

Mike Tyson

Michael Gerard Tyson (born June 30, 1966) is an American former professional boxer who competed from 1985 to 2005. He reigned as the undisputed world heavyweight champion and holds the record as the youngest boxer to win a heavyweight title, at 20 years, four months, and 22 days old.^[4] Tyson won his first 19 professional fights by knockout, 12 of them in the first round. He won the WBC title in 1986 after stopping Trevor Berbick in the second round, and added the WBA and IBF titles after defeating James Smith and Tony Tucker in 1987. This made Tyson the first heavyweight boxer to simultaneously hold the WBA, WBC and IBF titles, and the only heavyweight to successively unify them.

Tyson became the lineal champion in 1988 when he knocked out Michael Spinks in 91 seconds of the first round.^[5] He successfully defended his titles nine times, which included victories over Larry Holmes and Frank Bruno. In 1990, Tyson lost the titles to underdog Buster Douglas, who knocked him out in the tenth round. Attempting to regain the titles, Tyson defeated Donovan Ruddock twice in 1991, but pulled out of a fight with then-undisputed heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield (who had defeated Douglas later in 1990) due to a rib injury.

In 1992, Tyson was convicted of rape and sentenced to six years in prison, but was released on parole after serving three years. After his release in 1995, he engaged in a series of comeback fights. He won the WBC and WBA titles in 1996, after stopping Frank Bruno and Bruce Seldon. With his defeat of Bruno, Tyson joined Floyd Patterson, Muhammad Ali, Tim Witherspoon, Evander Holyfield, and George Foreman as the only men in boxing history to have regained a heavyweight championship after having lost it. After being stripped of the WBC title in the same year, Tyson lost the WBA title to Evander Holyfield by an eleventh round stoppage. Their 1997 rematch ended when Tyson was disqualified for biting Holyfield's ears.

In 2002, Tyson fought for the world heavyweight title again at the age of 35, losing by knockout to Lennox Lewis. Tyson retired from professional boxing in 2006, after being knocked out in consecutive matches against Journeymen Danny Williams and Kevin McBride. Tyson declared bankruptcy in 2003, despite having received over \$30 million for several of his fights and \$300 million during his career. At the time the media reported that he had approximately \$23 million of debt.^[6]

Tyson was known for his ferocious and intimidating boxing style as well as his controversial behavior inside and outside the ring. Nicknamed "Iron"^[7] and "Kid Dynamite" in his early career, and later known as "The Baddest Man on the Planet",^[8] Tyson is considered one of the best heavyweights of all time.^[9] Tyson holds the third longest unified championship reign in heavyweight history at eight consecutive defenses. He currently ranks No. 15 in BoxRec's ranking of the greatest heavyweight boxers in history.^[10] He was ranked No. 16 on *The Ring*'s list of 100 greatest punchers of all time,^[11] and No. 1 in the ESPN.com list of "The Hardest Hitters in Heavyweight History".^[12] Sky Sports described him as "perhaps the most ferocious fighter to step into a professional ring".^[13] He has been inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame and the World Boxing Hall of Fame.

Mike Tyson	
 <div>Tyson in June 2019</div>	
Born	<div>Michael Gerard Tyson</div> June 30, 1966 <div>Brownsville, Brooklyn, New York, U.S.</div>
Spouse(s)	<div><div><div>Robin Givens ^(m. 1988; div. 1989)</div><div>Monica Turner ^(m. 1997; div. 2003)</div><div>Lakiha "Kiki" Spicer ^(m. 2009)</div></div></div>
Children	8
Awards	<i>Awards and honors</i>
Boxing career	
Statistics	
Nickname(s)	<div><div><div>Iron</div><div>Kid Dynamite</div><div>The Baddest Man on the Planet</div></div></div>
Weight(s)	Heavyweight
Height	5 ft 10 in (178 cm) ^{[1][2][3]}
Reach	71 in (180 cm)
Stance	Orthodox

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Boxing record	
Total fights	58
Wins	50
Wins by KO	44
Losses	6
No contests	2
Website	miketyson.com (http://miketyson.com/)

Early life

Michael Gerard Tyson was born in Brownsville, Brooklyn, New York, on June 30, 1966.^[14] He has an elder brother named Rodney (born c. 1961)^[15] and had an elder sister named Denise, who died of a heart attack at age 24 in February 1990.^[16]

Tyson's biological father is listed as "Purcell Tyson" (who was from Jamaica) on his birth certificate,^{[17][18]} but the man Tyson had known as his father was Jimmy Kirkpatrick. Kirkpatrick was from Grier Town, North Carolina (a predominantly black neighborhood that was annexed by the city of Charlotte),^[19] where he was one of the neighborhood's top baseball players. Kirkpatrick married and had a son, Tyson's half-brother Jimmie Lee Kirkpatrick, who would help to integrate Charlotte high school football in 1965. In 1959, Jimmy Kirkpatrick left his family and moved to Brooklyn, where he met Tyson's mother, Lorna Mae (Smith) Tyson. Kirkpatrick frequented pool halls, gambled and hung out on the streets. "My father was just a regular street guy caught up in the street world", Tyson said. Kirkpatrick abandoned the Tyson family around the time Mike was born, leaving Tyson's mother to care for the children on her own.^[20] Kirkpatrick died in 1992.^[21]

The family lived in Bedford-Stuyvesant until their financial burdens necessitated a move to Brownsville when Tyson was 10 years old.^[22] Tyson's mother died six years later, leaving 16-year-old Tyson in the care of boxing manager and trainer Cus D'Amato, who would become his legal guardian. Tyson later said, "I never saw my mother happy with me and proud of me for doing something: she only knew me as being a wild kid running the streets, coming home with new clothes that she knew I didn't pay for. I never got a chance to talk to her or know about her. Professionally, it has no effect, but it's crushing emotionally and personally."^[23]

Throughout his childhood, Tyson lived in and around neighborhoods with a high rate of crime. According to an interview in *Details*, his first fight was with a bigger youth who had pulled the head off one of Tyson's pigeons.^[24] Tyson was repeatedly caught committing petty crimes and fighting those who ridiculed his high-pitched voice and lisp. By the age of 13, he had been arrested 38 times.^[25] He ended up at the Tryon School for Boys in Johnstown, New York. Tyson's emerging boxing ability was discovered there by Bobby Stewart, a juvenile detention center counselor and former boxer. Stewart considered Tyson to be an outstanding fighter and trained him for a few months before introducing him to Cus D'Amato.^[20] Tyson dropped out of high school as a junior.^[26] He would be awarded an honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters from Central State University in 1989.^[27] Kevin Rooney also trained Tyson, and he was occasionally assisted by Teddy Atlas, although Atlas was dismissed by D'Amato when Tyson was 15. Rooney eventually took over all training duties for the young fighter.^[28]

Amateur career

As an amateur, Tyson won gold medals at the 1981 and 1982 Junior Olympic Games, defeating Joe Cortez in 1981 and beating Kelton Brown in 1982. Brown's corner threw in the towel in the first round. He fought Henry Tillman twice as an amateur, losing both bouts by decision. Tillman went on to win heavyweight gold at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles.^[29]

Professional career

Rise to stardom

Tyson made his professional debut as an 18-year-old on March 6, 1985, in Albany, New York. He defeated Hector Mercedes via first-round TKO.^[20] He had 15 bouts in his first year as a professional. Fighting frequently, Tyson won 26 of his first 28 fights by KO or TKO; 16 of those came in the first round.^[30] The quality of his opponents gradually increased to journeyman fighters and borderline contenders,^[30] like James Tillis, David Jaco, Jesse Ferguson, Mitch Green, and Marvis Frazier. His win streak attracted media attention and Tyson was billed as the next great heavyweight champion. D'Amato died in November 1985, relatively early into Tyson's professional career, and some speculate that his death was the catalyst to many of the troubles Tyson was to experience as his life and career progressed.^[31]

Tyson's first nationally televised bout took place on February 16, 1986, at Houston Field House in Troy, New York against journeyman heavyweight Jesse Ferguson, and was carried by ABC Sports. Tyson knocked down Ferguson with an uppercut in the fifth round that broke Ferguson's nose.^[32] During the sixth round, Ferguson began to hold and clinch Tyson in an apparent attempt to avoid further punishment. After admonishing Ferguson several times to obey his commands to box, the referee finally stopped the fight near the middle of the sixth round. The fight was initially ruled a win for Tyson by disqualification (DQ) of his opponent. The ruling was "adjusted" to a win by technical knockout (TKO) after Tyson's corner protested that a DQ win would end Tyson's string of knockout victories, and that a knockout would have been the inevitable result.

In July, after recording six more knockout victories, Tyson fought former world title challenger Marvis Frazier in Glens Falls, New York on another ABC Sports broadcast. Tyson won easily, charging at Frazier at the opening bell and hitting him with an uppercut that knocked Frazier unconscious thirty seconds into the fight.

On November 22, 1986, Tyson was given his first title fight against Trevor Berbick for the World Boxing Council (WBC) heavyweight championship. Tyson won the title by TKO in the second round, and at the age of 20 years and 4 months became the youngest heavyweight champion in history.^[33] Tyson's dominant performance brought many accolades. Donald Saunders wrote: "The noble and manly art of boxing can at least cease worrying about its immediate future, now [that] it has discovered a heavyweight champion fit to stand alongside Dempsey, Tunney, Louis, Marciano, and Ali."^[34]

Tyson intimidated fighters with his strength, combined with outstanding hand speed, accuracy, coordination and timing.^[35] Tyson also possessed notable defensive abilities, holding his hands high in the peek-a-boo style taught by his mentor Cus D'Amato^{[36][37]} to slip under and weave around his opponent's punches while timing his own.^[37] One of Tyson's signature moves was a right hook to his opponent's body followed by a right uppercut to his opponent's chin. Lorenzo Boyd, Jesse Ferguson and Jose Ribalta were each knocked down by this combination.

Undisputed champion

Expectations for Tyson were extremely high, and he was the favorite to win the heavyweight unification series, a tournament designed to establish an undisputed heavyweight champion. Tyson defended his title against James Smith on March 7, 1987, in Las Vegas, Nevada. He won by unanimous decision and added Smith's World Boxing Association (WBA) title to his existing belt.^[38] "Tyson-mania" in the media was becoming rampant.^[39] He beat Pinklon Thomas in May by TKO in the sixth round.^[40] On August 1 he took the International Boxing Federation (IBF) title from Tony Tucker in a twelve-round unanimous decision 119–111, 118–113, and 116–112.^[41] He became the first heavyweight to own all three major belts – WBA, WBC, and IBF – at the same time. Another fight, in October of that year, ended with a victory for Tyson over 1984 Olympic super heavyweight gold medalist Tyrell Biggs by TKO in the seventh round.^[42]

During this time, Tyson came to the attention of gaming company Nintendo. After witnessing one of Tyson's fights, Nintendo of America president, Minoru Arakawa was impressed by the fighter's "power and skill", prompting him to suggest Tyson be included in the upcoming Nintendo Entertainment System port of the *Punch Out!!* arcade game. In 1987, Nintendo released *Mike Tyson's Punch-Out!!*, which was well received and sold more than a million copies.^[43]

Tyson had three fights in 1988. He faced Larry Holmes on January 22, 1988, and defeated the legendary former champion by KO in the fourth round.^[44] This was the only knockout loss Holmes suffered in 75 professional bouts. In March, Tyson then fought contender Tony Tubbs in Tokyo, Japan, fitting in an easy second-round TKO victory amid promotional and marketing work.^[45]

On June 27, 1988, Tyson faced Michael Spinks. Spinks, who had taken the heavyweight championship from Larry Holmes via fifteen-round decision in 1985, had not lost his title in the ring but was not recognized as champion by the major boxing organizations. Holmes had previously given up all but the IBF title, and that was eventually stripped from Spinks after he elected to fight Gerry Cooney (winning by TKO in the fifth round) rather than IBF Number 1 Contender Tony Tucker, as the Cooney fight provided him a larger purse. However, Spinks did become the lineal champion by beating Holmes and many (including *Ring* magazine) considered him to have a legitimate claim to being the true heavyweight champion.^[46] The bout was, at the time, the richest fight in history and expectations were very high. Boxing pundits were predicting a titanic battle of styles, with Tyson's aggressive infighting conflicting with Spinks's skillful out-boxing and footwork. The fight ended after 91 seconds when Tyson knocked Spinks out in the first round; many consider this to be the pinnacle of Tyson's fame and boxing ability.^{[47][48]}

Controversy and upset

During this period, Tyson's problems outside the ring were also starting to emerge. His marriage to Robin Givens was heading for divorce,^[49] and his future contract was being fought over by Don King and Bill Cayton.^[50] In late 1988, Tyson parted with manager Bill Cayton and fired longtime trainer Kevin Rooney, the man many credit for honing Tyson's craft after the death of D'Amato.^{[37][51]} Following Rooney's departure, critics alleged that Tyson began to use the peek-a-boo style sporadically.^[52] In 1989, Tyson had only two fights amid personal turmoil. He faced the British boxer Frank Bruno in February. Bruno managed to stun Tyson at the end of the first round,^[53] although Tyson went on to knock Bruno out in the fifth round. Tyson then knocked out Carl "The Truth" Williams in the first round in July.^[54]

By 1990, Tyson seemed to have lost direction, and his personal life was in disarray amidst reports of less vigorous training prior to the Buster Douglas match.^[55] In a fight on February 11, 1990, he lost the undisputed championship to Douglas in Tokyo.^[56] Tyson was a huge betting favorite; indeed, the Mirage, the only casino to put out odds for the fight, made Tyson a 42/1 favorite. However, Douglas was at an emotional peak after losing his mother to a stroke 23 days prior to the fight; Douglas fought the fight of his life.^[56] Contrary to reports that Tyson was out of shape, it has been noted at the time of the fight that he had pronounced muscles, an absence of body fat and weighed 220 and 1/2 pounds, only two pounds more than he had weighed when he beat Michael Spinks 20 months earlier.^[57] Mentally, however, Tyson was unprepared. He failed to find a way past Douglas's quick jab that had a 12-inch (30 cm) reach advantage over his

own.^[58] Tyson did catch Douglas with an uppercut in the eighth round and knocked him to the floor, but Douglas recovered sufficiently to hand Tyson a heavy beating in the subsequent two rounds. After the fight, the Tyson camp would complain that the count was slow and that Douglas had taken longer than ten seconds to get back on his feet.^[59] Just 35 seconds into the tenth round, Douglas unleashed a brutal uppercut, followed by a four-punch combination of hooks that sent Tyson to the canvas for the first time in his career. He was counted out by referee Octavio Meyran.^[56]

The knockout victory by Douglas over Tyson, the previously undefeated "baddest man on the planet" and arguably the most feared boxer in professional boxing at that time, has been described as one of the most shocking upsets in modern sports history.^{[60][61]}

After Douglas

After the loss, Tyson recovered with first-round knockouts of Henry Tillman^[62] and Alex Stewart^[63] in his next two fights. Tyson's victory over Tillman, the 1984 Olympic heavyweight gold medalist, enabled Tyson to avenge his amateur losses at Tillman's hands. These bouts set up an elimination match for another shot at the undisputed world heavyweight championship, which Evander Holyfield had taken from Douglas in his first defense of the title.^[64]

Tyson, who was the number one contender, faced number two contender Donovan "Razor" Ruddock on March 18, 1991, in Las Vegas. Ruddock was seen as the most dangerous heavyweight around and was thought of as one of the hardest punching heavyweights. Tyson and Ruddock went back and forth for most of the fight, until referee Richard Steele controversially stopped the fight during the seventh round in favor of Tyson. This decision infuriated the fans in attendance, sparking a post-fight melee in the audience. The referee had to be escorted from the ring.^[65]

Tyson and Ruddock met again on June 28 that year, with Tyson knocking down Ruddock twice and winning a twelve-round unanimous decision 113–109, 114–108, and 114–108.^[66] A fight between Tyson and Holyfield for the undisputed championship was scheduled for November 8, 1991 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, but Tyson pulled out after sustaining a rib cartilage injury during training.^[67]

Rape conviction, prison, and conversion

Tyson was arrested in July 1991 for the rape of 18-year-old Desiree Washington, Miss Black Rhode Island, in an Indianapolis hotel room. Tyson's rape trial took place in the Marion County superior court from January 26 to February 10, 1992.^[68]

Partial corroboration of Washington's story came via testimony from Tyson's chauffeur, Virginia Foster, who confirmed Desiree Washington's state of shock after the incident. Further testimony came from Thomas Richardson, the emergency room physician who examined Washington more than 24 hours after the incident and confirmed that Washington's physical condition was consistent with rape.^[69]

Under lead defense lawyer Vincent J. Fuller's direct examination, Tyson claimed that everything had taken place with Washington's full cooperation and he claimed not to have forced himself upon her. When he was cross-examined by lead prosecutor Gregory Garrison, Tyson denied claims that he had misled Washington and insisted that she wanted to have sex with him.^[70] Tyson was convicted on the rape charge on February 10, 1992 after the jury deliberated for nearly 10 hours.^[71]

Alan Dershowitz, acting as Tyson's counsel, filed an appeal urging error of law in the Court's exclusion of evidence of the victim's past sexual conduct, the exclusion of three potential defense witnesses, and the lack of a jury instruction on honest and reasonable mistake of fact.^[72] The Indiana Court of Appeals ruled against Tyson in a 2–1 vote.^[72]

On March 26, 1992, Tyson was sentenced to six years in prison along with four years of probation.^[73] Despite being 25 years old at the time of the crime, he was assigned to the Indiana Youth Center (now the Plainfield Correctional Facility) in April 1992,^[74] and he was released in March 1995 after serving less than three years of his six-year sentence.^[75] During his incarceration, Mike Tyson converted to Islam^{[76][77]} and adopted the Muslim name Malik Abdul Aziz;^{[78][79][80]} other sources reported this name as Malik Shabazz.^[81]

Due to his conviction, Tyson is required to register as a Tier II sex offender under federal law.^{[82][83][84][85]}

Comeback

After being paroled from prison, Tyson easily won his comeback bouts against Peter McNeeley and Buster Mathis Jr.. Tyson's first comeback fight grossed more than US\$96 million worldwide, including a United States record \$63 million for PPV television. The viewing of the fight was purchased by 1.52 million homes, setting both PPV viewership and revenue records.^[86] The 89-second fight elicited criticism that Tyson's management lined up "tomato cans" to ensure easy victories for his return.^[87] *TV Guide* included the Tyson–McNeeley fight in their list of the 50 Greatest TV Sports Moments of All Time in 1998.^[88]

Tyson regained one belt by easily winning the WBC title against Frank Bruno in March 1996. It was the second fight between the two, and Tyson knocked out Bruno in the third round.^[89] In 1996, Lennox Lewis turned down a \$13.5 million guarantee to fight Tyson. This would've been Lewis's highest fight purse to date. Lewis then accepted \$4 million from Don King to step aside and allow Tyson to fight Bruce Seldon for an expected \$30 million instead with the intention that if Tyson defeated Seldon, he would fight Lewis next.^[90] Tyson added the WBA belt by defeating champion Seldon in the first round in September that year. Seldon was severely criticized and mocked in the popular press for seemingly collapsing to innocuous punches from Tyson.^[91]

Tyson–Holyfield fights

Tyson vs. Holyfield I

Tyson attempted to defend the WBA title against Evander Holyfield, who was in the fourth fight of his own comeback. Holyfield had retired in 1994 following the loss of his championship to Michael Moorer. It was said that Don King and others saw former champion Holyfield, who was 34 at the time of the fight and a huge underdog, as a washed-up fighter.^[92]

On November 9, 1996, in Las Vegas, Nevada, Tyson faced Holyfield in a title bout dubbed "Finally". In a surprising turn of events, Holyfield, who was given virtually no chance to win by numerous commentators,^[93] defeated Tyson by TKO when referee Mitch Halpern stopped the bout in round eleven.^[94] Holyfield became the second boxer to win a heavyweight championship belt three times. Holyfield's victory was marred by allegations from Tyson's camp of Holyfield's frequent headbutts^[95] during the bout. Although the headbutts were ruled accidental by the referee,^[95] they would become a point of contention in the subsequent rematch.^[96]

Tyson vs. Holyfield II and aftermath

Tyson and Holyfield fought again on June 28, 1997. Originally, Halpern was supposed to be the referee, but after Tyson's camp protested, Halpern stepped aside in favor of Mills Lane.^[97] The highly anticipated rematch was dubbed *The Sound and the Fury*, and it was held at the Las Vegas MGM Grand Garden Arena, site of the first bout. It was a lucrative event, drawing even more attention than the first bout and grossing \$100 million. Tyson received \$30 million and Holyfield \$35 million, the highest paid professional boxing purses until 2007.^{[98][99]} The fight was purchased by 1.99 million households, setting a pay-per-view buy rate record that stood until the May 5, 2007, De La Hoya-Mayweather boxing match.^{[99][100]}

Soon to become one of the most controversial events in modern sports,^[101] the fight was stopped at the end of the third round, with Tyson disqualified^[102] for biting Holyfield on both ears. The first time Tyson bit him, the match was temporarily stopped. Referee Mills Lane deducted two points from Tyson and the fight resumed. However, after the match resumed, Tyson crunched again, resulting in his disqualification, and Holyfield won the match. One bite was severe enough to remove a piece of Holyfield's right ear, which was found on the ring floor after the fight.^[103] Tyson later stated that his actions were retaliation for Holyfield repeatedly headbutting him without penalty.^[96] In the confusion that followed the ending of the bout and announcement of the decision, a near riot occurred in the arena and several people were injured.^[104] Tyson Holyfield II was the first heavyweight title fight in over 50 years to end in a disqualification.^[105]

As a subsequent fallout from the incident, US\$3 million was immediately withheld from Tyson's \$30-million purse by the Nevada state boxing commission (the most it could legally hold back at the time).^[106] Two days after the fight, Tyson issued a statement,^[107] apologizing to Holyfield for his actions and asked not to be banned for life over the incident.^[108] Tyson was roundly condemned in the news media but was not without defenders. Novelist and commentator Katherine Dunn wrote a column that criticized Holyfield's sportsmanship in the controversial bout and charged the news media with being biased against Tyson.^[109]

On July 9, 1997, Tyson's boxing license was rescinded by the Nevada State Athletic Commission in a unanimous voice vote; he was also fined US\$3 million and ordered to pay the legal costs of the hearing.^[110] As most state athletic commissions honor sanctions imposed by other states, this effectively made Tyson unable to box in the United States. The revocation was not permanent, as the commission voted 4–1 to restore Tyson's boxing license on October 18, 1998.^[111]

During his time away from boxing in 1998, Tyson made a guest appearance at WrestleMania XIV as an enforcer for the main event match between Shawn Michaels and Steve Austin. During this time, Tyson was also an unofficial member of Michaels's stable, D-Generation X. Tyson was paid \$3 million for being guest enforcer of the match at WrestleMania XIV.^[112]

1999–2005

In January 1999, Tyson returned to the ring for a match against the South African Francois Botha. This match also ended in controversy. While Botha initially controlled the fight, Tyson allegedly attempted to break Botha's arms during a tie-up and both boxers were cautioned by the referee in the ill-tempered bout. Botha was ahead on points on all scorecards and was confident enough to mock Tyson as the fight continued. Nonetheless, Tyson landed a straight right hand in the fifth round that knocked out Botha.^[113] Critics noticed Tyson stopped using the bob and weave defense altogether following this return.^[114]

Legal problems arose with Tyson once again. On February 5, 1999, Tyson was sentenced to a year's imprisonment, fined \$5,000, and ordered to serve two years probation along with undergoing 200 hours of community service for assaulting two motorists after a traffic accident on August 31, 1998.^[115] He served nine months of that sentence. After his release, he fought Orlin Norris on October 23, 1999. Tyson knocked down Norris with a left hook thrown after the bell sounded to end the first round. Norris injured his knee when he went down and said that he was unable to continue. Consequently, the bout was ruled a no contest.^[116]

In 2000, Tyson had three fights. The first match in January was staged at the MEN Arena in Manchester, England against Julius Francis. Following controversy as to whether Tyson was allowed into the country, he took four minutes to knock out Francis, ending the bout in the second round.^[118] He also fought Lou Savarese in June 2000 in Glasgow, winning in the first round; the fight lasted only 38 seconds. Tyson continued punching after the referee had stopped the fight, knocking the referee to the floor as he tried to separate the boxers.^[119] In October, Tyson fought the similarly controversial Andrew Golota,^[120] winning in round three after Golota was unable to continue due to a broken cheekbone, concussion, and neck injury.^[121] The result was later changed to no contest after Tyson refused to take a pre-fight drug test and then tested positive for marijuana in a post-fight urine test.^[122] Tyson fought only once in 2001, beating Brian Nielsen in Copenhagen by TKO in the seventh round.^[123]

"I'm the best ever. I'm the most brutal and vicious, the most ruthless champion there has ever been. There's no one can stop me. Lennox is a conqueror? No! I'm Alexander! He's no Alexander! I'm the best ever. There's never been anyone as ruthless. I'm Sonny Liston. I'm Jack Dempsey. There's no one like me. I'm from their cloth. There is no one who can match me. My style is impetuous, my defense is impregnable, and I'm just ferocious. I want your heart! I want to eat his children! Praise be to Allah!"

—Tyson's post-fight interview after knocking out Lou Savarese 38 seconds into the bout in June 2000.^[117]

Lewis vs. Tyson

Tyson once again had the opportunity to fight for a heavyweight championship in 2002. Lennox Lewis held the WBC, IBF, IBO and Lineal titles at the time. As promising fighters, Tyson and Lewis had sparred at a training camp in a meeting arranged by Cus D'Amato in 1984.^[124] Tyson sought to fight Lewis in Nevada for a more lucrative box-office venue, but the Nevada Boxing Commission refused him a license to box as he was facing possible sexual assault charges at the time.^[125]

Two years prior to the bout, Tyson had made several inflammatory remarks to Lewis in an interview following the Savarese fight. The remarks included the statement "I want your heart, I want to eat your children."^[126] On January 22, 2002, the two boxers and their entourages were involved in a brawl at a New York press conference to publicize the planned event.^[127] A few weeks later, the Nevada State Athletic Commission refused to grant Tyson a license for the fight, and the promoters had to make alternative arrangements. After multiple states balked at granting Tyson a license, the fight eventually occurred on June 8 at the Pyramid Arena in Memphis, Tennessee.

Lewis dominated the fight and knocked out Tyson with a right hand in the eighth round. Tyson was respectful after the fight and praised Lewis on his victory.^[128] This fight was the highest-grossing event in pay-per-view history at that time, generating \$106.9 million from 1.95 million buys in the US.^{[99][100]}

Later career, bankruptcy and retirement

In another Memphis fight on February 22, 2003, Tyson beat fringe contender Clifford Etienne 49 seconds into round one. The pre-fight was marred by rumors of Tyson's lack of fitness. Some said that he took time out from training to party in Las Vegas and get a new facial tattoo.^[129] This eventually proved to be Tyson's final professional victory in the ring.

In August 2003, after years of financial struggles, Tyson finally filed for bankruptcy.^{[130][131][132]}

On August 13, 2003, Tyson entered the ring for a face-to-face confrontation against K-1 fighting phenom, Bob Sapp, immediately after Sapp's win against Kimo Leopoldo in Las Vegas. K-1 signed Tyson to a contract with the hopes of making a fight happen between the two, but Tyson's felony history made it impossible for him to obtain a visa to enter Japan, where the fight would have been most profitable. Alternative locations were discussed, but the fight ultimately failed to happen.^[133]

On July 30, 2004, Tyson had a match against British boxer Danny Williams in another comeback fight, and this time, staged in Louisville, Kentucky. Tyson dominated the opening two rounds. The third round was even, with Williams getting in some clean blows and also a few illegal ones, for which he was penalized. In the fourth round, Tyson was unexpectedly knocked out. After the fight, it was revealed that Tyson was trying to fight on one leg, having torn a ligament in his other knee in the first round. This was Tyson's fifth career defeat.^[134] He underwent surgery for the ligament four days after the fight. His manager, Shelly Finkel, claimed that Tyson was unable to throw meaningful right-hand punches since he had a knee injury.^[135]

On June 11, 2005, Tyson stunned the boxing world by quitting before the start of the seventh round in a close bout against journeyman Kevin McBride. In the 2008 documentary *Tyson*, he stated that he fought McBride for a payday, that he did not anticipate winning, that he was in poor physical condition and fed up with taking boxing seriously. After losing three of his last four fights, Tyson said he would quit boxing because he felt he had lost his passion for the sport.^[136]

When Tyson fired everyone working for him and got new accountants in 2000, they prepared a statement showing he started the year \$3.3 million in the hole but made \$65.7 million.^[137] "The problem was that I spent \$62 million that year," Tyson said, "I just said to myself, Wow, this is over. Now I can go out and really have fun."^[137] In August 2007, Tyson pleaded guilty to drug possession and driving under the influence in an Arizona court, which stemmed from an arrest in December where authorities said Tyson, who has a long history of legal problems, admitted to using cocaine that day and to being addicted to the drug.^[138]

Exhibition tour

To help pay off his debts, Tyson returned to the ring in 2006 for a series of four-round exhibitions against journeyman heavyweight Corey "T-Rex" Sanders in Youngstown, Ohio.^[139] Tyson, without headgear at 5 ft 10.5 in and 216 pounds, was in quality shape, but far from his prime against Sanders, at 6 ft 6 in^[140] who wore headgear. Tyson appeared to be "holding back" in these exhibitions to prevent an early end to the "show". "If I don't get out of this financial quagmire there's a possibility I may have to be a punching bag for somebody. The money I make isn't going to help my bills from a tremendous standpoint, but I'm going to feel better about myself. I'm not going to be depressed", explained Tyson about the reasons for his "comeback".^[141]

Legacy

A 1998 ranking of "The Greatest Heavyweights of All-Time" by *The Ring* magazine placed Tyson at No.14 on the list.^[142] Despite criticism of facing underwhelming competition during his run as champion, Tyson's knockout power and intimidation factor made him the sport's most dynamic box-office draw.^[143] According to Douglas Quenqua of *The New York Times*, "The [1990s] began with Mike Tyson, considered by many to be the last great heavyweight champion, losing his title to the little-known Buster Douglas. Seven years later, Mr. Tyson bit Evander Holyfield's ear in a heavyweight champion bout—hardly a proud moment for the sport."^[144]

In *The Ring* magazine's list of the 80 Best Fighters of the Last 80 Years, released in 2002, Tyson was ranked at No. 72.^[145] He is ranked No. 16 on *The Ring* magazine's 2003 list of 100 greatest punchers of all time.^{[146][147]}

On June 12, 2011, Tyson was inducted to the International Boxing Hall of Fame alongside legendary Mexican champion Julio César Chávez, light welterweight champion Kostya Tszyu, and actor/screenwriter Sylvester Stallone.^[148]

Life after boxing

In an interview with *USA Today* published on June 3, 2005, Tyson said, "My whole life has been a waste – I've been a failure." He continued: "I just want to escape. I'm really embarrassed with myself and my life. I want to be a missionary. I think I could do that while keeping my dignity without letting people know they chased me out of the country. I want to get this part of my life over as soon as possible. In this country nothing good is going to come of me. People put me so high; I wanted to tear that image down."^[149] Tyson began to spend much of his time tending to his 350 pigeons in Paradise Valley, an upscale enclave near Phoenix, Arizona.^[150]

Tyson has stayed in the limelight by promoting various websites and companies.^[151] In the past Tyson had shunned endorsements, accusing other athletes of putting on a false front to obtain them.^[152] Tyson has held entertainment boxing shows at a casino in Las Vegas^[153] and started a tour of exhibition bouts to pay off his numerous debts.^[154]

On December 29, 2006, Tyson was arrested in Scottsdale, Arizona, on suspicion of DUI and felony drug possession; he nearly crashed into a police SUV shortly after leaving a nightclub. According to a police probable-cause statement, filed in Maricopa County Superior Court, "[Tyson] admitted to using [drugs] today and stated he is an addict and has a problem."^[155] Tyson pleaded not guilty on January 22, 2007 in Maricopa County Superior Court to felony drug possession and paraphernalia possession counts and two misdemeanor counts of driving under the influence of drugs. On February 8 he checked himself into an inpatient treatment program for "various addictions" while awaiting trial on the drug charges.^[156]

On September 24, 2007, Tyson pleaded guilty to possession of cocaine and driving under the influence. He was convicted of these charges in November 2007 and sentenced to 24 hours in jail. After his release, he was ordered to serve three years probation and undergo 360 hours community service. Prosecutors had requested a year-long jail sentence, but the judge praised Tyson for seeking help with his drug problems.^[157] On November 11, 2009, Tyson was arrested after getting into a scuffle at Los Angeles International airport with a photographer.^[158] No charges were filed.

Tyson has taken acting roles in movies and television, most famously playing a fictionalized version of himself in the 2009 film *The Hangover*.

In September 2011, Tyson gave an interview in which he made comments about former Alaska governor Sarah Palin including crude and violent descriptions of interracial sex. These comments were reprinted on *The Daily Caller* website. Journalist Greta van Susteren criticized Tyson and *The Daily Caller* over the comments, which she described as "smut" and "violence against women".^[159]

After debuting a one-man show in Las Vegas, Tyson collaborated with film director Spike Lee and brought the show to Broadway in August 2012.^{[160][161]} In February 2013, Tyson took his one-man show *Mike Tyson: Undisputed Truth* on a 36-city, three-month national tour. Tyson talks about his personal and professional life on stage.^[162] The one-man show was aired on HBO on November 16, 2013.

In October 2012, Tyson launched the Mike Tyson Cares Foundation.^[163] The mission of the Mike Tyson Cares Foundation is to "give kids a fighting chance" by providing innovative centers that provide for the comprehensive needs of kids from broken homes.



Tyson in the ring at Las Vegas in October 2006



Tyson with Ahmed Salim in April 2012

In August 2013, Tyson teamed up with Acquinity Interactive CEO Garry Jonas to form Iron Mike Productions, a boxing promotions company, formerly known as Acquinity Sports.

In September 2013, Tyson was featured on a six-episode television series on Fox Sports 1 that documented his personal and private life entitled *Being Mike Tyson*.^{[164][165]}

In November 2013, Tyson's *Undisputed Truth* was published, which appeared on *The New York Times* Best Seller list.^[166] An animated series named *Mike Tyson Mysteries*, featuring Tyson solving mysteries in the style of Scooby-Doo, premiered on Adult Swim in late October 2014.^[167]

In early March 2015, Tyson appeared on the track "Iconic" on Madonna's album *Rebel Heart*. Tyson says some lines at the beginning of the song.^[168]

In late March 2015, *Ip Man 3* was announced. With Donnie Yen reprising his role as the titular character, Bruce Lee's martial arts master, Ip Man, while Mike Tyson has been confirmed to join the cast.^[169] Principal photography began on March 25, 2015, and was premiered in Hong Kong on December 16, 2015.

In January 2017, Tyson launched his YouTube channel with Shots Studios, a comedy video and comedy music production company with young digital stars like Lele Pons and Rudy Mancuso. Tyson's channel includes parody music videos and comedy sketches.^{[170][171]}

In May 2017, Tyson published his second book, *Iron Ambition*,^[172] which details his time with trainer and surrogate father Cus D'Amato.

In October 2017, Tyson was announced as the new face of Australian car servicing franchise Ultra Tune. He has taken over from Jean-Claude van Damme in fronting television commercials for the brand, and the first advert is due to air in January 2018 during the Australian Open.^{[173][174]}

In February 2018, Tyson attended the international mixed martial arts (MMA) tournament in the Russian city of Chelyabinsk. Tyson said: "as I have travelled all over the country of Russia I have realised that the people are very sensitive and kind. But most Americans do not have any experience of that."^[175] A joint Mainland China-Hong Kong-directed film on female friendship titled *Girls 2: Girls vs Gangsters* (Vietnamese: *Girls 2: Những Cô Gái và Gang Tơ*) that was shoots earlier from July–August 2016 on several locations around Vietnam was released in March 2018, featuring Tyson as "Dragon".^{[176][177]}

Personal life

Tyson resides in Seven Hills, Nevada.^[179] He has been married three times. He has fathered seven children, one deceased, by three women; in addition to his biological children, Tyson includes the oldest daughter of his second wife as one of his own.^[180]

His first marriage was to actress Robin Givens, from February 7, 1988 to February 14, 1989.^[49] Givens was known at the time for her role on the sitcom *Head of the Class*. Tyson's marriage to Givens was especially tumultuous, with allegations of violence, spousal abuse and mental instability on Tyson's part.^[181] Matters came to a head when Tyson and Givens gave a joint interview with Barbara Walters on the ABC TV newsmagazine show *20/20* in September 1988, in which Givens described life with Tyson as "torture, pure hell, worse than anything I could possibly imagine."^[182] Givens also described Tyson as "manic depressive" on national television while Tyson looked on with an intent and calm expression.^[181] A month later, Givens announced that she was seeking a divorce from the allegedly abusive Tyson.^[181] Tyson later admitted in the book *Fire and Fear: The Inside Story of Mike Tyson*, that he punched Givens and stated, "that was the best punch I've ever thrown in my entire life."^[183] They had no children but she reported having had a miscarriage; Tyson reports that she was never pregnant and only used that to get him to marry her.^{[181][184]} During their marriage, the couple lived in a mansion in Bernardsville, New Jersey.^{[185][186]}



Tyson in February 2013



The gates of Tyson's mansion in Southington, Ohio, which he purchased and lived in during the 1980s.^[178]

His second marriage was to Monica Turner from April 19, 1997 to January 14, 2003.^[187] At the time of the divorce filing, Turner worked as a pediatric resident at Georgetown University Medical Center in Washington, D.C.^[188] She is the sister of Michael Steele, the former Lieutenant Governor of Maryland and former Republican National Committee Chairman.^[189] Turner filed for divorce from Tyson in January 2002, claiming that he committed adultery during their five-year marriage, an act that "has neither been forgiven nor condoned."^[188] The couple had two children; son Amir, and daughter Rayna.

On May 25, 2009, Tyson's four-year-old daughter Exodus was found by her seven-year-old brother Miguel, unconscious and tangled in a cord, dangling from an exercise treadmill. The child's mother untangled her, administered CPR and called for medical attention. She died of her injuries on May 26, 2009.^{[190][191]}

Eleven days after his daughter's death, Tyson wed for the third time, to longtime girlfriend Lakiha "Kiki" Spicer, age 32, exchanging vows on Saturday, June 6, 2009, in a short, private ceremony at the La Bella Wedding Chapel at the Las Vegas Hilton.^[192] They have two children; daughter, Milan, and son, Morocco.^[180]

Tyson has been diagnosed with bipolar disorder.^[193]

In March 2011, Tyson appeared on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* to discuss his new Animal Planet reality series, *Taking on Tyson*. In the interview with DeGeneres, Tyson discussed some of the ways he had improved his life in the past two years, including sober living and a vegan diet.^[194] However, in August 2013 he admitted publicly that he had lied about his sobriety and was on the verge of death from alcoholism.^[195] In December 2013, during an interview with Fox News, Tyson talked about his progress with sobriety and how being in the company of good people has made him want to be a better and more humble person. Tyson also talked about religion and said that he is very grateful to be a Muslim and that he needs Allah.^[196] He also revealed that he is no longer vegan after four years.^[196]

In 2015, Tyson announced that he was supporting Donald Trump's presidential candidacy.^[197]

In popular culture

At the height of his fame and career in the late 1980s and throughout the 1990s, Tyson was one of the most recognized sports personalities in the world. Apart from his many sporting accomplishments, his outrageous and controversial behavior in the ring and in his private life has kept him in the public eye and in the courtroom.^[198] As such, Tyson has appeared in myriad popular media in cameo appearances in film and television. He has also been featured in video games and as a subject of parody or satire.

The Blackstreet single "Bootie Call" was written about Tyson's rape trial and conviction.^[199] Boogie Down Productions' 1992 song "Say Gal" also addressed the rape trial.^[200]

The film *Tyson* was released in 1995 and was directed by Uli Edel. It explores the life of Mike Tyson, from the death of his guardian and trainer Cus D'Amato to his rape conviction. Tyson is played by Michael Jai White.

Published in 2007, author Joe Layden's book *The Last Great Fight: The Extraordinary Tale of Two Men and How One Fight Changed Their Lives Forever*, chronicled the lives of Tyson and Douglas before and after their heavyweight championship fight.

In 2008, the documentary *Tyson* premiered at the annual Cannes Film Festival in France.

He is the titular character in *Mike Tyson Mysteries*, which started airing on October 27, 2014 on Adult Swim. In the show, Tyson voices a fictionalized version of himself.^{[201][202]}

In 2016, Tyson starred in the documentary film *Nine Legends* where he discussed his time involved in WWE.^[203]

Professional boxing record

Professional record summary		
58 fights	50 wins	6 losses
By knockout	44	5
By decision	5	0
By disqualification	1	1
No contests	2	

[illegible]

47	Loss	45–2	Evander Holyfield	TKO	11 (12), 0:37	Nov 9, 1996	30 years, 132 days	MGM Grand Garden Arena, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.	Lost WBA heavyweight title
46	Win	45–1	Bruce Seldon	TKO	1 (12), 1:49	Sep 7, 1996	30 years, 69 days	MGM Grand Garden Arena, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.	Won WBA heavyweight title
45	Win	44–1	Frank Bruno	TKO	3 (12), 0:50	Mar 16, 1996	29 years, 260 days	MGM Grand Garden Arena, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.	Won WBC heavyweight title
44	Win	43–1	Buster Mathis Jr.	KO	3 (12), 2:32	Dec 16, 1995	29 years, 169 days	CoreStates Spectrum, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.	
43	Win	42–1	Peter McNeeley	DQ	1 (10), 1:29	Aug 19, 1995	29 years, 50 days	MGM Grand Garden Arena, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.	McNeeley disqualified after his manager entered the ring
42	Win	41–1	Donovan Ruddock	UD	12	Jun 28, 1991	24 years, 363 days	The Mirage, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.	
41	Win	40–1	Donovan Ruddock	TKO	7 (12), 2:22	Mar 18, 1991	24 years, 233 days	The Mirage, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.	
40	Win	39–1	Alex Stewart	TKO	1 (10), 2:27	Dec 8, 1990	24 years, 161 days	Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
39	Win	38–1	Henry Tillman	KO	1 (10), 2:47	Jun 16, 1990	23 years, 351 days	Caesars Palace, Paradise, Nevada, U.S.	
38	Loss	37–1	Buster Douglas	KO	10 (12), 1:22	Feb 11, 1990	23 years, 226 days	Tokyo Dome, Tokyo, Japan	Lost WBA, WBC, IBF, <i>The Ring</i> , and lineal heavyweight titles
37	Win	37–0	Carl Williams	TKO	1 (12), 1:33	Jul 21, 1989	23 years, 21 days	Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	Retained WBA, WBC, IBF, <i>The Ring</i> , and lineal heavyweight titles
36	Win	36–0	Frank Bruno	TKO	5 (12), 2:55	Feb 25, 1989	22 years, 240 days	Las Vegas Hilton, Winchester, Nevada, U.S.	Retained WBA, WBC, IBF, <i>The Ring</i> , and

									lineal heavyweight titles
35	Win	35–0	Michael Spinks	KO	1 (12), 1:31	Jun 27, 1988	21 years, 363 days	Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	Retained WBA, WBC, and IBF heavyweight titles; Won <i>The Ring</i> and lineal heavyweight titles
34	Win	34–0	Tony Tubbs	TKO	2 (12), 2:54	Mar 21, 1988	21 years, 265 days	Tokyo Dome, Tokyo, Japan	Retained WBA, WBC, and IBF heavyweight titles
33	Win	33–0	Larry Holmes	KO	4 (12), 2:55	Jan 22, 1988	21 years, 186 days	Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	Retained WBA, WBC, and IBF heavyweight titles
32	Win	32–0	Tyrell Biggs	TKO	7 (15), 2:59	Oct 16, 1987	21 years, 108 days	Convention Hall, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	Retained WBA, WBC, and IBF heavyweight titles
31	Win	31–0	Tony Tucker	UD	12	Aug 1, 1987	21 years, 32 days	Las Vegas Hilton, Winchester, Nevada, U.S.	Retained WBA and WBC heavyweight titles; Won IBF heavyweight title
30	Win	30–0	Pinklon Thomas	TKO	6 (12), 2:00	May 30, 1987	20 years, 334 days	Las Vegas Hilton, Winchester Nevada, U.S.	Retained WBA and WBC heavyweight titles
29	Win	29–0	James Smith	UD	12	Mar 7, 1987	20 years, 250 days	Las Vegas Hilton, Winchester, Nevada, U.S.	Retained WBC heavyweight title; Won WBA heavyweight title
28	Win	28–0	Trevor Berbick	TKO	2 (12), 2:35	Nov 22, 1986	20 years, 145 days	Las Vegas Hilton, Winchester, Nevada, U.S.	Won WBC heavyweight title
27	Win	27–0	Alfonso Ratliff	TKO	2 (10), 1:41	Sep 6, 1986	20 years, 68 days	Las Vegas Hilton, Winchester, Nevada, U.S.	

26	Win	26–0	José Ribalta	TKO	10 (10), 1:37	Aug 17, 1986	20 years, 48 days	Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
25	Win	25–0	Marvis Frazier	KO	1 (10), 0:30	Jul 26, 1986	20 years, 26 days	Civic Center, Glens Falls, New York, U.S.	
24	Win	24–0	Lorenzo Boyd	KO	2 (10), 1:43	Jul 11, 1986	20 years, 11 days	Stevensville Hotel, Swan Lake, New York, U.S.	
23	Win	23–0	William Hosea	KO	1 (10), 2:03	Jun 28, 1986	19 years, 363 days	Houston Field House, Troy, New York, U.S.	
22	Win	22–0	Reggie Gross	TKO	1 (10), 2:36	Jun 13, 1986	19 years, 348 days	Madison Square Garden, New York City, New York, U.S.	
21	Win	21–0	Mitch Green	UD	10	May 20, 1986	19 years, 324 days	Madison Square Garden, New York City, New York, U.S.	
20	Win	20–0	James Tillis	UD	10	May 3, 1986	19 years, 307 days	Civic Center, Glens Falls, New York, U.S.	
19	Win	19–0	Steve Zouski	KO	3 (10), 2:39	Mar 10, 1986	19 years, 253 days	Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Uniondale, New York, U.S.	
18	Win	18–0	Jesse Ferguson	TKO	6 (10), 1:19	Feb 16, 1986	19 years, 231 days	Houston Field House, Troy, New York, U.S.	Originally a DQ win for Tyson, later ruled a TKO
17	Win	17–0	Mike Jameson	TKO	5 (8), 0:46	Jan 24, 1986	19 years, 208 days	Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
16	Win	16–0	David Jaco	TKO	1 (10), 2:16	Jan 11, 1986	19 years, 195 days	Plaza Convention Center, Albany, New York, U.S.	

15	Win	15–0	Mark Young	TKO	1 (10), 0:50	Dec 27, 1985	19 years, 180 days	Latham Coliseum, Latham, New York, U.S.	
14	Win	14–0	Sammy Scaff	TKO	1 (10), 1:19	Dec 6, 1985	19 years, 159 days	Felt Forum, New York City, New York, U.S.	
13	Win	13–0	Conroy Nelson	TKO	2 (8), 0:30	Nov 22, 1985	19 years, 145 days	Latham Coliseum, Latham, New York, U.S.	
12	Win	12–0	Eddie Richardson	KO	1 (8), 1:17	Nov 13, 1985	19 years, 136 days	Ramada Hotel, Houston, Texas, U.S.	
11	Win	11–0	Sterling Benjamin	TKO	1 (8), 0:54	Nov 1, 1985	19 years, 124 days	Latham Coliseum, Latham, New York, U.S.	
10	Win	10–0	Robert Colay	KO	1 (8), 0:37	Oct 25, 1985	19 years, 117 days	Atlantis Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
9	Win	9–0	Donnie Long	TKO	1 (6), 1:28	Oct 9, 1985	19 years, 101 days	Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
8	Win	8–0	Michael Johnson	KO	1 (6), 0:39	Sep 5, 1985	19 years, 67 days	Atlantis Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
7	Win	7–0	Lorenzo Canady	KO	1 (6), 1:05	Aug 15, 1985	19 years, 46 days	Steel Pier, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
6	Win	6–0	Larry Sims	KO	3 (6), 2:04	Jul 19, 1985	19 years, 19 days	Mid-Hudson Civic Center, Poughkeepsie, New York, U.S.	
5	Win	5–0	John Alderson	TKO	2 (6), 3:00	Jul 11, 1985	19 years, 11 days	Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	
4	Win	4–0	Ricardo Spain	TKO	1 (6), 0:39	Jun 20, 1985	18 years, 355 days	Steel Pier, Atlantic City, New Jersey, U.S.	

3	Win	3–0	Don Halpin	KO	4 (4), 1:04	May 23, 1985	18 years, 327 days	Albany, New York, U.S.	
2	Win	2–0	Trent Singleton	TKO	1 (4), 0:52	Apr 10, 1985	18 years, 284 days	Albany, New York, U.S.	
1	Win	1–0	Hector Mercedes	TKO	1 (4), 1:47	Mar 6, 1985	18 years, 249 days	Plaza Convention Center, Albany, New York, U.S.	

Pay-per-view bouts

PPV home television

United States

No.	Date	Fight	Billing	Buys	Network
1	June 27, 1988	Tyson vs. Spinks	Once and For All	700,000 ^[204]	King Vision
2	March 18, 1991	Tyson vs. Ruddock	The Fight of the Year	960,000 ^[205]	King Vision
3	June 28, 1991	Tyson vs. Ruddock II	The Rematch	1,250,000 ^[206]	King Vision
4	August 19, 1995	Tyson vs. McNeeley	He's Back	1,600,000 ^[207]	Showtime/King Vision
5	March 16, 1996	Tyson vs. Bruno II	The Championship Part 1	1,400,000 ^[207]	Showtime/King Vision
6	September 7, 1996	Tyson vs. Seldon	The Championship Part 2	1,150,000 ^[208]	Showtime/King Vision
7	November 9, 1996	Tyson vs. Holyfield	Finally	1,600,000 ^[207]	Showtime/King Vision
8	June 28, 1997	Tyson vs. Holyfield II	The Sound and the Fury	1,990,000 ^[208]	Showtime/King Vision
9	Jan 16, 1999	Tyson vs. Botha	Tyson-Botha	750,000 ^[208]	Showtime
10	October 20, 2000	Tyson vs. Golota	Showdown in Motown	450,000 ^[208]	Showtime
11	June 8, 2002	Lewis vs. Tyson	Lewis-Tyson Is On	1,970,000 ^[208]	HBO/Showtime
12	February 22, 2003	Tyson vs. Etienne	Back to Business	100,000 ^[209]	Showtime
13	July 30, 2004	Tyson vs. Williams	Return for Revenge	150,000 ^[210]	Showtime
14	June 11, 2005	Tyson vs. McBride	Tyson-McBride	250,000 ^[211]	Showtime
		Total sales		14,320,000	

United Kingdom

Date	Fight	Network	Buys	Source(s)
March 16, 1996	Frank Bruno vs. Mike Tyson II	Sky Box Office	600,000	^[212]
June 28, 1997	Evander Holyfield vs. Mike Tyson II	Sky Box Office	550,000	^[213]
January 29, 2000	Mike Tyson vs. Julius Francis	Sky Box Office	500,000	^[213]
June 8, 2002	Lennox Lewis vs. Mike Tyson	Sky Box Office	750,000	^[214]
	Total sales		2,400,000	

Closed-circuit theatre TV

Select pay-per-view boxing buy rates at American closed-circuit theatre television venues:

Date	Fight	Buys	Revenue	Revenue (inflation)
June 27, 1988	Mike Tyson vs. Michael Spinks	800,000 ^[215]	\$32,000,000 ^[215]	\$67,790,000
June 28, 1997	Evander Holyfield vs. Mike Tyson II	120,000 ^[216]	\$9,000,000 ^[217]	\$14,050,000
	Total sales	920,000	\$41,000,000	\$79,930,000

Awards and honors

Humane letters

The Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, in 1989 awarded Tyson an honorary doctorate in humane letters: "Mike demonstrates that hard work, determination and perseverance can enable one to overcome any obstacles."^[27]


Boxing

- *Ring* magazine Prospect of the Year (1985)
- 2× *Ring* magazine Fighter of the Year (1986, 1988)
- 2× Sugar Ray Robinson Award winner (1987, 1989)
- BBC Sports Personality of the Year Overseas Personality (1989)
- International Boxing Hall of Fame inductee (Class of 2011)
- "Guirlande d'Honneur" by the FICTS (Milan, 2010) ^[218]

Professional wrestling

- WWE Hall of Fame (Class of 2012)^[219]

See also

 *Mike Tyson* – Wikipedia book

- List of lineal boxing world champions
- List of undisputed boxing champions
- List of heavyweight boxing champions
- List of WBA world champions
- List of WBC world champions
- List of IBF world champions
- List of *The Ring* world champions

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External links

- Official website (<http://www.miketyson.com/>) 
- Professional boxing record for Mike Tyson (<http://boxrec.com/en/boxer/474>) from BoxRec
- Mike Tyson amateur boxing record (https://web.archive.org/web/20101206023345/http://boxing-scoop.com/show_boxer.php?boxer_ID=3854)
- Mike Tyson (<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0005512/>) on IMDb
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- "Mike Tyson Film Takes a Swing at His Old Image" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/11/movies/11aran.html>), 2008 article at *The New York Times*
- "Mike Tyson Moves to the Suburbs" (<https://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/20/magazine/mag-20Tyson-t.html>), 2011 article at *The New York Times*

Sporting positions		
Amateur boxing titles		
Previous: Olian Alexander	U.S. Golden Gloves heavyweight champion 1984	Next: Jerry Goff
World boxing titles		
Preceded by Trevor Berbick	WBC heavyweight champion November 22, 1986 – February 11, 1990	Succeeded by Buster Douglas
Preceded by James Smith	WBA heavyweight champion March 7, 1987 – February 11, 1990	
Preceded by Tony Tucker	IBF heavyweight champion August 1, 1987 – February 11, 1990	
Vacant Title last held by Leon Spinks	Undisputed heavyweight champion August 1, 1987 – February 11, 1990	
Preceded by Michael Spinks	<i>The Ring</i> heavyweight champion June 27, 1988 – 1990 Title discontinued until 2002	Vacant Title next held by Lennox Lewis
	Lineal heavyweight champion June 27, 1988 – February 11, 1990	Succeeded by Buster Douglas
Preceded by Frank Bruno	WBC heavyweight champion March 16, 1996 – September 24, 1996 Vacated	Vacant Title next held by Lennox Lewis
Preceded by Bruce Seldon	WBA heavyweight champion September 7, 1996 – November 9, 1996	Succeeded by Evander Holyfield
Awards		
Previous: Mark Breland	<i>The Ring</i> Prospect of the Year 1985	Next: Michael Williams
Previous: Marvin Hagler Donald Curry	<i>The Ring</i> Fighter of the Year 1986	Next: Evander Holyfield
Previous: Marvin Hagler	BWAA Fighter of the Year 1986	Next: Julio César Chávez
Previous: Evander Holyfield	<i>The Ring</i> Fighter of the Year 1988	Next: Pernell Whitaker
Previous: Julio César Chávez	BWAA Fighter of the Year 1988	
Previous: Kelvin Seabrooks vs. Thierry Jacob Round 1	<i>The Ring</i> Round of the Year vs. Michael Spinks Round 1 1988	Next: Lupe Gutierrez vs. Jeff Franklin Round 12
Previous: Steffi Graf	BBC Overseas Sports Personality of the Year 1989	Next: Mal Meninga
Previous:	<i>The Ring</i> Fight of the Year	Next:

Saman Sorjaturong vs. Humberto González	vs. Evander Holyfield 1996	Arturo Gatti vs. Gabriel Ruelas
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