

## David Beckham

David Beckham is one of Britain's most famous footballer players. He was captain of the English national team from 2000 to 2006, scored in three different FIFA World Cups, and played midfield for clubs in Manchester, England and Madrid, Spain, before agreeing to move to Los Angeles, to play for Los Angeles Galaxy team on a five year contract beginning on July 1, 2007.



He was born David Robert Joseph Beckham on May 2, 1975. In 1986 he was a Manchester United's mascot for a match against West Ham United.

In the 1998 FIFA World Cup he played all of England's qualifying matches and scored in several important victories. He received a red card for violent conduct in England's match against Argentina. After losing the game England was eliminated, Beckham was made a scapegoat and became the target of criticism and abuse in media.

He had a good season in 1999 - 2000 and helped Manchester United to win the Premier League. At that time, he married singer Victoria Beckham (nee' Adams) from the popular musical group The Spice Girls, and the couple had their first son, Brooklyn, born in 1999.

In February 2003, following the defeat to Arsenal, the Manchester United's manager Alex Ferguson entered the changing room and

kicked a football boot that struck Beckham over the eye, causing a cut that required stitches.

He signed a four-year contract with Real Madrid, beginning on July 1, 2003, and worth a potential 40 million dollars. I

In 2005 Beckham became a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador. He was also involved in promoting London's successful bid for the 2012 Olympic Games. In 2005, he established football academies in Los Angeles and East London.

During the FIFA World Cup 2006, he played for England, and became the first ever English player to score in three World Cups. In

In 2009, David played on loan at AC Milan to maintain his fitness after ending the season with the Galaxy. He ended up staying with Milan for five months, from January to May 2009. In 2010, he also arranged to embark on a second loan spell at AC Milan from the Galaxy, to play for Milan for another five months.

The Beckhams, who have become known as "Posh and Becks", have three sons: Brooklyn Joseph Beckham (born 1999), Romeo James Beckham (born 2002), and Cruz David Beckham (born 2005) who was named "Cruz" in honor of their friend Tom Cruise. Their daughter Harper Seven Becham was born on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

the quarter final game against Portugal, Beckham was replaced because of his injury in the middle of the game. Without him the English team lost and was knocked out of the World Cup.

In June 2007 Beckham played his final game for Real Madrid, winning a medal and celebrating with his friends Tom and Katie Cruse, who attended the game.