

Arsenal v Dortmund: Champions League Preview for 24 November 2026

Description

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Arsenal v Dortmund is the standout Champions League tie of matchday 5, and it lands at the Emirates on Tuesday 24 November 2026 with the Gunners chasing a top-eight finish. Kick-off is 8pm GMT, which means 4am on Wednesday 25 November in Singapore.

The international break has given Mikel Artetaâ??s side a pause. It has also given everyone time to appreciate how well they have started in Europe.

Arsenal v Dortmund: where the Gunners stand

Arsenal have played four league-phase games and taken ten points from a possible twelve, according to UEFAâ??s published results. Their 2-1 win at Slavia Prague on 4 November lifted them to third in the table, as the clubâ??s own website reported.

The run so far reads well. Martin Odegaard struck the winner at Napoli on matchday one, a 1-0 victory in Italy. Three second-half goals in seven minutes then saw off Lille 3-0 at the Emirates on 13 October. Declan Rice rescued a 2-2 draw at Bayern Munich on 21 October with a late low drive, and the trip to Prague brought another away win.



Source: Arsenal Official Website (arsenal.com)

Two records stand out. Arsenalâ??s draw in Munich ended a run of 14 successive league-phase victories, with Bayernâ??s record of 17 in sight. It also stretched their unbeaten run in the competition to 15 league-phase matches. The win in Prague then made it 10 away games unbeaten in the competition for the first time, per arsenal.com.

Big nights in N5

The Lille game also gave Bukayo Saka a milestone. His goal was his 19th in European competition for Arsenal, and only Thierry Henry has more. Saka limped off with a non-contact injury after nine minutes in Munich, so his availability is worth watching when Arteta names his squad. We could not confirm his current fitness status, so treat that as an open question.



Source: Arsenal Official Website (arsenal.com)

What Dortmund bring to London

Borussia Dortmund arrive with nine points from their four games, and their form has been mixed. According to UEFAâ??s results list, they beat Villarreal 3-2 at home on matchday one, then lost 1-0 at Bodo/Glimt. They bounced back with a 2-1 win at Sabah and a 2-1 home win over Real Betis on 4 November.

That makes them dangerous rather than dominant. Dortmund can score, but the Bodo/Glimt defeat shows they can be caught out away from home. At the Emirates, they will face an Arsenal side that has dominated opponents for long spells, including 13 first-half shots at Napoli, the most the club has managed on record in the first half of a Champions League away game.

The tactical question

Arsenal have often needed patience. The Napoli winner came on 75 minutes after a first half of missed chances, and the Lille breakthrough arrived on 64 minutes. Dortmund will likely try to stay compact and strike on the break, so the Gunners will need that same calm and quick passing combinations around the box.

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Source: Arsenal Official Website (arsenal.com)

The wider matchday 5 picture

Arsenal are not the only big name in action. Per the official fixture list on bundesliga.com, matchday 5 also includes Manchester City v Napoli, Real Madrid v PSV Eindhoven and Arsenal v Dortmund on the Tuesday, with Paris Saint-Germain v Roma, Lille v Bayern Munich and Club Brugge v Liverpool to follow on Wednesday 25 November. For more on the Redsâ?? European outlook, read our Liverpool Champions League Porto test and Van Dijk fitness worry piece.

Arsenalâ??s league-phase run-in is demanding. After Dortmund, they host Real Madrid on 9 December, travel to Real Betis on 20 January 2027 and finish at home to Sabah on 27 January. Dortmund face Inter on 9 December. Every point at the Emirates matters for both clubs.

What comes first for Arsenal

Before the Dortmund game, Arsenal have a Premier League trip to Tyneside on Saturday 21 November. Read our Arsenal Newcastle preview for the build-up, and catch the Womenâ??s side in our Arsenal Women v London City Lionesses report. For more football coverage, head to the LBRD sports section.

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The verdict? Arsenal have the momentum, the home crowd and a squad that keeps finding late answers. Dortmund have the quality to cause problems. If the Gunners stay patient, they can move closer to the last 16 before the Real Madrid showdown.

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