



Baseball 2011 Fantasy Ranker Instruction Sheet

For Microsoft Excel 1997-2003

Follow these simple instructions to dominate your fantasy draft.

General Requirements and Setup

Requirements: This version of the Fantasy Ranker requires a PC running an older version of Microsoft Excel (usually 1997 to 2003). The 1997-2003 version contains the same information as the 2007 one, with some limitations of the formatting and organization used for your draft rankings. Those with Excel 2007 will need to purchase and follow the instructions for the Baseball 2011 Fantasy Ranker for Excel 2007, which contains the same information and includes the improved formatting.

After downloading the Fantasy Ranker: The first thing you should do after downloading the Fantasy Ranker is create a backup copy. If you accidentally change or delete some of the data or Excel programming during your draft preparation, it is important to have a copy of the original file. Purchasing the Fantasy Ranker gives you a one-time access to this program. There are no updates available at this time.

Excel Macro Setup: This program makes use of macros in Microsoft Excel. These macros are very simple computer programs that allow the user to execute a series of tasks with the click of a button. The Fantasy Ranker uses customized macros to help you sort your rankings by automating the selection of data and using the "Sort" function in Excel. By default, the macro security level for your Excel program is set to "High," meaning only signed macros from trusted sources are allowed to run. The security settings for your Excel program are there to prevent the accidental running of malicious software in Excel. With a security level of "Medium," your computer retains its safety and gives you control over what you macros you allow to run. The macros used in the Fantasy Ranker have been signed and authenticated by Ranker Sports LLC. However, you will not be able to add Ranker Sports LLC as a trusted source and will have to manually allow these macros to run when prompted after opening the Fantasy Ranker. If you choose not to change the macro settings, you can still use the Fantasy Ranker, but will have to sort your rankings manually.

Here's how to change the Security settings to allow the Macros used in the Fantasy Ranker to run.

- Open Microsoft Excel.
- Go to the "Tools" menu at the top of your Excel window.
- Open the "Tools" menu and go to "Macro."
- Choose "Security" from the "Macro" menu.
- Choose "Medium" from the "Security Level" tab.
- Click the OK button and restart Excel by closing the program and re-opening it. Your macro security level is now set to "Medium".
- When you open the Fantasy Ranker in Microsoft Excel you will be given the option to accept macros authored by Ranker Sports LLC. Again you can choose not to accept these macros, and doing so will force you to sort your rankings manually. By accepting them, you will be able to automate the tasks described below.

How to use the Baseball 2011 Fantasy Ranker

Step 1: Enter your league's point settings on the Scoring tab and click the "Reset Scoring" button.

- By customizing the Scoring tab to your league's specific point values (i.e., 1 pt for a single, -0.5 pts for a strikeout), the Fantasy Ranker calculates each player's total points over the last two seasons based on your league's settings. You are able to view and sort the 2009 and 2010 statistics under the 2009 Points and 2010 Points tabs. You can also view each individual player's statistics for the last 2 seasons directly on each position ranking tab (1B, 2B, etc.) as you enter your personalized player rankings.
- Set your league's rosters: Choose from all MLB teams, AL only or NL only. If AL/NL only is selected, the players in that league will appear at the top of each position tab. Players in the other league are still present on each tab, but are obscured from view at the bottom of each listing.
- The "2010 Scoring by Position" table breaks down player scoring by position. The table displays the top overall scorer as well as the average of the top 5 and top 12 at each position. It also calculates the difference between the top scorer and the 5th and 12th best at the position, as well as the top scorer and the top 5 and top 12 averages. These numbers can provide an idea of which positions had the most overall value (highest point totals and averages) and depth (comparing #1 vs. #5 and #12).
- You can also customize the **Player Flags** on the Scoring tab which automatically updates the dropdown boxes on each of the position tabs (see next page). The default player flags are "Must Have," "Sleeper," "Avoid," "1 \$ Bargain," and "Rookie." While the text can be altered to any user-defined comment, each entry must begin with a different character (letter, number or symbol) providing a unique representation for that flag. The player flags are integrated on the final Cheat Sheet by the displaying the first character before the corresponding player's name.

Step 2: Create your personalized rankings.

Each position has its own individual tab that contains the same player information. The columns can be broken down into 3 categories:

- General player Information – the usual identifying information
 - Team/League**: player's current team & league
 - Age**: player's age
 - Pos** (Position Eligibility): current positions at which the player is eligible based on standard eligibility criteria
 - Name**: player's name
 - Search Name** (Hidden Column): allows you to sort the list alphabetically
- 2010 Player Stats – displays 4 pertinent statistics for each player
 - 2010 BA**: hitter's batting average last year
 - 2010 S**: pitcher's save total last year
 - 2010 HR**: hitter's home run total last year
 - 2010 K**: pitcher's strikeout total last year
 - 2010 SB**: hitter's stolen base total last year
 - 2010 ERA**: pitcher's Earned Run Average last year
 - 2010 SO**: hitter's strikeout total last year
 - 2010 WHIP**: pitcher's "Walks + Hits per Innings Pitched" last year
 - 2010 W**: pitcher's win total last year
- Fantasy Research – **Everything you need to create your personalized draft list.** Why base your pre-draft rankings on just one fantasy expert? We research dozens of fantasy sources to generate the following information:
 - High**: the highest (closest to #1) positional ranking a player has been assigned
 - Max \$\$**: the highest auction dollar value a player has been assigned, based on a \$260 salary cap
 - Low**: the lowest (furthest from #1) positional ranking a player has been assigned
 - Avg Ov** (Average Overall): our assessment of a player's average overall (value) ranking among all players at any position
 - Avg**: our assessment of a player's average ranking, by position, across multiple sources
 - Avg Draft** (Average Draft Position): an average of where each player is actually being taken during live drafts
 - Avg \$\$**: our assessment of a player's average auction dollar value, based on a \$260 salary cap, across multiple sources
 - 2010 Points**: points scored in 2010 based on the league settings entered on the Scoring tab
 - Min \$\$**: the lowest auction dollar value a player has been assigned, based on a \$260 salary cap
 - 2009 Points**: points scored in 2009 based on the league settings entered on the Scoring tab

(Note: If the 2009 or 2010 Points column is blank, this player is either a 1st or 2nd year player, or did not finish with a significant amount of points that year.)

- Your Personalized Rankings and Draft Information – By using all the above information, you can now customize your draft list. While you are able to sort by any columns listed, **YOU SHOULD ONLY EDIT THESE 4 RECORDS.**
 - Player Flag:** drop-down list of player notes to aid you on draft day.
 - Tier:** allows you to group players of similar value on the final draft sheet.
 - My Rank:** your personalized player ranking
 - My \$\$:** your personalized auction dollar value attributed to a player for your auction-style league
- At any time, you are able to sort your records by any column by clicking the top cell in the row. This activates the corresponding Macro function that sorts your data.
- Editing **Player Flag:** Selecting a specific tag inserts the corresponding character in front of the Player's name on the final draft cheat sheet. The list of flags and their corresponding characters can be customized on the Scoring tab (see Step 1 above).
- Editing **Tier:** Starting with "1" for the top rated player (i.e., the first guy in tier 1), you create the tier system by entering which player begins which tier. After the final sort of your draft rankings/dollar values, the Tier column should contain numbers in order starting from 1 and ending with the total number of tiers desired. You do not need to enter a number for every player, just the player who starts the tier. On the final draft sheet, your tier system is represented by shading differences among groups of players.
- Editing **My Rank** and **My \$\$:** You have 2 options when it comes to developing you personalized rankings and auction values. The first is to enter them directly into Excel. By using the program directly, you can keep your lists more organized by repeatedly sorting the data as you enter new information. This is the quicker and more efficient way of doing it, but requires you to be sitting at a computer. The 2nd is to print out the Draft Prep Sheets which contain the same information, create your player rankings and auction values using the more traditional pen-and-paper method, and then transfer them into Excel. This makes your draft prep more portable, allowing you to prepare for your draft almost anywhere. After entering in your rankings for the first time, you can alter your ranking order by using decimals in your rankings. For example, if you want to move Player A between Player B ranked 11 and Player C ranked 12, enter 11.5 into the ranking for Player A and sort the rankings. After all changes are made, you can renumber the rankings by hitting the "Renumber" button which uses a Macro to renumber your rankings without using the decimals.

Step 3: Set up and print out your Draft Cheat Sheet

- After customizing your rank lists, you are now ready to dominate your draft with a single sheet of paper. The Draft Cheat Sheet contains the same information you created for every position on the individual tabs, condensed into one quick-reference page. The players are listed in the order they appear on each position tab. Meaning, if you want the players on the cheat sheet sorted by your rankings or your assigned auction values, you need to sort them on each position tab, not on the cheat sheet itself.
- The Draft Cheat Sheet allows you to display 5 additional columns of information (other than the player's name) from your position tabs. The most commonly used ones have been preselected for you. To change which columns are displayed, select a column heading for the "1B" or "RP" positions, and a dropdown box will appear. After selecting a new header, the columns for all hitters will automatically adjust to correspond with changes made to "1B." Likewise, the "SP" columns will adjust to correspond with changes made to "RP."
- The shading of groups of players represents the different tiers you created, and the single characters in front of players' names indicate which player flag you selected for that player. The index for player flags and their corresponding characters is located on the Scoring tab (see above).
- Lastly, print it out. Make sure to print in color so you can make use of the special formatting used by the Fantasy Ranker.

Step 4: Set up and print out your [Baseball Draft Tracker](#).

- The other sheet you can take with you to your draft is the [Baseball Draft Tracker](#). There are 4 different versions based on how many teams are in your league (8, 10, 12 & 14). Select the sheet with the appropriate number of teams, and enter your draft position in the first round and the names of each of the teams in your league in the appropriate sections bolded in red to the right. The [Baseball Draft Tracker](#) helps you to plan for the draft by showing the overall number for your picks in each round. Using this, you can plan to target specific players or positions in certain rounds based on when you draft. During the draft, you can also keep track of which teams have drafted players at which position. This can help you make decisions during the draft. For example, if you have the 7th pick in a 10 team draft and the 8, 9, and 10 teams have already drafted a 2B, you could target another position and have a good chance that the 2B you wanted won't be taken before your next pick in the next round.

Troubleshooting.

1. I am updating my rankings and information but the other sheets do not show these changes.
 - You likely have Excel set up so that Formulas do not auto-update when new information is entered. You have one of two choices: you can either continue to use these settings and be required to manually hit the "F9" button every time you want to update Excel, or you can change these settings so that the information updates automatically. To change or verify your settings, click "Tools", and then "Options." In the "Calculation" tab, under "Calculation," select the "Automatic" check box and then click OK.
2. I click on the "Sort and Renumber" button, but my most recent numbers were not updated.
 - This is most commonly caused by the same problem as Troubleshooting Problem #1: your workbook is not auto-updating. Make the same corrections described in the answer above.
3. When I select a cell or text box I get an error stating "Cannot run the macro – The macro may not be available in this workbook or all macros may be disabled."
 - Each version of the Fantasy Ranker comes with the macro code installed. The most likely explanation is that your security settings on Excel are set so that macros are disabled. If you want to run these macros to automate the sorting process, follow the instructions on page 1 of this Fantasy Ranker Instruction Sheet. You may continue to use the Fantasy Ranker without the macros, which will force you to do the sorting manually. You will also not be able to use the "Sort and Renumber My Rank" function on each position tab.