

“MANNI BANANA CROSS, I HEAD, GOAL”*

The most common score? 1-1. If you didn't know that, don't worry: that's what you have us and our football knowledge for. Guaranteed to help you impress everyone with your trivia skills next time you watch a game at an outside event, in the stadium, at a BBQ or simply in line at the supermarket checkout.

* By the way, that bizarre quote came from soccer hero Horst Hrubesch

THE WINNER'S SOLE

We wouldn't go so far as to say that Freudenberg Performance Materials is the 12th man on the field – but we are already pretty sure that we will be a part of the 2018 World Cup winner. Our lightweight, recycled spunbond nonwovens used as eyelet reinforcements, or our binder-free, multi-layered needled functional materials for the strobels insole, are in the shoes of the two biggest brands at the World Cup.

CLEATS

People have been playing some sort of game involving a ball and a goal for around 2,200 years. The first specialist shoes were probably made in England at the court of King Henry VIII.



In 1525, court shoemaker Cornelius Johnson is said to have made the first pair: ankle-high, made of hard leather and provided with a kind of cleat.

STAYING DRY

Soccer fans can take their seats and relax. Stadium roofs featuring waterproofing made with Freudenberg Performance Materials roofing carriers have long been used to keep spectators clean and dry.



“I can't help laughing at how perfect I am.”

Zlatan Ibrahimovic, record goal scorer for Sweden

30°

Is precisely the ideal launch angle for a throw-in.

130 km/h

The average speed the ball travels from a penalty kick (almost 36 meters per second) – which means it takes just a third of a second to reach the goal. This time span is below the normal human reaction time. Especially as the goalkeeper needs a good third of a second to reach towards the ball.

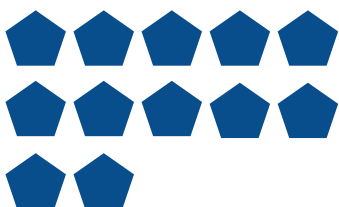


SHEFFIELD F.C.

is the oldest football club in the world. It was founded in 1857.

1969

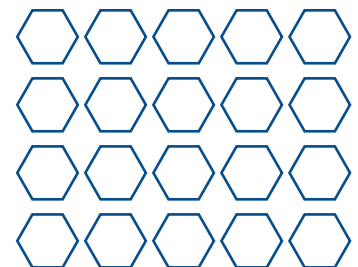
The year in which Frank Zappa is said to have started the first La Ola wave at a rock festival – at least according to legend. Either way, a good wave needs at least 30 people to get it rolling.



12



20



Mathematically speaking, a football is a “blunted icosahedron”. 12 pentagons and 20 hexagons make it a so-called “Archimedean body”. It only becomes round once it has been inflated.

“Your love makes me strong, your hatred unstoppable.”

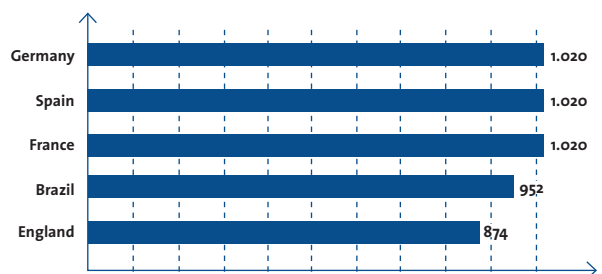
Cristiano Ronaldo, soccer star



5.4

Average number of goals per match that Hungary scored at the 1954 World Cup – which remains a record to this day.

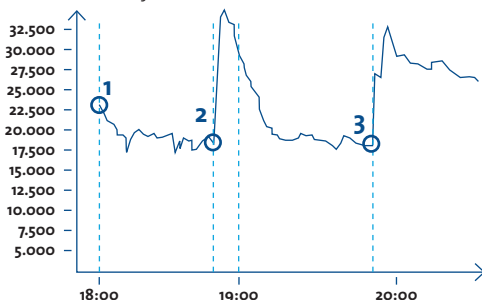
MARKET VALUE



Total market value of qualified national teams for the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia (in millions of euros)

PEE SPIKE

Break in the game? Time to pee! Here's what the measurements taken by the Berlin Waterworks revealed during the 2014 World Cup.

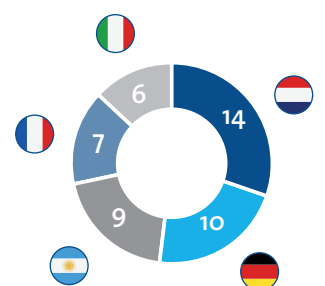


- 1 Kick-off**
Germany – Portugal
- 2 Half time**
Germany – Portugal
- 3 Final whistle**
Germany – Portugal



75%

The probability that the German national team will lose the game if the first penalty-taker in a shoot-out misses.



Final, ohohohoooo: bookings roll of dishonor

Total number of bookings of all finalists since the first ever World Cup