



Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: I Form Close Flex

Play: Stret

Setup:

1. Switch the run to the left with the right stick (optional)
2. Motion the second back to the left side of the field

Reads:

1. Follow the blockers

Overview: This is a very effective run play that has the potential to break off huge gains. The motion is going to be used in many plays to come.

Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: I Form Close Flex

Play: Zone Weak

Setup:

1. Motion the second back to the left of screen (optional)

Reads:

1. Follow the blockers

Overview: This is another run play that has big play potential, but also can be used to throw off your opponent when they key in on the Stretch run. The variety of runs in this formation make this effective.

Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: I Form Close Flex

Play: Mesh

Setup:

1. Put the Y/Triangle running back on a curl route
2. Put the RB/R1 running back on a streak and motion him to the left

Reads:

1. The first reads on this play will be the two drag routes
2. If that is not there look for the B/O receiver on the corner route
3. Then look deep over the middle to the RB/R1 running back
4. Lastly, check down to the Y/Triangle running back on a curl



Overview: This is going to be our Cover 2 beater from this formation. The route combinations flood a Cover 2 leaving an area of the field open, make the correct read and take what the defense gives you.

Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: I Form Close Flex

Play: PA Cross F Wheel

Setup:

1. Put the A/X tight end on a drag route
2. Motion the RB/R1 running back to the left and put him on a drag route
3. Block the Y/Triangle running back

Reads:

1. The first reads on this play will be the two drag routes
2. If that is not there look for the B/O receiver deeper to the right side of the field
3. Then look deep over the middle to the X/Square receiver

Overview: This is the most effective pass play in this formation. It attacks all levels of the field and the B/O right if very hard to guard. You can also run this play against just about any type of defense.

Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: I Form Close Flex

Play: Flanker Drive

Setup:

1. None required

Reads:

1. The first reads on this play will be the drag route to the X/Square receiver
2. Then look for the B/O receiver on the in route
3. Finally, check down to the running back out of the backfield on the delayed route

Overview: This is the man beater of the formation, the great thing about this play is it is in the quick audibles so you can audible to it quickly and hike it before the defense has time to adjust. This play also has good blocking because the running back is on a delay route.

Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: I Form Close Flex

Play: PA TE Corner



Setup:

1. Put the RB/R1 running back on a streak and motion him to the left
2. Block the Y/Triangle running back

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the X/Square receiver on the drag route
2. Then look for the RB/R1 running back on the streak
3. If that is not there look for the A/X tight end
4. Finally, hit the B/O receiver deep over the middle

Overview: This play focuses on beating Cover 3 and Cover 4 defenses. The route combinations on this play allow for the deeper part of the middle of the field to be open. While also having other routes to go to short and deep on the right side of the field.

Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: I Form Close Flex

Play: HB Iso

Setup:

1. None

Reads:

1. Follow the blockers

Overview: This run will be used and will be effective when your opponent starts trying to key in on the outside runs. To do that they would most likely use a Cover 4 defense or blitz off the edges, so this run goes straight up the gut and you can get 5-7 yards easily.

Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: Singleback Tight Slots

Play: HB Pitch

Setup:

1. Motion one of the inside receivers/tight ends to the side you are running for extra blocking

Reads:

1. Follow the blockers

Overview: This is one of the most effective run plays in the game right now. It is widely used in the competitive scene and very hard to slow down.



Playbook: Buffalo Bills

Formation: Singleback Tight Slots

Play: HB Dive

Setup:

1. Motion the inside tight end and hike it when he is behind the guard for extra blocking

Reads:

1. Follow the blockers

Overview: This is one of the best run schemes in Madden 18, having both the dive and the HB pitch are difficult to defend. If your opponent compensates for the outside run go right up the middle for a nice gain.

Formation: Singleback Tight Slots

Play: HB Wheel

Setup:

1. Put the A/X tight end on a drag route

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the A/X tight end on the drag
2. Then progress to the B/O receiver on the in route
3. If that is not there look for the X/Square receiver over the middle of the field
4. Then look to the Y/Triangle receiver going to the corner
5. The check down on the play is the running back on the wheel route out of the backfield

Overview: This play has a route that is going to be able to beat every type of coverage. So, you do not need to run this specifically against one type of defense. Find the open receiver and methodically move the ball down the field.

Formation: Singleback Tight Slots

Play: Deep Post

Setup:

1. Put the Y/Triangle receiver on a drag route

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the B/O receiver on the drag route
2. Then look for the running back out of the backfield
3. If that is not there look for the Y/Triangle receiver on the drag to the right side
4. Then look deep over the middle to the X/Square receiver



5. Finally, find the A/X tight end towards the sideline

Overview: This play we are going to use mostly against Cover 3 style defenses. Having two drag routes on a play is always a good thing because at any time you can just check it down to one of them and move on to the next play if nobody is open down field.

Formation: Singleback Tight Slots

Play: Bench Switch

Setup:

1. None

Reads:

1. The first reads on this play are the short out routes
2. The next two reads will be the deeper corner routes
3. Then the safe check down is the running back on the delay route

Overview: This play is an easy way to beat Cover 2 style defenses. It is a high low read on the outsides, if they cover the flats you hit the deeper routes, if they cover the deep routes hit the short out routes in the flats.

Formation: Gun Trips TE Offset

Play: X Under

Setup:

1. Put the Y/Triangle receiver on a drag route

Reads:

1. The first read on the play would be the running back quick out of the backfield
2. Next, look for the Y/Triangle receiver on the drag route
3. Then look over the middle to the B/O receiver
4. If that is not there look deep to the corner to the A/X tight end
5. Finally, hit the X/Square receiver coming across late on the in route

Overview: This play can destroy any type of zone defense; the route combinations will always create an open area of the field. This makes this play extremely tough to defend against.

Formation: Gun Trips TE Offset

Play: Inside Zone

Setup:

1. None

Reads:



1. Follow the blockers

Overview: This run makes the opponent have to respect the fact that you can still run out of this formation. The inside zone runs are effective runs in Madden 18, and this makes sure your opponent does not commit to the pass.

Formation: Gun Trips TE Offset

Play: PA Crossers

Setup:

1. Put the A/X tight end on a drag route

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the A/X tight end on the drag route
2. Following this would be the B/O receiver going toward the right side of the field
3. If that is not there look for the Y/Triangle receiver deep over the middle
4. Then the last read is the X/Square receiver on the post

Overview: This play is a very good man beater. Every route on this play torches man coverage, so if your opponent likes to run man use this play until you get them to change their defense.

Formation: Gun Trips TE Offset

Play: Read Option

Setup:

1. None

Reads:

1. Give it to the running back and follow the blockers

Overview: This run gives the offensive line different blocking assignments compared to the inside zone run. Also, the run angle for the running back is slightly different which this will stop your opponent from manually shooting the gap and blowing the run up.

Formation: Gun Trips TE Offset

Play: Verticals

Setup:

1. Put the X/Square receiver on a fade
2. Put the A/X tight end on a drag
3. Block the running back

Reads:



1. The main read on this play is the Y/Triangle receiver deep
2. The check down is the A/X tight end on the drag

Overview: This is a Cover 2 man, and a Cover 2 zone bomb play. Wait for the Y/Triangle receiver to get deep then pass lead it to the inside and RAC catch it with the X button. Against these defenses this will likely be a touchdown.

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: Z Spot

Setup:

1. Put the B/O on a drag route

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the A/X tight end in the flats
2. Then look for the RB/R1 corner route towards the sideline
3. If that is not there hit the B/O receiver on the drag
4. Finally, hit the X/Square receiver deep over the middle

Overview: We are going to use this play to beat Cover 3 style defenses. There is a high low read on the bunch side of the formation, and then you have a drag over the middle and then the Z spot route deep over the middle.

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: Y Trail

Setup:

1. None requires

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the B/O receiver on the drag route
2. Next look for the A/X tight end on the angle route\
3. If that's not there look deep over the middle to the X/Square receiver on the post
4. There is also the high low read on the right with the running back and the RB/R1 receiver

Overview: In this play we focus mainly on beating Cover 2 style defenses. As shown in the video this formation ruins zone coverages and basically leaves everything open.

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: Inside Zone

Setup:

1. None



Reads:

1. Follow the blocks

Overview: This run is used to keep your opponent on their toes so they cannot just guess pass every time we use this formation. If they start pass committing and dropping extra people in coverage this run will expose them

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: PA Bunch Shot

Setup:

1. Put the RB/R1 receiver on a curl route
2. Max Protect

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the RB/R1 receiver on the curl
2. Then look for the B/O receiver deep to the left side of the field
3. If that is not there look for the X/Square receiver for the bomb
4. If all else playmaker the curl route

Overview: This could be considered as one of the best plays in the entire game. It can bomb any type of defense, while still having other routes that are next to impossible to cover. Especially, with the playmaker feature and the blocking on this play. Letting the play action carry out picks up any nano blitzes.

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: Read Option

Setup:

1. None

Reads:

1. Hand it off to the running back and follow your blocks

Overview: This is another good run to use to keep your opponent guessing. Also if they start to key in on the inside zone run use this play to stop their user from shooting the gap and blowing up the run.

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: Verticals

Setup:

1. Put the A/X tight end on a streak



2. Put the X/Square receiver on a drag

Reads:

1. The first read on this play is the B/O receiver quick to the flats
2. Then look for the A/X receiver deep over the middle
3. Next look to the RB/R1 receiver to the left of the field
4. If that is not there check down to the X/Square receiver on the drag
5. There is the running back on a delayed curl for another check down

Overview: This is another great pass play that can destroy both Cover 2 and Cover 3 style defenses. This play has both deep and short check downs, so we can beat the defense up top, but when we have to we can also check it down for a decent gain.

Formation: Singleback Ace

Play: O1 Trap

Setup:

1. None

Reads:

1. Follow your blocks

Overview: This is good run when you at the goal line. The trap is very effective and this can easily be ran in for a score or even used on a two point conversion.

Formation: Singleback Ace

Play: HB Stretch

Setup:

1. None

Reads:

1. Follow your blocks

Overview: This goes along with the O1 Trap, this is basically a mini scheme for goal line offense. The good thing about this stretch is you can flip it to either side and your opponent cannot tell you flipped it.

Formation: Singleback Ace

Play: PA Crosses

Setup:

1. None



Reads:

1. The first read is the X/Square receiver on the high point pass
2. Then look for one of the two delay routes

Overview: This is to mix it up near the goaline so your opponent cannot just run commit every time you are in this area of the field. If they do it's a quick easy 6 points.

Formation: Singleback Bunch Ace

Play: PA End Around

Setup:

1. None

Reads:

1. The first read is the running back out of the backfield
2. Then look for the A/X tight end
3. Finally, find the X/Square receiver on the high point pass
4. If nothing else take off with your QB on the bootleg

Overview: This is another good play to use in the redzone. There are basically four options on this play depending on what quarterback you are using.