Walker Kessler

7-1 245Ibs 7-5 Wingspan

Newnan, GA

2021-2022 Stats

11.4PPG 8.1 RPG. 4.6 BPG 70.2 2P% 59.6 FT% 19.1 BLK% 5.5 WS 2.8 OWS 2.7 DWS 14.1 BPM 6.2 OBPM 8.0 DBPM 19.0 Usage

Strengths Weaknesses

-Great Shot Blocker -Not Very Quick

-Good Rebounder -Must Improve Free Throws

-Good Inside Scorer -Not a Great 3 Point shooter

-Good Size -Struggles to Guard Perimeter Players

-Great Hands

Summary

With what Kessler did at Auburn last season he has shown to be a fantastic shot blocker ranking second in the nation in blocks per game, and reliable inside scoring. In Auburns offense Kessler was mostly used to set picks and roll to the basket, he was also featured to get the ball inside to take advantage of any size mismatch. If Kessler wants to be a strong starting calibre center in the NBA, he is going to have to work on getting quicker and being able to handle a switch onto a perimeter player. When guarding Perimeter player Kessler tends to sag off to prevent any drives and tries to use his large frame to contest any shots, this leads to Kessler being slow to the contest causing players to get shots up over him. Kessler has shown willingness to shoot the 3, shooting around 1.5 3s per game but only shoots 20%.

Kessler was drafted 22nd overall in the NBA draft by the Memphis Grizzlies and was later traded to the Utah Jazz. Coming into Kessler’s rookie season I would like to see some improvement on his ability to shoot the three, and to get better at guarding the perimeter. If he can get a perimeter shot, I could see Kessler playing something like Brook Lopez where he can space the floor on offence while being big and strong enough to score in the paint while also being a big time shot blocker that can clog the lane on defence. With Kessler’s size and defence impact I can see him being an asset for an NBA team but if Kessler doesn’t get a perimeter shot or the ability to guard the perimeter than I think he will struggle to get consistent minutes.