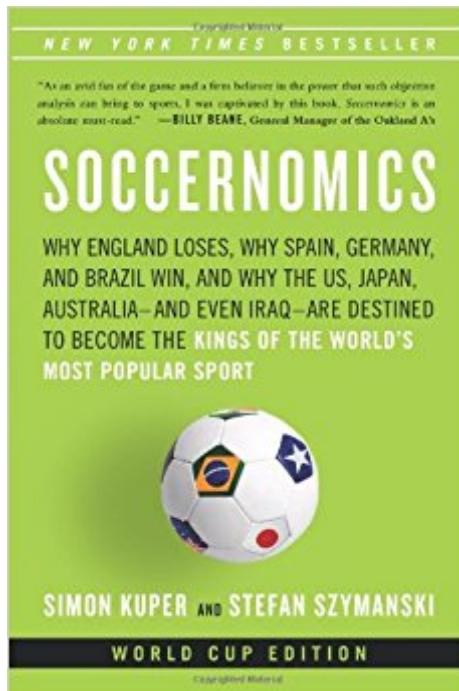


The book was found

Soccernomics: Why England Loses, Why Spain, Germany, And Brazil Win, And Why The U.S., Japan, Australia—and Even Iraq—Are Destined To Become The Kings Of The World’s Most Popular Sport



Synopsis

INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLERNamed one of the "Best Books of the Year" • by Guardian, Slate, Financial Times, Independent (UK), and Bloomberg NewsSoccernomics pioneers a new way of looking at soccer through meticulous, empirical analysis and incisive, witty commentary. The San Francisco Chronicle describes it as "the most intelligent book ever written about soccer." • This World Cup edition features new material, including a provocative examination of how soccer clubs might actually start making profits, why that's undesirable, and how soccer's never had it so good.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Many explanations [of England's poor form] can be found in the book Soccernomics in a segment entitled "Why England Loses." • (This is well worth a read for any English football fan; essentially, you overvalue your football heritage and undervalue the benefits of innovation.)" • Stephen J. Dubner, co-author *Freakonomics* on the *Freakonomics* blog • Fascinating. • *VanityFair.com* • The authors take what everybody knows about success and failure in soccer and subject it to rigorous empirical analysis embedded in good stories that carry the narrative along. • Highly recommended. All readers. • *Choice* • Soccernomics [is] a sharply written and provocative examination of the world's game seen through the prism of economics and statistical data. It demolishes almost everything that most soccer fans believe about the game and how professional soccer teams should operate. • *Globe & Mail* (Canada) "Oh, Rooney's the

best. [My son] Ben thinks that England might be in the top four, but that's it. He knows the starting line up of every European team. We're reading this very interesting book about football together, you know Soccernomics." Lorrie Moore, author of *A Gate at the Stairs* and *Birds of America* Since the publication of the first edition of *Soccernomics* there have been several attempts to copy its content. Yet few authors in the world of soccer writing can tell a human story like Simon Kuper, and even fewer academics can write an understandable narrative with numbers like Stefan Szymanski. Together the two men raise the bar again, bringing new insights to an already great body of work that is accessible and interesting to the quant and casual reader alike; I highly recommend you pick it up for yourself, even if you have already read the first edition. You will not be disappointed. • Zach Slaton, *Forbes* (online) Quite an entertaining read. • Simply Futbol; [W]onderful book. • Pro Soccer Talk (NBC Sports blog); *Soccernomics*; remains essential reading for anyone seeking an analytical take on the game. • Keeping Score (TIME Soccer Blog) *Soccernomics* is the most intelligent book ever written about soccer. • San Francisco Chronicle

Simon Kuper is one of the world's leading writers on soccer. The winner of the William Hill Prize for sports book of the year in Britain, Kuper writes a weekly column for the Financial Times. He lives in Paris, France. Stefan Szymanski is the Stephen J. Galetti Collegiate Professor of Sport Management at the University of Michigan's School of Kinesiology Tim Harford has called him one of the world's leading sports economists. • He lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Is it better than fantastic? If yes, than this book is incredible, otherwise, if these words mean different things, than I am pretty sure this book is both. Could not let it go until I finished it and the "wow" feeling is still hanging around my head. At first glance, it might seem that it's just a book about analysing data, but as you step further and further, things just go on, becoming even more interesting as you turn the pages. Who's the best coach in history? The country most passionate about football? How to score in a penalty shoot out...? All these questions are answered, or at least are presented in a way that it should give a wider view of things, and not only that, but throughout the text are interesting facts intertwined with analyses and studies. And this is done beautifully. I HIGHLY recommend it to people that love "soccer". Give it a chance and you might feel marveled by it!

Soccernomics does two things very well. One is to expose widely accepted beliefs in soccer culture.

This is precisely what I expected from this book, and it's worth buying just to be informed on that front. It also uses statistics to reveal the social unity that soccer fosters. I was very moved by the chapter that focuses on suicide and fandom (and club loyalty at large). Please do not be scared away by the word "statistics". I hate math as much if not more than anyone. This book is extremely accessible to the average reader, but still deep enough to pique intellectual curiosity. In short, Soccernomics is an absolute must-read if you are a soccer fan, period.

Fantastic analysis of a sport which I have loved and followed for more than 30 years. Most findings are straight out surprises while a few are hunches I had nursed all along, like inward curving corner kicks lead to more goals, albeit scrappier ones.... This book will certainly make you sit up and question everything you ever thought you knew about football.

The authors present some fun facts about soccer but the book is way too long winded. The authors take forever to make a point. It is a very chewy read, hard to believe that both authors write for a living.

Excellent book on football, takes the "Moneyball" quantitative analysis approach to explore and explode truisms and myths within football. Analyses racism, pay vs performance, why particular countries and clubs continue to succeed, or fail at the world's most beautiful game...

A unique look at soccer that dispels some myths about the game and who the winners are and why. I liked the book, but didn't love it. The earlier chapters were more interesting than the later chapters, perhaps because it all seemed a bit repetitive by the end of the book.

Outdated. "Moneyball" Lite. Questionable analysis.

I think most fans of the game will find this book enjoyable to read. You certainly learn a lot from it, but it can get a bit tedious in places. There were a few times where I had to just put it down for a few times when I just had to put it down because I got bored with it, so I am giving it 3 stars. I more diehard soccer or economics fan probably would find the book gripping.

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