**Bill Gates**

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Full Name : William Henry Gates III

Date of Birth : October 28, 1955 (age 69)

Place of Birth : Seattle, Washington, U.S.

Education : Harvard University (dropped out)

Spouse : Melinda French

​ ​(m. 1994; div. 2021)​

Children : 3

Parents : Bill Gates Sr., Mary Maxwell

**Professional Summary**

Visionary entrepreneur, technologist, and philanthropist with a proven track record of revolutionizing the technology industry and addressing global challenges. Co-founder of Microsoft, the world’s leading software company, and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, one of the largest private charitable organizations. Recognized for innovation, leadership, and commitment to improving lives worldwide.

**Key Achievements**

* Co-founded Microsoft in 1975, transforming it into a global leader in software development and personal computing.
* Played a pivotal role in the development of the Windows operating system, which became the most widely used OS worldwide.
* As CEO of Microsoft (1975–2000), grew the company’s market value to over $600 billion.
* Authored *The Road Ahead* (1995) and *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster* (2021), sharing insights on technology and global challenges.
* Co-founded the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2000, committing over $50 billion to initiatives in global health, education, and poverty alleviation.
* Spearheaded efforts to eradicate polio, reduce malaria, and improve access to vaccines in developing countries.
* Ranked among the world’s wealthiest individuals and consistently recognized for philanthropic impact.

**Professional Experience**

**Co-Chair**  
*Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation* | 2000 – Present

* Oversee the foundation’s strategy and investments in global health, education, and climate change.
* Partner with governments, NGOs, and private sector leaders to address pressing global issues.
* Launched initiatives such as Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria.

**Co-Founder and Former CEO**  
*Microsoft Corporation* | 1975 – 2000

* Built Microsoft into a global technology powerhouse, pioneering software solutions like MS-DOS and Windows.
* Led the company’s expansion into new markets, including productivity software (Microsoft Office) and gaming (Xbox).
* Championed innovation in cloud computing, artificial intelligence, and enterprise software.

**Chairman and Chief Software Architect**  
*Microsoft Corporation* | 2000 – 2014

* Guided the company’s long-term technology vision and product development.
* Played a key role in the launch of Windows XP, Windows 7, and Microsoft Azure.

**Advisor**  
*Microsoft Corporation* | 2014 – 2020

* Provided strategic guidance to Microsoft’s leadership team, focusing on innovation and corporate responsibility.

**Education**

**Harvard University**  
*Attended 1973–1975*  
Studied mathematics and computer science before leaving to pursue Microsoft.

**Lakeside School**  
*Graduated 1973*  
Developed an early interest in programming and technology.

**Skills**

* Strategic Leadership
* Technology Innovation
* Global Health Advocacy
* Public Speaking
* Philanthropy and Social Impact
* Business Development

**Awards and Honors**

* Presidential Medal of Freedom (2016)
* Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire (KBE) (2005)
* Time Magazine’s Person of the Year (2005, with Melinda Gates and Bono)
* Forbes List of the World’s Most Powerful People (Multiple Years)
* Honorary Doctorates from Harvard University, Cambridge University, and others

**Publications**

* *The Road Ahead* (1995)
* *Business @ the Speed of Thought* (1999)
* *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster* (2021)

**Philanthropic Initiatives**

* **Global Health**: Funded research and delivery of vaccines, diagnostics, and treatments for diseases like HIV, malaria, and tuberculosis.
* **Education**: Supported initiatives to improve K-12 education and expand access to higher education in the U.S.
* **Climate Change**: Invested in clean energy technologies and advocated for policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.