

# THE GREATEST ALL-ROUNDER OF ALL TIME



<http://www.cricketweb.net/forum/cricket-chat/41988-greatest-all-rounder-all-time.html>

**BAGAPATH** LOCATION: INDIA (JOINED CRICKETWEB.NET: JUN 2006) 21-03-2009, 09.23 PM

The answers used to range from sobers to miller to botham to imran. having followed the sobers vs kallis thread I know it is not going to be any easier to answer the question 25 years later. Here is what I propose as a new thread to discuss this.

We will divide cricket history into six eras: 1877 - 1900, 1900 - 1911, 1919 - 1939, 1945 - 1975, 1976 - 1995, 1996 - 2009. To start with, we will set minimum cut off marks for wickets taken and runs scored which will differ from era to era depending on the amount of cricket played. Then, we will look at each era's overall batting and bowling averages and divide the candidates into four broad categories.

1. All-rounders: batting and bowling avg not worse than 3 runs from the era's overall averages
2. Batting all-rounder: batting avg same as above but bowl avg between 3 and 8 runs more than era's overall avg
3. Bowling all-rounder: bowling avg not more than 3 runs from era's avg but batting avg between 3 and 8 runs less than era's avg.
4. Wicket keeping all-rounder: batt avg not less than 3 runs from era's overall avg plus a min no of dismissals as keeper.

We can add wild card entries whenever we want. this can happen when players' careers are split between eras or even when some players dont meet the requirements statistically but have overwhelming support of the forum members. We will also throw in a requirement of minimum no of 50+ scores and 4 wicket hauls to reduce the playing field if it gets too big.

I want to conduct a series of polls choosing one or two winners from each era and have a grand finale. The aim is to rank the top 10 all-rounders of all time at the end of the thread. Any ideas?

**G.I. JOE** INDIA (SEP 2008) 21-03-2009, 09.26 PM

This is going to end well.

**SJS** MUMBAI, INDIA (MAY 2004) 21-03-2009, 09.29 PM

### For Test matches only

- Batting All Rounder : Sobers
- Bowling All Rounder : Miller
- Keeping All Rounder : Ames

**BAGAPATH** INDIA (JUN 2006) 21-03-2009, 09.31 PM

this was always going to be for test matches. will not bring ODI performances into the discussion.

**UPPERCUT** IRELAND (JUL 2008) 21-03-2009, 09.34 PM

Originally Posted by SJS - Pg 79

### For Test matches only

- Batting All Rounder : Sobers
- Bowling All Rounder : Miller
- Keeping All Rounder : Ames

Am happy with that, and since I consider bowling all rounders to be the most useful I'll have to go with Miller.

Imran's got a massive shout too though.

**GOUGHY** ENGLAND (MAR 2006) 21-03-2009, 09.35 PM

Its a really tough question and one I'm not sure there is a correct answer for, unlike Bradman as best batsman for example.

I guess my answer is, I dont know.

**FREDFERTANG** ENGLAND (MAY 2008) 21-03-2009, 10.06 PM

W.G. – and with all due respect to some great players of the twentieth century, by some distance.

**IKKI** AUSTRALIA (SEP 2005) 21-03-2009, 10.11 PM

There is no more complete player in my mind than **Miller**. Someone who was brought in as a batsman but took up bowling for the betterment of the team. Who became an awesome bowler and high-quality batsman. Who competed with both disciplines regularly. Who was at an awesome standard with both when he was in form and to a very high standard even