

The Number ...

What does it mean to you?



The Number 7

Intelligence. Consistency. Skill. Speed. Speed of the mind. Score. Top left. Top left. Score. Red. Red. It's got to be red.

David Beckham: It's always a special feeling, seeing the United shirt. I always used to get Man United shirts from my mum and dad. Well, from my dad really and then I used to get a Tottenham shirt from from my granddad but the United shirt was the one that I wore in the morning and then I had to wear the Tottenham kit in the afternoon. I was a Manchester United fan probably from four or five years old, you know, as far as I can remember and you always were aware of how important the number seven shirt was.

In general right, it's like the number 10 but in Manchester United means. uh something more I think ...

Cristiano Ronaldo: All players know in Manchester and around the world as well that number seven is a mythic number in this club.

The reputation of players wearing the seven built up from really George Best day. George Best was special. A grounded, humble player. I would have loved to play with him. All of a sudden I started playing in the center of midfield. I was wearing the seven all the time and I just felt, this is a lucky number for me. I wore the seven for the next 12 years. People from Manchester. Their mad aren't they.

It was a city for number seven. The number seven is the one uh, is one who can create things who have to create things. Sometimes it needs to be free and Alex Ferguson gave me this freedom.

He's my mom's favorite player so she always goes on about Eric Cantona. He knew he was a good player and I like that about him

I play football like I play in the street. Play football like I play with my friends. The fans love this kind of player.

Anytime I see any collar on a Man United shirt I just think of Eric. That's all I think about with with these collars. We all tried to do it but no one looked as cool.

I'd had probably one of the best seasons of my career in the number 10 shirt. Phone rings, David it's uh, the boss. We're signing Teddy Sheringham and he's gonna have the number 10 shirt. See pre-season and that was it that was it. Going to preseason, the boss pulls me into the office He said, "How you feeling, David?" and I said, "Well boss, I really love the number 10." He said, "Yeah but you're gonna get the number seven and I was like, I think, I think I cried. My dad was the first one that I phoned when I got the number seven shirt.

The Number 7

My dad was a Bobby Charlton fan, that's why my middle name is Robert because Bobby Charlton. So, my dad was a full-on hardcore United fan, so the fact that I was then his son playing for Manchester United, wearing the number seven shirt um, I knew how important that was.

In the beginning that I signed for Manchester, I was very nervous to see full stadium, the passion that the fans have for football. Kind of surprised me a lot. After, Sir Alex Ferguson said to me, "You're gonna take the number seven." It was that kind of moment that you never forget. I knew it's the history of the number seven in the club I was nervous but in the same time I was feeling good after experienced manager, experienced person, he knew that Cristiano is the right guy to hold that shirt.

Emotional, very emotional.

Right from the very start, the day that we formed the women's team was such a special day and it was part of history to be the first Manchester United Team.

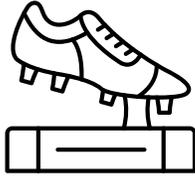
Casey Stoney was the manager at the time and I remember her giving me a shirt on the day and I just thought we were getting given shirts and I said, "Oh my God, I'm, am I the number seven like or is this just a shirt? She was like, "No you're the number seven. And I just remember it so clearly, thinking wow, I'm the first Manchester United women's number seven! It was a pinch me moment that I was stepping out onto the pitch as a Manchester United player but then another one that I was wearing the number seven on the back of the shirt.

I remember one thing, in the game came into me in front of the Stretford end and uh. should have got over it and put it in the back of the net and ended up booting it over the net and that's just locked up to all the fans and they all had their hands on the red and I just thought wow I could have just scored at the Stratford end, like how amazing would that have been.

Something that I've always dreamed of growing up United fan, being able to step out onto the theater of dreams and to play.

George Best, Brian Robson, Eric Cantona, me, Cristiano and there'll be someone else after Cristiano. There's a number seven player that will always come along.

Where we are to date because movement after movement people have been inspired by the past and by the previous artists and then they improve their take they don't copy, just take inspiration here and there and there and create their own world. For me it's it's huge responsibility to maintain the history and the legacy towards the number seven. You receive something from, I don't know and, and then you, you have to work hard and then deserve game after game to get that freedom and to get this inspiration from this club of Manchester United ... because it's a special club.



Football



Below are questions about the sport of football. Answer them in complete sentences. After, compare and discuss.

1. Who is your favorite footballer? Number? Why?

2. What is your favorite football memory?

3. What football team do you follow? Why?

4. Why do people take football so seriously?

5. What football match did you last attend?

6. How often do you watch football on TV?

7. Which country has the best footballers? Why?

8. What is your "football" dream?

[Empty rectangular box for name]

A famous footballer.

“ ”

Job:

Photo / drawing:

[Empty rectangular box for photo or drawing]

Early Life:

Family Life:

Major Accomplishments:

3 Interesting Facts:

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