[Template:Redirect](/wiki/Template:Redirect" \o "Template:Redirect) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Infobox television](/wiki/Template:Infobox_television)

***Jeopardy!*** is an American television [game show](/wiki/Game_show) created by [Merv Griffin](/wiki/Merv_Griffin). The show features a [quiz](/wiki/Quiz) competition in which contestants are presented with [general knowledge](/wiki/General_knowledge) clues in the form of answers, and must phrase their responses in the form of questions. The original daytime version debuted on [NBC](/wiki/NBC) on March 30, 1964, and aired until January 3, 1975. A weekly nighttime [syndicated](/wiki/Broadcast_syndication) edition aired from September 1974 to September 1975, and a revival, *The All-New Jeopardy!*, ran on NBC from October 1978 to March 1979. A daily syndicated version premiered on September 10, 1984, and is still airing, making it by far the program's most successful incarnation.

Both NBC versions and the weekly syndicated version were hosted by [Art Fleming](/wiki/Art_Fleming). [Don Pardo](/wiki/Don_Pardo) served as announcer until 1975, and [John Harlan](/wiki/John_Harlan_(announcer)) announced for the 1978–79 show. Since its inception, the daily syndicated version has featured [Alex Trebek](/wiki/Alex_Trebek) as host and [Johnny Gilbert](/wiki/Johnny_Gilbert) as announcer.

With 7,000 episodes aired,[[1]](#cite_note-1) the daily syndicated version of *Jeopardy!* has won a record 31 [Daytime Emmy Awards](/wiki/Daytime_Emmy_Award) and is the only post-1960 game show to be honored with the [Peabody Award](/wiki/Peabody_Award). In 2013, the program was ranked No. 45 on [*TV Guide*](/wiki/TV_Guide)[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') list of the 60 greatest shows in American television history. *Jeopardy!* has also gained a worldwide following with [regional adaptations](/wiki/Jeopardy!_broadcast_information#International_adaptations) in many other countries. The daily syndicated series' 32nd season premiered on September 14, 2015.

[Template:TOC limit](/wiki/Template:TOC_limit)

## Contents

* 1 Gameplay[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]
  + 1.1 First two rounds[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]
  + 1.2 Final Jeopardy![[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]
  + 1.3 Winnings[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]
  + 1.4 Returning champions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]
  + 1.5 Variations for tournament play[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]
* 2 Conception and development[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]
* 3 Personnel[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]
  + 3.1 Hosts and announcers[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]
  + 3.2 Clue Crew[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]
  + 3.3 Production staff[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]
* 4 Production[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]
  + 4.1 Set[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]
  + 4.2 Theme music[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]
  + 4.3 Audition process[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]
* 5 Broadcast history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]
  + 5.1 Archived episodes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]
* 6 Reception[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]
* 7 Tournaments and other events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]
  + 7.1 Regular events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]
  + 7.2 Special events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]
* 8 Record holders[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]
* 9 Other media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]
  + 9.1 Portrayals and parodies[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]
  + 9.2 Merchandise[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]
  + 9.3 Internet[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]
* 10 References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]
  + 10.1 Bibliography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]
* 11 External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

## Gameplay[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

Three contestants each take their place behind a lectern, with the returning champion occupying the leftmost lectern (from the viewer's perspective). The contestants compete in a quiz game comprising three rounds: Jeopardy!, Double Jeopardy!, and Final Jeopardy!.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The material for the questions covers a wide variety of topics, including history and current events, the sciences, the arts, popular culture, literature, and languages.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Category titles often feature puns, wordplay, or shared themes, and the host will regularly remind contestants of topics or place emphasis on category themes before the start of the round.

### First two rounds[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[thumb|255px|left|The layout of the *Jeopardy!* game board since November 26, 2001, showing the dollar values used in the first round](/wiki/File:Jeopardy_game_board.png)

The Jeopardy! and Double Jeopardy! rounds each feature six categories, each of which contains five clues, which are ostensibly valued by difficulty.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The dollar values of the clues increased over time. On the original *Jeopardy!* series, clue values in the first round ranged from $10 to $50.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) On *The All-New Jeopardy!*, they ranged from $25 to $125. The current series' first round originally ranged from $100 to $500,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) and were doubled to $200 to $1,000 on November 26, 2001.[[2]](#cite_note-2) On the *Super Jeopardy!* specials, clues were valued in points rather than in dollars, and ranged in the first round from 200 to 1,000 points.

The Jeopardy! round begins when the returning champion selects a clue, which may be from any position on the game board. The clue is revealed and read aloud by the host, after which any contestant may ring-in using a [hand-held signaling device](/wiki/Lock-out_device). The first contestant to ring-in successfully is prompted to provide a response to the clue, phrased in the form of a question.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) For example, if a contestant were to select "Presidents for $200", the resulting clue could be "This 'Father of Our Country' didn't really chop down a cherry tree", to which the correct response would be "Who is/was [George Washington](/wiki/George_Washington)?" (Contestants are free to phrase the response in the form of any question; the traditional phrasing of "who is/are" for people or "what is/are" for things or words is almost always used.) If the contestant responds correctly, the clue's dollar value is added to the contestant's score, and they may select a new clue from the board. An incorrect response, or a failure to respond within five seconds, deducts the clue's value from the contestant's score and allows the other contestants the opportunity to ring-in and respond.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) If no contestant responds correctly, the host gives the correct response; the "last correct questioner" chooses the next clue.[[3]](#cite_note-3) From the premiere of the original *Jeopardy!* until the end of the first season of the current syndicated series, contestants were allowed to ring-in as soon as the clue was revealed. Since September 1985, contestants are required to wait until the clue is read before ringing-in. To accommodate the rule change, lights were added to the game board (unseen by home viewers) to signify when it is permissible for contestants to signal;[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) attempting to signal before the light goes on locks the contestant out for half of a second.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The change was made to allow the home audience to play along with the show more easily and to keep an extremely fast contestant from potentially dominating the game. In pre-1985 episodes, a buzzer would sound when a contestant signaled; according to Trebek, the buzzer was eliminated because it was "distracting to the viewers" and sometimes presented a problem when contestants rang in while Trebek was still reading the clue.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Contestants who are visually impaired or blind are given a card with the category names printed in [Braille](/wiki/Braille) before each round begins, and an audible tone is played after the clue has been read aloud.

The second round, Double Jeopardy!, features six new categories of clues. Clue values are doubled from the Jeopardy! round[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) (except in *Super Jeopardy!*, where Double Jeopardy! values ranged from 500 to 2,500 points). The contestant with the least money at the end of the Jeopardy! round makes the first selection in Double Jeopardy!;[[3]](#cite_note-3) if there is a tie, the tied contestant standing at the leftmost lectern selects first.

A "Daily Double" is hidden behind one clue in the Jeopardy! round, and behind two in Double Jeopardy![Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The name and inspiration were taken from a [horse racing](/wiki/Horse_racing) [term](/wiki/Daily_double).[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Only the contestant who uncovers a Daily Double may respond to that clue and need not use his/her signaling device to do so. Before the clue is revealed, the contestant must declare a wager, from a minimum of $5 to a maximum of his/her entire score (known as a "true Daily Double") or the highest clue value available in the round, whichever is greater.[[3]](#cite_note-3) A correct response adds the value of the wager to the contestant's score, while an incorrect response deducts it. Whether or not the contestant responds correctly, he or she maintains control of the board.[[3]](#cite_note-3) During the Jeopardy! round, except in response to the Daily Double clue, contestants are not penalized for forgetting to phrase their response in the form of a question, although the host will remind contestants to watch their phrasing in future responses. In the Double Jeopardy! round and in the Daily Double in the Jeopardy! round, the phrasing rule is followed more strictly, with a response not phrased in the form of a question counting as wrong if it is not re-phrased immediately. If it is determined that a previous response was wrongly ruled to be correct or incorrect, the scores are adjusted at the first available opportunity. If, after a game is over, a ruling change is made that would have significantly altered the outcome of the game, the affected contestant(s) are invited back to compete on a future show.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

Contestants who finish Double Jeopardy! with $0 or a negative score are automatically eliminated from the game at that point and awarded the third place prize. On at least one episode hosted by Art Fleming, all three contestants finished Double Jeopardy! with $0 or less, and as a result, no Final Jeopardy! round was played.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) During *Celebrity Jeopardy!* games, contestants with a $0 or negative score are given $1,000 for the Final Jeopardy! round.

### Final Jeopardy![[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

The Final Jeopardy! round features a single clue. At the end of the Double Jeopardy! round, the host announces the Final Jeopardy! category, and a commercial break follows. During the break, barriers are placed between the contestant lecterns, and each contestant makes a final wager between $0 and his/her entire score. Contestants enter their wagers using a [light pen](/wiki/Light_pen) to write on an electronic display on their lectern.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) After the break, the Final Jeopardy! clue is revealed and read by the host. The contestants have 30 seconds to write their responses on the electronic display, while the show's iconic ["Think!" music](/wiki/Jeopardy!#Theme_music) plays in the background. In the event that either the display or the pen malfunctions, contestants can use an [index card](/wiki/Index_card) and a marker to manually write their response and wager. Visually impaired or blind contestants use a [Braille](/wiki/Braille) keyboard to type in a wager and response.

Contestants' responses are revealed in order of their pre-Final Jeopardy! scores, from lowest to highest. A correct response adds the amount of the contestant's wager to his/her score, while a miss, failure to respond, or failure to phrase the response as a question (even if correct) deducts it.[[3]](#cite_note-3) The contestant with the highest score at the end of the round is that day's winner. If there is a tie for second place, consolation prizes are awarded based on the scores going into the Final Jeopardy! round. If all three contestants finish with $0, no one returns as champion for the next show, and based on scores going into the Final Jeopardy! round, the two contestants who were first and second will receive the second-place prize, and the contestant in third will receive the third-place prize.

### Winnings[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

The top scorer(s) in each game retain the value of their winnings in cash, and return to play in the next match.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Non-winners receive consolation prizes. Since May 16, 2002, consolation prizes have been $2,000 for the second-place contestant(s) and $1,000 for the third-place contestant.[[4]](#cite_note-4) Since the show does not generally provide airfare or lodging for contestants, cash consolation prizes alleviate contestants' financial burden. An exception is provided for returning champions who must make several flights to Los Angeles.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

Before 1984, all three contestants received their winnings in cash (contestants who finished with $0 or a negative score received consolation prizes). This was changed in order to make the game more competitive, and avoid the problem of contestants who would stop participating in the game, or avoid wagering in Final Jeopardy!, rather than risk losing the money they had already won.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) From 1984 to 2002, non-winning contestants on the Trebek version received vacation packages and merchandise, which were donated by manufacturers as promotional consideration. The current cash consolation prize is provided by Aleve.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

### Returning champions[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

The winner of each episode returns to compete against two new contestants on the next episode. Originally, a contestant who won five consecutive days retired undefeated and was guaranteed a spot in the Tournament of Champions; the five-day limit was eliminated at the beginning of season 20 on September 8, 2003.[[5]](#cite_note-5) Ties for first place following Final Jeopardy! are broken with a tie-breaker clue, resulting in only a single champion being named, keeping their winnings, and returning to compete in the next show.[[6]](#cite_note-6) Previously, if two or all three contestants tied for first place, they were declared "co-champions", and each retained his or her winnings and returned on the following episode. A tie occurred on the January 29, 2014 episode when [Arthur Chu](/wiki/Arthur_Chu), leading at the end of Double Jeopardy!, wagered to tie challenger Carolyn Collins rather than winning; Chu followed *Jeopardy!* College Champion Keith Williams's advice to wager for the tie to increase the leader's chances of winning.[[7]](#cite_note-7)[[8]](#cite_note-8) A three-way tie for first place has only occurred once on the Trebek version, on March 16, 2007, when Scott Weiss, Jamey Kirby, and Anders Martinson all ended the game with $16,000.[[9]](#cite_note-9) If no contestant finishes Final Jeopardy! with a positive total, there is no winner. This has happened on several episodes,[[10]](#cite_note-10)[[11]](#cite_note-11) most recently on January 18, 2016.[[12]](#cite_note-12) Three new contestants appear on the next episode. A triple zero has also occurred twice in tournament play (1990 Seniors and 2013 Teen), and also once in a Celebrity Week episode in 1998.[[13]](#cite_note-13) In Celebrity play, the full first, second, and third place prize money for charities is given based on the score before the round. In tournament play, an additional high scoring non-winner will advance to the next round.

Special considerations have been given for contestants who were unable to return as champion because of circumstances beyond their control, especially when there is a considerable time between taping of episodes. This occurred for the first time in season 25, when Priscilla Ball, who won on January 16, 2009, was unable to attend the taping of the next episode because of illness; as a result, three new contestants appeared on the next episode.[[14]](#cite_note-14) Ball returned as a co-champion to play on the episode airing April 9, 2009.[[15]](#cite_note-15) On the episode aired December 21, 2015, the returning champion, Claudia Corriere, could not return as champion because of a job offered in the weeks between tapings, so three new contestants played that day as well.[[16]](#cite_note-16) Corriere returned as a co-champion on the January 18, 2016 episode, but was eliminated in a three-way loss.

Typically, the two challengers participate in a backstage draw to determine lectern positions. In all situations with three new contestants, the draw will also determine who will take the champion's position and select first to start the game.

### Variations for tournament play[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

Tournaments generally run for 10 consecutive episodes and feature 15 contestants. The first five episodes, the quarter-finals, feature three new contestants each day. The winners of these five games, and the four highest scoring non-winners ("wild cards"), advance to the semi-finals, which run for three days. The winners of these three games advance to play in a two-game final match, in which the scores from both games are combined to determine the overall standings. This format has been used since the first Tournament of Champions in 1985 and was devised by Trebek himself.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

If there is a tie for the final wild card position, the non-winner that advances will be based on the same regulations as two contestants who tie for second; the tie-breaker is the contestant's score after the Double Jeopardy! round, and if further tied, the score after the Jeopardy! round determines the contestant who advances as the wild card. In the rare case after the first round of the tournament, fewer than four non-winners have a positive score to advance to the second round, then the contestants who have a zero score after Final Jeopardy! will be ranked in the same procedure.

If two or more contestants have the same positive score at the end of match (first round, semi-final game, or end of a two-game final), a one-clue tiebreaker is used. The tied contestants are given a category, and then the clue. The first contestant to ring-in and respond correctly becomes that game's winner. Contestants are not eliminated for providing an incorrect response, and cannot win by default. If it takes multiple attempts to determine a winner, only the final clue will air.

If none of the contestants in a quarter-final or semi-final game end with a positive score, all three are provisionally eliminated and an additional wild card contestant advances instead.[[17]](#cite_note-17) This occurred in the quarter-finals of the 1991 Seniors Tournament and the semi-finals of the 2013 Teen Tournament.[[17]](#cite_note-17) If a finalist finishes Double Jeopardy! with a $0 or negative score on either day, that contestant is eliminated from Final Jeopardy! as usual for that leg of the two-legged tie only, and their score for that leg is recorded as $0. If any game of the finals ends in which no finalist finishes with a positive score, all scores for that day are recorded as $0. If, at the end of the finals, no finalist finishes with a positive score after combining the totals from the first and second games, the one-clue tiebreaker is played.

## Conception and development[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

In a 1964 [Associated Press](/wiki/Associated_Press) profile released shortly before the original *Jeopardy!* series premiered, [Merv Griffin](/wiki/Merv_Griffin) offered the following account of how he created the quiz show: [Template:Quote](/wiki/Template:Quote)

Griffin's first conception of the game used a board comprising ten categories with ten clues each, but after finding that this board could not easily be shown on camera, he reduced it to two rounds of thirty clues each, with five clues in each of six categories.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) He originally intended the show to require grammatically correct phrasing (e.g., only accepting "Who is..." for a person), but after finding that grammatical correction slowed the game down, he decided that the show should instead accept any correct response that was in question form.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Griffin discarded his initial title for the show, *What's the Question?*, when skeptical network executive Ed Vane rejected his original concept of the game, claiming, "It doesn't have enough [jeopardies](/wiki/Wikt:jeopardy)."[Template:SfnTemplate:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

*Jeopardy!* was not the first game show to give contestants the answers and require the questions. That format had previously been used by the [Gil Fates](/wiki/Gil_Fates)-hosted program [*CBS Television Quiz*](/wiki/CBS_Television_Quiz), which aired from July 1941 until May 1942.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

## Personnel[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

### Hosts and announcers[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

[Template:Multiple image](/wiki/Template:Multiple_image)

The first three versions of the show were hosted by [Art Fleming](/wiki/Art_Fleming). [Don Pardo](/wiki/Don_Pardo) served as announcer for the original NBC version and weekly syndicated version,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) but when NBC's revival *The All-New Jeopardy!* launched in 1978, Pardo's announcing duties were taken over by [John Harlan](/wiki/John_Harlan_(announcer)).[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

[Alex Trebek](/wiki/Alex_Trebek) has served as host of the daily syndicated version since it premiered in 1984,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) except when he switched places with *Wheel of Fortune* host [Pat Sajak](/wiki/Pat_Sajak) as an [April Fool's joke](/wiki/April_Fool's_joke) on the episode aired April 1, 1997.[[18]](#cite_note-18) His most recent contract renewal, from March 2015, takes his tenure through the 2017–18 season.[[19]](#cite_note-19) In the daily syndicated version's first pilot, from 1983, [Jay Stewart](/wiki/Jay_Stewart) served as the show's announcer,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) but [Johnny Gilbert](/wiki/Johnny_Gilbert) took over the role when that version was picked up as a series and has held it since then.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

### Clue Crew[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

[thumb|left|Kelly Miyahara of the Clue Crew at the](/wiki/File:Kelly_Miyahara.jpg) [International CES](/wiki/International_CES) in [Winchester, Nevada](/wiki/Winchester,_Nevada) The *Jeopardy!* Clue Crew, introduced on September 24, 2001, is a team of roving correspondents who appear in videos, recorded around the world, to narrate some clues.[[20]](#cite_note-20) Explaining why the Clue Crew was added to the show, executive producer [Harry Friedman](/wiki/Harry_Friedman) said, "TV is a visual medium, and the more visual we can make our clues, the more we think it will enhance the experience for the viewer."[[21]](#cite_note-21) Following the initial announcement of auditions for the team, over 5,000 people applied for Clue Crew posts.[[21]](#cite_note-21) The original Clue Crew members were Cheryl Farrell, Jimmy McGuire, Sofia Lidskog, and Sarah Whitcomb.[[20]](#cite_note-20) Lidskog departed the Clue Crew in 2004 to become an anchor on the high school news program [*Channel One News*](/wiki/Channel_One_News), and a search was held to replace her in early 2005.[[22]](#cite_note-22) The winners were Jon Cannon and Kelly Miyahara, who formally joined the crew starting in season 22, which premiered on September 12, 2005.[[23]](#cite_note-23) Farrell continued to record clues for episodes aired as late as October 2008,[[24]](#cite_note-24) and Cannon continued to appear until July 2009.[[25]](#cite_note-25) The Clue Crew has traveled to 280 cities worldwide, spanning all 50 of the United States and 44 other countries. In addition to appearing in *Jeopardy!* clue videos, the team's members also travel to meet fans of the show and future contestants. Occasionally, they visit schools to showcase the educational game [*Classroom Jeopardy!*](/wiki/Merchandise_based_on_Jeopardy!#Classroom_Jeopardy!)[[26]](#cite_note-26) Miyahara also serves as announcer for the *Sports Jeopardy!* spin-off series.[[27]](#cite_note-27)

### Production staff[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

Robert Rubin served as the producer of the original *Jeopardy!* series for most of its run, and later became its executive producer.[[28]](#cite_note-28) Following Rubin's promotion, the line producer was Lynette Williams.[[28]](#cite_note-28) Griffin was the daily syndicated version's executive producer until his retirement in 2000.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Trebek served as producer as well as host until 1987, when he began hosting NBC's [*Classic Concentration*](/wiki/Concentration_(game_show)#Classic_Concentration_(1987–1991)) for the next four years.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) At that time, he handed producer duties to George Vosburgh, who had formerly produced *The All-New Jeopardy!*. In the 1997–98 season, Vosburgh was succeeded as producer by [Harry Friedman](/wiki/Harry_Friedman), Lisa Finneran, and Rocky Schmidt. Beginning in 1999, Friedman became executive producer,[[29]](#cite_note-29) and Gary Johnson became the show's new third producer. In the 2006–07 season, Deb Dittmann and Brett Schneider became the producers, and Finneran, Schmidt, and Johnson were promoted to supervising producers.[[28]](#cite_note-28) The original *Jeopardy!* series was directed at different times by Bob Hultgren, Eleanor Tarshis, and Jeff Goldstein.[[28]](#cite_note-28) Dick Schneider, who directed episodes of *The All-New Jeopardy!*, returned as director for the Trebek version's first eight seasons. Since 1992, the show has been directed by [Kevin McCarthy](/wiki/Kevin_McCarthy_(director)), who had previously served as associate director under Schneider.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

The current version of *Jeopardy!* employs nine writers and five researchers to create and assemble the categories and clues.[[30]](#cite_note-30) Billy Wisse and Michele Loud, both longtime staff members, are the editorial producer and editorial supervisor, respectively.[[31]](#cite_note-31) Previous writing and editorial supervisors have included Jules Minton, Terrence McDonnell, Harry Eisenberg, and Gary Johnson.[[28]](#cite_note-28) The show's [production designer](/wiki/Production_designer) is Naomi Slodki.[[31]](#cite_note-31) Previous art directors have included Henry Lickel, Dennis Roof,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Bob Rang,[[28]](#cite_note-28) and [Ed Flesh](/wiki/Ed_Flesh) (who also designed sets for other game shows such as [*The $25,000 Pyramid*](/wiki/Pyramid_(game_show)), [*Name That Tune*](/wiki/Name_That_Tune), and *Wheel of Fortune*).[[32]](#cite_note-32)

## Production[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=12)]

The daily syndicated version of *Jeopardy!* is produced by [Sony Pictures Television](/wiki/Sony_Pictures_Television) (previously known as [Columbia TriStar Television](/wiki/Columbia_TriStar_Television), the successor company to original producer [Merv Griffin Enterprises](/wiki/Merv_Griffin_Enterprises)).[[33]](#cite_note-33) The copyright holder is Jeopardy Productions, which, like SPT, operates as a subsidiary of [Sony Pictures Entertainment](/wiki/Sony_Pictures_Entertainment).[[34]](#cite_note-34) The rights to distribute the program on television in the United States are owned by [CBS Television Distribution](/wiki/CBS_Television_Distribution), which absorbed original distributor [King World Productions](/wiki/King_World_Productions) in 2007.[[33]](#cite_note-33) The original *Jeopardy!* series was taped in Studio 6A at [NBC Studios](/wiki/NBC_Studios_(New_York_City)) at [30 Rockefeller Plaza](/wiki/GE_Building) in New York City,[[35]](#cite_note-35) and *The All-New Jeopardy!* was taped in Studio 3 at NBC's [Burbank Studios](/wiki/The_Burbank_Studios) at 3000 West Alameda Avenue in [Burbank](/wiki/Burbank,_California), [California](/wiki/California).[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The Trebek version was initially taped at [Metromedia](/wiki/Metromedia_Square) Stage 7, [KTTV](/wiki/KTTV)-TV, on [Sunset Boulevard](/wiki/Sunset_Boulevard) in Hollywood,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) but moved its production facilities to [Hollywood Center Studios'](/wiki/Hollywood_Center_Studios) Stage 9 in 1985. After the final shows of season 10 were recorded on February 15, 1994, the *Jeopardy!* production facilities were moved to [Sony Pictures Studios'](/wiki/Sony_Pictures_Studios) Stage 10 on [Washington Boulevard](/wiki/Washington_Boulevard_(Los_Angeles)) in [Culver City, California](/wiki/Culver_City,_California),[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) where the show has been recorded ever since.

### Set[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=13)]

[250px|right|thumb|Various sets used by the syndicated version over the years. From top to bottom: 1984–85, 1985–91, 1991–96, 1996–2002, 2002–09, and 2009–13.](/wiki/File:Jeopardy!_set_evolution_(daily_syndication).jpg) Various technological and aesthetic changes have been made to the *Jeopardy!* set over the years. The original game board was exposed from behind a curtain and featured clues printed on cardboard pull cards which were revealed as contestants selected them.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) *The All-New Jeopardy!*[Template:-'s](/wiki/Template:-') game board was exposed from behind double-slide panels and featured flipping panels with the dollar amount on one side and the clue on the other. When the Trebek version premiered in 1984, the game board used individual television monitors for each clue within categories. The original monitors were replaced with larger and sleeker ones in 1991.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) In 2006, these monitors were discarded in favor of a nearly seamless projection video wall,[[36]](#cite_note-36) which was replaced in 2009 with 36 high-definition flat-panel monitors manufactured by [Sony Electronics](/wiki/Sony_Electronics).[[37]](#cite_note-37) From 1985 to 1997, the sets were designed to have a background color of blue for the Jeopardy! round and red for the Double Jeopardy! and Final Jeopardy! rounds. At the beginning of season 8 in 1991, a brand new set was introduced that resembled a grid.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) On the episode aired November 11, 1996, two months after the start of season 13, *Jeopardy!* introduced the first of several sets designed by Naomi Slodki, who intended the set to resemble "the foyer of a very contemporary library, with wood and sandblasted glass and blue granite".[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

Shortly after the start of season 19 in 2002, the show switched to yet another new set,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) which was given slight modifications when *Jeopardy!* and sister show [*Wheel of Fortune*](/wiki/Wheel_of_Fortune_(U.S._game_show)) transitioned to [high-definition broadcasting](/wiki/High-definition_television) in 2006.[[36]](#cite_note-36) During this time, the show began to feature [virtual tours](/wiki/Virtual_tour) of the set on its official web site.[[38]](#cite_note-38) The various HD improvements for *Jeopardy!* and *Wheel* represented a combined investment of approximately $4 million, 5,000 hours of labor, and [Template:Convert](/wiki/Template:Convert) of cable.[[36]](#cite_note-36) Both shows had been shot using HD cameras for several years before beginning to broadcast in HD. On [standard-definition television](/wiki/Standard-definition_television) broadcasts, the shows continue to be displayed with an [aspect ratio](/wiki/Aspect_ratio_(image)) of 4:3.

In 2009, *Jeopardy!* updated its set once again. The new set debuted with special episodes taped at the 42nd annual [International CES](/wiki/International_CES) technology trade show, hosted at the [Las Vegas Convention Center](/wiki/Las_Vegas_Convention_Center) in [Winchester](/wiki/Winchester,_Nevada) ([Las Vegas Valley](/wiki/Las_Vegas_Valley)), [Nevada](/wiki/Nevada), and became the primary set for *Jeopardy!* when the show began taping its 26th season, which premiered on September 14, 2009.[[37]](#cite_note-37) It was significantly remodeled when season 30 premiered in September 2013.[[39]](#cite_note-39)

### Theme music[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

Since the debut of *Jeopardy!* in 1964, several different songs and arrangements have served as the theme music for the show, most of which were composed by Griffin. The main theme for the original *Jeopardy!* series was "Take Ten",[[40]](#cite_note-40) composed by Griffin's wife Julann.[[41]](#cite_note-41) *The All-New Jeopardy!* opened with "January, February, March" and closed with "Frisco Disco", both of which were composed by Griffin himself.[[42]](#cite_note-42) The best-known theme song on *Jeopardy!* is "Think!", originally composed by Griffin under the title "A Time for Tony", as a lullaby for his son.[[43]](#cite_note-43) "Think!" has always been used for the 30-second period in Final Jeopardy! when the contestants write down their responses, and since the syndicated version debuted in 1984, a rendition of that tune has been used as the main theme song.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) "Think!" has become so popular that it has been used in many different contexts, from sporting events to weddings.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Griffin estimated that the use of "Think!" had earned him royalties of over $70 million throughout his lifetime.[[44]](#cite_note-44) "Think!" led Griffin to win the [Broadcast Music, Inc.](/wiki/Broadcast_Music,_Inc.) (BMI) President's Award in 2003,[[45]](#cite_note-45) and during GSN's [*2009 Game Show Awards*](/wiki/2009_Game_Show_Awards) special, it was named "Best Game Show Theme Song".[[46]](#cite_note-46) In 1997, the main theme and Final Jeopardy! recordings of "Think!" were rearranged by Steve Kaplan, who served as the show's music director until his December 2003 death.[[47]](#cite_note-47) In 2008, Chris Bell Music and Sound Design overhauled the *Jeopardy!* music package for the show's 25th anniversary.[[48]](#cite_note-48)

### Audition process[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Prospective contestants of the original *Jeopardy!* series called the show's office in New York to arrange an appointment and to preliminarily determine eligibility. They were briefed and auditioned together in groups of ten to thirty individuals, participating in both a written test and mock games. Individuals who were successful at the audition were invited to appear on the program within approximately six weeks.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

Auditioning for the current version of the show begins with a written exam, comprising fifty questions in total. This exam is administered online periodically, as well as being offered at regional contestant search events. Since season 15 (1998–99), the show has used a [Winnebago](/wiki/Winnebago_Industries) recreational vehicle called the "Jeopardy! Brain Bus" to conduct regional events throughout the United States and Canada.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Participants who correctly answer at least 35 out of 50 questions advance in the audition process and are invited to compete in mock games. Those who are approved are notified at a later time and invited to appear on the show.

In 2016, producers disallowed Canadians from applying online, citing new Canadian privacy rules regarding personal information on the Internet. Trebek confirmed this to [*The Ottawa Citizen*](/wiki/The_Ottawa_Citizen) in an interview. Neither named a particular law or regulation, and [*The Toronto Star*](/wiki/The_Toronto_Star) was unable to discern the exact problem.[[49]](#cite_note-49)

## Broadcast history[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The original *Jeopardy!* series premiered on [NBC](/wiki/NBC) on March 30, 1964,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) and by the end of the 1960s was the second-highest-rated daytime game show, behind only [*The Hollywood Squares*](/wiki/Hollywood_Squares).[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The show was successful until 1974, when [Lin Bolen](/wiki/Lin_Bolen), then NBC's Vice President of Daytime Programming, moved the show out of the noontime slot where it had been located for most of its run, as part of her effort to boost ratings among the 18–34 female demographic.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) After 2,753 episodes, the original *Jeopardy!* series ended on January 3, 1975; to compensate Griffin for its cancellation, NBC purchased *Wheel of Fortune*, another show that he had created, and premiered it the following Monday.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) A syndicated edition of *Jeopardy!*, distributed by [Metromedia](/wiki/Metromedia) and featuring many contestants who were previously champions on the original series, aired in the primetime during the 1974–75 season.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The NBC daytime series was later revived as *The All-New Jeopardy!*, which premiered on October 2, 1978[[50]](#cite_note-50) and aired 108 episodes, ending on March 2, 1979;[[51]](#cite_note-51) this revival featured significant rule changes, such as progressive elimination of contestants over the course of the main game, and a bonus round instead of Final Jeopardy![Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

The daily syndicated version debuted on September 10, 1984,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) and was launched in response to the success of the syndicated version of *Wheel*[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) and the installation of electronic trivia games in pubs and bars.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) This version of the program has met with greater success than the previous incarnations; it has outlived 300 other game shows and become the second most popular game show in syndication (behind *Wheel*), averaging 25 million viewers per week. The show's most recent renewal, in April 2015, extends it through the 2017–18 season.[[52]](#cite_note-52) [thumb|Countries with versions of *Jeopardy!*](/wiki/File:Jeopardy_World_Locations.svg) *Jeopardy!* has spawned versions in many foreign countries throughout the world, including Canada, the United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, Russia, Denmark, Israel, and Australia.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The American syndicated version of *Jeopardy!* is also broadcast throughout the world, with international distribution rights handled by [CBS Studios International](/wiki/CBS_Studios_International).[[53]](#cite_note-53) Three spin-off versions of *Jeopardy!* have been created. [*Rock & Roll Jeopardy!*](/wiki/Rock_&_Roll_Jeopardy!) debuted on [VH1](/wiki/VH1) in 1998[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) and ran until 2001; the show centered around post-1950s popular music trivia and was hosted by [Jeff Probst](/wiki/Jeff_Probst).[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) [*Jep!*](/wiki/Jep!), which aired on [GSN](/wiki/Game_Show_Network) during the 1998–99 season, was a special children's version hosted by [Bob Bergen](/wiki/Bob_Bergen) and featured various rule changes from the original version.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) *Sports Jeopardy!*, a sports-themed version hosted by [Dan Patrick](/wiki/Dan_Patrick), premiered in 2014 on the [Crackle](/wiki/Crackle_(company)) digital service and eventually moved to the cable sports network [NBCSN](/wiki/NBCSN) in 2016.[[54]](#cite_note-54)

### Archived episodes[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

Only a small number of episodes of the first three *Jeopardy!* versions survive. From the original NBC daytime version, archived episodes mostly consist of black-and-white [kinescopes](/wiki/Kinescope) of the original color [videotapes](/wiki/Videotape).[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Various episodes from 1967, 1971, 1973, and 1974 are listed among the holdings of the [UCLA Film and Television Archive](/wiki/UCLA_Film_and_Television_Archive).[[55]](#cite_note-55) The 1964 "test episode", Episode No. 2,000 (from February 21, 1972), and a June 1975 episode of the weekly syndicated edition exist at the [Paley Center for Media](/wiki/Paley_Center_for_Media).[[56]](#cite_note-56) Incomplete paper records of the NBC-era games exist on [microfilm](/wiki/Microform) at the [Library of Congress](/wiki/Library_of_Congress). [GSN](/wiki/Game_Show_Network) holds *The All-New Jeopardy!*[Template:-'s](/wiki/Template:-') premiere and finale in broadcast quality, and aired the latter on December 31, 1999, as part of its "Y2Play" marathon.[[51]](#cite_note-51) The UCLA Archive holds a copy of a pilot taped for CBS in 1977,[[55]](#cite_note-55) and the premiere exists among the Paley Center's holdings.[[56]](#cite_note-56) GSN, which, like *Jeopardy!,* is an affiliate of Sony Pictures Television, has rerun ten seasons since the channel's launch in 1994. Copies of 43 Trebek-hosted syndicated *Jeopardy!* episodes aired between 1989 and 2004 have been collected by the UCLA Archive,[[55]](#cite_note-55) and the premiere and various other episodes are included in the Paley Center's collection.[[56]](#cite_note-56)

## Reception[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

*Jeopardy!* has won a record 31 [Daytime Emmy Awards](/wiki/Daytime_Emmy_Award) since 1984.[[30]](#cite_note-30) The show holds the record for the [Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Game/Audience Participation Show](/wiki/Daytime_Emmy_Award_for_Outstanding_Game/Audience_Participation_Show), with fourteen awards won in that category.[[30]](#cite_note-30) Another five awards have been won by Trebek for [Outstanding Game Show Host](/wiki/Daytime_Emmy_Award_for_Outstanding_Game_Show_Host).[[30]](#cite_note-30) Twelve other awards were won by the show's directors and writers in the respective categories of Outstanding Direction for a Game/Audience Participation Show and Outstanding Special Class Writing before these categories were removed in 2006. On June 17, 2011, Trebek shared the Lifetime Achievement Award with Sajak at the 38th Annual Daytime Emmy Awards ceremony.[[57]](#cite_note-57) The following year, the show was honored with a [Peabody Award](/wiki/Peabody_Award) for its role in encouraging, celebrating, and rewarding knowledge;[[58]](#cite_note-58) as such, it holds the distinction of being the only game show since 1960 to win the Peabody Award.

In its April 17–23, 1993 issue, [*TV Guide*](/wiki/TV_Guide) named *Jeopardy!* the best game show of the 1970s as part of a celebration of its 40th anniversary.[[59]](#cite_note-59) In January 2001, the magazine ranked the show number 2 on its "50 Greatest Game Shows" list—second only to [*The Price Is Right*](/wiki/The_Price_Is_Right_(U.S._game_show)).[[60]](#cite_note-60) It would later rank *Jeopardy!* number 45 on its list of the 60 Best TV Series of All Time, calling it "habit-forming" and saying that the program "always makes [its viewers] feel smarter".[[61]](#cite_note-61) Also in 2013, the show ranked number 1 on *TV Guide*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') list of the 60 Greatest Game Shows.[[62]](#cite_note-62) In the summer of 2006, the show was ranked number 2 on GSN's list of the 50 Greatest Game Shows of All Time, second only to [*Match Game*](/wiki/Match_Game).[[63]](#cite_note-63) A hall of fame honoring *Jeopardy!* was added to the Sony Pictures Studios tour on September 20, 2011. It features the show's Emmy Awards as well as retired set pieces, classic merchandise, video clips, photographs, and other memorabilia related to *Jeopardy!****s history.***[***[64]***](#cite_note-64)

## Tournaments and other events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

### Regular events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

Starting in 1985, the show has held an annual [Tournament of Champions](/wiki/Jeopardy!_Tournament_of_Champions) featuring the top fifteen champions who have appeared on the show since the last tournament. The top prize awarded to the winner was originally valued at $100,000,[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) and increased to $250,000 in 2003.[[65]](#cite_note-65) Other regular tournaments include the [Teen Tournament](/wiki/Jeopardy!_Teen_Tournament), with a $75,000 top prize;[[53]](#cite_note-53) the [College Championship](/wiki/Jeopardy!_College_Championship), in which undergraduate students from American colleges and universities compete for a $100,000 top prize; and the [Teachers Tournament](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#Teachers_Tournament), where educators compete for a $100,000 top prize.[[66]](#cite_note-66) Each tournament runs for ten consecutive episodes in a format devised by Trebek himself, consisting of five quarter-final games, three semifinals, and a final consisting of two games with the scores totaled.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) Winners of the College Championship and Teachers Tournament are invited to participate in the Tournament of Champions.

Non-tournament events held regularly on the show include [Celebrity *Jeopardy!*](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#Celebrity_Jeopardy!), in which celebrities and other notable individuals compete for charitable organizations of their choice;[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) and [Kids Week](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#Kids_Week), a special competition for school-age children aged 10 through 12.[[67]](#cite_note-67)

### Special events[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=21)]

Three [International Tournaments](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#International_Tournaments), held in 1996, 1997, and 2001, featured one-week competitions among champions from each of the [international versions of *Jeopardy!*](/wiki/International_versions_of_Jeopardy!). Each of the countries that aired their own version of the show in those years could nominate a contestant. The format was identical to the semifinals and finals of other *Jeopardy!* tournaments.[Template:SfnTemplate:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) In 1996 and 1997, the winner received $25,000; in 2001, the top prize was doubled to $50,000. The 1997 tournament was recorded in [Stockholm](/wiki/Stockholm) on the set of the Swedish version of *Jeopardy!*, and is significant for being the first week of *Jeopardy!* episodes to be taped in a foreign country.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)

There have been a number of special tournaments featuring the greatest contestants in *Jeopardy!* history. The first of these "all-time best" tournaments, [*Super Jeopardy!*](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#"All-time_best"_tournaments), aired in the summer of 1990 on [ABC](/wiki/American_Broadcasting_Company), and featured 37 top contestants from the previous seasons of the Trebek version and [one notable champion from the original *Jeopardy!* series](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_contestants#Burns_Cameron) competing for a top prize of $250,000.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) In 1993, that year's Tournament of Champions was followed by a [Tenth Anniversary Tournament](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#"All-time_best"_tournaments) conducted over five episodes.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) In May 2002, to commemorate the Trebek version's 4,000th episode, the show invited fifteen champions to play for a $1 million prize in the [Million Dollar Masters](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#"All-time_best"_tournaments) tournament, which took place at [Radio City Music Hall](/wiki/Radio_City_Music_Hall) in New York City.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The [Ultimate Tournament of Champions](/wiki/Jeopardy!_Ultimate_Tournament_of_Champions) aired in 2005 and pitted 145 former *Jeopardy!* champions against each other, with two winners moving on to face [Ken Jennings](/wiki/Ken_Jennings) in a three-game final for $2,000,000, the largest prize in the show's history;[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) overall, the tournament spanned 15 weeks and 76 episodes, starting on February 9 and ending on May 25.[[68]](#cite_note-68) In 2014, *Jeopardy!* commemorated the 30th anniversary of the Trebek version with a [Battle of the Decades](/wiki/Jeopardy!_Battle_of_the_Decades) tournament, in which 15 champions apiece from the first, second, and third decades of *Jeopardy!*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') daily syndicated history competed for a grand prize of $1,000,000.[[69]](#cite_note-69) In November 1998, *Jeopardy!* traveled to [Boston](/wiki/Boston) to reassemble 12 past Teen Tournament contestants for a special Teen Reunion Tournament.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) In 2008, the 25th season began with reuniting 15 contestants from the first two Kids Weeks to compete in a special reunion tournament of their own.[[70]](#cite_note-70) During the next season (2009–10), a special edition of Celebrity *Jeopardy!*, called the [Million Dollar Celebrity Invitational](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#Million_Dollar_Celebrity_Invitational), was played in which twenty-seven contestants from past celebrity episodes competed for a grand prize of $1,000,000 for charity; the grand prize was won by [Michael McKean](/wiki/Michael_McKean).[[71]](#cite_note-71) The [IBM Challenge](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#IBM_Challenge) aired February 14–16, 2011, and featured [IBM's](/wiki/IBM) [Watson](/wiki/Watson_(computer)) computer facing off against Ken Jennings and [Brad Rutter](/wiki/Brad_Rutter) in a two-game match played over three shows.[[72]](#cite_note-72) This was the first man-vs.-machine competition in *Jeopardy!*[Template:-'s](/wiki/Template:-') history.[[73]](#cite_note-73) Watson won both the first game and the overall match to win the grand prize of $1 million, which IBM divided between two charities ([World Vision International](/wiki/World_Vision_International) and [World Community Grid](/wiki/World_Community_Grid)).[[74]](#cite_note-74) Jennings, who won $300,000 for second place, and Rutter, who won the $200,000 third-place prize, both pledged to donate half of their winnings to charity.[[75]](#cite_note-75) The competition brought the show its highest ratings since the Ultimate Tournament of Champions.[[76]](#cite_note-76)

## Record holders[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=22)]

*Jeopardy!*[Template:-'s](/wiki/Template:-') record for the longest winning streak is held by [Ken Jennings](/wiki/Ken_Jennings), who competed on the show from June 2 through November 30, 2004, winning 74 matches before being defeated by Nancy Zerg in his 75th appearance. He amassed $2,520,700 over his 74 wins and a $2,000 second-place prize in his 75th appearance. At the time, he held the record as the [highest money-winner ever on American game shows](/wiki/American_game_show_winnings_records#Top_ten_winnings_list), and his winning streak increased the show's ratings and popularity to the point where it became TV's highest-rated syndicated program.[[77]](#cite_note-77) Jennings later won the $500,000 second-place prize in the [Ultimate Tournament of Champions](/wiki/Jeopardy!_Ultimate_Tournament_of_Champions), the $300,000 second-place prize in the [IBM Challenge](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#IBM_Challenge), and the $100,000 second-place prize in the [Battle of the Decades](/wiki/Jeopardy!_Battle_of_the_Decades).

The highest-earning all-time *Jeopardy!* contestant is [Brad Rutter](/wiki/Brad_Rutter), who has won a cumulative total of $4,355,102.[[78]](#cite_note-78) He became an undefeated champion in 2000 and later won an unprecedented four *Jeopardy!* tournaments: the 2001 [Tournament of Champions](/wiki/Jeopardy!_Tournament_of_Champions),[[79]](#cite_note-79) the 2002 [Million Dollar Masters Tournament](/wiki/List_of_Jeopardy!_tournaments_and_events#"All-time_best"_tournaments), the 2005 Ultimate Tournament of Champions,[[80]](#cite_note-80) and the 2014 Battle of the Decades. Rutter broke Jennings's record for all-time game show winnings when he defeated Jennings and [Jerome Vered](/wiki/Jerome_Vered) in the Ultimate Tournament of Champions finals. Jennings regained the record through appearances on various other game shows, culminating in an appearance on [*Are You Smarter than a 5th Grader?*](/wiki/Are_You_Smarter_than_a_5th_Grader?_(U.S._game_show)) on October 10, 2008. In 2014, Rutter regained the title after winning $1,000,000 in the Battle of the Decades, defeating Jennings and [Roger Craig](/wiki/Roger_Craig_(Jeopardy!_contestant)) in the finals.

Craig is the holder of the all-time record for single-day winnings on *Jeopardy!*. On the episode that aired September 14, 2010, he amassed a score of $47,000 after the game's first two rounds, then wagered and won an additional $30,000 in the Final Jeopardy! round, finishing with $77,000. The previous single-day record of $75,000 had been set by Jennings.<ref name=nytimes>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref>

The record-holder among female contestants on *Jeopardy!*—in both number of games and total winnings—is [Julia Collins](/wiki/Julia_Collins_(Jeopardy!_contestant)), who amassed $429,100 over 21 games between April 21 and June 2, 2014. She won $428,100 in her 20 games as champion, plus $1,000 for finishing third in her twenty-first game.[[81]](#cite_note-81) Collins also achieved the second-longest winning streak on the show, behind Jennings. The streak, which was interrupted in May by the Battle of the Decades, was broken by Brian Loughnane.[[82]](#cite_note-82)[[83]](#cite_note-83) The highest one-day score in a *Celebrity Jeopardy!* tournament was achieved by comedian [Andy Richter](/wiki/Andy_Richter) during a first round game of the 2009–10 season's "Million Dollar Celebrity Invitational", in which he finished with $68,000 for his selected charity, the [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](/wiki/St._Jude_Children's_Research_Hospital).[[84]](#cite_note-84) Three contestants on the Trebek version have won a game with the lowest amount possible ($1). The first was [U.S. Air Force](/wiki/United_States_Air_Force) Lieutenant Colonel Darryl Scott, on the episode that aired January 19, 1993;[[85]](#cite_note-85) the second was [Benjamin Salisbury](/wiki/Benjamin_Salisbury), on a *Celebrity Jeopardy!* episode that aired April 30, 1997;[[86]](#cite_note-86) and the third was [Brandi Chastain](/wiki/Brandi_Chastain), on the *Celebrity Jeopardy!* episode that aired February 9, 2001.[[87]](#cite_note-87)

## Other media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=23)]

### Portrayals and parodies[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=24)]

*Jeopardy!* has been featured in a number of films, television shows and books over the years, mostly with one or more characters participating as contestants, or viewing and interacting with the game show from their own homes.

* On "Questions and Answers", a season 7 episode of [*The Golden Girls*](/wiki/The_Golden_Girls) aired February 8, 1992, Dorothy Zbornak ([Bea Arthur](/wiki/Bea_Arthur)) auditions for *Jeopardy!*, but despite her excellent show of knowledge, she is rejected by a contestant coordinator who feels that America would not root for her. In a dream sequence, Dorothy competes against roommate Rose Nylund ([Betty White](/wiki/Betty_White)) and neighbor Charlie Deitz ([David Leisure](/wiki/David_Leisure)), in a crossover from [*Empty Nest*](/wiki/Empty_Nest). Trebek and Griffin appear as themselves in the dream sequence, and Gilbert provides a voice-over.[[88]](#cite_note-88)\*A 1988 episode of [*Mama's Family*](/wiki/Mama's_Family) titled "Mama on Jeopardy!" features the titular Mama, [Thelma Harper](/wiki/Thelma_Harper) ([Vicki Lawrence](/wiki/Vicki_Lawrence)), competing on the show after her neighbor and friend [Iola Boylan](/wiki/Iola_Boylan) ([Beverly Archer](/wiki/Beverly_Archer)) is rejected.[[89]](#cite_note-89) For most of the game the questions given by Mama are incorrect, but she makes a miraculous comeback near the end and barely qualifies for *Final Jeopardy!* Her final question given is also incorrect, but she finishes in second place by $1 and wins a trip to [Hawaii](/wiki/Hawaii) for herself and her family. Again, Trebek guest stars and Gilbert provides a voice-over.
* In the [*Cheers*](/wiki/Cheers) episode "[What Is... Cliff Clavin?](/wiki/What_Is..._Cliff_Clavin?)" (1990), [the titular mailman](/wiki/Cliff_Clavin), portrayed by [John Ratzenberger](/wiki/John_Ratzenberger), appears on the show and racks up an impressive $22,000 going into the Final Jeopardy! round, well ahead of his competitors. Despite having a total that his competitors cannot reach in Final Jeopardy!, Cliff risks all of his winnings on the final clue, which is revealed to be "Archibald Leach, Bernard Schwartz and Lucille LeSueur" (the real names of [Cary Grant](/wiki/Cary_Grant), [Tony Curtis](/wiki/Tony_Curtis), and [Joan Crawford](/wiki/Joan_Crawford), respectively). Cliff's response, "Who are three people who've never been in my kitchen?", is deemed incorrect, and he leaves with no money.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn)
* In "[I Take Thee Quagmire](/wiki/I_Take_Thee_Quagmire)", a season 4 episode of [*Family Guy*](/wiki/Family_Guy) aired March 12, 2006, Mayor [Adam West](/wiki/Adam_West_(Family_Guy)) appears as a contestant on *Jeopardy!*. He spells Trebek's name backwards (as "Kebert Xela"), "sending him back" to the fifth dimension, in reference to when [Mister Mxyzptlk](/wiki/Mister_Mxyzptlk), a nemesis to [DC Comics'](/wiki/DC_Comics) [Superman](/wiki/Superman), is sent to the fifth dimension when someone makes him say his own name backwards.[[90]](#cite_note-90)\*Trebek appears as himself on "[Miracle on Evergreen Terrace](/wiki/Miracle_on_Evergreen_Terrace)", a season 9 episode of [*The Simpsons*](/wiki/The_Simpsons) in which [Marge Simpson](/wiki/Marge_Simpson) appears on a fictional version of the show, but performs very poorly, leaving with –$5,200.[[91]](#cite_note-91)\*From 1996 to 2002 and again in 2005, 2009, and 2015, [*Saturday Night Live*](/wiki/Saturday_Night_Live) featured [a recurring *Celebrity Jeopardy!* sketch](/wiki/Celebrity_Jeopardy!_(Saturday_Night_Live)) in which Trebek, portrayed by [Will Ferrell](/wiki/Will_Ferrell), has to deal with the constant taunts of antagonists such as [Sean Connery](/wiki/Sean_Connery) (played by [Darrell Hammond](/wiki/Darrell_Hammond)) and [Burt Reynolds](/wiki/Burt_Reynolds) ([Norm Macdonald](/wiki/Norm_Macdonald)), the latter of which insists on being called "Turd Ferguson".[[92]](#cite_note-92)\**Jeopardy!* is featured in a subplot of the 1992 film [*White Men Can't Jump*](/wiki/White_Men_Can't_Jump), in which Gloria Clemente ([Rosie Perez](/wiki/Rosie_Perez)) attempts to pass the show's auditions.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) She succeeds, and ends up appearing on the show, winning over $14,000.
* Other films and television series in which *Jeopardy!* has been portrayed over the years include [*The 'Burbs*](/wiki/The_'Burbs), [*Die Hard*](/wiki/Die_Hard), [*Men in Black*](/wiki/Men_in_Black_(film)), [*Rain Man*](/wiki/Rain_Man), [*Charlie's Angels*](/wiki/Charlie's_Angels_(film)), [*Dying Young*](/wiki/Dying_Young), [*The Education of Max Bickford*](/wiki/The_Education_of_Max_Bickford), [*The Bucket List*](/wiki/The_Bucket_List), [*Groundhog Day*](/wiki/Groundhog_Day_(film)), and [*Finding Forrester*](/wiki/Finding_Forrester).[[93]](#cite_note-93)\*In the [David Foster Wallace](/wiki/David_Foster_Wallace) short story "[Little Expressionless Animals](/wiki/Little_Expressionless_Animals)", first published in [*The Paris Review*](/wiki/The_Paris_Review) and later reprinted in Wallace's collection [*Girl with Curious Hair*](/wiki/Girl_with_Curious_Hair), a character competes and wins on every *Jeopardy!* game for three years (a total of 700 episodes),[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) using her winnings to pay for the care of her [autistic](/wiki/Autism_spectrum) brother.[[94]](#cite_note-94)\*The Ellen's Energy Adventure attraction at [Epcot's](/wiki/Epcot) [Universe of Energy](/wiki/Universe_of_Energy) pavilion features a dream sequence in which [Ellen DeGeneres](/wiki/Ellen_DeGeneres) plays a *Jeopardy!* game entirely focused on energy.[[95]](#cite_note-95)\*Fleming makes a cameo appearance reprising his role as host of *Jeopardy!* in the 1982 film [*Airplane II: The Sequel*](/wiki/Airplane_II:_The_Sequel).
* The [music video](/wiki/Music_video) "[I Lost on Jeopardy](/wiki/I_Lost_on_Jeopardy)", a parody of [Greg Kihn's](/wiki/Greg_Kihn) 1983 hit song "[Jeopardy](/wiki/Jeopardy_(song))", was released by ["Weird Al" Yankovic](/wiki/%22Weird_Al%22_Yankovic) in 1984, a few months before Trebek's version debuted;[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) the video featured [cameos](/wiki/Cameo_appearance) from Fleming, Pardo, Kihn, and [Dr. Demento](/wiki/Dr._Demento).[[96]](#cite_note-96)

### Merchandise[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=25)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) Over the years, the *Jeopardy!* brand has been licensed for various products. From 1964 through 1976, [Milton Bradley](/wiki/Milton_Bradley) issued annual [board games](/wiki/Board_game) based on the original Fleming version. The Trebek version has been adapted into board games released by [Pressman Toy Corporation](/wiki/Pressman_Toy_Corporation), [Tyco Toys](/wiki/Tyco_Toys), and [Parker Brothers](/wiki/Parker_Brothers).[[97]](#cite_note-97) In addition, *Jeopardy!* has been adapted into a number of [video games](/wiki/Video_game) released on various consoles and handhelds spanning multiple [hardware generations](/wiki/History_of_video_games), starting with a [Nintendo Entertainment System](/wiki/Nintendo_Entertainment_System) game released in 1987.[[98]](#cite_note-98) The show has also been adapted for [personal computers](/wiki/Personal_computers), [Facebook](/wiki/Facebook),[[99]](#cite_note-99) [Twitter](/wiki/Twitter), [Android](/wiki/Android_(operating_system)), and the [Roku Channel Store](/wiki/Roku).[[100]](#cite_note-100) A DVD titled *Jeopardy!: An Inside Look at America's Favorite Quiz Show*, released by [Sony Pictures Home Entertainment](/wiki/Sony_Pictures_Home_Entertainment) on November 8, 2005, features five memorable episodes of the Trebek version (the 1984 premiere, Jennings' final game, and the three finals matches of the Ultimate Tournament of Champions)[[101]](#cite_note-101) and three featurettes discussing the show's history and question selection process.[[102]](#cite_note-102) Other products featuring the *Jeopardy!* brand include a collectible watch, a series of daily desktop calendars, and various [slot machine](/wiki/Slot_machine) games for [casinos](/wiki/Casino) and the Internet.

### Internet[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=26)]

*Jeopardy!*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') official website, active as early as 1998,[[103]](#cite_note-103) receives over 400,000 monthly visitors.[Template:Sfn](/wiki/Template:Sfn) The website features videos, photographs, and other information related to each week's contestants, as well as mini-sites promoting remote tapings and special tournaments. As the show changes its main title card and corresponding graphics with every passing season, the *Jeopardy!* website is re-skinned to reflect the changes, and the general content of the site (such as online tests and promotions, programming announcements, "spotlight" segments, photo galleries, and downloadable content) is regularly updated to align with producers' priorities for the show.[[104]](#cite_note-104) In its 2012 "Readers Choice Awards", [About.com](/wiki/About.com) praised the official *Jeopardy!* website for featuring "everything [visitors] need to know about the show, as well as some fun interactive elements", and for having a humorous [error page](/wiki/HTTP_404).[[105]](#cite_note-105) In November 2009, *Jeopardy!* launched a viewer loyalty program called the "Jeopardy! Premier Club", which allowed home viewers to identify Final Jeopardy! categories from episodes for a chance to earn points, and play a weekly *Jeopardy!* game featuring categories and clues from the previous week's episodes. Every three months, contestants were selected randomly to advance to one of three quarterly online tournaments; after these tournaments were played, the three highest scoring contestants would play one final online tournament for the chance to win $5,000 and a trip to Los Angeles to attend a taping of *Jeopardy!*[[106]](#cite_note-106) The Premier Club was discontinued by July 2011.[[107]](#cite_note-107) There is an unofficial *Jeopardy!* fansite known as the "J! Archive" ([j-archive.com](http://j-archive.com/)), which transcribes games from throughout *Jeopardy!****s daily syndicated history. In the archive, episodes are covered by Jeopardy!-style game boards with panels which, when hovered over with a mouse, reveal the correct response to their corresponding clues and the contestant who gave the correct response. The site makes use of a "wagering calculator" that helps potential contestants determine what amount is safest to bet during Final Jeopardy!, and an alternative scoring method called "***[***Coryat***](/wiki/Karl_Coryat) ***scoring" that disregards wagering during Daily Doubles or Final Jeopardy! and gauges one's general strength at the game. The site's main founding archivist is Robert Knecht Schmidt, a student from*** [***Cleveland, Ohio***](/wiki/Cleveland,_Ohio)***,***[***[108]***](#cite_note-108) ***who himself appeared as a Jeopardy! contestant in March 2010.***[***[109]***](#cite_note-109) ***Before J! Archive, there was an earlier Jeopardy! fansite known as the "Jeoparchive", created by season 19 contestant Ronnie O'Rourke, who managed and updated the site until Jennings' run made her disillusioned with the show.***[***[108]***](#cite_note-108)

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=27)]

[Template:Reflist](/wiki/Template:Reflist)

### Bibliography[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=28)]

[Template:Div col](/wiki/Template:Div_col) [Template:Refbegin](/wiki/Template:Refbegin)

* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)
* [Template:Cite book](/wiki/Template:Cite_book)

[Template:Refend](/wiki/Template:Refend) [Template:Div col end](/wiki/Template:Div_col_end)

## External links[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=29)]

[Template:Wikiquote](/wiki/Template:Wikiquote) [Template:Wiktionary](/wiki/Template:Wiktionary) [Template:Commons category](/wiki/Template:Commons_category)

* [Template:Official website](/wiki/Template:Official_website)
* [Template:IMDb title](/wiki/Template:IMDb_title)
* [Template:IMDb title](/wiki/Template:IMDb_title)
* [Template:IMDb title](/wiki/Template:IMDb_title)
* [Template:Tv.com show](/wiki/Template:Tv.com_show)
* [Template:EmmyTVLegends title](/wiki/Template:EmmyTVLegends_title)

[Template:S-start](/wiki/Template:S-start) [Template:Succession box](/wiki/Template:Succession_box) [Template:Succession box](/wiki/Template:Succession_box) [Template:Succession box](/wiki/Template:Succession_box) [Template:Succession box](/wiki/Template:Succession_box) [Template:Succession box](/wiki/Template:Succession_box) [Template:Succession box](/wiki/Template:Succession_box) [Template:S-end](/wiki/Template:S-end) [Template:Jeopardy!](/wiki/Template:Jeopardy!) [Template:Daytime Emmy Award Outstanding Game/Audience Participation Show](/wiki/Template:Daytime_Emmy_Award_Outstanding_Game/Audience_Participation_Show)

[Template:Good article](/wiki/Template:Good_article)

[Category:1960s American television series](/wiki/Category:1960s_American_television_series) [Category:1964 American television series debuts](/wiki/Category:1964_American_television_series_debuts) [Category:1970s American television series](/wiki/Category:1970s_American_television_series) [Category:1975 American television series endings](/wiki/Category:1975_American_television_series_endings) [Category:1978 American television series debuts](/wiki/Category:1978_American_television_series_debuts) [Category:1979 American television series endings](/wiki/Category:1979_American_television_series_endings) [Category:1980s American television series](/wiki/Category:1980s_American_television_series) [Category:1984 American television series debuts](/wiki/Category:1984_American_television_series_debuts) [Category:1990s American television series](/wiki/Category:1990s_American_television_series) [Category:2000s American television series](/wiki/Category:2000s_American_television_series) [Category:2010s American television series](/wiki/Category:2010s_American_television_series) [Category:American game shows](/wiki/Category:American_game_shows) [Category:CBC Television shows](/wiki/Category:CBC_Television_shows) [Category:Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Game Show winners](/wiki/Category:Daytime_Emmy_Award_for_Outstanding_Game_Show_winners) [Category:English-language television programming](/wiki/Category:English-language_television_programming) [Category:First-run syndicated television programs in the United States](/wiki/Category:First-run_syndicated_television_programs_in_the_United_States) [Category:Jeopardy!](/wiki/Category:Jeopardy!) [Category:Mobile games](/wiki/Category:Mobile_games) [Category:NBC network shows](/wiki/Category:NBC_network_shows) [Category:Peabody Award-winning television programs](/wiki/Category:Peabody_Award-winning_television_programs) [Category:Sony mobile games](/wiki/Category:Sony_mobile_games) [Category:Television series by CBS Television Studios](/wiki/Category:Television_series_by_CBS_Television_Studios) [Category:Television series by Merv Griffin Enterprises](/wiki/Category:Television_series_by_Merv_Griffin_Enterprises) [Category:Television series by Sony Pictures Television](/wiki/Category:Television_series_by_Sony_Pictures_Television) [Category:Television series created by Merv Griffin](/wiki/Category:Television_series_created_by_Merv_Griffin) [Category:Television series revived after cancellation](/wiki/Category:Television_series_revived_after_cancellation) [Category:Television series by King World Productions](/wiki/Category:Television_series_by_King_World_Productions)