

“When people laugh at Mickey Mouse, it’s because he’s so human; and that is the secret of his popularity. I only hope that we don’t lose sight of one thing — that it was all started by a mouse.”



# WHO HOW FACTS

**Mickey Mouse** is the mascot & most popular character of Walt Disney’s animated cartoons and arguably the most popular cartoon star in the world. Mickey is a cheerful & mischievous anthropomorphic rodent who starred in more than 100 cartoon shorts and became a worldwide cult figure. The Mickey Mouse Club was one of the most popular television shows for children in the 1950s, and the signature black cap with mouse ears worn by the show’s stars has become one of the most widely distributed items in merchandising history.

**Mickey Mouse** was born on a train ride from New York to Los Angeles. Walt, aged 26, was returning with his wife from a business meeting at which his cartoon creation, Oswald the Rabbit, had been wrestled from him by his financial backers. When his distributor appropriated the rights to the character, Disney altered Oswald’s appearance and created a new character that he named Mortimer Mouse. Walt’s wife, Lillian, thought the name “Mortimer” was too pompous and suggested “Mickey”. A star was born and by the time the train screeched into the terminal station in Los Angeles, the new dream mouse had been rechristened.

- Created by:** Walt Disney & Ub Iwerks (a renowned Animator)
- Birth:** 18th November, 1928 in his first cartoon "Steamboat Willie"
- Early Landmarks:** "Plane Crazy" & "The Gallopin' Gaucho" were the first 2 cartoons. However, they failed to amuse audiences and find any distributors. Hence, the 3rd cartoon "Steamboat Willie" is cited as Mickey's debut.
- Voiced by:** Walt Disney (1928–1947), Jimmy MacDonald (1947–1977), Wayne Allwine (1977-2009), Bret Iwan (2009-present)
- Attributes:** Mickey has a number of skills, including being a master detective, a less-than powerful wizard, a diplomat and a wise leader
- Favourite Sayings:** "Gosh!" "Oh boy!" "That sure is swell!" "Aw, gee..." "See ya soon!"
- Awards:**
  - Won an Oscar for the creation of Mickey Mouse, 1932
  - Made its own entry in Britannica Encyclopedia, 1934
  - The League of Nations awarded Walt Disney a Medal for the creation of Mickey Mouse, 1935
  - Nominated for Best Children Series, Emmy Awards, 1956
  - Won The Best TV Show by Golden Globe, 1957
  - From Mickey's Christmas Carol, a Mickey Mouse cartoon was made and premiered in England on October 20, 1983. It was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Short Film.



Creation of Mr. & Mrs. Disney



Mickey & Friends



Statue at Walt Disney Theme Park