

Ben 10

Ben 10 is an American media franchise conceived by Man of Action, produced by Cartoon Network Studios, and owned by Warner Bros. Entertainment. The franchise revolves around a young boy named Ben Tennyson, who discovers the Omnitrix — a high-tech, extraterrestrial device shaped like a wristwatch. This remarkable gadget contains the DNA of various alien species, allowing Ben to transform into them at will. Initially, the Omnitrix features ten alien transformations, but over time, Ben gains the ability to unlock additional species.

The franchise has garnered considerable critical acclaim, securing three Emmy Awards. It encompasses five primary television series, five feature films, and numerous video games. It ranks as Cartoon Network's second longest existing franchise. Furthermore, *Ben 10* has inspired a line of toys produced initially by Bandai for the franchise's first four series and later by Playmates Toys for the reboot. Overall, the franchise has amassed over \$6 billion in retail sales. [1]

On February 17, 2021, Cartoon Network announced three 44-minute specials slated for April 2021, titled *Ben 10,010*, *Ben Gen 10*, and *Alien X-Tinction*. These specials serve as both the series finale for the 2016 reboot and a crossover event involving the first four television series in the franchise. [2]

Television series

As of 2024, the five concluded series are split into two continuities: the classic continuity, including the original series and its sequels—Ben 10 (2005—2008), Ben 10: Alien Force (2008—2010), Ben 10: Ultimate Alien (2010—2012), and Ben 10: Omniverse (2012—2014), and the reboot continuity of Ben 10



(2016–2021), with its $\underline{2021}$ April specials serving as both the series finale for the 2016 reboot and a crossover event connecting both continuities.

Series overview

Series	Sassan	Enicodos	Origina	Illy aired
Series	Season	Episodes	First aired	Last aired
	1	13	December 27, 2005	March 25, 2006
Pan 10 (2005)	2	13	May 29, 2006	October 9, 2006
Ben 10 (2005)	3	13	November 25, 2006	April 21, 2007
	4	10	July 14, 2007	April 15, 2008
	1	13	April 18, 2008	August 31, 2008
Ben 10: Alien Force	2	13	October 10, 2008	March 27, 2009
	3	20	September 11, 2009	March 26, 2010
	1	20	April 23, 2010	December 10, 2010
Ben 10: Ultimate Alien	2	12	February 4, 2011	April 29, 2011
	3	20	September 16, 2011	March 31, 2012
	1	10	August 1, 2012	November 17, 2012
	2	10	November 24, 2012	February 2, 2013
	3	10	February 9, 2013	April 6, 2013
Pan 10: Omniverse	4	10	October 5, 2013	December 7, 2013
Ben 10: Omniverse	5	10	February 15, 2014	April 19, 2014
	6	10	October 6, 2014	October 17, 2014
	7	10	October 20, 2014	October 31, 2014
	8	10	November 3, 2014	November 14, 2014
	1	40	October 1, 2016	November 22, 2017
Pon 10 (2016)	2	40	October 3, 2017	October 26, 2018
Ben 10 (2016)	3	52	January 26, 2019	July 25, 2019
	4	34	December 13, 2019	September 18, 2020

Films

As of 2020, there has been three animated films – <u>Secret of the Omnitrix</u> (2007), <u>Destroy All Aliens</u> (2012), <u>Versus the Universe</u> (2020) and two live-action films – <u>Race Against Time</u> (2007), <u>Alien</u> Swarm (2009) released in the franchise.

Animated films

Occupation	Secret of the Omnitrix (2007)	Destroy All Aliens (2012)	Versus the Universe (2020)
Director(s)	Sebastian O. Montes III and Scooter Tidwell	Victor Cook	Arthur Henrique Nazareth and John McIntyre
Producer(s)	Donna Smith, Alex Soto & Jennifer Pelphrey (supervising)	Kurt Weldon (line) and Victor Cook (supervising)	Shareena Carlson and Will Patrick
Production company(s)	Cartoon Network Studios	Tiny Island Productions, Cartoon Network Asia and Cartoon Network Studios	Cartoon Network Studios
Distributor	Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network	Warner Bros. Home Entertainment
Runtime	67 minutes	69 minutes	72 minutes
Released	August 10, 2007	March 23, 2012	October 10, 2020

Live-action films

Occupation	Live-action	Live-action films			
Occupation	Race Against Time (2007)	Alien Swarm (2009)			
Director(s)	Alex Winter				
Producer(s)	Evan W. Adler and Victor Ho (line)	Gideon Amir			
Production company(s)	Trouper Productions with 0	Cartoon Network Studios			
Distributor	Warner Bros. and Cartoon Network	Cartoon Network			
Runtime	67 minutes	69 minutes			
Released	November 21, 2007	November 25, 2009			

Other media

Ben 10: Ultimate Challenge

<u>Ben 10: Ultimate Challenge</u> is a game show developed for television by <u>United Kingdom</u>-based company <u>Twenty Twenty</u>, which airs on <u>Cartoon Network</u> in the United Kingdom, <u>Spain</u>, <u>France</u>, Italy, Netherlands, Bulgaria, the Nordic region, Hungary, Poland, Germany, Russia, Turkey, Chile,

<u>United States</u> and the <u>Middle East</u>. [3] *Ultimate Challenge* is a trivia show that tasks children with answering questions about all three series. [3] *Ultimate Challenge* is produced by Mandy Morris and executive produced by Daniel Marlowe. [4]

References in other shows

- Ben appeared as a parody of <u>Benjamin Franklin</u> on the show <u>MAD</u>, in an episode titled "Ben 10 Franklin". Franklin was flying his kite when he was struck by a lightning bolt, gaining the Omnitrix. He used Swampfire to sign the <u>Declaration of Independence</u>. He also used Humongousaur to defeat the <u>British</u> and smash down a junior high school bully's house in revenge. He used other aliens from <u>Alien Force</u> and <u>Ultimate Alien</u>, where they have his hair and glasses.
- Also in MAD, a reference to Alien Force was made with a parody of the movie <u>Cowboys & Aliens</u>, with many titles: "Cowboys & Alien Force", "Cowboys & Equestrians", and "Cowboys & <u>Silly Bands</u>". The reference was made at the beginning when Jake awakes with Ben on his side, but with Jake wearing Ben's pants and hat, with the Onmitrix on his wrist. He also used the Omnitrix to become an alien with the mix of Diamondhead, Chromastone, and Way Big to smash a cowboy.
- In the <u>South Park</u> episode "<u>You're Getting Old</u>", <u>Cartman</u>'s Mother mentions that Cartman gets upset when he does not get a present every time someone else gets a present at a party. One of the presents Cartman gets is a "Ben 10 Wrist Rocket".
- The <u>Robot Chicken</u> episode "Hurtled from a Helicopter into a Speeding Train" shows Ben on his 14th birthday party, where he complains about his gifts given by Azmuth.
- Ben 10 villains, such as the Enoch, Hex and Animo, make a brief cameo in <u>The Secret Saturdays</u> episode "Van Rook's Apprentice". References to Galvan Prime and Wildvine's species also appear in "Guess Who's Going to be Dinner?" and "Eterno" respectively. Both references were made by the Secret Scientist Dr Arthur Beeman, the UFOlogist for the series.
- In the <u>Peep Show</u> episode, "Man Jam", Jeremy jokingly refers to Ben, the boyfriend of a woman he admires, as "Ben 10" during a phone call to him. [5]
- Teenage Ben Tennyson appeared in *The Official BBC Children in Need Medley* in 2009.

References in video games

Ben 10 is featured as a <u>crossover character</u> in <u>Brawlhalla</u>, a 2D platform <u>fighting game</u>. He appears as his alien forms Heatblast, Diamondhead, and Four Arms in the form of the crossover "skins" for certain playable characters. [6]

Cartoon Network promotion

Titanic Kungfubot Offensive

The game features famous and notable Cartoon Network characters in robot-type form. Big Chill, Swampfire, a DNAlien, Kevin, Vilgax, Rath, Armodrillo, Ultimate Humongousaur, Ultimate Echo Echo, and Ultimate Big Chill appear as playable characters.

To promote the <u>Ben 10/Generator Rex: Heroes United</u> special, Cartoon Network updated <u>Titanic Kungfubot Offensive</u>, adding new bots, such as "Shocksquatch" and "Clockwork"; both of which are aliens accessible to Ben.

Cartoon Network Universe: Fusion Fall

The character design for Ben Tennyson was changed when the original Ben 10 series ended and was replaced by Alien Force. In the game, he serves as a "Player Guide" offering guide-based missions and special items.

Cartoon Network Universe: Project Exonaut

In another browser-based game entitled *Cartoon Network Universe: Project Exonaut*, Ben's aliens, alongside Gwen and Vilgax, appear as "exosuits". The exosuits' purpose is protecting the player and giving them unique abilities and powers. The planet Kylmyys (the home of one of Ben's aliens, Big Chill) and the Perplexhedron are featured as battle arenas. Ultimate Kevin and Alien X are currently the new exosuits for Project Exonaut representing Ben 10. The new exosuits feature Gold versions of Manus, Marceline, Mojo Jojo, and Rath.

Cartoon Network: Punch Time Explosion

Ben appears in the game as a playable character. Swampfire, Humongousaur, Big Chill, and AmpFibian appear as Ben's playable aliens. Vilgax, the archenemy of Ben Tennyson appears as a playable character for the first time. Gwen and the Vreedle Brothers are "summons" in the game. Additionally, Bellwood and the Null Void are included as battle arenas. Kevin also appears as a "summon" in the game, but is featured as a playable character on PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, and Wii versions called *Cartoon Network: Punch Time Explosion XL*. Kevin in Ultimate Kevin form appears in the game as a boss. The young version of Ben appears in the console version of the game as a playable character. [7]

Cast and characters

The main characters include <u>Ben Tennyson</u> and his cousin <u>Gwen Tennyson</u>, Grandpa <u>Max Tennyson</u>, <u>Kevin Levin</u> and Rook Blonko, along with the villains <u>Vilgax</u>, Aggregor, <u>Doctor Animo</u>, Eon, <u>Hex</u> and Khyber.

Accolades

Original series

Year	Award Category		Recipients and nominees	Result
	34th Daytime Outstanding Individual in Emmy Awards Animation		Thomas Perkins	Won
2007	Golden Reel Award	Best Sound Editing in Sound Effects, Foley, Dialogue, ADR and Music for Television Animation	Otis Van Osten, Melinda Rediger, Trevor Sperry, Matt Brown, Jody Thomas, <u>Andy Sturmer</u> , Ron Salaises, <u>Keith Dickens</u> for the episode "Ben 10,000"	Nominated
2008	35th Daytime Emmy Awards	Outstanding Special Class Animated Program	Brian A. Miller, Sam Register, Jennifer Pelphrey, Alex Soto, Donna Smith, Tramm Wigzell	Nominated

Race Against Time

Year	Award	Category	Recipients and nominees	Result
		Best Leading Young Actor	Graham Phillips as Ben Tennyson	Nominated
	29th Young Artist	Best Supporting Young Actor	Tyler Patrick Jones as Cash Murray	Nominated
	<u>Awards</u>	Best Supporting Young Actress	Haley Ramm as Gwen Tennyson	Nominated
2008	6th Visual Effects	Outstanding Animated Character in a Live Action Broadcast Program or Commercial	Brent Young, Smith, Michael For the Grey Matter sequence	Nominated
	Society Awards ^[8]	Outstanding Visual Effects in a Broadcast Miniseries, Movie or Special	Dina Benadon, Evan Jacobs, Brent Young, Chris Christman for visual effects compilation	Nominated

Alien Force

Year	Award	Category	Recipients and nominees	Result
2009	36th Daytime Emmy Awards ^[9]	Outstanding Sound Mixing – Live Action and Animation		
		Outstanding Sound Editing – Live Action and Animation	Robert Hargreaves and George Brooks	Nominated
		Outstanding Special Class Animated Program	Brian A. Miller, Sam Register, Glen Murakami,	Nominated

Alien Swarm

Year	Award	Category	Recipients and nominees	Result
	62nd Primetime Emmy Awards ^[10]	Outstanding Special Visual Effects for a Miniseries, Movie or a Special	Evan Jacobs, Sean McPherson, Andrew Orloff, Brent Young	Nominated
2010	8th Visual Effects Society Awards	Outstanding Visual Effects in a Broadcast Miniseries, Movie or a Special	Evan Jacobs, Sean McPherson, Andrew Orloff	Nominated
	15th Art Directors Guild Award [11]	Television Movie or Mini- Series	Yuda Acco Harry Matheu, Hugh D.G. Moody, Rouzier, Pierre, Robb Bihun, Ann Stacy, Dan Post	Nominated

Ultimate Alien

Year	Award	Category	Category Recipients and nominees	
2011	64th Writers Guild of America Awards	Animation	Len Uhley for the episode "Moonstruck"	Nominated

Omniverse

Year	Award	Category	Recipients and nominees	Result
	Annie Award	Character Design in an Animated Television/Broadcast Production	Chap Yaep, Steven Choi, Derrick Wyatt for the episode "The More Things Change Part 2"	Nominated
2013		Outstanding Sound Mixing – Animation	Carlos Sanches	Won
	40th Daytime Emmy Awards	Outstanding Sound Editing – Animation	Jeff Shiffman, Roger Pallan, Matthew Thomas Hall, Otis Van Osten, Tony Ostyn, Gerardo Gonzalez	Nominated

Outside media

Merchandise

Following the success of the *Ben 10* animated TV series and films, various *Ben 10* merchandise has been released for general sale. These items include comic books, board games, card games (such as Top Trumps), toys, video games, Lego construction sets, bedding, coloring books, footwear, and watches (the Omnitrix and the Ultimatrix). All four shows have been released on DVD.

Video games

The game franchise has many different formats. The <u>video games</u> franchise started in 2006 with the release of *Ben 10* for the <u>HyperScan</u>, while the franchise's first official video game *Protector of Earth* came out in 2007. Twelve games have been released:

Name	Developer	Publisher	Series	Release date	Platforms
Ben 10	HyperScan	Semi Logic Entertainments		October 23, 2006	HyperScan only
Ben 10: Protector of Earth	High Voltage Software (PS2, PSP, Wii) 1st Playable Productions (DS)		Ben 10 (2005 TV series)	October 30, 2007	Nintendo DS, PlayStation 2,
Ben 10: Alien Force	Monkey Bar Games (PS2, PSP, Wii) 1st Playable Productions (DS)	D3 Publisher		October 28, 2008	PlayStation Portable, Wii
Ben 10 Alien Force: Vilgax Attacks	Papaya Studio (PS2, PSP, Wii, X360) 1st Playable Productions (DS)		Ben 10: Alien Force	October 27, 2009	Nintendo DS, PlayStation 2, PlayStation Portable, Wii, Xbox 360
Ben 10 Alien Force: The Rise of Hex	Black Lantern Studios	Konami		May 31, 2010	Wii, Xbox 360
Ben 10 Ultimate Alien: Cosmic Destruction	Papaya Studio (PS2, PS3, PSP, Wii, X360) Griptonite Games (DS)			October 5, 2010	Nintendo DS, PlayStation 2, PlayStation 3, PlayStation Portable, Wii, Xbox 360
Ben 10: Galactic Racing	Monkey Bar Games (PS3, Wii, X360, 3DS, PS Vita) Tantalus Media (DS)	D3 Publisher	Ben 10: Ultimate Alien	October 18, 2011	PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, Wii, PlayStation Vita, Nintendo 3DS, Nintendo DS
Ben 10: Omniverse	Vicious Cycle Software (Wii, Wii U, Xbox 360 and PS3) 1st Playable Productions (DS and 3DS)	D3 Publisher (NA) Bandai Namco Games (EU/AUS)	Ben 10: Omniverse	November 13, 2012	PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, Nintendo DS, Nintendo 3DS, Wii, Wii
Ben 10: Omniverse 2	High Voltage Software (Wii, Wii U, Xbox 360 and PS3)	D3 Publisher (NA) Bandai Namco Entertainment (PAL)		November 9, 2013	PlayStation 3, Xbox 360, Nintendo 3DS, Wii, Wii U

	1st Playable Productions (3DS)				
Ben 10: All Out Attack!	Massively Mobile, LLC	The Cartoon Network	Ben 10 (2005 TV series)	Nov 4, 2008	J2ME
Ben 10 (2017 video game)	Torus Games	Outright Comes	Ben 10	November 10, 2017	PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch
Ben 10: Power Trip	PHL Collective	Outright Games	(2016 TV series)	October 9, 2020	PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch
Ben 10: DLC	Minecraft	Minecraft	Ben 10 (2005 TV series)	June 2, 2021	PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo Switch, Windows PC

Toy line

<u>Bandai</u> manufactured *Ben 10* toys from the first four series, while <u>Playmates Toys</u> has produced toys for the 2016 reboot.

Six construction sets were produced by $\underline{\text{LEGO}}$, depicting Spidermonkey, Humunousaur, Swampfire, Chromastone, Jet Ray, and Big Chill. [12]

The series received three McDonald's Happy Meal promotions internationally, as well as one in America in August 2011. The toys are colored translucent figures of some Omnitrix/Ultimatrix aliens and their Ultimate forms, with a small photo of Ben inside. The *Alien Force* toys are four rings, each one is an alien (Goop, Jetray, Alien X, Chromastone) with features linked with their powers.

Comic books

Developed by <u>Jason Hall</u>, Min G. Kuand and <u>Heroic Age</u>, the <u>Ben 10</u> comic revolves around Ben's summer vacation with Gwen and their Grandpa Max, travelling in the Rust Bucket. The Ben 10: Alien Force comic revolves around Ben, with Gwen and a reformed Kevin, battling the Highbreed and the DNAliens.

Cartoon Network Action Pack was a 2006–2012 comic book series made by <u>DC Comics</u> which showcased Ben 10 alongside <u>Samurai Jack</u>, <u>Codename Kids Next Door</u>, <u>The Secret Saturdays</u>, or Generator Rex. Some of the issues were connected with the franchise, while others are non-canon.

In February 2013, <u>IDW Publishing</u> announced a partnership with Cartoon Network to produce comics based on Cartoon Network properties. *Ben 10* was one of the titles announced to be published. [14]

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External links

- Official website (https://ben10.cartoonnetwork.co.uk)
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