

Sachin Tendulkar - A Short Biography

Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar (born 24 April 1973 in Mumbai, India) is widely regarded as one of the greatest batters in the history of cricket. Nicknamed the 'Master Blaster' and 'Little Master', he made his international debut for India at age 16 in 1989. Over a career spanning twenty-four years, Tendulkar became the highest run-scorer in international cricket and the first to score one hundred international centuries. Beyond statistics, his longevity, discipline, and quiet intensity inspired generations of Indian cricketers and fans around the world.

Early Life & Domestic Cricket

Tendulkar grew up in Mumbai and was coached by Ramakant Achrekar at Shivaji Park, an incubator for many Indian cricketers. He represented Mumbai in domestic cricket and announced himself with a first-class century on debut in the Ranji Trophy (1988). As a teenager he combined compact technique with fearless stroke-play, often practicing for hours against seasoned bowlers. His grounding in school and club cricket forged the balance, patience, and timing that later defined his international game across formats and conditions.

International Debut & Rise (1989-2000)

At sixteen, Tendulkar toured Pakistan for his Test debut, facing the pace of Wasim Akram and Waqar Younis. He soon scored his first Test hundred in England (1990), displaying maturity beyond his years. In the mid-1990s, he became India's batting mainstay in both Tests and ODIs, known for his straight drive, back-foot punch, and ability to adapt to varied pitches. As an opener in ODIs, he attacked the new ball, changing the tempo of limited-overs batting and setting up many Indian victories.

Peak Years, World Cups & 2011 Triumph

Tendulkar was a constant at Cricket World Cups from 1992 to 2011. He finished as the tournament's leading run-scorer in 1996 and 2003, playing several memorable knocks. After years of near-misses, he lifted the ICC Cricket World Cup in 2011 on home soil when India defeated Sri Lanka in the final at Mumbai. The victory fulfilled a national dream and capped decades of service. By then, he had become a senior statesman, mentoring younger players while still delivering match-defining innings.

Records & Milestones

Sachin Tendulkar retired with 100 international centuries (51 Tests, 49 ODIs), more than 34,000 international runs, and the first ODI double-hundred by an Indian (200* vs South Africa, 2010). He holds the record for most Test runs and most ODI runs, among numerous other milestones. He was the first to 15,000 Test runs and remains the only cricketer to have played 200 Test matches. Awards include the Bharat Ratna (India's highest civilian honor), Arjuna Award, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, and the Padma awards.

Technique, Style & Legacy

Technically compact with a still head and precise footwork, Tendulkar was strong on the straight drive and square cuts, and adept against pace and spin. He emphasized preparation and incremental improvement, often adjusting his game to match conditions and match situations. Off the field, he is associated with philanthropy and youth sports initiatives. His legacy extends beyond numbers: he carried the expectations of a billion people with grace, becoming a symbol of perseverance, humility, and excellence in Indian sport.