

The Wall Pass

A two players combination play that can be very effective in penetrating a well organized defense .

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INTRODUCTION

The wall pass is a two player combination play used to penetrate organized defenses. What makes it effective, is the quickness of the movement which prevents the opposition time to get re-organized, especially in small spaces. **(Fig 1)**

When to use it

The wall pass can be used as an alternative to individual dribbling:

- To beat a defender that applies pressure.
- To create numeric superiority.(2v1)
- To advance the ball and win space .
- To pass, cross, or shoot on net.

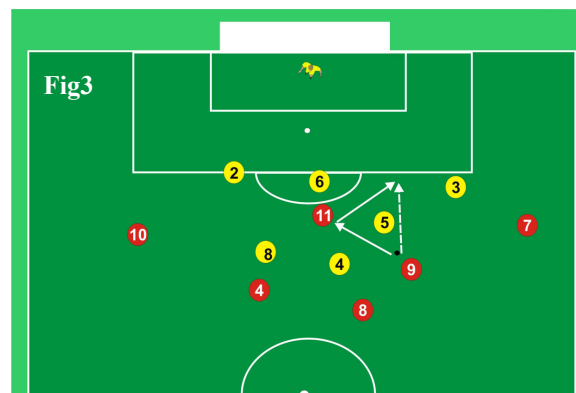
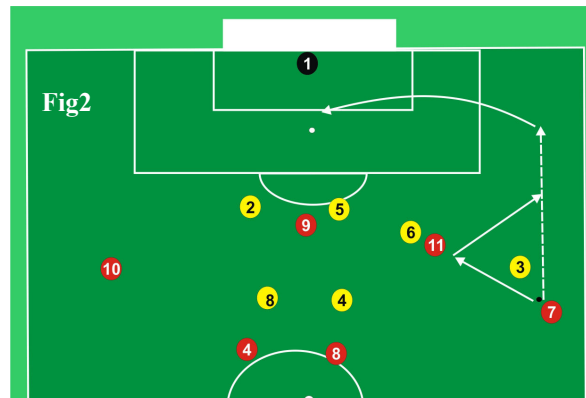
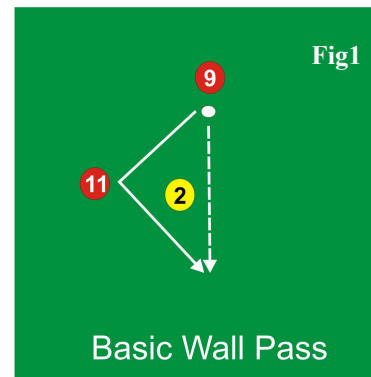
It almost a must, for a quality midfielder or striker to possess this skill, and being able to use it when required.

Although the wall pass can be used anywhere on the field, it is most effective in the offensive phase, used primarily to achieve the following objectives:

- Shot on goal (One-two between strikers centrally at the top of the box. **(Fig 2)**)
- Assist (One-two between a midfielder and a striker) in the attacking third, centrally.
- Cross (One-Two between an outside midfielder and a striker) in the flanks. **(Fig 3)**

In order for this technical maneuver to succeed, it is important that there is a synchronized common thinking between the player carrying the ball and the supporting player.

For the wall pass to be successful is important that the ball carrier commits the direct defender while paying attention to the following:



- The defender
- The space behind his own marker
- The movement of the supporting player.(Fig4)

How to Use it

If the situation would warrant a wall pass, the player with the ball would approach the direct defender at the right distance, not too close (to be intercepted) not too far (element of surprise) and then decides to pass the ball to an oncoming supporting teammate. Which passing technique is the most appropriate?

Playing the ball with the outside part of the foot closest to the supporting player is the most effective technique when the distance of the two players (passer and receiver is close)

For greater distance and accuracy, the inside part of the foot furthest away from the supporting player would be used.

After the pass the player must sprint, by change of pace to the space and direction most appropriate to receive the ball.

Supporting Player

In regards to the role of the supporting player , the main key factors are:

- Creation of space for himself by losing his marker by a counter movement of checking out then in (check-off movement.)
- Timing of the approach to the player with the ball.
- Angle of support
- Quality of the pass, back to the running path of the passing player.

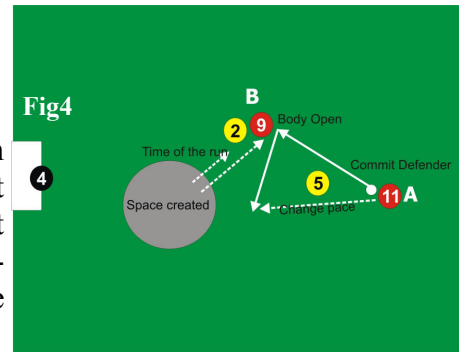
The wall pass (also called one or give and go,) is one of the most important and effective skills that each player should perfect and coach should teach. It is the maximum expression of communication and cooperation between two players.

Table 1 represent the overall didactical overview of the wall pass:

- Who: it refers to the players
- How it address the technical part of the wall pass .
- Where :part of the field the wall pass is used
- When: it is about when to use the wall pass
- Why: Various objectives of the wall pass

Table 2 is an observation card use to test your players to see their progression or lack of in learning all the aspects of the wall pass.

Table 3 or so called **Work Unit**, is basically a training session that a coach can use to teach the wall pass



WALL PASS (Table 1)				
Who	How	Where	When	Why
<p><u>Players</u></p> <p>Everyone in particular midfielders and Attackers</p>	<p><u>Technical</u></p> <p>Part of the foot surface used for the pass:</p> <p><u>For the player with the ball:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Inside foot when supporting player is far. 2) Outside foot when supporting player is close. <p><u>For the supporting player:</u></p> <p>The most convenient in relation to the angle of the body</p> <p>Movement of the players:</p> <p><u>Player with the Ball:</u> Pass and sprint behind the defender (change of pace and direction).</p> <p><u>Supporting player:</u> Check-off and movement towards player with the ball. (Angle)</p>	<p><u>Space</u></p> <p>Attacking 3rd centrally:</p> <p>Wall pass between strikers</p> <p>Wall pass between midfielders and strikers</p> <p>Attacking 3rd flanks: Between outside midfielders and strikers</p>	<p><u>Time</u></p> <p>-Player with the ball is pressed.</p> <p>-Player with the ball can pass the ball</p> <p>-Visual communication between player with the ball and supporting player</p> <p>-There is space behind the defender</p>	<p><u>Goal</u></p> <p>To beat an opponent.</p> <p>To create space in order to...</p> <p>A) Establish numeric superiority</p> <p>B) to receive the ball past an opponent</p>

OBSERVATION CARD (Table 2)

FOR THE PLAYER WITH THE BALL	Always	Some	Never
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commits the opponent holding his head up • Evaluate the information regarding the position of the “supporting wall” • Communicate with the support player • Puts the wall player in a position of support • Knows where the dangerous space behind the defender is • Passes the ball with the most effective part of the foot • Times his pass correctly • Makes the pass at the right distance from the defender. • Understands and evaluates the defensive position of the defender • Changes pace and direction after the pass • Receives the ball correctly after wall pass 			
FOR THE SUPPORTING PLAYER			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognizes the situations for a wall pass • Knows when to check off to loose his marker • Takes the right angle to support • Times his run toward the player with the ball • Evaluates the right distance of support • Receives the ball correctly • Passes the ball back with the right pace to the teammate’s path. • Uses communication 			
Technical /tactical abilities of the players involved in the wall pass			

WORK UNIT

Age group: u12-14

General Objective: Understanding and executing of a small group skill

Specific Objective: Execution of a wall pass

Secondary Objective: Understand when to pass and receive the ball.

Equipment: Cones, bibs, balls.

SESSION PLAN

- **Warm-up:** 4v4 with wall players
- **Exercises:** 1) Wall pass against the wall. 2) Wall pass with a cone 3) Wall pass within space.
- **Situational Plays:** 1) 2v1 with lateral support. 2) 2v1 with frontal support. 3)2v2 with frontal support.
- **Related Theme Game:** 4v4 or 8v8 .Condition to score :Wall pass.
- **Final Game:** 8v8 Free Play

Methodology– Inductive/Deductive

Progress Feedback: Observation of the theme game