

# **PFSA TALENT ID LEVEL 2 PLAYER REPORT**



**REPORT BY:  
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7/12/25**

# PLAYER MATCH REPORT ON KYLIAN MBAPPE



**FC BARCELONA VS PSG**

**UEFA CHAMPIONS  
LEAGUE**

**16/2/21**

# PLAYER PROFILE:

## KYLIAN MBAPPE



PLAYER: KYLIAN MBAPPE

AGE: 22 YEARS OLD  
(DOB: 20/12/1998)

NATION: FRANCE (CAPPED)

CLUB: PSG (FRANCE)

HEIGHT: 1.80 m (5 ft 11 in)

POSITION: FORWARD -  
L/R WINGER

### CLUB CAREER INFORMATION : (PRIOR TO THIS FIXTURE)

- AS Bondy (Youth team) 2004-2013
- INF Clairefontaine (Youth Academy)
- AS Monaco – Youth Team 2013-2015
- AS Monaco – Senior squad in 2015-2018
- Finishes 2016–17 season with 26 goals from 44 matches in all competitions as AS Monaco win Ligue 1 title
- First senior goal in football for AS Monaco on 20<sup>th</sup> feb 2016 in a 3-1 win over Troyes
- 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 joins PSG initially on loan, with mandatory purchase option
- First senior hat-trick 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 in a 7-0 win over Rennes
- First UCL goal 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017 against Manchester City
- 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019, scores his 100<sup>th</sup> career goal

### INTERNATIONAL CAREER INFORMATION :(PRIOR TO THIS FIXTURE)

- French youth squad 2016, scoring 5 goals as his team wins the UEFA Euro 2016 - U19's tournament
- Called up to senior French squad in March 2017
- 21<sup>st</sup> June 2018, scores first World Cup goal of his career for France

**I have chosen to focus my player report on Kylian Mbappe for the UCL fixture between FC Barcelona & PSG played on the 16/2/21.**

**My reason for my choosing Mbappe to focus on during this game, is due to the type of player that he is, an attacking Inverted Winger or Centre Forward. These positions really interest me. Due to their influence on the game, especially in attacking situations.**

**I always watch to see how different players play in this position, how they go about attacking & defending. Also, what other abilities & qualities they have. I knew whilst watching Kylian Mbappe, that I would have plenty of things to study & even learn from.**

**It will be interesting to see how he plays in a famous stadium against illustrious opponents, in what could be considered the best continental cup competition in the world. Albeit, unfortunately closed to supporters due to the Covid-19 pandemic.**



## MBAPPE MATCH INFORMATION:

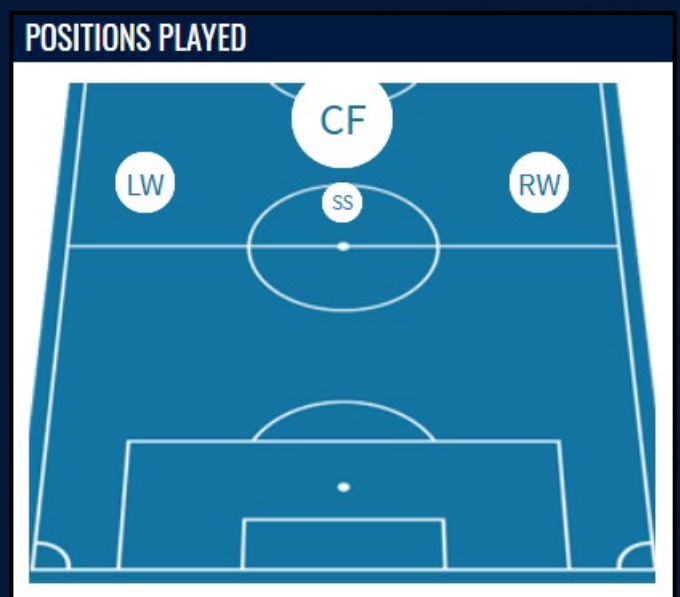
### Match Starting Position: LW



### Early Mbappe Match Observations:

- No 7 shirt
- Distinguishing features – Long sleeve shirt, Red boots, Short black hair
- Tall physical build
- Mesomorph body type
- Naturally right footed
- Playing initially as an Inverted–Forward playing off the left wing

On the right, is a diagram showing positions where Mbappe can play. It shows his strongest position as a CF, but he started this game from the LW position, coming inside from the wing.



## Match Attributes Analysis: (Event times included)

### Physical Attributes:

- Speed: Mbappe has very quick speed. From a standing start, he has an explosive burst of pace. This caused a lot of problems for the opposition defence, as they couldn't successfully mark him tightly without the risk of fouling him. Evidence of his speed can be seen on these times: (14.52, 38.42, 67.33)
- Strength: Showed strong upper body strength when tussling with defenders, usually trying to muscle past them whilst sprinting/dribbling or when shielding the ball. (34.25)
- Endurance: Mbappe played the whole 90 minutes, regularly making sprints, over short & long distances. This showing he has stamina & a high level of fitness. He also seems to conserve his energy by not running about unnecessarily off the ball. (On ball: 67.33 /Off ball: 25.00)
- Agility: He is an agile player able, as he showed coming off the left wing into the centre of the pitch. He can drop a shoulder, jink the other way with speed to lose an opponent & get into dangerous areas to create opportunities. (8.40, 24.15)

### Technical Skills:

- First Touch: Mbappe showed a good first touch, predominantly using his preferred right foot, but also able to use his left (scoring 2 goals with his left foot). He is capable, of controlling the ball well whilst stationary & whilst on a run. (8.40, 12.14, 18.00 & 21.19)
- Passing: Kylian can pass well; his good close control sets him up to be able to do this, putting himself into a situation where he creates some space & passing options for himself. He also moves into space, to become a forward passing option for team-mates. Also, he helps to create chances for team-mates with passes in & around the box. (21.15, 34.28) Also Kylian showed an ability to cross the ball, using his left foot. (21.36)
- Dribbling: A strong part of Mbappe's game & one of the reasons that he is such a big threat to his opponents. He can run at full speed, dribble, & maintain close control of the ball. His speed & movement mean that he can get into areas of the pitch to receive the ball & really punish them with his direct dribbles towards the box. (21.52, 38.42, 52.50)

- **Shooting:** As can be seen further on in the report in the stats, Mbappe had 6 shots, 4 on target & scoring 3 goals. His shooting is very accurate overall. He also used both feet to score goals in this match. (31.30, 46.24, 64.00, 67.33 & 84.53)

### **Tactical Awareness:**

- **Positioning:** One of the reasons Kylian is a difficult player to mark during a game, is the fact that he is quite flexible with his positioning across the front three. He can play in the 3 roles, often coming centrally to closely support & work with the No9 Icardi. He finds space to receive the ball and either find another pass or attempt a dribble towards the box. He looks to find pockets of space in between the opposition defence & midfield. (1.40, 8.40, 21.15) On RHS of front 3. (82.00)
- **Decision-making:** From what I saw of Mbappe in this game, I think he is very quick in his decision making, this goes in tandem with his quick speed physically as a player. It gives him a big advantage over opponents. I think he has already thought about his next move, before initially receiving the ball. His decision making in & around the penalty area, also makes him dangerous. For his first 2 goals, he'd got himself into good positions to be able to score, showing his positional intelligence. He makes intelligent runs, offering an attacking outlet for his team. He knows when the situation is right to make a run, when to pass, dribble & shoot. (0.50, 47.54, 48.11 & 77.04)
- **Off-the-ball movement:** Mbappe doesn't tend to do much running off the ball, unless the ball comes to his side of the pitch or his team turns the ball over in their own half. He goes wide to try & stretch the opposition. (8.40) Before receiving a pass, he looks to take a few steps away from the defender to create some space between them. (0.50, 24.15) He does keep moving, to keep the opponents wary & on their toes. I also noticed, that by coming in-field, he creates space for the LB No20 to get forward, dragging opponents across with him.
- **Attacking:** Mbappe is a CF by trade, so his best attributes are in his attacking skills. He is forward thinking in his game, rather than defensive. His runs were penetrating forward runs, he looked to pass the ball forward & into dangerous areas. He would get into areas where he could hurt the opponent when receiving the ball or bring his fellow attackers into play. He is dangerous in & around the box, as shown by his 3 goals scored. He is also present in the box for attacking corner kick set-pieces. (31.30, 64.00 & 84.53)
- **Defending:** Whilst a very offensive thinking forward, there was evidence in this game of Mbappe helping his team out defensively. This being in the opponent's half & his teams defensive 3<sup>rd</sup>. He did track back, press & sprint to make a tackle. He stays outside the penalty area for defensive set-pieces, to offer an attacking outlet. (13.15 & 30.00 & 34.00)

## Mental Traits:

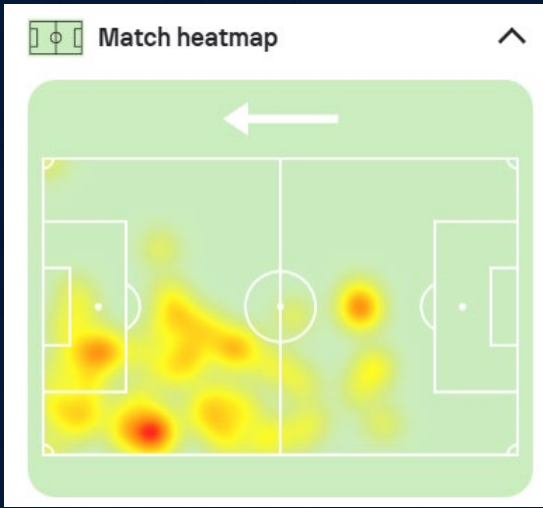
- **Work rate:** Mbappe played the entire game. He kept getting into space, making runs & driving forward throughout. He showed he has pace & stamina, working for his team to be an attacking outlet for them. He showed he has a hunger for goals, scoring 3. Showed determination, making a run forward whilst being fouled. (49.30)
- **Leadership:** Whilst not being the most vocal on the pitch in this game, I did see him gesturing to team-mates & encouraging them. I think by the way he performed in the game & his general manner, he can command respect from his team-mates. Also, I considered the fact that he may be quite vocal & influential behind closed doors in the dressing room. I think rather than being a really vocal leader, he led more by example.
- **Composure under pressure:** In my assessment of the game, it didn't look like Mbappe was suffering from any pressure. It was more a case of him enjoying himself & trying to play to his maximum. This is something that you can see with good, confident, young players. An example of him showing composure though, was his finish for his 2<sup>nd</sup> goal. A calmly hit side footed shot. (64.00) I think you would need to watch him play in a game with more at stake, to see if pressure had any influence on him.

## PREVIOUS 5 FIXTURES:

Below, are the previous 5 fixtures, PSG won 4 games & lost 1 at Lorient. Mbappe scored 2 goals in these 5 fixtures. This includes league & cup games.

Saturday 13th February		
French Ligue 1		
Paris Saint-Germain	2 - 1	Nice FT
Wednesday 10th February		
Coupe de France		
Caen	0 - 1	Paris Saint-Germain FT
Sunday 7th February		
French Ligue 1		
Marseille	0 - 2	Paris Saint-Germain FT
Wednesday 3rd February		
French Ligue 1		
Paris Saint-Germain	3 - 0	Nimes FT
Sunday 31st January		
French Ligue 1		
Lorient	3 - 2	Paris Saint-Germain FT

# MBAPPE MATCH STATISTICS:



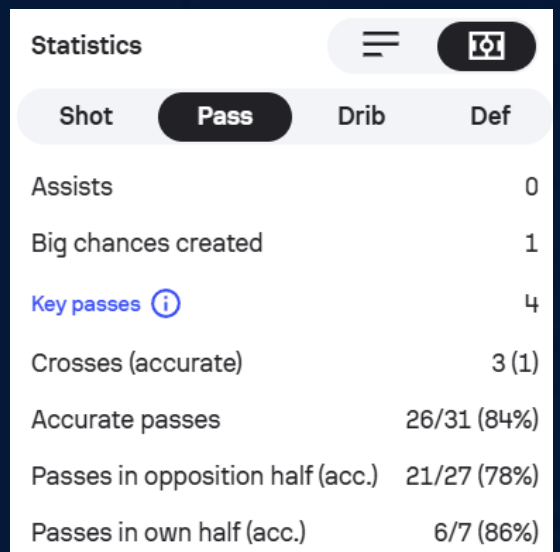
(Above) Heat Map from the game, showing Mbappe's average positions. The red zones, being areas of the pitch, he was most commonly active.



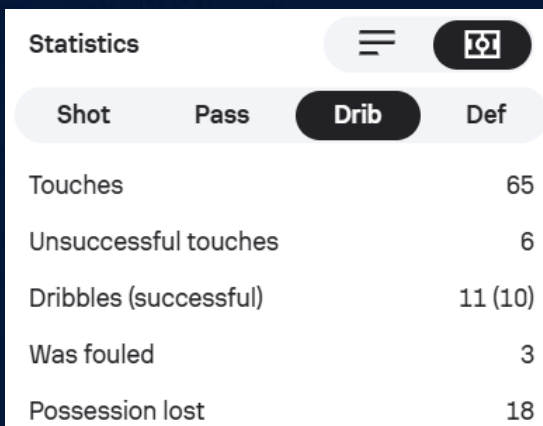
(Above) An Attribute diagram, showing Mbappe's ratings in different areas of his game. Taken from the end of 2022.



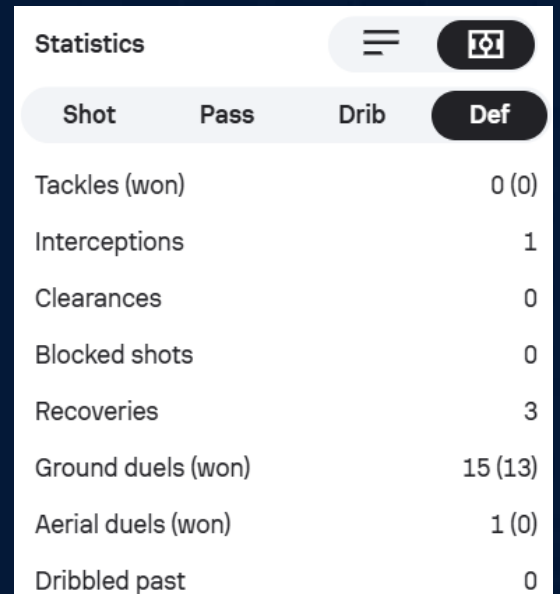
(Above) Shot map diagram Showing Mbappe's shots During the game, including The shots resulting in goals



(Above) Passing stats for Mbappe from the match.



(Above) Dribbling stats from the game. An area, where Mbappe is really strong & incredibly effective for his team.



(Above) Defensive stats from the game. An area, where Kylian could perhaps improve on his game.

[Link to the stats from the game:](#)

[Barcelona vs Paris Saint-Germain live score, H2H and lineups | Sofascore](#)

## Strengths to his game:

- Explosive burst of pace
- A physically strong & determined player
- Intelligent movement off the ball
- Direct & dangerous on the ball
- Comfortable controlling the ball
- Can use both feet
- A massive threat when dribbling towards the box
- Intelligent with his positioning on the pitch & awareness of where he needs to be
- A clinical finisher, inside & outside the penalty area
- A team player, passing & creating chances for team-mates
- Demonstrated good fitness/stamina lasting the whole game
- Intelligence to take quick set-pieces to try & catch out the opposition

## Weaknesses in his game:

- Defending in my assessment is probably the part of Mbappe's game that he could work on. He didn't track back to help as much as much as he could have done
- It is hard to criticise him defensively, because it is not really his style of playing the game. He is naturally, an offensive player
- There were also a few occasions where his heading & passing let him down, giving away possession
- If there is to be any further development in his game, it would probably be on the defensive side of his game

## Conclusion:

On this performance, I think Mbappe looks a top player in an attacking role. He demonstrated flexibility with being able to play in different positions, on the left, centrally & briefly on the right. He has very fast pace & stamina, meaning he can be a threat throughout a game, without the need to be subbed unless of an injury.

His good close control, ability to use both feet & to dribble with the ball at speed make him a massive danger in the attacking 3<sup>rd</sup> for PSG. His quick feet & skill around the box, also means he can find openings for himself or team-mates to create opportunities & also draw fouls in dangerous areas. He is a very clinical finisher inside/ outside the box & can score with both feet.

Whilst this one game was an excellent performance, I feel he would need to be watched again in a few different fixtures. The reason being, to gauge how he performs in different fixtures & against different types of opponent. He might not have quite as productive a game against a side with 5 at the back, playing a low block & would likely have been more motivated to play in this game, than at a lesser team away in Ligue 1.

I feel Mbappe can have a very productive future, scoring lots of goals & gaining honours for club & possibly on the international stage.

## Recommendation:

Mbappe would be a top signing for any team, but most realistically for teams playing in the UEFA Champions League.

He would ideally play as a Centre Forward but is also effective from the Left Wing. You would also need players in your team to be excellent at accurate long balls up field, to be able to take advantage of his speed on the break & direct method of play.

Also, if signing Mbappe to play on the LW, you would need to have a competent Left Back/Left Wing Back, who can compensate for the fact he can leave a lot of space in front of them that the opponent could attack.

## What he would add to a team:

- Intelligence
- Power
- Pace
- Physicality
- Stamina
- Confidence
- Technical ability
- Target man option
- Consistent goal contribution
- A Match winner

He would be a top signing for any club. If I could sign him for a club as a manager, I 100% would do. He would command a very high fee, even at his young age of 22, due to his current abilities, levels of performance & potential. He displays very strong attribute qualities in line with all areas of the FA's 4 corner model (Technical, Psychological, Physical & Social).

## MATCH RATING:

A

A top performance, scoring a hat-trick. Very influential for his team & the key player responsible for PSG's 1-4 away win. He also played the entire match & didn't seem to have picked up any serious injuries. A man of the match performance!



**RESOURCES USED  
IN REPORT:**

**WEBSITES USED FOR  
INFO / DATA / GRAPHICS:**

[www.psg.fr](http://www.psg.fr)

[www.skysports.com](http://www.skysports.com)

[www.sofascore.com](http://www.sofascore.com)

[www.transfermarkt.co.uk](http://www.transfermarkt.co.uk)

[www.uefa.com](http://www.uefa.com)

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

**RESOURCES:**

DROPBOX

MICROSOFT POWER POINT

