

Featured Club – Manchester United

Manchester United

This week’s featured club is one of the most famous football clubs in the world. They have fans on every continent and have won the Premier League more times than any other team.

Aims

In this article, you will:

- learn some new vocabulary
- practise listening or reading
- learn some interesting information about Manchester United football club



Manchester United - Action Images
Jason Cairnduff Livepic

Matching game

Match the words with the descriptions.

1. phenomenon	2. arguably	3. superb	4. insight
5. benefit	6. merchandise	7. standard-bearer	8. heritage

- a look at something others may not see
- the leaders of people who have similar ideas or interests
- possibly (according to someone)
- products (related to the club)
- something that is impressive or unusual
- features belonging to the club, such as traditions, which are still important now.
- excellent
- to be suitable for something

Watch the video

If you have access to the internet, now watch the Premier League’s video guide to Manchester United. If you don’t have access to the internet, you can read the transcript.

Featured Club – Manchester United

Transcript:

Hi there. I'm John Dykes. Welcome to the Premier League's video guide to Manchester United Football Club. Here we'll take you behind the scenes at Old Trafford, we'll give you an insight into the match day experience and also suggest one or two other things to do and see in and around the club.

Manchester United is more than just a football club. It's a footballing phenomenon. From its humble beginnings as Newton Heath in 1878, Manchester United has grown to become arguably one of the biggest football clubs of all time with a profile that's recognised all around the world.

Old Trafford has been home to United since 1910. The theatre of dreams is the largest domestic ground in England. Offering a capacity crowd of over 75,000. Sitting in the Trafford borough of the city, the theatre of dreams offers easy access to all the major sights Manchester has to offer.

Only at the Manchester United Museum and tour can you experience United's story in all its full glory. This award winning experience offers fans an all access visit through the eyes of Manchester United greats and provides you with superb insights into 130 years of United heritage.

25 No tour would be complete without a visit to the Manchester United club shop. Here you'll quickly discover, that when it comes to merchandise, no one does it better than United.

30 As befits a squad full of world-class footballers, United offers their stars one of the finest training complexes in the world. The Trafford Training Centre or simply Carrington as its come to be known, offers all the state-of-the-art facilities needed in the schooling and rehabilitation of the modern day football team.

35 The Red Devils are the most successful club in the history of English football. Over the years, they have claimed a record 19 league titles, fifteen domestic cups, three European cups and have even been crowned club world champions twice. With United claiming their twelfth Premier League title last season, this famous old club have proven yet again, they're still the standard bearers of top-flight English football.

45 If you'd like to experience the thrill of the Barclays Premier league in person, then why not visit the ticket availability section of premierleague.com or visit the club's website.

Comprehension Task

Read the statements and decide whether they are true or false.

1. Before becoming Manchester United, the club started as Newton Heath.
2. Old Trafford has been the stadium for Manchester United since 1900.
3. Old Trafford is nicknamed 'The Theatre of Dreams'.
4. Manchester United are the second most successful club in the history of English football.
5. Manchester United are also called 'The Black Devils'.
6. You can buy lots of Manchester United merchandise in the club shop.
7. Visitors can take tours of Old Trafford and find out about the club's history.
8. Manchester United claimed their 11th Premier League title last year.

Featured Club – Manchester United

Manchester United in Numbers

Match the numbers with the things they refer to.

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. <i>The capacity of Old Trafford.</i> | a. 1910 |
| 2. <i>The number of Premier League titles they've won. *</i> | b. 15 |
| 3. <i>The number of Domestic Cups they've won.</i> | c. 12 |
| 4. <i>The year they formed as Newton Heath.</i> | d. 19 |
| 5. <i>The number of League Titles they've won.</i> | e. 1878 |
| 6. <i>The number of European Cups they've won.</i> | f. 3 |
| 7. <i>The year Old Trafford became their home.</i> | g. 75,000 |
| 8. <i>The number of times they've been crowned Club World Champions.</i> | h. 2 |

*When this video guide was made.

Language task: Manchester United and the Present Perfect

Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the verb in the present perfect simple.

- Since its beginning in 1878, Manchester United _____ (become) one of the biggest football clubs of all time.
- Manchester United _____ (play) at Old Trafford since 1910.
- Manchester United _____ (win) many Titles and domestic Cups.
- They _____ (also claim) 3 European Cups.
- By winning their twelfth Premier League title, they _____ (prove) they are still the standard-bearers of English football.
- The Manchester United Museum and Tour _____ (win) awards for the experience it offers visitors.

Featured Club – Manchester United

Language task: Manchester United and some Interesting Adjectives

Match the adjectives to the correct meanings.

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. <i>Ordinary; not special or very important</i> | a. finest |
| 2. <i>Something that is one of the best in the world</i> | b. state-of-the-art |
| 3. <i>The best example of something</i> | c. top-flight |
| 4. <i>Very modern and using the most recent ideas and methods</i> | d. humble |
| 5. <i>The highest in standard or quality</i> | e. modern-day |
| 6. <i>Relating to people or things from modern times and not from a time in the past</i> | f. world-class |

Answers

Matching game: 1 – e, 2 – c, 3 – g, 4 – a, 5 – h, 6 – d, 7 – b, 8 – f

Comprehension Task: 1 – true, 2 – false, 3 – true, 4 – true, 5 – false, 6 – true, 7 – true, 8 – false

Manchester United in Numbers: 1 – g, 2 – c, 3 – b, 4 – e, 5 – d, 6 – f, 7 – a, 8 – h

Language Task- Manchester United and the Present Perfect: 1 – have become / has become, 2 – have played / has played, 3 – have won / has won, 4 - have also claimed, 5 – have proven, 6 – has won

Language Task - Manchester United and some Interesting Adjectives: 1 – d, 2 – f, 3 – a, 4 – b, 5 – c, 6 – e