

As mentioned earlier in the draft kit, you can't win your pool on draft day, but you can lose it. It's so important in fantasy hockey to find value, so sometimes, you're going to have to take some risks. Stats aside, some players drop in rankings for so many reasons. Sometimes the drop is merited, other times, it's just smoke. In this section, we'll take a look at some player who you should reach on. Hold on to your hockey sticks!

ADP and rankings will be based on the most up to date information from Yahoo!

Evgeni Malkin

Current ADP: 14.3

My ADP: 5

By now you should have a good idea of how I feel about Evgeni Malkin. For some reason, Yahoo! Has Malkin's ADP sitting at 14.3, which is absolutely hilarious. Here's a player who's averaging over a point-per-game since he entered the league (1.19P/GP) and he's going in the second round of standard leagues. He's the fifth best fantasy player this year. Once McDavid, Kucherov, Ovechkin and Crosby are off the board, Malkin should be the next pick. He can score goals, rack up assists, pick up power play points and collect penalty minutes. There's no reason why Malkin should be going outside the top-5, even if you believe that he's injury prone (which of course, isn't a thing). Draft Malkin at five and don't look back.

Anze Kopitar

Current ADP: 35.4

My ADP: 20

Before you block me, just hear me out. Kopitar has never scored more than 30-goals in a season till last season and finished with 50-plus assists for just the second time. Why the excitement for a player that overperformed in 2017-18? The Kings were a middle-of-the-pack team in terms of scoring goals (16th, 2.89 GF/GP) and Kopitar still managed to do a ton of damage. He played most of last season with Dustin Brown on his wing, and now Ilya Kovalchuk is in town. Even if Kovalchuk is older, he can still shoot the puck and score goals. Kopitar probably won't break the 90-point plateau again, but even if he finishes with 80-points, that's top-20 production. Any player that can average a point per game and play 75-plus games should be drafted in the top-20. This isn't rocket science. The Kings captain plays all situations, so his opportunity to rack up points is there. Don't sleep on Kopitar this season.

Brock Boeser

Current ADP: 66.1

My ADP: 55

Brock Boeser broke onto the NHL scene last season and looked like a player who's been scoring goals for ten years. He's got an NHL shot and he's going to display it a lot this season. I wouldn't go crazy trying to draft Boeser, but he should be going in the fifth round of a 10-12 team league. Had he not injured himself, he would have won Rookie of the Year. 29 goals in 62 games is impressive, but he could probably finish with 35-plus goals in 82 games. On top of it, the Canucks are going to be a terrible team this season, so they'll be playing a lot of catch-up hockey, which puts Boeser on the ice a lot. Anything inside the top-50 is too far of a reach for my liking, but if he's there in the 5th round, scoop him up.

Jeff Skinner

Current ADP: 94.8

My ADP: 75

Maybe the excitement around Skinner is too high, but there's reason to believe that he can repeat his 2016-17 number in 2018-19. He scored 37-goals that season, then dropped down to 24 last season. He spent way too much time on the third line in Carolina and that obviously hurt his numbers. Now in Buffalo, the Toronto native will have a chance to play on the top line with Jack Eichel. Those two together are going to be dangerous. Buffalo is still a terrible team, but terrible teams play a lot of catch-up hockey and Skinner can score goals. Maybe 75 is too high for most people, but if he's still around at 80, don't pass up on him. He's going to get every opportunity to score goals, and that's all a player of his skill level needs.

Max Pacioretty

Current ADP: 118

My ADP: 95

Here's a fun fact for everyone: Max Pacioretty has an ADP of 118, while Martin Marincin has an ADP of 114. See the problem with that? Look, Pacioretty is coming off his worst season in a Habs uniform and his supporting cast didn't get better in the offseason. Jonathan Drouin is still playing centre and Tomas Plekanec is back with the team. None of this is going to help Pacioretty, but there's no reason for a five-time 30-goal scorer to be going outside the top-100. His 17-goals last season is enough to scare away fantasy owners, but he's proven he can score a bunch of goals at this level and with this upcoming season being a very important one (contract year), Pacioretty is out to prove he deserves \$7M a season. Montreal has openly told everyone that they don't plan on resigning their captain, and while that's a huge mistake for Montreal, Pacioretty is going to boost that trade value so he can bounce from this shit show market. He's a goal-scoring winger who deserves forgiveness after one down season.

Antti Raanta

Current ADP: 136.4

My ADP: 85

Honestly, Raanta should have an ADP of about 70, but since he plays for Arizona, you can draft Jeff Skinner and grab Raanta on the turn. The Coyotes are a really bad team, but they are a lot better when Raanta is in goal. He finished last season with a 2.24 GAA and a .930 SV%. That's elite for an NHL goalie, and for some reason, people are forgetting him in drafts because he plays in a state that doesn't have ice or snow. To put this into perspective: Carey Price has an ADP of 45.4 and there's a legit argument that Raanta should be going ahead of him. This doesn't mean that you should be drafting the Coyotes' goaltender inside round four, but he shouldn't have an ADP outside the top-100. This is a case of people drafting the players name and not his expected fantasy projection. There's a good chance that Arizona finishes with more points than Montreal! All this to say-- draft Raanta.

Anthony Mantha

Current ADP: 167.2

My ADP: 150.

It's kind of funny that Filip Zadina (164.4) has a higher ADP than Mantha (167.2) and there's no guarantee that Zadina even plays in the NHL this season. Someone is going to have to score goals in Detroit, and it's not going to be Justin Abdelkader or Tyler Bertuzzi! Mantha just missed the 50-point plateau last season, but he could manage to hit 60 this season. He finished

2016-17 with 36 points and followed that up last season with 48 points. If the trend continues, 60 is right around the corner. Imagine getting a 60-point player at inside the top-150! Crazy, but it could happen. If you're thinking about Zadina at 164, skip the high risk factor and go with Mantha at 150. You're welcome.

Casey Mittelstadt

Current ADP: N/A

My ADP: 195

You can probably get Mittelstadt for free as a free agent, but the smart move would be to take a shot at him with you last selection in the draft. At this stage, there's nothing to lose and everything to gain. In deep drafts (14-20 team leagues) you can take a shot at him around the 200th pick. He's only played six NHL games, but he finished with five points, including his first NHL goal. Save you last two picks in the draft for rookies that could hit big.