

= Losses , % =
Winning Percentage

= = Home arenas = =

During the four years the Rockets were in San Diego , they played their games in the San Diego Sports Arena , which had a seating capacity of 14 @, @ 400 . In their first season after moving to Houston , the Rockets did not have their own arena , and they played their first two years at various venues in the city , including the Astrodome , AstroHall , Sam Houston Coliseum and Hofheinz Pavilion , the latter eventually being adopted as their home arena until 1975 . They also had to play " home " games in other cities such as San Antonio , Waco , Albuquerque , and even San Diego in efforts to extend the fan @-@ base . During their first season , the Rockets averaged less than 5 @, @ 000 fans per game (roughly half full) , and in one game in Waco , there were only 759 fans in attendance .

Their first permanent arena in Houston was the 10 @, @ 000 seat Hofheinz Pavilion on the campus of the University of Houston , which they moved into starting in their second season . They played in the arena for four years , before occupying The Summit in 1975 . The arena , which could hold 16 @, @ 611 spectators , was their home for the next 28 years . It was renamed the Compaq Center from 1998 to 2003 . Following the 1994 title , the Rockets had a sellout streak of 176 consecutive home games , including the playoffs , which lasted until 1999 . However , the struggling 2000 ? 01 and 2001 ? 02 seasons saw Houston having the worst attendance average in the league , with less than 12 @, @ 000 spectators each season .

For the 2003 ? 04 season , the Rockets moved into their new arena , the Toyota Center , with a seating capacity of 18 @, @ 500 . During the 2007 ? 08 NBA season where the team achieved a 22 @-@ game winning streak , the Rockets got their best numbers to date , averaging 17 @, @ 379 spectators . These were exceeded once James Harden joined the team in 2013 . The Rockets averaged 18 @, @ 123 spectators during the 2013 ? 14 season , selling out 39 out of the 41 home games . 2014 ? 15 had even better numbers , with 40 sellouts and an average of 18 @, @ 230 tickets sold .

= = Team identity = =

= = = Uniforms and logos = = =

When the Rockets debuted in San Diego , their colors were green and gold . Road uniforms featured the city name , while the home uniforms feature the team name , both in a serified block lettering . This was the only uniform design the Rockets would use throughout their years in San Diego . The Rockets ' first logo featured a rocket streaking with a basketball surrounded by the team name .

Upon moving to Houston in 1971 , the Rockets replaced green with red . They kept the same design from their San Diego days , save for the change of color and city name . The logo used is of a player with a spinning basketball launching upward , with boosters on his back , leaving a trail of red and gold flames and the words " Houston Rockets " below it .

For the 1972 ? 73 season , the Rockets introduced the famous " mustard and ketchup " logo , so dubbed by fans , featuring a gold basketball surrounded by two red trails , with " Houston " atop the first red trail and " Rockets " (all capitalized save for the lowercase ' E ' and ' T ') in black surrounding the basketball . The initial home uniforms , used until the 1975 ? 76 season , features the city name , numbers and serified player name in red with gold trim , while the away uniforms feature the city name (all capitalized except for the lower case ' T ' and ' N ') , numbers and serified player name in gold with white trim .

In the 1976 ? 77 season , the Rockets modified their uniforms , featuring a monotone look on the Cooper Black fonts and white lettering on the road uniforms . On the home shorts , the team logo is

located on the right leg , while the away shorts feature the team name wordmark on the same location . With minor modifications in the number font , this version was used in all four of their NBA Finals appearances , including their 1994 and 1995 championships .

Following the 1995 title , the Rockets opted to modernize their look . After a fan contest with over 5 @, @ 000 entries , the team went with the idea of Missouri City artist Thomas Nash of a rocket orbiting a basketball , which was then reworked by Houston designer Chris Hill . Nash would later sue the Rockets for breach of contract , given they were using his idea despite not having paid the contest prizes . The NBA suggested that should go with the cartoon @-@ inspired imagery that other teams adopted during the 1990s , leading to a rocket painted with sharkmouth nose art orbiting a basketball . Red was retained , but navy blue and silver became the uniform 's primary colors . Both the home white and away navy uniforms featured gradient @-@ fading pinstripes and futuristic number fonts , with side stripes of navy fading to red . This was used until the 2002 ? 03 season .

The Rockets ' current logos and uniforms were introduced in the 2003 ? 04 season , created by New York @-@ based agency Alfafa Studio in association with Japanese designer Eiko Ishioka . The logo is a stylized ' R ' in the shape of a rocket during takeoff , surrounded by a red orbit streak that can be interpreted as the central circle of a basketball court . Said " R " inspired the team 's new custom typeface , designed so that every single digit could be read well from a distance , whether in the arena or on television . Red once again became the dominant color , with silver and black as secondary . In 2009 , the Rockets invoked the championship years with an alternate red uniform , featuring gold numbers and side stripes . The Rockets had two sleeved alternate jerseys for the 2015 @-@ 16 season , an alternate silver @-@ colored uniform whose design referenced the design of NASA 's Gemini @-@ Titan rocket , and a red and gold jersey featuring the nickname " Clutch City " .

== Mascots ==

The mascot of the Houston Rockets in the 1980s was called Booster . From 1993 to 1995 , the mascot was Turbo , a costumed man that performed acrobatic dunks and other maneuvers . In 1995 , the Rockets debuted Clutch the Bear as a second mascot , a large teddy bear @-@ like mascot that performs a variety of acts during the games . After eight years of serving as dual mascots , the performer playing Turbo retired , making Clutch the sole mascot for the team .

== Rivalries ==

The Rockets have developed many rivalries within the Western Conference ever since the team returned there in 1980 . Two are interstate rivalries , with the San Antonio Spurs , who moved along with the Rockets after four years with them in the Eastern Conference , and the Dallas Mavericks , introduced that very season . Houston faced both Texas teams thrice since 1980 , beating the Spurs on all occasions and losing twice to the Mavericks . Other famed rivalries were with the Los Angeles Lakers , that in the 1980s Showtime era only missed the NBA Finals when beaten by the Rockets , and the Utah Jazz , who the Rockets beat in both championship seasons but were defeated by Utah in five other occasions .

== Honors and statistics ==

== Individual honors ==

== Statistics and records ==

== Franchise leaders ==

Bold denotes still active with team . Italics denotes still active but not with team .

Points scored (regular season) (as of the end of the 2015 ? 16 season)

Other Statistics (regular season) (as of the end of the 2015 ? 16 season)

== Players ==

== Current roster ==

For the complete list of Houston Rockets players see : Houston Rockets all @-@ time roster

For the players drafted by Houston Rockets , see : List of Houston Rockets first and second round draft picks .

== Retained draft rights ==

The Rockets hold the draft rights to the following unsigned draft picks who have been playing outside the NBA . A drafted player , either an international draftee or a college draftee who is not signed by the team that drafted him , is allowed to sign with any non @-@ NBA teams . In this case , the team retains the player 's draft rights in the NBA until one year after the player 's contract with the non @-@ NBA team ends . This list includes draft rights that were acquired from trades with other teams .

== Notable former players ==

== Retired numbers ==

1 Also served as head coach from 1991 to 2003 .

2 As Dawson did not play for the Rockets , the team used his initials .

== Unassigned numbers ==

11 ? Yao Ming , C , (2002 ? 11) The number has not been issued since Yao announced his retirement on July 20 , 2011 and will " probably " be retired , according to owner Leslie Alexander .

== Basketball Hall of Famers ==

On April 4 , 2016 , Ming was elected into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame . He will be inducted in September 2016 .

Notes :

1 All three players were also inducted to the Hall of Fame as members of the 1992 Olympic team .

== FIBA Hall of Famers ==

== Management ==

== Coaches ==

San Diego Rockets

Jack McMahon (1968 ? 70)
Alex Hannum (1970 ? 71)
Houston Rockets
Tex Winter (1971 ? 1973)
Johnny Egan (1973 ? 1976)
Tom Nissalke (1976 ? 1979)
Del Harris (1979 ? 1983)
Bill Fitch (1983 ? 1988)
Don Chaney (1988 ? 1992)
Rudy Tomjanovich (1992 ? 2003)
Jeff Van Gundy (2003 ? 2007)
Rick Adelman (2007 ? 2011)
Kevin McHale (2011 ? 2015)
J. B. Bickerstaff (interim) (2015 ? 2016)
Mike D 'Antoni (2016 ? present)