Mimikyu

Mimikyu (/ˈmɪmikjuː/), known in Japan as Mimikkyu (ミミッキュ), is a Pokémon species in Nintendo and Game Freak's Pokémon franchise. Designed by Ken Sugimori and first introduced in Pokémon Sun and Moon, it is referred to as the "Disguise Pokémon," as it is a Pokémon that disguises itself to look like a Pikachu to make friends. Its name is a pun of "mimic you." Mimikyu received positive reviews from critics.

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Design and characteristics

Mimikyu is a small Pokémon, standing at only 8 inches (0.2 m) tall, and is hidden almost entirely underneath a disguise. It has beady black eyes which can be seen through its disguise, and a vague semblance of a lower body can be seen at the hem of its costume. It will occasionally extend a black appendage from beneath the disguise, which has black eyes, red cheeks, a squiggly black mouth, a lightning bolt-shaped stick that resembles a tail, and ears that are colored black on the top. Mimikyu is lonely, and in an

Mimikyu Pokémon series character **National Pokédex** Togedemaru – Mimikyu (#778) – Bruxish **First** Pokémon Sun and game Moon Designed Ken Sugimori by Voiced Billy Bob Thompson (English, Jessie's) by Sarah Natochenny (English, Acerola's) Daisuke Namikawa (Japanese, Jessie's) Kei Shindō (Japanese, Acerola's)

effort to emulate the popularity of Pikachu, wears its Pikachu-like costume in order to make friends. Mimikyu is drawn to dark or dimly lit areas, and its health will decline if exposed to sunlight. 1

Appearances

In the video games

Mimikyu appears in <u>Pokémon Sun and Moon</u> as a dual-type Ghost/Fairy Pokémon. [2] It changes its appearance when hit by an attack. Its special ability, "Disguise", allows it to avoid damage from an enemy attack once during a battle. In <u>Ultra Sun and Ultra Moon</u>, Mimikyu can use an exclusive Z-move called

"Let's Snuggle Forever", a Fairy-type move that requires Mimikyu to know the move Play Rough and hold a Mimikium Z. [3] It can be found on Ula'ula Island in the Abandoned Thrifty Mega mart. [4] Mimikyu appears in $\underline{Pok\acute{e}mon\ Sword\ and\ Shield\ }$ during foggy weather, in a section of the Wild Area named Giant's Mirror. [5] It is one of the Poke Ball Pokémon in $\underline{Super\ Smash\ Bros.\ Ultimate\ }$, which captures a fighter when summoned. Mimikyu also appears as a Spirit. If its Spirit is equipped, the fighter will start the match with a Death's Scythe. [6] Mimikyu also appears in $\underline{Pok\acute{e}mon\ Rumble\ Rush\ }$, $\underline{Pok\acute{e}mon\ Shuffle\ }$, $\underline{Pok\acute{e}mon\ Shuffle$

In the anime

Mimikyu appears in the <u>anime Pokémon: Sun & Moon</u>, it was encountered by <u>Jessie</u>, <u>James</u> and Meowth of <u>Team Rocket</u>. Meowth, being able to understand Mimikyu, is terrified by the unheard horrifying things it says. When the two of them begin to battle, Meowth lifts Mimikyu's disguise, nearly killing himself with the sight of Mimikyu's true form. [9] It later allies with <u>Team Rocket</u> when it sees them fighting <u>Ash Ketchum</u>'s <u>Pikachu</u>, expressing its hatred of Pikachu as the reason it emulates the Pokémon's appearance. [10]

Other appearances

Mimikyu appears in its own <u>music video</u> that was uploaded to the official Pokémon <u>YouTube</u> channel, rapping a song about itself in Japanese. [11][12] Mimikyu starred alongside <u>Scraggy</u> in a <u>Looney Tunes</u>-styled animation short uploaded to the Japanese Pokémon Kids TV YouTube channel. [13] Mimikyu also made a short appearance in the anime <u>Pokémon Journeys: The Series</u>. In the episode titled "That New Old Gang of Mine!", as Ash and Pikachu are searching for their friend Goh, you can see Mimikyu in the foreground carrying a Pinap berry. Mimikyu is accompanied by Bewear, Stufful, and Mareanie. [14]

Reception

Kotaku called Mimikyu the "most brilliant and heartbreaking" Pokémon that Game Freak had created, noting the Pokémon's large Internet following. [15] Catrina Dennis of *Inverse* also observed this following. stating that fans had grown "obsessed" over it and that it pulled on their heartstrings. [16] Janine Hawkins of Paste explained the online attention as being a result of the character's design, writing that "fans have embraced the creature expressly because of [its] overt vulnerability [...] Mimikyu was designed to emotionally compel us, and they've already been a huge success". [17] Allegra Frank of Polygon, David Lozada of *GameRevolution*, and Patricia Hernandez of *Kotaku* all stated that Mimikyu in the *Pokémon Sun* and Moon anime is the scariest and terrifying Pokémon. [18][19][20] Michael Derosa of Screen Rant ranked Mimikyu as second of 10 Generation VII Pokémon that make no sense, and stating that it must be quite terrifying, but it would have made more sense to show what it looks like though. [21] David Cabalerro of *Screen Rant* ranked Mimikyu as seventh coolest ghost-type Pokémon. [22] Cody Orme wanted Mimikyu to appear as a cameo on the film *Detective Pikachu*, and claimed it was the one of the most sympathetic Pokémon ever made. [23] Kevin Slackie of *Paste* also listed Mimikyu as the 8th best Pokémon. [24] Dale Bishir of *IGN* described Mimikyu as the most important Pokémon that impacted the franchise's history, and further stated that this Pokémon provided meta-commentary on its popularity, which ironically made Mimikyu a pretty popular Pokémon in its own right. [25] Dennis Carden of Destructoid claimed that Mimikyu is the best Pokémon, stating that Mimikyu is both useful during gameplay while also being "pretty damn cute". [26] BJ Colangelo of *Syfy* described Mimikyu as having a dark and disturbing origin, stating that "this poor little Pokémon is based on the Bugul Noz, a Breton myth of a kind fairy spirit that is so ugly, it's perpetually alone because no one wants to look at it."[27]

<u>Destructoid</u> listed Mimikyu as one of its staff's favorite Alolan Pokémon, stating that it is "probably going to be the star of Gen VII for a lot of people". Allegra Frank of <u>Polygon</u> wrote that Mimikyu "may be one of the most unique, cutest Pokémon to ever join the series", and Jessica Lachenal of <u>The Mary Sue</u> wrote that "Mimikyu is as mysterious as it is adorable". Sy Shinkle of <u>Screen Rant included Mimikyu</u> as one of the creepiest Pokémon from "Gen 1 to <u>Sword & Shield</u>", and stated that its true form is so terrifying that it's enough to shock people to death. In 2019, the Pokémon Company dedicated the month of October to Mimikyu, paying homage to "this lonely, terrifying Pokémon - who really just wants to snuggle". In the <u>Pokémon of the Year poll held by The Pokémon Company</u>, Mimikyu was voted the most popular Generation VII Pokémon, receiving <u>99,077 votes</u>, placing it 3rd overall in the competition. The <u>A.V. Club</u> stated that when Mimikyu was looking for Pikachu disguise, it was "obviously amazing".

Merchandise

Mimikyu prize items were sold in retail shops in Japan beginning on September 22, 2018. On October 8, 2018, it was announced that <u>Bandai</u> would release a Mimikyu plush doll in January of the following year. A special Ditto-Mimikyu plush, with the former Pokémon imitating the latter, was released alongside four other Ditto imitation plushes. In 2020, a gold, silver, and platinum necklace of Mimikyu was created by U-treasure. A Halloween Mimikyu themed meal was also released during the same year.

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- Mimikyu on Pokemon.com (https://www.pokemon.com/us/pokedex/mimikyu)
- 【公式】『ポケットモンスター サン・ムーン』 ミミッキュのうた (Official "Pokémon Sun and Moon" Song of Mimikyu) (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pi7g9LbBv8A&t=6s)

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