

# 2010 World Cup match ball – Jabulani

The adidas *Jabulani* – meaning “to celebrate” in isiZulu – is the latest in a line of official World Cup match balls stretching back 40 years, each of which has become a part of the tournament’s history in its own right



**1970 TELSTAR** Mexico  
Archetypal design – 32 hand-stitched leather panels. Designed for black-and-white TV



**1978 TANGO** Argentina  
Classic “triad” design.  
Spain 1982: Sealed seams reduce water intake



**1986 AZTECA** Mexico  
First synthetic ball for improved durability and less water absorption



**1990 ETRUSCO** Italy  
Polyurethane foam layer increases response and water resistance



**1994 QUESTRA** U.S.  
Layer of polyethylene foam increases energy return – softer and faster



**1998 TRICOLORE** France  
Syntactic foam matrix layer boosts energy return and durability



**2002 FEVERNOVA** Korea/Japan: Durable woven chassis and refined syntactic foam for more predictable response

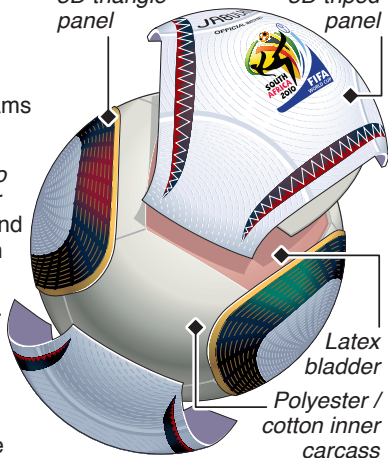


**2006 TEAMGEIST** Germany: 14-panel thermal-bonded layer for more even surface and better control

**2010 JABULANI** South Africa  
Eight spherically-moulded, EVA and TPU plastic panels

3D triangle panel

3D tripod panel



Aerodynamic grooves for enhanced stability in flight

Thermal bonding

Micro-texture grip improves control in all conditions

