**Blink-182** is an American [rock](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_music) band formed in [Poway](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poway,_California), a suburb of [San Diego, California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Diego,_California), in 1992. The trio consists of bassist and vocalist [Mark Hoppus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Hoppus), guitarist and vocalist [Tom DeLonge](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tom_DeLonge), and drummer [Travis Barker](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Travis_Barker). The band is considered a key group in the development of pop punk music; their combination of pop melodies with fast-paced punk rock featured a more radio-friendly accessibility than prior bands. The group, with original drummer [Scott Raynor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scott_Raynor), emerged from the Southern [California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California) punk scene of the early 1990s and first gained notoriety for high-energy live shows and irreverent lyrical toilet humor.

The band was initially known as Blink until Irish band [Blink](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink_(band)) threatened legal action; they appended "-182". [*Cheshire Cat*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cheshire_Cat_(Blink-182_album)) (1995) led the band to tour with [Pennywise](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pennywise_(band)) and [NOFX](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NOFX) on the [Warped Tour](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warped_Tour). [*Dude Ranch*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dude_Ranch_(album)) (1997) was co-distributed by major label [MCA Records](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MCA_Records) and featured their first rock radio hit, "[Dammit](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dammit_(Growing_Up))". Raynor was fired midway through a 1998 tour and replaced by Barker. [*Enema of the State*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enema_of_the_State) (1999) was an enormous success on the strength of hit singles "[What's My Age Again?](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/What%27s_My_Age_Again%3F)", "[Adam's Song](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adam%27s_Song)" and "[All the Small Things](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_the_Small_Things)", which enjoyed massive airplay and became [MTV](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MTV) staples. [*Take Off Your Pants and Jacket*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Take_Off_Your_Pants_and_Jacket) (2001) reached number 1 in the United States, Canada, and Germany. The [eponymously](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eponym) titled [*Blink-182*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182_(album)) followed in 2003 and marked a stylistic shift for the group, infusing [experimental](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Experimental_music) elements into their usual[pop punk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pop_punk) formula, resulting in a more mature sound. At the heights of stardom, DeLonge left the group in 2005, sending the band into what was termed an "indefinite hiatus". The trio reunited in 2009 and their sixth studio album, [*Neighborhoods*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neighborhoods_(Blink-182_album)), was released in 2011.

Blink-182 has sold over 35 million albums worldwide.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-10thlat1-1) In 2011, *The New York Times* asserted, "no punk band of the 1990s has been more influential than Blink-182," and even as the band receded after their 2005 split, "its sound and style could be heard in the muscular pop punk of [Fall Out Boy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fall_Out_Boy) or in the current wave of high-gloss [Warped Tour](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warped_Tour) punk bands, like [All Time Low](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Time_Low) and [The Maine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Maine_(band))."[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-nyt-2)

## Legacy

Blink-182 was one of the most popular bands at the turn of the millennium, and spearheaded the second wave of pop punk and its journey into the mainstream.[[31]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-rsency-31) The glossy production instantly set Blink-182 apart from the other crossover punk acts of the era, such as [Green Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Green_Day).[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-nyt-2) *Cheshire Cat* is often cited by bands and fans as an iconic release and *Dude Ranch* has been called a "genuine modern punk classic."[[20]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-MTV_influence-20)[[49]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-totalguitar-49) *Enema of the State* catapulted the band to stardom, creating what *New York* described as a "blanket immersion among America's twenty-some million teenagers."[[116]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-newyork-116) At the band's commercial peak, albums such as *Take Off Your Pants and Jacket* and *Enema of the State* sold over 14 and 15 million copies worldwide, respectively.[[20]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-MTV_influence-20)[[124]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-sdreader-124) The band was featured alongside Green Day, [Rancid](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rancid_(band)), [Bad Religion](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bad_Religion), [NOFX](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NOFX), and [The Offspring](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Offspring) in [*One Nine Nine Four*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/One_Nine_Nine_Four) (2009), a documentary examining punk rock in California.[[125]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-125)

The band never received particularly glowing reviews, with many reviewers dismissing them as a joke act based on the humorous slant of their music videos. British publication [*NME*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NME) was particularly critical of the trio, begging them to "fuck right off," and comparing them to "that sanitised, castrated, shrink-wrapped '[new wave](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_wave_music)' crap that the major US record companies pumped out circa 1981 in their belated attempt to jump on the 'punk' bandwagon."[[126]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-nme-126) Nevertheless, subsequent reviews of the band's discography have been more positive. [Andy Greenwald](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andy_Greenwald) of [*Blender*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blender_(magazine)) wrote, "the quick transformation from nudists to near geniuses is down-right astonishing."[[127]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-blender-127) James Montgomery of [MTV](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MTV) called Blink-182 one of the "most influential bands of the past 20 years," writing, "despite their maturation, Blink never took themselves particularly*seriously*, which was another reason they were so accessible."[[20]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-MTV_influence-20)

**Impact**

"When it comes to having inestimable influence, Blink-182 might well be contemporary punk's version of [the Beatles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Beatles)", wrote Scott Heisel in a 2009 [*Alternative Press*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alternative_Press) cover story on the band.[[128]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-altpress09-128)The new generation of pop punk and alternative rock fans found the Blink sound "hugely influential,"[[108]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-rsreunion-108) with Montgomery writing, "... without them, there'd be no [Fall Out Boy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fall_Out_Boy), no [Paramore](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paramore" \o "Paramore), or no [Fueled by Ramen Records](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fueled_by_Ramen)."[[20]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-MTV_influence-20) In 2011, *The New York Times* asserted that "no punk band of the 1990s has been more influential than Blink-182," stating that even as the band receded after their 2005 split, "its sound and style could be heard in the muscular pop punk of Fall Out Boy or in the current wave of high-gloss [Warped Tour](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warped_Tour) punk bands, like [All Time Low](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Time_Low) and [The Maine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Maine_(band))."[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-nyt-2)Maria Sherman of [*The Village Voice*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Village_Voice) took that sentiment a step further, writing "It's pretty simple: Blink-182 is the most important band of the '90s, dick jokes and all. Apart from the sound, Blink's ideology has been popularized […] their presence is everywhere."[[129]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-VV-129) Bands such as [Panic! at the Disco](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Panic!_at_the_Disco) and All Time Low originated covering Blink-182 songs.[[130]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-spinpanic-130) "Anyone in our genre would be lying if they said they weren't influenced by Blink-182," said [Joel Madden](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joel_Madden) of [Good Charlotte](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Good_Charlotte).[[131]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-Kerrang05-131) Bands such as [You Me at Six](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/You_Me_at_Six) and [5 Seconds of Summer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/5_Seconds_of_Summer) have also named the band as influences.[[104]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-KerrangAug14-104)

The band's influence extends beyond [pop punk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pop_punk) groups, as well: [Mumford & Sons](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mumford_%26_Sons),[[132]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-mumford-132) [Owl City](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Owl_City),[[133]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-owlcity-133) [FIDLAR](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIDLAR), [Best Coast](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Best_Coast),[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-nyt-2) [Wavves](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wavves" \o "Wavves)[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-rsqanda-3) [Male Bonding](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Male_Bonding_(band)),[[129]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-VV-129) [Grimes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grimes_(musician))[[129]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-VV-129) and [DIIV](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/DIIV)[[100]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-911HR-100) have acknowledged the band's influence, and critics have noted traits of the band's sound in [Japandroids](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japandroids" \o "Japandroids).[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-nyt-2)[[123]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blink-182#cite_note-laweekly-123)