

Pat & Mat

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**Pat & Mat** ([Czech](#) and [Slovak](#): *Pat a Mat*) is a [Czechoslovak slapstick stop-motion animated series](#) created by [Lubomír Beneš](#) and [Vladimír Jiránek](#). The characters first appeared in the theatrically released short *Kuřáci* (*Tinkers*) in 1976, while the first made-for-TV episode "Tapety" ("Wallpaper") was produced for [ČST Bratislava](#) three years later.

The main characters of the series are two [handymen](#), Pat and Mat, who are inventive and extremely clumsy. As of 2021, 129 episodes of the show have been released, and it has been syndicated in a large number of countries due to its lack of dialogue (except in the Dutch version, which is dubbed).

## Names [edit]

The original name of the series was *Kuřáci* (*The Tinkers*), but when production of episodes started for ČST Bratislava, a Slovak name was required, and the crew eventually settled for ... *a je to!* (... *and it's done!*).<sup>[2]</sup> The characters

Pat & Mat	
<div></div> <div>Pat and Mat logo (in VAG Rounded)</div>	
Genre	<div>Animation</div> <div>Comedy</div> <div>Slapstick</div>
Created by	<div>Lubomír Beneš</div> <div>Vladimír Jiránek</div>
Written by	<div>Lubomír Beneš</div> <div>Vladimír Jiránek</div> <div>Jiří Kubíček</div> <div>Vendulka Čvančarová</div> <div>Marek Beneš</div> <div>others</div>
Directed by	<div>Lubomír Beneš</div> <div>Marek Beneš</div> <div>others</div>
Theme music composer	<div>Petr Skoumal</div>
Composers	<div>Petr Skoumal (ep. 2–91)</div> <div>Zdeněk Zdeněk (ep. 92–</div>

themselves were nameless until 1989, when they were given the names Pat and Mat. Pat and Mat are shortened forms of Czech expressions "patlal" and "matlal", which can roughly be translated as "clumsy" and "awkward".<sup>[3]</sup> The authors intentionally gave the characters short and universal names suitable for a worldwide audience.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Premise [ edit ]

According to the authors, it is manual ineptitude that inspires the stories. Alongside the humour, another motif of the show is the importance of an optimistic approach towards life. The two characters always get into problematic situations, but they never give up until they solve the problem in imaginative ways.<sup>[4]</sup> Pat and Mat typically find a solution in the end, usually via a surprising or innovative method, after which they shake hands, before making their trademark hand gesture with a bent hand and closed fist.

## History [ edit ]

The characters were revived in 2009 by Beneš for a new series, *Pat a Mat na venkově* (*Pat & Mat in the Country*). The pilot, "Postele" ("Beds"), premiered at the 50th [Zlín Film Festival](#) in 2010.<sup>[5]</sup> 12 more episodes followed between 2011 and 2015, produced by Patmat Film and filmed in 16:9. Beneš directed and wrote all 13 episodes. Eight of the episodes were released on [DVD](#) in 2013 and received their TV premiere on the Dutch channel [VPRO](#) on 9 June of the same year, with the rest following soon.

To celebrate the show's 40th anniversary, Gusto Entertainment produced full-length feature film released in cinemas in 2016. The film, *Pat a Mat ve filmu* (*Pat & Mat in a Movie*), featured ten of the 2009-2015 episodes with linking segments and was shown in cinemas in several countries, including the Netherlands.<sup>[6]</sup>

From 2018 until 2020, 39 new episodes divided into three 13-part series were made in Patmat film, co-produced by [Czech Television](#) and Netherlands-based JUST Productions, again directed by Beneš. The animation for more than half of these episodes was produced in a Chinese studio to speed up work.<sup>[7]</sup>

On November 11, 2021, Czech Television announced that production of *Pat a Mat na venkově* series continues.<sup>[8]</sup>

## Unreleased 50th episode [ edit ]

	130)
	<a href="#">Luboš Fišer</a> (ep. 1)
<b>Country of origin</b>	<a href="#">Czechoslovakia</a> (episodes 1–35) <a href="#">Czech Republic</a> <a href="#">Slovakia</a> (only episodes 2–29) <a href="#">West Germany</a> (only episodes 30–35) <a href="#">Netherlands</a> (episodes 92–130) <a href="#">China</a> (episodes 92–130)
<b>Original language</b>	None
<b><span>No. of episodes</span></b>	129 (+1 unreleased)
Production	
<b>Running time</b>	6–9 min.
<b>Production companies</b>	Krátký film Praha aiF Studio Patmat film Ateliéry Bonton Zlín others
Original release	
<b>Network</b>	<a href="#">ČST</a> (1979–1992) <a href="#">ČT</a> (1992–2020) <a href="#">STV</a> (1993–2011) <a href="#">ČT :D</a> (2013–2020) <a href="#">TV JOJ</a> (2016)
<b>Release</b>	August 12, 1976 <sup>[1]</sup> – July 2020



Pat (left) and Mat (right).



The studio initially planned to make further episodes of the new series, with the possibility of half-hour episodes and a feature film in the future.<sup>[9]</sup> Due to these circumstances, *Playing Cards* has never been released or distributed in the Czech Republic and most of the world, even though it entered competition at [Annecy](#) in 1999.<sup>[10]</sup>

Although the episode was pulled from distribution, a screenshot from it was posted on aiF Studio's website. The former Prague management later set up a new studio at the same location, Animation People, and posted more screenshots on their website, which were eventually replaced with a short, silent clip of the episode.<sup>[11]</sup>

## Censorship [[edit](#)]

### Czechoslovakia [[edit](#)]

Although the authors wanted to continue shooting after the initial short, their studio Krátký film did not allow them to do so. The reason given was that *Kuřáci* were just ordinary entertainment not appropriate for the [cultural policy](#) of the time. However, as the [Slovak Television](#) in Bratislava showed interest in further episodes, twenty-eight episodes were produced for them instead, with great success.<sup>[2]</sup>



### Fox Kids airings [[edit](#)]

In 2003 [Fox Kids Europe](#) bought the rights from Ateliéry Bonton Zlín to air episodes 2–26<sup>[12]</sup> on the [Fox Kids](#) network in several countries, including the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Germany, United Kingdom, Greece, Portugal, Latin America and Brazil. The show had its intro and outro changed, and almost all scenes in which the characters use knives or which contain slapstick violence deemed too "intense" were cut. Later airings put the original intro back in, but replaced the outro with a narration warning against imitating the behavior of the series' characters.

## Production years [[edit](#)]

Nr.	Episode(s)	Production year
1	1 (1)	1976
2	2–29 (28)	1979, 1981–1985
3	30–35 (6)	1989–1990
4	36–49 (14)	1992, 1994
5	50 (1, unreleased)	1998
6	51–78 (28)	2002–2004
7	79–91 (13)	2009, 2011–2015
8	92–104 (13)	2018

9	105–117 (13)	2018–2019
10	118–130 (13)	2019–2020

## List of episodes  [ [edit](#) ]

N° <span>↕</span>	Year of production <span>↕</span>	English title <span>↕</span>	Czech title (Slovak in 1979–1985) <span>↕</span>	Episode director <span>↕</span>
<div>Kuťáci (Tinkers)</div> <div>produced in the Barrandov animation studios (Krátký Film), Prague</div>				
1	1976	Tinkers	Kuťáci	Lubomír Beneš
<div>... a je to!</div> <div>produced in the Barrandov animation studios (Krátký Film), Prague for Czechoslovak Television, Bratislava</div>				
2	1979	Tapestry (Wallpaper)	Tapety	Lubomír Beneš
3	1979	Workshop	Dielňa	Lubomír Beneš
4	1979	Carpet	Koberec	Lubomír Beneš
5	1979	Rocking Chair	Hojdacie kreslo	Lubomír Beneš
6	1979	Picture	Obraz	Lubomír Beneš
7	1979	Garage	Garáž	Lubomír Beneš
8	1979	Light (The Light)	Svetlo	Lubomír Beneš
9	1981	Record Player (Gramophone)	Gramofón	Lubomír Beneš
10	1981	Grill	Grill	Lubomír Beneš
11	1982	Removal (Moving Day)	Sťahovanie	Lubomír Beneš
12	1982	Water	Voda	Lubomír Beneš
13	1982	Garden	Záhradka	Lubomír Beneš
14	1982	Painting Job	Maľovanie	Lubomír Beneš
15	1982	Jumpers	Skokani	Lubomír Beneš
16	1982	Crossword (Crossword Puzzle)	Krížovka	Lubomír Beneš
17	1983	Bird Feeder (Birdhouse)	Búdka	Lubomír Beneš
18	1983	Big Laundry (Laundry Day)	Veľké pranie	Lubomír Beneš
19	1983	Gym	Telocvična	Lubomír Beneš
20	1983	Breakfast (Breakfast in Grass)	Raňajky v tráve	Lubomír Beneš
21	1983	Washing Machine	Práčka	Lubomír Beneš
22	1983	Rain	Dážď	Lubomír Beneš

23	1984	Excursion (Trip)	Výlet	Lubomír Beneš
24	1984	Winegrowers (Winemakers)	Vináři	Lubomír Beneš
25	1984	Skates	Korčule	Lubomír Beneš
26	1984	Piano	Klavír	Lubomír Beneš
27	1985	Potters	Hrnčiari	Lubomír Beneš
28	1985	Defect (Malfunction)	Porucha	Lubomír Beneš
29	1985	Apple	Jablko	Lubomír Beneš
<b>Pat &amp; Mat</b> produced in the Barrandov animation studios (Krátký Film), Prague				
30	1989	Key (The Key)	Klíč	Lubomír Beneš
31	1989	Furniture	Nábytek	Lubomír Beneš
32	1990	Mowing Machine (Lawnmower)	Sekačka	Lubomír Beneš
33	1990	Big Cleanup	Generální úklid	Lubomír Beneš
34	1990	Roof	Střecha	Lubomír Beneš
35	1990	Door	Dveře	Lubomír Beneš
<b>Pat &amp; Mat</b> produced in the authors' aiF Studio, Prague				
36	1992	Biscuits	Sušenky	Marek Beneš
37	1992	Garage Door	Vrata	Lubomír Beneš
38	1992	Cyclists	Cyklisti	Lubomír Beneš
39	1992	Paving Bricks (Tiles)	Dlaždice	Lubomír Beneš
40	1992	Parquetry (Parquet)	Parkety	Lubomír Beneš
41	1992	Gutter Pipe	Okap	Marek Beneš
42	1992	Convertible	Kabriolet	Lubomír Beneš
43	1994	Flat Tire (Accident)	Nehoda	Lubomír Beneš
44	1994	Billiards	Kulečník	Lubomír Beneš
45	1994	Quickset Hedge (Hedgerow)	Živý plot	Lubomír Beneš
46	1994	Safe (The Safe)	Trezor	Lubomír Beneš
47	1994	Mudguard (Fender)	Blatník	Lubomír Beneš
48	1994	Model Builders	Modeláři	Lubomír Beneš
49	1994	Windsurfing	Windsurfing	Lubomír Beneš
episode not released for distribution (produced by part of Lubomír Beneš's former team without his heirs' consent)				

50	1998	Playing Cards	Karty	František Váša
<b>Pat a Mat, Pat a Mat se vracejí (Pat &amp; Mat Return)</b> (followers, with Marek Beneš or his consent) produced by Ateliery Bonton Zlín				
51	2002	Puzzle	Puzzle	Marek Beneš
52	2003	Roasted Sausages	Opékají špekáčky	Ladislav Pálka
53	2003	Roof Repair	Opravují střechu	Ladislav Pálka
54	2003	Black Box	Černá bedýnka	Vlasta Pospíšilová
55	2003	Furniture on Wheels	Kolečka	Vlasta Pospíšilová
56	2003	Dog House	Psí bouda	Milan Šebesta
57	2003	Lacquering the Floor	Natírají podlahu	Ladislav Pálka
58	2003	The Greenhouse	Skleník	Marek Beneš
59	2003	The Swing	Houpačka	Marek Beneš
60	2003	Unwanted Guest	Nezvaný návštěvník	Marek Beneš
61	2003	Bodyguards	Bodygárdi	Marek Beneš
62	2003	Painting the Windows	Natírají okna	Marek Beneš
63	2003	Easter Egg	Velikonoční vajíčko	Vlasta Pospíšilová
64	2003	Slim Figure	Štíhlá linie	Vlasta Pospíšilová
65	2003	Vending Machine	Automat	Marek Beneš
66	2003	Autodrome	Autodráha	Marek Beneš
67	2003	Aquarium	Akvárium	Marek Beneš
68	2003	Canning	Zavařují	Ladislav Pálka
69	2003	Hang Glider	Rogalo	Ladislav Pálka
70	2003	Christmas Cake	Vánočka	Milan Šebesta
71	2003	Flu	Stůňou	Ladislav Pálka
72	2003	Fax Machine	Fax	Josef Lamka
73	2003	Strawberries	Jahody	Vlasta Pospíšilová
74	2004	Playing Golf	Hrají golf	Ladislav Pálka
75	2004	Bottle Cap	Někam to zapadlo	Vlasta Pospíšilová



76	2004	Swimming Pool	Kopají bazén	Marek Beneš
77	2004	Hanging a Painting	Věší krajinu	Marek Beneš
78	2004	Christmas Tree	Vánoční stromeček	Marek Beneš
<b>Pat a Mat na venkově (Pat &amp; Mat in the Countryside)</b> produced by Patmat film, Prague				
79	2009	Beds	Postele	Marek Beneš
80	2011	Water Supply	Vodovod	Marek Beneš
81	2011	Paper Plates	Papírový servis	Marek Beneš
82	2011	Projector	Promítačka	Marek Beneš
83	2012	Vacuum Cleaner	Vysavač	Marek Beneš
84	2012	The Pool	Bazén	Marek Beneš
85	2012	The Floor	Podlaha	Marek Beneš
86	2013	Deadwood	Suchý strom	Marek Beneš
87	2014	Orange Juice	Pomerančová šťáva	Marek Beneš
88	2014	Bicycle	Rotoped	Marek Beneš
89	2015	Cactus	Kaktus	Marek Beneš
90	2015	Bathroom Tiles	Obkladačky	Marek Beneš
91	2015	Sun Cover	Sluneční clona	Marek Beneš
<b>Pat a Mat nás baví (Pat &amp; Mat Entertain Us)</b> produced by Patmat film, Prague				
92	2018	Bees	Včely	Marek Beneš
93	2018	(Solar) Lawnmower	Sekačka	Marek Beneš
94	2018	Mole	Krtek	Marek Beneš
95	2018	Fence	Plot	Marek Beneš
96	2018	Clogged Chimney	Ucpaný komín	Marek Beneš
97	2018	Power Station	Elektrárna	Marek Beneš
98	2018	Rock Garden	Skalka	Marek Beneš
99	2018	Rodeo	Rodeo	Marek Beneš
100	2018	Carousel	Kolotoč	Marek Beneš
101	2018	Dishwasher	Myčka	Marek Beneš
102	2018	Waste	Odpad	Marek Beneš
103	2018	Stairs	Schody	Marek Beneš
104	2018	Camera	Kamera	Marek Beneš

<div> <div>Pat a Mat – Zimní radovánky/Pat a Mat v zimě (Pat &amp; Mat – Winter Fun/Pat &amp; Mat in Winter)</div> <div>produced by Patmat film, Prague</div> </div>				
105	2018	Calamity	Kalamita	Marek Beneš
106	2018	Christmas Lights	Vánoční světýlka	Marek Beneš
107	2018	Sauna	Sauna	Marek Beneš
108	2018	Nativity Scene	Betlém	Marek Beneš
109	2018	Tree	Stromeček	Marek Beneš
110	2018	Gifts	Dárky	Marek Beneš
111	2018	New Year	Silvestr	Marek Beneš
112	2019	Christmas Card	Novoroční přání	Marek Beneš
113	2019	Potato Salad	Bramborový salát	Marek Beneš
114	2019	Carp	Kapr	Marek Beneš
115	2019	Gingerbread House	Perníková chaloupka	Marek Beneš
116	2019	Glazed Frost	Ledovka	Marek Beneš
117	2019	Igloo	Iglú	Marek Beneš
<div> <div>Pat a Mat kutí (Pat &amp; Mat Pat Handymen's Adventures/DIY Troubles)<sup>[13]</sup></div> <div>produced by Patmat film, Prague</div> </div>				
118	2019	Pancakes	Palačinky	Marek Beneš
119	2019	Flying Machine	Létající stroj	Marek Beneš
120	2019	Popcorn	Popcorn	Marek Beneš
121	2019	New Kitchen / Furniture	Nová kuchyně <sup>[14]</sup> / Nábytek	Marek Beneš
122	2019	Car Wash	Automyčka	Marek Beneš
123	2019	Harvest	Sklizeň	Marek Beneš
124	2019	Phototrap	Fotopast	Marek Beneš
125	2020	Ice Making	Výroba ledu	Marek Beneš
126	2020	Tube Post	Potrubní pošta	Marek Beneš
127	2020	Barbecue	Barbecue	Marek Beneš
128	2020	Pizza	Pizza	Marek Beneš
129	2020	Bread	Pečou chleba	Marek Beneš
130	2020	Garage Door	Garážová vrata	Marek Beneš

## Feature films <sup>[edit]</sup>

Year	Czech title	English title
2016	<i>Pat a Mat ve filmu</i>	<i>Pat &amp; Mat in a Movie</i>



2018	<i>Pat a Mat znovu v akci</i>	<i>Pat &amp; Mat in Action Again</i>
2018	<i>Pat a Mat: Zimní radovánky</i>	<i>Pat &amp; Mat: Winter Fun</i>
2019	<i>Pat a Mat: Kutílské trampoty</i>	<i>Pat &amp; Mat: Handyman's Adventures</i>

## Broadcast [ [edit](#) ]

Country	TV channel(s)	Year(s)
Czech Republic	ČST, ČT, ČT :D, Fox Kids	1979–1992 <sup><span>[</span><i><span>citation needed</span></i><span>]</span></sup> , 1992–present, 2013–present
Slovakia	ČST, Jednotka, Dvojka, TV JOJ	1979–1992, 1993–2010, 2016
Netherlands	NCRV, VPRO	1982, 1984–present

## Home media [ [edit](#) ]

Shorts from the AIF era were initially unavailable due to copyright issues, but appeared on DVD for the first time in 2007.<sup>[15]</sup>

## Related products [ [edit](#) ]

At least two books with the series' characters have been published:

- Michl, Jiří (1994). *Pat & Mat: ...and that's it!*. Czech Republic: Egmont.
- Sýkora, Pavel; Jiránek, Vladimír; Beneš, Lubomír (2010). *Pat a Mat dokážou všechno* [*Pat and Mat can do anything*] (3rd ed.). Albatros. ISBN 9788000025933.

A Czech computer development company, [Centauri Production](#) released the *Pat & Mat* mini [video game](#).<sup>[16]</sup> It was released in [Czech language](#) in the [Czech Republic](#) on 1 October 2009, and in other [EU](#) countries in [English](#) in 2010. The English version from [Steam](#) was taken down in July 2020.<sup>[17]</sup>

There is a wide range of Pat & Mat merchandise available, including games, dolls, key rings, office material, posters and T-shirts.<sup>[18]</sup>

## References [ [edit](#) ]

- ↑ "Pat a Mat spolu kutí už 40 let a stále se nevzdávají. Za socialismu je chtěli zakázat, za kapitalismu málem zkrachovali" ↗. extrastory.cz. 11 August 2016. Retrieved 26 February 2020.
- ↑ <sup>**a**</sup> <sup>**b**</sup> <sup>**c**</sup> Blanka Kubíčková (18 February 2020). "Lubomír Beneš interview (1994)" ↗. ajetology.blogspot.com. Retrieved 26 February 2020.
- ↑ Paula Bobanović (28 January 2020). "Marek Beneš interview (2017)" ↗. ajetology.blogspot.com. Retrieved 26 February 2020.
- ↑ "Pat & Mat/...and that's it! series | More About" ↗. Pat and Mat official website. Retrieved 24 December 2013.

5. <sup>^</sup> "Detail filmu | Pat a Mat na venkově: Postele" ↗ (in Czech). Zlín Film Festival. Archived from the original ↗ on 24 December 2013. Retrieved 24 December 2013.
6. <sup>^</sup> "Buurman & Buurman met kerst al in de bioscoop" ↗. *NU.nl* (in Dutch). 22 December 2015.
7. <sup>^</sup> "Mráz kutily nespálí. Pat a Mat si v kinech užívají Zimní radovánky" ↗ (in Czech). *Czech Television*. Retrieved 26 February 2020.
8. <sup>^</sup> "11. listopadu 2021 | Zprávičky" ↗. *Czech Television* (in Czech). 11 November 2021.
9. <sup>^</sup> "Pat & Mat/...and that's it! series | About" ↗. Pat and Mat official website. Retrieved 24 December 2013.
10. <sup>^</sup> Citía (15 June 2013). "1999 Archives | Official Selection | Film Index" ↗. *Annecy*. Archived from the original ↗ on 24 December 2013.
11. <sup>^</sup> "Animation technologies" ↗. Archived from the original ↗ on 23 December 2013.
12. <sup>^</sup> Borovan, Aleš (18 April 2003). "Znamý večerníček provází spor o peníze" ↗. *Hospodářské noviny* (in Czech).
13. <sup>^</sup> "Pat a Mat kutí (2020)/PAT a MAT" ↗.
14. <sup>^</sup> In Czech TV airings.
15. <sup>^</sup> "Pat a Mat speciál ... A je to! (2007) [TV seriál] - režie: Lubomír Beneš, Marek Beneš" ↗. *Film Database*. Retrieved 24 December 2013.
16. <sup>^</sup> "Centauri Production - Pat & Mat" ↗. *Centauri.cz*.
17. <sup>^</sup> "Save 50% on Pat & Mat on Steam" ↗. Store.steampowered.com. 17 July 2010. Retrieved 24 December 2013.
18. <sup>^</sup> "Buurman & Buurman Buurtkoekjes" ↗. *BuurmanenBuurman.eu*. Archived from the original ↗ on 2 February 2017.

## External links  [ edit ]

- *Pat & Mat* ↗ at IMDb
- Official website of Lubomír Beneš' aiF Studio ↗
- Official website of Marek Beneš' Patmat film studio ↗



Categories: Czech animated television series | Stop-motion animated television series | Television duos | Animated duos | 1976 Czechoslovak television series debuts | 1976 animated television series debuts | Czechoslovak television series | Czech children's television series | 1970s Czechoslovak television series | 1980s Czechoslovak television series | 1990s Czech television series | 2000s Czech television series | 2010s Czech television series | 2020s Czech television series | Television shows adapted into novels | Television shows adapted into video games | Fictional Czech people | Fictional inventors | Fictional construction workers | Fictional mechanics | Fictional plumbers | Animated television series without speech | Fictional duos | Czech-language Czechoslovak Television original programming | Czechoslovak animated television series

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