

Suppose you could trade your top pitching prospect (currently in a lower minor league level) for a young, all-star position player currently in the Major Leagues. How would you decide whether to make the trade? (250-word limit)

This is a tricky trade to analyze because one is a pitcher and the other a position player. The most basic way to analyze if it's a good trade or not is based on WAR and projected WAR. If that position player has played a solid season and posted a top-5 WAR on the year, then that would pique my interest more than just having an all-star season. I'd also like to look at how their stats have progressed leading up to their all-star season; stats such as hard hit%, OPS+, BAPIP, and others give a better incite rather than the basic ones. If we can see that he's trending upward and showing significant progress, then I would be all over making an offer. Deciding whether or not to trade a top prospect depends on how your team is looking at the current moment. For example, if your prospect pool is loaded with elite-level arms, you would be more willing to let a player go in a trade. If your farm system and even the major league roster are depleted on arms, I would be warier in trading a top-level arm. Defensive metrics are also another factor to consider in this trade. Say, for example, your infield is ranked among one of the worst in the league, and you know this position player can come in and solidify your team; that would make me more likely to offer for him.