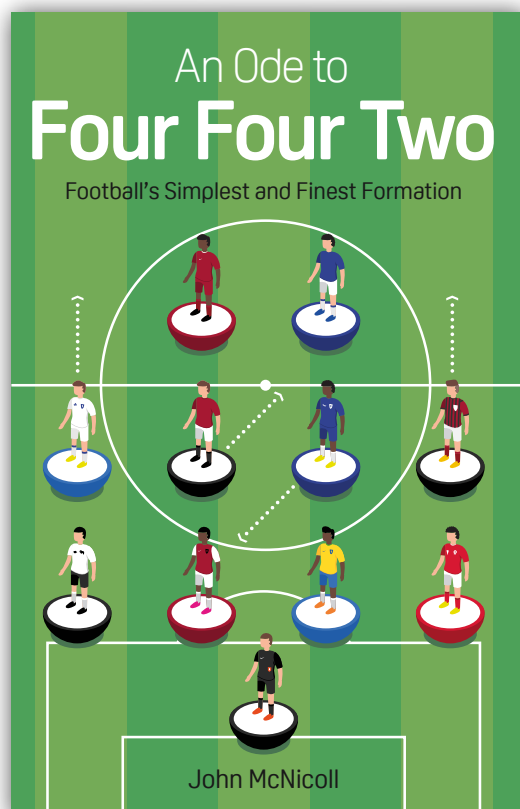




# Title information



## An Ode to Four Four Two

Football's Simplest and Finest Formation

By John McNicoll

### Key features

- Details the great teams who were the greatest exponents of the 4-4-2 formation in football's more recent history
- Discover how and why those iconic teams used the multi-functional system to such devastating effect to win domestic and European honours
- Includes detailed analytical diagrams showing the key personnel and tactics for each of the teams covered
- Author's meticulous research is supplemented by fresh insight via exclusive interviews with players and managers
- Photo section including action images and photographs to tie in with the text
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

### Description

*An Ode to Four Four Two* examines how coaches in Europe, and particularly England, settled on the 4-4-2 formation to build iconic teams which would dominate both domestically and in Europe. Formations have continually evolved since the birth of the game in the mid-19th century. From teams playing with four or five forwards, to the modern era of teams with just the one, arguably the greatest formation has been 4-4-2. Some of the greatest teams have lined up in this multi-functional system. Flick through the football history books and it is filled with teams like AC Milan, Manchester United, Liverpool, Leeds United and Barcelona, all enjoying glorious eras playing 4-4-2. But it isn't just the elite of world football. Who can forget Leicester City, led by Claudio Ranieri, reviving the system against all odds to outperform the Premier League's big six to claim a historic title in 2016? Author John McNicoll looks at how and why these teams used the formation to such effect. How they dominated in their era to stand out from the rest. It is the story of how teams, both big and small in status, have played the system to perfection.

### Details

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