

ATARI® 2600™ Game Manual

# SUPER FOOTBALL

TM





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# PLAYING THE GAME

## Buckle Down and Score

The game begins with both teams running onto the field and taking their positions on the scrimmage line. Player 1's team (left joystick control) wears red jerseys, and the computer's or player 2's team (right joystick control) wears green jerseys. Once the action starts, the man currently under joystick control on each team will have a slightly different-colored jersey.

The defensive (red) team faces you. The green team kicks off to the red team, and the red team's receiver catches the ball.

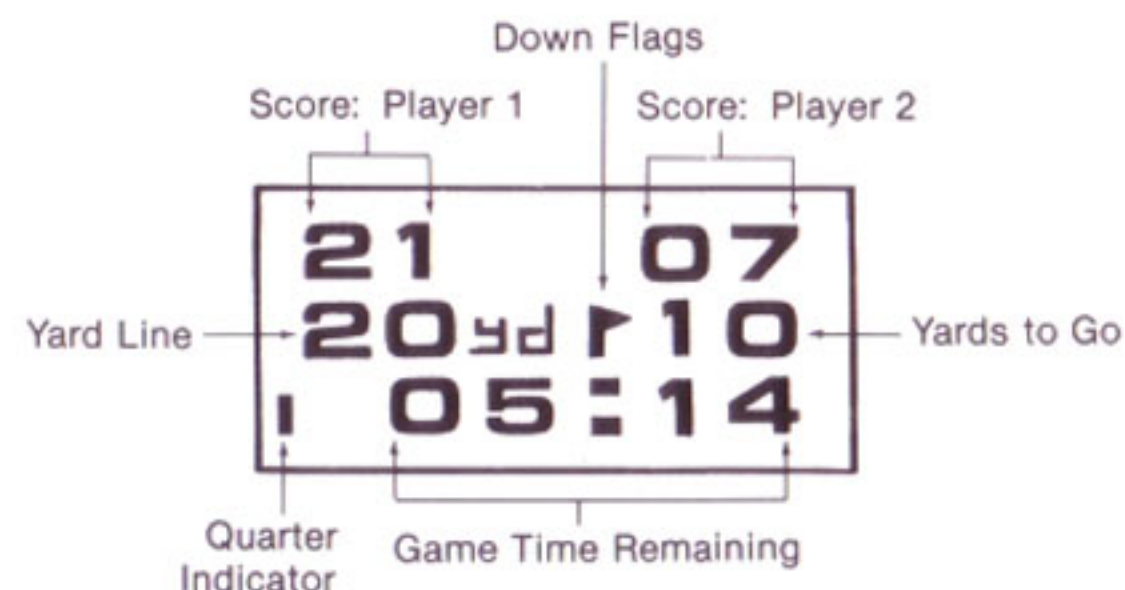
The red receiver is now under player 1's joystick control. Move your joystick in any direction to maneuver him up the field toward the end zone, while avoiding the green team's players. When the receiver is tackled, the two teams take their positions on the scrimmage line, with the offensive team at the bottom of the screen.

With both teams at the scrimmage line, you have an opportunity to choose your plays. (See **Selecting Plays**.) Then the action continues.

## The Scoreboard

The scoreboard at the top of the screen shows both teams' scores on the top line. On the second line, the number on the left shows which yard line the ball is currently on. The number on the right shows how many yards the ball must be moved in order to get a first down. The down that's under way is indicated by one to four flags in the center of the scoreboard. The quarter indicator in the lower left corner shows which quarter the game is in by displaying one to four vertical bars. The clock on the bottom line keeps track of time remaining in the quarter.

Scoreboard



The scoreboard is red when the ball is in the defensive half of the field and blue when the ball is in the offensive half. The game begins with the green team kicking off to the red team. Play stops at the end of the second quarter (halftime), and then the red team kicks off to the green team. The game ends when the clock reaches 00:00 in the fourth quarter.

At the end of a game, press **[Reset]** to play again with the same number of players at the same level, or press **[Select]** to make a different game selection.



## Running the Play

With both teams at the scrimmage line and the plays selected, the offense can press the joystick fire button to hike the ball. (The ball will automatically be hiked after about four seconds if the fire button is not pressed.)

Once the ball is hiked to the quarterback, both teams carry out their plays. The defensive rusher will rush the quarterback, the offensive receiver will run the selected pattern, the halfback (or tight end) will try to block the rusher, the linemen will block, and the cornerback and safety will try to cover the receiver. When the quarterback has the ball, he is under joystick control. The quarterback can either run with the ball or pass to the receiver, depending on the play selected.

### PASSING

Wait until the receiver is "open" before throwing the ball to him; then press the fire button to initiate a pass. You can move your joystick handle left or right to make the quarterback "lead" the receiver and throw the ball in that direction. Release the fire button to pass the ball.

**Note:** The quarterback cannot pass the ball once he crosses the scrimmage line.

### RUNNING

You can decide either to make the quarterback run with the ball or pass to a receiver, depending on the play selected. Once the ball is thrown, joystick control switches to the receiver. Move the joystick handle to get the receiver in a good position to make the catch.

Maneuver your ball carrier up the field. Move your joystick to make him avoid defensive players, and use your spots blockers as shields.

When the ball carrier is tackled, the teams go to the scrimmage line for another play selection.

The offensive team has four "downs" to advance the ball 10 yards. If it is the fourth down, you can punt the ball or try for a field goal (if you are within 50 yards of the goal line). If the offense misses a field goal, the defense takes the ball. If a punt is kicked into the end zone, the defense takes over at the 20-yard line.

A touchdown is scored when the ball carrier crosses the goal line in the end zone. The teams then run onto the field to try for the extra point. After the extra point try, the offense kicks off to the defense.

**Note:** The ball carrier cannot be tackled between the 5-yard line and the goal line.

If the defensive team intercepts a pass thrown by the offensive quarterback, the defensive team becomes the offense and attempts to move the ball up the field toward the goal at the top of the screen. No runback is allowed on an interception.

## Selecting Plays

When the teams go to the scrimmage line, you select a play by moving the joystick. Once you have made your selection, lock it in by pressing the fire button.

**Note:** At game level 1 (Novice), plays are automatically selected. At the fourth down, either a punt or a field goal will take place.



The offense has about 25 seconds to select its play and lock it in. If no play is locked in, the previous play will be used. After the offense selects its play, the defense has two to four seconds (depending on the game level) to select its play. Again, if no play is locked in, the previous play will be used.

The plays you select appear on the scoreboard, in place of your score. When both teams' plays are locked in, the scores reappear and play resumes.

## Super Football Playbook

### OFFENSIVE PLAYS

The offense can select both a formation and a pattern (the route the receiver will run). The formation number appears as the left digit of your score and the pattern number as the right digit. Move the joystick handle left or right to choose a formation (from 1 to 9). Move the joystick handle forward or back to choose a pattern (from 1 to 4).

Once the play is under way, use the joystick to control the quarterback or the receiver, depending on which man has the ball.

On motion plays, the halfback will go into motion before the ball has been hiked. When the ball is hiked, the halfback will begin the pattern from that point if he is the receiver. On run plays, the quarterback still has the option to pass.

## Offensive Formations

H = Halfback  
Q = Quarterback  
T = Tight end

W = Wide receiver  
X = Other players

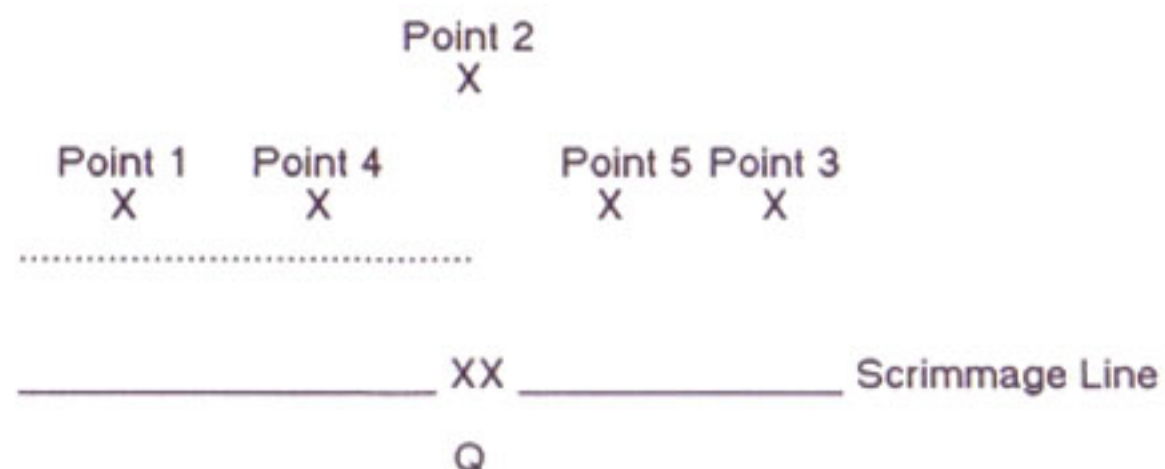
1	Run right, option pass			H	X	X	W
					Q		
2	Wide right			H	X	X	W
					Q		
3	Run left, option pass	W		H	X	X	
					Q		
4	Wide left	W	X		X		H
					Q		
5	Halfback pass, motion left			X	X	X	H
					Q		
6	Halfback pass, motion right			H	X	X	X
					Q		
7	Tight end pass, fake motion right			H	T	X	X
					Q		
8	Punt formation						
9	Field goal formation						

**Note:** When the offense selects either formation 8 or 9, the defense automatically selects the same formation.



## Offensive Patterns

The receiver (wide receiver, tight end, or halfback) will start the play by running up the field (to the dotted line indicated below). At that point, the receiver will run to points on the field depending on the pattern you selected.



- 1 Run to point 2, point 3, point 4, then improvise
- 2 Run to point 2, point 1, point 5, then improvise
- 3 Run to point 1, point 5, then improvise
- 4 Run to point 3, point 4, then improvise

## DEFENSIVE PLAYS

The offense selects a formation, and the formation number appears as the left digit of your score. Move the joystick left or right to choose a formation (from 1 to 9).

Once the play is under way, use the joystick to control the cornerback.

On a blitz, the defense will rush two players. The safety plays a deep zone and will track either the wide receiver or the quarterback.

## Defensive Formations

C = Cornerback  
S = Safety

X = Other players

1	Wide coverage left	C	X	S	X	X
2	Wide coverage right		X	S	X	C
3	Motion prevent defense		X	S	C	X
4	Blitz corner right		X	S	X	C
5	Blitz corner left	C	X	S	X	X
6	Run right defense		X	S	X	C
7	Run left defense	C	X	S	X	X
8	Punt formation					
9	Field goal formation					

**Note:** When the offense selects either formation 8 or 9, the defense automatically selects the same formation.

**SCORING**

Touchdown.....	6 points
Field goal.....	3 points
Extra point.....	1 point



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