

MONTREAL CANADIENS @ DALLAS STARS

Thursday, Oct 29, 2026 · 8:00 PM EDT · American Airlines Center, Dallas, TX · TV: ESPN+, Prime Video (Local)
NHL REGULAR SEASON · LINEUPS PROJECTED



GAME PREVIEW <p>Montreal (7-3-2, 16 points) visits Dallas (7-4-1) in the first meeting between the teams this season. Each side is 4-1 over its last five games: Dallas's only defeat in that span was a 5-1 loss to NJ, and Montreal's was a 4-3 overtime loss to SJ. Dallas has scored 2.67 goals per game and Montreal 3.00. Both starting goalies are confirmed: Jake Oettinger (6-2-1, 1.43 GAA, .929 SV%) for Dallas and Jakub Dobes (1-2-2, 4.47 GAA, .847 SV%) for Montreal. Montreal is without Nick Suzuki (upper body), while Dallas is without Kyle Capobianco (lower body), Esa Lindell and Radek Faksa, and Sam Steel returns to the lineup. The offensive duel to watch is Mikko Rantanen, who has 14 points for Dallas, against Montreal's Cole Caufield, who has six goals.</p>	PLAYERS TO WATCH <table><tr><td>MTL Cole Caufield</td><td>6 goals on 39 shots this season, the team's top goal scorer.</td></tr><tr><td>MTL Jakub Dobes</td><td>1-2-2 with a 4.47 GAA and .847 SV% in five games, confirmed starter.</td></tr><tr><td>MTL Jake Evans</td><td>Scored twice in the 4-1 win at Chicago, part of Montreal's three-game win streak.</td></tr><tr><td>DAL Mikko Rantanen</td><td>14 points (6 G, 8 A), the team lead.</td></tr><tr><td>DAL Jason Robertson</td><td>13 points (5 G, 8 A) in 12 games.</td></tr><tr><td>DAL Jake Oettinger</td><td>6-2-1 with a 1.43 GAA and .929 SV%, confirmed starter.</td></tr></table>	MTL Cole Caufield	6 goals on 39 shots this season, the team's top goal scorer.	MTL Jakub Dobes	1-2-2 with a 4.47 GAA and .847 SV% in five games, confirmed starter.	MTL Jake Evans	Scored twice in the 4-1 win at Chicago, part of Montreal's three-game win streak.	DAL Mikko Rantanen	14 points (6 G, 8 A), the team lead.	DAL Jason Robertson	13 points (5 G, 8 A) in 12 games.	DAL Jake Oettinger	6-2-1 with a 1.43 GAA and .929 SV%, confirmed starter.
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STORYLINES <table><tr><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">Jake Oettinger has three shutouts in nine games this season.Cole Caufield has six goals on 39 shots this season for Montreal.</td><td><ul style="list-style-type: none">Mikko Rantanen leads Dallas with 14 points, six goals and eight assists.Nick Suzuki, Montreal's leading scorer with 12 points, is out with an upper-body injury and expected back Nov 18.</td></tr></table>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Jake Oettinger has three shutouts in nine games this season.Cole Caufield has six goals on 39 shots this season for Montreal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mikko Rantanen leads Dallas with 14 points, six goals and eight assists.Nick Suzuki, Montreal's leading scorer with 12 points, is out with an upper-body injury and expected back Nov 18.										
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DALLAS STARS (7-4-1 · 3rd in Central Division)									
FORWARDS									
LINE	#	PLAYER	POS	CTRY	AGE	GP	G	A	P +/-
L1	22	Joel Kiviranta	LW	FIN	30	8	1	1	2 +1
	53	Wyatt Johnston	C	CAN	23	10	2	6	8 +2
	96	Mikko Rantanen	RW	FIN	29	12	6	8	14 +6
L2	21	Jason Robertson	LW	USA	27	12	5	8	13 +6
	24	Roope Hintz	C	FIN	29	12	5	5	10 +7
	91	Tyler Seguin	C	CAN	34	12	3	3	6 -3
L3	14	Jamie Benn	LW	CAN	37	12	1	2	3 +1
	49	Justin Hryckowian	C	CAN	25	12	2	0	2 0
	25	Arttu Hyry	RW	FIN	25	12	3	0	3 +1
L4	43	Matthew Seminoff	RW	USA	22	2	0	0	0 -1
	15	Colin Blackwell	C	USA	33	10	0	1	1 -3
	46	Dylan Hryckowian	RW	CAN	22	2	0	0	0 -1
Ex	18	Sam Steel	C	CAN	28	10	1	2	3 +2
	48	Jaxon Fuder	C	CAN	20	—	—	—	—
	37	Harrison Scott	C	USA	26	—	—	—	—

As played Oct 27 vs NJ, from NHL shift data; tonight's lines can change. Ex: on the roster, not in that lineup.

DEFENCE									
PAIR	#	PLAYER	POS	CTRY	AGE	GP	G	A	P +/-
D1	4	Miro Heiskanen	D	FIN	27	12	3	5	8 +3
	55	Thomas Harley	D	USA	25	12	0	5	5 0
D2	6	Lian Bichsel	D	SUI	22	12	0	1	1 +1
	5	Nils Lundkvist	D	SWE	26	12	0	3	3 +3
D3	57	Tyler Myers	D	USA	36	12	0	1	1 -1
Ex	36	Luke Kryz	D	USA	26	—	—	—	—
	27	Trey Taylor	D	CAN	24	—	—	—	—

As played Oct 27 vs NJ, from NHL shift data; tonight's lines can change. Ex: on the roster, not in that lineup. Since out: Kyle Capobianco (injured).

GOALIES									
#	GOALIE	CTRY	AGE	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SV%		
29	Jake Oettinger*	USA	27	9	6-2-1	1.43	.929		
1	Casey DeSmith	USA	35	3	1-2-0	2.94	.888		

* Confirmed starter per Daily Faceoff, Oct 29.

LAST FIVE									
RESULT	W	W	W	W	L				
SCORE	4-0	3-2 OT	3-2 OT	6-3	5-1				
OPPONENT	@ CHI	vs BOS	vs WPG	vs NYI	vs NJ				

Most recent first, per ESPN.

STANDINGS · ATLANTIC DIVISION									
POS	TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS			
1	Bruins	13	9	3	1	19			
2	Canadiens *	12	7	3	2	16			
3	Senators	13	8	5	0	16			
4	Panthers	13	7	4	2	16			
5	Maple Leafs	15	7	6	2	16			
6	Lightning	11	7	3	1	15			
7	Sabres	12	5	4	3	13			
8	Red Wings	12	5	4	3	13			

Per ESPN; * tonight's teams.

STANDINGS · CENTRAL DIVISION									
POS	TEAM	GP	W	L	OTL	PTS			
1	Wild	14	9	3	2	20			
2	Mammoth	13	8	5	0	16			
3	Stars *	12	7	4	1	15			
4	Avalanche	13	7	5	1	15			
5	Predators	12	4	3	5	13			
6	Blues	12	5	6	1	11			
7	Jets	12	4	5	3	11			
8	Blackhawks	12	4	8	0	8			

Per ESPN; * tonight's teams.

ODDS									
LINE									
DAL -175, O/U 5.5 (DraftKings)									

Per ESPN.

MONTREAL CANADIENS (7-3-2 · 2nd in Atlantic Division)									
FORWARDS									
LINE	#	PLAYER	POS	CTRY	AGE	GP	G	A	P +/-
L1	85	Alexandre Texier	LW	FRA	27	12	1	3	4 -1
	24	Phillip Danault	C	CAN	33	12	0	3	3 +5
	76	Zack Bolduc	RW	CAN	23	12	5	2	7 +3
L2	20	Juraj Slafkovsky	LW	SVK	22	12	2	6	8 0
	91	Oliver Kapanen	C	SWE	23	5	0	0	0 -1
	13	Cole Caufield	RW	USA	25	12	6	4	10 +4
L3	22	Chris Kreider	LW	USA	35	12	1	3	4 0
	15	Alex Newhook	C	CAN	25	12	1	3	4 -4
	17	Josh Anderson	RW	CAN	32	12	4	2	6 +2
L4	63	Florian Xhekaj	LW	CAN	22	4	1	0	1 -3
	71	Jake Evans	C	CAN	30	12	2	1	3 +1
	77	Kirby Dach	C	CAN	25	12	0	3	3 -2
Ex	62	Owen Beck	C	CAN	22	3	0	1	1 -1

As played Oct 27 at STL, from NHL shift data; tonight's lines can change. Ex: on the roster, not in that lineup.

DEFENCE									
PAIR	#	PLAYER	POS	CTRY	AGE	GP	G	A	P +/-
D1	8	Mike Matheson	D	CAN	32	8	1	3	4 +1
	21	Kaiden Guhle	D	CAN	24	8	2	2	4 +2
D2	48	Lane Hutson	D	USA	22	12	3	7	10 +4
	53	Noah Dobson	D	CAN	26	12	0	3	3 -3
D3	42	Adam Engstrom	D	SWE	22	6	0	0	0 +2
	45	Alexandre Carrier	D	CAN	30	12	1	4	5 +5
Ex	72	Arber Xhekaj	D	CAN	25	11	0	0	0 -2

As played Oct 27 at STL, from NHL shift data; tonight's lines can change. Ex: on the roster, not in that lineup.

GOALIES									
#	GOALIE	CTRY	AGE	GP	W-L-OT	GAA	SV%		
75	Jakub Dobes*	CZE	25	5	1-2-2	4.47	.847		
32	Jacob Fowler	USA	21	7	6-1-0	1.54	.942		

* Confirmed starter per the Canadiens' official X post (Oct 28) and Daily Faceoff (Oct 29).

LAST FIVE									
RESULT	W	L	W	W	W				
SCORE	4-3 OT	4-3 OT	4-1	2-1	2-0				
OPPONENT	vs BUF	vs SJ	@ CHI	@ WPG	@ STL				

Most recent first, per ESPN.

POWER PLAY 1									
TEAM	UNIT								
DAL	Mikko Rantanen, Roope Hintz, Jason Robertson, Miro Heiskanen, Wyatt Johnston								
MTL	Noah Dobson, Cole Caufield, Oliver Kapanen, Lane Hutson, Juraj Slafkovsky								

The five skaters with the most power-play time together in each team's latest game with a power play, from NHL shift data.

OUT									
TEAM	PLAYER	STATUS	DETAIL						
DAL	Kyle Capobianco (D)	Out	Leg left, return Nov 27						
	Esa Lindell (D)	Injured Reserve	Lower body, return Oct 31						
	Radek Faksa (C)	Out	Lower body, return Nov 3						
	Oskar Back (C)	Injured Reserve	Finger fracture, return Nov 14						
	Matt Duchene (C)	Injured Reserve	Abdomen, return Jan 12						
MTL	Nick Suzuki (C)	Out	Upper body, return Nov 18						
	Sam Montembeault (G)	Injured Reserve	Lower body, return Oct 31						
	Ivan Demidov (RW)	Injured Reserve	Lower body, return Oct 31						
	Bryce Pickford (D)	Injured Reserve	Undisclosed, return Oct 31						
	Lucas Condotta (LW)	Injured Reserve	Undisclosed, return Oct 31						

Injury report per ESPN.

TEAM STATS									
	GAA	SA/G	PPGA	SHGA	GF/G	SF/G	PPG	SHG	PIM
MTL	3.00	28.2	8	0	3.00	28.0	4	1	132
DAL	2.00	22.2	3	0	2.67	26.9	5	1	122

Season to date per ESPN.

TEAM LEADERS									
TEAM	GOALS			ASSISTS			POINTS		
MTL	Cole Caufield 6			Nick Suzuki 7			Nick Suzuki 12		
DAL	Mikko Rantanen 6			Mikko Rantanen 8			Mikko Rantanen 14		

Season to date per ESPN.