

GAMER GUIDE

FIFA 23
EDITION



the need to know you didn't know you needed



WHAT IS IT?



FIFA 23 is a landmark release as it marks the end of more than 25 years of EA and FIFA releasing this sporting franchise heavyweight in its current iteration. The partnership is ending on a strong note as the latest release is being hailed as one of the best in years, with more game modes, more customizable options, and more officially licensed teams than ever before



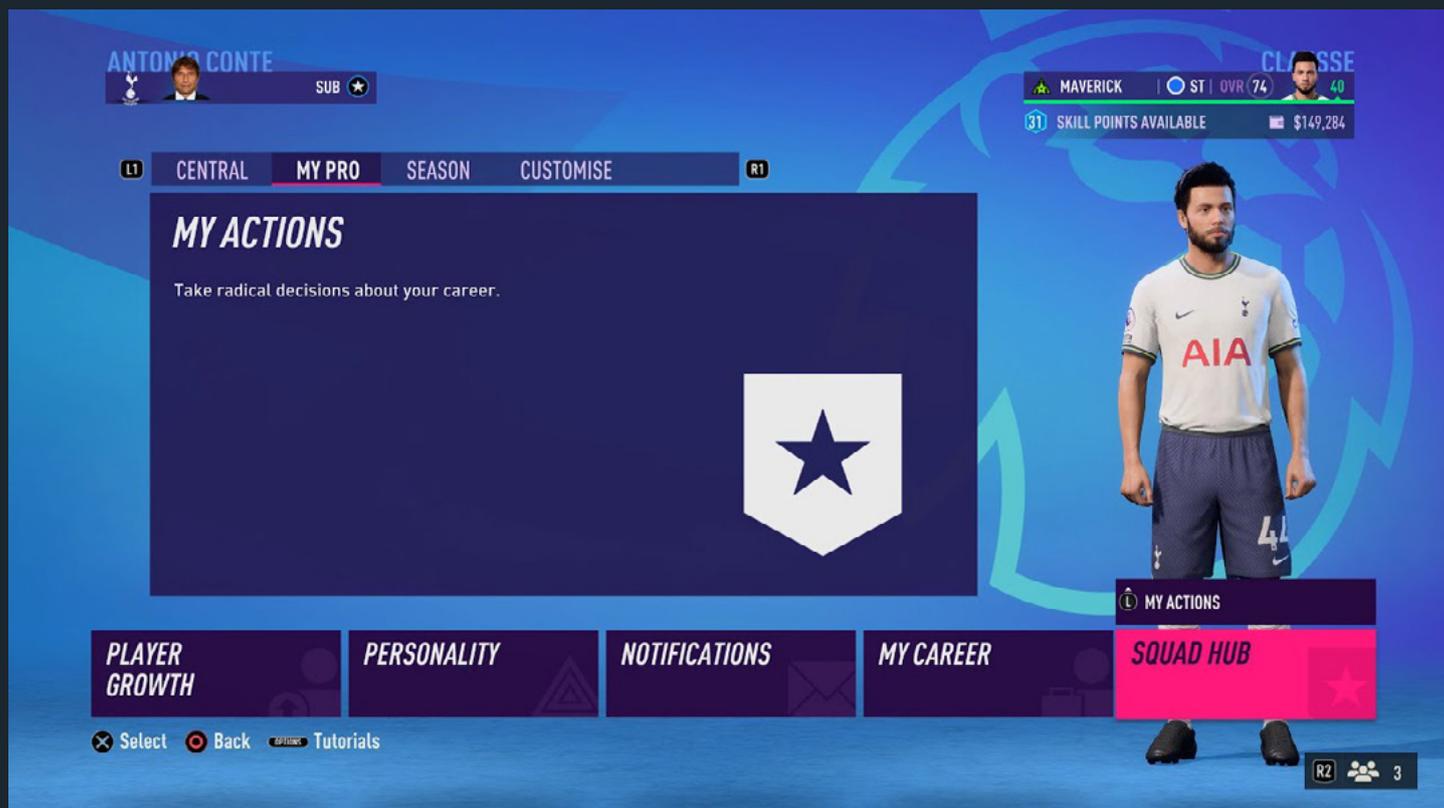
Given how much content there is crammed into the game, *FIFA 23* should have no trouble keeping players engaged until next year's instalment, which will be the first to be sold under the new EA Sports FC label. There are several updates planned before then too, including a special World Cup game mode that will be given away as free DLC.

We detail all of the new approaches that comes with *FIFA 23* whilst still giving you the best tips and tricks to succeed as a *FIFA* player so that you can hold your own against almost anyone.

BREAKDOWN THE BASICS

Mechanics

Those who've ever played a *FIFA* game before should have very little trouble getting into *FIFA 23*. In fact, so simple is the overall experience that even new players should be able to find their feet in a relatively short amount of time.



Modes

Exhibition Mode

A quick play mode that is perfect for players who don't really have a lot of time to play, its bare-bone approach to matches is simple. Set up profiles to track your win/loss ratio, and choose any teams across any leagues, including the Soccer Aid and Classic XI teams.

FIFA Ultimate Team

Ultimate Team has been the flagship game mode on *FIFA* for years and it is no different for *FIFA 23*. Every year at the start of the season gamers begin again with a squad they're given, the goal being for everyone to create their Ultimate Team and battle against others for a place in the ranked game modes FUT Champions. The fastest players in *FIFA 23* will help gamers to get a great start to their season.

Career Mode

EA has put a lot of thought and effort into improving *FIFA*'s Career modes in recent years and this is once again the case in *FIFA 23*. Whether controlling an up-and-coming talent or somebody taking their first foray into club management, players are now able to control even the smallest of details, from training regimes to how a manager behaves and dresses on the touchline.



Co-Op Season

FIFA 23 allows gamers to play online not only by themselves across both Online Seasons and Ultimate Team, but with a friend on Co-Op Seasons. Co-Op Seasons pits two gamers against another two dangers, with each duo sharing control of a team. Duos try to go from Division 5 to Division 1, with the same system as is in Online Seasons. If gamers want to succeed in Co-Op Seasons, they must work together and ensure they use the best teams available in the game, as the meta definitely plays a part in your success.

Pro Clubs

FIFA 23 has launched with all the modes fans know and love as well as some new updates and features for them. Away from the pay-to-win grinding of Ultimate Team and monotonous single-player grinding of Career Mode, Pro Clubs is a game mode that offers players the chance to play in one position on the same team as their friends.

Volta

The Volta game mode has been around for a couple of years now, featuring heavily for single-player and multiplayer on *FIFA 23*. Players may find the game mode reminiscent of *FIFA Street*, which makes for a nice reprieve from the regular gameplay.

Fundamentals



The mechanics are exactly what you would expect from a football simulator. You engage with all the aspects of the game as a player. That includes, among other things, actual tactical play.

- **Passing:** In *FIFA 23* you can play the ball in many ways - short and long ground or overhead passes, perpendicular passes, etc., but all actions should be performed in tempo and with sufficient power so as not to break the smoothness of the team's game. Before you make a pass, make sure to turn towards the recipient.
- **Crossing:** The classic overhead cross is in many cases the best way to get the ball into the opponent's penalty area. Remember to perform the cross with sufficient power so that the ball does not fly outside the pitch.
- **Shots:** In *FIFA 23* you can shoot in various ways: finesse, technical, from the air, etc., but the basic shot is in many cases the best choice. Remember to aim well and control the power so that the ball lands in the goal.
- **Offence:** Employ various strategies when playing offence to rip apart the opponent's defence and make it successfully to his penalty area. One of the strategies is to employ one-touch and perpendicular passes.
- **Defence:** The main thing here is to avoid fouling players in the penalty area. Standard pickup is the safest move which rarely ends in a referee's intervention. Another great technique that can help you take the ball away from your opponent is Jockey, a more controlled press-style of defending.
- **Sprint:** Remember that constantly sprinting will quickly deplete your player's stamina. Moreover, while sprinting, it is difficult to guide the ball in a controlled manner and may make it easier for the opponent to intercept it. Careful use of sprint is especially important in the middle of the pitch, where the density of players is highest.

Formations

Formations are a very important aspect of the game. It seems simple right? Find a decent goalie, pick the 10 fastest outfield players your budget can fit, and that's it? Well, that may actually start you off pretty well! But there is always more to it. Choosing your team composition and placement requires thought and practice.

Skills

Skill moves are another mechanic you would do well to master. It's also one of the most complicated as you will need to learn combinations and master tiered difficulty levels.

- 1-Star skill moves are basic tricks that anyone can pull off – even goalkeepers.
- 2-Star skill moves are easy for the majority of outfield players.
- 3-Star skill moves are slightly more specialised, think midfielders and forwards.
- 4-Star skill moves are not easy to pull off – faking, four-touch turns, etc.
- 5-Star skill moves are the best of the best – if the player has 5-star moves they can also humiliate opponents with juggling tricks.



Teams and Players

FIFA 23 spends an awful lot of money on scouting, helping them to come up with a comprehensive database with players from all over the world. This is what's used to determine player ratings, and although there are the occasional outliers, they tend to do a pretty good job of measuring a player's skill.

TIPS & TRICKS

With all of the new changes and features added to *FIFA 23*, it's once again time to readjust and get some practice in. Even if you're an absolute *FIFA* legend, each new game is different enough that you'll need to learn the ropes again, as staples like penalties and corners have all changed once again.

To help you get back into the swing of things, we've put together five key tips for getting better at *FIFA 23*. There's advice to help you improve your dribbling, get the hang of the pace of next-gen gameplay, and more.



Set your Formations and Tactics

Whether you're playing in Career Mode or Ultimate Team, Formations and Tactics are extremely important. Even if you'd rather keep things as casual as possible, we recommend setting up the four default tactics assigned to the left and right buttons on the d-pad. Keep Ultra Defence as an option for when you're ahead, and Ultra Attacking for an aggressive surge in the final 10 minutes of play (if you're losing).

Defensive and Attacking should be used to probe the other team. If they are winning the ball and constantly making runs, use defending. If they seem to have a wall at the back, go for attacking. In terms of Formations, it's best to have a quick look on YouTube for what other players are using. Putting in this small commitment at the start of your *FIFA 23* career will seriously pay off in the future.

Keep your back line in shape

Defending has been tweaked for *FIFA 23*, and is more important than ever as a result. As such, you will need to manually control your defenders, and that can lead to all kinds of issues. The key thing to keep in mind at all times is the shape of your back line.

Don't use your defenders to tackle unless necessary. Instead, use your midfielders to go in more aggressively, keeping your back line intact. It's when you start pulling defenders out of position that you create space for your opponent. Hold strong, slow down and wait for them to make the first move. Nine times out of ten, holding your line in shape is the right choice while an attacking player is running in.



Protect the ball

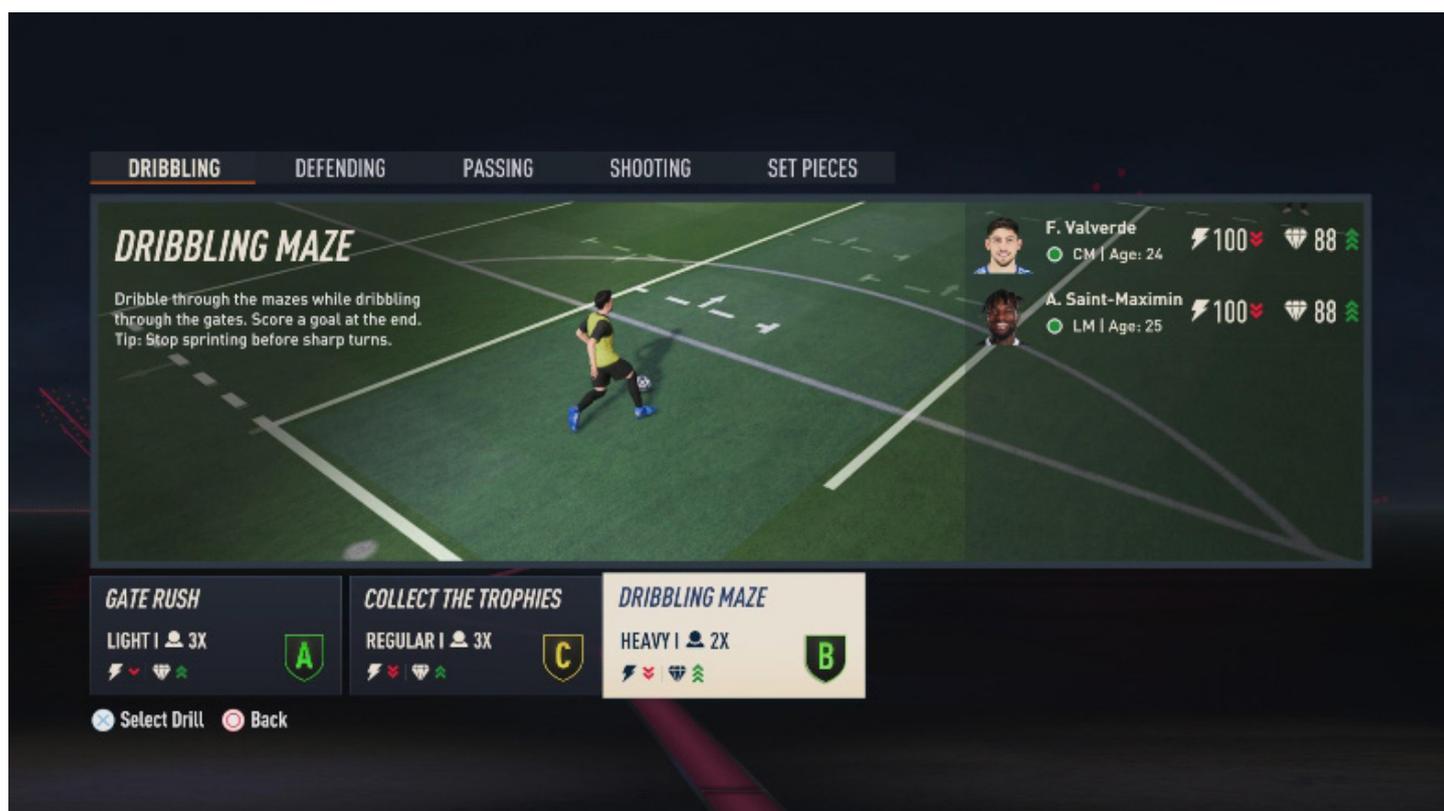
You'll be taught how to shield and protect the ball early on in *FIFA 23*, but many forget it as they move forward. This is especially useful as a first touch, and when winning the ball from the air. Even tapping shield for a second will often bring it closer to your player, making it easier to hold onto.

Protecting the ball also applies to possession in general. If you're losing, have a look at your possession stats. Chances are, you're losing the ball a lot in midfield. Slow down, breathe, and make some passes to get this stat up. You'll find that by holding the ball, you'll naturally find chances at goal, as your players make runs and your opponent gets increasingly wild with their tackling.

Training is key

When playing in Career Mode you will want to make the most out of Training days. When you first train, you will have a blank score and grade. Simulating at this point will give you the worst possible grade and scoring, making it pretty pointless. What you'll want to do is take on each training drill at least once. You can aim for grade B or higher as you work through them.

After a while, you will find that the drills available to you already have decent scores and grades on them. Simulating now gives you these much better grades, increasing player sharpness. This can make a real difference, and for a fairly small time investment. Drill scores also carry over between seasons.



Make the most of set-pieces

Set-pieces have changed drastically in *FIFA 23*, so you'll need to take greater care when executing corners and free kicks. Free kicks are particularly tricky to score this year, as the controls have been simplified, and your shot options narrowed. Instead, take the short pass, and rely on crossing to score a goal. With corners, calling in a second player is your best bet.

Penalties are another story altogether. You literally cannot miss, so just concentrate on hitting your shot when the reticule is green. Aim wherever you'd like. Just like in real life, a lot of it simply comes down to luck.



CONCLUSION

FIFA 23 brings a lot of great additions and improvements to the franchise. Find your style of play and focus on tactics and players that play to your strengths and watch yourself grow in skill and confidence. Soon enough you'll be holding your own against anyone that challenges you.