

SCOUTING REPORT · CENTRE-BACK (ALSO FULL-BACK)

MR

Max Rosenfelder

SC Freiburg · Bundesliga (Germany)

Born 10.02.2003 · 186 cm · **right-footed** · German citizenship

MARKET VALUE

€8.0M

BUNDESLIGA · CB

BENCHMARK

Ratings compare Rosenfelder to **other mid-table Premier League centre-backs**.

SIGN

Mobile, tactically intelligent defender bringing reliability and versatility. The fee is slightly high for now, but growth potential and future resale value make him a promising asset.

DEFENSIVE PROFILE

Ratings vs. mid-table Premier League centre-backs

Ability to win defensive duels

QUITE GOOD

Ability to defend space behind

QUITE POOR

Ability to defend crosses

SIMILAR

Ability to leave his position to press

QUITE POOR

• **Defensive style, strengths & weaknesses**

Rosenfelder is a clean tackler with a composed defensive style, relying more on anticipation than physicality. He often steps out to intercept, showing good awareness of passing lanes. While his first step is slow, he recovers well in longer sprints thanks to decent top speed. His positioning is generally solid as a centre-back, but when used as a full-back he can be caught out, especially when defending wide rotations. Aerially he's not dominant, but his timing and reading help compensate in many situations. Still developing, but tactically intelligent.

OFFENSIVE PROFILE

Ratings vs. mid-table Premier League centre-backs

Movement and positioning to receive

SIMILAR

Ball retention

QUITE GOOD

Ball progression

SIMILAR

• Offensive style, strengths & weaknesses

Rosenfelder has a composed and balanced style, showing reliable technique and good decision-making under pressure. He's a solid passer who keeps things simple, rarely forcing risky plays. He excels in progression through midfield lines, particularly effective as a ball carrier. As a full-back he consistently looks to overlap, offering width — though his crossing lacks precision and variety. His impact in the final third is limited, but he provides stability and structure in the build-up phase, maintaining a good balance between attacking intent and defensive responsibility.

TRANSFER ASSESSMENT • CRYSTAL PALACE

Pros & cons of signing

ADVANTAGES

Gives Crystal Palace a mobile, tactically intelligent defender bringing reliability and versatility. Comfortable as CB or FB — flexibility in different systems. Clean tackling, strong anticipation, ability to read passing lanes make him a safe defensive option. Not explosive, but his recovery speed over distance is solid. On the ball, composed with good technique, an efficient passer and an excellent ball carrier in progression. While not a major threat in the final third, he supports the build-up phase well.

DISADVANTAGES

Potential struggle to adapt to the Premier League's pace and physical intensity. First-step quickness is limited — could be exposed against faster, more explosive attackers. Tactically sharp, but not dominant in aerial duels; may face challenges against physically stronger forwards. As a FB, positioning can be inconsistent, especially in wide defensive scenarios. Offensively, impact in the final third is minimal; limited crossing ability.

FINAL ADVICE TO THE SPORTING DIRECTOR

Max Rosenfelder • SC Freiburg → Crystal Palace

SIGN HIM

FEE

€9M

CONTRACT

4 years

GROSS SALARY

€1.5M / year

Versatile and low impact on the wage bill, and adds depth to the defensive unit. The fee is slightly high for now, but his growth potential and future resale value make him a promising asset.

Scout: **Elia Ventura**

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