

# Passing Combinations



Direct from  
Xabi Alonso's  
Training Sessions

## 9. End to End Passing Combinations and Support Play to Break the Lines (Variation 1)



The players are labelled A to F to best illustrate the order of the passing sequence. There are 2 players in positions B, C, E, and F who all rotate in and out after their contribution within the passing sequence (1 or 2 passes) is complete.

### Practice Description

- 1-3.** A plays a one-two with B, and then passes forward to C, who drops back.  
**4-5.** C sets the ball back for B to pass to D.

**6-8.** D plays a one-two with E, and then passes forward to F, who moves to meet the pass.

**9-10.** F sets the ball back for E to complete the sequence with the final pass to A.

**11-12** → The same sequence is repeated as a mirror image starting on the left with A playing a one-two combination with F2, then passing to E2.

Source: Xabi Alonso's Bayer Leverkusen training session at Bayer 04 Leverkusen Training Ground - 2024

# Positional Build Up Play Combinations



Direct from  
Xabi Alonso's  
Training Sessions

## 5. Build Up Combinations, Switch Play, and Give & Go to Break Midfield Line Passing Circuit



### Practice Description

The sequence starts simultaneously with 2 balls (one at each end with LCB).

- 1-2. LCB passes to DM, who passes across to CB. The coach applies pressure.
- 3-4. CB passes forward to AM and another coach applies pressure from behind. AM sets the ball back for DM to move onto.
5. DM switches play with a pass to RWB in front of the mannequin.

- 6-7. RWB plays a give & go with AM (who shifts across) and receives back after moving around the mannequin.
  8. RWB passes to Position LCB at the opposite end to complete the sequence.
- The players rotate their positions:  
LCB → DM → CB → AM → RWB → LCB.
- The same sequence is repeated as the next players go.

Source: Xabi Alonso's Bayer Leverkusen preseason training session in Donaueschingen, Germany - 29th July 2024