

Who is Mark Zuckerberg?

Mark Zuckerberg is co-founder and CEO of the social-networking website Facebook, as well as one of the world's youngest billionaires.

Zuckerberg was born on May 14, 1984, in White Plains, New York, into a comfortable, well-educated family. He was raised in the nearby village of Dobbs Ferr. He developed an interest in computers at an early age; when he was about 12, he used Atari BASIC to create a messaging program he named "Zucknet." His father used the program in his dental office and the family also used Zucknet to communicate within the house. Together with his friends, he also created computer games just for fun.

He went to Ardsley High School and later studied at Phillips Exeter Academy, an exclusive preparatory school in New Hampshire where he also excelled in literature, earning a diploma in classics.

Yet Zuckerberg remained fascinated by computers and continued to work on developing new programs. While still in high school, he created an early version of the music software Pandora, which he called Synapse.

In the USA lots of schools and colleges have a book with photos of all students and teachers in it. Students keep it to remember their time at school. It is called a facebook. Mark looked at the Philips Academy facebook and wanted to make a computer version but he didn't have time.

Zuckerberg left school to study at Harvard University and he still had the idea in his head. He met Dustin Moskovitz, Chris Hughes and Eduardo Saverin; they worked on Mark's idea and created The Facebook, a site that allowed users to create their own profiles, upload photos, and communicate with other users. The group ran the site out of a dorm room at Harvard University until June 2004. That year Zuckerberg dropped

out of college and moved the company to Palo Alto, California. By the end of 2004, Facebook had 1 million users.



In the following years he experienced some ups and downs: Zuckerberg was criticized for the proliferation of fake news posts on his site leading up to the 2016 U.S. presidential election.

Then he came under fire again a few months later when it was revealed that Cambridge Analytica, a data firm with ties to President Donald Trump's 2016 campaign, had used private information from approximately 87 million Facebook profiles without the social network alerting its owners.

Neverthless Zuckerberg still remains one of the world's wealthiest people. In 2019, *Forbes* ranked Zuckerberg at No. 8 on its 'Billionaires' list—behind <u>Microsoft founder Bill Gates</u> (No. 2) and ahead of <u>Google co-founders Larry Page</u> (No. 10) and Sergey Brin (No. 14). The magazine estimated his net worth to be about \$62.3 billion at the time.

READ THE TEXT AND PUT IN ORDER THE EVENTS.

- a) Mark first had the idea for a computer facebook
- b) Mark moved to California
- c) Mark is considered one of the richest man in the world by the Forbes
- d) Mark got a diploma
- e) Mark had some troubles because of facebook faults
- f) Mark created his first messaging program
- g) Mark's idea of Facebook came out
- h) Mark created a music software