

MATTEO GUENDOUZI MIDFIELDER



Matteo Guendouzi joined Arsenal from Lorient in the summer of 2018 and made his debut against Manchester City on 18th August that year. Instantly recognisable with his David Luiz-style hair, he was warmly welcomed by the Arsenal fans. By October he had scored his first Arsenal goal, away at Qarabağ in Azerbaijan.

Despite being a young player, Guendouzi was an instant hit at Arsenal. He is a mature player in terms of his attitude and decision-making on the pitch. In his debut season in North London, only three players made more appearances than Matteo.

A creative and hard-working midfielder, Matteo started his career at the Paris Saint-Germain academy. An accurate passer, he is just as comfortable carrying the ball into the final third. He lists Zidane, Xavi and Pirlo as his favourite footballers of all time. Let's hope Matteo can be as successful as that trio of midfielders!

Matteo comes from a sporting family; his father is a karate instructor. Matteo competed in karate at national level in his youth before football took over. He says karate helped him develop his warrior mentality and flexibility on the pitch. Matteo's younger brother, Milan, is also a footballer and currently playing for Troyes AC II in France.

Matteo is knocking on the door of the senior France team already. He featured for France in the 2019 European U21 Championships in Italy and San Marino. He has been called up to the senior squad but is still waiting for his first full cap. No doubt, Matteo will have huge success with both club and country in the future.



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1. Where did Matteo score his first Arsenal goal?
Qarabağ Emirates Stadium
Etihad Stadium Lorient
2. Which player did Matteo **not** list as one of his favourite footballers?
Xavi Zidane
Iniesta Pirlo
3. “Matteo comes from a sporting family.” What type of word is **sporting**?
Noun Adjective
Adverb Verb
4. What is “**knocking on the door**” an example of in this text?
Simile Metaphor
Alliteration Personification
5. Put these events from Matteo’s career in order.

Number from 1 for the earliest event to 4 for the most recent event.

- He scored away at Qarabağ
- He played in the European U21 Championship
- He competed at national level in karate
- He left Lorient



ANSWERS: 1) Qarabağ 2) Iniesta 3) Adjective 4) Metaphor 5) From top: 3, 4, 1, 2.