



OAKLAND ATHLETICS

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A's Agree to Terms with Hideki Matsui on One-Year Contract

OAKLAND, Calif. – The Oakland A's have agreed to terms with designated hitter/outfielder Hideki Matsui on a one-year contract, the club announced today.

Matsui batted .274 with 21 home runs and 84 RBI in 145 games in his first season with the Los Angeles Angels last year. It marked the fifth time in his last seven seasons he topped the 20-home run plateau and it was the sixth time in eight Major League seasons he drove in 80 or more runs. The 36-year-old left-handed hitter led the Angels with 24 go-ahead RBI and tied for fourth in the American League with 15 game-winning RBI. His batting average improved to .293 with runners on base and 14 of his 21 home runs came in that situation. Matsui finished strong in 2010 as he batted a Major League-leading .371 with seven home runs and 27 RBI from Aug. 14 through the end of the season.

Matsui is a .290 hitter with 161 home runs and 681 RBI in 1,061 games over eight seasons in the majors, having posted more home runs and RBI than any Japanese player in Major League Baseball history. He spent his first seven years with the New York Yankees (2003-09) and is a two-time American League All-Star (2003-04). Matsui clubbed 31 home runs in 2004 and hit .305 with 116 RBI in 2005. He played in two World Series with the Yankees, earning MVP honors in 2009 when he hit .615 (8-for-13) with three home runs and eight RBI, including a World Series record-tying six RBI in the Game Six clincher. He became only the third player in Major League history to bat .500 or above and hit three home runs in the same World Series, joining Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig.

Matsui (pronounced He-DECK-ee Mat-SOO-ee) began his professional career with Yomiuri of the Japanese Leagues and was a .304 hitter with 332 home runs and 889 RBI in 1,268 games with the Giants. He was a nine-time All-Star (1994-2002) and helped Yomiuri to three Japan Series Championships (1994, 2000 and 2002). Matsui was a three-time Central League MVP (1996, 2000 and 2002) and three-time home run champ with 34 in 1998, 42 in 2000 and 50 in 2002. He topped 30 home runs in each of his final seven seasons, drove in 100 or more runs five times, drew at least 100 walks five times and hit .300 or better five times. Matsui finished his Japanese career with a consecutive games played streak of 1,250, which was second longest in Japanese history, and then played in each of his first 518 games with New York for a total streak of 1,768 overall.

Matsui has combined for a .297 batting average, 493 home runs and 1,570 RBI in 2,329 games in Japan and the United States. He needs seven more home runs to become the 34th professional baseball player (Japan and MLB) to reach 500 career home runs. Matsui becomes the third Japanese player to play for the Athletics, joining Keiichi Yabu (2005) and Aki Iwamura (2010).

The career statistics for Matsui follow:

Year	Club	AVG.	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SH	SF	HP	BB	SO	SB	CS	SLG	OBP	E
1993	Yomiuri	.223	57	184	27	41	9	0	11	27	0	0	2	17	50	1	0	.451	.296	1
1994	Yomiuri	.294	130	503	70	148	23	4	20	66	1	4	4	57	101	6	3	.475	.368	5
1995	Yomiuri	.283	131	501	76	142	31	1	22	80	2	2	2	62	93	9	7	.481	.363	3
1996	Yomiuri	.314	130	487	97	153	34	1	38	99	0	7	4	71	98	7	2	.622	.401	6
1997	Yomiuri	.298	135	484	93	144	18	0	37	103	0	6	6	100	84	9	0	.564	.419	7
1998	Yomiuri	.292	135	487	103	142	24	3	34	100	0	4	8	104	101	3	5	.563	.421	4
1999	Yomiuri	.304	135	471	100	143	24	2	42	95	0	6	2	93	99	0	4	.631	.416	1
2000	Yomiuri	.316	135	474	116	150	32	1	42	108	0	7	2	106	108	5	2	.654	.438	2
2001	Yomiuri	.333	140	481	107	160	23	3	36	104	0	7	3	120	96	3	3	.617	.463	6
2002	Yomiuri	.334	140	500	112	167	27	1	50	107	0	0	6	114	104	3	0	.692	.461	2
2003	NEW YORK (AL)	.287	163	623	82	179	42	1	16	106	0	6	3	63	86	2	2	.435	.353	8
2004	NEW YORK (AL)	.298	162	584	109	174	34	2	31	108	0	5	3	88	103	3	0	.522	.390	7
2005	NEW YORK (AL)	.305	162	629	108	192	45	3	23	116	0	8	3	63	78	2	2	.496	.367	3
2006	NEW YORK (AL)	.302	51	172	32	52	9	0	8	29	0	2	0	27	23	1	0	.494	.393	1
	Trenton	.273	4	11	1	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	6	2	0	0	.529	.364	0
2007	Tampa	.333	2	6	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	.333	.333	0
	NEW YORK (AL)	.285	143	547	100	156	28	4	25	103	0	10	3	73	73	4	2	.488	.367	3
2008	NEW YORK (AL)	.294	93	337	43	99	17	0	9	45	0	0	3	38	47	0	0	.424	.370	1
	Tampa	.250	3	8	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	.635	.400	0
2009	NEW YORK (AL)	.274	142	456	62	125	21	1	28	90	0	2	4	64	75	0	1	.509	.367	0
2010	LOS ANGELES (AL)	.274	145	482	55	132	24	1	21	84	0	4	1	67	98	0	1	.459	.361	0
ML Totals		.290	1061	3830	591	1109	220	12	161	681	0	37	20	483	583	12	8	.479	.369	23
JL Totals		.304	1268	4572	901	1390	245	16	332	889	3	43	39	844	934	44	26	.582	.413	37

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