



# FIFA World Cup 2026 | Group Qualification Report

## Group F

### Teams

- Netherlands
- Japan
- Sweden
- Tunisia

Group F features one of Europe's strongest sides in the Netherlands, alongside Japan, a technically disciplined Asian squad, Sweden with Scandinavian efficiency, and Tunisia as a competitive African team. This group presents a classic scenario: a clear favourite plus a competitive race for the second qualification spot.

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### 1 Group Overview

✓ **Group Difficulty:** Moderate

✓ **Market Narrative:** Netherlands are the clear favourite.

✓ **Potential Market Inefficiency:** Japan and Sweden could be closer in strength than markets imply.

✓ **Key Question:** Can either Japan or Sweden emerge as the second qualifier, or will Tunisia surprise the market?

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## **2** Team Profiles

### **Netherlands**

**Estimated Qualification Probability: 88%**

#### **Positives**

- ✓ Elite squad with strong attacking depth
- ✓ World Cup pedigree and consistent European qualifier
- ✓ Tactical versatility under coach Louis van Gaal

#### **Concerns**

- ✓ Occasional defensive lapses
- ✓ High public expectation may create pressure

#### **Assessment**

Netherlands are the favourite and should top the group comfortably.

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### **Japan**

**Estimated Qualification Probability: 62%**

#### **Positives**

- ✓ Technically skilled and disciplined squad
- ✓ Excellent tournament organisation
- ✓ Capable of high-intensity pressing

#### **Concerns**

- ✓ Physicality can be an issue against Europe's top teams
- ✓ Goal-scoring occasionally inconsistent

#### **Assessment**

Japan are likely to challenge for the second qualification spot and could be undervalued in ante-post markets.

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## Sweden

**Estimated Qualification Probability:** 55%

### Positives

- ✓ Solid defensive structure
- ✓ Experienced Scandinavian core
- ✓ Effective set-piece and transitional play

### Concerns

- ✓ Limited attacking firepower compared to Netherlands and Japan
- ✓ Risk of dropping points against Tunisia

### Assessment

Sweden have a realistic shot at second place but must manage every match carefully.

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## Tunisia

**Estimated Qualification Probability:** 28%

### Positives

- ✓ Athletic squad capable of frustrating stronger teams
- ✓ Experienced tournament players
- ✓ High motivation in group-stage matches

### Concerns

- ✓ Squad depth limited relative to others
- ✓ Goal output may be inconsistent

### Assessment

Tunisia are clear outsiders but could act as spoilers if they take points from Japan or Sweden.

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### 3 Group Qualification Model

Team	Qualification Probability
Netherlands	88%
Japan	62%
Sweden	55%
Tunisia	28%

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### 4 Key Group Dynamics

#### Netherlands vs Japan

Netherlands expected to control possession; Japan could exploit transitions and pace.

#### Japan vs Sweden

Likely the pivotal match for second place; outcome could determine knockout-stage qualifiers.

#### Sweden vs Tunisia

Sweden must secure maximum points; Tunisia can disrupt group predictions.

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### 5 Qualification Summary

#### Most Likely Outcome

- 1 Netherlands
- 2 Japan / Sweden (tight race)
- 3 Sweden / Japan
- 4 Tunisia

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## 6 Ante-Post Betting Recommendations

### Primary Selection

- ✓ **Market:** To Qualify From Group F
- ✓ **Selection:** Japan
- ✓ **Estimated Probability:** 62%
- ✓ **Fair Price:** 1.61

*Rationale:* Technically strong, disciplined squad. Market may slightly underestimate their chances.

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### Secondary Value Angle

- ✓ **Market:** To Qualify From Group F
- ✓ **Selection:** Sweden
- ✓ **Estimated Probability:** 55%
- ✓ **Fair Price:** 1.82

*Rationale:* Scandinavia's structured approach makes them competitive for second, particularly if Japan falters.

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## 7 Value Assessment

Team	Est. Probability	Fair Price
Netherlands	88%	1.14
Japan	62%	1.61
Sweden	55%	1.82
Tunisia	28%	3.57

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## Early View

- Netherlands should top the group comfortably.
- Japan currently looks like the strongest candidate for second place and represents ante-post value.
- Sweden may also offer a competitive angle for second-place qualification.
- Tunisia remain outsiders but could influence the group by taking points from Japan or Sweden.