

Virat Kohli - Biography

Virat Kohli, born on November 5, 1988, in Delhi, India, is widely regarded as one of the greatest batsmen in cricket history. He has captained the Indian national team across all formats and has been a pivotal figure in India's cricketing successes over the past decade.

Early Life and Domestic Career

Kohli's cricketing journey began in Delhi, where he was among the first intake of the West Delhi Cricket Academy in 1998. He represented Delhi in various age-group tournaments, showcasing his talent

early on. In 2006, he made his first-class debut for Delhi against Tamil Nadu. Notably, during a Ranji Trophy match against Karnataka in December 2006, Kohli scored 90 runs despite the personal tragedy of losing his father the same day, highlighting his dedication to the sport.

International Debut and Rise

Kohli captained the Indian Under-19 team to victory in the 2008 Under-19 Cricket World Cup in Malaysia.

Later that year, he made his One Day International (ODI) debut against Sri Lanka. Over time, he established himself as a mainstay in the Indian batting lineup, known for his consistency and ability to chase targets. He was part of the Indian team that won the 2011 Cricket World Cup, contributing a century in his World Cup debut match against Bangladesh.

Test Career and Captaincy

Kohli made his Test debut in 2011 against the West Indies. He was appointed Test captain in 2014 and led India to numerous series victories, both at home and abroad. Under his leadership, India became a dominant force in Test cricket, achieving the number one ranking in the ICC Test rankings.

Indian Premier League (IPL)

In the IPL, Kohli has been associated with the Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) since the league's

inception in 2008. He became the team's captain and is the highest run-scorer in IPL history. In the 2016 season, he set a record by scoring 973 runs, including four centuries.

Records and Achievements

Kohli holds numerous records, including being the fastest player to reach 8,000, 9,000, 10,000, 11,000,

and 12,000 runs in ODIs. He has the most centuries in run-chases and is second only to Sachin Tendulkar

in the number of ODI centuries. In 2018, Time magazine named him one of the 100 most influential people

in the world.

Recent Developments

In 2024, Kohli played a pivotal role in India's triumph at the ICC T20 World Cup, scoring a match-winning

76 runs in the final against South Africa. Following this victory, he announced his retirement from T20

International cricket to focus on the longer formats of the game.

Off the Field

Beyond cricket, Kohli is known for his philanthropic efforts, including supporting underprivileged children. He is married to Bollywood actress Anushka Sharma, and the couple is celebrated as one of

India's most prominent power couples.

For a more detailed account of Virat Kohli's life and career, you might consider reading "Driven: The Virat Kohli Story" by Vijay Lokapally.