

32 nations qualified to be in the Final Draw of the World Cup. They are broken up into 8 groups of 4 teams each. In the 1st Round, each team plays the other three teams in it's group twice (once as the Home Team, and once as the Visitor), so that every team plays at least 6 matches in the Tournament. A win is worth 3 points, a tie is worth 1 point, and a loss is worth 0 points. The points are added up, and the top two teams in each group go on to the 2nd Round.

If there is a tie for 2nd place, then the number of goals scored during Group matches are compared, and a 2nd place team is determined. It's all laid out in The Laws Of The Game (available for download at FIFA.COM).

At the end of the First Round, the teams play their last Group matches at the same time in different cities. The last points needed to advance to the Second Round can go back & forth during those matches as teams score goals, changing the possible outcomes.

If you're looking at one of the printed schedules of the 2nd round matches, the teams are represented by a number and a letter until the top two teams of each group are determined,

and the designators can be replaced by the official three letter country code. 1A refers to the 1st place team in Group A, while 2B refers to the 2nd place team in Group B, and so on. This allows the schedule to be released a year or more in advance of the tournament for planning purposes.

At COPA.MOBI, we will update each and every goal scored in the World Cup shortly after it is seen around the world through the television coverage. The HTML code on the main page will update your web browser every 3 minutes. If you tap the words "NEXT MATCH" at the top of the page before you bookmark it, then the bookmark will take you to that day's matches whenever you use the Bookmark. It's what makes our website PhonePHriendly!

Click on the "Group" letter in the Group column, and you'll be able to see how the four nations in that group are competing against each other.

Ozzie@Copa.Mobi
 tel: 321-Liftoff (+1 321 543-8633)
 http://Copa.Mobi



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PHonePHriendly.Com
 Tel: (321) Liftoff
 +1 321 543 8633
 2323 S Washington Ave
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Schedule of the 2018 World Cup