## **Ed Sheeran**



Ivan Wang Pd 8

Edward Christopher Sheeran was born on February 17, 1991 in Halifax, United Kingdom. Ed Sheeran is currently 27 years old and he's has an British nationality. He started to show interest in music from a young age. His father John Sheeran was an art curator and a lecturer while his mother Imogen Sheeran was a cultural publicist who later became a jewelry designer. From an early age, Ed Sheeran started playing the guitar as well as singing in the local church. His father also used to take him to various musical concerts which inspired him to a great extent. Ed Sheeran studied at Thomas Mills High School in Framlingham, he also studied music with the help of 'Access to Music', a UK-based independent training provider. He joined the National Youth Theatre when he was a teenager. From his teenage days he started to recording CD's and started selling them. At the age of 14 he released "The Orange Room" and "Spinning Man" both were important works for his early life.

Ed Sheeran was inspired by the album 'Irish Heartbeat' by Van Morrison's, this inspired him to choose a career in music. He was also inspired by Eric Clapton, Paul McCartney and Bob Dylan. When he was 11, Ed Sheeran met singer-songwriter Damien Rice backstage at one of Rice's shows, and the young musician found added inspiration. Rice told Sheeran to write his own music, and Sheeran did that. Ed Sheeran influence us to like music of all forms while he sends messages, meanings in his music. Currently, Ed Sheeran's music blends his folksy, acoustic sound with hip-hop elements like rapping and beatboxing. People considered his music pop however you can hear a lot of rap influence due to his time in London and the grime music scene but he is also termed as an "acoustic hip-hop". You can also hear influences of traditional/folk music.

Ed Sheeran has made over 25 albums and made about 50 songs. His top tracks include "Shape Of You", "Castle On The Hill", "Photograph", "Thinking Out Loud". Some of his famous albums include "+" release on 2011, "X" release on 2014, "÷" release on 2017. In its first week, + debuted at No. 1 in the UK Albums Chart selling over 100,000 copies in its first week and was certified 7× Platinum by the British Phonographic Industry for sales of 2.1 million copies. The album "X" received positive reviews from music critics. It was an international commercial success, peaking at No. 1 in fifteen countries, while topping both the UK Albums Chart and the US Billboard 200, X also reached the top 5 in seven other countries. In April 2018, ÷ was named the best-selling album worldwide of 2017. Sheeran has sold more than 38 million albums and 100 million singles worldwide, making him one of the world's best-selling music artists. "Shape of You" is the second-most viewed YouTube video by views (3.86 billion). "Castle On The Hill" reach number 2 in numbers of counties. "Photograph" reached the top five on the main singles charts in more than five countries. "Thinking Out Loud" this song spent 19 weeks within the top 40 before peaking at number one in early November 2014; it became Sheeran's second number one single there.

Ed Sheeran predominantly plays acoustic guitars, and almost exclusively plays guitars made by the legendary American brand Martin. "Martin Ed Sheeran Divide" was one of Ed Sheeran's signature guitars. It's a small-scale dreadnought acoustic based heavily on the superb Martin LX1E. The difference comes in the visual stylings borrowed from Ed's 'Divide' album. This manifests itself through natty blue divide sign fingerboard inlays and a dashing logo on the guitar's headstock. "Martin LX1E" is an

another guitar Ed Sheeran used. This mini acoustic guitar has proven wildly popular since its launch. Despite its small size, the guitar produces a wonderfully bold, volume rich tone which elevates it above mere practice or travel guitar status. Ed Sheeran's main electric is actually Eric Clapton signature guitar which he had custom painted by a graffiti artist, and he has also been seen sporting a rather dashing PRS at the 2014 iTunes Festival.