

Match points: Manchester City v Liverpool



Key battles

Kevin de Bruyne v Jordan Henderson

De Bruyne almost broke Thierry Henry's record for Premier League assists in a campaign last year but has yet to get his first this season. He can be shunted around the midfield due to his versatility. While Henderson is the deepest man in the Liverpool midfield trio, he has set up chances in their last two games by pressing high up the pitch. City must be wary of that.



Gabriel Jesus v Dejan Lovren

Despite getting Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain, Liverpool missed out on Virgil van Dijk. Failing to sign a world-class centre-back puts more of an onus on the erratic Lovren. There is a focus on Jesus, too. He excelled against Bournemouth and averages a goal every 107 minutes in the Premier League, but Sergio Aguero is still more of a penalty box predator.



John Stones v Sadio Mane

Liverpool wingers Mohamed Salah and Mane play infield and ahead of Roberto Firmino. They can appear in the channel between central defenders and full-backs. Stones should replace the injured Kompany. He will have to combine with Kyle Walker to stop Mane from becoming only the second Liverpool player to score in the opening four Premier League games of a season.



Key statistics

Super coaches clash

95%

Matches unbeaten at the Etihad

83%

Liverpool have claimed 10 of 12 points against City under Jurgen Klopp.

Reds' scourge



Goals Sergio Aguero has scored in his last five league games at the Etihad against Liverpool.

Fortunes of two backlines



Clean sheets City have kept against Liverpool in their last 13 league games.



Clean sheets Liverpool have managed in their last seven league matches.

Citizens' ill discipline



City finished their last two games with 10 men.

Manchester City have lost just one home game since Pep Guardiola took over.