

Objective: To construct the optimal team of eleven players from the T20 World Cup 2022, capable of:

1. Averaging a team score of 180+ runs.
2. Defending a target of at least 150 runs effectively.

Selection Criteria: The selection follows specific statistical benchmarks for each role:

- **Openers:** High batting average (>30), strike rate (>140), boundary percentage (>50%), and positioning in the top four.
 - **Middle Order:** High average (>40) and strike rate (>125) while consistently facing 20+ balls per innings.
 - **Finishers:** Efficient scorers (average >25, strike rate >130), who bowl occasionally and bat in lower-order positions.
 - **All-Rounders/Lower Order:** Solid batting and strike rate (>140), bowling economy (<7), and bowling strike rate (<20).
 - **Fast Bowlers:** Economical (<7 runs per over), with a low bowling average (<20) and high dot ball percentage (>40%).
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Findings and Analysis:

1. Openers:

- **Chosen Players:** Jos Buttler and Alex Hales.
- **Justification:** Buttler and Hales exhibit consistency in scoring, high batting averages, and strike rates over 144. Other contenders like Rilee Rossouw, Kusal Mendis, and Quinton de Kock demonstrated inconsistency or achieved their figures against weaker teams.

2. Middle Order:

- **Chosen Players:** Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav.
- **Justification:** Kohli leads with a remarkable average and stability, maintaining a 136 strike rate. Suryakumar Yadav surpasses others with a top-tier strike rate, demonstrating reliability in high-pressure scenarios. Other candidates, such as Lorcan Tucker and Daryl Mitchell, showed comparatively lower strike rates.

3. Finishers:

- **Chosen Players:** Glenn Maxwell and Marcus Stoinis.
- **Justification:** Stoinis and Maxwell stood out with averages near 40 and strike rates exceeding 160. Despite meeting the minimum criteria, players like Hardik Pandya and Sikandar Raza displayed lower averages and struggled in critical Super 12 matches.

4. Lower Middle Order/All-Rounders:

- **Chosen Players:** Mitchell Santner and Shadab Khan.
- **Justification:** Both players contributed effectively with the bat and the ball. Rashid Khan showed high potential in batting, but his inconsistency and single-match performance limited his selection. Sikandar Raza's statistics dipped in key Super 12 matches, especially his strike rate and average.

5. Fast Bowlers:

- **Chosen Players:** Sam Curran, Shaheen Shah Afridi, and Anrich Nortje.
- **Justification:** Curran, Afridi, and Nortje brought exceptional control, maintaining low economies and high dot ball rates. While Tim Southee performed well, his higher economy and fewer wickets rendered him less effective than the selected trio.

Summary of the Best 11 Team:

1. **Openers:** Jos Buttler, Alex Hales
2. **Middle Order:** Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav
3. **Finishers:** Glenn Maxwell, Marcus Stoinis
4. **All-Rounders/Lower Order:** Mitchell Santner, Shadab Khan
5. **Fast Bowlers:** Sam Curran, Shaheen Shah Afridi, Anrich Nortje

Performance Metrics:

- **Batting Average:** 43.13
- **Strike Rate:** 153.33
- **Average Balls Faced:** 19

- **Bowling Average:** 13.51
- **Bowling Strike Rate:** 12.56
- **Economy:** 6.45
- **Dot Ball Percentage:** 42.91%

Score Calculation:

- **Estimated Runs Scored:** 183.99
- **Estimated Runs Conceded:** 129

Conclusion: This selected team not only meets the criteria but has a balanced structure of high-performing openers, stable middle-order anchors, aggressive finishers, and an effective bowling lineup. This squad promises an overall score capacity near 184, with a strong defense, allowing fewer than 130 runs on average—a team well-suited for championship-level matches.