

Breaking Down The Carl Crawford Contract with the Red Sox

Written by Maury Brown

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The contract details of outfielder [Carl Crawford](#) 's 7-year, \$142 million contract with the Boston Red Sox has now surfaced. Here's how it breaks down:

Crawford receives a \$6 million signing bonus that will be paid in \$1 million installments beginning after the 1st of the year on January 10 and then the first of each month from May through Sept.

Annual base salary - \$14 million (2011), \$19.5 million (2012), \$20 million (2013), \$20.25 million (2014), \$20.5 million (2015), \$20.75 million (2016), \$21 million (2017).

He has a standard plate of award bonuses that include \$50,000 for All Star selection, \$75,000 for winning the ALCS MVP, \$100,000 for Gold Glove for Silver Slugger, and \$100,000 for World Series MVP. If he is the AL MVO he gets an additional \$200,000 (\$125,000 for 2nd in voting, \$100,000 for 3rd, \$75,000 for 4th, and \$50,000 for 5th).

A four-time American League All-Star (2004, 2007, 2009-10), Crawford earned his first career Louisville Silver Slugger Award and Rawlings Gold Glove in 2010. The 29-year-old batted .307 (184-for-600) and set career highs with 19 home runs, 90 RBI, 110 runs scored, a .495 slugging percentage and an .851 OPS in 154 games with the Tampa Bay Rays. A left-handed hitter, he paced the American League with 13 triples and also ranked among circuit leaders in batting average (9th), runs (4th), hits (8th), multi-hit games (8th, 52), total bases (8th, 297) and stolen bases (T-3rd, 47). Crawford's .359 clip (56-for-156) with runners in scoring position was the

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second-highest in the AL while his .332 average (132-for-397) vs. right-handers was fifth and his .313 mark (101-for-323) on the road placed eighth. Additionally, he was the hardest qualifying Major Leaguer to double up, with an average of 300.0 at-bats per ground into double play (2 GIDP/600 AB).

Selected by Tampa Bay in the second round of the 1999 First-Year Player Draft, Crawford has hit .296 (1,480-for-4,992) with 215 doubles, 105 triples, 104 home runs, 592 RBI, 765 runs scored, 293 walks and 409 stolen bases in 1,235 career Major League games since 2002. He is just the eighth player since 1900 to reach 100 home runs, 100 triples and 400 stolen bases, joining Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker, Lou Brock, Frankie Frisch, Kenny Lofton, Paul Monitor and Tim Lincecum, and is the youngest among that group to reach those marks. He has been named the Rays Most Valuable Player three times, including this past season (also 2004 and 2006), and was the MVP of the 2009 All-Star Game.

Crawford is the fifth player all-time to pace the American League in triples at least four times (2004-06 and 2010), and only the third to be the outright leader as many times. He leads all active players in triples and is second in stolen bases, behind only Juan Pierre (527). Crawford has swiped at least 50 bases five times in his career, tied with Pierre for tops among active players, and has recorded seven seasons with 40 or more stolen bases, including a career-high 60 in 2009. He has led the American League in steals on four occasions, accomplishing the feat in 2003-04 and 2006-07.

With a .991 career fielding percentage as a left fielder (24 errors/2,620 total chances), Crawford leads all active players at that position. He has played 1,165 career games in left (1,127 starts) and has also appeared in 54 games in center field (47 starts). En route to winning a Gold Glove in 2010, he finished among AL left field leaders in games (3rd, 147), games started (2nd, 144), innings played (3rd, 1,260.1), total chances (1st, 315), putouts (2nd, 306), assists (T-4th, 7) and fielding percentage (3rd, .994).

Crawford has appeared in 21 postseason games, batting .253 (21-for-83) with three doubles, one triple, three home runs, nine RBI, 10 runs and eight stolen bases. He hit .345 (10-for-29) in the seven-game 2008 American League Championship Series against Boston and tied an all-time postseason, single-game record with five hits in Game 4 at Fenway Park.

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