

## **Page 1: Early Life & Education**

- 1.1 Elon Musk was born in Pretoria, South Africa on June 28, 1971.
- 1.2 His mother, Maye Musk, is a dietitian and model, and his father, Errol Musk, was an engineer.
- 1.3 Musk taught himself computer programming at age 10 and sold a video game called Blastar for \$500 at age 12.
- 1.4 He attended Waterkloof House Preparatory School and Pretoria Boys High School before moving to Canada in 1989.
- 1.5 Musk briefly attended Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, then transferred to the University of Pennsylvania, earning degrees in physics and economics.

## **Page 2: Technology Ventures & Founding Stories**

2.1 In 1995, Musk dropped out of a Stanford PhD program after two days to pursue entrepreneurship.

2.2 He and his brother Kimbal founded Zip2, which sold to Compaq for \$307 million in 1999.

2.3 Musk then co-founded X.com in 1999, which became PayPal after a merger; PayPal was acquired by eBay for \$1.5 billion in 2002.

2.4 SpaceX was founded in 2002, aiming to reduce launch costs and enable Mars colonization.

2.5 Tesla Motors was founded in 2003 (Musk became CEO in 2008) and released its first car, the Roadster, in 2008.

## **Page 3: Major Projects & Innovations**

3.1 Under Musk, SpaceX launched the Falcon 1 (2008), Falcon 9 (2010), and Falcon Heavy (2018).

3.2 In May 2020, SpaceX became the first private company to send astronauts (Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken) to the ISS.

3.3 Tesla's Model S (2012), Model 3 (2017), and Model Y (2020) were notable for advancing EV technology.

3.4 Musk founded Neuralink in 2016, aiming to develop brain-machine interfaces.

3.5 He announced The Boring Company in 2017 with the vision to develop underground transport tunnels.

## **Page 4: Public Persona, Controversies & Social Media**

4.1 Musk is known for his prolific Twitter (X) use; he bought the platform for \$44 billion in 2022.

4.2 He was sued by the SEC in 2018 for tweeting about taking Tesla private; the case settled with Musk stepping down as Tesla chairman.

4.3 Musk has drawn criticism for comments on COVID-19, AI safety, and labor practices, but enthusiasts laud his transparency.

4.4 In 2021, he became the world's richest person, briefly surpassing Jeff Bezos with a net worth over \$300 billion.

4.5 Musk's notable media moments include hosting SNL (May 2021) and sending a car to space as a publicity stunt (see 3.1).

## **Page 5: Philanthropy, Influence & Future Vision**

5.1 Musk signed the Giving Pledge, promising to donate much of his fortune to charity.

5.2 He donated \$100 million to XPRIZE for carbon removal innovations in 2021.

5.3 Musk has promoted sustainable energy via Tesla's battery technology and solar panels (see 3.3).

5.4 His public statements frequently allude to goals for a multi-planetary society, AI alignment, and universal income.

5.5 Elon Musk's ventures have influenced global space policy, auto markets, digital finance, and energy sectors according to multiple analysts.