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# **PREMIER LEAGUE 2019/20 SUMMER TRANSFER GUIDE**

# ARSENAL

HEAD COACH UNAI EMERY

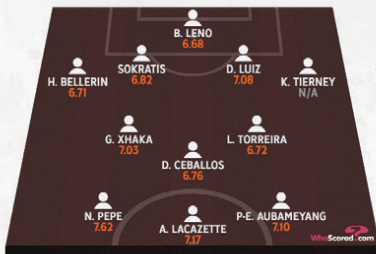


After a slow start to the transfer window and rumours of a meagre budget to spend, it's fair to say Arsenal fans will have been fearing the worst. However, it's forced the Gunners to be smart with their money and exploit alternative payment plans in order to secure their top targets, with the club remaining capable of attracting some big names to the capital. There's still some long-standing weaknesses in the squad but defensive reinforcements were eventually secured and the attacking additions will ensure the football is as entertaining as ever.



Teenager William Saliba was signed before immediately returning to Saint-Etienne on loan. However, Dani Ceballos should prove a real coup regardless of a whopping £15m loan fee, filling the void left by Aaron Ramsey and capable of playing anywhere in the midfield. Then came club record signing Nicolas Pepe, with the Gunners beating a number of top club's to the signing of the Lille star - scorer of 22 league goals last season, along with 11 assists to his name. His arrival should lead to a change in formation given his threat from the right, while two crucial signings were made on deadline day. David Luiz and Kieran Tierney will bolster the backline and both are upgrades on those already at the club, while the club secured a great fee for Alex Iwobi.

## PROBABLE XI



> **INS** N. Pepe (£72m), W. Saliba (£27m), K. Tierney (£25m), D. Luiz (£8m), G. Martinelli (£6m), D. Ceballos (Loan)  
 < **OUTS** A. Iwobi (£35m), K. Bielik (£7.5m), L. Koscielny (£4.6m), D. Ospina (£3.5m), D. Thompson (£3m), T. Asano (£910k), C. Jenkinson (Undis.), V. Daley-Campbell (Undis.), X. Amaechi (Undis.), W. Saliba (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / 'OUTS' EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS

# ASTON VILLA

HEAD COACH DEAN SMITH



With 13 players leaving upon the club's promotion back to the big time it was always likely to be a busy summer at Villa Park. However, few could have predicted just how prolific Aston Villa would be in the market. Many have compared their summer spending to the likes of Fulham last year but three players have returned following loans and adding competition for places was a must. While only time will tell if Smith can get his new look squad to gel, getting deals done early will give the coach the best possible chance of doing exactly that.



Kortney Hause, Anwar El Ghazi and Tyrone Mings are all back at the club, with the latter costing a pretty penny but worth every one to the fans having been a huge part of the club's promotion. Record signing Wesley is an unknown entity in England but had been on the radar of a number of Premier League clubs for some time and will be tasked with replacing top scorer Tammy Abraham. Elsewhere Tom Heaton provides much needed experience in goal for a good price, Matt Targett will take Neil Taylor's place at left-back, while Ezri Konsa and Bjorn Engels provide competition at centre-back. Meanwhile Douglas Luiz and Marvelous Nakamba have arrived to strengthen the midfield and Jota and Trezeguet will vie for places out wide. And breathe...

## PROBABLE XI



It's difficult to assess the transfer window at Villa for a number of reasons, with so many new faces to integrate and many of those not having played in England. That said, their strength in depth should stand the club in good stead over the course of the campaign and their decision to sign young players eager to prove their worth and willing to learn will provide a strong platform if they can beat the drop.

> **INS** T. Mings (£26.5m), Wesley (£22m), D. Luiz (£15m), M. Targett (£14m), E. Konsa (£12m), M. Nakamba (£11m), B. Engels (£9m), Trezeguet (£8.8m), T. Heaton (£8m), A. El Ghazi (£8m), K. Hause (£3m), Jota (£2m)  
 < **OUTS** G. Gardner (Undis.), B. Bjarnason (Released), S. Hogan (Loan), A. Green (Loan), J. Bree (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / 'OUTS' EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS



# BOURNEMOUTH

HEAD COACH **EDDIE HOWE**



Bournemouth's transfer policy has been steadfast for some time now, with the south coast club looking to young, homegrown talent to continue their impressive development in the top-flight. This summer has been no different and while it's been a relatively quiet one compared to some, the Cherries have strengthened their squad and addressed areas of weakness in the process. Meanwhile they've sold some fringe players for high fees and kept hold of their prized assets in what has been a very financially astute window for the club.



The first through the door at the Vitality Stadium, Lloyd Kelly was snared from Bristol City before the window had even opened and arrives with a strong reputation. An England U21 international capable of playing at left or centre-back, he serves as a replacement of sorts for Tyrone Mings. Bournemouth got a great deal for the latter, whose sale has enabled them to add competition in areas that needed it. Jack Stacey is a versatile full-back who played a key part in Luton's promotion, while Philip Billing adds quality and height to a midfield lacking both. Meanwhile signing both Harry Wilson and Arnaut Danjuma, both of whom are full internationals able to play on either flank, gives Howe great depth in attack but will require a juggling act to keep everyone happy.

## PROBABLE XI



> **INS** P. Billing (£15m), L. Kelly (£13m), A. Danjuma (£13m), J. Stacey (£4m), H. Wilson (Loan)  
 < **OUTS** T. Mings (£26.5m), L. Mousset (£10m), C. Mahoney (Undis.), E. Hyndman (Loan), B. Smith (Loan), H. Arter (Loan)

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# BRIGHTON

HEAD COACH **GRAHAM POTTER**



Unquestionably the most significant change at the Amex comes in the dugout, where new coach Graham Potter will be aiming to implement a very different style of football. The former Swansea boss favours a possession-based approach to the game so a lack of recruitment in the midfield area in particular is a concern for the Seagulls, who will need to adapt quickly. There have been some significant new arrivals but perhaps not in the right areas to suggest that Brighton have really made great strides this summer.



The signing of Leandro Trossard understandably excited the fans early in the window, with the Belgian having attracted interest from the likes of Arsenal in the past. He's a goalscorer that operates best from the left flank and should take some of the pressure off of the ageing Glenn Murray. However, it's the acquisition of Neal Maupay from Brentford - having had a direct hand in 33 league goals last season - that could see the veteran striker phased out. Elsewhere record signing Adam Webster will slot into a new back three system this season. The defender arrives from Bristol City for a fee in the region of £20m and was the highest rated centre-back in the Championship last season (7.30). Meanwhile Aaron Mooy's deadline day arrival adds much needed depth in midfield.

## PROBABLE XI



> **INS** A. Webster (£20m), N. Maupay (£20m), L. Trossard (£15m), M. Clarke (£5m), T. Richards (£2.5m), R. Yapi (Undis.), A. Mooy (Loan) < **OUTS** M. Suttner (£2m), W. Collar (Undis.), A. Mateju (Undis.), A. Knockaert (Loan), P. Tau (Loan), C. Walton (Loan), A. MacAllister (Loan), M. Clarke (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / 'OUTS' EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS

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# BURNLEY

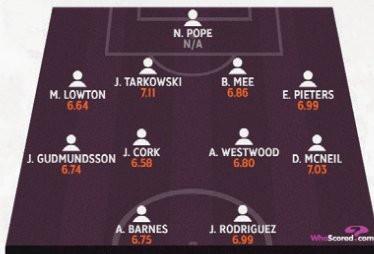
HEAD COACH SEAN DYCHE

While the Clarets are rarely overly busy in the transfer market the lack of activity this summer will be a concern to some of the fans, with the club clearly hoping that continued stability is enough to stave off the threat of relegation. There have been a couple of new additions that fall into the category of being very 'Burnley' but there will be no change in approach from Sean Dyche next season. If it ain't broke don't fix it certainly comes to mind, but the club do run the risk of being dragged into a relegation battle.



The most notable signing is the return of former academy graduate and fan favourite Jay Rodriguez, who arrives from West Brom seven years after leaving Turf Moor. The 30-year-old proved he still has an eye for goal in the Championship last season, netting an impressive 22 times. Keeping hold of Dwight McNeil was equally important, while the experienced Erik Pieters should provide the teenager with the confidence to make his mark in attack down the left flank. Elsewhere the departure of captain Tom Heaton is a blow but with a year left on his deal, the Clarets secured a decent fee and a promising replacement in Bailey Peacock-Farrell. Deadline day addition Danny Drinkwater could prove a coup if he can get back up to speed having endured a torrid time at Chelsea.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
SPEND



A predictably low key summer at Turf Moor will see Burnley stick to what they know and while that may not be a bad thing, in terms of strength in depth their squad looks short. Rodriguez should share out enough goals with the likes of Ashley Barnes and Chris Wood but the right flank looks like being a potential weakness and there's still a glaring lack of creativity in central areas.

> **INS** J. Rodriguez (£10m), B. Peacock-Farrell (£3m), E. Pieters (£1.5m), J. Senior (Undis.), A. Phillips (Free), D. Drinkwater (Loan), R. Cooney (Loan) < **OUTS** T. Heaton (£8m)

# CHELSEA

HEAD COACH FRANK LAMPARD



With a transfer ban enforced upon the club it's fair to say returning club legend Frank Lampard hasn't arrived at the best of times given his managerial inexperience. A baptism of fire would be an understatement, even if the fans are sure to give their former midfielder the patience he will no doubt need from the terraces to try to compete with the very best. However, while there may not be any 'new' signings to speak of there will still be some (very) fresh faces integrated into the first team fold this season.



The signing of Christian Pulisic in January means there is at least one new name at Stamford Bridge following the American's return from loan at Borussia Dortmund, and the youngster should play a prominent role. That, of course, is in no small part down to the departure of talisman and undisputed star player Eden Hazard, whose loss will be keenly felt for some time. Mateo Kovacic was permitted to sign on a permanent deal due to an agreement in his previous loan transfer from Real Madrid. Olivier Giroud should lead the line initially, though Tammy Abraham will be desperate - along with the returning Mason Mount - to prove worthy of a starting spot. The decision to allow David Luiz to join rivals Arsenal raised eyebrows on deadline day and could leave Chelsea short if injuries strike.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
PROFIT

Hamstrung by the transfer ban imposed against them, Chelsea could do little more than they have this summer. That said, while inevitable, the sale of Hazard is a monumental blow that cannot be overstated. It's an opportunity for the likes of Pulisic and - once back fit - Callum Hudson-Odoi to stake their claim to become a Blues hero but Lampard unquestionably has a tough task ahead.



> **INS** M. Kovacic (£40.2m) < **OUTS** E. Hazard (£88.5m), O. Aina (£8.8m), D. Luiz (£8m), T. Kalas (£8m), K. Palmer (£3.5m), D. Redan (£2.3m), J. Dasilva (Undis.), M. Bulka (Undis.), A. Morata (Loan), D. Drinkwater (Loan), M. Pasalic (Loan), M. Miazga (Loan), L. Baker (Loan)



# CRYSTAL PALACE

HEAD COACH **ROY HODGSON**

While the club keeping hold of Wilfried Zaha was always likely to be more important than any new signing, Palace's summer spending will have underwhelmed the fans to say the least. Hodgson will now need to try to get the best from a player that made it clear that he wanted to leave the club. The loss of Aaron Wan-Bissaka, albeit at a good price, will be a huge blow and failing to replace the youngster could prove costly, while a lack of activity in recruiting another striker could also prove to be a huge oversight.



Jordan Ayew returns to Selhurst Park following a loan spell from Swansea but failed to find his feet in front of goal last season. Elsewhere Gary Cahill is reunited with his former England boss - a man who gave the former Chelsea skipper the armband at international level - and should start in a move that could see James Tomkins moved to right-back given the failure to recruit a new one. The midfield has been bolstered by the arrival of Victor Camarasa, who arrives on an initial loan with a view to a £15m move following a successful loan spell at Cardiff last season. Finally, James McCarthy has signed from Everton but is one of a number of players at the club that have not played a lot of football in recent times and will surely take time to get up to speed.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
PROFIT



Failing with a number of attempts to strengthen and replenish in key areas, while retaining Zaha's services for the time being was imperative, Palace fans will rightly be disappointed by the club's transfer business. Right-back now looks a weakness where it was a position of strength and the Eagles are lacking a striker heading into the season with confidence and fitness.

> **INS** J. McCarthy (£3m), J. Ayew (£3m), G. Cahill (Free), S. Henderson (Free), V. Camarasa (Loan)

< **OUTS** A. Wan-Bissaka (£45m), L. Lumeke (Undis.), A. Sorloth (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / \*OUTS EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS

# EVERTON

HEAD COACH **MARCO SILVA**

There's been a steady flow of transfers at Goodison this summer, with players heading for both the entrance and exit, but all in all there is little doubt that the Toffees have strengthened this summer. The club accrued sizeable transfer fees for some fringe players - albeit promising ones in the form of Ademola Lookman and Nikola Vlasic - and replenished the squad accordingly. Meanwhile Idrissa Gueye's departure for Paris Saint-Germain is certainly a blow but three midfield additions should ensure Silva has more than enough cover.



First through the door was goalkeeper Jonas Løssl on a free, who is a very capable deputy to Pickford, before Andre Gomes' loan deal was made permanent. The Portugal international will be joined in the midfield by England international Fabian Delph at a cut price, while Jean-Philippe Gbamin may replace Gueye but could also feature at the back. However, the most intriguing and unexpected signing is undoubtedly that of Moise Kean, whose form at the tailend of last season was hugely impressive. For that reason it comes as a significant shock that Juventus have allowed the teenager to leave. Elsewhere Djibril Sidibe will provide stiff competition at right-back with Seamus Coleman, while Alex Iwobi's big money arrival at the last means Everton have a hugely exciting young attack.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
SPEND



While Everton have lost a key player in Gueye they've used the money from his transfer and two substitutes to more than replenish the squad. That's smart business but there is a lot of pressure on Kean to score the goals required to turn Everton into a team capable of qualifying for Europe. They do look much stronger this time around though, so all in all it's been a very successful summer.

> **INS** A. Iwobi (£35m), M. Kean (£29m), J-P. Gbamin (£22.5m), A. Gomes (£22m), F. Delph (£8.5m), J. Løssl (Free), D. Sidibe (Loan) < **OUTS** I. Gueye (£28m), A. Lookman (£22.5m), N. Vlasic (£12m), J. McCarthy (£3m), A. Robinson (£2m), J. Williams (Undis.), J. Kenny (Loan), S. Ramirez (Loan), K. Dowell (Loan), L. Garbutt (Loan), M. Pennington (Loan)

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# LEICESTER

HEAD COACH BRENDAN RODGERS

The transfer saga that hung over the club all summer was finally concluded as Harry Maguire completed his move to Manchester United but despite the England international's departure there is reason for real optimism at the King Power Stadium. The £80m received for the centre-back - a world record fee for a defender - has essentially ensured that Leicester have been able to sign four players in his place, although the fact that none of said quartet are a direct replacement for Maguire will ring some alarm bells.



The top priority this summer was a familiar face to Leicester fans and the permanent acquisition of Youri Tielemans - who had attracted the interest of Manchester United - is a statement of intent for where this club is headed. The young Belgian didn't come cheap but does arrive with very little risk attached given how he impressed on loan. Meanwhile Ayoze Perez's arrival from Newcastle should offer another dimension to Rodgers' exciting side, and youngster James Justin is a versatile and attack-minded full-back who should win over the fans. Don't be surprised to see the latter's arrival push Ricardo Pereira into a more advanced role at times, while the deadline day addition of Dennis Praet from Sampdoria offers the team great strength in depth in the middle of the park.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
SPEND



While his departure will be felt, commanding an £80m fee for Harry Maguire can only be seen as exceptional business on Leicester's part and has enabled them to bolster and improve upon options elsewhere. Rodgers has impressive cover to rotate his squad when necessary and having not qualified last season - meaning they have fewer matches to contend with - a European push is on the cards.

> **INS** Y. Tielemans (£40m), A. Perez (£30m), D. Praet (£18m), J. Justin (£8m), A. Reghinba (Undis.), G. Hirst (Undis.), V. Daley-Campbell (Undis.), M. Clark (Free) < **OUTS** H. Maguire (£80m), E. Moore (Undis.)

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# LIVERPOOL

HEAD COACH JURGEN KLOPP



To say it's been a quiet summer at Liverpool would be a huge understatement and while the fans are understandably still on cloud nine following their Champions League success in May, the Reds are certainly at risk of losing ground at the top of the table. The likes of Adam Lallana and Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain returning from injury will bolster their options somewhat but serious injury to any number of key players will leave Jurgen Klopp's side exposed when compared to last season's title rivals Manchester City.



The Reds signed 17-year-old centre-back Sepp van den Berg from PEC Zwolle but the Dutch teenager is only likely to feature in early domestic cup rounds, while the same can be said of Harvey Elliott. The 16-year-old is regarded as one of the brightest young prospects in English football but remains just that - a 16-year-old prospect - so he will see very little action too. Two goalkeepers have arrived on free transfers in the form of Adrian and Andy Lonergan but the fact remains that Liverpool haven't improved their squad where every one of their rivals has managed to do so. Should Mo Salah or Sadio Mane face a spell on the sidelines, or either full-back for that matter, Liverpool could not only be left behind but caught up in the chasing pack.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
PROFIT



There will be some Liverpool fans that may point to Tottenham's ability to reach the Champions League final as justification for sticking with what you've got but Spurs were left desperately exposed in the league when injuries struck. Klopp's starting lineup is still the closest in terms of quality to that of Manchester City but their depth in some areas is concerning so they'll need a little luck on their side.

> **INS** S. Van den Berg (£1.3m), H. Elliott (Undis.), Adrian (Free), A. Lonergan (Free) < **OUTS** D. Ings (£18m), S. Mignolet (£6.4m), R. Camacho (£5m), G. Johnstone (Undis.), M. Grujic (Loan), H. Wilson (Loan)

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# MANCHESTER CITY

HEAD COACH PEP GUARDIOLA



There was hardly anything to improve upon in Manchester City's side following an historic domestic treble but issues in terms of cover in certain positions perhaps hindered their chances of Champions League glory. The title holders have certainly addressed such concerns and are rightly considered strong favourites this season despite only narrowly beating Liverpool to top spot last time around.

With at least one strong deputy in every outfield position Pep Guardiola knows that rotation won't be a problem this time around.



Unquestionably the most important new arrival, Rodri's acquisition from Atletico Madrid eases the burden on 34-year-old Fernandinho to protect the back four. City's hopes of retaining their crown were temporarily dashed when the Brazilian picked up an injury last season but the new Spanish recruit will be the main man for the years to come. Elsewhere there is now much healthier competition in the full-back positions following the signings of Joao Cancelo and Angelino, both of whom are very attack-minded and will hope to be more than just understudies this season. Keeping hold of Leroy Sane despite strong interest from Bayern Munich was the right decision too, but failing to find a replacement for Vincent Kompany was a disappointment.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
SPEND



There aren't too many players that could have improved Manchester City's first XI but Rodri is arguably one of them. To think that the likes of David Silva, Fernandinho and Ilkay Gundogan may all begin to be phased out proves just how strong the champions' midfield options are. There's not so much depth at centre-back but their full-back acquisitions will enable more rotation this season.

# MANCHESTER UTD

HEAD COACH OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJAER



While Manchester United managed to secure their two top transfer targets this summer they were forced to spend huge fees in order to do so and given the lack of quality and depth in other areas there is a sense that their money could have gone further. There is little question that they have addressed two major problem positions in the squad and will be stronger for it, but bizarrely their team now looks stronger in defence than attack and they will need the likes of Rashford and Martial to step up their game following Lukaku's departure.



It took patience and deep pockets but United have revitalised a problematic backline with the acquisitions of Aaron Bissaka and Harry Maguire. The former arrived for a fee in the region of £45m which seemed like a lot initially but has begun to look more shrewd following impressive pre-season performances and the money spent on a number of signings since. One of said signings is Maguire, who is undoubtedly a significant upgrade for the club but had to become the most expensive defender in history in order to make the move. Elsewhere Daniel James should prove an astute signing to offer competition out wide with his electric pace but failing to replace either Ander Herrera and Romelu Lukaku, nor recruiting a right-sided winger could cost the Red Devils dearly.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
SPEND

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer arguably prepares for his first full season as United boss with a stronger squad than he inherited but given the talk of a potential overhaul at Old Trafford, the club spent a huge amount of time on signing two players in particular. It was as if they were only willing to work on one deal at a time and as such they've been left short in numerous departments.



> **INS** H. Maguire (£80m), A. Wan-Bissaka (£45m), D. James (£15m) < **OUTS** R. Lukaku (£70m), D. Henderson (Loan)





# NEWCASTLE

HEAD COACH STEVE BRUCE

Rafa Benitez's decision not to extend his contract ahead of the current season meant that Newcastle had to appoint a new manager before making any real moves in the transfer market and the frustration continued to mount at St. James' Park as a result. Steve Bruce's arrival in the hot seat hardly lightened the mood but the club have at least looked to replace key players that left earlier in the summer. Solomon Rondon and Ayoze Perez scored 23 of the team's 42 goals last season, leaving centre-back Fabian Schar as the Magpies' top scorer, with four.



There's plenty of pressure on record signing Joelinton to carry the can in front of goal and while the Brazilian - like predecessor Rondon - is a very hard working and physical forward, he too is far from prolific. The 22-year-old netted just seven times in the Bundesliga last season, assisting five, but has been among the goals in pre-season and should improve. The same is true of Allan Saint-Maximin, whose arrival from Nice could prove a real coup but also has the potential to end in disaster. The young Frenchman was something of a disruptive character in Ligue 1 and while there is magic in his boots in terms of his dribbling at times, his end product needs real work. Elsewhere, Jetro Willems and Emil Krafth provide decent competition in the wing-back roles. Oh, and Andy Carroll is back...

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
SPEND



All in all Newcastle's squad doesn't look stronger this season than last. In fact there may well be even fewer goals in what was an already frugal side so it boils down to whether Steve Bruce can organise a side as well as Benitez could... There are some promising players among the ranks but the spine of the team is a touch underwhelming to say the least and improving on last season will be a tough ask.

> **INS** Joelinton (£40m), A. Saint-Maximin (£16.5m), E. Krafth (£5m), A. Carroll (Free), K. Scott (Free), J. Turner (Free), J. Willems (Loan) < **OUTS** A. Perez (£30m), Joselu (£2.5m), F. Woodman (Loan), J. Murphy (Loan)

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# NORWICH

HEAD COACH DANIEL FARKE



There is a fine line between faith and naivety and it's one that Norwich have tread like a tightrope this summer. The Canaries were never likely to compete financially with the competition in the top-flight but their lack of spending is alarming. The fans will argue that tying the likes of Max Aarons and Emi Buendia down to long-term deals is better than any new signing but should Norwich fail to beat the drop their crop of impressive youngsters aren't likely to stick around. Should any key players pick up injuries they may struggle.



There are a handful of new faces at Carrow Road but whether any of those recruits improve upon last season's strongest XI is debatable. It should be said that Daniel Farke was able to rotate his squad in midfield last season to little to no detriment, with every player knowing their role, but this is a big step up. Ralf Fahrmann is arguably the one clear upgrade on Tim Krul in goal, while Patrick Roberts should prove an astute loan signing from Manchester City. Elsewhere Ibrahim Amadou could become an important player in breaking up play in midfield, while Josip Drmic has found the net in patches in the Bundesliga but struggled with injuries. He will act as an understudy to Teemu Pukki, while Sam Byram does little more than make up the numbers in defence.

## PROBABLE XI



NET  
SPEND



While Norwich were the best team in the Championship last season and shouldn't be discredited as a result, there's no question it's been a disappointing summer in terms of new arrivals. Keeping the faith with the players that secured promotion is admirable and the stability that brings may be a bonus to start the season but as it draws on the squad could become exposed.

> **INS** S. Byram (£750k), A. Fitzpatrick (£350k), R. Bushiri (Undis.), R. Nizet (Undis.), A. Mair (Undis.), J. Drmic (Free), C. Gilmour (Free), I. Amadou (Loan), R. Fahrmann (Loan), P. Roberts (Loan) < **OUTS** S. Raggett (Loan), J. Husband (Loan)

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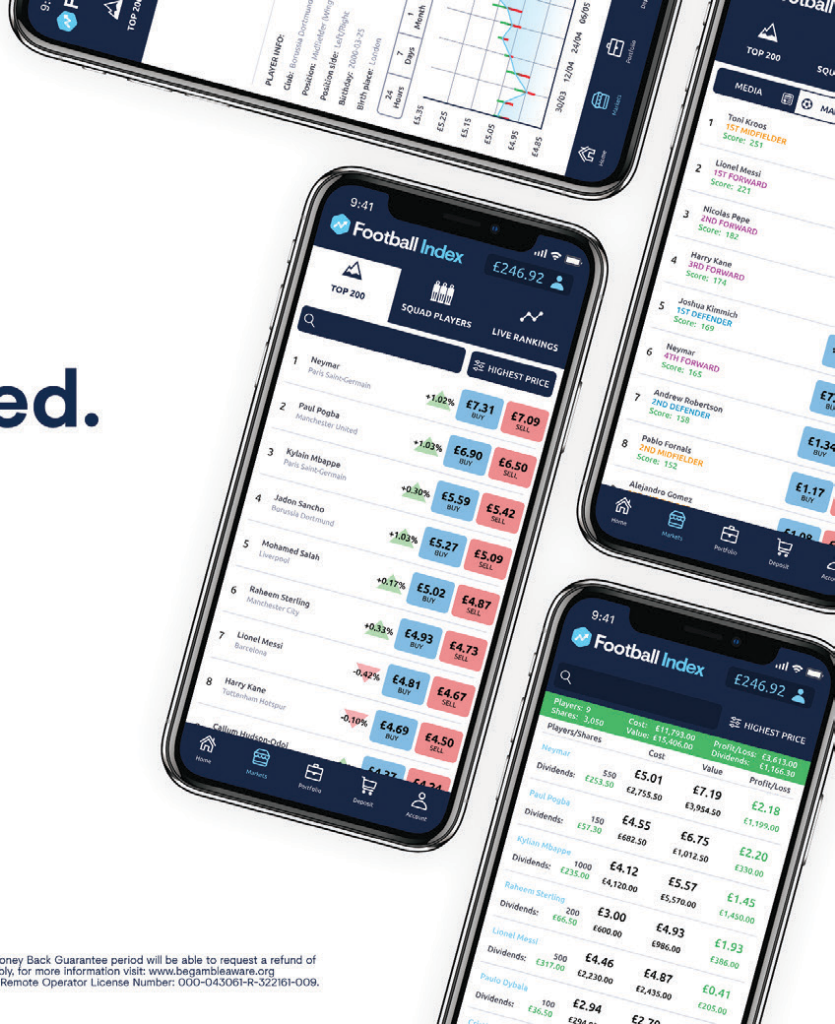
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# SHEFFIELD UTD

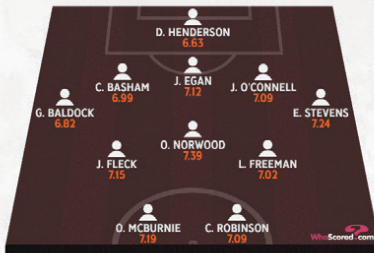
HEAD COACH CHRIS WILDER

With a modest transfer record to break, Sheffield United were always likely to do just that this summer and they have done so on multiple occasions. Chris Wilder has a very clear and unique way of approaching the game and that won't change so keeping the core of the team in place was logical, whilst adding some more useful options in attack. The back four - including the goalkeeper - may remain unchanged but with no notable departures there will be ample opportunity to rotate what is now a far more competitive squad.



While former Blade Phil Jagielka made an emotional return to Brammall Lane the centre-back, who turns 37 this month, will have been signed due to his influence off the pitch arguably more than on it. A deal to extend Dean Henderson's loan from Manchester United was pivotal and gives the team a strong and consistent platform from last season. Ben Osborn is extremely versatile and will offer competition in midfield and at left wing-back for a bargain price, while Luke Freeman adds creativity and Mo Besic some steel to the midfield ranks. Callum Robinson, Lys Mousset and Oliver McBurnie all broke the clubs transfer record upon their arrivals but will likely vie for two places in the XI, with the latter likely to lead the line, while Ravel Morrison is a complete wildcard signing.

## PROBABLE XI



NET SPEND

£44.5m



There is no doubt that the squad is stronger as they prepare for life in the Premier League but many will feel the Blades' new signings - primarily from the Championship - are not likely to offer a big upgrade on the best XI from last season. However, there is a versatility to the squad that should ensure the club are competitive, and Wilder's ability to get the best from his players shouldn't be underestimated.

> **INS** O. McBurnie (£18m), L. Mousset (£10m), C. Robinson (£8m), L. Freeman (£5m), B. Osborn (£3.5m), P. Jagielka (Free), R. Morrison (Free), D. Henderson (Loan), M. Besic (Loan), M. Verrips (Free)  
< **OUTS** C. Evans (Undis.), M. Duffy (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / \*OUTS EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS



# SOUTHAMPTON

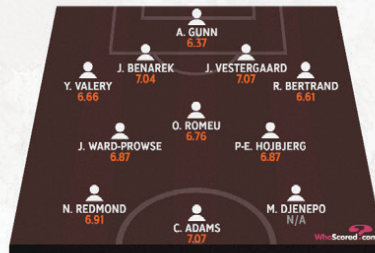
HEAD COACH RALPH HASENHUTTL

It's been a quiet summer at St. Mary's as Ralph Hasenhuttl prepares for his first full season as Saints boss. Many felt the Austrian may make more changes to his squad as a result but after getting some notable deals done early there hasn't been a great deal to discuss in terms of incomings or outgoings. That said, the coach did appear to have a good idea of his strongest XI by the end of last season and a full summer under his tutelage could prove very beneficial to a number of players that developed significantly following his arrival.



An agreement in Danny Ings' loan deal from Liverpool ensured he made the move permanent for a lofty fee and concerns over the striker's fitness and form were confirmed when Southampton moved fast to sign Che Adams. The former Birmingham marksman should prove to be a very astute signing following what was a breakthrough season in front of goal, adding a finishing touch to his considerable physical attributes. The decision to allow Matt Targett to leave without a replacement may prove premature, albeit at a good price, and strength in depth at the back is an issue in general. Elsewhere young winger Moussa Djenepo will be interesting to watch, with fans hoping he's more Sadio Mane than Mohamed Elyounoussi, while the last gasp signing of defender Kevin Danso was crucial.

## PROBABLE XI



NET SPEND

£24m



Adams has the qualities to be a real success in the Premier League and has his best years ahead of him, while Djenepo bolsters a hard-working and pacy front line that should pose problems on the counter. There's a solid midfield base and stability in the side to build from too, while the eventual addition of Kevin Danso adds much needed competition at the back.

> **INS** D. Ings (£18m), C. Adams (£15m), M. Djenepo (£14m), T. Scott (Undis.), K. Danso (Loan)  
< **OUTS** M. Targett (£14m), S. Gallacher (£5m), C. Austin (£4m), J. Sims (Loan), H. Reed (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / \*OUTS EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS



# TOTTENHAM

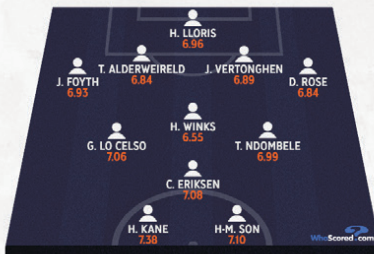
HEAD COACH MAURICIO POCHETTINO

Having been made to wait to make any signings whatsoever in recent times, Tottenham fans will be delighted with the transfer dealings this summer and the money spent is a statement of the club's intent to mount a real challenge for silverware this summer. There was an evident lack of quality and depth in midfield at times last season and remedying that has been rightly identified as the priority. Moreover, the club have kept hold of key players yet again, meaning they approach the upcoming campaign stronger than ever.



Securing the services of one of the most highly rated young midfielders on the continent in Tanguy Ndombele early on was a real coup for Spurs and the former Lyon star can operate in a number of different roles in the middle of the pitch. The same is also true of deadline day arrival Giovanni Lo Celso, whom the club trailed all summer, and he can provide another source of goals from midfield in competition with Dele Alli. Christian Eriksen eventually stayed put having expressed a desire to leave and may be phased out as his contract draws to a close but Spurs are now equipped to cope with that eventuality. Meanwhile Ryan Sessegnon arrives from Fulham to compete for places on the left, while Jack Clarke - who returned to Leeds on loan - was another investment for the future.

## PROBABLE XI



> INS T. Ndombele (£55.5m), R. Sessegnon (£25m), J. Clarke (£10m), K. Etete (£200k), G. Lo Celso (Loan)  
 < OUTS K. Trippier (£20m), V. Janssen (£6.3m), C. Ogilvie (Undis.), T. Oluwayemi (Undis.), J. Onomah (Exchange), J. Clarke (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / 'OUTS' EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS

WhoScored.com

# WATFORD

HEAD COACH JAVI GARCIA

It was a very quiet summer at Vicarage Road so two deadline day signings will have had Hornets fans breathing a sigh of relief, one of which smashed the club's transfer record. Having received a big fee for young forward Dodi Lukebakio - who never started a league game for the club - there would have been a backlash had that money not been reinvested in the squad but even so, there won't be a great deal of change to the lineup that pushed for a European finish last season only to fall short.



Craig Dawson was the first new signing for the Hornets and while he may not be a marquee addition the former West Brom defender can fill in at right-back if needed and offers strong competition to a modest if organised back four. Danny Welbeck's arrival on a free will prove a masterstroke if the versatile forward can prove his fitness but that is a very big if, but it's record signing Ismaila Sarr that the fans will be desperate to see in action. Having been after the Senegal international all summer Watford eventually bowed to Rennes' demands in fear of being left behind. As such the fee spent does seem a touch high but there is no doubt the winger - whose arrival could lead to a change in formation - has the potential to be a big hit in the Premier League.

## PROBABLE XI



Defensive injuries cost Watford as the season wore on last time out so just one new arrival in that department is somewhat of a surprise and the right-back spot still looks a weakness. That said, Sarr is an exciting addition in attack and both Welbeck and Dawson offer decent competition for places. Those above them have been more active this summer though, so keeping pace will be tough.

> INS I. Sarr (£30m), C. Dawson (£5.5m), S. Dalby (Undis.), D. Welbeck (Free), B. Spencer-Adams (Free), J. Hungbo (Free), T. Dele-Bashiru (Free)  
 < OUTS D. Lukebakio (£18m), O. Oulare (Undis.), J. Sinclair (Loan), M. Navarro (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / 'OUTS' EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS

18





# WEST HAM

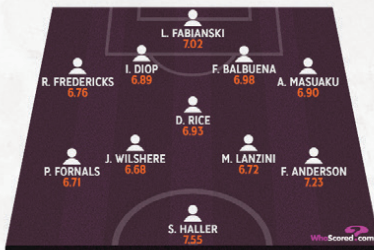
HEAD COACH MANUEL PELLEGRINI

Having made a fast start to the transfer window with two marquee signings West Ham look set to embark upon a bid for European football this season having undoubtedly improved the squad. The Hammers will welcome a number of players back to fitness too and in attack in particular they have enough strength in depth to pose a real threat. As well as strengthening in a number of positions the club were able to trim some of the deadwood and as a result enjoyed a very successful window.



The arrival of Pablo Fornals caught many by surprise with the midfielder considered one of the top young talents in Spain, helping the national team's U21 squad to the European Championship trophy earlier in the summer. He could play wide or from the middle and bolsters an already creative group of attacking midfielders. However, it's club record signing Sebastien Haller that could really take the Hammers to the next level, adding goals from the front but also an ability to bring the team's other talents into play. Elsewhere young Swiss international Albian Ajeti was signed to provide competition to the Frenchman, Portuguese youth centre-back Goncalo Cardoso will provide back up in defence and Roberto and David Martin will vie to be second choice keeper following the departure of Adrian.

## PROBABLE XI



> **INS** S. Haller (£40.7m), P. Fornals (£24m), A. Ajeti (£8m), G. Cardoso (Undis.), Roberto (Free), D. Martin (Free)  
< **OUTS** M. Arnautovic (£22.4m), E. Fernandes (£8m), P. Obiang (£7.2m), R. Oxford (£3.6m), L. Perez (£2m), S. Byram (£750k), M. Browne (£500k), J. Hugill (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / \*OUTS EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS

# WOLVES

HEAD COACH NUNO ESPIRITO SANTO



Wolves' transfer strategy clearly has a long-term vision and with the added repossibility of Europa League football to contend with Nuno is likely to rotate his squad having strengthened at either end of the pitch. Familiar faces are now permanent signings in the form of Raul Jimenez and Leander Dendoncker, though two key players in their promotion to the Premier League have left in Ivan Cavaleiro and Helder Costa. Two new faces have arrived, however, that signal Wolves' ambition and just how far they have come.



There haven't been a great deal of senior additions made to the squad but it's clear that, along with looking to recruit emerging young talent, Wolves have looked for quality rather than quantity. The signing of centre-back Jesus Vallejo on loan from Real Madrid is a significant upgrade, fresh from lifting the U21 European Championship trophy with Spain, having been earmarked as a future successor to Sergio Ramos in the past. His star has fallen slightly in recent years, which is also true of Patrick Cutrone, who was considered among the top young strikers on the continent not so long ago. His permanent arrival from AC Milan provides great competition for places up front, while Portuguese pair Pedro Neto and Bruno Jordao will act as further cover in midfield and attack.

## PROBABLE XI



After an excellent season back in the top-flight, with one of the most consistent starting XIs in the league, Wolves haven't looked to disrupt that stability too much but recognised that stronger depth was required this season. Vallejo and Cutrone offer just that but injuries in midfield or to either wing-back could still see Nuno's side caught a little short with more matches to take in this time around.



> **INS** R. Jimenez (£30m), P. Cutrone (£16.2m), L. Dendoncker (£12m), P. Neto (£10.8m), B. Jordao (£7.2m), M. Shabani (Undis.), R. Nya (Undis.), R. Dadashov (Undis.), J. Vallejo (Loan)  
< **OUTS** K. Hause (£3m), E. Ebanks-Landell (Undis.), P. Goncalves (Undis.), J. Dias (Undis.), H. Costa (Loan), I. Cavaleiro (Loan), W. Norris (Loan), R. Mir (Loan)

\*XI RATINGS FROM 2018/19 LEAGUE SEASONS / \*OUTS EXCLUDE EXPIRED CONTRACTS AND YOUTH PLAYER LOANS



# STAT ATTACK



**TREZEGUET:** CREATED MORE CHANCES (78) AND COMPLETED MORE DRIBBLES (112) THAN ANY OTHER TURKISH SUPER LIG PLAYER LAST SEASON



**AARON WAN-BISSAKA:** COMPLETED MORE TACKLES THAN ANY OTHER DEFENDER IN EUROPE'S TOP FIVE LEAGUES LAST SEASON (129)



**ALLAN SAINT-MAXIMIN:** ONLY ONE PLAYER IN EUROPE'S TOP FIVE LEAGUES COMPLETED MORE DRIBBLES LAST SEASON (143)



**CHE ADAMS:** SCORED 22 CHAMPIONSHIP GOALS LAST SEASON AND CREATED TEN MORE CHANCES (67) THAN ANY OTHER STRIKER IN THE DIVISION



**PATRICK CUTRONE:** OF PLAYERS TO START 3+ EUROPA LEAGUE GAMES LAST SEASON ONLY ONE SCORED MORE FREQUENTLY THAN CUTRONE (EVERY 82.3 MINS)



**AYOZE PEREZ:** ONLY JAMIE VARDY (9) SCORED MORE PREMIER LEAGUE GOALS IN 2018/19 FROM MARCH ONWARDS THAN PEREZ (8)



**TANGUY NDOMBELE:** HAS A BETTER DRIBBLE SUCCESS RATE (75.1%) THAN ANY OTHER PLAYER IN LIGUE 1 SINCE THE START OF THE 2017/18 SEASON



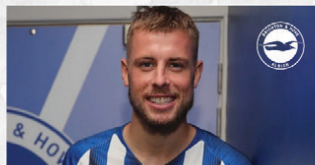
**PHILIP BILLING:** BOASTED THE BEST AERIAL DUEL SUCCESS RATE OF ALL MIDFIELDERS IN THE PREMIER LEAGUE LAST SEASON (74.6%)



**PABLO FORNALS:** ONLY ONE MIDFIELDER HAS REGISTERED MORE ASSISTS IN LALIGA SINCE THE START OF THE 2017/18 SEASON THAN FORNALS (15)



**NICOLAS PEPE:** HAD A DIRECT HAND IN 33 OF LILLE'S 68 LIGUE 1 GOALS LAST SEASON (48.5%), SCORING 22 TIMES AND ASSISTING 11



**ADAM WEBSTER:** EARNED THE HIGHEST WHOSCORED.COM RATING OF ANY CENTRE-BACK IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP LAST SEASON (7.30)



**MOISE KEAN:** BOASTED THE BEST MINUTES PER GOAL RATE IN SERIE A LAST SEASON, WITH SIX GOALS IN 536 MINUTES (ONE EVERY 89.2 MINUTES)

# THE DEPARTED

## HIGHEST RATED PLAYERS TO MOVE AWAY FROM THE PREMIER LEAGUE

**88.5M**



**HAZARD**  
REAL MADRID

To say that Chelsea won't be the same without Eden Hazard next season would be an understatement. The Belgian has not only been the Blues' best player for a number of years but earned the highest WhoScored.com rating of any Premier League player last season (7.81). With a direct hand in just under half of Chelsea's overall league goal tally last season (31/63) he leaves at a time when he was arguably at his most invaluable to the team. The 27-year-old finally sealed a long-awaited move to Real Madrid where he will be tasked with helping to rejuvenate a side that fell well short of expectations last season.

**STAT ATTACK**

Hazard completed 23 more dribbles than any other player in the Premier League last season.

**28M**



**GUEYE**  
PSG

Having been targeted by Paris Saint-Germain back in the January transfer window the French champions got their man this summer, with Gueye returning to Ligue 1 after four years in the Premier League. Arriving at Everton from relegated Aston Villa in 2016, Toffees fans may not have expected a great deal from the Senegal international but he fast became a fan favourite, with his ball winning ability almost without peer in England's top-flight. The Merseysiders will no doubt miss the 29-year-old at the heart of their midfield but with a year remaining on his contract, Gueye made it clear to the club that a move to Paris was one he couldn't turn down.

**STAT ATTACK**

Gueye made more tackles per 90 minutes than any other Premier League player last season (4.5).

**20M**



**TRIPPIER**  
ATLETICO MADRID

A star performer for England at the 2018 World Cup, it's fair to say 12 months on Tottenham fans wouldn't have expected the club to cash in on Trippier. However, it was a poor season for the right-back from an individual perspective as he was exposed defensively all too often. Nevertheless, the 29-year-old still offered his usual threat with his delivery from wide at the other end, and given the fees Daniel Levy has demanded for far inferior players in the past the price accepted for Trippier seems modest. That there was interest from numerous big European clubs shows that one bad season doesn't always mean a player is finished and it will be intriguing to see how he fares in Spain.

**STAT ATTACK**

Only one defender created more chances per 90 minutes than Trippier (1.9) last season.

**16M**




**RONDON**  
DALIAN YIFANG

The fact that Salomon Rondon was awarded Newcastle's player of the year last season is enough to know that his departure - albeit only on loan last season - will be keenly felt at St. James' Park. Rather than sign permanently with the Magpies the striker followed outgoing boss Rafa Benitez to China, signing for Dalian Yifang to continue an intriguing career path. Having reached double figures for league goals for the first time in four seasons in England, the Venezuelan is already off the mark for his new club but it's the 29-year-old's unselfishness both in and out of possession that made him an instant hit on Tyneside. That said, he'll be aiming to improve on the 11 goals he scored last season.

**STAT ATTACK**

Rondon had a direct hand in 43 per cent of Newcastle's league goals last season (18 out of 42).

**FREE**



**HERRERA**  
PSG

It's fair to say Herrera's time at Manchester United had its ups and downs but when his time at the club appeared to be up he always came back to prove his worth to a side that missed his industry in his absence. Paying the price for not acknowledging the Spaniard's importance sooner, Herrera made the decision to leave the club at the end of his contract, with Paris Saint-Germain moving fast to avoid a scrap for the midfielder's services. There is no other player in the United ranks that can break up play like the 29-year-old - either by hook or by crook - so while he wasn't always appreciated at Old Trafford there is little question that Herrera will be missed.

**STAT ATTACK**

In 12 league appearances under Ole Gunnar Solskjær, Herrera didn't end up on the losing side once (W9, D3).



# HIGHEST RATED NEW SIGNING XI

## RATINGS FROM TOP-FLIGHT LEAGUES IN 2018/19



# WHOSCORED'S TOP FIVE TRANSFERS

## MOST IMPORTANT



**RODRIGO**  
MANCHESTER CITY

With last season's title rivals Liverpool failing to strengthen, City have taken a step ahead of the Reds with the acquisition of Rodri. The one problem position for the foreseeable future at the champions was finding a long-term successor to the ageing Fernandinho and the Spaniard is probably the best candidate in world football. He's tipped to be the heir to the Busquets throne for his national side and may well take the Barcelona star's spot over the course of the season under the guidance of compatriot Pep Guardiola. Having only just turned 23 the midfielder has his best years ahead of him and his arrival not only strengthens but improves an already sensational squad.

### HONOURABLE MENTIONS

HARRY MAGUIRE > MAN UTD  
SEBASTIEN HALLER > WEST HAM  
JOELINTON > NEWCASTLE

## BEST VALUE



**DELPH**  
EVERTON

While he has had his detractors, most of whom have judged his time at Manchester City as a left-back, Delph has the opportunity to return to his favoured central midfield role and the form that earned him a move to The Etihad as well as international recognition. The former Villa captain has remained in the England set-up despite limited game time for a reason and will be a big character and leader in the Everton dressing room next season. His desire and dribbling ability can drive a team forward from the middle of the pitch and if he can steer clear of injury - admittedly an issue in the past - the 29-year-old still has a great deal to offer to The Toffees and, at £8.5m, should prove a snip.

### HONOURABLE MENTIONS

ANGELINO > MANCHESTER CITY  
CHE ADAMS > SOUTHAMPTON  
DAVID LUIZ > ARSENAL

## BIGGEST COUP



**CEBALLOS**  
ARSENAL

It may not be the structure of deal the club would have hoped for but even if Ceballos only plays one season at Arsenal it's one the fans should savour. The Spaniard couples elegance in possession with real grit and determination and adds a quality to the team in the middle of the pitch that was lacking even before Aaron Ramsey's departure. He's more of a belated replacement for former favourite Santi Cazorla in the way he can manipulate the ball and his ability to keep possession in advanced areas was almost unrivalled in LaLiga last season. His loan may have been expensive but if it's the difference between Europa and Champions League qualification it will have been savvy.

### HONOURABLE MENTIONS

PABLO FORNALS > WEST HAM  
YOURI TIELEMANS > LEICESTER  
MOISE KEAN > EVERTON

## BIGGEST UPGRADE



**NDOMBELE**  
TOTTENHAM

While they may have upset the odds to make it all the way to the Champions League final last season the rate at which Spurs ran out of steam in the league was alarming. The big problem was a lack of cover in midfield and while the team were unfortunate in terms of injuries in that area, those that did step in were at times not only lacking fitness but quality. The addition of Ndombele was a significant statement of intent from a club that opted not to sign a single player last summer and while it was a club record fee, the price paid is indicative of the level of upgrade that Tottenham have acquired. The 22-year-old can win possession and dictate from deep as well as link play in the final third.

### HONOURABLE MENTIONS

JESUS VALLEJO > WOLVES  
TOM HEATON > ASTON VILLA  
LEANDRO TROSSARD > BRIGHTON

## TOP YOUNGSTER



**WAN-BISSAKA**  
MANCHESTER UNITED

It may have cost United more than they would have liked to get their man but they finally have a right-back worthy of the shirt. The 21-year-old was quite simply superb in his first full season with Crystal Palace and is a ball-winning machine at the back and master of the slide tackle despite his tender years. He'll certainly need to prove his quality in possession following what is a significant change in not only playing style but level of expectation from the terraces but the full-back leaves nothing on the pitch and as such will no doubt become a fan favourite. Improving the back four was the main priority over the summer and Wan-Bissaka was the first, crucial part of the jigsaw.

### HONOURABLE MENTIONS

PATRICK CUTRONE > WOLVES  
DANIEL JAMES > MAN UTD  
JAMES JUSTIN > LEICESTER



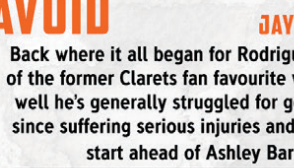
# FANTASY FOOTBALL TIPS

## BUY AVOID



**SEBASTIEN HALLER - £7.5m**

While he is among the most expensive new signings available, Haller is the real deal and his ability to weigh in with both goals and assists make him a must have for any fantasy football team as the focal point to West Ham's increasingly enviable attack.



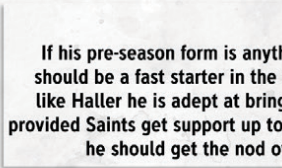
**JAY RODRIGUEZ - £6m**

Back where it all began for Rodriguez, while the return of the former Clarets fan favourite will have gone down well he's generally struggled for goals in the top-flight since suffering serious injuries and is not guaranteed a start ahead of Ashley Barnes and Chris Wood.



**PATRICK CUTRONE - £6m**

Leaving AC Milan in search of more regular first team football, while Cutrone's move to Wolves may be seen by some as a step down the Italian is still by no means guaranteed a starting berth and will likely have to rotate with the likes of Jota and Jimenez.



**CHE ADAMS - £6m**

If his pre-season form is anything to go by Adams should be a fast starter in the Premier League and like Haller he is adept at bringing others into play provided Saints get support up to him. A snip at £6m, he should get the nod over Ings this season.



**DANI CEBALLOS - £5.5m**

A player to build the team around, the Spaniard can play in any midfield role and may be the most advanced of the three for Arsenal. With an eye for a pass in the final third, his all action style should guarantee points in a side that will score plenty.



**ADAM WEBSTER - £4.5m**

With Brighton likely to adopt a back three there's no doubt record signing Webster will start and like both Duffy and Dunk he offers a significant threat from set pieces. The Seagulls tend to be hard to break down at home and that shouldn't change.



**MATT TARGETT - £4.5m**

Signed to offer competition to Neil Taylor at left-back, there's little question Targett will be first choice at Villa and his delivery from wide should provide joy for a side that scored a lot of goals from crosses last season. He could be a real bargain as a result.



**MATED KOVACIC - £5.5m**

Without a single league goal last season and just two assists to his name, Kovacic was Chelsea's only option in the transfer window owing to the club's ban and could see playing time restricted further by the return of Mason Mount, not to mention Ross Barkley.



**ANDRE GOMES - £5.5m**

Gomes was a hit at Goodison last season but offered very little by way of goal threat or creativity in the final third, creating just six chances all season, so while he should prove an astute signing for the Toffees he's not a wise fantasy football addition.



**RAVEL MORRISON - £5m**

He may not have been a big gamble on a free for Sheffield United but given Chris Wilder's intense demands it's difficult to see Morrison rejuvenating his career at Bramall Lane. His attitude will need to improve tenfold to even claim a place in the side.

