

Inter Player Index — Match Report

Player: Ben White

Club: Arsenal

Position: Inverted Right-Back

Match: Aston Villa vs Arsenal

Date: December 6, 2025

Minutes Played: 90

Final Score: Aston Villa 2 – 1 Arsenal

Match Summary

Ben White had a mixed outing in his hybrid right-back role. While he maintained composure in possession and provided numerical support in the build-up, defensive lapses contributed to Arsenal conceding twice. He still displayed intelligent positioning in central zones and facilitated forward passing, but the team's defensive vulnerabilities exposed him on transition.

This match highlights areas for refinement in defensive anticipation while reaffirming his value in controlling midfield-adjacent spaces in possession-heavy phases.

Key Takeaways

Composed in Build-Up:

- Completed **89% of passes**, including **9 progressive passes** breaking Villa's first line.
- Maintained calm under Villa's press, though a couple of passes were intercepted leading to counters.

Positionally Smart, With Some Risk:

- Occupied central zones to link build-up, forming partnerships with midfielders.
- Heatmap shows consistent presence between Zones 2 and 3, though occasional misalignments left gaps in the right channel.

Defensive Challenges:

- **5 interceptions**, but **2 defensive errors** contributed to Villa goals.
- Struggled against Villa's quick transitions, highlighting the need for sharper situational reading in hybrid role.

Tactical Awareness:

- Made one key tactical foul to prevent a dangerous counter, showing awareness and discipline.
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Tactical Role Fit

White again played as an **inverted full-back in a 4-2-3-1**, functioning as a central pivot in possession. His off-ball movement created passing options for midfield, but lapses in defensive tracking exposed him in transitions.

- **Strength:** Enables Arsenal to build through the center, maintains structure in possession.
 - **Weakness:** Susceptible to counters when the opponent exploits right-channel spaces.
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Development & Trend

Recent performances indicate **strong buildup contributions but intermittent defensive lapses**.

Last 5 Match Ratings: 8.0 → 7.8 → 8.1 → 8.0 → 7.2

- **Trajectory:** Slight dip due to defensive errors.
 - **Projection:** Remains a top-tier contributor in hybrid roles, with minor improvements needed in defensive positioning under pressure.
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Human Scout Notes

“White’s tactical intelligence remains strong, particularly in linking defense to midfield. Today, his composure in possession was excellent, but defensive awareness during Villa’s counters needs sharpening. Communication and spatial discipline remain positive.”

Tactical Fit & Suitability

Ideal for teams that:

- Build through central channels
- Use inverted full-backs or hybrid midfield roles
- Value calm, tactically disciplined defenders

Less suited for teams that:

- Require extreme defensive physicality on flanks
 - Defend deep, compact blocks without possession focus
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Suggested Action

- **Continue Deployment as Hybrid Inverted RB/CM:** Focus on possession-heavy phases.
 - **Defensive Transition Training:** Emphasize awareness and recovery during quick counters.
 - **Load Monitoring:** Ensure fitness during congested fixtures to maintain decision-making sharpness.
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Attachments

- AI-Generated Highlight Reel (Key Passing Sequences + Defensive Actions)
- Tactical Heatmap Overlay
- PDF Summary Report for Staff Distribution