yahoo basketball fantasy – projected rank and latest news for the 2024-25 season:

**(the written hear based on 10-12 team format but in our league, there are just 8 teams so the round is advised hear is no relevant in our format)**

[1. V. Wembanyama](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/10094) SAS - C

Coming off arguably the most impressive rookie season of the modern era, Wembanyama is already making a strong case to be considered with the number one pick in fantasy drafts. Despite only playing 29.7 minutes per game during his first season, Wembanyama ended as the seventh-ranked player in nine-category leagues. His averages were simply mind-blowing, putting up 21.4 points per game, to go with 10.6 rebounds, 3.9 assists, 1.2 steals, 3.6 blocks and 1.8 three-pointers. Over the final two months of the season, he was even more impressive, coming in as the second-ranked player overall. During that span, he averaged 23.5 points, 12.0 rebounds, 5.3 assists, 1.5 steals, 4.5 blocks and 2.3 three-pointers in 32.5 minutes per game. Heading into his sophomore season, Wembanyama will not only be better prepared for what lies ahead, but he will also be sharing the court with Chris Paul, who was recently signed to a one-year deal. Paul will almost certainly make life easier for Wembanyama, affording him much better looks on the offensive end of the court. The Spurs are unlikely to push into the playoffs just yet, but they should be a much-improved team. Managers should pencil Wembanyama in for at least 70 games given how he was utilized last season. Anyone keen to acquire his services is going to have to part with a very high draft pick, likely in the 1-3 range.

2. [N. Jokić](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5352) DEN – C

After three consecutive seasons as the number one player in fantasy, Jokic ended the 2023-24 campaign in the third spot. Despite increasing his averages across multiple categories, his efficiency took a small hit, as did his assist numbers. He closed with averages of 26.4 points, 12.3 rebounds, 9.0 assists, 1.4 steals, 0.9 blocks and 1.1 three-pointers. While this should still be considered elite production, he is beginning to come back to the field. Typically the unquestioned number one draft pick in all fantasy formats, managers now have a couple of other names to consider, those being Victor Wembanyama, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and to a lesser extent, Joel Embiid and Luka Doncic. The Nuggets will remain firmly in the title hunt this season, making Jokic a lock to play the majority of games, barring an unforeseen injury. The addition of Dario Saric does give Denver some much-needed floor-spacing depth in the frontcourt. This could impact Jokic's playing time ever so slightly, allowing him to see closer to 33 minutes per night. There is certainly a world in which Jokic ascends to become the number one player again, making him a sneaky value target if he slips to the third or even fourth pick, however unlikely that may seem.

3. [L. Doncic](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6014) DAL - PG,SG

Coming off his best season to date in both fantasy and reality, Doncic should once again be at the top of his game entering the 2024-25 campaign. He was able to somewhat address his free throw issues last year, shooting a career-best 78.9 percent from the line. This helped elevate his overall rank to number five in nine-category formats, the range in which he will need to be drafted this season. He finished with averages of 33.9 points, 9.2 rebounds, 9.8 assists, 1.4 steals and 4.1 three-pointers -- mouthwatering numbers in anyone's book. He led the Mavericks to the NBA Finals, where they were ultimately defeated by the Celtics. Having now had a taste of success, Doncic is likely to be striving for the ultimate goal, winning an NBA title. Despite having a stronger supporting cast around him, there is no indication his role will change moving forward. In fact, the addition of Klay Thompson, as well as last season's mid-year additions, Daniel Gafford and PJ Washington, should make life a little easier for Doncic. It's reasonable to think that his scoring could take a small hit, something that he would welcome, given the offensive demands placed upon him in recent times. Everything points to Doncic being a first-round asset once again, with the upside to finish inside the top 3. Managers are going to have to pay up to get him, with public opinion placing him in the upper echelon of drafts, no matter the format.

4. [S. Gilgeous-Alexander](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6022) OKC – PG

Gilgeous-Alexander not only replicated his breakout 2022-23 campaign, he bettered it by ending the 2023-24 season as the second-ranked player in standard formats. Although his scoring dipped from 31.4 points per game to 30.1, he increased his steals from 1.6 to 2.0, while shooting an impressive 53.5 percent from the floor. He coupled these numbers with 5.3 rebounds, 6.2 assists, 0.9 blocks and 1.3 three-pointers across his 75 games played. He has established himself as a true superstar not only in fantasy but also in reality. The Thunder are primed to be a serious contender for at least the next few years, meaning Gilgeous-Alexander should be front and center when it comes to production. Oklahoma City have made a couple of savvy improvements to their roster, bringing in Alex Caruso and Isaiah Hartenstein, while parting ways with Josh Giddey. Caruso certainly adds a lot on the defensive end but typically doesn't do a ton with the ball in his hands. With no Giddey, plus adding a reliable inside target, Gilgeous-Alexander could see a slight bump in his assist numbers. Theoretically entering his prime at age 26, the sky is the limit here. Anyone wanting to roster him for the upcoming season is going to have to spend a top-three draft pick.

5. [T. Haliburton](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6404) IND - PG,SG

After a red-hot start to the 2023-24 season, a hamstring injury somewhat derailed Haliburton's season. Although the ailment only cost him 10 games, he was clearly hampered for much of the second half of the season. When all was said and done, he still managed to cobble together a strong campaign, ending as the 10th-ranked player in nine-category leagues with averages of 20.1 points, 3.9 rebounds, 10.9 assists, 1.2 steals, 0.7 blocks and 2.8 three-pointers. His efficiency from the field dropped slightly when compared to the previous season, falling from 49.0 percent to 47.7 percent. Despite his injury, the Pacers still made some serious noise in the playoffs, getting to the Conference Finals, where they ultimately fell to the Celtics. While some may believe that Indiana overachieved, it's clear that the team is going to be competitive again this season. To have any chance of replicating their efforts, they will need Haliburton to lead from the front. He should be considered an elite fantasy asset for the foreseeable future, albeit in the tier below players such as Victor Wembanyama, Nikola Jokic and Shai Gilgeous-Alexander. Likely to be selected in the middle-to-late first round, he should have a decent chance of returning value

6. [G. Antetokounmpo](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5185) MIL - PF,C

After somewhat of a down season in 2022-23, Antetokounmpo got back on track last year, improving his efficiency from the field as well as his defensive contributions. As is typically the case when it comes to his fantasy value, player ranks simply don't tell the complete story. He finished as the 34th-ranked player in nine-category leagues despite his having the worst impact of his career from the free throw line. He averaged 30.4 points per game, adding 11.5 rebounds, 6.5 assists, 1.2 steals and 1.1 blocks on 61.1 percent shooting from the floor and 65.7 percent from the line. He also managed to play in at least 70 games for the first time since the 2018-19 season, suiting up on 73 occasions. Those even moderately familiar with fantasy basketball will be fully aware that there is absolutely no way Antetokounmpo will be available in the third round of drafts. The Bucks are desperate to jump back into the title picture. To do so, they will need their superstar firing on all cylinders. Assuming you are willing to consider punting free throws, Antetokounmpo will need to be drafted inside the first round, especially in head-to-head formats where punting is more of a viable strategy.

7. [J. Embiid](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5294) PHI – C

After two relatively healthy seasons, the injury curse came back to haunt Embiid during the 2023-24 campaign. Despite ending as the number one player on a per-game basis, the fact he managed just 39 games saw him finish outside the top 50 in totals. With that said, his averages were a thing of beauty, putting up 34.7 points per game to go with 11.0 rebounds, 5.6 assists, 1.2 steals, 1.7 blocks and 1.4 three-pointers. Coming into this season, the only question is his health and whether he will be able to stay on the floor. Having now had two meniscus surgeries on the same knee, there is a very real chance he tops out at about 60 games, assuming nothing else crops up. The 76ers have added Paul George as an elite third option, potentially enabling them to manage Embiid through the regular season. It is unlikely he will replicate his numbers from last season, and coupled with the injury risk, his ADP is tough to project. Managers are well within their rights to target him inside the first round if they are happy to lean into his per-game upside. However, with so much uncertainty, there is a chance he slips into the early second round in some drafts, making him a great pairing with a more assured first-rounder.

8. [J. Tatum](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5765) BOS - SF,PF

2024 has already been a massive year for Tatum, as he took home the Larry O'Brien Trophy, landed the largest contract in NBA history and was named to Team USA for the Paris Olympics. He's the top player on a loaded Celtics squad primed to compete for another championship, but the additions of Jrue Holiday and Kristaps Porzingis last offseason put a dent in Tatum's fantasy value. His regular-season points per game dropped from 30.1 to 26.9, and he attempted nearly two fewer field goals and free throws in 2023-24. The 26-year-old's production stands to benefit from Porzingis undergoing foot surgery in late June with a five-to-six month recovery timetable. Tatum does plenty more than score, though, adding 8.1 rebounds, 4.9 assists and 1.0 steals per game during the regular season while averaging 3.1 made three-pointers. Tatum's slight decrease in production last year is worth noting, but he remains one of the NBA's elite fantasy players and is still worth plenty of consideration in the top two rounds.

9. [A. Davis](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5007) LAL - PF,C

After perennially playing fewer than 60 games, David flipped the script last season, tallying 76 of a possible 82 games. For the first time in what feels like forever, his total value outshot his per-game value, much to the delight of fantasy managers. His tendency to miss games resulted in Davis typically being drafted in the second round, and rightfully so. However, this time around, those who took a chance on him were rewarded with a top-four performance. As usual, his numbers leave little to the imagination, averaging 24.7 points, 12.6 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 1.2 steals and 2.3 blocks on 55.6 percent shooting from the floor and 81.6 percent from the line. If we think back just two seasons, Davis shot 71.3 percent from the line, so the return to normalcy was a welcome sight. The Lakers are likely to be a team that creates a lot of controversy again this season, likely striving for a title run in what is a stacked Western Conference. Despite LeBron James signing on for another two years, it makes sense for the organization to begin to transition the keys over to Davis. Assuming he can remain healthy and the team is at least competitive for the majority of the season, there is no reason to think Davis can't replicate what he did last year. Given his well-documented injury history, managers are unlikely to have to reach to secure his services. He makes sense as a target in the late first round.

10. [K. Durant](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4244) PHX - SF,PF

Bucking the recent trend, Durant was able to remain largely healthy during the 2023-24 season, playing 75 total games, the most he has played since the 2018-19 season. While many would view the season as a disappointment from a team perspective, Durant went about his job in typical fashion, ending as the 11th-ranked player in standard leagues. Although it is the first time he has finished outside the top 10 since his rookie season, those who drafted him walked away with a smile on their face given his declining ADP. His averages were on par with what he has been able to deliver the past few years, putting up 27.1 points, 6.6 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 2.2 three-pointers and 2.1 combined steals and blocks. Phoenix may opt to go with recently acquired Tyus Jones as the starting point guard this upcoming season, something that may in fact work in Durant's favor. Playing alongside a traditional point guard could result in better looks for Durant, a huge positive given his typically efficient scoring. Missed games remain a concern, meaning he will likely fall to the end of the first round or even early second round in drafts. Landing him in this range should mean you can pair him with another potential first-round asset.

11. [T. Young](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6016) ATL – PG

By all accounts, Young was able to deliver a successful fantasy season during the 2023-24 campaign despite finishing as the 36th-ranked player in nine-category leagues. He played a career-high 36.0 minutes per night, putting up career-best numbers in both assists and steals. He finished with healthy averages of 25.7 points, 2.8 rebounds, 10.8 assists, 1.3 steals and 3.2 three-pointers. His efficiency from the field remains an issue, connecting on just 43.0 percent of his shot attempts. He also shot 85.5 percent from the stripe, the second-lowest mark of his career. If we eliminate the 4.4 turnovers per game, managers have to be happy with what he was able to produce. Jump ahead 12 months and we now have a situation where Young is no longer sharing the court with Dejounte Murray after he was traded to the Pelicans. This alone should set the table for Young to basically play unopposed as the primary ball-handler. Dyson Daniels is someone the Hawks may want to get a look at, although his usage is unlikely to be anywhere near what Murray was doing. With the stars aligning for Young, managers are likely going to have to consider him in the first round of drafts. Given what he did last season could be considered his floor, that feels like a risk worth taking.

12. [S. Curry](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4612) GSW - PG,SG

For the first time in a long time, Curry will enter the season without his running mate. Following a disappointing 2023-24 campaign for the Warriors, they opted to part ways with Klay Thompson, allowing him to sign with the Mavericks. Curry saw his production dip slightly last year, resulting in him closing the season outside the top 20 in standard leagues. While his averages of 26.4 points, 4.5 rebounds, 5.1 assists, 0.7 steals and 4.8 three-pointers can still be considered elite, it does appear as though age is beginning to catch up with him. Heading into the 2024-25 season, the Warriors have added a few new pieces, most notably Kyle Anderson, Buddy Hield and De'Anthony Melton. Along with the increased role of players like Brandin Podziemski and Jonathan Kuminga, the Warriors are likely going to run a little deeper. Although Curry will be the number one option, he should also have the opportunity to defer to others as required. He is unlikely to get back to being a first-round asset. However, managers should still expect to spend a second-round pick to secure him in drafts.

13. [D. Mitchell](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5826) CLE - PG,SG

Mitchell and the Cavs came to terms on a three-year extension, locking him alongside Darius Garland in the backcourt for the future. Mitchell posted a career-high 28.3 points per game in his first season in Cleveland, but his point total dropped to 26.6 last season. He made up for the decrease in scoring by putting up career-bests in rebounds (5.1), assists (6.1) and steals (1.8). The 27-year-old missed 18 of the Cavaliers' final 29 regular-season games due to a nasal fracture and lingering pain in his left knee, leaving his games played total at 55. Mitchell has not played in 70 regular-season contests since 2018, though he has managed to avoid significant injuries up to this point. The Cavaliers did not make any splashes during the offseason, retaining their core pieces and adding wing Jaylon Tyson through the draft. Mitchell handled a 30.1 percent usage rate during the 2023-24 regular season, while no other Cavalier topped 25 percent in the category. While it's plausible Garland takes another step forward offensively, Mitchell should be expected to remain the Cavaliers' offensive focal point. He is worthy of an early round pick in fantasy drafts.

14. [K. Irving](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4840) DAL - PG,SG

Irving seems to have found a home in Dallas alongside Luka Doncic in the backcourt. 2023-24 was Irving's first full season as a Maverick after being traded to Dallas in February 2023. The 32-year-old guard dealt with multiple significant injuries last season, missing 12 consecutive games with a bruised heel and six straight games with a sprained thumb. He also managed minor foot and hamstring injuries throughout the campaign. In total, Irving appeared in 58 regular-season games and suited up in all 22 postseason contests. His per-game averages took a step back last season, averaging his fewest points (25.6) since 2018-19 and his fewest assists (5.2) since 2015-16 despite playing 35.0 minutes per game. The drop-off in production likely was a result of playing off-ball more frequently than he had in previous years. Doncic commanded a monstrous 35.5 percent usage rate last year, leaving Irving's usage at 27.4 percent -- his lowest in nine years. With Klay Thompson coming over to Dallas in a sign-and-trade, there may be even fewer shots for Irving in 2024-25, though upgrading from Josh Green to Thompson on the wing could help boost Irving's assist total. While Irving's best fantasy days are likely behind him and some question marks remain due to his offseason hand surgery, the veteran guard is still worth a look in early-to-middle portions of most fantasy drafts.

15. [D. Booker](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5473) PHX - PG,SG

Playing a full season with Kevin Durant and being joined in the backcourt by Bradley Beal had little impact on most parts of Booker's statistical output, as his 2023-24 season averages of 27.1 points, 4.5 rebounds, 2.2 triples, 2.6 turnovers and 0.9 steals were near carbon copies of his numbers from the previous campaign. His shooting percentages of 49.2 percent from the field, 36.4 percent from three-point range and 88.6 percent from the charity stripe were in line with previous seasons as well, but where the All-Star did show a dramatic change was in his work as a distributor. With Chris Paul no longer around to handle point-guard duties, Booker slid into that role and averaged a career-best 6.9 assists per game. That pushed him into the top 20 on a per-game basis in nine-category fantasy leagues, and there's little reason to doubt his ability to finish there again in 2024-25 given his recent consistency and the Suns' decision to run it back with Booker, Durant and Beal despite last year's disappointing first-round playoff sweep at the hands of the Timberwolves. Perhaps the only concern about Booker is his ability to stay healthy. He's missed at least 10 games in six of the last seven campaigns and dealt with separate ankle, hip, calf and toe issues last season.

16. [A. Edwards](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6355) MIN - SG,SF

One of NBA's rising young stars, Edwards tallied 25.9 points, 5.4 rebounds, 5.1 assists and 1.3 steals across 35.1 minutes per game in the 2023-24 regular season and earned All-NBA Second Team honors. Edwards has also been one of the more durable stars in the league, making 79 regular-season appearances in back-to-back seasons and having never played in less than 70 games in his career. Entering his fifth NBA season, Edwards' point and assist averages have improved every year. He's taken on the lead role for Minnesota despite playing alongside Karl-Anthony Towns and Rudy Gobert, registering a 31.4 percent usage rate, which ranked fifth among players who appeared in 25 or more games. With injury-prone players and aging stars floating around the top of fantasy rankings, Edwards' mixture of potential and durability makes him especially appealing in 2024-25. The soon-to-be 23-year-old will enter the season as arguably the best two-guard in the NBA on one of the Western Conference's top teams, making him an excellent option in late portions of the first round of fantasy drafts.

17. [D. Sabonis](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5642) SAC – C

Sabonis is coming off another stellar season during which he averaged career-high numbers in multiple categories, including rebounds, assists and blocks. Although he was positioned as the 29th-ranked player in nine-category leagues, his high turnovers and lack of three-pointers mask what was another borderline first-round campaign. He compiled averages of 19.4 points, 13.7 rebounds, 8.2 assists, 0.9 steals, 0.6 blocks and 0.4 three-pointers, providing managers with a nightly triple-double threat. The Kings added DeMar DeRozan during the offseason, bringing in a proven veteran to bolster their chances in a stacked Western Conference. While it does make them a more formidable unit, DeRozan's arrival should impact Sabonis in terms of fantasy value. Despite a couple of flaws in his overall game, Sabonis should be targeted in the early second round of drafts, serving as a perfect secondary option alongside any first-round asset.

18. [J. Harden](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4563) LAC - PG,SG

Coming into the 2023-24 season, managers were cautious when it came to drafting Harden due to the uncertainty regarding his immediate playing future. Having seemingly severed ties with the 76ers, it was unclear if and where he would be playing once the season began. Unsurprisingly, it took very little time for a suitor to come calling, with the Clippers offering Harden a lifeline. He ended up playing 72 games for Los Angeles, averaging 16.6 points, 5.1 rebounds, 8.5 assists, 1.1 steals, 0.8 blocks and 2.6 three-pointers, good enough for top-30 value in standard leagues. Those who managed to land him in the third or fourth rounds of drafts certainly walked away looking like champions. Despite the season coming to an unceremonious end, Harden will return to the Clippers for the upcoming season after signing a lucrative two-year deal. While Kawhi Leonard remains on the roster, Paul George has opted to take his talents to Philadelphia, a city Harden knows all too well. This leaves Harden and Leonard as the two primary options on offense, a role Harden has filled in the past. Given there is almost no way his scoring doesn't increase, Harden could make for a nice bounce-back candidate. Based on the opportunity in front of him, managers should view him as a safe second-round pick with borderline first-round upside.

19. [L. Ball](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6395) CHA - PG,SG

Once again, Ball will be one of the more talked about players heading into fantasy drafts, and not for all the right reasons. He has now played a total of just 58 games over the past two seasons as he continues to deal with ongoing ankle issues. When healthy, he has proven he can match it with the best, both in fantasy and reality. He managed to put up second-round value on a per-game basis last season, delivering averages of 23.9 points, 5.1 rebounds, 8.0 assists, 1.8 steals and 3.2 three-pointers. He scored at least 30 points on seven occasions during a stretch of nine games during the month of November, highlighting his offensive upside. Managers also need to account for the fact that the Hornets have been one of the bottom-ranked teams in recent times, perhaps affording them the opportunity to take a cautious approach when it comes to managing their top-tier players. Coming into the 2024-25 season, Ball's health remains highly questionable. While he has first-round potential, recent history would indicate that he should be available in the second or even third rounds of drafts. If you are willing to take a risk, he could end up being a difference-maker, should he somehow eclipse 65 games.

20. [S. Barnes](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6515) TOR - SG,SF,PF

Following an underwhelming sophomore season, Barnes took a giant leap last year, elevating his nine-category player rank from 85 to 21. While his offensive game certainly improved, it was on the defensive end that he did most of his damage, going from 1.9 to 2.8 combined steals and blocks. While it was a great season for Barnes, the fact the Raptors are now in rebuilding mode did impact his overall value. He missed the final 22 games of the season due to hand surgery, something that he could potentially have played through had the team been competing. He ended with averages of 19.9 points, 8.2 rebounds, 6.1 assists, 1.3 steals, 1.5 blocks and 1.7 three-pointers in 34.9 minutes per game. Shifting our attention to the 2024-25 season, Barnes is likely to be the Raptors' alpha once again. He should have the ball in his hands a lot, providing him with the opportunity to finally crack 20.0 points per game. With that said, it's hard to see him making any significant improvements. In fact, if his defensive numbers take even a small hit, he could slide a round or two in the rankings. Managers are going to have to make a point of grabbing him in the second round, understanding that you could very well be drafting him at his ceiling.

21. [J. Brunson](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6044) NYK – PG

After a breakout during the 2022-23 season, Brunson elevated his game even further, taking the Knicks to the second round of the playoffs. With Julius Randle missing a significant portion of the season, Brunson took charge on the offensive end, much to the delight of fantasy managers. He took his scoring from 24.0 points per game the previous year to a career-high 28.7, adding 3.6 rebounds, 6.7 assists, 0.9 steals and 2.7 three-pointers. As is often the case with Tom Thibodeau-coached teams, the Knicks ran out of steam thanks to a plethora of injuries to key pieces, Brunson included. Heading into the 2024-25 season, New York has locked up Brunson on a multi-year deal, along with OG Anunoby, while bringing in Mikal Bridges from the Nets. Everything points to them being highly competitive again, meaning Brunson should find himself in a very similar situation. He was the 29th-ranked player in standard formats last season, a range that feels attainable once again. It's hard to see him making any significant strides forward, making him a safe pick in the early to mid-third round of drafts, albeit one with potentially less upside than others around him.

22. [C. Holmgren](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6692) OKC - PF,C

Coming off an injury that cost him his entire rookie season, Holmgren wasted little time in proving he could live up to the hype. While he was unable to garner Rookie of the Year honors due to the fact Victor Wembanyama was putting together arguably the best rookie season in recent memory, Holmgren outperformed expectations, finishing as a second-round asset in standard leagues. He averaged 16.5 points, 7.9 rebounds, 2.4 assists, 0.6 steals, 2.3 blocks and 1.6 three-pointers, numbers that seem largely sustainable despite the addition of Isaiah Hartenstein. The Thunder were one of the worst rebounding teams in the league, an issue that needed to be addressed should they hope to contend for a title. Hartenstein should be able to help in that regard, coming off a breakout campaign in New York. This could ultimately put a cap on what Holmgren can do on the glass, something that isn't necessarily a bad thing given his frame. With that said, With a year under his belt, it's not ridiculous to think that Holmgren can take some steps forward on the offensive end of the floor, somewhat negating his rebounding numbers. Managers should view his floor as relatively safe, making him a nice target in the late second round, or even the third round if he falls that far.

23. [D. Lillard](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5012) MIL – PG

Coming off what many would consider to be a disappointing season, Lillard still managed to put up second-round value in per-game, nine-category ranks. He also played at least 70 games for the first time since the 2018-19 season, despite some personal issues off the court. As expected, his usage and subsequent scoring took a hit playing alongside Giannis Antetokounmpo. He finished with averages of 24.3 points, 4.4 rebounds, 7.0 assists, 1.0 steals and 3.0 three-pointers, logging 35.3 minutes per game. Having now spent the last 12 months playing with Antetokounmpo, Lillard will be looking to prove the naysayers wrong, as will the Bucks as a team. Given last year could be viewed as his floor, managers are within their rights to be optimistic heading into the 2024-25 season. Although there is almost no chance he gets back to being a first-round player, there is no reason to think he can't push inside the top 20. His ADP is likely to hover around the late second or early third round, making him an unsexy, yet relatively safe target for anyone who may have taken a small risk with their earlier picks.

24. [P. George](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4725) PHI - SG,SF,PF

George was one of the biggest storylines in the offseason, moving across the country to join the Sixers. That's a perfect landing spot for the All-Star because he'll fit in seamlessly with Joel Embiid and Tyrese Maxey. We might even see PG13 being asked to do more because he's one of the only true wings on this roster. What has to concern Philly fans is that his numbers have been heading in the wrong direction. George averaged 22.6 points, 5.2 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 1.5 steals and 3.3 threes on elite shooting last year. Almost all of those are his lowest totals over the last decade. We did see him play 74 games though, his highest total since the 2019 season. George has had trouble staying on the floor, and he'll probably have to play 35-40 minutes with Nick Nurse as the head coach. That could lead to a bounce-back season for the elite wing, or it could have him on the sidelines more than Philly fans want to see. In any case, he's still one of the best sources for steals and threes, making him a great pick in the Top 40 of drafts.

25. [D. Fox](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5767) SAC – PG

Fox continued to rank as one of the NBA's top scorers last season, placing eighth among qualified players with 26.6 points per game. Though his 46.5 percent field-goal rate was his lowest since his rookie campaign, the tradeoff was a significant increase in volume from beyond the arc -- Fox made 2.9 three-pointers per contest last season, blowing away his previous career-high mark of 1.8. The point guard also dramatically increased his steals output, leading the league with 2.0 thefts per contest to nearly double his average from the previous campaign. The rise in triples is probably more sustainable than the jump in steals, but if Fox can approach both marks again, he could hover around the top 25 in nine-category fantasy leagues. However, there are some less-enticing elements of Fox's game that managers need to be of aware before determining how high to draft him. First, he has never been a great free-throw shooter, and his 73.8 percent rate in that area last season was over four ticks lower than in the prior campaign. Second, the point guard's stats as a distributor have taken a hit since Domantas Sabonis became his teammate during the 2021-22 season, and Fox's 5.6 assists per game last year are lackluster for a starter at his position. Finally, Fox will be playing alongside another elite scorer in 2024-25 with Sacramento's big offseason addition of DeMar DeRozan. Fox still figures to be the team's offensive centerpiece, but it wouldn't be surprising if his shot volume decreases to some extent as he shares more of the scoring load.

26. [L. James](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/3704) LAL - SF,PF

Despite age no longer being his friend, James continues to defy father time, once again putting together an elite fantasy season during the 2023-24 campaign. He compiled averages of 25.7 points, 7.3 rebounds, 8.3 assists, 1.5 steals and 2.1 three-pointers in 35.3 minutes per game, good enough for top-20 value in standard leagues. Perhaps even more impressive was the fact he played 71 games, the first time he has eclipsed the 70-game mark since the 2017-18 season. James will turn 40 in December, making him the oldest player in the league. As has been the case for the past few years, the impending drop-off in production could be just around the corner. However, based on what we have seen at the recent Olympic Games, he could very well just continue producing at an elite level. There is a very real chance he slides in drafts, with managers still assuming age will catch up with him. With skepticism still present, James could end up being a nice value pick once again, for anyone willing to plant their flag on the aging superstar. At this point, his floor still feels relatively safe, meaning even if his numbers do take a hit, he should land inside the top 40, come April.

27. [L. Markkanen](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5769) UTA - SF,PF

After a modest start to his career, Markkanen has put together back-to-back breakout seasons, finishing as the 21st and 14th-ranked player, respectively. He closed the 2023-24 season with averages of 23.2 points, 8.2 rebounds, 2.0 assists, 0.9 steals and 3.2 three-pointers, shooting 48.0 percent from the field and 89.9 percent from the line. Despite some uncertainty regarding his future in Utah, Markkanen recently signed a five-year, $238 million extension, ensuring his immediate playing future. With the formalities out of the way, fantasy managers can safely assume his production should hold steady moving forward. He will continue to serve as the main offensive weapon in Utah while also providing serviceable numbers across multiple categories, including rebounds and three-pointers. If he can maintain close to 1.0 steals per game, his overall value should be relatively safe, at least from a per-game perspective. The Jazz are unlikely to challenge the top teams in the Western Conference, making the end of the regular season somewhat unpredictable. However, Markkanen enters the 2024-25 campaign as a solid third-round target, regardless of the format.

28. [T. Maxey](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6413) PHI - PG,SG

Following the departure of James Harden early in the 2023-24 season, Maxey took over as the lead guard, compiling career-best numbers across the board. He finished as a second-round fantasy asset, with averages of 25.9 points, 3.7 rebounds, 6.2 assists, 1.0 steals and 3.0 three-pointers in 37.5 minutes per game. While it was a fantastic reward for anyone who drafted him, there were a couple of notable caveats. Joel Embiid missed a sizeable chunk of the season due to another knee injury, allowing Maxey to shoulder almost the entire offensive workload. As is typically the case with any player who absorbs more shots, Maxey's efficiency dropped to a career-low at 45.0 percent. The injury to Embiid ultimately impacted any chance the team had of making some real noise in the Eastern Conference, something they have attempted to address this offseason. Paul George will come into the team as a proven scoring option, providing the team with some assurance if and when Embiid is sidelined. This should also mean that Maxey can take his foot off the gas a little during those times, perhaps reducing his fantasy ceiling. With that said, he is clearly the future in Philadelphia, meaning George could be the third option at times. While it is difficult to see Maxey improving too much on what he did last season, he should still be a relatively safe option in the late second or early third rounds of drafts.

29. [D. Murray](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5660) NOP - PG,SG

After two years in Atlanta, Murray was moved to New Orleans during the offseason where he will almost certainly take over as the starting point guard. Playing alongside Trae Young for the past two seasons meant Murray was often playing off the ball. Although his scoring was able to hold steady, his assist numbers took a hit when compared to his final season in San Antonio. During the 2023-24 season, he was the 38th-ranked player in nine-category leagues with averages of 22.5 points, 5.3 rebounds, 6.4 assists, 1.4 steals and 2.6 three-pointers. While the experiment was largely seen as a disappointment, we did see Murray become a much better perimeter scorer during his time with the Hawks. Now with the Pelicans, his improved floor spacing will be key to unlocking Zion Williamson on the offensive end. Murray will likely take a small hit in the scoring column playing with Williamson, Brandon Ingram, CJ McCollum and Trey Murphy. However, his assist numbers could go the other way, as could his production on the defensive end. All in all, it is a good move for Murray and the Pelicans. His fantasy floor should remain safe at around top-40. His ceiling remains to be seen but could elevate closer to top-25 if things go to plan.

30. [K. Leonard](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4896) LAC - SG,SF,PF

Despite a relatively successful fantasy season, Leonard once again fell victim to the injury bug, missing the final two weeks of the 2023-24 campaign. Prior to that, he played in 68 games, ending as the 7th-ranked player in nine-category leagues, averaging 23.7 points, 6.1 rebounds, 3.6 assists, 2.1 three-pointers and 2.5 combined steals and blocks. He also put up top 10 value when considering totals, closing as the 6th-ranked player. While it was a win for anyone who drafted him, the fact he ended the season injured and was subsequently unable to suit up for the Olympics will be front of mind when it comes to fantasy drafts. With Paul George now in Philadelphia, both Leonard and James Harden will need to do a lot more heavy lifting on the offensive end of the floor. On paper, this could lead to a highly productive season for Leonard. However, as we know, it could very well lead to yet another injury and a slew of missed games. The upside is obvious, but the risk is potentially more obvious. Anyone willing to take a chance on Leonard for the 2024-25 season should be able to get him at a slight discount, likely towards the back end of the second round if not into the third.

31. [J. Jackson Jr.](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6015) MEM - PF,C

The 2023-24 campaign was hard to gauge for Jackson in terms of success, given the Grizzlies were a non-factor for the majority of the season. Coming off a breakout year in which he won Defensive Player of the Year, Jackson was viewed as a potential first-round fantasy asset. While managers did not have to reach that high to secure him in drafts, he was typically going inside the second round. Hindsight tells us that more caution should have been taken when projecting his value given his overall value is so reliant on one category. He closed the 2023-24 season as the 53rd-ranked player in standard formats, averaging a career-high 22.5 points per game to go with 5.5 rebounds, 2.3 assists, 1.2 steals, 1.6 blocks and 1.8 three-pointers. The scoring was a real positive, although his efficiency was far from adequate for a big at just 44.4 percent. The fact he only managed 5.5 rebounds also highlights a major flaw in his game, something that has been an issue since he was a rookie. With the Grizzlies now fully healthy, Jackson should be able to focus more on his defensive responsibilities rather than putting the ball in the basket. Many will be soured by what happened last season, when in fact this could actually be a small bounce-back opportunity.

32. [A. Sengun](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6558) HOU – C

Despite a premature end to his 2023-24 season, Sengun did more than enough to demonstrate that he is going to be an elite fantasy option for years to come. A significant ankle injury in early March soured what had been a breakout campaign for Sengun. In 32.5 minutes per game, he put up averages of 21.1 points, 9.3 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 1.2 steals and 0.7 blocks. He ended as the 63rd-ranked player in nine-category leagues. However, if you disregard his free throw shooting (69.3 percent), he becomes a borderline second-round asset. The Rockets are positioned to take another step forward this season after promising signs last year. Despite some uncertainty surrounding his playing time early in his career, it appears as though he is now locked in as the center of the future in Houston. His struggles at the free throw line are something managers will need to consider when drafting him. Nonetheless, anyone keen on acquiring him this season will likely have to spend a third-round pick.

33. [C. Cunningham](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6512) DET - PG,SG

Despite the obvious potential, Cunningham has yet to deliver when it comes to consistent fantasy value. Although his 2023-24 campaign was his best to date, he still fell short of the mark when simply comparing his end-of-season value to his ADP. He closed as the 82nd-ranked player in nine-category formats, averaging 22.7 points, 4.3 rebounds, 7.5 assists, 0.9 steals and 1.9 three-pointers, shooting a career-best 44.9 percent from the floor and 86.9 percent from the stripe. He has yet to play more than 65 games in a season, something that could also be attributed to the fact the Pistons have been nothing short of a disaster. The Monty Williams experiment came to an abrupt end this offseason after he was fired less than 12 months into his tenure. J.B. Bickerstaff was brought in to clean up the mess, something that will go a long way to Cunningham finally breaking through. Although his per-game value has been somewhat underwhelming, the upside is evident. As the clear primary option on a team looking to build for the future, Cunningham is still likely to warrant a third or fourth-round pick in drafts. Anyone leaning into him as a key piece of their fantasy squad will be hoping this is the season when dreams become reality.

34. [J. Johnson](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6562) ATL – PF

Johnson broke out in his third NBA season, entering the Hawks' starting lineup after John Collins was traded to Utah and leaping into fantasy relevance. Johnson started in 52 of his 56 appearances, logging 16.0 points, 8.7 rebounds, 3.6 assists and 1.2 steals across 33.7 minutes. He didn't appear in Atlanta's lone Play-In game due to an ankle injury he sustained in March that never fully healed and also missed almost a month with a fractured left hand he suffered in November. However, the 22-year-old is slated to enter the 2024-25 campaign at full health. After shining last season, the door is open for Johnson to take another step forward. Dejounte Murray and his 25.9 percent usage rate were traded to New Orleans in exchange for Larry Nance, Dyson Daniels, E.J. Liddell and picks. None of the three are expected to eat into Johnson's workload, or command anywhere near the offensive role Murray did. In addition, No. 1 overall pick Zaccharie Risacher characterizes as more of a complementary piece than an offensive playmaker as a rookie. Somebody will have to step into a larger role for Atlanta, and Johnson seems primed to do so. Even if his production doesn't improve in Year 4, Johnson will still be a valuable fantasy asset and regular double-double threat.

35. [K. Towns](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5432) MIN - PF,C

After managing to suit up in just 29 regular-season games during the 2022-23 season, Towns was more available last year, appearing in 62 regular-season games during the 2023-24 campaign. He missed just over a month of action after suffering a knee injury in early March but returned as the Timberwolves made a deep playoff run. While it was a successful season from a team standpoint, Towns' fantasy value continues to regress. He ended with averages of 21.8 points, 8.3 rebounds, 3.0 assists, 0.7 steals, 0.7 blocks and 2.2 three-pointers, good enough for borderline top-45 value. After finishing as a first-round fantasy value in each of his first seven seasons, he has slipped to the fourth round over the past two years. Minnesota will be looking to go one step further this season and will basically run out the same lineup, minus Kyle Anderson. It feels as though this is who Towns is now -- a solid fantasy asset whose ceiling is capped by the emerging talent surrounding him. Now that some of the shine has been taken away, fantasy managers should be able to land him in the third or fourth rounds of drafts.

36. [B. Adebayo](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5827) MIA – C

Adebayo continues to be a consistent fantasy producer, finishing the 2023-24 season as the 49th-ranked player in nine-category leagues, averaging 19.3 points, 10.4 rebounds, 3.9 assists, 1.1 steals and 0.9 blocks. While he is a relatively safe target in the fourth round of drafts, his free throw percentage typically dictates his overall rank come season's end. Over the past four years, he has shot 79.9, 75.3, 80.6 and 75.5 percent respectively. This five percent swing can impact his numerical rank by up to a round, making him a small risk for anyone needing an efficient asset. Heading into the 2024-25 season, there is no reason to think his value will change all too much. However, the addition of Kel'el Ware in the draft does provide the Heat with an opportunity to get more creative in the frontcourt. If we examine the final month of the 2023-24 season, we see that Adebayo added a new wrinkle to his game, stepping out beyond the three-point line. He connected on 14 three-pointers in the final 17 games, after making just one in the previous 54 games. The addition of a three-point shot, along with potentially spending more time on the perimeter in general, does provide managers with something to consider when drafting him.

37. [P. Banchero](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6691) ORL - SF,PF

The 2023-24 season was largely a success in Banchero's development, netting his first All-Star nomination and leading the Magic into the playoffs as the Eastern Conference's No. 5 seed. The 2022 No. 1 overall draft pick took a massive step forward as a facilitator, dishing out 5.4 assists per game during the regular season. His regular-season points per game also bumped up from 20.0 to 22.6 on much better efficiency. Banchero hit on 33.9 percent of his three-point attempts, showing growth in an area that was labeled a weakness coming out of college. His overall improvement culminated in an outstanding showing in the first round of the playoffs, averaging 27.0 points, 8.6 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 1.1 steals while the Magic were eliminated by the Cavaliers in seven games. With a solid young core, Orlando poached veteran two-guard Kentavious Caldwell-Pope during free agency in hopes of elevating into contenders in the Eastern Conference. However, they didn't add much outside of Caldwell-Pope. Jalen Suggs will be the team's starting point guard but doesn't fill a traditional point guard role. Instead, Banchero and Franz Wagner are expected to handle most of the playmaking duties. Banchero's point forward play style and improved scoring efficiency should put him in early-round consideration in fantasy drafts.

38. [F. VanVleet](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5727) HOU - PG

If you're after a consistent per-game producer, look no further than VanVleet. He finished the 2023-24 season as the 17th-ranked player in nine-category leagues, before which he ranked 18, 14, 16 and 25 in each of the previous four seasons. Although his scoring took a slight hit in Houston, he was able to deliver career highs in assists and blocks, while also converting on 41.6 percent of his shot attempts, up from 39.3 percent the previous year. He finished with averages of 17.4 points, 3.8 rebounds, 8.1 assists, 1.4 steals, 0.8 blocks and 3.1 three-pointers in 36.8 minutes per game. Although the Rockets failed to make the playoffs, they took significant strides forward on the back of VanVleet running the show. As they continue to build the roster around him, it is likely his points remain closer to 17.0 per game. However, his assist numbers could hold or even increase as he develops chemistry with his offensive targets. If he can get his steals back up to over 1.5 per game, there is no reason he can't finish as a second-round player once again. With that said, his lack of exuberance could once again result in his falling in drafts. Savvy managers may very well be able to land him toward the back end of the second round or even the third round in some situations.

39. [D. Bane](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6422) MEM - SG,SF

Bane has been a picture of consistency when it comes to per-game value across each of the past three years, ranking 36, 36, and 33 in standard nine-category leagues. The 2023-24 season brought with it a career-high scoring mark of 23.7 points per game. Unfortunately, he fell victim to the injury curse much like many of his teammates, playing just 42 of a possible 82 games due to ankle and back issues. The Grizzlies never got going thanks to an early season suspension to Ja Morant, followed by a shoulder injury which ended his season. Both Bane and Marcus Smart missed significant time, although the fact Memphis was playing for very little likely had something to do with the length of their respective absences. Casting our eyes forward to the upcoming season, it appears as though all the key pieces are fit and ready to go, Bane included. Even with a healthy roster, Bane's role is set in stone, making him a safe target in the late third or early fourth rounds of drafts. Based on what we have seen from him in recent seasons, there is some concern regarding his growth potential when it comes to fantasy value. For anyone taking an early risk, Bane makes sense as a no-nonsense, reliable asset who typically does his job to perfection.

40. [E. Mobley](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6514) CLE - PF,C

Mobley was limited to 50 regular-season games in 2023-24 due to ankle and knee injuries, but that didn't prevent the Cavaliers from locking down the 2021 No. 3 overall pick on a five-year maximum rookie contract extension over the offseason. Donovan Mitchell also secured a long-term deal, meaning the Cavaliers' core of Mobley, Mitchell, Darius Garland and Jarrett Allen is locked in for multiple seasons. After averaging 12 field goals per game in his first two regular seasons, Mobley only attempted 11 per game in 2023-24. However, his efficiency improved. Mobley shot 58.0 percent from the field and surprisingly jumped up from 21.6 percent to 37.3 percent from three-point range on 1.3 attempts. Additionally, Mobley notched career highs in rebounds and assists per game, an indicator of his all-around growth. Mobley is one of the league's best defenders, finishing third in Defensive Player of the Year voting in 2022-23 and, since entering the league, has swatted the ninth most shots. He should be expected to remain a strong source of rebounds and blocks for the upcoming season.

41. [M. Turner](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5471) IND - C

Turner has one of the most unique skill sets in the NBA, and he's a godsend for fantasy. The big man is one of the only players in the league who could lead the league in blocks while knocking down two three-pointers a night. Turner has seen his scoring skyrocket the last two years since Tyrese Haliburton joined the team, averaging 17.6 points, 7.2 rebounds, 1.4 assists, 0.6 steals, 2.1 blocks and 1.5 threes per game in that span. There are simply not many players that can provide such a diverse stat line, and this 28-year-old seems to be getting better every year. The only gripe we could have with that stat sheet is the rebounds because most people want double-digit boards from their starting center. Another bizarre thing that happened last season is that Turner saw his workload drop to just 27 minutes a night, the lowest total since his rookie campaign. It's hard to understand why that happened because Turner is one of the best per-minute producers in the NBA. If we could just creep that minute total above 30 minutes with the pace Indiana plays at, Turner could see all of his numbers jump by five percent. Getting rid of Jalen Smith in the offseason might be the thing that gets him over that threshold, but James Wiseman might just fill that Smith role. It could be the addition of Pascal Siakam that took him off the floor, but we'd bet on him creeping back to the 30-minute mark we're looking for.

42. [J. Morant](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6164) MEM - PG

Following his 25-game suspension for an off-court indiscretion, Morant lasted just nine games during the 2023-24 campaign before season-ending surgery to repair a shoulder injury. It was the beginning of the end for Memphis, who subsequently lost Marcus Smart and Desmond Bane to serious ankle injuries, while Steven Adams missed the entire season due to a knee issue. With the majority of their starting unit sidelined, the Grizzlies were able to get a good look at a number of their young pieces but ultimately had no chance at being competitive in a stacked Western Conference. Now cleared for all basketball activities, Morant will be looking to not only reward those who stuck by him but also the fans alike. During his nine games last season, he looked much like the player we saw during the 2022-23 season. His highlight plays are typically replayed ad nauseam and do detract from the fact that there are a couple of holes in his overall fantasy game. One positive to come out of last season was the fact that he shot an encouraging 81.3 percent from the line, as well as a career-high 1.6 three-pointers per contest. If he can maintain at least 80 percent from the line, while also stepping things up on the defensive end, he could push inside the top 50 without too much trouble. Despite the concerns, managers are likely going to have to snap him up in the fourth round of most competitive drafts.

43. [J. Williams](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6702) OKC - SG,SF,PF

Williams built upon his excellent freshman campaign with an even better sophomore season. The Santa Clara product appeared in 71 regular-season games and was available in each of the Thunder's 10 playoff contests. Williams produced across the board, registering 19.1 points, 4.5 assists, 4.0 rebounds and 1.7 combined steals-plus-blocks across 31.3 minutes per game in the regular season with 54.0/42.7/81.4 shooting splits. While his scoring production dropped in the playoffs, Williams' rebound (6.8) and assist (5.4) averages jumped significantly, possibly a byproduct of Josh Giddey's role diminishing. If that's the case, Williams could be in for a career year as a facilitator and rebounder. During the offseason, Giddey was traded to Chicago in a one-for-one swap for Alex Caruso. Caruso figures to be primarily an off-ball option, which could leave additional usage for Williams as the Thunder's secondary playmaker and facilitator. As a budding star on one of the NBA's top teams, Williams should be firmly considered in the early portions of most fantasy drafts.

44. [D. White](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5842) BOS - PG,SG

White was a breakout pick for many people last season, and he didn't disappoint. The defensive stud set career-highs across the board, averaging 15.2 points, 4.2 rebounds, 5.2 assists, 1.0 steals, 1.2 blocks and 2.7 threes per game. Not many players provide all of those statistics, especially since he shot 46 percent from the field, 40 percent from three-point range and 90 percent from the free-throw line. That well-rounded stat line had White as a Top 50 player in most formats, and he should be the same guy this season since Boston stuck with their championship roster. What's also encouraging is that White started every game last season because that was an uncertainty going into the 2022-23 campaign. He also played a career-high 34 minutes and should have a similar role again this year. It's also intriguing that White has become one of the focal points of the offense when one of the studs is out. That's a common occurrence with how often Boston rests their studs, and it gives White one of the highest floors since he can produce whether those guys are out there or not. We've also seen White play at least 73 games in three straight years, and there aren't many more reliable options out there right now.

45. [F. Wagner](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6550) ORL - SF,PF

Orlando is an up-and-coming team in the NBA, and Wagner is a major reason for the team's success. The 22-year-old saw all of his numbers increase in his third season, averaging 19.7 points, 5.3 rebounds, 3.7 assists, 1.1 steals and 1.3 threes per game. Many believe his three-point shooting is due for some positive regression after he shot just 28.1 percent on 4.8 attempts per game last year. Wagner is too talented of a shooter to post an average like that, especially since he shot 47.7 percent from the field and 85.0 percent from the free-throw line over the last two years. The numbers rising from Wagner is just what fantasy managers want to see since this is the time when we'll see him level off or take the next step into an All-Star player. Orlando fans believe he has that ability, but a 1-for-15 shooting night in the final game of the season leaves a poor taste in most NBA fan's mouths. It overshadowed what was the best stretch of his career, averaging 21.9 points, 6.6 rebounds, 3.9 assists, 1.0 steals and 1.1 blocks in the three weeks prior. If Wagner performs like that for a full season, he could be one of the best values in drafts.

46. [J. Butler](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4912) MIA - SF,PF

Butler battled through injury once again during the 2023-24 season, playing no more than 65 games for the seventh straight year. Coupled with the fact he only played 60 games was a noticeable decline in his per-game production, with his numbers falling slightly across the board. He ended as the 27th-ranked player in standard leagues, averaging 20.8 points, 5.3 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 1.3 steals and 1.0 three-pointers. Following another season in which he was periodically unavailable, rumors began to swirl regarding his immediate playing future in Miami. To this point, they remain just rumors, with Butler slated to start the season as a member of the Heat. He will be 35 when the season tips off in October, another fact to consider when drafting him. Given the number of risk factors, Butler is likely to once again slide in drafts, providing managers with a conundrum when approaching the third or fourth round. Although his per-game floor is relatively safe, some may opt to pass him over in lieu of a more reliable asset. He is worth a shot anywhere after pick 35, assuming your squad is somewhat risk-free to that point.

47. [J. Allen](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5835) CLE - C

After consecutive seasons inside the top 40, Allen regressed ever so slightly during the 2023-24 campaign, ending as the 46th-ranked player in standard formats. Although he presents as a fourth-round asset, his overall value is tied up in two primary categories, those being rebounds and field goal percentage. Playing alongside Evan Mobley prevents Allen from being the lone rim protector, as demonstrated by his career-low 1.1 blocks. He finished with averages of 16.5 points, 10.5 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 1.8 combined steals and blocks in 31.7 minutes per game. Still only 26 years of age, Allen theoretically has his best years ahead of him. However, with Mobley recently signing a lucrative five-year deal to remain in Cleveland, it's hard to envisage Allen taking any major steps forward. The Cavaliers are locked into running with a two-big lineup as long as both Allen and Mobley are around, meaning Allen should at least be able to maintain upwards of 30 minutes per night. His strengths should once again contribute to a relatively safe fantasy floor, making him a solid pick in the fourth or fifth rounds of drafts. Given his lack of upside, there is a chance he slides into the sixth round in some spots, at which point he could even provide value come season's end.

48. [J. Brown](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5602) BOS - SG,SF

Brown had quite the 2023-24 season, taking down Finals MVP in the Celtics' championship run. Many people thought Jayson Tatum deserved it, but it shouldn't overshadow how special Brown was last season. Brown made the All-Star team, averaging 23 points, 5.5 rebounds, 3.6 assists, 1.2 steals and 2.1 threes per game. Strangely, that was a bit of a letdown from what we saw in previous years, with Brown seeing his points and rebounds dip well below what we saw between 2020-2023. Getting discouraged by All-Star averages is nothing to be concerned with, but it's clearly due to the fact that Derrick White, Jrue Holiday and Kristaps Porzingis have all become focal points of this offense. That will likely limit Brown's ceiling, but there aren't many better shooting guards in the NBA. In the final two rounds of the playoffs, Brown averaged 24.8 points, 5.2 rebounds, 4.1 assists, 1.8 steals, 0.8 blocks and 2.0 threes. Those 0.8 blocks are the only real outlier, but Brown has shown us that he's one of the best wing defenders in the NBA, and adding that extra half-block could be a massive boost to his fantasy value. We're unsure if that's realistic, but we need to see him bounce back from the free-throw line, shooting just 70 percent last season. That's his worst mark since 2018, but if his improvements with his off-hand are any indication, Brown will work hard on that during the offseason.

49. [J. Murray](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5638) DEN - PG,SG

Murray was limited to 59 regular-season games last season and missed significant time with hamstring and calf injuries. When he was healthy, Murray had his best statistical regular season since entering the league in 2016. He tied his career high in points per game at 21.2 while averaging a career-high 6.5 assists to go along with 4.1 rebounds and 1.7 combined steals-plus-blocks. The 27-year-old was also incredibly efficient, posting his best assist-to-turnover ratio (3.1) and landing 48.1/42.5/85.3 shooting splits. While reliable three-and-D wing Kentavious Caldwell-Pope left for Orlando in free agency, Christian Braun -- a 38.4 percent three-point shooter in 2023-24 -- is slated to step in next to Murray in the backcourt to fill a similar role. Overall, there isn't much expected to change in the Nuggets' 2024-25 attack, and likewise, Murray's fantasy value should hold steady. He's a quality source of points, assists and three-pointers and is a worthwhile target in the middle rounds of fantasy drafts.

50. [D. DeRozan](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4614) SAC - SF,PF

Few players in the NBA can match DeRozan's prolonged consistency as a scorer -- he's averaged at least 20 points in 11 straight regular seasons and has finished with at least 15 points in 213 of 229 games over the past three campaigns. He ranks among the league's best mid-range scorers, an attribute that has helped him shoot over 48 percent from the field in each of the past six seasons. In addition to his prolific and efficient scoring, DeRozan hasn't shot less than 81 percent from the charity stripe since his rookie campaign and has grown into an underrated distributor over the second half of his career, with his 5.3 assists per game last season ranking in the top five among small forwards in the league. While DeRozan's 24.0 points per game on 48.0 percent shooting last season were slight drop-offs in comparison to the previous campaign, there's little reason to believe that age is catching up with him despite the fact that he'll be 35 years old when the 2024-25 season kicks off. If there's one weakness in his game -- at least from a fantasy perspective -- it's that the USC product doesn't take or make many three-pointers. He's averaged less than a triple per contest in all but one of his NBA campaigns, including last season, when he posted 0.9 treys per game. It will be interesting to see how DeRozan fits alongside De'Aaron Fox and Domantas Sabonis as part of a new Big Three in Sacramento. It's reasonable to expect Fox to remain the team's offensive focal point and cut into DeRozan's usage to some extent, but the latter has found a way to get buckets in every system and organization he has been part of and should continue to do so with the Kings.

51. [J. Duren](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6703) DET - C

After logging 24.9 minutes per game during his rookie season, Duren averaged 29.1 minutes per game for the Pistons last season. He made the most of his added opportunities, putting up 13.8 points, 11.6 rebounds and 2.4 assists per game. The downside is that he averaged only 0.8 blocks, which is tough to swallow in fantasy from a center. However, he helped to make up for it by shooting 61.9 percent from the field and 79.0 percent from the free-throw line. As he prepares to enter his third season, Isaiah Stewart is his primary backup. Stewart was limited to 46 games last season due to injury, which may have helped Duren log some added playing time. The Pistons will get a full season from Simone Fontecchio, who they acquired from the Jazz before the trade deadline in February. They also brought back Tobias Harris, who signed a two-year contract for $52 million. The presence of those two could mean less minutes for Stewart at power forward, but that doesn't mean that Stewart is likely to steal significant playing time away from Duren. With his rebounding prowess, Duren is still a top-100 fantasy option that has top-75 upside.

52. [M. Bridges](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6023) CHA - SF,PF

After being suspended for the 2022-23 season, Bridges played well in his return to action last year. The forward set career highs in points and rebounds, averaging 21.0 points, 7.3 rebounds, 3.3 assists, 0.9 steals and 2.3 threes per game. That career year had Charlotte keen to re-sign the talented forward, inking him to a three-year, $75 million deal. The 26-year-old is heading in the right direction in terms of his career progression, but fantasy managers can't overlook his bump in usage that correlated with Charlotte's injury woes last year. LaMelo Ball and Mark Williams missed significant time last season, and many fans expect to see a massive workload increase for Brandon Miller. If Ball and Williams return and Miller takes a step in the right direction, an inevitable negative regression is likely headed Bridges' way. This is still one of the worst rosters in the NBA, and Bridges should have plenty of opportunities to contribute as long as the team continues to struggle. There's also a chance some of these guys are moved at the deadline, and that would only add to Bridges' value, unless he is traded elsewhere.

53. [Z. Williamson](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6163) NOP - PF,C

Williamson came into the league with some of the loftiest projections possible, and we have to say it's been a slight disappointment up to this point. With that said, the physical beast played a career-high 70 games last year, averaging 22.9 points, 5.8 rebounds, 5.0 assists, 1.1 steals and 0.7 blocks per game. That's not quite the 27 points and 7.1 rebounds we saw in the two years prior, but seeing his playmaking increase is an extremely encouraging development. He also shot 57 percent from the field but has been above 60 percent for most of his career. The biggest question mark regarding Williamson is his inability to stay on the floor, suffering a hamstring strain right before the playoffs last year. Injuries have held Williamson back from being one of the best players in the NBA. What's also interesting is that New Orleans added Dejounte Murray in the offseason, likely taking some playmaking duties away from Williamson. They also parted ways with Jonas Valanciunas, and we might see Williamson see more time at center if they don't make a move. That should bump his rebounding, but banging with centers in the Western Conference may not be ideal with Williamson's inability to stay healthy.

54. [P. Siakam](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5658) IND - SF,PF

Having been a top 50 player in nine-category leagues in each of the previous five seasons, Siakam plateaued a little during the 2023-24 campaign, ending as the 78th-ranked player. His numbers took a small hit across the board, ending with averages of 21.7 points, 7.1 rebounds, 4.3 assists, 1.1 three-pointers and 1.1 combined steals and blocks. After beginning with the Raptors, Siakam was traded to the Pacers midway through the season, helping them reach the Conference Finals. While many are of the opinion that Indiana overachieved, it is clear that they are building a competitive young roster. Siakam obviously had a sizeable impact on their culture, having now signed a new multi-year deal to remain with the Pacers. Although he is coming off a down season, there is potential for Siakam to turn things around given the stability he is now playing with. Managers could very well allow him to slide in drafts to the sixth or seventh round. If that is the case, he makes for a no-brainer, understanding that top 70 could very well be his fantasy floor. If he can increase his production on the defensive end of the floor, even slightly, he could nudge the top 50 once again.

55. [I. Quickley](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6417) TOR - PG,SG

Quickley's 2023-24 campaign was a tale of two halves, following a midseason trade from New York to Toronto. While he was able to put up backend standard league value during his time with the Knicks, it was with the Raptors that he did most of his damage. He ended the season as the 94th-ranked player in nine-category leagues, which was a win in itself for fantasy managers. However, across the final two months of the season, he pushed inside the top 30, with averages of 21.2 points, 5.7 rebounds, 7.8 assists, 1.2 steals and 3.1 three-pointers. While a sizeable chunk of this was done without Scottie Barnes on the court, it gave us a glimpse of what Quickley can do when afforded starters' minutes. So impressed were the Raptors that they subsequently offered him a sizeable five-year deal to stay on as their starting point guard. Heading into the 2024-25 season, Quickley could be one of the more hyped assets due to his end-of-season production the previous year. He finds himself in a very favorable situation when it comes to opportunity, playing for a team that can afford to feature him without consequence. Considering top-50 value as his ceiling, managers should expect to have to snap him up in the fifth or sixth rounds, assuming the hype doesn't push his ADP too high as October draws closer.

56. [R. Gobert](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5197) MIN - C

After his first season in Minnesota ended with a whimper, Gobert turned things around during the 2023-24 campaign, culminating with Defensive Player of the Year honors. Perhaps more importantly, he was able to increase his production across multiple categories, including points, rebounds and blocks. He finished just outside the top 50 in nine-category leagues, averaging 14.0 points, 12.9 rebounds, 1.3 assists, 0.7 steals and 2.1 blocks in 34.1 minutes per game. Not only was it a successful season for Gobert but also for the Timberwolves organization. Although they ran out of steam, they managed to make it all the way to the Conference Finals, a success in anyone's book. Looking ahead to the 2024-25 season, Gobert should once again provide the team with a reliable defensive anchor. While he is unlikely to get back to being a second-round fantasy asset, his floor is relatively safe. Despite the lack of excitement when it comes to drafting the veteran, fantasy managers could do a lot worse than taking him in the fifth or sixth round, shoring up both the rebound and block categories.

57. [N. Vucevic](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4897) CHI - PF,C

Vucevic was a picture of health once again during the 2023-24 season, playing in 76 of a possible 82 games. While it was a relatively successful season for the veteran, it is clear he is starting to slow down on both ends of the floor. After having ranked inside the top 30 for eight of the previous nine seasons, Vucevic fell to be the 49th-ranked player in nine-category leagues. His numbers were comparable to the past two years, averaging 18.0 points, 10.5 rebounds, 3.3 assists, 0.7 steals, 0.8 blocks and 1.2 three-pointers. As is typically the case with Vucevic, he managed to return value thanks to the fact he fell in drafts. The Bulls appear as though they have finally accepted the fact that mediocrity is not the way forward. At this stage, it appears as though Vucevic will begin the season as the starting center in Chicago. However, if they do opt to go in another direction, he could find himself on the move at some point. As of right now, he is likely to continue doing what he does, providing strong rebound numbers to go with versatile scoring and decent efficiency. Managers should expect him to go off the board in the sixth round of most drafts, a position from which he could possibly return value once again, assuming he remains with the Bulls.

58. [B. Ingram](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5601) NOP - SG,SF,PF

Missed games continue to plague Ingram, playing in fewer than 65 contests for the eighth consecutive season. While durability continues to be an issue, his per-game production also dipped, ending outside the top 80 for the first time since the 2018-19 season. He finished 85th in nine-category leagues, averaging 20.8 points, 5.1 rebounds, 5.7 assists, 0.8 steals and 1.3 three-pointers. Although he continues to be a solid contributor for the Pelicans, it is clear that he needs to be the third option, as opposed to one or two. Having acquired Dejounte Murray for the 2024-25 season, the Pelicans are of the opinion that they can compete with the best teams in the Western Conference. As of now, Ingram should remain the starting small forward, playing alongside Murray, CJ McCollum, Zion Williamson and a center who is yet to be determined. However, his name has been thrown out in potential trades, and it appears as though New Orleans is prepared to move on without him. No suitor has come calling at this point, making his immediate playing future a little clouded. Should he still be a member of the Pelicans come draft season, managers should expect to land him in the sixth round of most leagues.

59. [N. Claxton](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6219) BKN - C

Many thought Claxton would get out of Brooklyn in the offseason, but he chose to stay on a four-year, $100 million deal. He earned that contract, but the Nets might have the worst roster in the NBA, with Claxton looking like one of their best players. Over the last two years, Claxton has averaged 12.2 points, 9.6 rebounds, 2.0 assists, 0.8 steals and 2.3 blocks on 66.7 percent shooting. Those are solid numbers from a big man, but the scoring is capped by Claxton's lack of offensive skills. The Nets are going to need him to add more offense to his game going forward since this is projected to be the worst team in the NBA. It remains to be seen if Claxton can become a more reliable scorer, but he seems like a safe bet to hover around double-digit rebounds and 2.5 blocks per game. He's also been a poor free-throw shooter, never shooting above 58.1 percent during his career. He's a stereotypical big man, but he's a great fit on a fantasy roster for fantasy managers in need of the standard center statistics. He's also one of the only valuable trade chips this Nets team has, and he could be moved if the team is as bad as expected.

60. [M. Bridges](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6021) NYK - SG,SF,PF

Bridges is the final piece to completing the "Villanova Knicks," joining his college teammates Jalen Brunson, Josh Hart and Donte DiVincenzo in New York via trade this offseason. While the move makes the Knicks a legitimate threat to the reigning-champion Boston Celtics, it won't aid Bridges' fantasy value. Now entering his seventh NBA campaign, Bridges came into the league as a three-and-D player for the Suns but stepped into a featured role with the rebuilding Nets. In 109 games with Brooklyn spanning two seasons, Bridges averaged 21.2 points, 4.5 rebounds, 3.4 assists and 1.0 steals during 34.7 minutes per contest. Now competing with Jalen Brunson, Julius Randle and OG Anunoby for touches, it's hard to imagine Bridges will repeat his production as a Net. Instead, his value should be expected to come from the three-point line and the steal column. With Brunson's ability to draw in the defense, Bridges should be in line for plenty of open catch-and-shoot looks from long range, which he made at a 38.5 percent clip a season ago. Expected to shoulder less of the offensive load, Bridges should be able to exert himself more as a defender. In his first two NBA seasons, the soon-to-be 28-year-old averaged 1.6 and 1.4 steals per game respectively. He hasn't topped 1.2 steals per game since and averaged just one steal in 2023-24. At this point, it's unknown exactly where Bridges will fall in the Knicks' offensive pecking order, making him a somewhat risky selection in early rounds.

61. [D. Garland](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6167) CLE - PG

Garland was one of the more disappointing fantasy assets last season. Coming off two seasons in which he ranked inside the top 50, the point guard closed as the 108th-ranked player in nine-category leagues, averaging 18.0 points, 2.7 rebounds, 6.5 assists, 1.3 steals and 2.3 three-pointers. Outside of his steals, which increased slightly, Garland's numbers took a hit across the board. This was hard to see coming, given he had been relatively consistent during the past 24 months despite the addition of Donovan Mitchell. There had been some speculation that Mitchell was on the way out this offseason, but he shrugged that off, signing a sizeable multi-year deal to remain in Cleveland. It appears Garland will have to make some adjustments should he hope to realize some of the potential he flashed earlier in his career. Health was an issue again last year, as Garland made only 57 appearances. Garland is almost certainly going to be drafted well inside the top 100 this season but could be a sneaky bounce-back target should he be available in the fifth or even sixth round. If Garland can remain healthy and bump up his efficiency, there is a path to reaching the top 50 again.

62. [Z. LaVine](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5324) CHI - SG,SF

Last season was one to forget for LaVine, playing just 25 games due to a right foot injury. He closed as the 81st-ranked player in nine-category leagues per game, his worst return since the 2017-18 season. With averages of 19.5 points, 5.2 rebounds, 3.9 assists, 0.8 steals and 2.4 three-pointers, it's fair to say LaVine was a non-factor for the majority of the season. In what has been an offseason full of rumors, LaVine's name continues to be thrown around in potential trade scenarios, albeit hypothetical ones. At this stage, a suitor has not been found, meaning LaVine will likely open the 2024-25 season as a member of the Bulls. Coming off such a disappointing campaign, managers are within their rights to let LaVine fall in drafts. However, his mentality coming into the season could have him in a position to surprise many. Prior to last season, LaVine had been a top-50 player for four straight years. With DeMar DeRozan no longer on the roster, LaVine could find himself back at the top of the offensive pecking order, or at least adjacent to Coby White. His floor remains relatively safe, at least on a per-game basis. Assuming he is healthy and ready to prove people wrong, LaVine could be a difference-maker this season, if managers are able to grab him in the sixth or even seventh round.

63. [D. Ayton](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5958) POR - C

Much of the talk around Ayton has been negative lately, but the big man has developed into a solid center. In his first year with the Blazers, Ayton averaged 16.7 points, 11.1 rebounds, 1.6 assists, 1.0 steals and 0.8 blocks per game. That marks six straight seasons that the center has averaged a double-double, and it was encouraging to see him as one of the primary playmakers in Portland. That should continue to be the case because this Trail Blazers team is projected to have the worst record in the Western Conference. Oddly, the big man averaged just 1.4 free-throw attempts per game last season, and Trail Blazers need him to be more aggressive going forward. Some of the offseason additions have us wondering if Ayton will see the same workload, notably Donovan Clingan and a potentially healthy season from Robert Williams. The rookie from UConn will surely take some minutes from Ayton at the center position, and it has to make you wonder if Ayton isn't long to stay with this team.

64. [T. Harris](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4901) DET - SF,PF

One of the most consistent producers of the past decade, Harris once again managed to cobble together a quietly productive season during the 2023-24 campaign. He closed as a top-50 asset with averages of 17.2 points, 6.5 rebounds, 3.1 assists, 1.0 steals, 0.7 blocks and 1.3 three-pointers in 33.8 minutes per game. He also played in 70 regular-season games, hitting that mark for the eighth time in the past nine seasons. Still only 32 years old, Harris is capable of putting up solid numbers and should even have a chance to increase his production following an offseason move to Detroit. The Pistons are not laden with proven talent, making Harris the veteran leader of the team. While Cade Cunningham will almost certainly be the primary option on offense, Harris could definitely throw his hat in the ring to be the No. 2 option. As is typically the case with Harris, he could very well slide in fantasy drafts to the sixth, seventh or even eighth round. Given he will presumably have every opportunity to finish as a top-50 player, he makes for a no-brainer target should he ultimately slide once again.

65. [J. Randle](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5318) NYK – PF

Randle is one of the toughest players to dissect from a fantasy perspective. The Knicks were one of the most active teams during the offseason, adding Mikal Bridges and re-signing OG Anunoby. They did part ways with Isaiah Hartenstein, and that has many people speculating that Randle might play a ton at center for this team. That wouldn't be the worst thing for his value, but one has to wonder if his body will hold up. Not only is Tom Thibodeau asking these guys to play 40 minutes a night, but Randle missed most of last season after a dislocated shoulder. Randle played at least 64 games in eight years before last season, averaging 25.1 points, 9.2 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 1.7 threes in 46 games before that shoulder injury. The only thing lacking is his defensive statistics, never averaging 1.0 steals and 1.0 blocks in any year of his career. That's poor, but it's hard to overlook someone who can average 25 points, 10 rebounds and five assists per game. We have to assume that will be his ceiling with Bridges joining the team, especially since the big man is overcoming such a debilitating shoulder injury.

66. [B. Miller](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/10104) CHA - SG,SF

Miller was able to put together a strong rookie season, often overshadowed by both Victor Wembanyama and Chet Holmgren. Playing on a team with little to gain from winning, Miller was a bright spot despite some concerns coming into the season. He finished as the 116th-ranked player in standard leagues, compiling averages of 17.3 points, 4.3 rebounds, 2.4 assists, 0.9 steals and 2.5 three-pointers on 44.0 percent shooting from the floor and 82.7 percent from the stripe. He was inserted into the starting lineup after just five games, providing the Hornets with a semi-reliable scoring option. Another significant ankle injury to LaMelo Ball provided Miller with an opportunity to shoulder a little more than expected, something that could end up being a blessing in disguise. Assuming the Hornets are healthy heading into the 2024-25 season, Miller may have to cede at least a few shots to others around him. In fact, it could be argued that both Ball and the recently re-signed Miles Bridges are ahead of him on the offensive pecking order. Nonetheless, Miller is likely to be a key piece for the Hornets as they look to build for the future. Factoring in some natural progression, Miller could flirt with top-100 value in just his second season.

67. [D. Vassell](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6403) SAS - SG,SF

Vassell developed into the Spurs' best player two seasons ago, but he's going to have to take a back seat to Victor Wembanyama. That was the case at times last year, but the wing still averaged 19.5 points, 3.8 rebounds, 4.1 assists, 1.1 steals and 2.4 threes per game. Most of those were career highs for the talented forward, but there's some speculation he'll shift to shooting guard this season. The reason for that is that San Antonio added Harrison Barnes in the offseason, but these guys can mix and match at those positions. That's not the only player who muddles the situation because the Spurs also added Stephon Castle and Chris Paul as well. We'd have to assume Vassell's touches fall off with all of those new players, especially since Wembenyama is becoming the focal point of this offense the more he plays. Seeing Vassell's numbers grow every season since he was drafted is extremely encouraging, though, because he's just 23 years old. This franchise has proven that they want to build around Wemby and Vassell, so we just have to hope he stays healthy after missing the final weeks due to a stress reaction in his foot. He's expected to be fully healthy for training camp, and it'll be fun to see how CP3 runs this offense and gets Vassell the touches he needs.

68. [M. Williams](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6705) CHA – C

Williams showed plenty of promise during his rookie campaign two seasons ago, averaging 9.0 points, 7.1 rebounds and 1.0 blocks in just 19.3 minutes per game. With the starting center job in hand heading into last season, Williams was a trendy breakout pick. Williams was productive in that role, averaging 12.7 points, 9.7 rebounds and 1.1 blocks while shooting 64.9% from the field. However, a back injury limited Williams to only 19 appearances. Williams went down in early December and didn't appear in another game for the remainder of the season. Part of the reason why we didn't see Williams again could have been the Hornets tanking towards the end of the season. Williams is expected to be healthy heading into training camp, and the Hornets don't have a ton of size behind him. Nick Richards filled in for him admirably last season, but he should slide back into a reserve role. Behind Richards is veteran Taj Gibson, who likely was added just to provide a veteran voice in the locker room. The Hornets have two young guards, LaMelo Ball and Brandon Miller, and they hope that Williams can be their center of the future. If he can stay healthy, Williams has the potential to be a valuable fantasy option.

69. [J. Nurkic](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5327) PHX – C

Nurkic's statistical production didn't change much in his first year with Phoenix, as he predictably focused on providing a physical presence in the paint and crashing the boards while deferring on offense to the team's Big Three of Kevin Durant, Devin Booker and Bradley Beal. Nurkic did get enough touches to average 10.9 points per game, which in combination with his 11.0 boards per contest made him one of 13 NBA players to average a double-double. The big man saw his biggest jump in production as a distributor. Nurkic averaged a career-high 4.0 assists per game, capitalizing on his underrated ability as a passer and the presence of three big-time scorers around him. While Nurkic gives the Suns a big, tough body in the post, he's never been a great defender, and his career average of 1.1 blocks per contest doesn't make him a difference-maker in that category in most fantasy leagues. Nurkic is a non-factor as a three-point shooter (he averaged 0.3 triples per game last season) and a poor free-throw shooter (64.0% last season), though his low volume in the latter category keeps him from weighing down fantasy squads too much. As a whole, Nurkic's fantasy profile is one of an elite rebounder who isn't likely to move the needle in other categories. Nurkic is a fine selection late in drafts as a traditional big man with a steady floor.

70. [M. Porter Jr .](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6025)DEN - SF,PF

After a career somewhat dictated by injuries, Porter was a picture of health during the 2023-24 season, playing in 81 regular-season games. While he ended as the 71st-ranked player in standard leagues in per-game value, his durability saw him close as the 39th-best player in totals. His averages of 16.7 points, 7.0 rebounds, 1.5 assists, 2.7 three-pointers and 1.2 combined steals-plus-blocks were similar to what he has produced throughout his career when healthy. Although he is a key piece of the Nuggets' rotation, his overall fantasy appeal is limited to just three categories -- points, threes and rebounds. Denver's season came to a disappointing end at the hands of the Timberwolves, something the Nuggets will be looking to atone for this season. Porter's role is assured moving forward, playing as the third option on offense behind Nikola Jokic and Jamal Murray. As a player whose floor is similar to his ceiling, Porter should be a safe target in the seventh or eighth rounds of drafts, with health being one of the only drawbacks fantasy managers may need to worry about.

71. [K. Murray](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6694) SAC - SF,PF

The Kings wasted no time integrating Murray into their team, playing him 30 minutes per game during his rookie season. They increased his role even further last season, leaving him to average 34 minutes per game. That helped him post 15.2 points, 5.5 rebounds and 2.4 three-pointers per game. The downside to his campaign was that he shot only 35.8% from behind the arc, compared to 41.1% from deep during his rookie season. As Murray enters his third season in the league, the Kings don't have much size behind him and Domantas Sabonis. Their main backups at the four and five are Trey Lyles and Alex Len. The Kings added DeMar DeRozan, who is capable of playing power forward if the team wants to go small. DeRozan is not much of a three-point shooter, though, averaging at least 1.0 three-pointers per game just once during his career. That means the Kings will still rely heavily on Murray to help with their floor spacing. Murray's contributions in rebounds and assists will likely continue to be underwhelming, but Murray is a terrific option for those hunting for three-pointers during their draft.

72. [C. Thomas](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6569) BKN - SG

Thomas didn't see much time on the floor during his first two seasons in the league. The Nets finally unleashed him last season, and he averaged 31.4 minutes per game. He jacked up shots in bunches, posting a 30.5 percent usage rate. The result was him averaging 22.5 points and 2.2 three-pointers per game. As impressive as that was, his fantasy value was limited by his modest averages of 3.2 rebounds, 2.9 assists and 0.7 steals. Although he already saw plenty of work last year, Thomas could have an even higher usage rate this season after Mikal Bridges was dealt to the Knicks. The next best scoring options left on the roster behind Thomas are Cameron Johnson, Bojan Bogdanovic and Dennis Schroder. The Nets figure to have one of the worst rosters in the league and will be playing for a high draft pick, so Bogdanovic and Schroder could even be dealt at some point during the season. There are rest concerns for starters with a team projected to be this bad, but based on the roster, Thomas alone isn't likely to carry them to many victories. It would not be a surprise if Thomas averages around 25.0 points per game this season, but he's likely to be a limited contributor in other areas, making him someone to wait on until the middle rounds of drafts.

73. [B. Lopez](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4472) MIL - C

After an incredible bounceback during the 2022-23 season, Lopez backed up last year to deliver fantasy managers another strong campaign. While he was unable to put up second-round value, he finished inside the top 50 in nine-category leagues, averaging 12.5 points, 5.2 rebounds, 1.6 assists, 2.4 blocks and 1.9 three-pointers. He continues to be an elite rim protector despite his age, recording at least 2.0 blocks per game for the fourth time in the past six years. Interestingly, his playing time has eclipsed 30.0 minutes per game in each of the past two seasons, prior to which he had been under that mark for six consecutive years. The Bucks will be in the playoff picture once again this season, with player health likely to determine just how successful they are. While Lopez will remain a key piece, especially on the defensive end, the coaching staff could very well end up limiting his regular-season minutes. How much he is limited is almost certainly going to depend on whether players like Khris Middleton and Giannis Antetokounmpo can stay on the floor. Despite being an elite source of blocks, Lopez is a great example of player rank being somewhat misleading when it comes to overall value. If history tells us anything, Lopez could fall as far as the sixth or seventh round, making him a safe fantasy play for anyone needing blocks and threes.

74. [C. Capela](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5336) ATL - C

Capela took small steps in the wrong direction during the 2023-24 season, finishing outside the top 80 for the first time in almost a decade. He closed as the 99th-ranked player, putting up averages of 11.5 points, 10.6 rebounds and 1.5 blocks on 57.1 percent shooting from the floor. With Onyeka Okongwu continuing to push Capela for playing time, the veteran saw just 25.8 minutes per contest, the lowest he has played since the 2016-17 season. Following the trade of Dejounte Murray to New Orleans, there is a chance Atlanta is finally ready to make some changes to their roster, with Capela top of the list when it comes to potential moves. Okongwu seems ready to take his spot as the starting center, something fantasy managers have been calling for for the past two years. With that said, as of right now, there is no indication the move will happen to begin the season. If Capela does open as the starting center, he should once again be able to flirt with a double-double, providing serviceable block numbers. A trade could impact his value, but even in a backup role, he should still be able to maintain 12-team value. With uncertainty swirling, he is likely to be available later in drafts, possibly in the 10th or 11th round in some spots.

75. [T. Herro](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6175) MIA - PG,SG

Herro was on his way to a career year last season, but a rash of injuries held him to just 42 games. Foot and ankle injuries limited Herro to those 42 appearances, and he didn't look like the same player after he returned. What's sad is that he was averaging 25.3 points, 5.6 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 1.4 steals through the opening three weeks before the first injury. He finished the season averaging 20.8 points, 5.3 rebounds, 4.5 assists, 0.7 steals and 3.1 threes per game. It's obvious by looking at the numbers that the foot/ankle issues hurt his numbers in the second half, and it was really evident in his playoff struggles. Scoring 20 points and hitting three three-pointers a night is nothing to be discouraged by, though, because Herro has developed into one of the best scorers in the NBA. Seeing flashes of who he could be early on is hopefully an indicator of things to come because Miami finally made the move to stick him in the starting lineup and play him 35 minutes a night. There are also some rumors that Jimmy Butler's time in Miami is quickly coming to an end, and that would make Herro even more valuable. It feels like Herro has been around for years, but this youngster is still just 24 and could continue to improve.

76. [J. Giddey](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6548) CHI - SG,SF

Last season was one to forget for Giddey, moved to the bench partway through the season and almost falling out of the rotation altogether during the playoffs. As the Thunder developed into one of the best teams in the Western Conference, Giddey was seen as carry-on baggage, often supplanted in the rotation by superior role players. When all was said and done, he ended by averaging just 25.1 minutes per game, during which time he put up 12.4 points, 6.4 rebounds, 4.8 assists, 0.6 steals and 1.0 three-pointers. On a positive note, his efficiency from the perimeter continues to improve, as does his free throw stroke. To no one's surprise, Oklahoma City opted to part ways with Giddey shortly after the season, sending him to Chicago in return for Alex Caruso. A fresh start is just what Giddey needs to revitalize his career, especially playing for a team that can afford to roll him out there, no matter the result. Although he will be competing for minutes with players like Ayo Dosunmu and Coby White, not to mention Zach LaVine and Lonzo Ball, Giddey could very well get the first look at the starting point guard position. If he continues to improve his range on the offensive end as well as becoming a more sturdy defender, Giddey could make for a nice target in the mid-to-late rounds of drafts.

77. [B. Beal](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5009) PHX - PG,SG

Beal joined the Suns ahead of the 2023-24 season to form a Big Three alongside Kevin Durant and Devin Booker. The trio never fully gelled and ended the season in disappointing fashion when they were swept by Minnesota in the first round of the playoffs. Individually, Beal unsurprisingly took a back seat to Durant and Booker on offense when all three were healthy. As a result, he attempted his fewest shots per contest (13.9) since the 2014-15 campaign. Beal also got to the free-throw line at the lowest frequency (2.5 attempts per game) of his career, and the end result was that he finished with a scoring average of 18.2 points per contest -- the first time he has averaged less than 20 points per game since 2015-16. Beal's other offensive stats weren't as impacted by his new role -- he actually increased his three-point makes to 1.9 per contest after knocking down 1.6 threes per game in each of the previous two campaigns, and his 5.0 assists and 4.4 boards per matchup were closer aligned with his recent career norms. It's also worth noting that with defenses not able to buckle down on him due to the presence of Durant and Booker, Beal posted the best three-point efficiency (43.0 percent) and overall field-goal efficiency (51.3 percent) of his career, somewhat offsetting his drop in volume. Phoenix didn't make any major changes in the offseason, and Beal is set to play third fiddle behind Durant and Booker again in the coming campaign. Even with his usage likely to fall below his career norm again, Beal's per-game production and efficient shooting could make him a clever pick in the middle rounds of fantasy drafts if he's able to maintain his health. That's a big if, however, as he sat out 29 games during the regular season last year and hasn't played in more than 60 contests since the 2018-19 campaign.

78. [D. Russell](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5433) LAL - PG

Statistically, Russell had one of the finest seasons of his career last year, particularly in terms of shooting. The veteran point guard posted a career-best 41.5 percent mark from deep during the regular season while knocking down 3.0 triples per contest, the second-highest tally of his NBA tenure. Russell added a healthy 18.0 points and 6.3 assists per game while pulling down 3.1 boards and shooting a reliable 82.8 percent from the charity stripe. Those numbers are more than adequate for a starting point guard on a team aiming to contend for a title. But for the second straight year, Russell's strong play didn't carry over into the postseason, as he averaged just 14.2 points while shooting 38.4 percent from the field, including 31.8 percent from long distance, while also standing out as a defensive liability during Los Angeles' first-round, five-game loss to the Nuggets. For that reason, and due to Russell being one of the team's most tradeable assets after he exercised his $18.69 million player option in the offseason, there have been substantial whispers that the Lakers will try to deal the point guard in an attempt to land a third superstar to team with LeBron James and Anthony Davis. Whether or not that happens, Russell -- who is still relatively young at 28 years old -- can be expected to maintain a steady level of production. He's been a model of statistical consistency during recent regular seasons, averaging between 17.8 and 18.1 points along with 2.7-3.0 triples and 6.2-7.1 dimes in each of his past three campaigns.

79. [C. McCollum](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5161) NOP - PG,SG

Despite averaging his fewest points since the 2014-15 season, McCollum cobbled together a quietly strong season during the 2023-24 campaign. He finished as the 37th-ranked player in standard leagues, averaging 20.0 points to go with 4.3 rebounds, 4.6 assists, 0.9 steals and 3.6 three-pointers. His perimeter production matched his career high, while his 82.7 percent from the line was his best return in the past six years. Affixing our gaze to the 2024-25 season, McCollum should once again be an integral part of the Pelicans' drive for success. The arrival of Dejounte Murray will almost certainly result in McCollum shifting to the two-guard spot, impacting his assist numbers. However, it should allow him to play off-ball a bit more, allowing him to focus on being a primary offensive option without the added responsibility of facilitating the offense. If we look back to the 2018-19 season, McCollum put up top-60 value playing alongside Damian Lillard in Portland. In 33.9 minutes per game, he averaged 21.0 points, 4.0 rebounds, 3.0 assists, 0.8 steals and 2.4 three-pointers. That seems like a reasonable expectation this upcoming season, albeit in slightly fewer minutes and with an uptick in perimeter production. Taking everything into consideration, managers will want to look at McCollum as a solid target in the sixth round of drafts, though he can probably be selected later due to his relatively low upside.

80. [J. Holiday](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4622) BOS - PG,SG

Holiday was credited as one of the most underrated players in the league for years, but anyone who says that now doesn't watch enough basketball. The defensive stud has been a key cog in two championships and started for Team USA during the 2024 Paris Olympics. That shows how valuable Holiday is to winning basketball. However, the veteran's statistics plummeted last year. The former All-Star averaged 12.5 points, 5.4 rebounds, 4.8 assists, 0.9 steals, 0.8 steals and 2.0 threes in his first season with the Celtics. The scoring and assist totals were his worst averages in a decade, but it's no surprise when looking at this roster. Holiday has to compete with Jayson Tatum, Jaylen Brown, Derrick White and Kristaps Porzingis for touches and shots. There's not enough to go around for Holiday to return to the All-Star we saw in the past, but this is one of the most valuable players on the planet, so he should continue to see 30-plus minutes a night. The statistical drop-off makes Holiday a questionable pick from a fantasy standpoint, especially since he turned 34 this summer. Not many guards past 35 years old look like studs, making Holiday a tough sell.

81. [C. White](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6169) CHI - PG,SG

Following a strong end to the 2022-23 season, White hit the ground running last year, serving as the starting point guard from the get-go. Although his points production was a little underwhelming to start the campaign, he soon ramped things up, thanks in part to a season-ending injury to Zach LaVine. He finished as the 95th-ranked player in standard leagues, averaging 19.1 points, 4.5 rebounds, 5.1 assists, 0.7 steals and 2.6 three-pointers in 36.5 minutes per game, all of which were career-high marks. If it wasn't for his lack of production on the defensive end, he could well have ended up inside the top 70. Coming into the 2024-25 season, the Bulls appear to be accepting of the fact that they need to rebuild their roster. DeMar DeRozan and Alex Caruso have moved on, while LaVine and Nikola Vucevic could be on the way out at some point in the near future. Josh Giddey was acquired as part of the Caruso deal and should open the season as a starter alongside White. While this could impact White's assist numbers, he should still be a primary offensive option. It's hard to see him making any significant steps forward this season but his role should be secure enough for managers to feel comfortable drafting him in the later rounds.

82. [K. Kuzma](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5840) WAS – PF

Kuzma flirted with top-100 value again last season, averaging a career-high 22.2 points per game and adding 6.6 rebounds, 4.2 assists, 0.5 steals, 0.7 blocks and 2.2 three-pointers in 32.6 minutes per game. As expected, he was once again a focal point on offense for the Wizards, a team still trying to find an identity. Although he has proven he can absorb a sizable portion of the offensive responsibility, it is clear that he is not the player they should be leaning on should they have aspirations of competing in the Eastern Conference. Despite rumors of a trade, Kuzma remains on Washington's roster for now. While he should remain a go-to option, he will now have to compete with Alex Sarr for minutes at the power forward position. There is a chance the coaching staff plays the two together, sliding Kuzma down to the three. While this shouldn't impact his offensive productivity, his struggles on the defensive end could be highlighted even further. No matter his specific role, Kuzma should be able to maintain similar value to the last two seasons. The emphasis on points can result in fantasy managers overvaluing him in drafts, meaning he could go off the board in the sixth or seventh round.

83. [K. Middleton](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5073) MIL – SF

Middleton has carved out a wonderful career in Milwaukee, but injuries have been mounting over recent years. The wing has played just 88 games over the last two seasons and reportedly had surgery on both ankles during the offseason -- a concerning development for an oft-injured 32-year-old. The production has been collapsing along with his body, averaging 15.1 points in back-to-back seasons. That's a far cry from the 20-point scorer we've become accustomed to, but it directly correlates with his workload. Middleton is barely playing over 25 minutes a night in that two-year span, adding 4.5 rebounds, 5.1 assists, 0.8 steals and 1.6 threes on some elite shooting. If there's a silver lining, it's that Milwaukee leaned on him in the postseason when Giannis Antetokounmpo and Damian Lillard were injured. Middleton averaged 22.9 points, 8.1 rebounds, 4.9 assists and 1.6 threes across 36 minutes in the final eight games last year. That tells us the ability is still there, but it remains to be seen if he can play a full season with the way his body is falling apart. That makes him an intriguing pick in drafts because there are not many players with a higher variance of outcomes.

84. [J. Poeltl](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5640) TOR – C

Poeltl missed the final 21 games of the 2023-24 campaign after undergoing season-ending surgery to repair a torn ligament in his left pinky finger. However, the 28-year-old big man has shown consistent availability throughout the rest of his career, making at least 66 appearances in each of the previous six years. Poeltl was also effective when on the floor last season, averaging 11.1 points, 8.6 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 1.5 blocks in 26.4 minutes across 50 regular-season outings, all of which were starts. Poeltl also displayed impressive efficiency, shooting 65.6% from the field. This is nothing new, as the 7-foot center has shot above 60% from the field every season, excluding his rookie year. However, Poeltl's 55.1% mark from the free-throw line is a concern, as he has consistently hovered around that mark throughout his career. Without any major addition to Toronto's frontcourt, Poeltl figures to remain the team's starting center in 2024-25. Overall, Poeltl's consistent production and availability, excluding last season, makes him a quality candidate for roto fantasy leagues. With center typically being one of the hardest spots to fill out in a roster, Poeltl is an ideal target for the later rounds of drafts.

85. [J. Suggs](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6516) ORL - PG,SG

Suggs enjoyed the best season of his career in 2023-24. After playing just 101 total games across his first two years, the 23-year-old guard made 75 regular-season appearances last season, all of which were starts. Not only did the No. 5 pick in the 2021 NBA Draft improve his availability, his efficiency saw a major boost. Suggs' 47.1 field-goal percentage and 39.7 percent shooting on 5.1 three-point attempts per game were both career-highs. Overall, Suggs averaged 12.6 points, 3.1 rebounds, 2.7 assists and 1.4 steals in 27.0 minutes. However, his impact on Orlando's success is surely greater than his statistical output. Even with the departure of Markelle Fultz, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope's addition still ensures a crowded backcourt. With Cole Anthony, Anthony Black and Gary Harris also competing for minutes, Suggs is unlikely to receive comparable playing time to most of the league's stars. His greatest strength is his defensive output, as not only has he averaged well over a steal per game in each season of his career, but he also averaged 0.6 blocks per game last year, a well-above-average number for a guard. While Suggs can now be relied upon for consistent production, particularly on the defensive end, his lack of lofty scoring or assist numbers makes him more of an option for the later rounds of most fantasy formats.

86. [I. Hartenstein](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5856) OKC – C

Hartenstein had the best season of his career, thanks in large part to Mitchell Robinson missing significant time because of injury. Hartenstein logged a career-high 25 minutes per game, which he parlayed into averages of 7.8 points, 8.3 rebounds, 2.5 assists, 1.2 steals and 1.1 blocks. Hartenstein shot a stellar 64.4% from the field, while not killing fantasy managers with his 70.7% shooting from the charity stripe. Hartenstein cashed in on his impressive campaign by signing a three-year, $87 million contract with the Thunder in the offseason. Hartenstein's role is yet to be determined, as he could either start alongside Chet Holmgren or come off the bench. Either way, Hartenstein could average around 25 minutes per game again this season as one of the primary big men for an otherwise small Thunder squad. Those looking to get scoring out of the center position should look elsewhere. However, Hartenstein is an efficient shooter and provides plenty in terms of rebounds, assists and defensive stats. Hartenstein should be a target for fantasy managers who are looking to add depth at the center spot later in drafts.

87. [J. Valanciunas](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4886) WAS – C

Valanciunas has seen his minutes plummet over recent years, playing 24.9 minutes in 2022-23 and following it up with 23.5 minutes last season. That was a frustrating development for the big man because he was regularly playing 25-30 minutes a night throughout the last decade. Even with the diminished workload, Valanciunas averaged 13.1 points, 9.5 rebounds, 2.0 assists, 0.7 blocks and 0.5 threes. He also had double-double averages in four straight seasons before last year, and the big man could return to that in Washington. The Wizards traded Daniel Gafford at the trade deadline, and Valanciunas is the best center on this roster. While they did add Alex Sarr, Marvin Bagley, and Richaun Holmes over the last 18 months, Sarr and Bagley can both see time at power forward. The recent decline in minutes has Valanciunas falling to the end of drafts, but he could have value in this newfound role. He's always been a Top 100 player in a true starting role in the past and is a double-double machine with the rare ability to knock down some threes from the center position.

88. [A. Simons](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6035) POR - PG,SG

Simons was stepping into a prominent role once Portland got rid of Damian Lillard, and it led to a career year. The 25-year-old guard averaged 22.6 points, 3.6 rebounds, 5.5 assists, 0.5 steals and 3.4 threes per game. We all knew that Simons would take that next step as the team's primary playmaker, but that extra workload led to an oft-injured season for the talented guard. He played just 46 games last season, missing the final month due to a knee strain. He also had an ankle injury in the opening month, and it's possible that Portland rests some players down the stretch once again with how poorly they're projected. The lack of talent on this roster should have Simons looking at a similar role once again, taking over 18 shots a game last year. This is only the floor of what we can see from Simons because there's not much on the roster who will take away shots and playmaking opportunities. If there's one thing that could deter us, it's the development of Scoot Henderson. The rookie point guard looked great at times when Simons was out last season, and we have to assume the Top 3 pick will continue to advance into a premier player on this Portland team. In any case, Simons should see a massive workload and be a decent-value pick in the middle rounds of drafts.

89. [T. Rozier](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5476) MIA – PG

Rozier was traded from the Hornets to the Heat midway through the 2023-24 campaign. The 30-year-old guard saw a decline in his numbers after going from a rebuilding Charlotte squad to a playoff contender in Miami. In his 30 appearances for the Hornets, Rozier averaged 23.2 points, 6.6 assists, 3.9 rebounds and 1.0 steals in 35.5 minutes. These averages dipped to 16.4 points, 4.6 assists, 4.2 rebounds and 1.0 steals in 31.5 minutes across 31 regular-season appearances for the Heat. Not only did Rozier's volume take a hit, but he also decreased from 45.9 percent shooting from the field in Charlotte to 42.3 percent in Miami. While the 6-foot-1 guard will still have to share shots with Jimmy Butler, Tyler Herro, and Bam Adebayo, he remains the only true point guard on Miami's roster. The Heat's primary guards off the bench coming into next season project to be Josh Richardson and Alec Burks, who are both at best combo guards. This leaves Rozier with a clear role for next season and the potential to creep back towards being a 20 points-per-game scorer. While Rozier is still expected to perform at a high level, him sharing the floor with other stars in Miami will likely cap his production ceiling to a mid-to-late-round pick in fantasy drafts.

90. [T. Murphy III](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6559) NOP - SF,PF

After missing the first five weeks of the 2023-24 season due to a knee injury, Murphy was slow to ramp up his production, providing sporadic numbers across his first three months. However, Murphy found his rhythm down the stretch on the offensive end of the floor. He put up third-round value over the final two months, averaging 17.1 points, 6.2 rebounds, 2.8 assists, 1.1 steals and 3.5 three-pointers in 34.0 minutes per game. While his late-season numbers were exactly what managers had been wanting all year, it should be noted that his role shifted from a bench player to a starter as a result of injuries to other players. Coming into the 2024-25 season, he will likely move back to the bench, assuming Brandon Ingram remains in New Orleans. As a sixth man, Murphy should be in line for close to 30 minutes per night, meaning the top 50 might be out of reach, at least initially. As long as he is healthy, he should be able to push for more playing time right out of the gate, providing a much better defensive option than Ingram on the wing. As the roster currently stands, the center depth for the Pelicans is sketchy, at best. Should the coaching staff opt to experiment with some small-ball lineups, there is an outside chance Murphy could slot in as a makeshift four or five. Despite the small amount of uncertainty, Murphy makes for an intriguing draft-day target. As a risk vs. reward option, managers should try to wait until the seventh or eighth round where possible.

91. [A. Reaves](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6606) LAL - PG,SG

That Reaves has been able to ascend to a full-time starting role after going undrafted out of college is an impressive accomplishment in itself, but it doesn't go far enough in detailing the value he's brought to the Lakers. The Arkansas product posted career-best marks last season with averages of 15.9 points, 5.5 assists, 4.3 rebounds and 1.9 three-pointers over 32.1 minutes while shooting 48.6 percent from the field -- including 36.7 percent from deep -- and 85.3 percent from the charity stripe. Reaves struggled a bit from three-point range during Los Angeles' first-round playoff exit against Denver, but he still fared quite well in averaging 16.8 points, 3.6 dimes, 3.8 boards and 1.4 steals while shooting 47.6 percent from the field overall. While his production as a scorer may be capped for now due to the presence of All-Star teammates LeBron James and Anthony Davis (and to a lesser extent by backcourt mate D'Angelo Russell), Reaves' efficiency both from the field and from the free-throw line is a big boost to his fantasy profile, as is his ability to rack up assists as a shooting guard. The Lakers didn't change their roster much in the offseason, so Reaves' role and output are likely to remain pretty steady during the 2024-25 campaign. With a bit more growth, he could finish as a top-50 player in nine-category fantasy leagues.

92. [J. Smith Jr.](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6693) HOU - PF,C

As expected, Smith made some minor improvements across the board during his sophomore season, increasing his production in all but one category, that being blocks, where he went from 0.9 the previous season to 0.8. He pushed inside the top 100 in standard fantasy formants, closing as the 87th-ranked player with averages of 13.7 points, 8.1 rebounds, 1.6 assists, 1.5 combined steals-plus-blocks and 1.8 three-pointers. His efficiency also improved both from the field and charity stripe, including an increase of almost five percent from the floor. The Rockets continue to build a nice roster around Smith and have several intriguing young options. However, Smith's role is set in stone, so fantasy managers should consider the top 100 as his fantasy floor. Assuming takes some steps forward on the offensive end, it's reasonable to think he could again increase his overall rank to somewhere inside the top 80. There is unlikely to be excessive hype surrounding Smith, he could be available in the seventh or even eighth rounds of fantasy drafts, making him a safe yet unassuming pick.

93. [J. Collins](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5832) UTA - PF,C

Following persistent trade rumors, Collins was moved to the Jazz before the 2023-24 season, landing in what appeared to be a favorable spot. After multiple top-50 fantasy seasons, Collins struggled during the 2022-23 campaign, finishing outside the top 100 in standard formats. Collins was able to somewhat rectify that last year, averaging 15.1 points, 8.5 rebounds, 1.3 three-pointers and 1.5 combined steals and blocks, good enough for top-80 value. Jumping ahead 12 months, and we have a situation that could go one of two ways. The Jazz recently re-signed Lauri Markkanen to a new five-year deal, ensuring he will remain in Utah for the foreseeable future. They also have two intriguing young pieces in Walker Kessler and Taylor Hendricks, both of whom could theoretically move ahead of Collins in the rotation. Although Collins has a nice fantasy skill set, his contributions to winning basketball are yet to be confirmed. Considering the Jazz may also opt to scale back his playing time if and when they are eliminated from playoff contention, Collins may struggle to be anything more than a top-100 player. Managers should look at him in the final rounds of drafts, eliminating a lot of the risk that comes with a player such as Collins.

94. [J. Grant](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5350) POR - SF,PF

A familiar face on rebuilding teams, Grant hasn't seen action in an April basketball game for the past three seasons and has won just 56 of his last 165 games. Despite playing in only 54 games last season, he was the leading scorer for the Trail Blazers, putting up 1,132 points and averaging 21.0 per game with shooting splits of 45/40/82. He also contributed 3.5 rebounds and 2.8 assists in his 33.9 minutes on the court. Once again, he's expected to be a 20-point-per-game scorer on one of the league's weakest teams. At 30 years old, with a contract extending through the 2027-28 season, the Blazers will likely try to trade him sooner rather than later, though finding a willing trade partner might prove challenging. Portland is building an intriguing young core featuring Anfernee Simons, Scoot Henderson, Shaedon Sharpe, Deni Avdija, and Donovan Clingan (with Deandre Ayton possibly qualifying). Does it make sense to keep Grant as a primary option? In fantasy basketball, Grant is in a bit of a no man's land-often drafted late more out of necessity than desire. He's a decent pick around the 100th spot, but there's little reason to select him earlier. Even if he delivers top-75 value when healthy, will he be playing in April-or even mid-March?

95.[C. Paul](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/3930) SAS – PG

Paul is one of the greatest point guards of all time and to see him wasting away on Golden State's bench last year was frustrating. The Warriors waived Paul this offseason, but he quickly signed with the Spurs. There weren't many better landing spots for the veteran because Paul should step right in as the starting point guard. Anybody who watched the Spurs last season saw just how badly they needed a primary ball-handler, and CP3 should help Victor Wembanyama continue to develop into one of the best players in the NBA. It's not like Paul was useless last year in a reserve role, averaging 9.2 points, 3.9 rebounds, 6.8 assists, 1.2 steals and 1.3 threes across 26 minutes a night. That was the first time in his career that he played fewer than 32 minutes, and he might have trouble surpassing 30 minutes at 39 years old. The juice is still there, though, because Paul averaged 14.3 points, 4.3 rebounds, 9.9 assists, 1.7 steals and 1.4 blocks in his final two seasons with the Suns. We expect Paul to be closer to those averages than the ones we saw in Golden State because this is a great opportunity for the veteran to run an offense again.

96. [T. Jones](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5484) PHX - PG

Coming off a strong season in Washington, Jones was signed by the Suns as they attempt to address their point guard concerns. Jones averaged 12.0 points, 2.7 rebounds, 7.3 assists, 1.1 steals and 1.6 three-pointers during his stint with the Wizards, good enough for top-70 per-game value in nine-category leagues. However, Jones was never going to stick around too long and to no one's surprise, Phoenix came calling. Jones will immediately slot into a significant role for the Suns and may be a regular starter. Jones should see close to 28 minutes per night, putting him firmly in the standard league discussion. However, this will be a completely different situation for Jones, playing alongside the likes of Kevin Durant, Devin Booker and Bradley Beal, all of whom are excellent offensive weapons. Jones will merely serve as the primary distributor, providing above-average defensive contributions. Jones may not be a so-called 'must-roster' player, but chances are he ends up being taken in the final rounds of drafts, if not only because of his upside in assists and steals.

97. [K. Porzingis](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5464) BOS - PF,C

Despite yet another season disrupted by injury, Porzingis was by all accounts a positive fantasy asset during the 2023-24 campaign. Following a trade from Washington to Boston, many saw Porzingis as a potential bust given he would be sharing the ball with such a talented roster. Although his scoring took a hit, an uptick on the defensive end, as well as career-best shooting numbers, saw him close as a borderline first-round asset in just 29.6 minutes per night. His averages of 20.1 points, 7.2 rebounds, 2.0 assists, 0.7 steals, 1.9 blocks and 1.9 three-pointers were not only good enough for top-15 value, but they also carried him to top-45 value when considering totals. While all things would point to him having another strong campaign this upcoming season, ankle surgery has put an end to that. Slated to miss up to six months, there is a chance Porzingis remains sidelined until the calendar flips to 2025. Factoring in load management and other possible ailments, projecting him to play more than 40 games is optimistic. If we cast our minds back to the 2020-21 season, Porzingis played a total of 43 games for the Mavericks, ending as the 87th-ranked player in total value. Keeping that in mind, as well as the fact the Celtics will be in no rush to get him out there, managers may want to avoid him until the ninth or tenth round, even deeper where possible.

98. [J. Poole](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6216) WAS - PG,SG

Despite moving into what appeared to be a favorable situation, Poole struggled mightily during his first season with the Wizards. Hyped as a potential breakout candidate, he failed to live up to the hype, shooting a career-low 41.3 percent from the floor. A strong end to the season somewhat made up for his shortcomings, providing managers with a glimpse of what they had been hoping for all along. He finished as the 134th-ranked player, putting up 17.4 points per game, to go with 2.7 rebounds, 4.4 assists, 1.1 steals and 2.4 three-pointers. While on the surface, he was a must-roster player, there were times during the season when parting ways with him was a viable option. Washington remains in a rebuilding phase, meaning Poole should be able to maintain a similar role this season, assuming he is motivated to perform. Over the final two months of the 2023-24 season, Poole served up borderline top-80 value, rewarding anyone who stuck with him. Despite the frustrations last year, he should still be a relatively attractive target in the mid-to-late rounds of drafts. If you find yourself deciding on a player in the eighth or even ninth round and Poole is still available, you could do worse than grabbing a guy with the upside to score 20-plus points on any given night.

99. [H. Jones](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6577) NOP - SF,PF

Jones averaged a career-high 30.5 minutes per game during the 2023-24 season, putting up career-best offensive numbers. The defensive-minded forward ended by averaging 11.0 points on 49.8% shooting from the floor and 86.7% from the line, adding 3.6 rebounds, 2.6 assists, 1.5 three-pointers and 2.2 combined steals and blocks. While it was a strong season for Jones, his role heading into the 2024-25 season could be about to change. The offseason acquisition of Dejounte Murray will likely see Jones move to the bench, assuming Brandon Ingram remains on the team. A move to the second unit, plus the ascension of Trey Murphy, may result in Jones' minutes falling back slightly. Although Jones was a top-65 player last season, his overall value is heavily tied to his defensive numbers. This is certainly valuable in category formats but makes him less appealing than others who produce consistently on both ends of the floor. Jones will remain a must-roster player, but where he goes in drafts is typically dependent on statistical need. For anyone needing a boost in defensive contributions, Jones makes sense as a borderline top-100 target.

100. [A. Caruso](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5754) OKC - SG,SF

There was a lot of discussion about the Caruso-Josh Giddey trade, but it feels like a great deal for both sides. Giddey gets a fresh start in Chicago, while Caruso is going to be a valuable piece for one of the best teams in the NBA. What's made Caruso so valuable over recent years is his elite defense, but that doesn't necessarily show up in the stat sheet. With that said, Caruso averaged 10.1 points, 3.8 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 1.7 steals, 1.0 blocks and 1.9 threes across 28.7 minutes a night for the Bulls last year. Those are career-high marks across the board, but more importantly, Caruso played 71 games. Caruso has had trouble staying on the floor because of his high-energy style, playing fewer than 60 games in four of his seven NBA campaigns. Caruso's the best bet to start at shooting guard for the Thunder, battling guys like Luguentz Dort, Cason Wallace and Isaiah Joe for minutes. That should guarantee Caruso close to 30 minutes per game, but having to guard the best player every night in the loaded Western Conference might lead to Caruso missing games as he did in years prior.

101. [R. Barrett](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6165) TOR - SF,PF

Barrett is heading into his first full season with the Raptors after the club acquired him via trade with the Knicks last year. In 26 regular-season games with the Knicks, the 24-year-old averaged 18.2 points, 4.3 rebounds and 2.4 assists across 29.5 minutes while shooting 42.3 percent from the field. However, after the change of scenery, Barrett saw an uptick in playing time while averaging 21.8 points, 6.4 rebounds and 4.1 assists across 33.5 minutes per game in 32 regular-season games. The five-year vet shot 55.3 percent from the field with the Raptors and 39.2 percent from deep, his highest mark since the 2020-21 season. The Raptors are still in the process of rebuilding, and Barrett will potentially have the opportunity to become a star, as well as a top option for the team alongside Scottie Barnes and Immanuel Quickley. Barrett averaged a career high in assists (3.3) last season, and the Raptors have the pieces in place for him to improve upon that number in 2024-25. Moreover, he is consistently healthy and has yet to miss more than 26 games in a season throughout his career. Barrett finished outside of the top 200 in fantasy rankings after the 2023-24 season, but he is bound for an increased level of production, which could potentially help him climb the rankings.

102. [D. Green](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5069) GSW - PF,C

Green's per-game stats remained quite well-rounded last season, as he posted 8.6 points, 7.2 rebounds and 6.0 dimes over 27.1 minutes. The assists did mark a slight drop-off from recent campaigns and were his fewest since 2014-15, but Green still ranked in the top five among power forwards in that category. Green chipped in 0.9 triples, 1.0 steals and 0.9 blocks per contest while shooting 49.7% from the field and 73.0% from the charity stripe, providing numbers that were neither particularly useful nor harmful to fantasy squads. What Green offers in fantasy is a unique skill set from his position that makes him a triple-double threat each time he touches the floor, albeit with a limited scoring ceiling. It's possible he could see a bit more usage next year with Klay Thompson out of the fold, but Golden State has other (and much younger) players such as Brandin Podziemski and Jonathan Kuminga who should soak of up much of Thompson's shot-taking volume. As such, it would be unwise to bank on Green averaging even double-digit scoring at this point in his career -- he hasn't done that in seven seasons -- which significantly impacts his fantasy appeal. Another risk managers need to consider when deciding upon an investment in Green is his inability to stay on the floor. Green missed 21 games due to a pair of suspensions and related conditioning along with a handful of additional contests due to injury last year, and he has played more than 66 contests just once over the past six seasons.

103. [N. Reid](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6253) MIN - PF,C

Reid was named the NBA Sixth Man of the Year for 2023-24 after an impressive campaign that saw him post career highs across the board. Last season, the 24-year-old averaged 13.5 points, 5.2 rebounds, 1.3 assists, 0.9 blocks, 0.8 steals and 2.1 threes in 24.2 minutes across 81 regular-season appearances, including 14 starts. In those 14 starts when Karl-Anthony Towns was injured, Reid bumped his averages to 17.6 points, 7.0 rebounds, 2.1 assists, 1.4 blocks and 1.2 steals in 29.2 minutes. However, with Towns and Rudy Gobert still in Minnesota, Reid will likely come off the bench again in 2024-25. Still, the 6-foot-9 big man displayed remarkable efficiency from the outside for a frontcourt player, converting 41.4% of his 5.0 three-point attempts per contest. Reid has also shown consistent availability, playing in at least 68 regular-season games across the last four years. Reid's efficiency and availability make him an intriguing late-round draft pick in fantasy leagues with the upside of putting up high-volume numbers if Gobert or Towns miss significant time with injury.

104. [J. Green](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6513) HOU - PG,SG

Despite averaging 19.6 points per game last year, Green continues to come up short when it comes to overall fantasy appeal. His struggles to contribute anywhere other than scoring makes him a low-upside asset, albeit one that should be rostered in most leagues. He closed the 2023-24 season as the 144th-ranked player in nine-category formats, adding 5.2 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 0.8 steals and 2.5 three-pointers to his 19.6 points per game. A dynamic end to the season somewhat masked his struggles, as he scored at least 25 points in 10 of the final 17 games. While there have been flashes of scoring brilliance, it's hard to trust Green given we have a three-year sample size of modest supporting numbers. The Rockets continue to develop their roster, including selecting Reed Sheppard with the third pick in the 2024 NBA Draft. Although Green could very well remain a starter, he will compete with Sheppard and Amen Thompson, and to a lesser extent, Tari Eason and Cam Whitmore. Green remains a viable target in drafts, but fantasy managers should temper their expectations, viewing him as a possible target in the seventh or eighth round.

105. [J. Kuminga](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6549) GSW – PF

After struggling to find his way onto the floor during the first two seasons of his career, Kuminga averaged 26 minutes per game for the Warriors last season. He turned into one of their better scoring options, averaging 16.1 points per game and shooting 52.9 percent from the field. However, he didn't exactly shine in other departments, providing 4.8 rebounds, 2.2 assists, 0.7 steals, 0.5 blocks and 0.7 three-pointers per game. He was aided by Draymond Green playing in just 55 games, so his role entering this season is a bit unclear. He could either start at power forward with Green starting at center, or he could come off the bench if the Warriors decide to start Trayce Jackson-Davis at the five and Green at power forward. It is worth noting that the Warriors need someone to help take the scoring pressure off Stephen Curry. They lost Klay Thompson to the Mavericks in the offseason and Andrew Wiggins is coming off a poor campaign in which he averaged just 13.2 points per game. They like Brandin Podziemski, but he's not the same scoring threat that Thompson was. The Warriors also added Buddy Hield, but he is a streaker shooter who should come off the bench. Expect Kuminga to still average at least 25 minutes per game and provide fantasy managers with an efficient boost in scoring.

106. [I. Zubac](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5663) LAC - C

Zubac has yet to play fewer than 68 total games in five full seasons with the Clippers, and he has continuously improved his game throughout his time there. The big man averaged a career-high 11.7 points in 2023-24, despite seeing a slight downtick in playing time. Zubac is still only 27 years old, and his only real competition at the center spot is Mo Bamba, who will more than likely hold a season-long role coming off the bench. The departure of Paul George also opens up the possibility that Zubac gets more involved on the offensive side of the ball, and he has played solid defense throughout his career, averaging 1.0 blocks or more per game over the last three seasons. Zubac is a career 61.2 percent shooter, and with more opportunity on offense, he will have the potential to improve upon his scoring numbers. The center finished just outside the top 100 in fantasy rankings last season, and while he likely won't be a consistent 30-minute per game player, he has the potential to come up with a double-double on a nightly basis. The 27-year-old delivered averages of 11.7 points, 9.2 rebounds, 1.4 assists and 1.2 blocks across 26.4 minutes in 68 regular-season games last year. Zubac also averaged a career-high 7.6 shots per game, which could potentially increase with the Clippers losing two rotation-level centers in Mason Plumlee and Daniel Theis.

107. [B. Portis](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5482) MIL - PF,C

Portis is coming off the first season in his career where he played in all 82 games. It was also his seventh consecutive NBA season averaging more than 20 minutes per game. Overall, his stats mostly took a slight dip across the board last season, as he played slightly fewer minutes, with slightly fewer points, rebounds and assists per game. However, after a modest start to the campaign, he closed on an impressive run, averaging 16.3 points, 9.3 rebounds, 1.5 assists and 1.0 steals over the final 30 games, including six double-doubles and a 30-point scoring effort within the last nine games of the season, while enjoying a role in the starting lineup. Portis also shot 50.8 percent from the field on the year, which stands as his best mark among the last three seasons, and the second-best field goal percentage of his career. Additionally, it marked his seventh consecutive season averaging at least 1.0 three-pointers per game, while he shot 40.7 percent from deep for the second-best three-point percentage of his career. Portis is set to remain a key part of the Bucks' rotation, likely playing backup to Giannis Antetokounmpo and Brook Lopez as the first big man off the bench. He has thrived in such a role through his time in Milwaukee, including 16 double-doubles off the bench last season.

108. [B. Bogdanovic](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5338) ATL - SG,SF

Bogdanovic enjoyed the healthiest season of his career in 2023-24, making 79 appearances. While the 31-year-old guard started only 33 games, Bogdanovic played 30.4 minutes per contest as one of the NBA's most productive sixth men. For the season, Bogdanovic averaged 16.9 points, 3.4 rebounds, 3.1 assists and 1.2 steals. While Bogdanovic shot just 42.8% from the field, he converted 37.4% of 8.1 three-point attempts per contest and shot 92.1% from the free-throw line. The 6-foot-7 guard's 3.0 three-pointers made per game ranked ninth in the league. There is good reason to believe that Bogdanovic will receive a significantly increased role in 2024-25, as the Hawks traded away starting shooting guard Dejounte Murray. Bogdanovic now has a very high chance of starting alongside Trae Young as the team's secondary playmaker and one of the top options offensively, but that'll depend on the development of 2024 No. 1 overall pick Zaccharie Risacher. Overall, Bogdanovic's increased role and consistent scoring production should make him an intriguing option in the mid-to-late rounds of fantasy drafts.

109. [O. Anunoby](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5836) NYK - SF,PF

Anunoby was traded from the Raptors to the Knicks midway through the 2023-24 season and signed a five-year, $212.5 million contract extension with New York this offseason. Availability has been a persistent issue for the 6-foot-7 forward, as he has played in 50 or fewer regular-season games in three of the previous four years. While his injury struggles only allowed him to make 50 regular-season appearances last season, he was still one of the NBA's best 3-and-D players when on the floor. In Anunoby's 23 regular-season outings for the Knicks, he averaged 14.1 points, 4.4 rebounds, 1.7 steals, 1.5 assists and 1.0 blocks in 34.9 minutes. The 25-year-old forward also displayed impressive efficiency over that span, posting 48.8/39.4/79.1 shooting splits. Even with the addition of Mikal Bridges, Anunoby should maintain a relatively similar role to the one he possessed last season for the Knicks. Anunoby is primarily an off-ball player who capitalizes on the attention Jalen Brunson generates to find open looks for himself, as well as create turnovers that turn into opportunities on the fast break. Despite the injury concerns that come with Anunoby, his efficient scoring and elite defensive production make him an enticing option in the later rounds of fantasy drafts.

110. [O. Okongwu](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6398) ATL - PF,C

Okongwu finished the 2023-24 season averaging a career-high 10.2 points, 6.8 rebounds, 1.3 assists and 1.1 blocks across 25.5 minutes per game. He landed outside of the top 150 in fantasy rankings last season, but his continuous improvement throughout his four-year career bodes well for his progression next season. One glaring issue is that the 24-year-old played only 55 regular-season games due to a lingering toe injury last season, though this is likely to be resolved ahead of the Hawks' training camp in the fall. The big man has dealt with injury concerns in the past, and he has played in 55 or fewer games in three of his four years in the league. The Hawks are in the early stages of a rebuild, and with Clint Capela having only one year left on his deal, Okongwu could be in for more playing time if the team decides to move on from Capela via trade. However, the team's acquisition of Larry Nance and Cody Zeller in the Dejounte Murray deal complicates the frontcourt situation for Okongwu, especially since the team already has De'Andre Hunter and Jalen Johnson. As long as Capela remains on the roster, Okongwu will likely struggle to find significant minutes from a fantasy standpoint. The center could be a late-round target in fantasy drafts but may end up as a streaming option in a fairly crowded frontcourt.

111. [W. Kessler](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6712) UTA - C

Kessler was taken in the early rounds of drafts last year but ended up being one of the biggest busts in fantasy. What held him back in his sophomore season was limited playing time -- 23.3 minutes per game. That's nearly the same total from his rookie campaign, and that's not what you want to see from a blossoming big man. Kessler averaged 9.2 points, 8.4 rebounds and 2.3 blocks while shooting 72% from the field in his rookie season and followed it up with 8.1 points, 7.5 rebounds and 2.4 blocks on 65% shooting last year. The additions of Lauri Markkanen and John Collins really gripped Kessler's role, but fans have to believe that Kessler will get more run this season. That's all Kessler needs to be a fantasy stud because his per-minute averages are truly absurd. Averaging nearly 2.5 blocks in a 23-minute role is hard to fathom, and we could see Kessler get above three blocks if the workload rises as fans expect. A natural progression is not always linear, and we have to assume this third-year player will have a bounce back after a disappointing sophomore season.

112. [D. Lively II](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/10097)DAL - C

Despite a few ups and downs, Lively cobbled together an impressive rookie season in Dallas. As advertised, Lively provided the Mavericks with a reliable lob threat and defensive stopper at the rim. Lively's performance in the postseason should only fuel what could be serious preseason hype heading into his sophomore season. Lively closed the 2023-24 regular season with averages of 8.8 points, 6.9 rebounds and 1.4 blocks in just 23.5 minutes per game, good enough for top-120 value. The mid-season acquisition of Daniel Gafford cut into what Lively was able to do on a nightly basis, something that could very well repeat itself this season. With that said, it wouldn't be surprising to see the coaching staff prioritize Lively, given his age and the fact that they invested a high draft pick on him. It is unclear whether Lively will be given the starting nod on Opening Night. However, based on what we saw over the second half of his rookie season, it could be a decision that changes based on the opponent. No matter his official designation, Lively is worth considering in the ninth or tenth round of drafts, assuming he is still available.

113. [M. Conley](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/4246) MIN - PG

Conley posted the lowest points per game average since his sophomore campaign last year with 11.4. The veteran point guard was still able to have a productive season, averaging 5.9 assists, 2.9 rebounds and 1.2 steals in 28.9 minutes. At 36 years old, his availability was impressive, making 76 appearances, all of which were starts. Conley also displayed incredible efficiency in 2023-24, posting 45.7/44.2/91.1 shooting splits. He is especially a reliable outside shooter, as he has shot at least 38.5 percent on over five three-point attempts per contest in each of the previous four years. However, as Conley continues to age, it is fair to assume his statistical production will decline. With Minnesota trading up to select Rob Dillingham at No. 8 in the 2024 NBA Draft, a clear succession plan at point guard has already been made. While Conley is expected to be the Timberwolves starting point guard to start the season, it also wouldn't be surprising for him to see a decrease in minutes. Overall, Conley will surely continue to stay behind Anthony Edwards and Karl Anthony-Towns in the scoring pecking order, but he still plays a valuable role in the playmaking department. Even with Conley's role continuing to decrease as he ages, his consistent assist numbers and superb efficiency make him a safe option in the final rounds of fantasy drafts.

114. [A. Nesmith](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6406) IND - SF,PF

Nesmith was acquired by the Pacers via trade before the 2022-23 season after spending the first two years of his career in Boston. The 24-year-old followed a breakout 2022-23 campaign with a career-best season in 2023-24. Nesmith has established himself as a productive member of the Pacers' rotation, and he averaged 12.2 points, 3.8 rebounds, 1.5 assists, 0.9 steals and 0.7 blocks across 27.7 minutes in 72 regular-season games. Nesmith also had a career year from beyond the arc, averaging 4.6 attempts per game and shooting an efficient 41.9%. Nesmith started 47 contests last season and should be expected to split minutes on the wing with Bennedict Mathurin, who missed most of last season due to injury. Nesmith finished last season as a borderline top-100 player in standard fantasy formats, and while the Pacers have a lot of mouths to feed on the offensive end, his ability to score from the outside bodes well for his continued involvement in the game plan. Nesmith is expected to serve as a consistent contributor, but his low fantasy ceiling makes him a later-round pick at best due to the number of weapons around him. However, if injury concerns arise for the club, Nesmith could be a solid streaming option who will potentially see an increase in playing time.

115. [M. Brogdon](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5667) WAS - PG,SG

Brogdon was limited to only 39 games for the Trail Blazers during the 2023-24 season thanks to an elbow injury and the fact that Portland had very little incentive to get him back on the floor. Following his lone season with the Trail Blazers, Brogdon was traded to the Wizards during the offseason, another team with little chance of making the playoffs. Although Brogdon's long-term future in Washington is far from certain, he could open the season as the starting point guard now that Tyus Jones has been shipped to Phoenix. Assuming Brogdon can see close to 28 minutes per game, he should be able to flirt with top-100 value as he has in each of the past two years. He finished as the 125th-ranked player in standard formats during his most recent campaign, averaging 15.7 points, 3.8 rebounds, 5.5 assists, 0.7 steals and 2.1 three-pointers. Those numbers seem relatively sustainable despite the change of scenery, making him a viable late-round target in fantasy drafts.

116. [M. Robinson](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6047) NYK – C

Robinson will enter what could be one of the more promising years of his career, if injuries don't get in his way. He opened the season as the Knicks' starting center and delivered some solid performances, but as has been the case with him throughout his career, injuries sidelined him. By the time he returned, he had already lost the starting gig to Isaiah Hartenstein. However, Hartenstein left New York and signed with the Thunder, so there's an open path for the Knicks to start Robinson again. However, the Knicks are still rumored to be after a center via trade if the chance arises, so it seems head coach Tom Thibodeau is simply not sold on Robinson being the team's regular starter at center. While he's outstanding as a rebounder and as a defensive presence, he only averaged 5.6 points per game across 31 regular-season appearances (21 starts) in 2023-24. Robinson has averaged at least 8.0 boards and 1.1 blocks per game in each of his last four seasons, but his highest scoring average in that span was a mere 8.5 points per game in 2021-22. Robinson's lack of an offensive game limits him to be just a secondary option for the center position, but given his excellent rebounding and defensive numbers, as well as his solid shooting percentages, he can be a late-round addition in most formats, providing he stays as the projected center for New York.

117. [M. Smart](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5317) MEM - PG,SG

Smart played just 20 games in his first season with the Grizzlies, missing the final months due to a finger injury. There was speculation that Smart was ready to return in the final month, but that would've been pointless since Memphis was one of the worst teams in the NBA. That's good news for the upcoming season, and it should be interesting to see how this team looks with Ja Morant, Desmond Bane and Smart all fully healthy. The former Celtic had a career year on a points-per-game basis before getting injured, averaging 14.5 points, 2.7 rebounds, 4.3 assists, 2.1 steals and 2.1 threes. One thing to consider is that most of that damage came with Morant on the sidelines. Smart should return to a secondary offensive role in 2024-25. What we do know about Smart is that he'll play elite defense every time he's on the floor, but that doesn't always show in his fantasy output. Smart will likely take a backseat to Morant, Bane and Jaren Jackson this year, making Smart a tough sell in the middle rounds of drafts. The Grizzlies don't care about fantasy, though, and Smart is a great fit for this defensive-minded team.

118. [C. Sexton](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6019) UTA - PG,SG

Sexton quietly put together arguably the best all-around season of his career during the 2023-24 campaign, ending as the 107th-ranked player with averages of 18.7 points, 2.6 rebounds, 4.9 assists, 0.8 steals and 1.6 three-pointers. Despite the Jazz's struggles, Sexton provided them with a solid secondary offensive option behind Lauri Markkanen and was a somewhat reliable facilitator at times. Although Sexton's long-term role is far from clear, he should be able to maintain a steady starting role for at least one more season. While the lack of defensive contributions does put a cap on his overall appeal, Sexton warrants attention anywhere after pick 100 in standard drafts. Traditional guard stats are hard to come by late in drafts, making Sexton a relatively safe target for anyone seeking a low-risk, high-floor asset.

119. [A. Dosunmu](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6580) CHI - SG,SF

The Bulls were shorthanded at guard for much of last season. Lonzo Ball missed the entire campaign, and injuries limited Zach LaVine to only 25 games. On the bright side, Dosunmu stepped up his production in an expanded role. Dosunmu logged 29.1 minutes per game, which helped him average 12.2 points, 2.8 rebounds, 3.2 assists and 0.9 steals. Dosunmu's biggest improvement came from behind the arc, where he averaged 1.6 made three-pointers and shot 40.3%. Dosunmu shot just 31.2% on three-pointers the previous season. The Bulls wanted to get younger this past offseason, moving on from DeMar DeRozan and Alex Caruso. They have tried to part ways with LaVine but have been unable to find a deal to their liking. Coby White is still in the fold after a breakout season of his own, and the Bulls netted Josh Giddey when they traded Caruso to the Thunder. That means even if LaVine were to be dealt at some point, Dosunmu is likely ticketed for another limited role off the bench. Dosunmu is worth a look late in drafts, but he shouldn't be considered as anything more than a bench player in standard-sized fantasy leagues.

120. [C. Johnson](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6173) BKN - SF,PF

Despite playing on a Nets squad amid a retooling phase, Johnson struggled in his first full season with the team after being a steady producer for Phoenix. Johnson fell outside the top 150 in fantasy rankings in 2023-24 after averaging 13.4 points, 4.3 rebounds and 2.4 assists across 27.6 minutes in 58 regular-season games (47 starts). Johnson shot only 44.6% from the field, his lowest mark in the past three seasons. However, Johnson will have the opportunity to step into a larger role after Mikal Bridges was traded to the Knicks this offseason. The Nets' frontcourt lacks depth, and while they have young talent in Noah Clowney and Jalen Wilson, Johnson will likely be the one to step up offensively as a five-year veteran. The 28-year-old has shot an extremely efficient 39.2% from beyond the arc throughout his career, and he could potentially see a much higher volume from downtown compared to his 6.1 attempts per game last season. Johnson should be one of the squad's top offensive options alongside Cam Thomas and will look to rejuvenate his career as the club decides on his long-term future in Brooklyn. Johnson dealt with a lingering toe injury last season, but if he can stay healthy, he could potentially take a statistical leap as part of a rebuilding club.

121. [D. Schroder](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5187) BKN - PG

Schroder started the 2023-24 season with the Raptors and served as the team's starting point guard but was pushed to the second unit once Toronto acquired Immanuel Quickley via trade in late December. Schroder was ultimately shipped to Brooklyn at the trade deadline and immediately stepped into a featured role with the Nets, starting in 25 of his 29 appearances with the team and averaging 14.6 points, 6.0 assists and 3.5 rebounds over 32.0 minutes. While Brooklyn hasn't brought in any players to threaten Schroder's workload and is trending toward a rebuild, Ben Simmons is expected to enter the 2024-25 season healthy after undergoing back surgery in March. While it's unclear if the Nets will try the 6-foot-10 Simmons at point guard, he'd likely eat into Schroder's usage rate as a ball-dominant player. Schroder is entering his 12th NBA season and was a solid fantasy asset last year, but with Simmons breathing down his back, the German native isn't worth more than a late-round pick for managers seeking a pass-first point guard.

122. [A. Nembhard](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6721) IND - PG,SG

Nembhard put up nearly identical stats in his first two seasons but significantly improved his efficiency in Year 2, including shooting an average of 49.8 percent from the field. He started the season in bench role for 16 of his first 18 appearances but ended up starting the final 49 games of the season, averaging 11.2 points on 53.5 percent shooting, 2.7 rebounds and 4.3 assists over that stretch. He also took his game to another level in the postseason, where he averaged 14.9 points on blistering 56.0 percent shooting, including 48.3 percent from long range, along with 3.3 rebounds and 5.5 assists over 17 games. He hit the 20-point mark four times in the postseason, including a season-high 32 points in Game 3 against the eventual champion, Boston Celtics. Nembhard's impressive play earned him a three-year extension in the offseason, as he heads into his third NBA campaign with what will likely remain a solidified starting role. Overall, Nembhard looks to be on a positive trajectory and in line to push for new career highs across the stat sheet as a result of an increased role.

123. [S. Sharpe](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/6697) POR - SG,SF

By all accounts, the 2023-24 campaign was a wasted year for Sharpe, playing just 32 games due to an abdominal injury that ultimately ended his season. However, during his time on the floor, Sharpe increased his productivity across all major categories, ending with per-game averages of 15.9 points, 5.0 rebounds, 2.9 assists, 0.9 steals and 1.9 three-pointers. At one point, Sharpe scored at least 24 points in five straight games, flashing his offensive upside. Heading into his third year in the league, Sharpe will be looking to build on what has been a promising start to his career. The Trail Blazers are positioned to be able to allow him to fire away on the offensive end as they rebuild for the future. Although Malcolm Brogdon is no longer around, Portland acquired Deni Avdija this offseason to pair with Jerami Grant at forward. With both Anfernee Simons and Scoot Henderson soaking up a sizeable amount of the backcourt minutes, Sharpe may have to contend with all four players for playing time. With that said, the coaching staff is likely to lean into Sharpe's youth and upside as the season progresses, making him a nice late-round target in drafts.

124. [K. George](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/10100) UTA - PG,SG

After a slow start, George ended his rookie season on a positive, averaging 16.3 points, 2.8 rebounds, 4.7 assists, 0.5 steals and 2.4 three-pointers in 31.4 minutes per game over the final two months. Although this kept him well outside the top 250 in terms of per-game ranks, it gave us a glimpse of what kind of player he might be this coming season. The Jazz opted to play him in the 2024 Summer League, albeit for just two games. He scored at least 30 points in each of those two appearances, getting to the free-throw line a combined 31 times. It appears George will be the starting point guard when the season opens in October, likely to see upwards of 30 minutes per game. This alone warrants attention from fantasy managers, as George should have the ball in his hands more than last season. Small improvements across multiple categories could vault him into the top 150 without too much trouble. Pushing into the top 100 will be more of a challenge, given his less-than-ideal efficiency and lack of defensive stats. However, given the potential upside and the fact he should be free to make mistakes, George makes for a viable target towards the backend of drafts.

125. [M. Monk](https://sports.yahoo.com/nba/players/5824) SAC - SG,SF

Monk was instant offense off the bench for the Kings last season, averaging 15.4 points and 2.1 three-pointers per game to go along with his 25.9% usage rate. While he wasn't overly efficient from the field, he wasn't a hindrance in that department by shooting 44.3%. The biggest plus for Monk in fantasy was that he averaged 5.1 assists per game, which was by far the highest mark of his career. The Kings retained Monk's services this summer, signing him to a four-year, $78 million contract. Monk should remain one of the top scoring options off the bench for the Kings, but he might be hard-pressed to replicate his scoring average with DeMar DeRozan now in the fold. DeRozan, who is one of the most durable players in the league, is a massive scoring upgrade over Harrison Barnes, who was dealt to the Spurs. During his tenure with the Bulls, DeRozan averaged at least 24.0 points and appeared in at least 74 games in all three seasons. Still, with the Kings not exactly swimming with talent at guard other than De'Aaron Fox, Monk has top-100 upside.