

FIFA 09 GUIDE

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SKILL MOVES

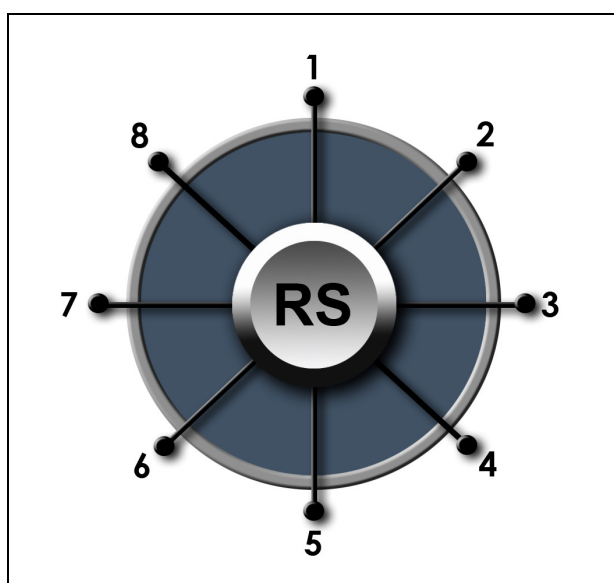
STANDARD SKILL MOVES

All players in FIFA 09 can perform skill moves. The type of skill a player can execute depends on his skill level. A player with the highest level of skill can perform the most fancy and effective skills in the game, whereas a player with a lower skill level will attempt a simpler version of a trick or may altogether fail in his attempt of that skill.

Players like Ronaldinho and Franck Ribery can perform the full arsenal of tricks and skills in the game.

Each player in the game can perform all of the skills on this page. In order to best explain how the moves work, we use a numbering system corresponding with the directions on the Right Thumbstick.

These instructions assume that you are facing forward (like in the Arena) and that you have held down the Skill modifier button (L2 on PS3 or LT on Xbox 360).



How to Execute

Move	How to Execute
Body Feint Right	Flick right (3,0)
Body Feint Left	Flick left (7,0)
Body Feint Exits	Hold left thumbstick in any direction after a Body Feint
Step-over Right	Forward to right (1,2,3)
Step-over Left	Forward to left (1,8,7)
Step-over Exits	Hold left thumbstick in any direction after a Step-over
Reverse Step-over Left	Right to forward (3,2,1)
Reverse Step-over Right	Left to forward (7,8,1)

Step-over Exits	Hold left thumbstick in any direction after a Reverse Step-over
360 Roulette Left	Back to left to forward to right (5,6,7,8,1,2,3)
360 Roulette Right	Back to right to forward to left (5,4,3,2,1,8,7)
Drag Back	Flick left thumbstick back (5,0) – standing only
Drag Back Exits	Hold left thumbstick in any direction after a Drag Back – standing only
Flick Ball over Slide Tackle	Triple flick forward
Ball Roll Left	Hold left (7)
Ball Roll Right	Hold right (3)

Body Feint Left/Right

The Body Feint is one of the simplest moves to master, yet it can be quite effective. The objective of the Body Feint is to fool the defender into thinking your player is going to make a change of direction. If you get the defender leaning the wrong way, you can quickly exit in the opposite direction to gain space.



Step-over Left/Right

The Step-over or Scissor move fakes a change of direction using the outside of the foot. The foot is brought from inside to out around the front of the ball. This move requires a fair amount of space to perform effectively. Try it too close to the defender and it will be easily tackled away. The exit moves from the Step-over are pretty explosive and can get your player good separation.



Reverse Step-over Left/Right

The Reverse Step-over fakes a change of direction or cut with the inside of the foot. The player moves their foot around the front of the ball from outside to inside. While this move can be performed while jogging, it is most effective from a standing position followed by an explosive exit move. You will need some distance between your player and the defender to execute this move.



360 Roulette Left/Right

The 360 Roulette is a spin move used to shield the ball and manoeuvre around a defender. You don't need as much space as the Step-over or Reverse Step-over to execute this move. It is a good choice when you want to make a quick move around the defender, but want to protect the ball at the same time.



Drag Back

This move can only be executed from a standing position. Your player puts his boot on the ball and drags it backwards. This can be useful to pull the ball away from a defender that is reaching for a tackle. Combine this move with different exits and you can pull off some nice combinations, including the Pull Behind the Standing Left and Pull to V.



Flick Ball Over Slide Tackle

Use this move to flick the ball up and over an oncoming slide tackle. This move is very effective if you anticipate the slide tackle well. It is especially useful if you are playing a human opponent who has a tendency to slide a great deal. A second use skill move is to flick the ball up so you can rocket a thunderous volley.



Ball Roll Left/Right

This is another simple move that is highly effective when timed properly. In this move, the player simply rolls the ball to one side with the sole of their foot. If your opponent is coming at you aggressively, a simple slap roll to take the ball out of their path can be all you need to break free. You will want to move the direction opposite that your opponent is shading you. So if the defender is coming straight on, but towards your right shoulder, roll it to the left side. You can also use this move down in the corner when you have squared up to cross. Defenders will often come at you full speed and a quick roll will give you all the room you need to get your cross in.



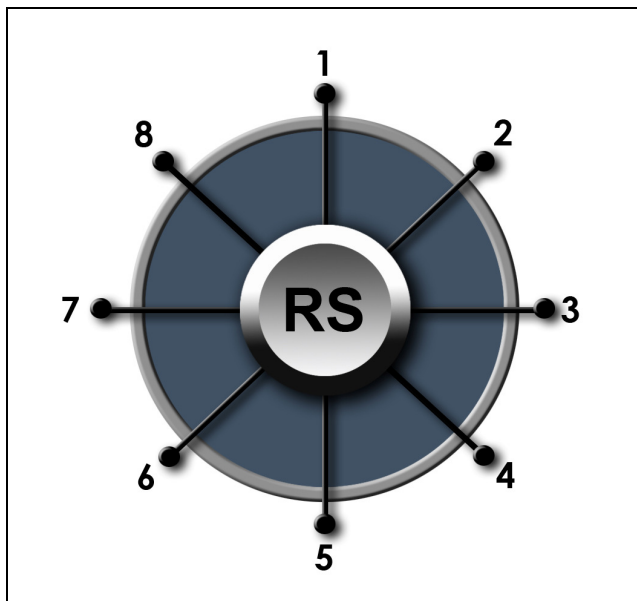
ADVANCED SKILL MOVES

Certain skill moves in FIFA 09 require players with a higher level of skill. It is a good idea to take players from your favourite team into Arena mode and put them through their paces. This way you will know which moves your players can perform. It's not a good idea to get into the midst of a competitive game and have a trick fail because you used the wrong player.

Players like Ronaldinho and Franck Ribery can perform all of the tricks and skills in this section of the guide. Less Skilled players will perform simpler variations of some of the skills.

In order to best explain how the moves work, we use a numbering system corresponding with the directions on the right thumbstick.

These instructions assume that you are facing forward (like in the Arena) and that you have held down the Skill modifier button (L2 on PS3 or LT on Xbox 360).



How to Execute

Move	How to Execute
Flip Flap/Elastico	Right to Back to Left (3,4,5,6,7)
Feint Right & Exit Left	Right to Back to Left (3,4,5,6,7) – <i>Sprinting</i>
Fake Right and Go Left	Right to Back to Left (3,4,5,6,7) – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Stanley Matthews Feint	Left to Back to Right (7,6,5,4,3)
Feint Left & Exit Right	Left to Back to Right (7,6,5,4,3) – <i>Sprinting</i>
Fake Left and Go Right	Left to Back to Right (7,6,5,4,3) – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Blanco Hop	Tap R3 – <i>Standing Only</i>
Flick Ball Over Slide Tackle	Tap R3 - <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Ronaldo Chop Left	Flick Diagonal Back/Left 2x (6,0,6,0) – <i>Jogging Only</i>
Fake Kick Chop Right	Flick Diagonal Back/Right 2x (4,0,4,0) – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Ronaldo Chop right	Flick Diagonal Back/Right 2x (4,0,4,0) – <i>Jogging Only</i>
Fake Kick Chop Left	Flick Diagonal Back/Right 2x (4,0,4,0) – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Scoop Turn Left	Flick Diagonal Back/Left 2x (6,0,6,0) – <i>Standing Only</i>

Fake Kick Chop Left	Flick Diagonal Back/Left 2x (6,0,6,0) – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Scoop Turn Right	Flick Diagonal Back/Right 2x (4,0,4,0) – <i>Standing Only</i>
Fake Kick Chop Right	Flick Diagonal Back/Right 2x (4,0,4,0) – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Rainbow Flick	Flick Back, Forward – Then Forward again with timing (5,1,0) – (0,1)
Rainbow Flick v. 2	Flick Back, Hold Forward – Then Forward again with timing (5,1) – (0,1)
Heel to Heel Flick	Flick Forward, Back (1,5)
Heel Flick	Flick Forward, Back (1,5) – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Hocus Pocus	Back to Left to Back to Right (5,6,7,6,5,4,3)
Triple Flip Flap	Back to Right to Back to Left (5,4,3,4,5,6,7)
Ball Roll Flick Left	Hold Right, Flick Diagonal Forward/Left (3,8) – <i>Jogging Only</i>
Ball Roll Flick Right	Hold Left, Flick Diagonal Forward/Right (7,2) – <i>Jogging Only</i>
Ronaldinho Sombrero Flick	Flick Forward, Forward, Back (1,0,1,5) – <i>Standing Only</i>
McGeady Spin Left	Flick Forward, Flick Left (1,0,7)
McGeady Spin Right	Flick Forward, Flick Right (1,0,3)
Rabona Fake	Press Pass button while Shot/Lob power bar is ramping up + hold back on Left Thumbstick – <i>Sprinting Only</i>
Scoop Pass	Tap Lob Pass Button – <i>Standing Only</i>

Flip Flap/Elastico

Ronaldinho has popularized this move, although he was not the inventor. The move begins with the player pushing the ball to the outside with the outside of his foot. He then snaps the ball back across his body with the inside of the same foot. The movement is quick and fluid with the ball moving like it is on a string or rubber band, hence the name *Elastico*.



Fake Left/Right & Go Left/Right

When Less Skilled players attempt to use the Flip Flap move, they get a different variation. They perform a body fake to the right and then take the ball with an explosive step to the left using the outside of their left foot. Not as flashy as the Elastico, but still effective. If you attempt the Stanley Matthews Feint as a Less Skilled player, you will get the Fake Right & Go Left move.



Stanley Matthews Feint

Known as one of the greatest dribblers ever, Sir Stanley Matthews developed this change of pace move to punish defenders who committed too quickly to tackles. The player begins by leaning to the left as if he is going to go in that direction as he touches it slightly with the inside of his right foot. He then quickly takes the ball with the outside of the same foot and explodes to his right.



Feint Left & Exit Right/Feint Right & Exit Left

If you attempt to perform the Stanley Matthews Feint while Sprinting, you will get this move instead. The player makes a hard step to the left and then quickly explodes to the right with the outside of the right foot. If you attempt a Flip Flap while Sprinting, you'll get the opposite effect...a hard fake to the right and an explosive exit to the left.



Blanco Hop

Mexican player Cuauhtémoc Blanco is given credit for being the first player to use the move. It must be performed from a standing position, and is best used when a defender is rushing in to slide tackle. The player will grab the ball between his two feet and quickly lift it up and over the would-be tackler. You will most likely stumble a bit as the tackle comes through, but you'll have time to accelerate away while the defender lies on his back and wonders what happened.



Flick Ball Over Slide Tackle (Less Skilled Players)

Less skilled players will execute this move instead of the Blanco Hop. This move is very effective if you anticipate the slide tackle well. It is especially useful if you are playing a human opponent who has a tendency to slide a great deal.



Ronaldo Chop Left/Right

Patented by Cristiano Ronaldo, the Ronaldo chop is a quick 90 degree change of direction move. While jogging, our player will quickly throw one leg forward and chop the ball behind that leg with the inside of his other foot. This move is most effective when you have a defender running next to you down the sideline. It works best if he is slightly ahead of you.



Fake Kick Chop Right/Left (Less Skilled Players)

This move is performed as an alternative to the Ronaldo Chop and/or Scoop Turn. The player will fake a shot with one foot and then chop the ball to the opposite direction. This move can be effective in front of the goal to create space for a shot.



Scoop Turn Left/Right

This skill move is more of a flair move and has less in game application. The player turns his body in one direction and then uses the inside of his foot to scoop the ball around 180 degrees to the other side of his body. It can be effective if a defender is coming straight at you as long as he isn't flying into the tackle.



Rainbow Flick

There are two versions of the Rainbow flick in the game, but the principle is basically the same. The player will flick the ball up over his head while either standing or on the run. This is definitely a flair move, but it can be used in open field, or even to beat the keeper. It doesn't get much prettier than finishing a Rainbow flick off with a scorching volley.

Version 1



Version 2



Heel to Heel Flick

One of our favourites, the Heel to Heel Flick is a stop-n-go skill move that is most effective when used along the sidelines. It is best used when a defender is approaching you from straight on. Your player will step forward and back heel the ball to himself. He then will use the heel of his rear foot to flick the ball forward at a slight angle to go around his opponent.



Heel Flick (Less Skilled Players)

With a less skilled player, you will get a Heel Flick. The usage and results are similar to the Heel to Heel Flick, but the move is a bit simpler.



Hocus Pocus

This move has a great deal of flair to it, but it can be effective when combined with other moves like the Stepover. The player takes his right foot and pulls the ball around his standing leg and off to the front at a 45 degree angle. This is a very cool move, but not one that will beat a defender all by itself.



Triple Flip Flap

A derivative of the Elastico, the Triple Flip Flap fakes a move to the outside before cutting the ball back across from right to left. The ball pops further ahead than the standard Flip Flap, so if you do beat your man you'll have a good head of steam coming out of the move.



Ball Roll Flick Left/Right

This particular move can only be performed while jogging. The nice feature about this skill move is the double change of direction. Your player begins by rolling the ball to one side and then quickly switching legs to flick the ball at a 45 degree angle in the opposite direction. You'll need plenty of space between your player and the defender to beat him, but this flashy move can be rewarding to pull off in game.



Ronaldinho Sombrero Flick

This move has to be executed from a standing position. Your player will flick the ball up and then back over his head. It can be used to beat a defender that is approaching from your back; however, it is often a better strategy to just lay the ball off and pass it back after the player makes a run.



McGeady Spin Left/Right

This move is one of the more effective ones in FIFA 09 when it comes to getting space for your player. It also can be used in combination with several other Skill Moves. In the McGeady spin, the player reaches forward and pulls the ball back. He then twists and hits the ball with the outside of his opposite foot to take off in a 90 degree angle. You can use this move with a defender on your back, or even while facing a defender.



Rabona Fake

When just a simple 180 turn or Cruyff just won't suffice, you can pull out the Rabona Fake. This move is difficult to pull off and will test your stick skills. At the same time, it looks really cool and can be used to slam on the brakes so you can get your cross in. Your player sprints and fakes a Rabona pass. Instead, he stops the ball and exits the opposite direction. If you are really fast, you can pull off a Rabona Fake to Rabona chip combination.



Scoop Pass

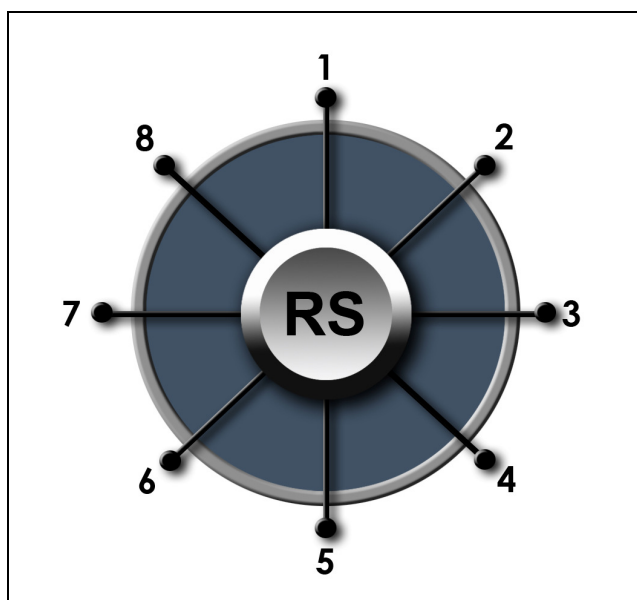
This move can only be used from a standing position. It is definitely a flair move, as you won't have many opportunities to pull it off in game. Your player will put his foot under the ball and flick it up in the air over a defender. If you can get enough time to come to a stop in the penalty box, it is money against a charging Keeper.



JUGGLING

Unless you are beating your opponent by a large margin and just want to rub it in his face a bit, you won't have too many opportunities to juggle in game. However, juggling is a fun way to pass the time in Arena mode as there are numerous tricks that you have at your disposal.

These instructions assume that you are facing forward (like in the Arena) and that you have held down the Skill modifier button (L2 on PS3 or LT on Xbox 360).



How to Execute

Move	How to Execute
Flick Up	Tap R1/RB – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Ronaldinho Flick Up	Tap R1/RB – <i>Advanced Players</i>
Laces Flip Up	Hold R1/RB – <i>Advanced Players</i>

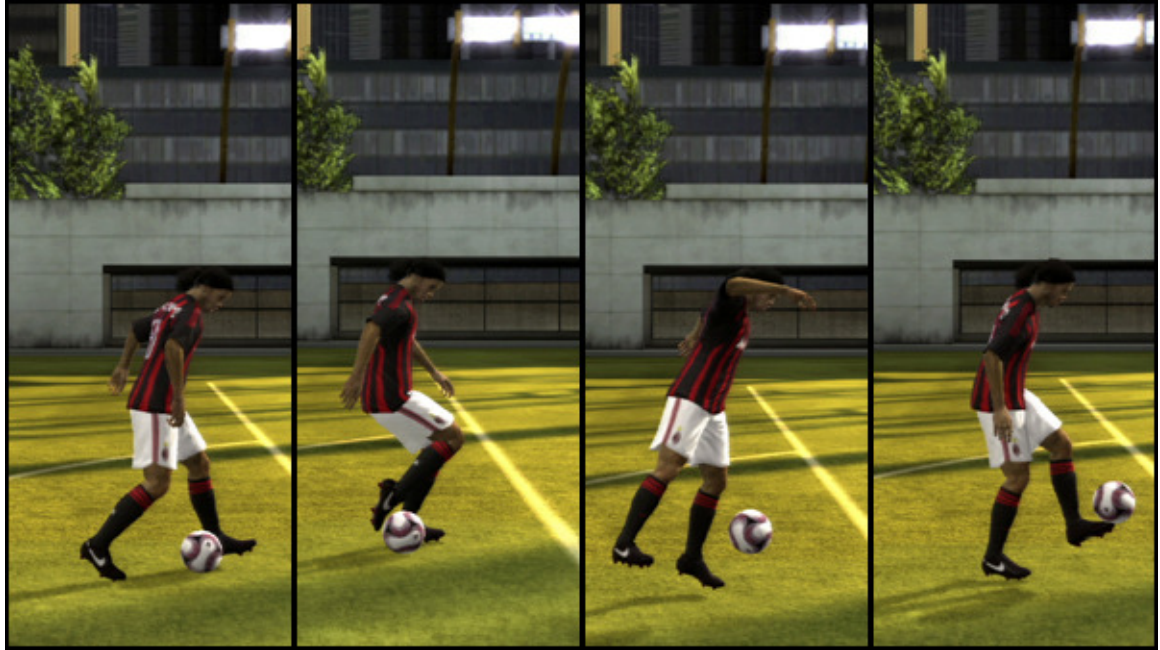
Juggling/Kick Ups	Tap R1/RB repeatedly
Sombrero Stall Flick Back	Hold Left Thumbstick back while juggling – <i>Advanced Players</i>
Sombrero Flick Back	Hold Left Thumbstick back while juggling – <i>Less Skilled Players</i>
Around the World	Back to Left to Forward to Right (5,6,7,8,1,2,3) – <i>Advanced Players</i>
Around the World Alternate	Back to Right to Forward to Left (5,4,3,2,1,8,7) – <i>Advanced Players</i>
AkKa/In Air Flip Flap	Flick Right, Left (3,7) – <i>Advanced Players</i>
Sombrero Flick Left	Hold Left Thumbstick left while juggling
Sombrero Flick Right	Hold Left Thumbstick right while juggling
Knock it High for Bicycle	Hold Left Thumbstick forward while juggling
Chest Flick	Hold L3 and Triple Tap R3 – <i>Advanced Players</i>
Hop the World Trick – Right Foot	Hold L3, Right Thumbstick Back to Right to Forward to Left (L3,5,4,3,2,1,8,7) – <i>Advanced Players</i>
Hop the World Trick – Left Foot	Hold L3, Right Thumbstick Back to Left to Forward to Right (L3, 5,6,7,8,1,2,3) – <i>Advanced Players</i>

We have included a picture sequence of each Juggling Skill below so you will be able to see what they should look like when executed properly.

Ronaldinho Flick Up



Laces Flick Up



Sombrero Stall Flick Back



Around the World



Around the World Alternate



Akka/In Air Flip Flap



Sombrero Flick Left/Right



Knock it High for Bicycle



Chest Flick



Hop the World



COMBOS AND EXITS

We've taken a look at all of the Basic and Advanced Skill moves in FIFA 09. Now it is time to put these together to create some devastating dribbling combos.

Some of these combos require players with a higher level of skill. It is a good idea to take players from your favourite team into Arena mode and put them through their paces. This way you will know which moves your players can perform.

Players like Ronaldinho and Franck Ribery can perform all of combos and exits in this section of the guide. Less skilled players will perform simpler variations of some of the skills, or will be unable to perform them at all.

These instructions assume that you are facing forward (like in the Arena) and that you have held down the Skill modifier button (L2 on PS3 or LT on Xbox 360).

How to Execute

Move	How to Execute
Ball Roll to Cruyff Dribble Turn	Hold Right Thumbstick Left, Release LT/L2 and Hold Left Thumbstick Right – <i>Jogging Only</i>
Ball Roll to Triple Flip Flap	Back to Right (hold for half a second) to Back to Left
Ball Roll to Hocus Pocus	Back to Left (hold for half a second) to Back to Right
Body Feint Pull Across	Flick Right Thumbstick Right, Flick Left Thumbstick Forward/Right
Double Stepover	Forward to Right to Forward to Left (repeat for multiple stopovers)
Drag Behind the Standing Leg	Flick Left Thumbstick Back, then Left (if right foot drag) or Right (if left foot drag)
Fake Shot to Drag & Go	Press Pass while Shot/Lob Power is ramping up. Flick Left Thumbstick Back then Forward
Fake Shot to Heel to Heel	Press Pass while Shot/Lob Power is ramping up. Right Thumbstick Forward then Back
Fake Shot to Flip Flap	Press Pass while Shot/Lob Power is ramping up. Right Thumbstick Right to Back to Left
Fake Shot to McGeady Spin	Press Pass while Shot/Lob Power is ramping up. Flick Right Thumbstick Forward then Left
Jay Jay Okocha Skill	Hold Right, to Forward
Multiple Ball Rolls	Hold Left or Right
Reverse Stepover Drag Through	Right to Forward, Exit Forward on Left Thumbstick or Exit Forward/Left
Reverse Stepover to Spin Exit	Right to Forward, Exit by Holding Left on Left Thumbstick
Reverse Stepover to McGeady Spin	Right to Forward, Flick Right
Stepover Left to Hocus Pocus	Very quickly spin the Right Thumbstick counter clockwise 2x starting at Forward
Stepover to Matthews	Forward to Left to Back to Right

We have included a picture sequence of each Combo/Exit below so you will be able to see what they should look like when executed properly.

Ball Roll to Cruyff Dribble



Ball Roll to Triple Flip Flap



Ball Roll to Hocus Pocus



Body Feint Pull Across



Double Stepmover



Drag Behind the Standing Leg



Fake Shot to Drag & Go



Fake Shot to Heel to Heel



Fake Shot to Flip Flap



Fake Shot to McGeady Spin



Jay Jay Okocha Skill



Multiple Ball Rolls



Reverse Stepmover Drag Through



Reverse Stepmover to Spin Exit



Reverse Stepmover to McGeady Spin



Stepover Left to Hocus Pocus



Stepover to Matthews



BEATING YOUR OPPONENT ONE-ON-ONE

We have taken a look at Basic Skill moves, Advanced Skill moves, and Combo moves. You should have a pretty good feel for how each one works, and how to execute each move. The more time you spend working on your moves in the Arena, the quicker you will be able to perform them. We recommend starting with the basic moves like the Body Feint, Stepover, and Reverse Stepover. Then move on to the 360 Roulette and other more advanced skills.

Now it is time to take your new skills to the pitch and put them to use against both CPU and Human Opponents. You can be successful at FIFA 09 by just working the ball, using good tactics, and finishing, but what fun would that be? Breaking the ankles of a CPU defender or smoking our friend's player and leaving him in your wake is much more fun.

We recommend avoiding skill moves in your own defending third. You could execute a simple Drag Back or Ball Roll if you are not under pressure and want to hot dog a bit. Skill Moves can be risky, and you don't want to be risky in your defensive half. As you approach the halfway line, you can begin to pull out more of your arsenal. The final third is a great place to put your skills to use, as often you will have to beat a defender in order to get a chance on goal. In addition,

using skill moves will often force the defence to foul you. This will provide you with set piece opportunities in dangerous areas of the pitch.

Control the Ball

One of the best pieces of advice we can give you when it comes to beating players off the dribble is to learn to lay off the Sprint button. You can't turn as sharply, and your player is much easier to knock off the ball when he is at a dead sprint. Only use the Sprint button when your player has lots of open field, or to briefly explode past your opponent after you make a skill move.

There are a number of different skills that your player will utilize even when you don't activate a skill. For example, top skilled players like Ronaldinho and the like will use a Cruyff move when they make a 180 degree change of direction. Highly skilled players will also be able to perform double-touch moves with the ball as they quickly change direction from side to side.

You can beat overeager defenders by just keeping your player at a jogging pace and making quick change of direction moves.

Use Change of Pace

Once you have mastered controlling the ball in tight spaces, you can begin to use change of pace to beat defenders. Use the Stop ball control liberally. Take a few dribbles, perform a hard stop, and then explode in a different direction.

Once you see a defender lean the wrong way, use the Right Thumbstick to knock the ball in a different direction. Make sure you have plenty of room, or you risk knocking the ball too far ahead into a second defender. Stop and go play is especially effective against human opponents. Blast straight down the field, hit R1/RB to hit the brakes, and then accelerate in a new direction. You'll be able to create acres of space with this technique.

The Importance of Exits

One aspect of the Skill Move system that is often overlooked by FIFA gamers is the Exit move. While the Skill Move is pretty to watch, the Exit move is what makes the skill worth performing. Exit moves allow you to explode in a new direction and take advantage of a defender who has bitten on your fake.

NOTE: One mistake that gamers make is to perform the Skill Move too close to a defender. You need to be sure that there is enough space between your player and a defender to execute the move. You can get results even if the defender is 5 yards or more away. He will still bite on the fake.

You will want to spend time in the Arena looking at all the different types of Exit moves that can be performed. Look specifically at the Stepover, Reverse Stepover, and Drag Back moves.

Often a very simple stepover can reap huge benefits if it is coupled with an explosive exit.



In this example, Ribery begins to perform a Reverse Stepmover as his defender closes in.



With the move completed, Ribery starts to push the ball to the left with the outside of his foot.



Already you can see him begin to clear his shoulders and seal off the defender.



Ribery completes the move and leaves the defender in his wake.

Best Moves & Combos to Beat Your Defenders

In this section of the guide, we will show you some of the best moves to use to beat defenders in one-on-one situations. Just about every skill move in the game has its proper place, but we have found that some moves are more effective than others.

Body Feint w/ Drag Across Exit

This move is very strong in the open field. If you time it right, you'll go by the defender almost every time. It can also be an effective choice when you get one-on-one with a keeper.



We are dribbling with Ribery in the middle of the field with an approaching defender.



We fake to the right with the Body Feint skill move.



After the fake, we exit forward and to the same side that we faked (45 degree angle Forward/Right).



We easily break free of our defender and head into open field.

Head-On Ball Roll

This is one of the simplest (and thus most overlooked) moves in the game. You can use this move to “change lanes” when a defender is attacking your player head-on. Look to see if the defender is shading to one direction, and go the opposite one.



We charge down the sideline with Ribery, ready to take on the defender.



The trick is to slow down just a bit and let the defender commit to his tackle.



We slap roll the ball to the left side (opposite of the side the defender was shading).



Ribery has space to escape down the sideline. This would be a good opportunity to use a Knock On and exploit Ribery's speed advantage.

Jump Slide Tackle

If you are playing an opponent who is a slide-tackling machine, then you'll want to break out this move to slow him down. We don't recommend using it often against the CPU as they are tough to fool, but an overaggressive human defender can often be exploited.



We are dribbling the ball with Rooney and see our friend's defender closing in for the slide tackle. This is his defensive tactic of choice when we are racing down the sideline.



We execute the move early to be sure that we can clear the defender. It looks really early in the picture, but trust us, it's perfect.



Here comes the slide, right on cue.



Rooney completes the move by leaping over the would-be tackler.

McGeady Spin

Named for Celtic player Aiden McGeady, the McGeady spin is useful all over the pitch. You can use it to turn and get a shot off with a defender on your back. It is also useful to fool a defender and create space when you are face up with your opponent.



We have the ball with Rooney in midfield with a defender closing in.



Rooney begins to execute the move by pulling the ball away from the defender and shielding it with his body.



Rooney pivots and pushes the ball away with the outside of his left foot.



We now have the space we need to take a couple of touches on the ball and find an open player.

Reverse Stepmover Drag

We just love the way this move looks. It doesn't hurt that it is very effective as well. If you like a little bit of flair in your game, but don't want to sacrifice function, then the Reverse Stepmover Drag is going to be right up your alley.



Again, we have Ribery with the ball as we prepare to embarrass yet another hapless defender who over commits to his tackle.



We complete our Reverse Stepover fake as the defender closes in.



We exit the move Forward/Left. Ribery complies by dragging the ball forward with the heel of his rear foot.



The defender can only look on as we explode right by him into open space.

360 Roulette

This move can be executed just about anywhere on the pitch, but it is most effective in the middle of the field. You can get closer to defenders before performing the 360 Roulette than any other move. For that reason, it can be useful when you have taken a bad touch and have a defender swooping in for the tackle.



We have just received a through ball with Ribery and are still fighting to get control of the ball. Unfortunately, a defender is closing in rapidly.



We perform a panic 360 Roulette in hopes that we can beat our defender and keep possession.



We successfully shield the ball as we make our turn. The defender is trying to check his momentum, but has committed too far to stop us now.



There is a lot of open field ahead of us as the defender tries to desperately close the gap. If you can beat the Central Midfielders with a skill move, it often opens up a great attacking opportunity for you, as your forwards will occupy the attention of the Central Defenders.

Ball Roll to Cross

Crossing on the run can work, but if you can square up on the goal and take your time, then your crosses will be much more accurate. Burst down the sideline and then use the L1/LB button to face the goal. Usually the defenders will come charging in at you. This is when you pull out the Ball Roll to create space to get your cross in.



We are able to get Rooney down in the corner and square up on goal.



As the defender charges in, we begin to execute the Ball Roll.



Rooney completes the move as the defender tackles empty air.



We have plenty of room to cross the ball or burst into the box for a shot of our own.

Ronaldo Cut

Christiano Ronaldo is most known for this quick behind-the-leg cut, but Rooney can pull it off just as well. You will use this move typically down the sideline with a defender in hot pursuit. It works best if the defender is slightly ahead of your player.



We are busting down the line with Rooney. A defender is shadowing us and is ripe for the Ronaldo cut.



We execute the Ronaldo cut. Rooney throws his inside leg forward to clear room for the cut move.



Rooney heel flicks the ball behind this leg and to the inside.



The defender can't match our move and Rooney cuts inside unmarked.

Shield Ball to Spin Out

A strong player can hold the ball up and protect it from a defender with the Shield Ball move. Target men can use it to keep position while the other strikers and midfielders join the attack. By holding the R2/RT button, your player will go into shield mode. You can then use the right thumbstick to perform ball fakes.



Ribery is holding off his defender down in the corner of the field.



We use a quick fake to make the defender think we are cutting towards the sideline.



We then release the R2/RT button and push the Left Thumbstick towards the goal to spin out of the Shield position.



Our defender is behind the play and we are on our way to the net.

Stepover to Flip Flap

This quick combination move needs lots of space to pull off. Like the other moves in the section, it can effectively beat defenders and create space for your player to attack the goal.



We start the Stepover move to the left as the defender moves in.



We exit the Stepover and immediately transition into an Elastico.



The move finishes with a hard cut move across the face of the defender and to the left.



Ribery beats the defender and takes off down the field.

Stepover to McGeady Spin

This final combination is one of our personal favourites. You don't need as much space as the Stepover Flip Flap since you will be pulling the ball away from your opponent. The nice aspect of the McGeady exit is that it creates lots of space from your defender. If you hit the timing right, you'll have plenty of room to make your next move.



Ribery begins the Stepover move to the left side, hoping to get the defender to commit in that direction.



We complete the Stepover, but the defender keeps coming straight in. With other exits here, the ball would be stolen.



The McGeady Spin shields the ball as Ribery begins to spin out to the side.



Ribery skips free of his marker and can hit his next target down the field.