

Australian Open 2016: Women's preview 1 Rank



1 Serena Williams (USA) Age: 34

World No.1 looking for fresh start having not competed since shattering defeat at U.S. Open. Persistent knee injury could be biggest threat to equalling **Steffi Graf's** major record



2 Simona Halep (ROM) 24

Needs consistency in Grand Slams after disappointing early exits in 2015 – swift defeat by **Flavia Pennetta** in U.S. Open semi-final prolonged wait for maiden major title



3 Garbine Muguruza (ESP) 22

Aiming to develop attacking gameplay to build on impressive breakthrough season, including first Grand Slam final at Wimbledon and first Premier Mandatory title in China

4 Maria Sharapova (RUS) 28

Staying healthy will be crucial if 2008 Australian champion is to mount sustained challenge for major titles this season – won last Grand Slam crown at Roland Garros in 2014



PLAYER RECORD	Williams	Halep	Muguruza	Sharapova
2015 win-loss	53-3	49-15	38-18	39-9
2015 titles	5	3	1	2
Career titles	69	11	2	35
Grand Slams	21	0	0	5