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Virat Kohli

Virat Kohli (Hindi pronunciation: [ʋɪˈɾɑːʈ ˈkoːʈʌli] ; born 5 November 1988) is an Indian international cricketer who plays Test and ODI cricket for the Indian national team. A former captain in all formats of the game, Kohli retired from the T20I format following India's win at the 2024 T20 World Cup. He's a right-handed batsman and an occasional unorthodox right arm quick bowler. Kohli holds the highest IPL run-scorer record, ranks third in T20I, third in ODI, and stands the fourth-highest in international cricket.^[4] Regarded as one of the greatest batsman of all time, he also holds the record for scoring the most centuries in ODI cricket and is second in the list of most international centuries scored in international cricket.^[5]

Kohli was a member of the Indian team that won the 2008 Under-19 Cricket World Cup, 2011 Cricket World Cup, 2013 Champions Trophy and 2024 T20 World Cup and also captained India to win the ICC Test mace three consecutive times in 2017, 2018, and 2019.^[6] He represents Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the Indian Premier League and Delhi in domestic cricket.

In 2013, Kohli was ranked number one in the ODI batsmen ICC rankings. In 2015, he also achieved the same for T20I rankings.^[7] In 2018, he was ranked the top Test batsman, making him the only Indian cricketer to hold the number one spot in all three formats. He is the first player to score 20,000 runs in a decade. In 2020, the ICC named him the male cricketer of the decade.^[8]

Kohli has garnered 10 ICC Awards making him the most awarded player in International Cricket history. He won the ICC ODI Player of the Year award four times in 2012, 2017, 2018,

Virat Kohli



Kohli in 2023

Personal information

Born	5 November 1988 <div>Delhi, India</div>
Nickname	Cheeku ^[a] <div>King Kohli ^[2]</div>
Height	5 ft 9 in (175 cm) ^[3]
Batting	Right-handed
Bowling	Right-arm <u>medium</u> <div>Right-arm <u>off break</u></div>
Role	<u>Top-order batter</u>
Relations	Anushka Sharma (<u>m.</u> 2017)
Website	VK Foundation (<u>https://viratkohli.foundation</u>)

International information

National side	<u>India</u> (2008–present)
Test debut (cap 269)	20 June 2011 v <u>West Indies</u>
Last Test	22 November 2024 v <u>Australia</u>
ODI debut (cap 175)	18 August 2008 v <u>Sri Lanka</u>
Last ODI	7 August 2024 v <u>Sri Lanka</u>
ODI shirt no.	18

and 2023. He also won the Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy, given to the ICC Cricketer of the Year, on two occasions, in 2017 and 2018 respectively. In 2018, he became the first player to win both ICC ODI and Test Player of the Year awards in the same year. Also, he was named the Wisden Leading Cricketer in the World for three consecutive years, from 2016 to 2018. Kohli has the most Player of the Series awards and second most Player of the Match awards to his name in all three formats combined. He was honoured with the Arjuna Award in 2013, the Padma Shri in 2017, and India's highest sporting honour, the Khel Ratna Award, in 2018. In 2018, *Time* magazine included him on its list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

After winning the 2024 T20 World Cup and the Player of the Match in the Final, Kohli announced his retirement from T20Is.^[9]

Early life

Virat Kohli was born on 5 November 1988 in Delhi into a Punjabi Hindu family. His father, Prem Nath Kohli, worked as a criminal lawyer, and his mother, Saroj Kohli, served as a housewife. He has an older brother, Vikas, and an older sister, Bhawna.^[10] Kohli's formative years were spent in Uttam Nagar. He commenced his early education at Vishal Bharti Public School.^[11] According to his family, Kohli exhibited an early affinity for cricket as a three-year-old. He would pick up a cricket bat and request his father bowl to him.^[12]

In 1998, the West Delhi Cricket Academy (WDCA) was created. On 30 May of that year, Prem Nath Kohli arranged for his son to meet Rajkumar Sharma.^[13] Upon the suggestion of their neighbours, Kohli's father considered enrolling his son in a professional cricket academy, as they believed that his cricketing abilities merited more than just playing in gully cricket.^[14] Despite his abilities, he faced the setback of being unable to secure a place in

T20I debut (cap 31)	12 June 2010 v <u>Zimbabwe</u>
Last T20I	29 June 2024 v <u>South Africa</u>
T20I shirt no.	18

Domestic team information

Years	Team
2006–present	<u>Delhi</u>
2008–present	<u>Royal Challengers Bengaluru</u>

Career statistics

Competition	Test	ODI	T20I	FC
Matches	119	295	125	145
Runs scored	9,145	13,906	4,188	11097
Batting average	48.13	58.18	48.69	50.21
100s/50s	30/31	50/72	1/38	36/38
Top score	254*	183	122*	254*
Balls bowled	175	662	152	643
Wickets	0	5	4	3
Bowling average	–	136.00	51.00	112.66
5 wickets in innings	–	0	0	0
10 wickets in match	–	0	0	0
Best bowling	–	1/13	1/13	1/19
Catches/stumpings	113/–	152/–	54/–	142/–

Medal record

Men's cricket 

Representing  **India**

ODI World Cup

- 12011 India / Bangladesh / Sri Lanka
- 22023 India

T20 World Cup

- 12024 West Indies / United States
- 22014 Bangladesh

World Test Championship

- 22021 England
- 22023 England

Champions Trophy

- 12013 England / Wales
- 22017 England / Wales

Asia Cup

- 12010 Sri Lanka
- 12016 Bangladesh
- 12023 Pakistan / Sri Lanka

U19 World Cup



2008 Malaysia

Source: [ESPN Cric Info \(https://www.espnccricinfo.com/cricketers/virat-kohli-253802\)](https://www.espnccricinfo.com/cricketers/virat-kohli-253802), 8 August 2024

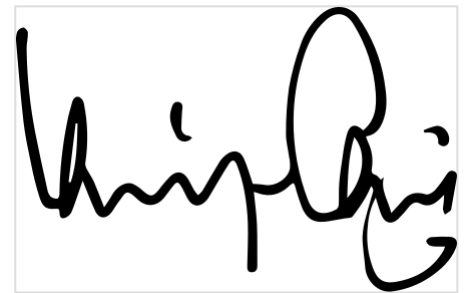
the under-14 Delhi team, supposedly due to extraneous factors. Prem Kohli reportedly received offers to relocate his son to influential clubs, which would have ensured his selection, but he declined the proposals. Kohli eventually found his way into the under-15 Delhi team.^[15] He received training at the academy while simultaneously participating in matches at the Sumeet Dogra Academy located at Vasundhara Enclave.^[16] In pursuit of furthering his cricketing career, he transitioned to Saviour Convent School during his ninth-grade education.^[14]

On 18 December 2006, Kohli's father died due to a cerebral attack.^{[14][17][11][18]} According to his mother, Kohli's demeanour shifted noticeably after his father's death. He took cricket with newfound seriousness, prioritizing playing time and dedicating himself fully to the sport.^[14] Kohli's family resided in Meera Bagh, Paschim Vihar until the year 2015, after which they relocated to Gurgaon.^[19]

Career

2008–2009: Debut and maiden stint

In August 2008, Kohli was included in the ODI squad for the tour of Sri Lanka and the Champions Trophy in Pakistan. Prior to the Sri Lankan tour, Kohli had limited experience, with only eight List A matches under his belt.^[20] So, his selection was considered a "surprise call-up".^[21] During the Sri Lankan tour, as both first-choice openers Sachin Tendulkar and Virender



Sehwag, were unable to play due to injury, Kohli was required to fill the role of makeshift opener throughout the series.^[22] On August 18, 2008, Kohli made his international debut at the age of 19 in the first ODI of the tour, where he was dismissed for 12 runs, caught dead in front by an incutter from Nuwan Kulasekara.^[23] However, in the fourth match of the series, Kohli scored his inaugural half century in the ODI format, with a total of fifty-four runs scored.^[24]

Following the postponement of the Champions Trophy to 2009, Kohli was picked as a replacement for the injured Shikhar Dhawan in the India A squad for the unofficial Tests against Australia A in September 2008.^[25] Despite limited opportunities, he managed to make an impact in the single innings that he participated in, scoring 49 runs.^[26] In October 2008, Kohli participated in a four-day tour match against Australia as part of the Indian Board President's XI team. The match featured a formidable Australian bowling line-up that consisted of Brett Lee, Stuart Clark, Mitchell Johnson, Peter Siddle and Jason Krejza. Despite this, Kohli displayed his batting prowess by scoring 105 runs in the first innings and an unbeaten 16 runs in the second innings, demonstrating his ability to perform against high-level international competition.^[27]

In November 2008, Kohli was selected for inclusion in the squad for the home ODI series against England. However, he was not given an opportunity to play in any of the matches.^[28] In December 2008, Kohli was awarded a Grade D contract by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) as part of the annual contract list for the Indian national team which entitled him to receive

₹1.5 million (equivalent to **₹4.2 million** or **US\$50,000** in 2023).^[29] Despite being awarded a contract, in January, Kohli was dropped for the five-match ODI series against Sri Lanka in Sri Lanka.^[30]

In July–August 2009, Kohli was selected in the four-team Emerging Players Tournament, held in Australia. He was selected to open the innings for the Indian Emerging Players team in the tournament, and he went on to have a standout performance. Kohli finished as the tournament's leading run-scorer, with a total of 398 runs from seven matches, at an average of 66.33. He was particularly impressive in the final match, where he scored 104 runs off 102 balls against the South Africa Emerging Players team in Brisbane. His strong performance helped lead his team to a 17-run victory and the tournament title.^{[31][32]} At the conclusion of the tournament, Kris Srikkanth, the chairman of the Indian national selection committee, expressed his admiration for Kohli's performance during the tournament.^[33] Kohli later stated that this tournament was a "turning point" in his career.^[34]

In August 2009, Kohli returned to the national team after recovering from a minor shoulder injury, replacing the injured Gautam Gambhir in the Indian squad for the tri-series in Sri Lanka.^[35] He was also utilized as a middle order batsman in the 2009 ICC Champions Trophy due to an injury sustained by Yuvraj Singh.^[36] In December of that year, he was included in the team for home ODI series against Sri Lanka and scored 27 and 54 in the first two ODIs before making way for Yuvraj, who regained fitness for the third ODI.^[37] However, due to the reoccurrence of a finger injury, Yuvraj was ruled out indefinitely, which led to Kohli's return to the team in the fourth ODI at Kolkata.^[38] In that match, Kohli scored his maiden ODI century—107 off 114 balls—while sharing a 224-run partnership for the third wicket with Gambhir. As a result of this performance, India won by seven wickets and sealed the series 3–1.^{[39][b]}

Player profile

Comparisons to Sachin Tendulkar

Kohli's batting style and approach to the game have frequently drawn comparisons to Sachin Tendulkar, whom he regarded as the epitome of excellence in the sport of cricket. Dubbed as Tendulkar's "successor",^{[40][41]} he is widely considered to have the potential to surpass his records in the future.^{[42][43]} Kohli has stated that he tried to mirror Tendulkar's style of batting, imitating his shots and attempting to hit sixes in a similar manner.^[44] Kohli's aggressive and dynamic style has earned him accolades from cricketing greats such as Vivian Richards, who has acknowledged Kohli's similarities to his own playing style.^[45] He has been lauded as the "new king of world cricket" by Dean Jones, a former Australian cricketer.^[46] While Indian commentator Aakash Chopra has noted that Tendulkar possessed a broader array of shots,^[47] Kohli's skills with the bat have earned him accolades from former West Indies great Brian Lara, who has ranked him among the best batsmen in the world alongside Joe Root, the England captain at the time.^[48]

In a discourse with Bollywood actor Salman Khan, Tendulkar proclaimed that Kohli possesses the potential to surpass his record of 100 international centuries. Tendulkar also acknowledged Kohli's batting aptitudes and the steadfastness with which he has accumulated runs.^[49] In 2013, Tendulkar retired from international cricket, marking the end of an era for Indian cricket. Kohli, who played alongside Tendulkar in the team.^[50]

Kohli became the fastest player to score 27,000 runs in international cricket. He surpassed Sachin Tendulkar's record, achieving the feat in 594 innings compared to Tendulkar's 623, during the second Test against Bangladesh at Green Park Stadium. Kohli now joins Ricky Ponting and Kumar Sangakkara as the only players to have crossed this milestone in international cricket.^[51]

Playing style

Kohli possesses technical abilities and a dynamic playing demeanour.^{[52][53]} His customarily batting position in ODI cricket is at number three, with a slightly open-chested stance,^[54] and a grip on the bottom handle of his bat. He has been noted for his agile footwork, expansive range of strokes, and his propensity for adeptly orchestrating innings whilst thriving in high-pressure situations.^{[55][56]} In his batting technique, Kohli tends to favour playing grounded shots rather than attempting big hits. He is appreciated for his ability to execute wrist shots and his consistent prowess in the mid-wicket and cover region.^{[57][58]}

Kohli has often expressed his admiration for the cover drive, which he considers to be his signature stroke. He uses the flick shot, particularly when facing deliveries aimed towards leg stump.^[12] Having a limited recourse to the sweep shot, Kohli's batting technique is characterized by an emphasis on ground shots that primarily yield runs in the regions between deep square leg and mid-on.^[59] Kohli scores runs between long-off and long-on with an aligned bat. His combination of bat-speed and supple wrist movements enable him to craft innovative angles that disrupt traditional field positioning.^[60] Kohli is also a proficient fielder.^[61]



Kohli playing his famous flick shot at the 2015 Cricket World Cup

However, Kohli has a vulnerability to deliveries that are wide of the off-stump.^[62] Bowlers often exploit this weakness by targeting him with such deliveries, especially in Test and ODI matches.^{[63][64][65]} Cricket experts such as VVS Laxman and former India cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar have acknowledged this weakness,^{[66][67]} and former New Zealand cricketer Richard Hadlee has also noted that Kohli is particularly susceptible to out-swinging deliveries.^[68]

Kohli has recognition as a limited-overs batsman.^{[69][70]} In ODIs, he boasts an average of 65.5 runs when batting second and 51.7 runs when batting first.^[71] He has amassed 27 of his 50 ODI hundreds in run-chases,^[72] and holds the record for the most hundreds scored when batting second.^[73] In reference to his success while batting second, Kohli has expressed a fondness for the challenge of chasing, relishing the opportunity to test himself and demonstrate his ability to efficiently manage strike rotation and execute boundary hits.^[74] His colleagues admire his self-assurance, dedication, concentration, and work ethic, which are the driving forces behind his success.^{[75][76]}

Aggression

Kohli's playing style is aggressive, a trait that extends to his leadership on the field.^{[77][78]} His captaincy is characterized as proactive, taking decisions and leading the team by example.^[79] Kohli has been the subject of much media scrutiny and criticism in the early stages of his career. He was often portrayed as a brash and arrogant individual, eliciting mixed reactions.^{[80][81]} While some

have praised his assertiveness and confidence,^{[82][83]} others have criticized Kohli's behaviour for crossing the boundaries of fair play and for losing control, sometimes resulting in a loss of composure.^[84] Despite his efforts to curb his aggressive behaviour, Kohli has acknowledged that there are times when intense pressure or high-stakes situations may challenge his resolve. The cricketer has persistently maintained that his aggression acts as a source of inspiration and drives his focus and motivation on the field.^[85] Writing for *The New York Times*, Huw Richards noted Kohli's self-assuredness and "assertiveness" in contrast to some former Indian cricketers who he felt had exhibited an inclination towards excessive politeness and reticence, and that Kohli embodies his combative demeanour both on and off the cricket field.^[86]

Public image and in media

In 2008, Kohli was approached by sports agent Bunty Sajdeh of Cornerstone Sport and Entertainment after his performance in the ICC Under-19 World Cup. Sajdeh was impressed with Kohli's leadership skills and attitude and saw potential in the young cricketer. After being recommended by Yuvraj Singh, Kohli was signed to Cornerstone Sport and Entertainment.^[87] Over the years, Kohli's brand endorsement portfolio has experienced significant growth. In 2013, it was reported that his endorsements were valued at over ₹1 billion (US\$12 million).^[88] In 2023, his brand value reached ₹1,000 crore (US\$120 million).^[89] His bat deal with MRF is one of the most financially rewarding deals in cricket history.^[90] In 2017, Kohli entered into an endorsement agreement with Puma that spanned over eight years and was estimated to be worth around ₹1.1 billion (US\$13 million). This deal made Kohli the first Indian athlete to sign a brand endorsement contract valued at ₹100 crore (equivalent to ₹140 crore or US\$17 million in 2023) deal with a brand.^[91] As of January 2023, Kohli is widely regarded as the most marketable cricketer, with annual earnings estimated at ₹165 crore (equivalent to ₹175 crore or US\$21 million in 2023).^[92] Kohli is the most followed Asian individual on the social media platform Instagram, with over 266 million followers on the platform. Reports indicate that he is able to command a fee of ₹8.9 crore (equivalent to ₹9.4 crore or US\$1.1 million in 2023) for each sponsored post on the platform.^[93]



Virat Kohli with Audi Q7

ESPN ranked Kohli among the world's most renowned athletes.^{[94][95]} In 2014, American Appraisal conducted an evaluation of Kohli's brand value and determined it to be \$56.4 million, placing him fourth on the list of India's most valued celebrity brands.^[96] In October 2016 by Duff & Phelps, Kohli's brand worth had increased to \$92 million, second only to that of Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan.^[97] In 2017, Kohli was recognized by *Forbes* as the seventh "Most Valuable Brand among Athletes", with a brand estimation of \$14.5 million.^[98] By September of the same year, Kohli had endorsement agreements with 17 distinct brands, and he announced that he would only endorse products that he personally uses and believes in.^[99] The following year, he was featured on *Time* magazine's annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world.^[100] In 2019, Kohli was the only cricketer included in *Forbes*' list of "World's 100 Highest-Paid Athletes". He was ranked 100th on the list, with earnings estimated at \$25 million, with \$21 million being procured through endorsements, and the remainder from salary and tournament winnings.^[101] Furthermore, in March 2019, Kohli was named the brand ambassador of the mobile esports platform, Mobile Premier League.^[102] Kohli's earning potential continued to climb, and in 2020,

he attained the 66th spot in *Forbes* compilation of the top 100 highest-paid athletes in the world for the year 2020, with estimated earnings exceeding \$26 million.^[103] In April 2021, *Vivo* appointed Kohli as their brand ambassador ahead of the Indian Premier League.^[104]

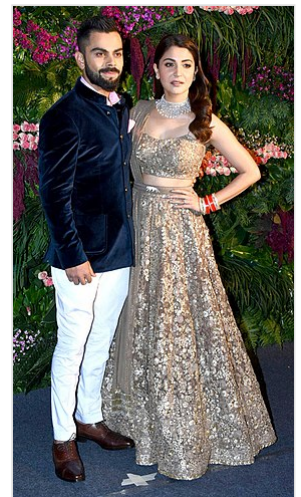
In 2012, Kohli was recognized as one of the best-dressed men by the fashion magazine *GQ*, appearing on their annual list.^[105] Six years later, in 2018, a documentary highlighting Kohli's cricketing career was released on *National Geographic* channel.^[106] The following year, on the eve of the 2019 Cricket World Cup *Madame Tussauds* unveiled an waxwork of Kohli in London.^[107] In 2019, on the eleventh anniversary of his international debut, Kohli was honoured with a stand named after him at the *Feroz Shah Kotla Stadium* in Delhi, making him the youngest cricketer to receive such a recognition.^[108] In November of the same year, an Indian animated superhero television series entitled *Super V* premiered, featuring a fictionalized portrayal of Kohli's teenage years and his discovery of superpowers.^[109]



Virat Kohli's signed bat at *Blades of Glory Cricket Museum*, Pune

Personal life

Kohli's romantic association with Bollywood actress *Anushka Sharma*, which commenced in 2013, earned the duo the moniker of "Virushka".^[110] During an interview with *Graham Bensinger*, Kohli divulged that he had encountered Sharma for the first time, when they were both were engaged in a promotional shoot for *Clear shampoo*.^[111] Their union since then has attracted significant media interest.^[112] On 11 December 2017, the couple exchanged nuptials in a ceremony held in *Florence, Italy*.^[113] On 11 January 2021, the couple had their first child, a daughter, named *Vamika*.^[114] ^[115] On 15 February 2024, the couple had a second child, a boy named *Akaay*.^[116]



Kohli with wife *Anushka Sharma* in their Mumbai reception

In 2018, Kohli disclosed that he had made the decision to adopt a vegetarian diet in an effort to alleviate the symptoms of a cervical spine issue caused by elevated levels of uric acid. This condition was impacting his finger movements, and thus, affecting his performance as a batsman. He made a conscious effort to abstain from consuming meat, as part of his regimen for maintaining optimal health.^[117] He has since clarified that his dietary choices do not align with a vegan lifestyle and he continues to consume dairy products and eggs effectively making what is known in India as an eggetarian.^[118]^[119]^[120] His hard work and discipline have earned him the reputation of being one of the fittest cricketers in the world.^[121]

Kohli has acknowledged a belief in superstitions and owns various lucky charms and rituals that he feels serve to bring him good fortune on the cricket field. One such tradition involves the donning of black wristband. Additionally, he prefers a particular pair of gloves, which he has consistently worn.^[10] Furthermore, Kohli has been observed sporting a kara, a traditional bangle often worn for religious or spiritual purposes, on his right arm since 2012.^[122] In addition to the previously mentioned superstitions, Kohli has also established the ritual of consistently donning white shoes on the cricket field.^[123] Kohli has tattoos of the Hindu deity *Lord Shiva*, the sacred syllable "Om",

the names of his parents, Prem and Saroj, a tribal emblem, a representation of a serene monastery, a samurai warrior, the astrological symbol of the scorpion, and his ODI and Test match cap numbers.^{[124][125]}

Outside cricket

Commercial investments



Kohli at the opening ceremony of the Pro Kabaddi League in June 2016

Kohli invested in Indian Super League club FC Goa, which he co-owned as of 2024. Beyond the realm of cricket, this venture served as a future business opportunity for him, as he sought to diversify his portfolio after retirement from the sport.^[126] In November 2014, Kohli partnered with Anjana Reddy's *Universal Sportsbiz (USPL)* to launch the youth fashion brand *WROGN*. The brand specialized in men's casual wear clothing and entered into collaborations with retail outlets such as Myntra and Shopper's Stop.^[127] Additionally, in late 2014, Kohli became a shareholder and brand ambassador for the London-based social networking venture "Sport Convo". His involvement aimed to promote and raise awareness of the platform, which was focused on providing a space for sports fans to connect and engage with one another.^[128]

In 2015, Kohli invested a sum of ₹90 crore (US\$11 million) towards the establishment of a chain of health clubs and fitness centers throughout India. Dubbed as "*Chisel*", the network of gyms was established through a joint venture between Kohli, Chisel India, and CSE (Cornerstone Sport and Entertainment), the organization responsible for managing Kohli's commercial pursuits.^[129] In September of the same year, Kohli expanded his portfolio of sports-related investments by becoming a co-owner of the International Premier Tennis League franchise, UAE Royals.^[130] In quick succession, he also became a co-owner of the JSW-owned Bengaluru Yodhas franchise in the Pro Wrestling League.^[131]

In the year 2016, Kohli joined forces with *Stepathlon Lifestyle* to launch Stepathlon Kids. The initiative aimed to encourage young individuals to adopt healthy lifestyle habits and inculcate the love for physical activity.^[132]

In 2017, Kohli entered into a partnership with the German sportswear brand, Puma, to launch his athletic lifestyle brand, *One8*. This brand offers a range of sport-related apparel, footwear, and accessories.^[133] That same year, Kohli also established Nueva, a fine dining establishment located in New Delhi. The restaurant features a South American-inspired decor accentuated with Native American artwork, providing a distinctive culinary setting.^[134] Kohli also established *One8 Commune*, a chain of restaurant-bars. This marked his inaugural foray into the food and beverage industry. The first outlet of this restaurant was launched in 2017.^[135]

In 2022, Kohli and his spouse made an investment of ₹2.5 crore (equivalent to ₹2.9 crore or US\$350,000 in 2023) in *Digit*, an insurance-based startup.^[136] Additionally, they also extended their support to *Blue Tribe*, a startup that specializes in the production and distribution of plant-

based meat products. Driven by his own inclination towards a plant-based diet, Kohli aims to raise awareness and encourage individuals to adopt more sustainable and environmentally conscious practices.^[137]

Philanthropy

In 2013, Kohli founded the "Virat Kohli Foundation" with a philanthropic objective to support underprivileged children.^[138] The foundation collaborates with a selected group of NGOs to increase awareness and gather support for various causes that are instrumental in advancing their mission of promoting the welfare and well-being of these children.^{[139][140]} In 2014, the foundation participated in a charity auction organized by eBay and Save the Children India, the proceeds of which were directed towards the education and healthcare of underprivileged children.^[141]



Virat Kohli at charity dinner for Smile Foundation

Kohli's foundation has organized several charity events to raise funds for its causes, including football matches featuring Indian cricketers and Bollywood actors. The first such event was a celebrity football match in collaboration with Abhishek Bachchan's charity foundation, which drew media attention and was raised funds.^[142] In this match, Kohli captained the All Hearts FC against the All Stars FC, led by Abhishek Bachchan.^[143] Another charity football match, dubbed the "Celebrity Clasico", was held in June 2016 in Mumbai, with Kohli again leading the All Hearts FC against the All Stars FC, captained by Ranbir Kapoor.^[144]

In 2016, the Virat Kohli Foundation entered into a partnership with Smile Foundation to promote the empowerment of underprivileged children and young people. To kickstart this initiative, Kohli organized a philanthropic dinner at Grand Hyatt, Mumbai, with cricket players such as MS Dhoni, Shikhar Dhawan, Yuvraj Singh, Ajinkya Rahane, and KL Rahul to support the cause of child and youth empowerment.^[145] To advance the goals of the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), which aims at creating a cleaner India, Kohli and the Indian cricket team, in collaboration with Anurag Thakur, undertook a cleaning initiative at the Eden Gardens on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti of 2016.^[146]

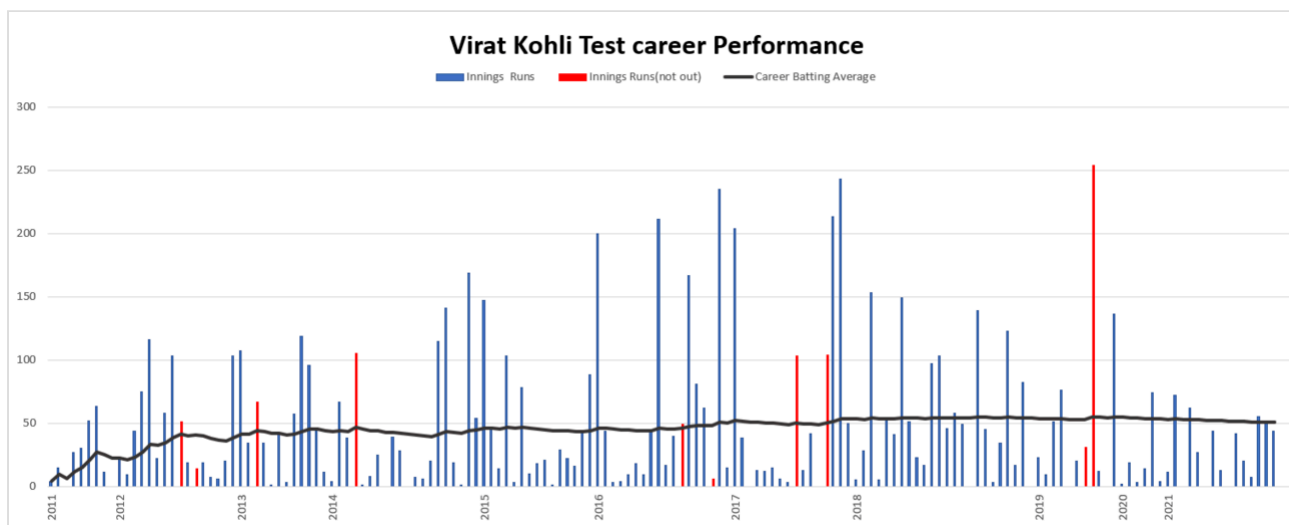
Prior to a match against Sri Lanka in the 2017 Champions Trophy, Kohli hosted a benevolent gala event in London in support of the Justice and Care organization. The ball was arranged with the objective of increasing both funds and awareness for the humanitarian cause championed by Justice and Care. The organization endeavors to combat human trafficking and contemporary slavery.^[147] In 2017, Kohli established the Athlete Development Programme (ADP) as a platform for nurturing and supporting aspiring young athletes. This initiative provides guidance to young athletes in areas such as coaching, training, fitness, competition, and nutrition. The program has been used by young sports persons, including tennis player Swastika Ghosh and golfer Aadil Bedi.^[148]

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020, Kohli and his wife Anushka Sharma pledged donations to the PM CARES Fund and the Maharashtra CM Relief Fund.^[149] Through his support of Awaaz, Kohli seeks to provide comprehensive medical services, shelter, and sustenance to stray animals.^[150]

Career summary

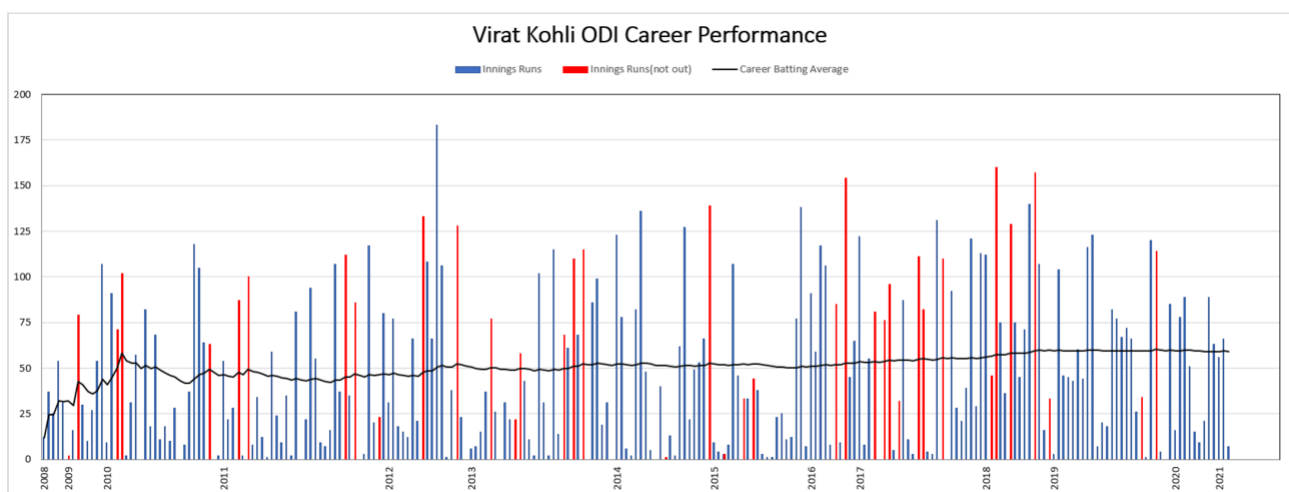
Kohli has made 81 centuries which includes 7 double centuries in international cricket—30 centuries including 7 double centuries in Test cricket, 50 centuries in One Day Internationals (ODIs) surpassing the record of Sachin Tendulkar, and 1 century in T20I.^[151]

Test match performance



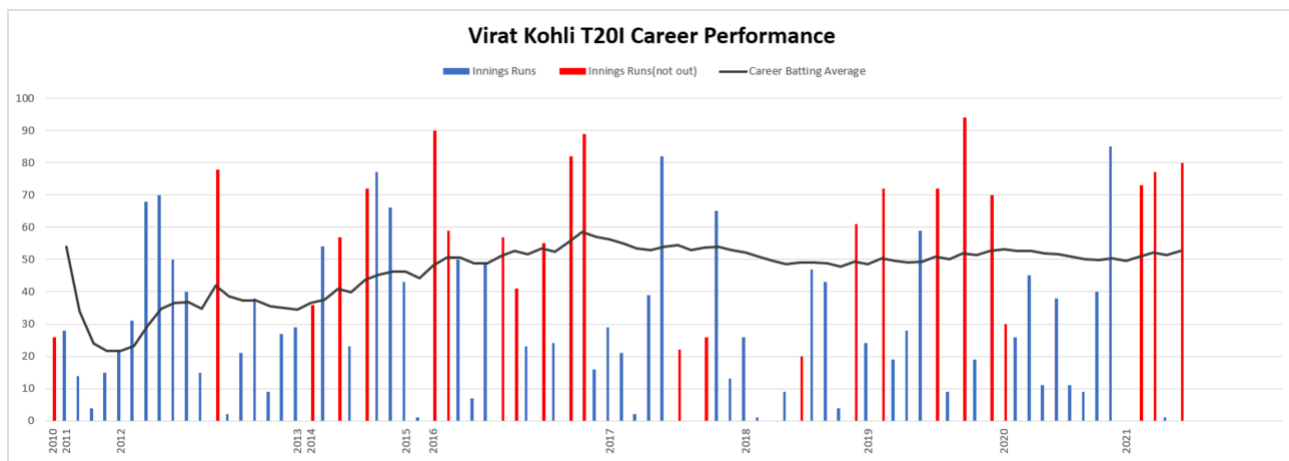
An innings-by-innings breakdown of Kohli's Test batting career, showing runs scored (blue and red (not out) bars) and the black line is his career batting average.

ODI match performance



An innings-by-innings breakdown of Kohli's ODI batting career, showing runs scored (blue and red (not out) bars) and the black line is his career batting average.

T20I match performance



An innings-by-innings breakdown of Kohli's T20I batting career, showing runs scored (blue and red (not out) bars) and the black line is his career batting average.

Kohli is the only cricketer to have been named the Player of the Tournament in the T20 World Cup on two separate occasions, in 2014 and 2016.^[152] In terms of ODI centuries, he ranks first with 50.^[153] He surpassed Sachin Tendulkar's tally of 49 ODI tons and achieved this feat on 15 November 2023 in the semifinal of the 2023 Cricket World Cup, while also becoming the first player to score more than 700 runs in a single edition of the tournament.^[154] Furthermore, in international cricket, Kohli has amassed 80 centuries, second only to Sachin Tendulkar's 100 centuries.^[155] In 2018, Kohli set a record, becoming the first player to score 1,000 ODI runs in 11 innings in a calendar year.^[156] In 2022, he achieved another milestone by scoring 1,000 runs in the ICC Men's T20 World Cup, becoming the second player to reach this feat after Mahela Jayawardene.^[157] During the match against Bangladesh, he became the top-scorer in the history of T20 World Cup.^[158]

Test records

- Most wins as captain of India, with 40 wins out of 68 matches^[159]
- Four Test double-hundreds in four consecutive series^[160]

ODI records

- Most ODI centuries (50)
- Most ODI centuries while chasing (27)^[161]
- Most ODI centuries in India (22)^[162]
- **Fastest to** -^[c] 8,000 runs (175 innings),^[163] 9,000 runs (194 innings),^[164] 10,000 runs (205 innings),^[165] 11,000 runs (222 innings),^[166] 12,000 runs (242 innings),^[167] and 13,000 runs (267 innings)

T20I records

- Highest career batting average in T20I – 48.69.^[168]
- **Fastest to** - 3,000 runs (81 innings),^[169] 3,500 runs (96 innings),^{[170][171]} and 4,000 runs (107 innings)


- Most Player of the Match awards (15 times)^[172] and Player of the Series awards (7 times)^{[170][173]}

IPL records

- Most runs in Indian Premier League (8,004)^[174]
- Most runs in a single edition of IPL (973 runs in 2016).^[175]
- Only player to be involved in three double-century plus stands, two times with AB de Villiers and once with Chris Gayle.^[176]
- Most runs against Delhi Capitals (1,030).^[177]
- Most hundreds in the league (8)^[178] and in a single season (4)^[175]

Honours

National honours

- 2013 – Arjuna Award, second highest sporting honour.^[179]
- 2017 –  Padma Shri, India's fourth highest civilian award.^[180]
- 2018 – Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, India's highest sporting honour.^[181]

Sporting honours

- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy (ICC Men's Cricketer of the Decade): 2011–2020^[182]
- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy (ICC Cricketer of the Year): 2017,^[183] 2018^[184]
- ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Decade: 2011–2020^[185]
- ICC ODI Player of the Year: 2012,^[186] 2017,^[183] 2018,^[184] 2023^[187]
- ICC Test Player of the Year: 2018^[184]
- ICC ODI Team of the Year: 2012,^[188] 2014, 2016 (captain),^[189] 2017 (captain),^[183] 2018 (captain),^[184] 2019 (captain),^[190] 2023^[191]
- ICC Test Team of the Year: 2017 (captain),^[183] 2018 (captain),^[184] 2019 (captain)^[190]
- ICC Men's T20I Team of the Year: 2022^[192]
- ICC Spirit of Cricket: 2019^[193]
- ICC Men's Test Team of the Decade: 2011–2020 (captain)^[194]
- ICC Men's ODI Team of the Decade: 2011–2020^[195]
- ICC Men's T20I Team of the Decade: 2011–2020^[195]
- Polly Umrigar Award for International Cricketer of the Year: 2011–12, 2014–15, 2015–16, 2016–17, 2017–18^[196]
- Wisden Leading Cricketer in the World: 2016, 2017, 2018^[197]
- ICC Men's Player of the Month: October 2022^[198]
- CEAT International Cricketer of the Year: 2011–12, 2013–14,^[199] 2017–18, 2018–19^[200]
- Indian Premier League Orange Cap for most runs: 2016,^[201] 2024^[202]
- Barmy Army – International Player of Year: 2017, 2018^[203]

- [ESPNcricinfo](#) – ODI Batting Performance of the Year: 2012^[204]

Other honours and awards

- [People's Choice Awards India](#) for Favourite Sportsperson: 2012^[205]
- [GQ Sportsman of the year](#): 2013^[206]
- [CNN-News18 Indian of the Year](#): 2017^[207]
- [People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals \(PETA\)](#) India's Person of the Year: 2019^[208]
- [Delhi & District Cricket Association \(DDCA\)](#) renamed a stand after Kohli at [Feroz Shah Kotla, Delhi](#).^[108]

Gallery

See also

- [Sports in India](#) – Overview of sport in India
- [List of players who have scored 10,000 or more runs in One Day International cricket](#)
- [List of cricketers by number of international centuries scored](#)
- [List of cricketers who have scored centuries in both innings of a Test match](#)
- [List of cricketers with centuries in all international formats](#)
- [List of most-followed Instagram accounts](#)

Notes

- During a certain phase in his career, Kohli acquired the moniker *Cheeku*. One evening, Kohli availed himself of the services of a nearby salon and underwent a makeover. Upon displaying his new appearance to his colleagues, Kohli's assistant coach, Ajit Chowdhary, made a humorous comparison between Kohli's appearance and that of "Chikoo," a character from the popular Indian comic book, *Champak*.^[1]
- In recognition of this achievement, [Gautam Gambhir](#), who scored 150 not out in the match and received the player of the match award, graciously passed on the award to Kohli.
- He is also the second fastest to 5000, 6000, and 7000 runs after [Hashim Amla](#)



Kohli receiving the [Arjuna Award](#) from President [Pranab Mukherjee](#) in August 2013



Kohli receiving the Padma Shri award from President [Pranab Mukherjee](#) in March 2017

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Kohli receiving the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award from President Ram Nath Kovind in September 2018



Kohli meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi in 2017



Kohli with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi on July 4, 2024

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External links

- Official website (<https://www.viratkohli.foundation>)
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 - Virat Kohli (<https://www.instagram.com/virat.kohli/>) on Instagram
 - Virat Kohli (<https://x.com/imVkohli>) on Twitter
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