

Player ratings



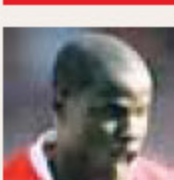
Arsenal

Lukasz Fabianski 5/10



Seemed overawed by the occasion and had looked nervy before being beaten on his near post by Florent Malouda for Chelsea's equaliser

Emmanuel Eboue 6/10



Back in the full-back role he filled in the 2006 Champions League final. Looked effective until beaten too easily by Malouda for Chelsea's first goal

Kolo Toure 6/10



The last first-team centre-half standing, he curbed his inclination to go forward until making a thrilling run early in the second half

Mikael Silvestre 6/10



Only his second FA Cup match for Arsenal but was looking solid until he ruined a credible performance by failing to cut out Drogba's run for the winner

Kieran Gibbs 7/10



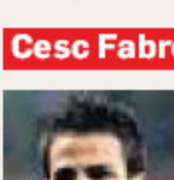
His young legs got him back to deny Drogba an early goal and at the other end, they got him into position to provide the cross for Walcott's strike

Theo Walcott 6/10



Used his newly reconstructed shoulders on Ashley Cole, bringing a final warning from the referee. England boss Fabio Capello will have enjoyed his goal

Cesc Fabregas 6/10



His normally dependable radar was off at times and he also got caught in possession more than once, allowing Chelsea to set up dangerous breaks

Abou Diaby 6/10



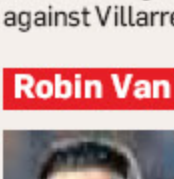
A surprise late choice in front of Andrey Arshavin. Not very impressive and struggled to make an impact after coming back from yet another injury

Denilson 6/10



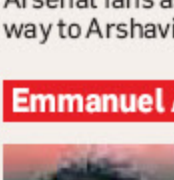
Liable to the odd sloppy pass but did a good holding job with Fabregas. A surprising choice after coming on as a substitute against Villarreal in midweek

Robin Van Persie 7/10



Worked hard. A mature display from a player who used to be such a loose cannon that he was known to Arsenal fans as Van Loony. Gave way to Arshavin

Emmanuel Adebayor 6/10



Forced to play a lone striker role, which is not his favourite. Worked hard but should have made Cech work with a second-half chance that he ballooned over the bar

SUBSTITUTES: Andrey Arshavin came on for Robin Van Persie but had no time before Drogba grabbed Chelsea's winner. Nicklas Bendtner, on for Adebayor, also had no time to make much impact

TOTAL 67



Chelsea

Petr Cech 5/10



Even Guus Hiddink admits he is lacking in confidence and will not enjoy watching a re-run of Arsenal's goal. Where has the once dominant goalkeeper gone?

Branislav Ivanovic 6/10



Found himself under threat from the runs of Gibbs, who got away to make the opening goal. Thanks to Van Persie and Diaby, his attacking options were limited

Alex 7/10



Preferred to Terry's normal central defensive partner Ricardo Carvalho and showed why. A fantastic overhead kick cleared Chelsea lines at a crucial time

John Terry 7/10



Showed all his experience to make three well-timed challenges to prevent Walcott but, on the hour mark, was absolutely skinned by the winger

Ashley Cole 6/10



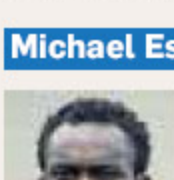
Objected to challenges by Walcott and Fabregas. Was not quick enough to close down Walcott before his goal and he rarely threatened down the flank

Michael Ballack 5/10



Largely anonymous for much of the game. But was kept on by Hiddink because of his work rate and his ability to conjure late goals from nothing

Michael Essien 7/10



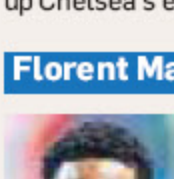
Got stronger as the game wore on, as you would expect from a man just regaining full fitness and often swept forward from his holding role

Frank Lampard 7/10



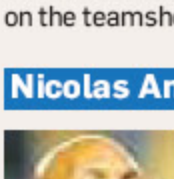
Happy to sit back when necessary, as he does for England but he produced a brilliant 40-yard crossfield pass from deep to set up Chelsea's equaliser

Florent Malouda 6/10



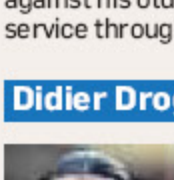
Hardly played under the former manager but another goal showed why he is now becoming one of the most consistent names on the teamsheet and scoresheet

Nicolas Anelka 6/10



One good strike in the first half but not happy out on the right wing. Desperate for a good showing against his old club but had no service through the centre

Didier Drogba 6/10



Loves playing against Arsenal, against whom he had scored eight times in the previous six games. But on this occasion, he was mainly isolated in front

SUBSTITUTES: Salomon Kalou would have been unhappy at being left out but came on for the disappointing Anelka. Did not really have the chance to show his striking qualities as Chelsea looked to hold onto their lead

TOTAL 68

Ref watch

Martin Atkinson didn't need to take any decisive decisions early on, with both teams playing the game in the right spirit, Lampard even ruffling Walcott's head after fouling him. Got his cards out at the right time to book Ivanovic but came under pressure from the players during the second half. Chelsea thought they should have had a penalty when Silvestre appeared to handle. Also gave a free kick to Chelsea when Lampard fell over very easily. 7/10

