

Basketball with Luke!

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NBA POWER RANKINGS!

WHERE DOES YOUR TEAM GO?!

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1. Boston Celtics

The Celtics are coming off of a championship and are the 2nd seed in the east slowly catching up to the Cavaliers. The Celtics are 53-19 as of Mar 25, 2025. Tatum did just sprain his ankle against the Kings so the Celtics star is out for a bit. Tatum will be out but I believe that Jaylen Brown, Derrick White, Jrue Holiday, and Kristaps Porzingis can continue to win.

2. Oklahoma City Thunder

The Thunder have been phenomenal this year with many young stars having great years. The Thunder are currently the #1 seed in the western conference with a record of 59-12. Shai is having a great season being 1st in the MVP race according to the NBA as of March 22nd going back and forth with Jokic. Other stars have been doing great such as both Williams. Jalen Williams was an all star this year and Jaylin got his first 2 triple doubles this season. The Thunder made a smart choice picking up Hartenstein this off season and they are looking really good right now.

3. Cleveland Cavaliers

The Cavaliers started the season 16-0 and just recently won 16 games in a row. They are looking great with a young star in the making Evan Mobley is having a breakout year. The Cavaliers after that 16 game win streak the Cavaliers lost 4 in a row to some low to middle seeded teams. Other than that the Cavaliers are the 1 seed in the East being 57-14. They had 3 all-stars this season with Donovan Mitchell, Darius Garland, and Evan Mobley. They recently traded Isaac Okoro, Georges Niang and a couple of picks for Deandre Hunter.

4. Los Angeles Lakers

The Lakers recently just traded Anthony Davis for Luka Doncic and they have been great with him. Luka Doncic has become a dynamic duo with LeBron being one of the best duos in the league immediately. The Mavericks however have not been so lucky with the trade. The Lakers are the #4 seeds in the west but they have been great so that is why I put them so high. Also the 2,3 and 4 seeds in the west are all very close so if they go on a run they could easily become the 2 or 3 seed.

5. Denver Nuggets

The Denver Nuggets are the #3 seed in the west and their record is 45-28. They have #2 in MVP voting Nikola Jokic averaging almost a 30 point triple double. They also have other key pieces with Russel Westbrook being a veteran and Michael Porter Jr as a great shooter. I have them above the Houston Rockets because they have the experience of being in the playoffs and the finals in 2023.

6. Houston Rockets

The Houston Rockets are the #2 seeds in the west. They are having a great season compared to their season last year. They have really good young stars like Amen Thompson and Jabari Smith Jr. I do not really think that they will go that far in the playoffs since they are as young as they are but they are still a good team.

7. The New York Knicks

The Knicks have the pieces they need to contend by they can not beat any team that has a chance of contending. The Knicks have not beat the Thunder, Celtics, or Cavaliers. They are the #3 seed in the east with a record of 44-26. They won't make it far in the playoffs especially if they can't beat a top team. The Celtics and the Knicks have over a 40 percent chance to meet in the playoffs so that will be a problem if that chance does hit.

8. Golden State Warriors

The Warriors recently traded for Jimmy Butler III and they have been great. They are rated 9th in the NBA power rankings and are still climbing up the ladder. Curry is once again having a great season as expected. They are the #6 seed in the west with a record of 41-31 and they keep winning games. They have the ability to make a push in the playoffs.

9. Memphis Grizzlies

Ja Morant is finally back after missing almost every game and he is having a good season. Jaren Jackson Jr has improved a good amount since last year. The Grizzlies also got 2 great picks in this year's draft, drafting Zach Edey and Jaylen Wells. The Grizzlies are the #5 seed in the west with a record of 44-28. I am not sure they have the ability to make a playoff push yet but they are very close.

10. Indiana Pacers

The Pacers are the #4 seed in the east with a record of 42-30. Haliburton is having a great season even though it is a bit of a downgrade from last season. Pascal Siakam was also an all-star this year. Overall the team has been good this year but I do not know if they have ability to make it back to the conference finals like they did last year against the Celtics but do not count them out quite yet.

11. The Detroit Pistons

The Pistons went from having the worst record in the league and the longest losing streak of all time to being in the playoff picture. Last year they started the season 2-28 but this season they have a record of 41-32 being the 5 seed in the eastern conference. Cade Cunningham is having a phenomenal season and Malik Beasley is having a great season shooting the ball from deep.

12. Milwaukee Bucks

The Bucks have one of the best players in the world Giannis Antetokounmpo. They did just lose their co-star Damian Lillard to a blood clot in his right calf so that is why they are so low. Even though they lost Dame they are having a good season. The Bucks are the 40-32 being the #6 seed in the eastern conference. I don't know if they can make it far in the playoffs especially if Dame is out but once again Giannis is top 5 in MVP voting and can really carry a team if he needs to and no one can really guard him when he runs full speed at the rim.

13. Los Angeles Clippers

The Clippers have been surprisingly good this season with Kawhi being out for a lot of it and Harden getting older. They are the #6 seed in the west with a record of 41-31. Kawhi finally came back and has been playing well since just coming off of an injury. Harden has been playing like he used to putting the team on his back. The Clippers are looking really good right now.



14. Minnesota Timberwolves

The Timberwolves have been playing pretty well this season although they have not been playing the same since trading Karl Anthony-Towns. The Timberwolves are the #8 seed in the west with a record of 41-32. Anthony Edwards is having himself a great season being top 10 in MVP voting a couple times this season and he is really proving how good he can be. They are in the play-in tournament right now but I believe that they can make it out of there.

15. Orlando Magic

The Magic are playing great for how young they are. Paulo has missed a good amount of the season but when he is on the court he really makes a difference. The Magic are 35-38 on the season claiming the 8 seed in the eastern conference. I don't know if they have the ability to make it far based on how young they are but in a few years they will be great.

16. Sacramento Kings

The Kings made a couple trades before the trade deadline. Star point guard De'Aaron Fox to the Spurs. They also acquired Zach Lavine which will definitely make them better. Also at the beginning of the season they made a really good move by adding DeMar DeRozan during the offseason. They also got Jonas Valanciunas as a backup center. Since they made a lot of moves they still have to take the time to get used to playing with each other which should not be a problem for Zach Lavine and DeMar Derozan. The Kings are the #9 seed in the West with a record of 36-37.

17. Atlanta Hawks

The Hawks point guard Trae Young is still leading the league in assists along with Dyson Daniels being in defensive player of the year run. The Hawks jumped to the #7 seed after beating the Milwaukee Bucks on March 30th. They have a record of 36-38. Risacher is having an alright season for being a number one pick but I feel like he has not been as good as he can really be. So the Hawks are having an alright season with their win column not being too far under the loss column.

18. Miami Heat

The Heat are the #9 seed in the east with a record of 34-41. The Heat are not too bad for just losing their star Jimmy Butler who had to leave Miami because he did not want to play at all. They got Andrew Wiggins and Davion Mitchell recently and they have the potential to be a pretty good duo. The Heat are not having a terrible season but they could be a good team soon.

19. Phoenix Suns

The Suns recently lost star Kevin Durant for 1-2 weeks so he should be back soon enough for playoffs. Devin Booker, Kevin Durant, and Bradley Beal were supposed to bring a super team to Phoenix but they have been mediocre this season. The Suns are the #11 seed in the west with a record of 35-40. Also Kevin Durant wants out of Phoenix this off season. I would also want out if I were him. The Suns have had a disappointing season to say the least.

20. Dallas Mavericks

Coming into the season the Mavericks were looking good. That is until they traded Luka Doncic, their franchise player away to the Lakers for Anthony Davis. Anthony Davis is good but he is always off the court and when he is playing he is great. Also Kyrie has been out for the season and for a couple games they had a total of 7 players able to play. Klay Thompson had been the most notable player on their team playing for a while. The Mavericks are the #9 seed in the west with a record of 37-39. The Mavericks season has been the furthest thing from good.

21. Chicago Bulls

The Bulls have not been too good this season. Josh Giddey and Coby White have been pretty good this season. There is not much to say about the Bulls but they are the #10 seed in the east with a record of 33-42. Giddey has gotten a pretty good amount of triple doubles this season and he almost got a quintuple double. The Bulls are far from being a contender this season.

22. Portland Trail Blazers

The Trail Blazers went on a pretty long win streak this season towards the middle and the Celtics ended it. They have good pieces such as Simons. They are the #12 seed in the west going 32-43. The Trail Blazers have had not too good of a season but there is always next season.



23. San Antonio Spurs

At the beginning of the season they looked like they were going to be pretty good. That was until disaster struck and the generational talent Victor Wembanyama got ruled out of the season with a deep vein thrombosis. Later after they got De'Aaron Fox he also got ruled out for the season. The Spurs are the #13 seed in the western conference going 32-44. I am expecting more than this for the Spurs next season.

24. The Toronto Raptors

The Raptors have not had a great season but they do have some good things going for them. They just traded for Brandon Ingram. Also Scottie Barnes is a rising star and is still young. The Raptors are 28-48 and are the #11 seed in the eastern conference.

25. Brooklyn Nets

The Nets have been doing really bad this season. Cam Thomas has not been too bad when he has been playing. They have come close to some of the top teams like the Cavaliers and the Celtics. They are the 25-51 and are the #12 seed in the eastern conference.

26. The Philadelphia 76ers

The 76ers have been by far the most underwhelming NBA team this season. They have a washed Paul George. Also Joel Embiid has been Joel Embiid missing a ton of the season. They do have one star that has been doing great. That guy's name is Tyrese Maxey. The 76ers are the #13 seed in the east with a record of 23-53.



27. Charlotte Hornets

The Hornets star Lamelo Ball was first in guard voting for the eastern conference. He still was not an all star. After that Lamelo has been out a good amount. The Hornets are the #14 seed in the east with a record of 14-57.

28. New Orleans Pelicans

The Pelicans traded away Brandon Ingram and it did not really matter because he did not play at his full potential because he was out a lot. Zion has been injured just like always but when he is on the court he has not been bad. Not much has happened with the pelicans this season but they are the #14 seeds in the west. They have a record of 21-55.

29. The Utah Jazz

The only reason the Jazz are above the Wizards is because their best player has been out a lot. Lauri Markenhan has not been in too much. They have been horrible this season and I feel like with the team they have they should be a little higher in the west probably like the #13 seed but they are the #15 seeds and their record is 16-61.

30. Washington Wizards

The Wizards have done nothing this season. Jordan Poole only shoots the ball and doesn't even get that many points off of it. He averages 4.5 assists which is more than I thought. They somehow beat the Nuggets earlier this season but that is all they have done. Alex Sarr has not lived up to a #2 picks so far this season. The Washington Wizards are the #15 seed in the east with a record of 17-62.

