Scouting OKC · from Houston's side

# Oklahoma City Thunder

2026-27: 5 games (Oct 20 @ SAS · Oct 22 vs DEN · Oct 25 vs LAC · Oct 26 vs PHX · Oct 28 @ DAL) · baseline 2025-26 regular season

**OKC @ HOU**
Sat Oct 31, 2026 · 8:30 PM ET
Game 0022600153

**INJURY REPORT & SCHEDULE** · official report of 2026-10-31, read 2026-10-31 23:16 UTC; statuses as listed, no reasons

**OKC** Alex Caruso: Out · Cason Wallace: Out · Chet Holmgren: Out · Jalen Williams: Out · Nikola Topić: Out · Thomas Sorber: Out

**HOU** Fred VanVleet: Out · Julian Phillips: Out · Quadir Copeland: Out · Reed Sheppard: Out · Steven Adams: Out

OKC: 2 days of rest, previous game Oct 28 @ DAL.

## IN TEN SECONDS

1. **Last season: 9th-fewest paint attempts (47%), 3rd-worst offensive rebounding (26.4%), 2nd-most turnovers forced (16.9/100), 7th-fewest fouls (19.0/g). Through 5 games the profile has moved: 3PA share 43% → 35% (457 trials; each clears the flag rule).**
2. **Scoring last season: S. Gilgeous-Alexander 31.1/g (26.0 so far), A. Mitchell 13.6/g (18.6 so far), I. Hartenstein 9.2/g (9.4 so far).**

## TEAM KEYS

- Shot profile last season: 47% paint attempts (9th fewest); 43% 3PA share (13th of 30). Through 5 games: 3PA share 43% → 35%. Chase Gilgeous-Alexander 39%, Williams 38%, McCain 38%, Williams 39%; wall up on Hartenstein, Barnhizer.
- Rim protection: opponents shoot 60% at the rim (best in the league) and get 27% of their shots there (3rd fewest). Drive to kick; don't finish into the bigs.
- They take care of the ball: 12.7 TO per 100 (fewest in the league). Don't gamble for steals.
- Few second chances: 11% of their FGA (2nd fewest). One shot and out; run.
- They force turnovers: 16.9 per 100 (2nd most). Strong with the ball; no casual passes.
- They don't crash: 26.4% OREB% (3rd worst). Leak out early.

## STARTERS · LAST GAME

### 2 Shai Gilgeous-Alexander

G · 6-6 · age 28 · 8 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 68 GP · 33.2 MPG · 31.1 pts · 4.3 reb · 6.6 ast · 38.6% 3P on 4.4 3PA · 88% FT
26-27 5 GP · 33.1 MPG · 26.0 pts · 4.6 reb · 3.4 ast · 26% 3P on 6.8 3PA

3P% **excellent** · Rim FG% **good** · FT% **excellent** · Ball security **excellent** · Gets to line **elite**

- Lives at the line: 0.47 FTA per FGA (elite, 94th pct), 6.1 fouls drawn/g, 88% FT. Verticality, hands back, no reach.
- Doesn't turn it over: 8.7 TO per 100 usage (88th pct). Don't gamble for steals; play him straight up.
- New this season: share of FGA from Restricted Area down, 29% -> 17% (109 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).

### 25 Ajay Mitchell

G · 6-4 · age 24 · 2 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 57 GP · 25.8 MPG · 13.6 pts · 3.3 reb · 3.6 ast · 34.7% 3P on 3.1 3PA · 87% FT
26-27 5 GP · 25.3 MPG · 18.6 pts · 3.4 reb · 3.6 ast · 4/15 3P

3P% **below average** · Rim FG% **below average** · FT% **excellent** · Ball security **good** · Gets to line **good**

- Capable 3: 34.7% on 3.1/g (40th pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.
- Corner specialist: 42% from the corners (50 att), 32% above the break (126). No help off the corners; help off him on top.
- Downhill driver: 47% of his shots are drives at 53% (95th pct). Show early help, wall up, make him pass.

### 3 Jared McCain

G · 6-2 · age 22 · 2 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 OKC/PHI · 67 GP · 17.3 MPG · 8.3 pts · 2.0 reb · 1.3 ast · 38.5% 3P on 3.8 3PA · 86% FT
26-27 5 GP · 24.0 MPG · 11.0 pts · 2.0 reb · 2.2 ast · 38% 3P on 5.8 3PA

3P% **good** · Rim FG% **bad** · Ball security **excellent** · Gets to line **bad**

- New this season: pull-up family share of FGA down, 32% -> 18% (50 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Knockdown 3: 38.5% on 3.8/g (75th pct). No help off him; run him off the line.
- Pull-up shooter: 32% of his shots are pull-ups (82nd pct, 42%). Stay attached over screens; contest without fouling.

### 55 Isaiah Hartenstein

C-F · 7-0 · age 28 · 8 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 47 GP · 24.2 MPG · 9.2 pts · 9.4 reb · 3.5 ast · 0.0% 3P on 0.1 3PA · 61% FT
26-27 5 GP · 23.8 MPG · 9.4 pts · 9.6 reb · 2.4 ast · 0/0 3P

Rim FG% **excellent** · FT% **bad** · Ball security **bad**

- Pressure him: 19.3 TO per 100 usage (bad, 4th pct), 42% of them bad passes; 9 TO in 5 games so far. Hands in the lanes.
- Elite finisher: 73% at the rim (87th pct) on 183 attempts, 62% of his shots. No free runs; build the wall early.
- Non-shooter (0.1 3PA/g): sag off him and help from him; no closeouts needed.

### 34 Kenrich Williams

G-F · 6-7 · age 31 · 8 yrs · STARTED LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 56 GP · 15.3 MPG · 6.5 pts · 3.3 reb · 1.4 ast · 38.8% 3P on 2.3 3PA · 64% FT
26-27 5 GP · 12.1 MPG · 3.8 pts · 2.8 reb · 0.2 ast · 4/9 3P

3P% **excellent** · Ball security **above average**

- Takes 2.3 3s/g at 38.8% (77th pct): respect it, closeout.

## BENCH

### 8 Jalen Williams G-F · 6-5 · age 25 · 4 yrs Out STARTED 3 OF 3 DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 33 GP · 28.4 MPG · 17.1 pts · 4.6 reb · 5.5 ast · 29.9% 3P on 2.3 3PA · 84% FT
26-27 3 GP · 31.6 MPG · 13.7 pts · 4.7 reb · 3.3 ast · 3/9 3P
Rim FG% **average** FT% **good** Ball security **above average** Gets to line **good**

- New this season: pull-up family share of FGA down, 29% -> 10% (39 trials 2026-27 regular season to date; 2025-26 regular season baseline).
- Low-volume, 29.9% from 3 (2.3/g): help off him in the gaps.
- Downhill driver: 43% of his shots are drives at 55% (90th pct). Show early help, wall up, make him pass.

### 7 Chet Holmgren C-F · 7-1 · age 24 · 3 yrs Out STARTED 3 OF 3 DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 69 GP · 28.9 MPG · 17.1 pts · 8.9 reb · 1.7 ast · 36.2% 3P on 3.5 3PA · 79% FT
26-27 3 GP · 29.9 MPG · 12.0 pts · 9.3 reb · 1.3 ast · 2/6 3P
3P% **above average** Rim FG% **elite** FT% **above average** Ball security **good** Gets to line **excellent**

- Elite finisher: 76% at the rim (93rd pct) on 319 attempts, 41% of his shots. No free runs; build the wall early.
- Lives at the line: 0.36 FTA per FGA (excellent, 85th pct), 3.8 fouls drawn/g, 79% FT. Verticality, hands back, no reach.
- Capable 3: 36.2% on 3.5/g (53rd pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

### 6 Jaylin Williams F · 6-9 · age 24 · 4 yrs

25-26 OKC · 65 GP · 19.7 MPG · 7.2 pts · 5.5 reb · 2.4 ast · 38.3% 3P on 3.9 3PA · 79% FT
26-27 5 GP · 16.6 MPG · 2.8 pts · 4.4 reb · 1.6 ast · 4/16 3P
3P% **good** FT% **above average** Ball security **bad** Gets to line **above average**

- Knockdown 3: 38.3% on 3.9/g (72nd pct). No help off him; run him off the line.
- Pressure him: 14.6 TO per 100 usage (bad, 20th pct), 36% of them bad passes; 2 TO in 5 games so far. Hands in the lanes.

### 15 Aday Mara C · 7-3 · age 21 · rookie

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 5 GP · 15.8 MPG · 5.6 pts · 4.2 reb · 1.0 ast · 0/0 3P

### 9 Alex Caruso G · 6-5 · age 32 · 9 yrs Out DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 56 GP · 18.2 MPG · 6.2 pts · 2.8 reb · 2.0 ast · 29.3% 3P on 3.2 3PA · 80% FT
26-27 4 GP · 18.9 MPG · 9.2 pts · 4.8 reb · 3.8 ast · 8/16 3P
3P% **bad** Ball security **below average** Gets to line **bad**

- Volume 3s at 29.3%, 3.2/g (6th pct): make him shoot contested, no fly-bys.

### 14 Bennett Stirtz G · 6-3 · age 23 · rookie

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 5 GP · 13.3 MPG · 3.4 pts · 0.4 reb · 0.8 ast · 2/9 3P

### 22 Cason Wallace G · 6-3 · age 22 · 3 yrs Out STARTED 3 OF 3 DID NOT PLAY LAST GAME

25-26 OKC · 77 GP · 26.6 MPG · 8.6 pts · 3.1 reb · 2.6 ast · 35.1% 3P on 3.7 3PA · 81% FT
26-27 3 GP · 16.3 MPG · 6.3 pts · 2.3 reb · 1.3 ast · 3/10 3P
3P% **average** Rim FG% **bad** Ball security **good** Gets to line **bad**

- Poor finisher: 60% at the rim (bad, 18th pct) on 205 attempts. Meet him at the rim; verticality, no fouls.
- Capable 3: 35.1% on 3.7/g (43rd pct). Closeout under control, contest every one.

### 21 Josh Dix G · 6-5 · age 22 · rookie

25-26 – · 0 GP · – MPG · – pts · – reb · – ast · – 3P on – 3PA · – FT
26-27 2 GP · 23.1 MPG · 1.0 pts · 1.5 reb · 0.0 ast · 0/8 3P

### 23 Brooks Barnhizer G · 6-5 · age 24 · 1 yrs

25-26 OKC · 40 GP · 8.7 MPG · 1.7 pts · 1.9 reb · 0.6 ast · 29.2% 3P on 0.6 3PA · 70% FT
26-27 4 GP · 4.8 MPG · 0.8 pts · 0.5 reb · 0.2 ast · 0/1 3P

- Non-shooter (0.6 3PA/g, 29% from 3): go under screens, help off him.

Also seen: M. Peavy (#16 G-F, 4.7 min). Not seen yet: N. Topić (#44 G, OKC 16.0 MPG last season), T. Sorber (#12 C).

## GAME PLAN BOXES

### FOUL HIM LATE (FT)

- **I. Hartenstein** — 61% FT (105 FTA, 5th pct)
- Don't foul: S. Gilgeous-Alexander 88% FT; A. Mitchell 87% FT

### FOUL TROUBLE

- Nobody over 4.5 fouls per 36 last season.

## SHOT PROFILE · ZONES AND DIET

### SHOT ZONES · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

| | 25-26 | FG% | 26-27 | FG% |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Restricted area | 29% | 67% | 32% | 60% |
| Paint (non-RA) | 17% | 46% | 18% | 44% |
| Mid-range | 11% | 49% | 15% | 42% |
| Corner 3 | 10% | 38% | 9% | 24% |
| Above the break 3 | 32% | 36% | 26% | 33% |

### SHOT DIET · SHARE OF FGA, FG%

| | 25-26 | FG% | 26-27 | FG% |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pull-ups | 21% | 45% | 23% | 36% |
| Drives | 26% | 56% | 27% | 51% |
| Finishes | 9% | 74% | 12% | 65% |
| Catch-and-shoot 3s | 31% | 36% | 24% | 33% |
| Other shots | 13% | 50% | 15% | 43% |

Zones from the play-by-play (corner 3s merged), FG% on those attempts. Diet from the shot descriptors: pull-ups (pull-ups and step-backs), drives (2s driving or on the run), finishes (cuts, putbacks, alley-oops, tips), catch-and-shoot 3s (3s with no descriptor: a proxy, the feed records no touch time), other shots (turnarounds, fadeaways, floaters and every other move, and 2s with no descriptor). Bars: last season's share of FGA.

4 player rates flagged as changed from last season (bullets starting 'New this season'); 1 team-level (under Team keys).

## ROTATION · LAST SEASON RATES

| # | PLAYER | MIN 26-27 | MPG 25-26 | FGA/G | 3PA SHARE | 3P% | RA SHARE | RA FG% | FT% | PULL-UP SHARE | DRIVE SHARE | C&S 3 SHARE | AST'D SHARE | TO/100 USAGE | FTA/FGA | PF/36 | FOULS DRAWN/G | FLAGS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | S. Gilgeous-Alexander | 165.5 | 33.2 | 19.4 | 23% | 38.6% | 29% | 70% | 88% | 48% | 34% | 20% | 20% | 8.7 | 0.47 | 2.2 | 6.1 | 2 |
| 25 | A. Mitchell | 126.7 | 25.8 | 10.3 | 30% | 34.7% | 31% | 64% | 87% | 19% | 47% | 61% | 42% | 10.9 | 0.28 | 2.9 | 2.6 | 0 |
| 3 | J. McCain | 120.1 | 17.3 | 7.2 | 54% | 38.5% | 22% | 50% | 86% | 32% | 27% | 55% | 61% | 10.0 | 0.12 | 2.5 | 0.8 | 1 |
| 55 | I. Hartenstein | 118.8 | 24.2 | 6.3 | 2% | 0.0% | 62% | 73% | 61% | 1% | 8% | 86% | 78% | 19.3 | 0.35 | 3.7 | 2.1 | 0 |
| 8 | J. Williams | 94.8 | 28.4 | 13.5 | 17% | 29.9% | 38% | 66% | 84% | 29% | 43% | 57% | 40% | 11.1 | 0.29 | 2.5 | 3.1 | 1 |
| 7 | C. Holmgren | 89.8 | 28.9 | 11.3 | 31% | 36.2% | 41% | 76% | 79% | 8% | 19% | 87% | 70% | 10.6 | 0.36 | 2.8 | 3.8 | 0 |
| 6 | J. Williams | 83.2 | 19.7 | 5.4 | 73% | 38.3% | 14% | 56% | 79% | 3% | 10% | 96% | 97% | 14.6 | 0.26 | 3.6 | 1.5 | 0 |
| 15 | A. Mara | 79.2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 0 |
| 9 | A. Caruso | 75.8 | 18.2 | 5.4 | 60% | 29.3% | 29% | 71% | 80% | 7% | 24% | 84% | 81% | 13.0 | 0.17 | 2.4 | 1.0 | 0 |
| 14 | B. Stirtz | 66.4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 0 |
| 34 | K. Williams | 60.5 | 15.3 | 5.3 | 44% | 38.8% | 33% | 61% | 64% | 19% | 22% | 77% | 66% | 11.9 | 0.18 | 2.5 | 1.0 | 0 |
| 22 | C. Wallace | 48.8 | 26.6 | 7.6 | 49% | 35.1% | 35% | 60% | 81% | 11% | 37% | 79% | 68% | 10.6 | 0.12 | 2.7 | 0.8 | 0 |
| 21 | J. Dix | 46.2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 0 |
| 23 | B. Barnhizer | 19.3 | 8.7 | 1.8 | 34% | 29.2% | 32% | 56% | 70% | 16% | 18% | 83% | 63% | 11.7 | 0.14 | 2.8 | 0.2 | 0 |
| 16 | M. Peavy | 4.7 | 15.0 | 4.5 | 39% | 25.9% | 40% | 57% | 76% | 9% | 26% | 77% | 70% | 6.5 | 0.10 | 3.8 | 0.4 | 0 |

## HOW TO READ IT

Baseline = 2025-26 regular season (82 games; a player's baseline covers every game he played, with any team). Recent = 2026-27 (5 games). For each rate, shrink the recent proportion toward the baseline with a Beta prior of strength m (empirical-Bayes flavour): p1_shrunk = (k1 + m*p0)/(n1 + m), with m = 60 for shot-diet / zone / assisted shares, m = 250 for FG%-type rates (rim FG%, 3P%; 3P% needs ~750 attempts to stabilize, so a 10-game 3P% is almost never flaggable by design), m = 60 for turnover rate. FLAG when |p1_shrunk - p0| >= 0.06 AND |z| >= 2.0 where z = (k1/n1 - p0)/sqrt(p0*(1-p0)/n1) (raw recent proportion against the baseline proportion, SE from p0) AND n1 >= 15 recent trials. Here the windows are disjoint.

Grades are words on one scale: elite ≥ 90th percentile, excellent 75–89, good 60–74, above average 50–59, average 40–49, below average 25–39, bad < 25. Shooting and ball-security percentiles are computed from the play-by-play among qualified players (3P% 100+ 3PA, rim FG% 100+ restricted-area attempts, FT% 75+ FTA, rates per FGA 300+ FGA, ball security 300+ usage events). Starters are the players who started the team's last game. Statuses are the official injury report's, as listed, with the report's date and the time it was read, never a reason; a carded player listed at either of the two most serious statuses keeps his card but leaves the free-throw and foul boxes. Every sentence above is produced from these numbers by fixed templates.

Computed by NightlyHoops from play-by-play and box scores of regular-season games, and the league's official injury report (statuses only). Data collected 2026-10-31; report built 2026-10-31 23:16 UTC.