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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | Decker Taylor Ohio State | OL I 6.2 | | | | | | | |
| Last Name First Name College Position Final Grade  6070 315 5.17 N/A | | | | | | |
| Height Weight 40 speed Test Score | | | | | | |
| ATHLETIC ABILITY | | SECTION GRADE: | | 5.9 | | |
| Q.A.B 5.5  Quick Feet 6.0  C.O.D. 6.0  Flexibility 6.0  Coordination 6.0 | | Overall I was impressed by Decker’s athletic ability and the quickness he displayed for being such a big body. His pass set is set up by nice quick feet so he can get set up and be patient with his blocks and he also showed nice quickness getting up to the 2nd level. Where Decker struggles though is with his balance, appearing to be slightly top heavy on film and multiple times he loses his balance and falls forward when his shoulders get out over his feet. Decker has solid COD adjusting to twists & stunts. | | | | |
| COMPETITIVENESS | | SECTION GRADE: | | 6.0 | | |
| Toughness 5.5  Clutch Play 6.0  Production 6.5  Consistency 6.0  Team Player 6.0  Pride / Quit 6.0 | | While Decker rarely gives up on plays and will keep working up even to the safety level to find someone to block, he lacks that killer instinct and nastiness most teams want with their offensive line. I rarely saw him getting over people to the point to where I was wowed. His production was excellent in the games I viewed of him getting beat only once in 4 games. The only real dip in his production came when he was facing some of the toughest competition he did all year but he is consistent in pass pro and in-line blocking as a whole. | | | | |
| MENTAL ALERTNESS | | SECTION GRADE: | | | 6.0 | |
| Inst/Reaction 6.0  Concentration 6.0 | | Never saw any mental lapses from Decker and he does seem to be very instinctual at the tackle position, working well in tandem and reading defenders momentum and taking them that way. | | | | |
| STRENGTH / EXPLOSION | | SECTION GRADE: | | | 6.13 | |
| Body Type 6.5 | | Decker already possess prototypical NFL tackle size but I am curious to see what his arm measurements will be cause his extension in pass pro was spotty and longer-armed rushers consistently got into his frame. He needs to show more explosion along with nastiness to really strike defenders and especially more explosion with his punch. When his punch struggles, he can rely on his natural strength though to help him hold ground vs. power rush moves. | | | | |
| Durability 6.0 | |
| Explosion 5.5 | |
| Play Strength 6.5 | |
| GDE CATEGORY COMMENTS DESCRIPTION GAMES VIEWED COMBINE NOTES | | | | | | |
| 6.5 | FOOT AGILITY | Can mirror speed rushers, + shuffle & slide. | ’14 vs. Penn State  ’14 vs. Illinois  ’14 vs. Mich. State  ’14 vs. Minnesota | | | 225 REPS  VERTICAL JUMP  BROAD JUMP  20 SHUTTLE  60 SHUTTLE  3 CONE |
| 6.5 | INITIAL QUICKS | Gets on LB’s quickly at 2nd level. |
| 6.5 | PLAY STRENGTH | Can sustain blocks once locked up. |
| 6.5 | RUN BLK IN-LINE | Excellent foot drive, could improve punch. |
| 6.0 | RUN BLK IN SPACE | Nice patience then drive man where he’s going. |
| 6.5 | PASS PRO | Consistent production, starts with + pass set |
| 6.0 | QUICK SET PRO | Nice first drop step, efficient cut blocks. |
| 6.5 | SCHUFFLE & SLIDE | Excellent especially when knees stay bent. |  | | | |
| 5.0 | PUNCH/HAND USE | Major issue, placement also needs work | CRITICAL FACTORS | | | |
| 5.5 | VS. POWER RUSH | Has to rely on strength cause of weak punch | SIZE 6.5 INITIAL QUICKS 6.5  PLAY STR 6.5 COMPETES 5.5  PLAY SPEED 6.0 INSTINCTS 6.0 | | | |
| 6.5 | VS. SPEED RUSH | Mirrors and locks in once he grabs man. |
| 6.0 | ERRORS | No mental errors, + concentration. |
| STRONG POINTS | | | WEAKNESSES | | | |
| Decker shows excellent natural strength and I was very impressed with the patience he uses when reading defenders momentum then sealing them off that way. He gets to the 2nd level quickly and is comfortable blocking in space. Also, he does a solid job of staying square, mirroring his man, and staying locked in in pass pro. Decker does a nice job of hand replacement when fighting with edge rushers during speed rush moves too. He moves well laterally and I love the way he drives his feet with almost all of his run blocks. | | | Biggest weakness by far is lack of punch and poor hand placement, especially in pass pro as he tends to want to place his hands to far outside. He needs to stay bent at the knees more and not at the waist and improve the consistency of his extension when locking out. He also is top heavy and loses balance when his shoulders get out over his feet and he bends at the waist. I also would like to see him be more nasty and ferocious on the field to help transition to the next level. | | | |
| SUMMARY | | | | | | |
| Decker already possess many tools that NFL teams desire for their OT’s and has a lot of potential to be great I believe. Until that happens though, he has some major improvements to make to his game. His punch needs to be drastically improved or else NFL DE’s will manhandle him with power rush moves especially, along with speed rush moves if he can’t get his hands on them with proper punch and placement. Right now he is more of a place his hands and extend type of blocker and his overall strength, size, & quicks have compensated for it. He has experience at both RT and LT so he is versatile and his production is very solid with another year left to improve before moving to the next level. I wanted to give Decker a 1st round grade based on all the different strengths he possess (most importantly his pass set, shuffle & slide, quickness, and patience) and how they’ll translate to the NFL but his limitations with punch, hand placement, waist bending at times, and lack of nastiness make me give him a 2nd to 3rd round grade. | | | | | | |