**The Beatles**

**The Beatles** were an English [rock](https://kids.kiddle.co/Rock_music) band that began in [Liverpool](https://kids.kiddle.co/Liverpool), [England](https://kids.kiddle.co/England) in 1960. They were, and still are, one of the most [successful](https://kids.kiddle.co/) and [influential](https://kids.kiddle.co/) bands in the history of modern [music](https://kids.kiddle.co/Music).

The members of the band were [John Lennon](https://kids.kiddle.co/John_Lennon) ([rhythm guitar](https://kids.kiddle.co/Rhythm_guitar)), [Paul McCartney](https://kids.kiddle.co/Paul_McCartney) ([bass guitar](https://kids.kiddle.co/Bass_guitar)), [George Harrison](https://kids.kiddle.co/George_Harrison) ([lead guitar](https://kids.kiddle.co/Lead_guitar)) and [Ringo Starr](https://kids.kiddle.co/Ringo_Starr) ([drums](https://kids.kiddle.co/Drums)). They are sometimes called the “Fab Four”.

They first came to the [United States](https://kids.kiddle.co/United_States) in 1964. They were met at the airport by thousands of screaming American teenagers. The Beatles were so popular that they were attacked by screaming fans everywhere they went around the world. The effect they had on their fans was known as 'Beatlemania'. Their first hit song in the U.S. was “I Want to Hold Your Hand” released in 1964.

The Beatles made their first live American television appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show in February 1964. About 74 million viewers — about half of the American population — watched the group perform on the show. Beatles songs soon filled the top 5 places on the American top 40 chart - a record that has never been matched.

The Beatles are the [best-selling music act of all time](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_best-selling_music_artists). As of 2017, they hold the record for most number-one hits on the *Billboard* Hot 100, with twenty. The group was inducted into the [Rock and Roll Hall of Fame](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rock_and_Roll_Hall_of_Fame) in 1988. The band received seven [Grammy Awards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grammy_Award), and an [Academy Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award).