# **Lionel Messi**

Lionel Messi is an Argentine professional footballer who plays as a forward for Inter Miami CF and the Argentina national team. He is widely regarded as one of the greatest football players of all time. Messi has won numerous awards and accolades throughout his career, including seven Ballon d'Or titles. [Source: Wikipedia]









Messi vs. SD Huesca

Messi in UCL Final

Messi Portrait

### Early Life

Lionel Andrés Messi was born on June 24, 1987, in Rosario, Argentina. From a young age, Messi showed a passion for football, joining the local club Grandoli when he was just four years old. His talent was evident early on, and by the age of six, he was playing for Newell's Old Boys, where he scored nearly 500 goals over six years. [Source: Biography.com]

#### Career Highlights

Messi began his professional career with FC Barcelona, where he spent over 20 years and became the club's all-time top scorer. He has won 10 La Liga titles, 7 Copa del Rey titles, and 4 UEFA Champions League titles with Barcelona. [Source: ESPN]

In 2021, Messi transferred to Paris Saint-Germain (PSG), where he continued to showcase his exceptional skills and leadership on the field. He helped PSG win the Ligue 1 title in his first season. [Source: BBC Sport]

Messi has also had a stellar international career with Argentina, winning the Copa America in 2021 and the FIFA World Cup in 2022. His performances have earned him a place among the legends of the sport. [Source: FIFA]

Off the field, Messi is known for his philanthropic efforts, including his work with the Leo Messi Foundation, which supports access to education and health care for vulnerable children. [Source: UNICEF]

### **Personal Life**

Messi is married to Antonela Roccuzzo, his childhood sweetheart. The couple has three sons: Thiago, Mateo, and Ciro. Despite his fame, Messi is known for his humble and down-to-earth personality. He often spends his free time with his family and is a devoted father. [Source: The Guardian]

### **Statistics**

#### **Career Statistics**

Season	Team	Matches Played	Goals	Assists	Yellow Cards	Red Cards
2021-2022	Paris Saint-Germain	34	11	14	3	0
2020-2021	FC Barcelona	35	30	9	2	0
2019-2020	FC Barcelona	33	25	21	4	0
2018-2019	FC Barcelona	36	36	13	5	0
2017-2018	FC Barcelona	37	34	12	3	0

Season	Team	Matches Played	Goals	Assists	Yellow Cards	Red Cards
2016-2017	FC Barcelona	38	37	9	6	0

### **Awards and Achievements**

Throughout his career, Messi has received numerous awards and honors. Some of his most notable achievements include:

- 7 Ballon d'Or titles
- 6 Golden Shoes
- 10 La Liga titles
- 4 UEFA Champions League titles
- 2021 Copa America winner
- 2022 FIFA World Cup winner

### Quotes

"You have to fight to reach your dream. You have to sacrifice and work hard for it." - Lionel Messi

"The best decisions aren't made with your mind, but with your instinct." - Lionel Messi

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