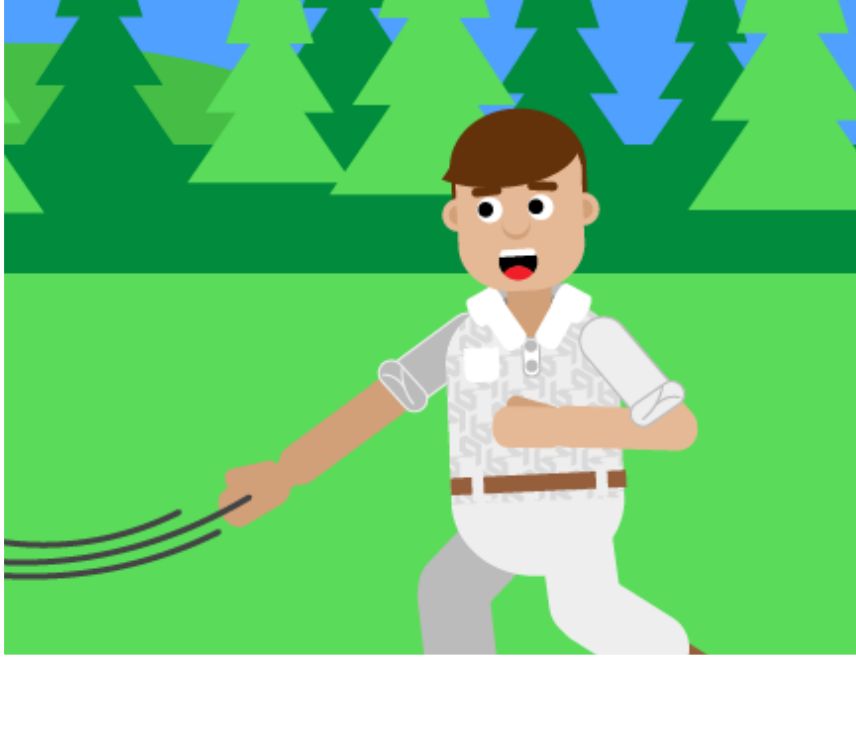


Who Created Cricket?



Who Create Cricket?

Curious about who created [cricket](#)? What started as a children's game is now the second-most popular sport in the world. Read on to learn more about the first people to play cricket and those who helped transform it into the worldwide phenomenon that it is toda

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Invented by Children

Cricket was created by English children during the Saxon or Norman era. The first people to play cricket were children living in the wooded area of southeast England called the Weald, in what is today Kent, Sussex, and Surrey. As early as the 1300s, English boys played cricket as a leisure activity. In the first forms of cricket, the ball was bowled completely along the ground, so the forest clearings and sheep-grazed pastures of the Weald were perfect venues for the game. **The first written record of children playing cricket occurred in a court case from 1598 in Guilford, Surrey.**

First Adult Matches

By the beginning of the seventeenth century, adults in the Weald had begun to play cricket as well. **The first recorded cricket match between adult teams was played in Sussex in 1611.** County teams formed in the mid-seventeenth century, with the earliest match between teams using county names occurring in 1709.

Following the Restoration in 1660, noblemen in Kent and Sussex served as patrons of the sport by forming the first professional cricket teams. **Sir William Gage, Alan Brodrick, Charles Lennox, 2nd Duke of Richmond, and Edwin Stead fielded some of the first paid squads, featuring the earliest cricket stars such as Thomas Waymark and William Bedle.**

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Laws of Cricket Introduced

Today the Laws of the Game are followed worldwide. But **the first time a set of written rules was used in cricket was in 1728** when Alan Brodrick and Charles Lennox drafted an Articles of Agreement to define the rules before a match. This became common practice, and **in 1744, the London Cricket Club established official Laws of the Game**, with a printed set of Laws published in 1755.

The committee voting on the Laws was made up of prominent cricket patrons including Philip Dehaney, Sir Horatio Mann, Charles Powlett, Sir William Draper, John Frederick Sackville, and Charles Bennet. These patrons went on to form the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) at Lord's. **The MCC was founded in 1787 and became the official custodian of the Laws, a role the club has served ever since.**

International Cricket

By the 1800s, cricket had spread around the world, and the first international match took place in September 1844. This first instance of what would now be called a Test match was held at St George's Cricket Club in Manhattan, New York, **between the United States and Canada.** The US team was made up of players from Boston, Washington DC, and Philadelphia clubs, while the Canadian team was mostly composed of Toronto Cricket Club members, as well as a few players from the Upper Canada College Club and the Guelph Cricket Club. Canada won the match by 23 runs. This fixture has been reprised sporadically and is known as the Auty Cup.

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FAQ

Who is the inventor of cricket?



What was the first ball used in cricket?



When was cricket first played?



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