

# NBA DAILY PREDICTIONS



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Hello fellow NBA fans from around the world!

5 games on the menu tonight, with only one catching my attention. Let's have a look:

| Date/time: FEBRUARY 9, 2017  |                |           |               |          |              |          |      |              |
|--|----------------|-----------|---------------|----------|--------------|----------|------|--------------|
|  | BEST ODDS SEEN |           | AMERICAN ODDS |          | Decimal odds |          |      |              |
|  | TIME           | BOOKMAKER | BOOKMAKER     | DAVID MJ | BOOKMAKER    | DAVID MJ | PICK | EXPECTED ROI |
| Rockets  | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | -152          | -142     | 1,66         | 1,70     |      | -2,7%        |
| Hornets  | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | +137          | +142     | 2,37         | 2,42     |      | -2,1%        |
| <b>Tip: Avoid betting this game.</b>   |                |           |               |          |              |          |      |              |
| 76ers  | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | +204          | +269     | 3,04         | 3,69     |      | -17,6%       |
| Magic  | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | -228          | -269     | 1,44         | 1,37     | X    | 4,9%         |
| <b>Tip: You could consider betting the Magic, but make sure the line is no worse than -230.</b>          |                |           |               |          |              |          |      |              |
| Cavaliers  | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | +463          | OFF      | 5,63         | OFF      |      | N/A          |
| Thunder  | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | -553          | OFF      | 1,18         | OFF      |      | N/A          |
| <b>Tip: Avoid betting this game (James, Love and Irving MIGHT rest tonight).</b>                         |                |           |               |          |              |          |      |              |
| Jazz   | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | -163          | -120     | 1,61         | 1,83     |      | -12,0%       |
| Mavericks  | 2:30pm         | Pinnacle  | +147          | +120     | 2,47         | 2,20     | X    | 12,3%        |
| <b>Tip: Bet the Mavericks, as long as the moneyline is +135 (2.35) or better (spread at least +3.0).</b> |                |           |               |          |              |          |      |              |

|         |        |          |      |      |      |      |  |       |
|---------|--------|----------|------|------|------|------|--|-------|
| Celtics | 2:30pm | Pinnacle | +108 | +125 | 2,08 | 2,25 |  | -7,6% |
| Blazers | 2:30pm | Pinnacle | -119 | -125 | 1,84 | 1,80 |  | 2,2%  |

**Tip: Avoid betting this game.**

We lack critical information in order to make a prediction about the Cavaliers-Thunder game, as their coach hinted yesterday that he “might” rest LeBron James, Kyle Irving and Kevin Love. **Did you know Cleveland has a 4-18 record in games in which LeBron James doesn’t play (as of December 27, 2016) since his return with the franchise (2014-2015)?** Unbelievable, that’s a .182 record! As a comparison, the worst team in the league right now has a .170 record.

The only profitable bet, in my humble opinion, is Dallas. If you simply look at the numbers, it doesn’t look great. In normal conditions, I estimate Utah’s chances of winning in Dallas at around 65%. After accounting for injuries to both teams, but most importantly to the fact that the Jazz are playing the second of back-to-back games, that probability goes down to 54.5%. At +147, grab the Mavericks (+3.5 with the spread).

Speaking of back-to-back games, **a Harvard study showed that a visiting team playing the second of back-to-back games has a probability of winning which is nearly 75% of what it would be if rested.** So for example, if you believe a visiting team has a 40% chance of winning when rested, that probability goes down to  $40\% * 75\% = 30\%$  only. Quite a difference.

Notice that 4 of the 5 visiting teams from tonight are actually playing the second of back-to-back games. But only the Mavericks turn out to be a profitable bet, except maybe the Magic at home against the Sixers. At -228 (at this time of writing), it isn’t great though. If the line improves to -210, I recommend betting Orlando (you can bet either the moneyline or the spread, it’s up to you).

Good luck everyone, and we’ll talk again tomorrow!

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