

profootballsidedkick.com NFL 2026 Pre-Season Super Bowl Bets Analysis

April 27, 2026

SCREEN 2: FINAL SCREEN

Goal: Eliminate teams based on our formula to shrink the field from 32 to a manageable number for Screen 2: Final Screen

EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Coach, QB, Roster Grades: Our subjective grades.

2. Division Weakness Grades: Our grades based on our subjective view of the competitive level in each teams' division. A weaker division promotes a higher probability of teams achieving Division Championships, Wild Card births and home field playoff games.

3. 2026 Schedule Strength (low numbers indicate tougher schedules): Teams with a higher level of competition in the regular season have a higher probability of achieving a playoff birth or home field advantage in the playoffs. See the 2025 Detroit Lions and New England Patriots as examples.

4. DVOA Rank: Aaron Schatz, ftnfantasy.com uses a proprietary, complex analytical formula to grade teams on every play success and rank teams throughout the year based on a concatenated score. It measures yards gained, % yards gained toward 1st downs, 3rd/4th down efficiency, fumbles, length of scoring drive, TD complexity, strength of opponents, consistency and much more. It diminishes grade weight during blowout scores. It then ranks the teams 1-32 (1 is highest) based on the score.

5. Free Agency / Draft Grades: Offseason grades play a big role in team roster quality upgrades or downgrades. See the last several seasons of Baltimore and Philadelphia roster improvement and high grades for examples of this.

6. Rush yards per game/Average Per Rush: Studies show teams finishing in the bottom 3rd of the league the prior year have difficulty making to the Super Bowl.

7. Salary Cap Space: Teams affording a spending spree in free agency are in the best position to improve rosters. See New England in 2025 for an example of this.

EVALUATION & GRADES

* spotrac.com projection

AFC

SCREEN 2 AFC TEAMS	COACH GRADE	QUARTER BACK GRADE	ROSTER GRADE	DIVISION WEAKNESS GRADE	2026 SCHED STRENG	2025 DVOA RANK	FREE AGENCY GRADE	DRAFT GRADE	RUSH YPG/ YDS PER RUSH	SALARY CAP SPACE *
Los Angeles Chargers	A+	B+	B+	C-	9	17	C-	B+	12th / 13th	82 mil.
Denver Broncos	A+	C	A	C-	15	7	C	C+	16th / 13th	26 mil.
Cincinnati Bengals	C+	A+	B	B		21	C+	B		
Jacksonville Jaguars	B-	C	B	B+	22	6	D+	F	20th / 27th	-\$16 mil.
Kansas City Chiefs	A+	A+	B	C-	5	15	D+	B	25th / 20th	-\$8 mil.

NFC

SCREEN 2 NFC TEAMS	COACH GRADE	QUARTER BACK GRADE	ROSTER GRADE	DIVISION WEAKNESS GRADE	2026 SCHED STRENG	2025 DVOA RANK	FREE AGENCY GRADE	DRAFT GRADE	RUSH YPG/ YDS PER RUSH	SALARY CAP SPACE *
Chicago Bears	B-	C	B+	C	1	16	D+	B	3rd / 3rd	-\$11 mil.
Los Angeles Rams	A+	A+	A	C-	13	2	A	D+	7th / 6th	41 mil.
Detroit Lions	B-	B+	B	C	27	3	D+	B-	14th / 6th	-\$9 mil.
Green Bay Packers	B	B+	B	C	3	11	C-	B+	15th / 24th	-\$4 mil.
Philadelphia Eagles	D	C	A	A	23	14	C	A	18th / 20th	10 mil.
Tampa Bay Buccaneers	C	C+	C-	A+	21	20	C-	B+	21st / 24th	14 mil.
San Francisco 49ers	A	B-	B	C-	18	10	A	C+	24th / 30th	23 mil.