

Who Is Bill Gates

Bill Gates Sr.

Washington State Bar associations. He was the father of Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft. Gates was born in Bremerton, Washington, in 1925, and was the

William Henry Gates II (November 30, 1925 – September 14, 2020), better known as Bill Gates Sr., was an American attorney, philanthropist, and civic leader. He was the founder of the law firm Shidler McBroom & Gates (a predecessor of K&L Gates), and also served as president of both the Seattle King County and Washington State Bar associations. He was the father of Bill Gates, co-founder of Microsoft.

Bill Gates

Interviews: Bill Gates” . BBC. Archived from the original on February 20, 2023. Retrieved February 20, 2023. "The Billionaires Who Made Our World: Bill Gates” . Channel

William Henry Gates III (born October 28, 1955) is an American businessman and philanthropist. A pioneer of the microcomputer revolution of the 1970s and 1980s, he co-founded the software company Microsoft in 1975 with his childhood friend Paul Allen. Following the company's 1986 initial public offering (IPO), Gates became a billionaire in 1987—then the youngest ever, at age 31. Forbes magazine ranked him as the world's wealthiest person for 18 out of 24 years between 1995 and 2017, including 13 years consecutively from 1995 to 2007. He became the first centibillionaire in 1999, when his net worth briefly surpassed \$100 billion. According to Forbes, as of May 2025, his net worth stood at US\$115.1 billion, making him the thirteenth-richest individual in the world.

Born and raised in Seattle, Washington, Gates was privately educated at Lakeside School, where he befriended Allen and developed his computing interests. In 1973, he enrolled at Harvard University, where he took classes including Math 55 and graduate level computer science courses, but he dropped out in 1975 to co-found and lead Microsoft. He served as its CEO for the next 25 years and also became president and chairman of the board when the company incorporated in 1981. Succeeded as CEO by Steve Ballmer in 2000, he transitioned to chief software architect, a position he held until 2008. He stepped down as chairman of the board in 2014 and became technology adviser to CEO Satya Nadella and other Microsoft leaders, a position he still holds. He resigned from the board in 2020.

Over time, Gates reduced his role at Microsoft to focus on his philanthropic work with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the world's largest private charitable organization, which he and his then-wife Melinda French Gates co-chaired from 2000 until 2024. Focusing on areas including health, education, and poverty alleviation, Gates became known for his efforts to eradicate transmissible diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, and polio. After French Gates resigned as co-chair following the couple's divorce, the foundation was renamed the Gates Foundation, with Gates as its sole chair.

Gates is founder and chairman of several other companies, including BEN, Cascade Investment, TerraPower, Gates Ventures, and Breakthrough Energy. In 2010, he and Warren Buffett founded the Giving Pledge, whereby they and other billionaires pledge to give at least half their wealth to philanthropy. Named as one of the 100 most influential people of the 20th century by Time magazine in 1999, he has received numerous other honors and accolades, including a Presidential Medal of Freedom, awarded jointly to him and French Gates in 2016 for their philanthropic work. The subject of several documentary films, he published the first of three planned memoirs, *Source Code: My Beginnings*, in 2025.

Phoebe Gates

Burnouts. Phoebe Adele Gates was born in Seattle, Washington, as the youngest of three children to Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates. She attended the Lakeside

Phoebe Adele Gates (born September 14, 2002) is an American entrepreneur, women's health advocate, and social media influencer. The youngest child of Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates, she is recognized for her work in sustainable fashion, reproductive rights, and public health. Gates is the co-founder of the digital fashion platform Phia and a co-host of the podcast The Burnouts.

Gates Foundation

The Gates Foundation is an American private foundation founded by Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates. Based in Seattle, Washington, it was launched in

The Gates Foundation is an American private foundation founded by Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates. Based in Seattle, Washington, it was launched in 2000 and is reported to be the third-wealthiest charitable foundation in the world, holding \$77.2 billion in assets as of December 31, 2024. The primary stated goals of the foundation are to enhance healthcare and reduce extreme poverty across the world, and to expand educational opportunities and access to information technology in the U.S. Key individuals of the foundation include Warren Buffett, chief executive officer Mark Suzman, and Michael Larson.

The scale of the foundation and the way it seeks to apply business techniques to giving makes it one of the leaders in venture philanthropy, though the foundation itself notes that the philanthropic role has limitations. In 2007, its founders were ranked as the second most generous philanthropists in the U.S., behind Warren Buffett. As of 2018, Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates had donated around \$36 billion to the foundation. Since its founding, the foundation has endowed and supported a broad range of social, health, and education developments, including the establishment of the Gates Cambridge Scholarships at Cambridge University.

Family of Bill Gates

of Bill Gates, marrying him in 1994 and divorcing him in 2021. She is a philanthropist. Phoebe Gates (born 2002) is the youngest child of Bill Gates and

Bill Gates, the business magnate and philanthropist, is a prominent American family active in business and philanthropy. He co-founded Microsoft.

He and his former wife Melinda French Gates co-founded the Gates Foundation.

The family members have English, Scots-Irish and German heritage.

Mimi Gardner Gates

of the Seattle Art Museum. In 1996, she married Bill Gates Sr., the father of Bill Gates. Gates obtained a B.A. degree in art history from Stanford University

Mary "Mimi" Gates (née Gardner; born July 30, 1943) is an American art historian who is the recent director of the Seattle Art Museum. In 1996, she married Bill Gates Sr., the father of Bill Gates.

Melinda French Gates

executive Bill Gates, whom she married in 1994 and divorced in 2021. They have three children together. From 2000 to 2024, she and Gates co-chaired the Bill &

Melinda French Gates (born Melinda Ann French; August 15, 1964) is an American philanthropist. Born and raised in Dallas, Texas, she was educated at Ursuline Academy of Dallas, Duke University, and Duke's Fuqua School of Business. Shortly after joining Microsoft in 1987 as a multimedia product developer, she

began dating the company's co-founder and then-chief executive Bill Gates, whom she married in 1994 and divorced in 2021. They have three children together.

From 2000 to 2024, she and Gates co-chaired the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the world's largest private charitable organization. For their philanthropic endeavors, which focused on global health, development, and education, they received numerous awards and honors, including the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom and the French Legion of Honour. After French Gates resigned as co-chair in May 2024, Gates became sole chair of the renamed Gates Foundation.

As part of her divorce settlement, French Gates received \$12.5 billion for independent philanthropy, which she has stated will focus on women and families. She has become a prominent megadonor to the Democratic Party, with a focus on abortion rights, and endorsed Kamala Harris in the 2024 US presidential election. In April 2025, she published a memoir, *The Next Day: Transition, Change and Moving Forward*.

Consistently ranked by Forbes magazine as one of the world's most powerful women, French Gates was recognized as one of the BBC's 100 women of 2021. As of July 2025, her net worth is estimated at US\$30.6 billion, according to Forbes.

Gates Millennium Scholars Program

established in 1999 and funded by Microsoft founder Bill Gates through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Gates Millennium Scholars are provided with a full

The Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) Program is an academic scholarship award and program for higher education, available to high-achieving ethnic minority students in the United States. It was established in 1999 and funded by Microsoft founder Bill Gates through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Gates Millennium Scholars are provided with a full financial scholarship to attend any U.S. college or university, and are provided with leadership development opportunities, mentoring, as well as academic, financial and social support.

Gates Cambridge Scholarship

applicants receiving an award in recent years. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation established the Gates Cambridge Scholarships in 2000 with a \$210 million

The Gates Cambridge Scholarship is an international postgraduate award for students to study at the University of Cambridge. The scholarship is extremely competitive with around 1.2% of applicants receiving an award in recent years.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation established the Gates Cambridge Scholarships in 2000 with a \$210 million donation to support outstanding graduate students' study at the University of Cambridge. The gift is the largest single donation to a British university. The Gates Cambridge Trust's endowment is valued at £333.9 million as of 2023.

The scholarship covers the cost of a postgraduate degree at the University of Cambridge and includes funding for academic and professional development. As of 2023, 2,156 students from more than 112 countries have received the scholarship and more than 200 Gates Cambridge Scholars are studying at any time.

Michael Larson (businessman)

Investment, he oversees all investment activities of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Bill Gates's personal fortune. He assumed the role in 1994. Larson

Michael Larson (born October 1959) is an American businessman and investor. The founder and chief investment officer of Cascade Investment, he oversees all investment activities of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Bill Gates' personal fortune. He assumed the role in 1994.

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