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\n

The club he supports has won quite a lot of trophies, but then he also has to follow Scotland, so it all balances out. Acknowledgments I would like to thank everyone at Wiley, especially Simon Bell for his help and never-ending patience, especially upon being quizzed about the managerial merits of Frankie Gray. I would also like to thank Annabel Merullo and Tom Williams at PFD. Publisher's Acknowledgements We're proud of this book; please send us your comments through our Dummies online registration form located at www.dummies.com/register/.

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Contents at a Glance Introduction	1
Part I: Kicking Off.....	7
Chapter 1: Welcome to Planet Football	9
Chapter 2: The Ball Starts Rolling: A Potted History of Football.....	19
Chapter 3: Getting Your Boots On: The Gear You Need	31
Part II: Playing the Game	5
Chapter 4: Laying Down the Laws	47
Chapter 5: Players, Positions and Tactics	67
Chapter 6: Honing Your Skills	91
Chapter 7: Keeping Fit for Football.....	115
Chapter 8: Coaching, Managing	

andLeadership.....	29	Chapter 9: Getting the			
Game On	141	Part III:			
Exploring the World of Football	153	Chapter 10: The World			
Cup	155	Chapter			
11: Surveying the International Scene.....					
169		Chapter	12:	The	Club
Scene	187	Chapter			
13: Focusing on Famous Clubs					
13		Chapter	14:	Women's	
Football	239	Part IV:			
The Fans' Enclosure: Following the Game	255	Chapter 15: Going to the			
Match	257	Chapter 16:			
Compulsive Viewing: Football on Screen	271				
Chapter		17:	Read	All	About
It!	287	Chapter 18:			
Other Football-based Pastimes	05				
Part V: The Part of Tens	319	Chapter 19: Ten			
Great Players	321				
Chapter		20: The	Ten	Greatest	Teams
Time	331	Chapter	21: Ten	Great	
Matches	339	Part VI:			
Appendixes	347	Appendix A: Roll of			
Honour	49				
Appendix					B:
Glossary	361				

Index	369	Table of Contents
Introduction	1	About This Book
Book	1	Foolish Assumptions
Assumptions	2	How This Book Is Organised
This Book Is Organised		Part I: Kicking Off
Kicking Off	3	Part II: Playing the Game
Playing the Game	3	Part III: Exploring the World of Football
Exploring the World of Football	3	Part IV: The Fans' Enclosure
Fans' Enclosure	4	Part V: The Part of Tens
Tens		4
Appendixes		Icons Used in This Book
Used in This Book		4
Where to Go from Here		5
Part I: Kicking Off	7	Chapter 1: Welcome to Planet Football
to Planet Football	9	Football: The Simplest Game
Game	9	The basic aim: it really is that simple!.....
really is that simple!.....	10	So why is football so popular?
popular?	10	Where do people play footie?.....
footie?.....	11	Explaining a Few Rules.....
Rules.....	11	The pitch
pitch	12	The players
players	13	General behaviour
behaviour	13	Goal!
Goal!	14	Keeping score
Keeping score	14

and keeping time	14	Playing
the Game	14	
Playing solo.....	15	
Playing with others	5	
Watching Football - and Supporting a Team	16	
Following club and country	16	
Winning trophies: the be-all and end-all?	17	
Chapter 2: The Ball Starts Rolling: A Potted History of Football. . . .	19	The
Birth of Football	19	
Anyone for Cuju?	0	
Kemari, Marn Gook and Calcio Fiorentino	20	
England: The Home of Football.....	21	
The 1850s: time to lay down some rules	22	Enter
the FA	22	x Football
For Dummies Step aside for the		
professionals!	22	The world's first
league.....	4	The first
international	24	The World
Takes Notice	25	The game
takes over Europe	25	. . . then South
America	26	. . . and finally the
world	26	Football's Golden
Age	7	Television
switches on	27	Players become
stars	28	The Modern

Game	29	How TV
changed everything	29	Player
power.....	30	Chapter 3:
Getting Your Boots On: The Gear You Need	31	Having a
Ball	31	
Getting Kitted Out.....		
34 Shirts	34	
Shorts	35	
Boots.....	5	
Trainers	36	
Shinpads.....	36	
Goalkeeping gear.....	37	The
referee.....	38	
Additional garments	38	
Approaching Equipment		
9Goalsand nets	39	
First-aid kits	40	
Training aids	40	
Other kit and equipment	40	
Meeting Up with Merchandise	41	
Replica strips	1	
Numbering and lettering	42	
Retro shirts	42	
Scarves	43	
Other official merchandise	43	

Knowing Where to Get It All	43
Part II: Playing the Game	5
Chapter 4: Laying Down the Laws.	47
Living by the Laws	47
Law 1: the field of play.....	48
Law 2: the ball	49
Law 3: the number of players	50
Law 4: the players' equipment	1
Law 5: the referee.....	52
Table of Contents	
Law 6: the assistant referees	53
Law 7: the duration of the match	53
Law 8: the start and restart of play	54
Law 9: the ball in and out of play	55
Law 10: the method of scoring	5
Law 11: offside	55
Law 13: free kicks	57
Law 12: fouls and misconduct	59
Law 14: the penalty kick	61
Law 15: the throw in	62
Law 16: the goal kick.....	3
Law 17: the corner kick	63
Other Points to Note	63
Extra time	64
Penalty shootouts	64
Away	

goals	64	The
technical area	5	Common
sense	65	xi Chapter 5:
Players, Positions and Tactics	67	Perusing
Positions	67	The
goalkeeper	68	
Defenders	71	
Midfielders	4	
Strikers	76	
Tactics: Linking It All Up		
77 Dribbling: the first tactic	77	
The main styles of play	78	
Formations	80	
Chapter 6: Honing Your Skills	91	
Mastering the Basics		
91 Dribbling	92	
Basic passing skills	92	
Trapping the ball.....	95	
Heading the ball	8	
Shooting	99	
Keeping It Tight at the Back		
100 Marking		
100 Tackling		
101 Key defensive principles	103	
Sharpening Your Skills Up Front.....	04	

Shielding the ball	105	Chip
pass.....	105	Outside
of foot pass.....	106	Back
heel	106	Bending
the ball	106	
Feinting	07	xii
Football	For	Dummies
kicks	107	Taking
penalties		108
Goalkeeping		
108 Catching		
109 Diving.....		09
One-on-one		110
Going for crosses		110
Punching		111
Parrying and tipping		111
Positioning		112
Distribution.....		12
Saving penalties		113
Chapter 7: Keeping Fit for Football		115
Keeping Fit		
115 Stretching those muscles.....		116
Running		119
Exercising aerobically		20
Training with weights		120

Sorting out your stomach	121
Cooling down	121
Balancing Your Diet.....	
121	Investigating
Injuries	123 Preventing
injuries.....	23 Treating
injuries	124 Chapter 8:
Coaching, Managing and Leadership	129 A Brief History
of the Manager	129 Coach or
Manager (Or Boss or Gaffer)?	130 What the
role involves	131 Chess - or all-
out war?	32 Player-
managers.....	132 Building -
and Picking - a Team	133 Building a
squad.....	133 Choosing a
captain	134 Selecting a first
XI	135 Deciding on
tactics	35 Taking Charge
Yourself.....	136 Preparing the
team	136 In-game decisions
.....	137 Dealing with
Kids	139 Chapter 9:
Getting the Game On.	141 Joining an
Existing Team	41 Starting
Your Own Club	143

Building the club from scratch	143
Affiliation: counties and leagues	144
Finding players	145
Table of Contents Finding a manager.....	145
Fixtures.....	45
Booking a pitch	146
Match officials	146
Insurance	147
Kit and equipment	147
Results	147
Disciplinary procedures.....	47
Fees and funding	148
Social events	148
Volunteer roles.....	148
Commercial Leagues	149
Park Kickabouts	49
Five-a-side and Futsal	
150 Soccer Schools and Training Camps	
150 Becoming a Referee	150
xiii Part III: Exploring the World of Football	153
Chapter 10: The World Cup	155
The Biggest Show on Earth	55
The long and winding road begins	156
The shape of things to come	

.....	157	The	finals
countdown	157	From	
Montevideo to Johannesburg: Eighty Years of Top-class Drama	158		
Uruguay and Italy set the template	158	They	
think it's the World Cup's golden age . . . it is now!	159	Germany	
and Argentina take centre stage	60	Brazil	bounce
back	163	And so to 2010 . . .	
.....	165	Teams to look	
out for	165	Players to	
watch.....	166	And when it's	
all over	167	Chapter 11:	
Surveying the International Scene	169		
Friendlies			
169 The modern friendly international	170		
The European Championships	170		
How it's organised	171	The	
early years.....	171	The	
Euros go large . . . and even larger	72	The Euros	
in the new millennium	173	Copa	
America	174		
How it's organised	174	The	
oldest - and the best?	175	An	
erratic history	175	The	
Copa's revival	176	xiv	

Football For Dummies

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Africa Cup of Nations	
177 How it's organised	177
The ACN: A slow burner.....	178
The cup catches fire	178
Other tournaments	179
Asian Cup	80
Gold Cup	180
Nations Cup	180
Olympic Games	181
Confederations Cup	181
All Around the World	182
England.....	82
Scotland	182
Wales	183
Northern Ireland	183
Republic of Ireland.....	183
Brazil.....	184
Italy	84
Germany	184
France	185
Spain	185
Argentina.....	185
Uruguay	186
Chapter 12: The Club Scene	187

Clubbing Together	
187 The first clubs	187
The rise of the super clubs	188
The 'smaller' clubs.....	189
Clubs today	90
The players	190
The manager	191
Backroom staff	192
The chairman, owners and the board	192
Club Competitions	194
Seasons.....	94
Leagues	194
Cups	198
The Big Leagues	
199 England: The FA Premier League	199
Scotland: The Scottish Premier League	200
Wales, Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland	02
Italy: Serie A	202
Spain: Primera Division	203
Germany: Bundesliga.....	203
Brazil: Campeonato Brasileiro Serie A	204
Argentina: Primera Division	204
USA.....	05
Table of Contents	Domestic
Cups	205
FA	

Cup	205
League Cup	206
Scottish Cup	207
Other famous cups	07
International Club Competitions	207
European Cup/UEFA Champions League	208
Europa League and UEFA Cup	209
Copa Libertadores	210
Other continental tournaments	211
Intercontinental Cup/FIFA World Club Cup	211 xv
Chapter 13: Focusing on Famous Clubs	13
England	
213 Arsenal	
214 Aston Villa	
214 Chelsea	
215 Everton	
216 Leeds United	
217 Liverpool	217
Manchester City	218
Manchester United	219
Nottingham Forest	220
Tottenham Hotspur	221
West Ham United	21
Scotland	
222 Aberdeen	

223	Celtic	
223	Rangers.....	
224		
	Europe	
25	Ajax	225
	Barcelona	225
	Bayern Munich	226
	Benfica	226
	Internazionale	227
	Juventus	27
	Marseille	228
	Milan	229
	Porto	230
	Real Madrid.....	230
	South America	
31	Boca Juniors	231
	Flamengo	231
	Fluminense	232
	Independiente.....	232
	Millonarios	232
	Nacional	33
	Penarol	233 xvi
	Football	For
		Dummies
		River
	Plate	234
	Santos	234

Some Selected Others	
235 Al-Ahly and Zamalek	35
Raja Casablanca	235
Asante Kotoko and Hearts of Oak	235
Galaxy	236
York Cosmos	236
Chapter 14: Women's Football	239
China to Crouch End: How It All Began	40
Kerr Ladies get popular	240
FA get sexist	242
fight back	242
ban - and FIFA get serious	243
Today.....	243
England.....	44
of the world	244
Women's World Cup	245
1991: The first World Cup	245
tournament comes of age.....	246
World Cup	246
Tournaments	46
International Teams	247
United States	247
Germany	248
Norway	248
England.....	248

Great Players	
49 Lily Parr (England).....	249
Kristine Lilly (United States)	249
Mia Hamm (United States)	250
Michelle Akers (United States).....	250
Sun Wen (China)	251
Birgit Prinz (Germany)	52
Kelly Smith (England)	252
Marta (Brazil)	253
Part IV: The Fans' Enclosure: Following the Game	255
Chapter 15: Going to the Match	257
Preparing for the Match.....	257
Season tickets	57
Choosing where to sit.....	258
Looking into club membership	259
Buying a single ticket in advance.....	259
Table of Contents	
Buying a single ticket on the day	259
Away games	260
Executive boxes	61
International matches	261
Making Your Way to the Match	262
Obtaining your tickets	262
Making travelling arrangements	262
Dressing for the occasion	263
Taking a look round the city.....	64

Checking out the ground	264	The
club shop.....	265	A
pint	265	. . .
and a pie	266	
Matchday programmes	267	The
Game Itself	67	
Kick-off.....	268	
Shouting, screaming and other matters of general etiquette	268	
Wirelesscommunication.....	269	Half-
time	269	
Stewards, police and PA announcements.....	269	
Keeping out of trouble	270	xvii

\n

Chapter 16: Compulsive Viewing: Football on Screen	271	
Television		
271 Terrestrial	273	
Satellite and cable	273	
Official club channels	274	
Essential shows and channels.....	74	The
Internet	277	
Live streaming	277	
Recent action	278	
Classic clips	278	
Exploring Radio.....		
278 Live commentaries	79	

Round-ups	279
Listener phone-ins	279
Podcasts	280
Focusing on Football Films	
280 Escape to Victory	280
Zidane: A 21st-Century Portrait	81
The Damned United	281
The Firm (1988 TV movie)	281
The Arsenal Stadium Mystery	281
Gregory's Girl	282
Looking for Eric	282
Discovering DVDs	82
Season reviews	282
Club histories	283
xviii	
Football For Dummies Other club titles	283
Country histories	284
Player histories	284
Tournament histories.....	85
Classic matches.....	285
Novelty titles	285
Classic television programmes	285
Chapter 17: Read All About It!	287
Knowing the Newspapers	287
What newspapers offer	87
The	

nationals	289	The
locals	289	
Employing the Internet		
290 What the Internet can do for you.....	290	
The mainstream media	291	
Blogs and other websites.....	91	
Making the Most of Magazines.....	292	
FourFourTwo	292	
Champions	292	
When Saturday Comes	292	
World Soccer	293	
France Football.....	93	The
Official Club View	293	
Matchday programmes	293	
Official club magazines	294	
Official websites	294	The
Fans' View	295	
Fanzines	95	
Internet sites.....	296	
Forums and message boards.....	296	
Branching Out into Books	297	
Autobiographies.....	297	
Biographies	298	
Club-specific books.....	99	
Country specific books	300	

General history.....	301
Reference	302
Literature	303
Chapter 18: Other Football-based Pastimes	305
Betting	
05 The pools	306
Fixed-odds betting	307
In-game betting	309
Spread betting	309
The bookies or punter exchanges?.....	309
Contents	
Taking Control with Fantasy	
Football	10
The rules	310
How to choose your players.....	310
Scoring points	311
Collecting memorabilia	312
Cigarette cards	312
Stickers	12
Programmes	313
Newspapers	313
Old shirts	313
Autographs	314
Visiting Grounds	
314 The 92 club	14
Playing Computer Games	

315 PES and FIFA	315
Championship Manager and Football Manager	316
Joining Supporters' Clubs	316
Regional clubs	316
Supporters' federations	17
Owning Your Own Club	317
xix Part V: The Part of Tens	319
Chapter 19: Ten Great Players	321
Pele	
321	Diego
Maradona	322
Franz Beckenbauer	23
Johan Cruyff	
324	
Garrincha	
325	Zinedine
Zidane	326
Alfredo di Stefano	326
Ferenc Puskas	
27	George
Best	328
Gerd Muller.....	329
Chapter 20: The Ten Greatest Teams of All Time	331
Preston North End (1881-1890)	
331	Austria (1931-

1934)	332	Torino
(1943–1949).....		33
Hungary (1950–1954).....		
334 Real Madrid (1955–		
1960)	334	Celtic
(1967)		335
Brazil (1970)		
336 Netherlands (1974–		
1978)	37	Milan (1987–1994)
.....	337	Barcelona
(2009)	338	xx
Football For Dummies Chapter 21: Ten Great		
Matches	339	Arbroath 36, Bon
Accord 0 (Scottish Cup, 1885)	339	Brazil 1, Uruguay 2
(World Cup, 1950)	340	England 3,
Hungary 6 (Friendly, 1953)	41	Charlton
Athletic 7, Huddersfield Town 6 (English Second Division,		
1957)	341	Real Madrid 7,
Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (European Cup, 1960)	342	England 4, West
Germany 2 (World Cup, 1966)	343	Manchester
United 4, Benfica 1 (European Cup, 1968)	344	Brazil 4, Italy
1 (World Cup, 1970)	344	Nigeria 3,
Argentina 2 (Olympics, 1996)	45	Liverpool
3, Milan 3 (Champions League, 2005)	346	Part VI:
Appendixes	347	Appendix A: Roll of Honour .

.....	349	World Cup.....	349
European Championship	351	Copa America	
52 Africa Cup of Nations			
353		Confederations Cup.....	354
Games	355	Olympic Games	
Women’s World Cup			
356 European Cup / Champions League			
357 Appendix B: Glossary			
361 Index	369	Introduction	

congratulations! You’ve got a copy of Football For Dummies in your hands. This book has been written specially for people who want to know all they can about the greatest and most popular sport on the planet: association football. Football For Dummies aims to satisfy your curiosity, help you to understand the basics of how to play the game, arm you with knowledge so you can enjoy watching it to the full and show you that you have a whole world of football to be explore.

\n

There’s a reason football has taken off all around the globe, after all! Millions are passionate about the sport, from fans of the ‘ beautiful game’ in Brazil to lovers of ‘ soccer’ in the US. And none more so than fans in the British Isles, where the game as you know it today took off back in the mid 1800s. It’s the simplest of sports in principle – in the final analysis, all you need to know is

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that one team has to score more goals than the other to win. Nevertheless, a plethora of laws, tactics and skills exist that can easily flummox the beginner. That's where this book comes in.

\n

I wrote it so that anyone who wants to enjoy football - whether by playing it or watching it - can get to grips with the sport quickly and easily, without feeling overwhelmed or intimidated. And I promise it won't be long before you've become something of an expert on the most talked-about sporting pastime in the world. You'll never look back! C About This Book The simple aim of Football For Dummies is to provide you with all the basic skills and help you remember every scrap of crucial knowledge that you need to become a football fan. All the information you need is between the covers of this book.

\n

But although it's all crammed in here, don't feel daunted: you certainly don't have to read every word, from start to finish, to get the most from the book. Each chapter covers a separate topic about football, so you can easily dip into the chapters to find out about something you don't quite understand. Say you're watching a Champions League game on television, but don't really 2 Football For Dummies know much about the history of the competition; just turn to the chapter that talks about important football competitions and Football For Dummies will fill the gaps in your knowledge.

\n

If you fancy getting up off the sofa and turning out for a team yourself, Football For Dummies explains how you can set about getting involved as a player. The book offers plenty of handy hints and p