most: "Probably the overall performance and the way we dominated the game. This game was going to require a different dimension, and individually, we were exceptional."This will bring more confidence and trust to the players. We made changes. The players performed in an incredible way. I am so pleased. I thought we were excellent."It's very important to have them back and available [Noni Madueke, Gabriel Martinelli, Martin Odegaard]. The impact the players are showing is remarkable."On whether it feels like it could be Arsenal's season in the Champions League: "I don't know. We're going to enjoy tonight and then start to prepare for the weekend. There is still so far to go."Gunners midfielder Declan Rice, speaking to TNT Sports: "Look at Bayern Munich this season, they have been the best team in Europe. This was probably the toughest game tactically we have played this season. The way they work it is so, so good."We went man to man with them in the second half, and I thought tonight we were outstanding. The manager is so happy. It was a special European night."Yes, definitely [it feels different to last season]. There are so many leaders in the team. We are just taking it one game at a time. There is a hunger and desire to win every game. There is a long way to go - let's not get carried away."It's been so easy to play with Martin Zubimendi. From the first moment we had with each other in pre-season, I just knew we'd play some good football. I really like him, he's such a nice guy."He is Spain's number six, and you know what Spain's number six are like. He has been so, so good for us."Every game requires something different. Every player knows their role."Did you know? Arsenal have scored 10 goals from corners in all competitions this season the most of any side in Europe's big-five leagues while they have netted 17 goals from set pieces (inc. pens), the most of any Premier League side in all competitions in 2025-26. Bukayo Saka ended a run of 29 games without an assist for Arsenal in all competitions, registering his first since December 2024 against Crystal Palace. He created 44 chances for his teammates without success in between those two assists.Alex HowellFootball reporterGetty ImagesThis week looked like it had the potential to be difficult for Arsenal, with games against rivals Tottenham Hotspur, Bayern Munich and Chelsea, but Mikel Arteta's side have made the first two of those matches look easy.Arsenal put four past Spurs and now three past Bayern Munich as they continue to perform like a team that are finally going to win their first major trophy since 2020.Arsenal and Bayern Munich were the top two sides in the league phase heading into this match, but, just like the Gunners have done to most teams they have played this season, they dominated the match.Arteta made just two changes to the side that beat Spurs, with Cristhian Mosquera and Myles Lewis-Skelly coming into the backline, and the strength of Arsenal's squad has been the biggest theme of their season.Arsenal have had to deal with injuries to a number of players in their front line, but they have dealt with them due to the quality they have and have now welcomed back Martin Odegaard, Martinelli and Madueke.Madueke and Martinelli came off the bench to score as Arteta utilised what he calls his 'finishers' from the substitutes' bench.Arsenal have lost just one game this season and are top of both the Premier League and Champions League table, and, with key players returning from injury, they look like they are going to be very difficult to dislodge.Whether you were at the game or following from elsewhere, we want to know what you learned.Have your say on Arsenal's performanceCome back on Thursday for a selection of your repliesAlex HowellArsenal reporterMikel Arteta makes two changes from the side that beat Tottenham with Cristhian Mosquera and Myles Lewis-Skelly coming in for Piero Hincapie and Riccardo Calafiori.Arsenal starting XI: Raya, Timber, Saliba, Mosquera, Lewis-Skelly, Zubimendi, Rice, Eze, Saka, Trossard, MerinoSubs: Arrizabalaga, Setford, Hincapie, White, Odegaard, Martinelli, Norgaard, Madueke, Nwaneri, CalafioriHarry Kane starts for Bayern as does Michael Olise in attack for Bayern. There is also a place for 17-year-old Lennart Karl, who became Bayern's youngest Champions League scorer against Club Brugge this season.Bayern Munich starting XI: Neuer, Kimmich, Tah, Upamecano, Stanisic, Pavlovic, Laimer, Karl, Olise, Gnabry, KaneSubs: Ulreich, Urbig, Jackson, Ito, Kim, Goretzka, Bischof, Guerreiro, Boey, MikeThere are nine games in the Champions League on Tuesday, including three involving Premier League clubs, and BBC Sport will bring you every moment.Kick-offs 20:00 GMT unless statedFollow all of the action and reaction hereYou can also listen to 5 Live commentaries on most smart speakers. Just say "ask BBC Sounds to play Arsenal v Bayern Munich" or "ask BBC Sounds to play PSG v Tottenham".Find out more about how to listen to football on BBC SoundsWatch highlights of every Champions League game from 22:00 on Wednesday on BBC iPlayer and the BBC Sport website and app.There will also be a Champions League Match of the Day on BBC One on Wednesday, from 22:40 to 00:00.

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