

FIFA[®]

**FIFA World Cup 2022™
Preliminary Draw (Concacaf)**

Draw procedures



FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ Preliminary Draw (Concacaf) draw procedures

SLOT ALLOCATION:

The slot allocation of Concacaf for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ is 3.5 teams.

PRELIMINARY COMPETITION FORMAT:

The Concacaf qualifiers will consist of three rounds:

First round

The first round of qualifiers will be played in a group stage involving the 30 lowest-ranked Concacaf member associations (6th to 35th) according to the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of 16 July 2020. These 30 Concacaf member associations will be divided into six groups of five teams. Each team will play every other team in their group once, playing a total of four matches (two at home and two away). The first-place finishers in each of the six groups will qualify for the second round.

Second round

The second round of qualifiers will feature the six group winners from the first round in a home-and-away, direct-elimination format. The second-round pairings for the first-round group winners have been pre-determined as follows:

1. Winner of Group A vs Winner of Group F
2. Winner of Group B vs Winner of Group E
3. Winner of Group C vs Winner of Group D

Final round

The final round of qualifiers will feature the three winners from the second round and the five highest-ranked Concacaf member associations (1st to 5th) according to the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of 16 July 2020. After home-and-away, round-robin play, the top three teams will qualify directly for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™. The fourth-placed team will represent Concacaf in the FIFA intercontinental play-off in June 2022.

POT ALLOCATION:

First round

The 30 teams participating in the first round will be allocated to five pots based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of 16 July 2020 as follows:

Pot 1: Teams ranked 6-11

Pot 2: Teams ranked 12-17

Pot 3: Teams ranked 18-23

Pot 4: Teams ranked 24-29

Pot 5: Teams ranked 30-35

Pot 1	Pot 2	Pot 3	Pot 4	Pot 5
1. El Salvador 2. Canada 3. Curaçao 4. Panama 5. Haiti 6. Trinidad and Tobago	1. Antigua and Barbuda 2. Guatemala 3. St Kitts and Nevis 4. Suriname 5. Nicaragua 6. Dominican Republic	1. Grenada 2. Barbados 3. Guyana 4. St Vincent and the Grenadines 5. Bermuda 6. Belize	1. St Lucia 2. Puerto Rico 3. Cuba 4. Montserrat 5. Dominica 6. Cayman Islands	1. Bahamas 2. Aruba 3. Turks and Caicos Islands 4. US Virgin Islands 5. British Virgin Islands 6. Anguilla

Final round

The top five teams based on the FIFA/Coca-Cola World Ranking of 16 July 2020 and the three winners from the second round will be placed in Pot A. Pot B will contain the positions of teams in the group to determine the match schedule.

Pot A	Pot B
1. Mexico 2. USA 3. Costa Rica 4. Jamaica 5. Honduras 6. Winner of A vs F 7. Winner of B vs E 8. Winner of C vs D	Team 1 Team 2 Team 3 Team 4 Team 5 Team 6 Team 7 Team 8

DRAW PROCEDURES:

First round

The draw will begin by allocating the 30 teams participating in the first round to six groups of five teams. The six teams from Pot 1 will be pre-seeded to positions A1, B1, C1, D1, E1 and F1, with the highest-ranked team in this pot occupying position A1 and the lowest-ranked in position F1.

The draw will continue by identifying the groups for the teams in pots 2, 3, 4 and 5. The position that each team occupies in a group will be determined based on the pot from which it is drawn. For example, teams from Pot 2 will be placed in position 2 of each group, teams from Pot 3 in position 3 of each group, and so on.

Teams drawn from each pot will be allocated to groups sequentially: A to F. Thus, the team drawn first will be placed in Group A, the team drawn next in Group B, and so on until Group F.

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group F
1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.	2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.	3.	3.	3.
4.	4.	4.	4.	4.	4.
5.	5.	5.	5.	5.	5.

The match schedule will also be determined after the draw as follows:

FIFA Window 1						
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
2 vs 4	1 vs 3		5 vs 2	4 vs 1		3 vs 5

FIFA Window 2						
Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
4 vs 5		2 vs 3	5 vs 1			3 vs 4
						1 vs 2

Final round

The draw will identify positions for each team in the final-round group. Each ball drawn from Pot A will be followed by a ball from Pot B until both pots have been emptied and all eight teams have been allocated a position.

The match schedule will also be determined after the draw as follows:

Window	Match 1	Match 2	Match 3	Match 4	Match 5	Match 6	Match 7	Match 8
Window 1	1 v. 2	3 vs 4	5 vs 6	7 vs 8	4 vs 1	3 vs 2	6 vs 7	8 vs 5
Window 2	1 vs 3	2 vs 4	5 vs 7	6 vs 8	7 vs 1	2 vs 6	3 vs 5	4 vs 8
Window 3	8 vs 1	7 vs 2	6 vs 3	5 vs 4	1 vs 5	2 vs 8	3 vs 7	4 vs 6
Window 4	1 vs 6	2 vs 5	3 vs 8	4 vs 7	1 vs 7	6 vs 2	5 vs 3	8 vs 4
Window 5	2 vs 1	4 vs 3	6 vs 5	8 vs 7	1 vs 4	2 vs 3	7 vs 6	5 vs 8
Window 6	3 vs 1	4 vs 2	7 vs 5	8 vs 6	6 vs 1	5 vs 2	8 vs 3	7 vs 4
Window 7	1 vs 8	2 vs 7	3 vs 6	4 vs 5	5 vs 1	8 vs 2	7 vs 3	6 vs 4

DRAW CONSTRAINTS:

None