

Fernando Cortez

Fernando Cortez (born August 10, 1981 in Stockton, California) is a Major League Baseball infielder who is currently with the Tampa Bay Rays. His most recent Major League Baseball team was the Kansas City Royals.

Cortez was selected by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays in the 9th round of the 2001 Major League Baseball Draft. He saw his first major league action with the Devil Rays in 2005, serving as a utility infielder who played at second base, third base, and shortstop in his limited time with the club.

On June 20, 2006, Cortez, along with outfielder Joey Gathright, was traded to Kansas City for left-handed pitcher J.P. Howell. Cortez was assigned to the roster of the Triple-A Omaha Royals and did not play in the majors with Kansas City in 2006.

In 2007, Cortez saw limited action with Kansas City, appearing in eight games. His 2007 campaign with the Royals resulted in four hits in 14 at-bats, with one RBI and three runs scored. Kansas City released him on July 11.

Cortez signed with the Chicago White Sox for the 2008 season and became a free agent at the end of the season. He currently plays for the Montgomery Biscuits in the Southern League.