

#NHLSTATS AS AUSTON MATTHEWS APPROACHES 60-GOAL MARK

* **Auston Matthews** (53-26—79 in 60 GP) can record the second 60-goal season of his NHL career after scoring exactly 60 in 73 games en route to winning the [Maurice “Rocket” Richard Trophy](#) in 2021-22.

* The 2023-24 NHL season would mark the third straight campaign to feature at least one 60-goal scorer, following 2022-23 (**Connor McDavid & David Pastrnak**) and 2021-22 (Matthews). The only other instances in League history where [three or more consecutive seasons featured at least one 60-goal scorer](#) were a streak of 14 straight from 1980-81 to 1993-94 and six in a row from 1973-74 to 1978-79.

* Matthews (San Ramon, Calif.) is the NHL’s only U.S.-born player with *one* 60-goal season and can become the [ninth skater in League history with two or more](#), joining **Mike Bossy** (5), **Wayne Gretzky** (5), **Phil Esposito** (4), **Mario Lemieux** (4), **Brett Hull** (3), **Pavel Bure** (2), **Jari Kurri** (2) and **Steve Yzerman** (2).

* Matthews is the [only player in franchise history with one 60-goal campaign](#). He can become the third player in NHL history with multiple 60-goal seasons *for an Original Six club*, following **Phil Esposito** (4 w/ BOS) and **Steve Yzerman** (2 w/ DET).

* Matthews can become the seventh different player in League history to reach 60 goals in a season in 65 games or fewer and first since **Mario Lemieux** did so 28 years ago with the Penguins.

Fewest games to 60-goal mark, NHL history:

49 GP – Wayne Gretzky in 1981-82 (w/ EDM)
50 GP – Wayne Gretzky in 1983-84 (w/ EDM)
53 GP – Alexander Mogilny in 1992-93 (w/ BUF)
55 GP – Mario Lemieux in 1992-93 (w/ PIT)
55 GP – Mario Lemieux in 1988-89 (w/ PIT)
56 GP – Brett Hull in 1990-91 (w/ STL)
60 GP – Wayne Gretzky in 1984-85 (w/ EDM)
61 GP – Jari Kurri in 1984-85 (w/ EDM)
62 GP – Mario Lemieux in 1995-96 (w/ PIT)
64 GP – Brett Hull in 1991-92 (w/ STL)
64 GP – Brett Hull in 1989-90 (w/ STL)
65 GP – Mike Bossy in 1980-81 (w/ NYI)

* Matthews can become the seventh different NHL player with *zero empty-netters* at the time of his 60th goal, following **Brett Hull** (3x; last: 1991-92), **Mike Bossy** (2x; last: 1982-83), **Phil Esposito** (2x; last: 1973-74), **Guy Lafleur** (1977-78), **Steve Shutt** (1976-77) and **Reggie Leach** (1975-76).

* Matthews has scored a [League-leading 38 even-strength goals this season](#), which mark the [third highest single-season total in franchise history](#) (since 1933-34 when goals by type were officially tracked) behind his 44 in 2021-22 and 41 by **Frank Mahovlich** in 1960-61.

* Matthews has recorded [15 multi-goal games this season](#), including [six hat tricks](#) with four of them scored in consecutive fashion ([Oct. 11-14, 2023](#) & [Feb. 15-17, 2024](#)). Matthews’ six hat tricks are the [most in a campaign by a Toronto player](#) and he needs one multi-goal game to set a [single-season franchise record](#).

* Matthews is on pace to become the [ninth different 70-goal scorer in League history](#) and first since 1992-93 when **Teemu Selanne** (76-56—132 in 84 GP) and future Maple Leafs forward **Alexander Mogilny** (76-51—127 in 77 GP) had 76 with the *original* Winnipeg Jets and Sabres, respectively. Matthews’ 61st goal will establish a [single-season franchise record](#), besting the current mark that he set in 2021-22.

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STATS AND INFORMATION

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