

Mike Trout Is The Greatest Baseball Player of All Time

When discussing the greatest baseball player of all time, one cannot overlook Mike Trout.

There are countless names who would be considered the greatest in Major League Baseball history. Names like Babe Ruth, Willie Mays, and Henry (Hank) Aaron have long been acclaimed as the top of baseball greatness— and understandably so. As the game continues to change and new talents emerge, it's about time that a new name appears in to the list of greats— that name should be Mike Trout.

Trout has an impressive record of 11 All-Star game appearances, second only to Miguel Cabrera's 12 appearances among active players. Remarkably, he has participated in the All-Star game in 11 out of his 12 years in the Major League. On top of that, he was awarded Rookie of the Year, is a 3 time MVP, 2 time All Star Game MVP, 9 time Silver Slugger, and Major League Player of the Year in 2012.

Trout's contribution to the Los Angeles Angels dominates the rest of individual ballplayers total contributions to their respective teams in the MLB. According to Baseball Reference, Trout has accumulated an incredible Wins Above Replacement (WAR) of 86.4. This means Trout consistently surpasses the typical average of 2 WAR per season. This is a clear indication of his consistent value to the success of his team.

His WAR places him first among the active leaders in career WAR while still being in the prime of his career. Compare this to the likes of Ruth (182.6 WAR), Mays (156.2 WAR), and Aaron (143.1), and Trout's impact becomes even more profound. He currently stands at 50 in the top career WAR leaders of all time, but if he keeps his current pace, Trout has exciting potential to climb his way further up the ladder of all-time greats.

According to MLB.com, Trout has missed a total of 537 games throughout his career due to various injuries (not including the 2023 season). Just imagine how much better he would be if he were not injured for a considerable sum of his career.

In addition to his impressive WAR, he demonstrates his excellence at the plate in his On-Base Plus Slugging (OPS). Trout's ability to both reach base and hit for power is nothing short of extraordinary. As of 2023, his career OPS stands at a sky high .993, according to MLB.com. This places him next to baseball's all-time great hitters, showcasing his remarkable consistency and ability to impact the game in multiple facets.

His adjusted OPS+ takes his game further. Once again, Mike Trout shines in this regard. His career OPS+ of 173, is a testament to his ability to thrive and dominate under any circumstance. Even in the midst of the 2024 season, his OPS+ stands at 168, yet another impressive stat. This means he is considerably better than the league average.

In an evolving game where the definition of greatness is constantly challenged, Mike Trout stands as the new face of baseball excellence. His talent is backed by an outstanding statistical

resume that rivals— and in many cases, surpasses— those of legendary contemporary players. While debates continue on about his status of the Greatest of All Time, one fact becomes clear: when discussing the greatest baseball player of all time, one cannot overlook the successful ongoing career of Mike Trout.

Stat References

baseball-reference.com

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