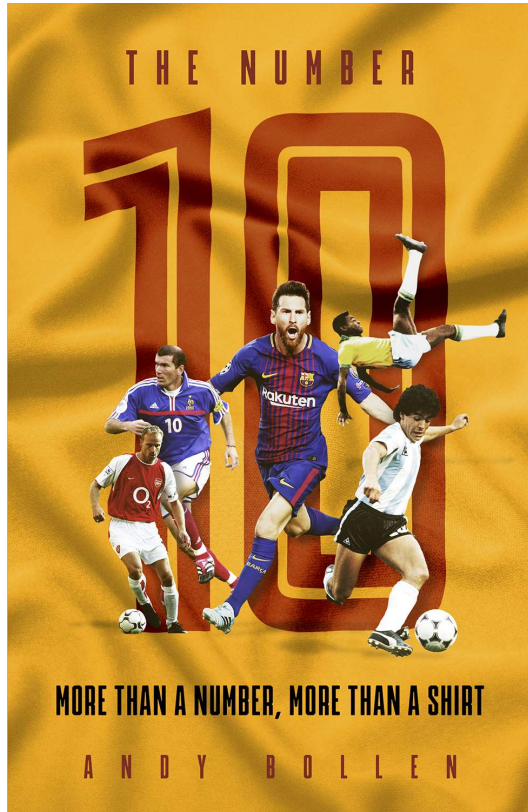




Title information



The Number Ten

More than a Number, More than a Shirt

By Andy Bollen

Key features

- Fascinating story of the players who elevated the number-ten shirt to iconic status
- Bollen has written for topical football and news shows for the last three decades, with columns in major publications such as the *Sunday Mail*
- This is his fourth football book; his others are the critically acclaimed treatise on Scottish football, *A History of Scottish Football in 100 Objects*, *Fierce Genius* and *A History of European Football in 100 Objects*
- Bollen has appeared on talkSPORT and BBC Scotland's award-winning football show *Off the Ball*
- Publicity campaign planned including radio, newspapers, websites, podcasts and magazines

Description

What makes the number-ten jersey so special? It's merely material and thread – the number only used for administrative purposes. Yet the number ten represents much more than football. Those wearing it carry the weight of expectation for club and country. Andy Bollen forensically examines the world's greatest players – from Puskás and Di Stéfano to Pelé, Maradona and Messi – and asks, what makes them tick? How did they reach legendary status? He explores how their will to win at all costs comes from their desire to overcome adversity – escape poverty, rejection or horrendous injury. Bollen scrutinises the illustrious players who wore the number-ten shirt, discussing the lives, careers and mindsets of the classic playmakers. Theirs is a unique mentality, a twisted logic and drive. Part brilliance, part elegant brutality, they are required to deliver an artistry, genius and creativity. Their play is elevated to a work of art, then, with great devilment, they are capable of wilfully slashing and destroying it.

Details

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