JÜRGEN KLOPP TACTICAL ANALYSIS

SOLUTION 8

Attacking on the Flanks Against Deep and Compact Defences

Content from analysis of Liverpool F.C. during the 2018-2019 Champions League winning season and the 2019-2020 Premier League winning season

- Analysis based on recurring patterns of play observed within the Liverpool team.
- Tactical solutions displayed as examples of the team's tactics being used effectively.
- Real match examples of Liverpool scoring a goal using this specific attacking tactical solution.
- Each action, pass, individual movement with or without the ball, and the positioning of each player on the pitch including their body shape, are presented.
- The analysis is then used to create a full progressive session to coach this tactical situation.

Attacking on the Flanks Against Deep and Compact Defences

What?

Liverpool create chances and score by using the full width of the pitch to attack their opponent's defence.

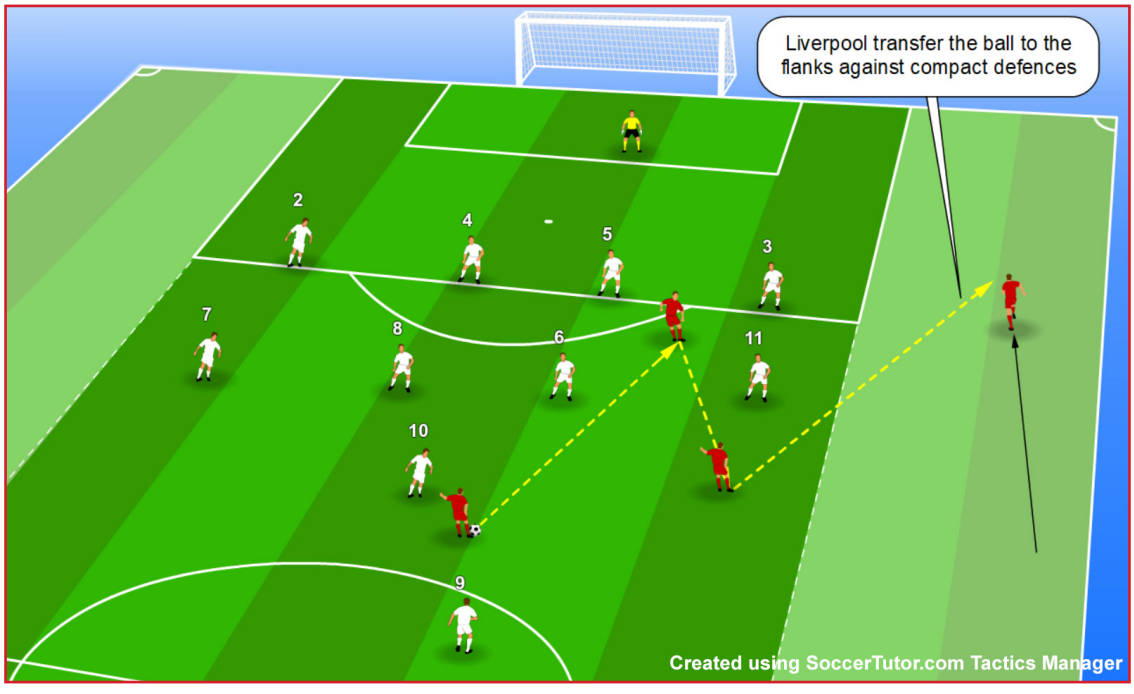
Why?

Against teams who play with a compact defensive organisation in the width of the box or teams with individual and/or subgroup weaknesses in defending wide areas.

How?

Liverpool transfer the ball to the flanks and use different tactics defending on the situation. They use fast combination play or dominate 1v1s to exploit the quality, speed, and ability of their wide players against defenders who are unable to stop them.

Target Areas (on the Flanks)



Tactical Solution B: Fast Combination Play for the Full Back to Receive in Behind when Opponents Defend Edge of Box

In this second example, the opposition are defending on the edge of the box, so aren't as deep.

Klopp's Liverpool use fast combination play in the central part of the pitch between 2-3 players.

The aim is to attract opponents towards them and then exploit the aggressive movement from the Liverpool full backs **Robertson (26)** and **A-Arnold (66)** in behind the opposition's defensive line.

Robertson (26) and **A-Arnold (66)** have speed, aggression, and quality that distinguishes them from other full backs.

They deliver fast and high quality dynamic crosses into the space between the defensive line (edge of penalty box) and the 6-yard box.

The Liverpool forwards are always ready to sprint into the box and finish these kinds of crosses.

In this example, the right back **(66)** delivers a cross along the ground to the penalty spot for the centre forward **(9)** to score.

Statistical Analysis of Liverpool Attacking on the Flanks Against Deep and Compact Defences

Liverpool scored **41 goals** in this tactical situation
(Premier League and Champions League 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 seasons)

VS. DEEP AND COMPACT DEFENCES

TACTICAL SOLUTION = ATTACK ON THE FLANKS

DATE	HOME	AWAY	SCORE	GOAL (MIN)	SCORER	ASSIST
1st Sep 2018	Leicester City	Liverpool	1-2	0-1 (10')	**Mané**	Robertson
15th Sep 2018	Tottenham	Liverpool	1-2	0-2 (54')	**Firmino**	Mané
18th Sep 2018	Liverpool	PSG	3-2	1-0 (30')	**Sturridge**	Robertson
3rd Nov 2018	Arsenal	Liverpool	1-1	0-1 (61')	**Milner**	Mané
24th Nov 2018	Watford	Liverpool	0-3	0-1 (67')	**Salah** *	Mané
8th Dec 2018	Bournemouth	Liverpool	0-4	0-3 (68')	**Own Goal**	Robertson
16th Dec 2018	Liverpool	Man Utd	3-1	2-1 (73')	**Shaqiri** *	Mané
21st Dec 2018	Wolves	Liverpool	0-2	0-1 (18')	**Salah**	Fabinho
26th Dec 2018	Liverpool	Newcastle	4-0	3-0 (79')	**Shaqiri**	A-Arnold
04th Feb 2019	West Ham	Liverpool	1-1	0-1 (22')	**Mané**	Milner
09th Feb 2019	Liverpool	Bournemouth	3-0	1-0 (24')	**Mané**	Milner
27th Feb 2019	Liverpool	Watford	5-0	1-0 (9')	**Mané**	Arnold
27th Feb 2019	Liverpool	Watford	5-0	3-0 (66')	**Origi**	Robertson
10th Mar 2019	Liverpool	Burnley	4-2	1-1 (19')	**Firmino** *	Salah
17th Mar 2019	Fulham	Liverpool	1-2	0-1 (25')	**Mané**	Firmino

* **The full analysis of these goals is shown on the following pages and the table continues on the next page (goals 16-41)...**

5th Apr 2019	Southampton	Liverpool	1-3	1-1 (36')	**Keïta**	A-Arnold
9th Apr 2019	Liverpool	Porto	2-0	2-0 (26')	**Firmino**	A-Arnold
14th Apr 2019	Liverpool	Chelsea	2-0	1-0 (51')	**Mané**	Henderson
17th Apr 2019	Porto	Liverpool	1-4	0-1 (26')	**Mané**	Salah
4th May 2019	Newcastle	Liverpool	2-3	1-2 (28')	**Salah**	A-Arnold
7th May 2019	Liverpool	FC Barcelona	4-0	3-0 (56')	**Wijnaldum**	Shaqiri
12th May 2019	Liverpool	Wolves	2-0	1-0 (17')	**Mané**	A-Arnold
9th Aug 2019	Liverpool	Norwich	4-1	1-0 (7')	**Own Goal**	Origi
9th Aug 2019	Liverpool	Norwich	4-1	2-0 (19')	**Salah**	Firmino
17th Aug 2019	Southampton	Liverpool	1-2	0-1 (45+1')	**Mané**	
14th Sep 2019	Liverpool	Newcastle	3-1	1-1 (28')	**Mané**	Robertson
28th Sep 2019	Sheffield Utd	Liverpool	0-1	0-1 (70')	**Wijnaldum**	Origi
2nd Oct 2019	Liverpool	RB Salzburg	4-3	1-0 (9')	**Mané**	Firmino
2nd Oct 2019	Liverpool	RB Salzburg	4-3	2-0 (25')	**Robertson** *	A-Arnold
2nd Oct 2019	Liverpool	RB Salzburg	4-3	3-0 (36')	**Salah**	Firmino
20th Oct 2019	Man Utd	Liverpool	1-1	1-1 (85')	**Lallana** *	Robertson
5th Nov 2019	Liverpool	Genk	2-1	1-0 (13')	**Wijnaldum**	Milner
10th Nov 2019	Liverpool	Man City	3-1	3-0 (51')	**Mané**	Henderson
4th Dec 2019	Liverpool	Everton	5-2	5-2 (90')	**Wijnaldum**	Firmino
10th Dec 2019	RB Salzburg	Liverpool	0-2	0-1 (57')	**Keïta**	Mané
26th Dec 2019	Leicester City	Liverpool	0-4	0-3 (74')	**Firmino**	A-Arnold
1st Feb 2020	Liverpool	Southampton	4-0	1-0 (47')	**Chamberlain**	Firmino
24th Feb 2020	Liverpool	West Ham	3-2	1-0 (9')	**Wijnaldum**	Arnold
24th Feb 2020	Liverpool	West Ham	3-2	2-2 (68')	**Salah**	Robertson
11th Mar 2020	Liverpool	Atlético Madrid	2-3	1-0 (43')	**Wijnaldum**	Chamberlain
26th Jul 2020	Newcastle	Liverpool	1-3	1-1 (38')	**van Dijk**	Chamberlain

Analysis from Liverpool 4-3 RB Salzburg (Robertson 25') - 2nd Oct 2019, Champions League

Tactical Solution B: Fast Combination Play for the Full Back to Receive in Behind when Opponents Defend Edge of Box

In this example, the RB Salzburg defensive line is near the edge of the box. Klopp's Liverpool use fast combination play in the central part of the pitch between 2-3 players.

The aim is to attract opponents towards them and then exploit an advanced run from an attacking full back in behind the defensive line.

The left back **Robertson (26)** dribbles forward into the opponent's half and is put under pressure by the opposing central midfielders. He therefore passes inside to central midfielder **Henderson (14)**, who is unmarked.

Henderson (14) plays a quick one-two combination with the right forward **Salah (11)** who drops off to provide an option and is followed by the centre back.

Henderson (14) plays a hard pass along the ground for the advanced run of the right back **A-Arnold (66)**, who receives high up the flank and in behind the defensive line. He delivers a fast and high quality cross into the space behind the RB Salzburg defenders.

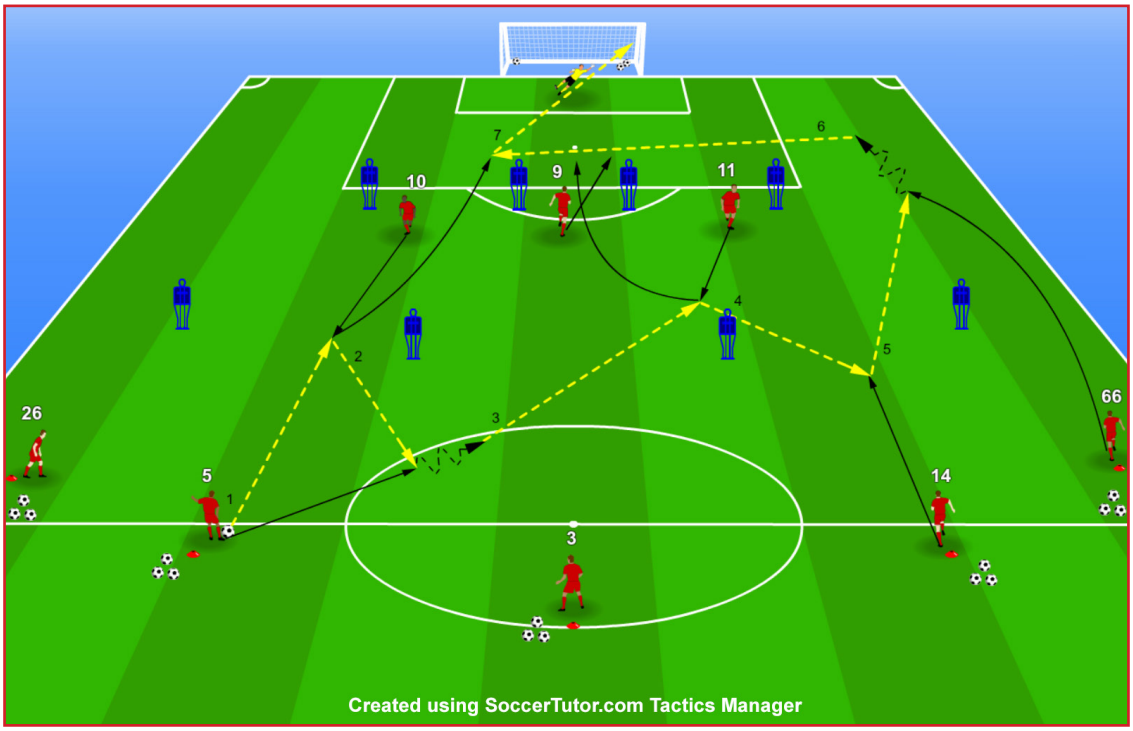
Robertson (26) has continued his run forward and scores from close range.

SESSION 8B BASED ON THE TACTICS OF JÜRGEN KLOPP

Fast Combination Play for the Advanced Full Back to Receive in Behind the Defensive Line

©SOCCERTUTOR.COM

1c: Transfer Ball from One Side to the Other + Full Back's Cut Back



Practice Set-up

This is a variation of the previous 2 practices (1a & 1b), but the practice set-up is exactly the same.

Description (1c)

1. The central midfielder **(5)** starts by passing to the left forward **(10)**, who drops back to receive.
2. The left forward **(10)** lays the ball back for the central midfielder **(5)** to run onto (completing a one-two combination).
3. The central midfielder **(5)** passes across to the right forward **(11)**, who drops off to receive.
4. The right forward **(11)** lays the ball back for the run of the other central midfielder **(14)**.
5. The central midfielder **(14)** passes the ball in between the 2 mannequins for the forward run of the right back **(66)**.
6. The right back **(66)** receives, dribbles the ball forward and cuts the ball back. The centre forward **(9)** runs to the near post and the left forward **(10)** to the far post. The right forward **(11)** moves into the box after his lay-off pass.
7. In this example, the left forward **(10)** scores with a first time finish at the far post.
8. After the attack finishes, all the players run back to their positions. The same sequence is repeated from the opposite side (right).

Coaching Points

1. Accurate and well-weighted passes/crosses.
2. Quality first touch finishing in the box.
3. High intensity, concentration, and rhythm needed for all movements (synchronisation).
4. Communicate (verbal and visual) with heads up at all times.

PROGRESSION

2. Combination Play for the Full Back to Receive in Behind Against a Compact Defence in a Time Limit Game

Objective: Exploiting the full width of the pitch against a deep and compact defence.

Description

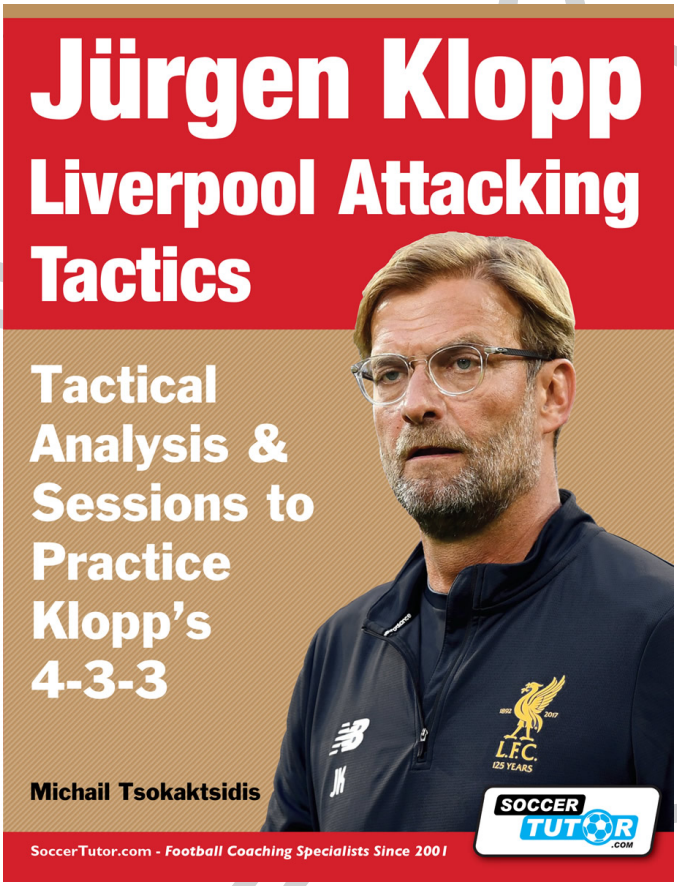
- In half a pitch (reduced length), mark out 2 wide zones for the full backs, as shown.
- The red attacking team have 2 full backs, 3 midfielders and 3 forwards from Liverpool's 4-3-3 formation, and the white defending team are in a 4-2 formation (+GK).
- This is a continuous game, and the Coaches have many balls. One of them starts by passing to a red player and the aim is to score as many goals as possible within the time limit e.g. 5 minutes.
- The reds must exploit the full width (wide zones) to play to either full back in behind, so they can deliver a cross into the box.
- Only the full backs (**No66** or **No.26**) can move into the wide zones.
- The white defending team's aim is to concede as few goals as possible within the time limit. If they win the ball, they pass to a Coach or kick the ball out of play. When this happens, a Coach passes a new ball in immediately and a new attack for the red team starts.

Coaching Points

1. The accuracy and weight of the passes and crosses need to be correct (in time and space).
2. Quality one touch finishing inside the box.
3. The players must communicate with their heads up and must be very focused.
4. The game must be executed with a high rhythm and a dynamic tempo.

SOCCER TUTOR .COM

Football Coaching Specialists Since 2001



BUY NOW

Available in Full Colour Print and eBook!

PC | Mac | iPhone | iPad | Android Phone/Tablet | Kobo | Kindle Fire

FREE COACH VIEWER APP

www.SoccerTutor.com
info@soccertutor.com