

We Predict One of These Predictions Might Be Right

How will the Texans do this year? Beats us. So we decided to ask people who should know, and some people who shouldn't.

The Predictor	The Prediction	The Reason Why
John Granato, 1560 The Game	10-6	Best-ever record but they still fall short of the playoffs. This all depends on them starting 3-1. If they don't, never mind, they'll be just another average Houston team, pissing me off.
Mark Vandermeer, 610 and Texans play-by-play guy	10-6	Because we're due, darn it! Saying the team needs to stay healthy is like saying they need to outscore the opponent, but that's the big key... The AFC is where the men live, so 10-6 might not even result in playoffs.
Gene Locke, mayoral candidate	10-6	It's going to be a great year for the Texans. The offense with Andre Johnson will be the best in the league, and the improved defense will carry the Texans to the top of the division and into the playoffs.
Rich Lord, 610	11-5, wild-card	Lot of big "IF's," though. IF RB Chris Brown and QB Matt Schaub stay healthy. IF Dunta Robinson is ready to go after his holdout. IF [there's] some juice in the pass rush. I think it can happen... Overall, their schedule should be the easiest they've ever had.
Stephanie Stradley, the Texans Chick blog	10-6	The last two seasons they already won eight games with a defense that ranked near the bottom... As with all NFL teams in a short season, luck with injuries is a huge factor, and I do not like the depth on the defensive side of the ball at all. They depend on a lot of inexperienced players already as defensive starters.
U.S. Representative Al Green	12-4	Making it into the playoffs.
Keith Weiland, InTheBullseye.com blog	11-5	The Texans are finally ready to end our city's 15-year NFL playoff drought. A healthy Matt Schaub, paired with a re-vamped defense, equals a bandwagon that's ready to rock 'n' roll to the post-season. Climb aboard, Houston.
U.S. Representative Gene Green	10-6	The running back looks really good, the quarterback is even more seasoned, but the big benefit will be our defense — it was pretty good last season, and the way you win is by defense.
Charlie Pallilo, 790 "The Sports Animal"	9-7 (10-6 if the season finale means nothing to the Patriots)	Winning record or abject failure. One of the softest first-month schedules in the NFL should enable a good start. The offense is very close to being legitimately outstanding. Couple that with a defense that improves to mediocre and they can contend for a playoff spot. Really.
Alan Burge, Examiner.com	9-7	I'm generally not one to run with the herd and I'll believe this team makes the playoffs when I see it. That said, if the Texans can steer clear of injuries to key players, notably Matt Schaub, they should be able to improve on consecutive 8-8 seasons. They have better overall talent and depth. The defense should no longer be a liability, and a favorable early-season schedule should give them the jump start they need to their first winning season.