



Germany 4-0 Finland: Die Mannschaft Head To North America Ready To Conquer World Cup 2026

Description

Germany made a thunderous statement of World Cup intent on 31 May 2026, beating Finland 4-0 at the sell-out MEWA Arena in Mainz – a result that forms the centrepiece of the **Germany 4-0 Finland World Cup 2026** build-up narrative that will have rivals sweating ahead of the tournament. Die Mannschaft are flying to Chicago today, and on this evidence, they are flying in every sense of the word.

Germany 4-0 Finland: Undav And Wirtz Shine In World Cup Send-Off

Julian Nagelsmann’s side controlled proceedings from the first whistle, pinning Finland deep in their own half and registering more than 80 per cent possession inside the opening quarter-hour. It took patience, but the breakthrough came on 34 minutes when Deniz Undav headed in after Joshua Kimmich’s perfectly weighted cross – the Stuttgart striker’s first of two goals on a night he will not forget in a hurry.

Florian Wirtz doubled the lead immediately after the restart, slotting home on 48 minutes after Undav forced confusion in the Finnish area. The Liverpool playmaker looked electric in flashes, combining beautifully with Jamal Musiala in the final third to give the Finns no defensive answer. Undav completed his brace on 57 minutes after a swift counter, and Musiala added a fourth on 63 minutes with a composed finish from around 15 yards – a goal that will silence those who doubted his fitness after the serious leg injury he sustained at last summer’s Club World Cup.



Source: German Football Association (DFB) official website (dfb.de)

Neuer At 40, Kimmich's Captaincy And The Trusted System

Oliver Baumann started in goal rather than the 40-year-old Manuel Neuer who came out of international retirement and will be Germany's No. 1 at the World Cup as Nagelsmann managed his veteran goalkeeper's load carefully ahead of the tournament. Captain Kimmich operated at right-back, flanked by Jonathan Tah and Nico Schlotterbeck in central defence, with young Nathaniel Brown providing energy on the left.

The midfield pairing of Aleksandar Pavlović and Felix Nmecha looked solid, and Lennart Karl making just his second international start was bright and direct in an advanced role, earning praise

from Nagelsmann for his creativity and bravery. Karl's assist for the first goal drew a Mexican wave around the MEWA Arena, and his debut at tournament level looks a matter of when, not if.

Finland's Lukas Hradecky was exceptional in spells, denying Undav early in the first half, but the result was never in doubt once Germany found their rhythm. The visitors offered little going forward and the clean sheet was comfortable – a positive omen ahead of what promises to be a demanding group stage.



Source: German Football Association (DFB) official website (dfb.de)

Group E And The Road To The World Cup Final

Germany are placed in Group E alongside Caribbean debutants Curaçao, [Bundesliga-familiar](#) Ivory Coast and South American outfit Ecuador. Their schedule: Curaçao in Houston on 14 June, Ivory Coast in Toronto on 20 June, and Ecuador in New Jersey on 25 June. A final pre-tournament friendly against the United States in Chicago on 6 June will give Nagelsmann one last chance to fine-tune his selections before the competition begins in earnest.

Nagelsmann was in typically assured mood after the Finland result. "I was happy with much of the performance. The result is good, we kept a clean sheet and we can carry on like this," he said. Undav was blunter: "We will only consider the World Cup to be a success if we win it." That ambition, combined with a squad brimming with Premier League champions in Kai Havertz and Wirtz, a fully fit Musiala and the talismanic Neuer, makes Germany one of the most complete sides heading to North America.

With [England](#), Argentina and Brazil all fancied for the trophy, the competition will be fierce. But Die Mannschaft, having dispatched Finland with such authority, have issued their own unmistakable warning. Follow all the latest [sports news and World Cup updates](#) right here on Little Big Red Dot.

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