

Ja'Kobe Walter- Baylor Bears- 6 feet 5 inches-195 pounds- 19 years old- Freshman

Draft Intel Report- Conducted March 7, 2024

Source: Gordon Hoffman- Graduate Assistant Baylor Bears

The source was asked what is the most transferable skillset for Ja'Kobe Walter?

The source responded that the most transferable skillset for Walter is definitely shooting. They have seen it all year. He was a truly elite shooter. He had a really high release point. He can shoot in catch and shoot and even off the dribble. Walter's shooting off the dribble is not elite and NBA yet but the source is sure it will get there. He is going to be a very good NBA player. He loses a little bit of body control in mid-range when shooting off the dribble. Honestly the source thinks that we don't see it as much just cause of the way that they play but Walter is great in the mid-range though. He is very good in the mid-range and that is something that meaningful in the NBA in the postseason. He can defer to his teammates sometimes with him just standing in the corner and lets his teammates operate. That is kind of the way they play though. They have the ball in RayJ Dennis's hands more than anyone else and it is kind of on him to make the plays a lot of the time. His defensive versatility has gotten a lot better. He started off the year not good on defense at all but it has definitely picked up. The source thinks that Walter is not used to guarding at a higher level in high school. He has quick, strong, and active hands on the defensive end.

The source was asked how Walter was being defended at the college level compared to how he will be defended on the NBA level? The source responded that in college teams are a lot more aware of Walter just because he is the best shooter on the team. He is one of the better shooters on the team but in an NBA game with much better spacing the NBA has he will be able to drive a lot more just because he is going to be able to get better looks a lot more often. He will probably be defended more as a spot-up shooter than off the dribble. This is what the source assumes anyways.

The source was asked about his thoughts about Walter's aggressiveness during games? The source responded that he feels that Walter's aggressiveness is there and you see it. He is a competitor and he always wants to win. In the Texas game he gets blown up when he sets a screen and draws fouls that way. He is very good at that kind of craft. The source thinks Walter is great. He wants to win. The ways he shows his aggressiveness is that it stuff like that. It is not aggressiveness at a traditional sense but it like helps the team and gets everyone fired up. It is that kind of thing. The source would say Walter is medium aggressiveness. The source feels like Walter doesn't let his emotions get out of control. He knows when to do things and when not to do things.

The source was asked how he feels about Walter's ability to perform under pressure and in big moments? The source responded that they have definitely seen that. In the Auburn game the first game of the year he carried them during that game

and helped them win. He loves those moments. He is a very clutch free-throw shooter. They have seen that a lot this year where he is the one taking those late game free-throws. He is a very clutch player. He doesn't shy away from the moment. He knows that he is a good basketball player and he can make the plays in games to win. The source definitely sees the calmness and poise late in games from Walter. You can definitely see that. He doesn't get sped up like a lot of freshman do. For them and at this stage of Walter's development he is more of someone who is going to come off a screen and hit a big three in the clutch moment. He is not the one on the ball-screen. He is going to be coming off like a pindown or something and he is going to hit a big shot for them. The source doesn't see clutchness defensively from Walter. His defense is consistent throughout the game. In the source's opinion it is more of pindowns and then a catch and shoot three. He can still shoot over a screen off the dribble but the source feels like what Walter is best at is catch and shoot.

The source was asked how he feels about Walter's physicality and if he's ready to play at the next level? The source responded that Walter is ready to play at the next level. He has put on a lot of muscle since he got to them in the summer. He knows he is going to be a first round pick on a team and that he needs to get into NBA shape not just D1 shape. What the source likes most about Walter is that he is quick, athletic, and long. He doesn't shy away from contact. He is really great at drawing the contact too. This is definitely one of his strengths. He seeks the contact and is a very smart player too in this respect. The source wouldn't like to see Walter make any adjustments to his body. The source wouldn't change anything just because Walter's game doesn't need to undergo a lot of change size wise to be at the next level. He just needs to keep doing what he is doing.

The source was asked what are Walter's motives to play the game at the next level? The source responded that Walter's motives to play at the next level is that he really just loves it. He really does just love it.

The source was asked what kind of teammate Walter is? The source responded that Walter is a very good teammate. Despite what he does on the court he is not one of those super about himself guys. He is really humble and very coachable. It is all the stuff you want to see in a player. He is a great player on the court but he is not about himself and he is not like I am better than anyone else. They have other team leaders. He does have a voice and people listen to him but he is not like the team captain. At least he is not for them. He might be that one day but right now he is not. The source would say Walter is a lead by example. The ways he will lead by example are by just going out there and making the gritty plays, taking the hard fouls, and making the shots. His interactions with his teammates are always very positive. He is a very positive guy. He really is like a really good kid.

The source was asked how is Walter's ego and if he is coachable? The source responded that Walter is definitely coachable. The source has seen it a lot just like not even games but when you do workout with Walter if he does something wrong he wants to know. If you say you did something wrong he is like what is it, how do I fix it, and tell

me how to fix it. He takes criticism well from the coaching staff. He knows it is part of the game. He has no ego. He has none at all. He is a very humble guy.

The source was asked how is Walter's work ethics and if he does more than what is required? The source responded that Walter is in the gym like everyday twice a day besides just practice. He was always getting shots up and always wanting to improve. He is mostly working on his shooting in terms of catching and shooting and off the dribble. He knows that is what is going to get him to the next level and keep him at the next level. At this point of the year his workouts are medium intensity but in the summer it was pretty high intensity. The difference between his high intensity workouts and the medium intensity workouts is that the high intensity has much more of a physical aspect in it. The high intensity ones are a lot more physical. It has more contact.

The source was asked what is Walter's level of basketball IQ and if he can carry over the scouting report to the court? The source responded that Walter is great with this kind of thing. He always absorbs the knowledge from all of their scouting sessions. He didn't have any struggles with the scouting report as a freshman. He came as a pretty high IQ guy. The way he shows his basketball IQ is that he started to do it a lot more recently where he draws those fouls on offense that aren't like a shooting foul but are like an off-ball foul. He is getting really good with those. Baylor scouting reports are somewhere in the middle in terms of being complex.

The source was asked how Walter responds to in game adjustments? The source responded that Walter responds well to in game adjustments. He understands what needs to be done, why it needs to be done, and all that. The kind of in game adjustments Walter has had to respond to are they have been switching a lot between zone and man like in games from possession to possession after a timeout so just knowing what he is supposed to do in those situations whether or not they are in man and whether or not they are switching. It is stuff like that. He is good with that. It was a bit of a learning curve for the entire team because they started playing that zone a lot a couple of games ago so the whole team it took a minute. Playing in the Big 12 is no joke and changing the way you play that is going to be a little bit of a learning curve. He and the entire team picked it up pretty quick. It was really just when they were in zone it is the 1-3-1 so he is part of the 3 and just knowing when to either cheat down or cheat up. The zone they started doing that midway through conference. He responded well to it and he did that for the betterment of the team. They all did that for the betterment of the team.

The source was asked what will be one reason Walter will be successful and one reason he will not be successful at the next level? The source responded that shooting would be why Walter would be successful at the next level. His shooting is elite. It is the one thing that will always translate and doesn't go away with future injury. The source likes that Walter's shot has a release point and being able to get it off over anyone. You especially see it a lot in the mid-range he gets good separation. He can shoot it from anywhere. There is not a lot wrong with his game. The only thing is like maybe he doesn't find anything besides shooting but even then he knows his role and is

that good of a shooter. When it comes to his shot creation we haven't seen a lot of it just cause of the way they play. When you see it more in practice like everyday you realize that he is good at that but he just haven't seen it much in games. At the next level he will showcase it more. For what he does right now he is great at it and he is a very good player.

The source was asked if Walter ever failed a drug test? The source responded that Walter has never failed a drug test. He is a very clean-cut kid.

The source was asked if there are any personal and social red flags for Walter? The source responded that there are no personal and social red flags for Walter. There are none at all. He is a really good guy off the court. He is just a really genuine guy. He talks to everyone. It is really just the small stuff like that. He is a very genuine guy. He always says hi to everyone when he walks in the gym. It is a small thing obviously but it is one of those things that goes a long way.

The source was asked how is Walter's competitive level in practice and does he push others? The source responded that Walter is very competitive. They do a lot of end of game situations in practice. He wants to win every single one. There is 4 seconds on the clock and he wants to win them all. If a team gets the ball back with 0.5 on the clock he wants to play that out. He definitely pushes others in practice. The ways he pushes teammates in practice are just getting everyone fired up and getting excited when other people hit shots. It is stuff like that. The ways he shows his competitiveness in practice is just wanting to play out everything. He doesn't want to cut anything short. This definitely gets the older vets going on the team. They have a very competitive roster.