

Boston Bruins 2019-20 Season Preview



BOSTON BRUINS: TEAM LOOK-AHEAD

With much of the same core returning to ice in 2019-20, the Bruins have their sights on a third consecutive 100-point season. Boston has registered at least three straight 100-point campaigns on two other occasions: 1970-71 to 1973-74 and 1975-76 to 1979-80.

SEASON-OPENING STATS

* **David Pastrnak**, who posted a career-high 38 goals and 81 points last season, recorded 15 points through his first 10 games with the Bruins in 2018-19 (10-5—15). Another fast start in 2019-20 would make Pastrnak the fifth player in franchise history to record at least 15 points in his first 10 team games *multiple times* with the Bruins, joining **Bobby Orr** (1969-70, 1971-72, 1973-74, 1974-75), **Phil Esposito** (1970-71, 1971-72, 1973-74, 1974-75), **Bill Cowley** (1940-41, 1943-44, 1944-45) and **Adam Oates** (1992-93, 1993-94).

OFFENSIVE OUTLOOK

* **Brad Marchand** was one of six players to reach the 100-point mark in 2018-19 (36-64—100 in 79 GP), doing so in his 10th NHL season. Should Marchand replicate his output in 2019-20, he would join **Peter Mahovlich** (1974-75 and 1975-76) as just the second player in League history to record their first two 100-point campaigns in their 10th season or later.

* **David Pastrnak** (132-152—284 in 320 GP) can become the fourth player in Bruins history to require 350 GP or fewer to record his first 300 career NHL points with the franchise. The others: **Barry Pederson** (235 GP), **Bobby Orr** (279 GP) and **Ray Bourque** (316 GP).



STATS AND INFORMATION

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* After recording a career-high 79 points in 2018-19, **Patrice Bergeron** (321-492—813) sits 75 shy of tying **Bobby Orr** (264-624—888) for fifth place on the Bruins' all-time points list. He also needs 23 goals to tie **Cam Neely** (344) for fifth place in franchise history.

* Forty-two-year-old **Zdeno Chara** (22) needs one game-winning goal to surpass **Eddie Shore** (22) for sole possession of third place in franchise history among defensemen; Bourque (60) and Orr (26) rank first and second, respectively, among blueliners.

THE FUTURE IS NOW

* Twenty-year-old blueliner **Urho Vaakanainen** skated in 30 games with the Providence Bruins in 2018-19 and led all Bruins rookie defensemen in scoring (4-10—14 in 30 GP). Additionally, Vaakanainen continued to showcase his offensive prowess at the 2019 World Junior Championship, where he collected four assists in seven games to help Finland capture a gold medal.

BETWEEN THE PIPES

* Since making his NHL debut in 2007-08, **Tuukka Rask** owns a career record of 265-150-58 (2.28 GAA, .921 SV% and 45 SO) and has posted a League-best 2.28 GAA in that span (min. 300 GP). With 35 victories in 2019-20, Rask can become the [fourth Finnish-born netminder in NHL history](#) to earn at least 300 regular-season victories.

* Rask (495 GP) needs five games to become the first goaltender to appear in 500 games with the franchise and 35 wins to become the first to record 300 wins with the Bruins. Rask (45 SO) also needs five shutouts to become the second goalie in franchise history to record at least 50 shutouts; **Tiny Thompson** (74) is the franchise leader.

FIRST IMPRESSIONS

A look at how players have fared historically in their debut game/season with the franchise:

First game with the Bruins. . .

SKATERS

Most goals: 3 (**Rick Middleton** on Oct. 7, 1976)

Most assists: 3 (**Morris Lukowich** on Feb. 7, 1985 and **Jarno Kultanen** on Oct. 5, 2000)

Most points: 4 (**Morris Lukowich** on Feb. 7, 1985)

DEFENSEMEN

Most goals: 2 (**Al Iafrate** on March 22, 1994 and **Jeff Jillson** on Oct. 8, 2003)

Most assists: 3 (**Jarno Kultanen** on Oct. 5, 2000)

Most points: 3 (**Jarno Kultanen** on Oct. 5, 2000)

GOALTENDERS

Most saves: 44 (**Anton Khudobin** on April 5, 2012)

Shutout: Yes (8x; last: **Jeff Hackett** on Jan. 25, 2003)



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First season with the Bruins. . .

SKATERS

Most goals: 38 (**Peter McNab** in 1976-77)

Most assists: 74 (**Marc Savard** in 2006-07)

Most points: 96 (**Marc Savard** in 2006-07)

DEFENSEMEN

Most goals: 18 (**Reg Fleming** in 1964-65)

Most assists: 48 (**Ray Bourque** in 1979-80)

Most points: 65 (**Ray Bourque** in 1979-80)

GOALTENDERS

Most wins: 40 (**Pete Peeters** in 1982-83)

Most shutouts: 12 (**Tiny Thompson** in 1928-29)



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