

# ROBBE



**Brad Gilbert**  
Former No. 4 ATP player  
and coach to Andy Roddick  
and Andre Agassi.



It's easy to say he needs to do this, this and that. One thing that is kind of tricky is that if you start gearing up your game to one person it makes you vulnerable to other people. It is a tricky balance, but something tells me that Rafa's not going to sleep in the off season trying to figure out what needs to be done.



**Justin Gimelstob**  
Former ATP player, two-  
time Grand Slam mixed  
doubles champion.



He needs to figure out a way to get free points on the serve because Djokovic returns his serve so well. The problem with the match-up is that Djokovic is the one player that is making Rafa change his patterns, whereas every other player that he plays against has to adapt to the patterns that Rafa wants to play. He needs to be more comfortable in finding a new way and a different pattern of hurting Djokovic off the ground.

With a player who has the ability and fortitude of Rafa – this is the first time that somebody's had his number – so now it's up to him and his team to try to figure out what needs to be done. I think the biggest thing is that Novak significantly improved his serve and his stamina this year. He made huge improvement in a short period of time, now it's up to Rafa to make his move, or hope that Novak comes down a notch.

The fact is, Nadal has always adjusted. He's continued to improve at the net, and he's continued to make his forehand a bigger weapon. His backhand used to be just a rally shot and now can hurt guys there. He's going to continue to find ways to improve his game and figure out how to make Djokovic keep up this incredible level.



Leslie Biltman/TennisDix

