

MADDEN SCHOOL

Madden 19 Arizona Offensive eBook

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Doubles

Play: SE Dig (Setup 1)

Setup:

1. Hot route your tight end to a streak route
2. Hot route your Y/triangle receiver to a drag
3. Block your running back

Reads:

1. Your first read is still the B/circle receiver if there is press coverage
2. If there isn't press coverage, look to your Y/triangle receiver on the drag
3. If he is covered, your X/square receiver on the deep in should be open

Overview: This is a good 2nd way to run the this play even against non press coverage. The deep in route is a really hard route to cover. With these 2 setups, you should be able to run this play for as long as you want. Just make good reads.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Doubles

Play: SE Dig (Setup 2)

Setup:

1. Put the X/square receiver on a smart routed out route
2. Put the Y/triangle receiver on a streak route
3. Put the tight end on a streak route
4. Block your running back

Reads:

1. The main read against cover 2 or cover 2 man is the B/circle receiver (lead pass to the sideline)
2. Against cover 3 defenses, your Y/triangle receiver should get open

Overview: The B/circle receiver doesn't get bumped which makes this play really effective. If you see press coverage, B/circle will be open. The only real weakness of this play is against man coverage that isn't pressed and cover 4.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

MADDEN SCHOOL

Formation: Gun Doubles

Play: Four Verticals

Setup:

1. Motion your X/square receiver to the right
2. Put your Y/triangle receiver on a smart routed out route
3. Block your running back
4. Put your B/circle receiver on a drag route

Reads:

1. Against cover 3, look to your X/square receiver deep
2. Against cover 2, look to your tight end over the middle
3. Against other coverages, check down to your B/circle receiver

Overview: This play beats both cover 2 and cover 3 really well.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Doubles

Play: Inside Zone

Setup:

1. None required

Overview: Just follow your blockers. This play will keep your opponent honest

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Doubles

Play: Flanker Dig

Setup:

1. Put your tight end on a streak route
2. Put your B/circle receiver on an in route

Reads:

1. Your first read is a quick pass to your tight end against cover 2
2. If he is covered, your B/circle receiver underneath should be open
3. Then look to your running back in the flat
4. Your last read is the X/square receiver on the post, he will usually get open against a cover 2 and cover 3

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Overview: This play is designed to get either the tight end or the B/circle receiver open against pretty much any coverage.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Doubles

Play: Weak Flood

Setup:

1. Max Protect
2. Put your Y/triangle receiver on a drag route
3. Put your B/circle receiver on a drag route

Reads:

1. Your main read on this play is to the X/square receiver on the deep post against cover 4 and cover 2 defenses
2. If he is covered, throw to one of the receivers on the drag route

Overview: Eventually your opponent will get smart and try a cover 4 defense instead of cover 2, cover 3, or man to man. When that happens, hit him with this play and beat him deep.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Doubles

Play: PA Boot Over

Setup:

1. Motion your X/square receiver to the right
2. Block your tight end
3. Put your B/circle receiver on a drag
4. Put your Y/triangle receiver on a drag

Reads:

1. Against cover 3, look to the X/square receiver deep
2. Your last option is to playmaker the Y/triangle receiver or scramble

Overview: This is another good play to mix in with the Gun Doubles schemes.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Doubles

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Play: Angle Smash

Setup:

1. Put the tight end on a slant route

Reads:

1. Your main read on this play is the running back quickly out of the backfield
2. If he is covered, look to your tight end or the B/circle receiver

Overview: This is just a play to mix in every now and then when you need short yardage.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Pistol Bunch TE

Play: Stick

Setup:

1. Max Protect
2. Hot route your B/circle receiver to a streak route
3. Hot route your Y/triangle receiver to a drag route
4. Motion your X/square receiver to the left

Reads:

1. The main read on this play is the X/square receiver against cover 2 defenses. Lead pass to the sideline
2. If he is covered, look to the Y/triangle receiver on the drag route

Overview: Only call this play if you are expecting cover 2 defense or man to man press coverage.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Bunch TE

Play: Cross Drag

Setup:

1. Put your tight end on a fade route
2. Block your running back
3. Motion your X/square receiver to the left

Reads:

1. Your main read on this play is the Y/triangle receiver as he gets to the right sideline
2. You can also hit your B/circle receiver

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3. Your last look is the X/square receiver on the deep in

Overview: This is another tough play to defend because of the deep crossing route. Mix it in with the Stick play from the same formation.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Bunch TE

Play: Spot Option

Setup:

1. Motion your X/square receiver to the left
2. Do whatever you want with your tight end and running back

Reads:

1. Against a cover 3 or cover 4 defense, look to hit the Y/triangle receiver on his corner route
2. If he is covered, one of the other 2 receivers on that side should be open

Overview: This play should only be called when you expect a cover 3 or cover 4 defense. Your opponent shouldn't be playing a lot of cover 2 defense after you start beating him with the Stick play.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Pistol Bunch TE

Play: Verticals

Setup:

1. Motion your X/square receiver out to the left
2. Block the running back
3. Put your tight end on an out route

Reads:

1. Against cover 3 defense, look to throw it to your X/square receiver on a quick pass
2. Against cover 3 defense, you can also wait until your B/circle receiver gets all the way to the other side of the field and he can get open.
3. Against cover 2, your B/circle receiver should get open as he crosses the field

Overview: If you miss your read, just throw the ball away. You don't have a good check down option.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Pistol Bunch TE

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Play: HB Zone

Setup:

1. Use the right stick to flip the run to the other side of the field.
2. Motion your X/square receiver out to the left

Overview: We throw a run in every once in a while just to keep our opponent honest and not pass committing.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Tight

Play: PA Zona Cross

Setup:

1. Put your tight end on a streak route

Reads:

1. Against cover 3, look to your X/square receiver
2. Against cover 2, look to the B/circle receiver
3. The Y/triangle receiver is also a good option against most coverages

Overview: This play does a good job of attacking various coverages

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Tight

Play: Zona Post

Setup:

1. Hot route your tight end to a streak route
2. Motion your Y/triangle receiver to the right
3. (Optional) Block your running back

Reads:

1. Look to hit your Y/triangle receiver deep if you read cover 3 pre-snap
2. If he is covered, your next read is the B/circle receiver

Overview: This is the type of play to only call once or twice per game. If your opponent knows it is coming, it won't work.

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Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Stack Y-Flex

Play: Fade Out

Setup:

1. Put your B/circle receiver on a slant route
2. Block your running back

Reads:

1. Your first look is always to the X/square receiver on a quick pass but don't force it
2. If he is covered, your tight end or B/circle receiver should be open

Overview: This play works best against zone blitzes.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Split Close

Play: PA F Slide

Setup:

1. Block both running backs
2. Put the B/circle receiver on a streak route

Reads:

1. Look to the A/X receiver coming deep over the middle against a cover 3

Overview: This is a shot play against cover 3 defenses. Only call it if you expect some sort of cover 3.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Split Close

Play: FB Inside

Setup: None required

Overview: Just follow your blockers. This play works really well once your opponent starts pass committing.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Split Close

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Play: HB Power 0

Setup: None required

Overview: This play can occasionally result in a big gain. Just run it to keep your opponent from shifting his defensive line or linebackers to the left to stop the FB Inside play.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Split Close

Play: Close FB Trail

Setup:

1. Block your Y/triangle running back
2. Put your X/square receiver on a drag route

Reads:

1. Look first to the RB/R1 running back coming out of the backfield
2. If he is covered, look to one of the drag routes (at least one will be open against man to man defense)
3. If they are covered, throw a high pass to the A/X receiver at the back of the endzone

Overview: This is a red zone play. Mix it in with the FB Inside play from this formation once you get close to the goalline. If your opponent starts dropping 7 or 8 guys into coverage, audible to FB Inside.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trips HB Wk

Play: Zona Slot Out

Setup:

1. Smart Route the X/square receiver
2. Put the A/X receiver on a drag route

Reads:

1. Look to the X/square receiver against cover 1 or cover 0 man to man defenses.

Overview: We only run this play if we are expecting a man to man blitz or cover 1 defense. The X/square receiver will get open even if our opponent isn't in max coverage.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

MADDEN SCHOOL

Formation: Singleback Wing Stack

Play: PA Y-Drag Wheel

Setup:

1. Max Protect
2. Put your R1/RB tight end on a fade route
3. Put your X/square receiver on a drag route
4. (Optional) Slide protect right

Reads:

1. Your B/circle receiver will be open against every coverage in the game unless your opponent manually covers it.
2. If he does, then just hit the X/square receiver on the drag route underneath

Overview: This play is extremely hard to stop and only sends 3 guys on routes so you have 2 extra blockers.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Singleback Bunch Ace

Play: Quick Pitch

Setup:

1. Motion the outside receiver in the bunch out to the right

Overview: Just follow your blockers. This play usually results in a decent gain.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: PA Post Shot

Setup:

1. Put your tight end on a fade route
2. Put your X/square receiver on a drag route
3. Put your Y/triangle receiver on a drag route and motion him to the right
4. (Optional) Block your running back to cancel the play action

Reads:

1. Your primary read on this play is the B/circle receiver on the crossing route
2. If he is covered, look to either drag route

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Overview: This play can be very hard to stop since your opponent has to manually defend the B/circle receiver's crossing route and then you have a drag on each side as well. Don't force anything.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Singleback Y-Trips

Play: Four Verticals

Setup:

1. Hot route your tight end to a streak route
2. Block your running back
3. Put your RB/R1 receiver on a slant route
4. Put your X/square receiver on a drag route

Reads:

1. The B/circle receiver runs an unbumpable route. If you see press coverage, throw it to that WR (see video for timing). Against cover 2 or cover 2 man, you will have to lead pass to the sideline.
2. If the B/circle receiver is covered, look to one of the receivers underneath

Overview: If you see press coverage, audible to this play.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Singleback Y-Trips

Play: PA Zone Shot

Setup:

1. Hot route the B/circle receiver to a drag route

Reads:

1. Against cover 4 defenses, hit your X/square receiver deep
2. Against other defenses, read between your B/circle receiver and your RB/R1 receiver.

Overview: We need good cover 4 beaters because the main part of this offense attacks, man to man defense, cover 2, and cover 3. Once we effectively beat a cover 4 deep, our opponent likely won't call it any more which is exactly what we want.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Singleback Y-Trips

Play: HB Stretch

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Setup: None required

Overview: This play can often lead to a big gain on the ground.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Singleback Y-Trips

Play: HB Dive

Setup: None required

Overview: Call this play to keep your opponent honest when you are coming out in this formation. If he starts spreading his defensive line or linebackers to stop the HB Stretch, that is the time to call it.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: I Form Pro

Play: PA Draw Shot

Setup:

1. Put the B/circle receiver on a smart routed out route and motion him to the left (so he ends up with an out route)

Reads:

1. Against a cover 3 defense, wait for the tight end to get open deep
2. Against a cover 2 defense or man to man defense, look to the X/square receiver

Overview: This is a good play to take a shot deep from a running formation.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: I Form Pro

Play: FB Dive

Setup: None required

Overview: This is an effective short yardage run when you just need a yard or 2. You can motion your WR on the right over to the left to make it look like the PA Draw Shot play. It won't effect the play.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: I Form Pro

MADDEN SCHOOL

Play: Iso

Setup: None required

Overview: Just follow your blockers and run it right up the middle.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: I Form Pro

Play: HB Stretch

Setup:

1. You can use the right stick to flip the run to the left and motion your WR on the right to the left (or you can run the play as is)

Overview: This is our outside run play from the I-Form Pro formation.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Empty Trey Flex

Play: WDT Post

Setup: None required

Reads:

1. Your main read on this play is the B/circle receiver
2. If he is covered, look to the Y/triangle receiver on the drag or the A/X receiver over the middle

Overview: The B/circle receiver will get open over the middle against pretty much any coverage in the game.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Y Off Trio Wk

Play: Stick

Setup:

1. Put your tight end on a streak route
2. Block your running back
3. Put your RB/R1 receiver on a drag route

Reads:

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1. The first read is always the B/circle receiver on his unbumpable route. He will be open against any press coverage (lead pass to the sideline against cover 2 or cover 2 man)
2. If he is covered, read between the slant route and the drag route

Overview: This is another play that takes advantage of an unbumpable route on the right side of the screen.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Strong Tight

Play: HB Toss

Setup: None required

Overview: Follow your blockers. Don't hit the turbo right away. Most of the time, you are going to find the whole between the guard and the fullback.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Strong Tight

Play: Counter Weak

Setup: None required

Overview: Just follow your blockers. This is a solid run especially when your opponent is worried about the run to the right

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Strong Tight

Play: HB Dive

Setup: None required

Overview: Run this play right up the middle. It can get decent yardage as long as your opponent doesn't sell out on it.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Strong Tight

Play: PA TE Cross

MADDEN SCHOOL

Setup:

1. Max Protect

Reads:

1. Against cover 4, look to the B/circle receiver deep
2. If the B/circle receiver is not open, you can look to the RB/R1 tight end in the flat
3. Your last option is to take off and scramble with the QB or throw the ball away

Overview: This play will work against any cover 4 defense. So only call this play if you are playing someone who loves to call cover 4. It helps to have a fast WR in at your WR spot.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: PA Bunch Shot

Setup:

1. Max Protect

Reads:

1. Against a cover 4 defense, hit your X/circle receiver deep (lead pass to the sideline – see video for timing)
2. Against other defenses, look to the B/circle receiver

Overview: This is a deep shot play against cover 4 defenses but the B/circle receiver can get open against other defenses as well.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Bunch HB STR

Play: Y Trial

Setup:

1. (Optional) Block your running back

Reads:

1. Your first read is always the B/circle receiver on the drag route
2. Against cover 2, look to the RB/R1 receiver on the corner route
3. Against cover 3, look to the X/square receiver on the post route
4. The final read is the tight end coming back across the middle of the field

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Overview: This is a really hard play to stop if you are good with making reads. Unfortunately, there isn't 1 easy read on this play.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Bunch STR HB

Play: HB Draw

Setup: None required

Overview: Once your opponent starts worrying about all of the different passing options from this formation and starts dropping extra guys into coverage, hit him with the HB Draw. This play won't be effective if he is blitzing extra guys.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: I-Form Wing

Play: Post Shot

Setup: None Required

Reads:

1. Against a cover 4, look to the X/square receiver deep
2. Against a cover 2, the X/square receiver will get open a little quicker. Throw it when he cuts toward the middle of the field

Overview: This play is designed to beat a cover 4 defense, but it will also beat a cover 2 as well.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Empty Trey Stack

Play: Fade Out

Setup:

1. Hot route your B/circle receiver to a drag route

Reads:

1. Your first look is always to the X/square receiver on a quick pass. He will be open against cover 3
2. If he is covered, immediately look to the B/circle receiver on the drag underneath
3. You also have the A/X receiver deeper over the middle as well

Overview: This is a really good quick pass where one of the first 2 reads is pretty much always open.

MADDEN SCHOOL

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Empty Trey Stack

Play: Smash Seam

Setup:

1. Hot route your B/circle receiver to a smoke screen
2. Smart route the A/X receiver
3. Smart route your X/square receiver

Reads:

1. Against cover 3, cover 1, and others your RB/R1 tight end will get wide open for a second. It takes a little timing but lead pass it to the sideline.
2. If he is covered, look to the A/X receiver or the receivers on the left

Overview: This play can torch most defenses. Mix it in with Fade Out. You really need to practice the timing on this one otherwise you will throw lots of interceptions. Only call this play if you know what you are doing.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Special Teams Punt

Play: Fake Punt Sweep

Setup:

1. Sub in your best or fastest running back at the punt protector spot where your fullback normally is
2. Put your best offensive lineman in the long snapper spot (You can do this before the game in the depth chart).

Overview: You will want to make the substitution early on in the game so if you do call a fake punt, it won't take you any extra time and won't alert your opponent that something might be up. This is generally good for at least 5 yards, sometimes more. Just follow your blockers right up the middle. There should be a huge hole.

It only works against punt return left, punt return middle, and punt return right so if you see a punt block or a punt return safe man, audible to a normal punt. 99% of the time, your opponents will call a punt return though so this should work if you save it for the right time.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

MADDEN SCHOOL

Formation: Special Teams Punt

Play: Fake Punt FB Pass

Setup: None required

Reads:

1. Your only read on this play is the receiver on the left (the X/square receiver)

Overview: Against most punt returns, the receiver on the left will get bumped at the line of scrimmage and the cornerback will stumble. Throw it right after the bump (see the video for timing). This play can sometimes fail if the ball is thrown inaccurately but the receiver will usually be open.

This play is usually good for about 12-16 yards. You will have to practice how hard to throw the pass. Too soft or too hard and it will be inaccurate. Obviously, don't call this play if your opponent is expecting the fake. It will not work.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: Fake Screen Wheel

Setup:

1. Put your X/square receiver on an in route
2. Put your tight end on a drag route
3. Block your running back

Reads:

1. Against any cover 3 defense that has hard flats or cloud flats, the Y/triangle receiver will be wide open
2. Against cover 2 defenses, the B/circle receiver will be open deep and the Y/triangle receiver can get open (lead pass to the sideline)
3. Look to your 2 underneath routes if everything else is covered

Overview: This play only works on All-Madden difficulty. It works best if you hit your tight end on the drag route a couple times. Your opponent will eventually go to a hard flat defense and that is when you hit him deep.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: PA Post Shot (Version 1)

Setup:

MADDEN SCHOOL

1. Put your tight end on a fade route
2. Put your Y/triangle receiver on a drag route
3. Smart route your X/square receiver
4. Block your running back

Reads:

1. Against most defenses, your primary read is the B/circle receiver which can't be defended by any common defense unless your opponent user defends him.
2. If he is covered, look to the Y/triangle receiver on the drag route
3. Your last read is the X/square receiver who should get open against cover 2.

Overview: This play is extremely hard to stop because of the route the B/circle receiver runs.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: PA Post Shot (Version 2)

Setup:

1. Put your X/square receiver on a smart routed out route
2. Put your B/circle receiver on a streak route
3. Put your tight end on a fade route
4. (Optional) Block your running back
5. Motion your Y/triangle receiver to the right

Reads:

1. Against cover 3, hit your B/circle receiver (lead pass to the sideline)
2. Against cover 3 with the 2 deep corners in deep half zones (a common coverage among competitive players) hit the Y/triangle receiver along the sideline. See video for timing
3. Against cover 4 defenses, wait for the Y/triangle receiver to stop and the play to develop a little. Once the cornerback on the right turns his back to cover the tight end, hit your Y/triangle receiver.

Overview: Run this play from the middle of the field or the left side of the field to give your Y/triangle receiver room along the sideline. This is a shot play. We have no checkdown whatsoever so only call it when you need a big play.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: Inside Zone

MADDEN SCHOOL

Setup: None required

Overview: Just quick snap it if you like the look the defense is giving you. This is one of the most effective running plays in the game. Run it until your opponent stops you.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: Fade Smash (Version 1)

Setup:

1. Block your running back
2. Put your tight end on a drag route
3. Put your X/square receiver on an in route

Reads:

1. Against man to man defense look to your Y/triangle receiver
2. Against cover 2 defenses, both your Y/triangle receiver will be open and your B/circle receiver will be open
3. Against cover 3 or cover 4 defenses, hit one of the underneath routes.

Overview: This play absolutely destroys cover 2 defenses.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: Fade Smash (Version 2)

Setup:

1. Block your running back
2. Put your tight end on a streak route
3. Put your B/circle receiver on a slant route
4. Put your X/square receiver on a smart routed out route
5. (Optional) Slide protect right
6. Motion your Y/triangle receiver to the right and snap it right when he gets past the tight end

Reads:

1. Your main read on this play is your Y/triangle receiver once he gets open. Against cover 2 he will get open a little sooner. Against Cover 3 wait until he gets open deeper
2. If your opponent user defends the Y/triangle receiver, we have our B/circle receiver going the other way on the slant.

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Overview: This play makes your opponent's user make a tough decision. He'll have to show you which way he is going to go and it will make the read very easy.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: China Smash

Setup:

1. Put your Y/triangle receiver on a slant route
2. Put your running back on an out route

Reads:

1. The main read on this play is the Y/triangle receiver against cover 3 and cover 4 defenses. Lead pass up as he gets all the way across the field
2. If he is covered, look to your running back in the flat or to the other side of the field.

Overview: This play works well against max coverage cover 3 defenses. Don't call it if you expect a blitz or if your opponent has a good user.

Playbook: Arizona Cardinals

Formation: Gun Trey

Play: Levels Sail

Setup:

1. Put your tight end on a fade route
2. Quick hike so your opponent doesn't have time to set up his defense

Reads:

1. If your opponent has purple zones on the field, your running back in the flat will be wide open (lead pass up)
2. If he is covered, look to one of your receivers underneath or throw the ball away

Overview: This play works best if you run it from the left hash. Your running back needs room to get open. If you run it from the middle or the right, your running back might go out of bounds before he catches it. This is a very important play to make your opponent go to hard flats or cloud flats.