

## Walt Disney

Walt Disney is an American film producer and entrepreneur. He was born to a poor family in 1901. He was famous for co-founding Walt Disney Productions and the creation of the cartoon character Mickey Mouse.

In 1911, he fell in love with trains when he moved to Kansas where he also got a summer job selling snacks and newspapers to travelers on the railroad. He developed an early interest in drawing when he was asked to draw the horse of a retired neighborhood doctor. He used to be a cartoonist for the McKinley High School paper, while he took courses at the Art Institute of Chicago.

At the age of 16, Walt dropped out of school to join the army but was rejected for being underage. Aged 18, he worked as an artist at the Pesmen-Rubin Commercial Art Studio, then he started a business with his friend, Iwerks. As their company did not succeed, Walt decided to work at the Kansas City Film Ad Company, where he became interested in animation which made him start many businesses such as the Disney Brothers Studio which then became The Walt Disney Company where he developed the characters of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, Pluto and Goofy.

In 1955 Disney began plans for a new theme park and to develop Experimental Prototype Community of Tomorrow (EPCOT) in Florida. It was still under construction when Disney died in 1966. After Disney's death, his brother Roy carried on the plans to finish the Florida theme park, which opened in 1971 under the name Walt Disney World.

Disney was diagnosed with lung cancer in 1966 and died on December 15, 1966, at the age of 65