

NFL, Football

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Übrigens nette Preview auf das Spiel:

Zitat

Both of these teams are designed to protect leads. On offense, Baltimore and San Francisco grind the clock with their running games. They are the top two teams in rushing attempts, rushing yards, rushing touchdowns, and [time of possession](#). Both teams use their devastating rushing games to set up play-action to take devastating deep shots, especially to their speedy rookie receivers (Marquise Brown for the Ravens, Deebo Samuel for the 49ers) and athletic tight ends (Mark Andrews and George Kittle). On the other side of the ball, their opponents try to play catch-up by passing the ball, but usually fail. Each defense is top six in turnovers, top four in efficiency per [Football Outsiders](#), and top three in pass defense by the same metric. Both Baltimore's and San Francisco's defenses feature a former member of Seattle's Legion of Boom (Earl Thomas and Richard Sherman). Each play with an average lead of more than six points per offensive drive, according to [Football Outsiders](#). That's more than twice as many as the next closest team, and three-quarters of NFL teams have less than a one-point lead on their average drive.

These teams accomplish the same things, but go about it in opposite ways. The 49ers defense, led by a defensive line that boasts five first-round draft picks, leads the league in sacks and quarterback pressure rate despite blitzing roughly once every five plays (the fourth-lowest mark in the league). The Ravens, led by an unheralded collection of mid-round draft picks rushing the passer, blitz at the highest rate in the league (roughly one in two plays), but pressure the quarterback at a below-average level. On offense, the Baltimore Ravens run everything through Lamar Jackson. He leads the NFL in rushing yards per attempt with 7.1 yards per carry, which is more than 14 teams are averaging per pass. Jackson's abilities create a scare for the defense on every play, and Baltimore effectively uses that deception for big plays. Baltimore has run the most run-pass options this season according to [Pro-Football-Reference](#), and they also take easy chunks of yardage with Jackson running read-option handoffs that isolate edge rushers. Meanwhile, Jimmy Garoppolo isn't exactly mobile, but he has the second-most passing yards on play-action, according to [Pro Football Focus](#). San Francisco stretches defenses

horizontally with its zone-running game and then attacks the vertical seams—kind of like pulling two ends of paper until it rips in half. That strategy was extremely evident on a pass to George Kittle the 49ers used against Green Bay last week.

If either team has something resembling a weakness, it's that neither excels at what is required when playing from behind—stopping the run to get the ball back and then passing to move the ball quickly. Efficiency-wise, the 49ers are an average run defense and the Ravens are below average. Each team is in the bottom five in pass attempts because they so rarely have had to throw in the second half. Their teams are usually running to bleed out the clock for a big win. If either team falls into a two-possession deficit, the shoe will be, [as they say](#), on the other foot.

[Week 13 NFL Preview: Is Ravens-49ers Our Super Bowl Preview? - The Ringer](#)