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## Denmark's effective pivot play

### Part 1

by

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Denmark's pivot play was the key factor for their 32:23 semi final win against Spain. Outstanding line player # 14 Jensen HALD scored almost a third of the goals for his team with a high scoring percentage: 9 goals from 12 attempts, 75% efficiency, of which 8 were scored from pivot position. The Spanish defenders could not stop the tall yet mobile Danish captain who put on an excellent performance and cooperated well with his team mates in different game situations (game footage 1-6.) For example...

#### Video clip 1

**... At the beginning of the match** the Danish left and right backs positioned themselves wide apart and by playing close to the side line they aimed to stretch out the Spanish zone defence to open up gaps in the middle. During the patient ball passing, the Pivot blocks the sideways movement of the defenders then frees himself for the pass from the RB moving towards the centre.



### Video clip 2

... **In numerical inferiority** (5vs6) the pivot takes the LW position then runs-in to the defence wall while the RW also moves-in behind the defence. Temporarily Denmark plays without wingers yet with two pivots and this confuses the defenders who are unable to intercept LB's well timed pass to the Pivot.



### Video clip 3

... **In a tight game situation** Denmark plays patient attack with constant pressing and position change. The Pivot moves between the RH and LH defenders and tries to set up a scoring position for one of the backs when the crossing RB finds him with a well timed pass.

