

The Football Association Challenge

The Cup Final

Cup Final Facts

- The match is widely known as just the **Cup Final**.
- It is the last match in the **Football Association (FA) Challenge Cup**.
- It has about **86 000** spectators and millions of TV viewers.
- The trophy (winner's cup) is only on loan to the winning side.
- It is the oldest cup competition in the world, first played in the **1871 - 72** season.

Who Can Enter?

The Challenge Cup competition is open to any club in the top ten levels of the English Football League. Once clubs have registered to play, the tournament is organised into 12 randomly drawn rounds, followed by the semi-finals and finals. The higher ranked teams join the competition in later rounds when some of the lower ranked teams have been knocked out.

What Do the Winners Receive?

The winners of the final match receive the Football Association Cup, the FA Cup. It comes in three parts; the base, the cup and a lid. Over the years, there have been two designs of trophy and five cups have been made. The first cup, known as the 'little tin idol', was stolen in 1895 and never returned. An exact replica was made and used until 1910. From 1911, a new design was made. In 1992, another copy was made as the cup was wearing out from being handled, and another replacement was made in 2014. The cup is presented at the end of the match, giving the engraver just five minutes to engrave the winning team on the silver band on the base. The cup has ribbons from both teams decorating it during the final. The loser's ribbon is removed before the presentation. Each club in the final match is given 30 winners or runners-up medals. These are given to players, staff and officials.



Fantastic Final Facts

Most wins:

Arsenal and Manchester United (12)

Most appearances in a final:

Arsenal (20)

Most defeats:

Everton (8)

Biggest winning margin:

6 goals (Bury v Derby County, 6-0)

Most goals in a final:

7 goals (Blackburn Rovers v Sheffield Wednesday, 6-1 and Blackpool v Bolton Wanderers, 4-3.)

Most appearances without losing:

Wanderers (5)

Most appearances without winning:

Leicester City (4)

Youngest FA Cup finalist:

Curtis Weston of Millwall (17 years 119 days.)

Oldest FA Cup finalist:

Billy Hampson of Newcastle United (41 years and 257 days.)

Did You Know?

- The first winners of the cup in 1872 were Wanderers, who also won it the following year.
- The Challenge Cup was suspended in 1915 - 1919 because of the First World War.
- In 1923, the final was played at the newly opened Wembley Stadium.
- The Challenge Cup was suspended again between 1939 - 1945 because of the Second World War.



The Football Association Challenge: The Cup Final

Questions

1. What competition ends in the Cup Final?

2. What year was the Cup Final first played?

3. Give a reason why the top ranked teams join the competition in round three.

4. **Find** and **copy** a word that means that the teams were recorded to play in the competition.

5. Put the following information in the order it is found in the text. The first one has been done for you.

An exact replica was made.

The losers ribbon is removed before the presentation.

The 'little tin idol', was stolen.

The cup was wearing out from being handled.

6. Mark your choice from the answers below.

a. Which team has had the most appearances in a final?

Stafford

Wigan

Arsenal

Wanderers

b. How old was the youngest FA Cup finalist?

41 years 257 days

17 years 119 days

17 years 257 days

41 years 119 days

c. Which Club has had the most FA Cup wins?

Everton

Arsenal

Manchester United and Arsenal

Manchester United

7. Why was the FA Cup suspended during the First and Second World Wars?

8. In what years did Wanderers win the FA Cup?

9. How is the information text organised? List two ways.

10. Do you think it is better to watch a football match in the stadium, or at home? Explain your opinion.

Answers

1. What competition ends in the Cup Final?
The Football Association (FA) Challenge Cup ends in the Cup Final.
2. What year was the Cup Final first played?
The first Cup Final was in 1872 (or the 1871 - 72 season.)
3. Give a reason why the top ranked teams join the competition in round three.
The top ranked teams join the competition in round three after some of the lower ranked teams have been knocked out.
4. Find and copy a word that means that the teams were recorded to play in the competition.
The word that means recorded to play in the competition is registered.
5. Put the following information in the order it is found in the text. The first one has been done for you.

An exact replica was made.

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The cup was wearing out from being handled.
6. Mark your choice from the answers below.
 - a. Which team has had the most appearances in a final?
Arsenal
 - b. How old was the youngest FA Cup finalist?
17 years 119 days
 - c. Which Club has had the most FA Cup wins?
Manchester United and Arsenal
7. Why was the FA Cup suspended during the First and Second World Wars?
The FA Cup was suspended during the First and Second World Wars because most of the men were fighting at war and it wouldn't have been respectful to continue with a sporting event during the war years.
8. In what years did Wanderers win the FA Cup?
Wanderers won the FA Cup in 1872 and 1873.

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9. How is the information text organised? List two ways.

The text is organised into headings, sub-headings, paragraphs, bullet points, text boxes, bold font and illustrations.

10. Do you think it is better to watch a football match in the stadium, or at home? Explain your opinion.

Various responses that could include the opinions that;

It is better to watch a football match at the stadium because the atmosphere is exciting, the noise of the supporters makes the stadium come alive and being part of the live experience helps to feel part of the supporters' team.

Or,

It is better to watch a football match at home because you can enjoy the event with all of your family and friends together. You can have a party with food and drink and can see all of the action close up, with all of the replays and commentary. It is also cheaper and safer to watch at home.

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Cup Final Facts

- The match is widely known as just the **Cup Final**.
- It is the last match in the **Football Association (FA) Challenge Cup**.
- From 2015 to 2018 it was also known as the **Emirates FA Cup**.
- It has about **86 000 stadium spectators** and millions of TV viewers on the BBC Sport channel.
- A women's tournament is held at the same time, the **FA Women's Cup**.
- The **FA trophy** (winner's cup) is only on loan to the winning side.
- It is the oldest cup competition in the world, first played in the **1871 - 72** season.
- The 2016 champions were **Manchester United**.

Who Can Enter?

The Challenge Cup competition is open to any club in the top ten levels of the English Football League. Once clubs have registered to play, the tournament is organised into 12 randomly drawn rounds, followed by the semi-finals and finals. The higher ranked teams join the competition in later rounds.

Where Are the Matches Held?

The first 12 round matches will usually be played at the home ground of one of the two teams. From 1923 to 2000, the old Wembley Stadium hosted the finals.

The final match has been played at the rebuilt Wembley Stadium since 2007 and the semi-final and final matches have been played there since 2008.



What Do the Winners Receive?

The winners of the final match receive the Football Association Cup, the FA Cup. It comes in three parts, the base, the cup and a lid. Over the years, there have been two designs of trophy and five different cups. The first cup, known as the 'little tin idol', was stolen in 1895 and never returned. The FA fined Aston Villa £25 to pay for a replacement as it was stolen whilst they had it in their care. An exact replica was made and used until 1910. From 1911, a new design was made. It was larger than the previous trophy, standing 61.5cm high. In 1992, another copy was made as the cup was wearing out from being handled, and another replacement was made in 2014. This took over 250 hours to make and weighs 6.3kg of solid silver. The cup is presented at the end of the match, giving the engraver just five minutes to engrave the winning team on the silver band on the base. The cup has ribbons from both teams decorating it during the final. The loser's ribbon is removed before the presentation.

Each club in the final match is given 30 winners or runners-up medals. These are given to players, staff and officials.

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Leicester City (4)

Youngest FA Cup finalist:

Curtis Weston of Millwall (17 years 119 days.)

Oldest FA Cup finalist:

Billy Hampson of Newcastle United (41 years and 257 days.)

Most individual wins:

Ashley Cole (7)

Most individual appearances:

Arthur Kinnaird (9)

Did You Know?

- The first winners of the cup in 1872 were Wanderers, who also won it the following year.
- The Challenge Cup was suspended in 1915 - 1919 because of the First World War.
- In 1923, the final was played at the newly opened Wembley Stadium.
- The Challenge Cup was suspended again between 1939 - 1945 because of the Second World War.
- Tottenham Hotspur is the only non-league club to win the Cup (against league runners-up, Sheffield United, in 1901).
- 4 FA finals have finished goalless.
- In 1971, Alvechurch and Oxford City had to play 6 games to eventually produce a winner – the first five being drawn matches; an amazing 11 hours of football!



The Football Association Challenge: The Cup Final

Questions

1. What was the Challenge Cup known as in 2015 - 2018?

2. How can television viewers watch the match?

3. How many rounds of the competition are played?

4. **Find** and **copy** a word that means that the teams are chosen to play against no particular side.

5. Put the following information in the order it is found in the text. The first one has been done for you.

An exact replica was made.

The FA fined Aston Villa £25.

The losers ribbon is removed before the presentation.

The 'little tin idol', was stolen.

Standing 61.5cm high.

The cup was wearing out from being handled.

6. Mark your choice from the answers below.

a. Which team has had the most defeats in a final?

Stafford

Wigan

Everton

Wanderers

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b. How old was the oldest FA Cup finalist?

41 years 257 days

17 years 119 days

17 years 257 days

41 years 119 days

c. Which club has had the most FA Cup wins?

Everton

Arsenal

Manchester United and Arsenal

Manchester United

7. How could a winner be found if a match ended in a goalless draw?

8. In what year did Tottenham Hotspur (as a non-league club) win the FA Cup?

9. What is the purpose of using a table for some of the information?

10. Do you think the team winning the FA Cup should be prevented from entering the competition the following year? Explain your opinion.

Answers

1. What was the Challenge Cup known as in 2015 - 2018?
The Challenge Cup was known as the Emirates FA Cup in 2015 - 2018.
2. How can television viewers watch the match?
Television viewers can watch the match on BBC Sport channel.
3. How many rounds of the competition are played?
Twelve first rounds and the semi-final and final matches are played, making 14 in all.
4. Find and copy a word that means that the teams are chosen to play against no particular side.
Teams chosen to play against no particular side are chosen randomly.
5. Put the following information in the order it is found in the text. The first one has been done for you.

An exact replica was made.

The FA fined Aston Villa £25.

The losers ribbon is removed before the presentation.

The 'little tin idol', was stolen.

Standing 61.5cm high.

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6. Mark your choice from the answers below.
 - a. Which team has had the most defeats in a final?
Everton
 - b. How old was the oldest FA Cup finalist?
41 years 257 days
 - c. Which Club has had the most FA Cup wins?
Manchester United and Arsenal
7. How could a winner be found if a match ended in a goalless draw?
Winners of drawn matches could be found by tossing a coin, playing the match again until one team wins, taking penalty kicks (or any other plausible idea).

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8. In what year did Tottenham Hotspur win the FA Cup?

Tottenham Hotspur won the FA Cup in 1901.

9. What is the purpose of using a table for some of the information?

Using a table for some of the information helps to keep the facts organised and easy to find for the reader.

10. Do you think the team winning the FA Cup should be prevented from entering the competition the following year? Explain your opinion.

Various answers that could include the opinions;

I think that teams should be prevented from entering the competition the year after they win so that other teams can have a chance to win.

Or,

I do not think that teams should be prevented from entering the competition the year after they win as the players may be different the following year and it would be exciting for the fans to be able to watch a 'double' win if they were successful again.

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- The match is widely known as just the **Cup Final**.
- It is the last match in the **Football Association (FA) Challenge Cup**.
- From 2015 to 2018 it was also known as the **Emirates FA Cup**.
- The first televised final in 1937 had about **10 000 viewers**.
- Today's final has about **88 600 stadium spectators** and over **10 million TV viewers** tune in to the BBC Sport channel.
- **875 million** viewers watched the 2016 final worldwide.
- A women's tournament is held at the same time, the **FA Women's Cup**.
- The **FA trophy** (winner's cup) is only on loan to the winning side.
- It is the oldest cup competition in the world, first played in the **1871 - 72** season.
- The 2016 champions are **Manchester United**.

Who Can Enter?

The Challenge Cup competition is open to any club in the top ten levels of the English Football League. Once clubs have registered to play, the tournament is organised into 12 randomly drawn rounds, followed by the semi-finals and finals. The higher ranked teams join the competition in round three.

Clubs Entering the FA Cup

1871 - 72	15
1921 - 22	656
2004 - 05	660
2006 - 07	687
2007 - 08	731
2014 - 15	736



Where Are the Matches Held?

The first 12 round matches will usually be played at the home ground of one of the two teams. From 1923 to 2000, the old Wembley Stadium hosted the finals. The only exception was in 1970, when the replay between Leeds and Chelsea was held at Old Trafford, Manchester.

Between 2001-2006, whilst Wembley Stadium was being rebuilt, the final was held at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff.

The final match has been played at the rebuilt Wembley Stadium since 2007 and the semi-final and final matches have been played there since 2008.



What Do the Winners Receive?



The winners of the final match receive the Football Association Cup, the FA Cup. It comes in three parts, the base, the cup and a lid. Over the years, there have been two designs of trophy and five cups have been made. The first cup, known as the 'little tin idol', was stolen in 1895 and never returned. In 1958, a criminal by the name of Henry James Burge claimed to have carried out the robbery, but the police reports did not match his account of events and the case was closed. The FA fined Aston Villa £25 to pay for a replacement as it was stolen whilst they had it in their care. An exact replica was made and used until 1910. In 2005, this version was sold at auction and made £42 000. It was bought by David Gold, chairman of Birmingham City, and presented to the National Football Museum for public display. From 1911, a new design was made. It was larger than the previous trophy,

standing 61.5cm high. In 1992, another copy was made as the cup was wearing out from being handled, and another replacement was made in 2014. This took over 250 hours to make and weighs 6.3kg of solid silver. The cup is presented at the end of the match, giving the engraver just five minutes to engrave the winning team on the silver band on the base. The cup has ribbons from both teams decorating it during the final. The loser's ribbon is removed before the presentation.

Each club in the final match is given 30 winners or runners-up medals. These are given to players, staff and officials. In 1914, Burnley won the cup and received medals struck in error, as "English Cup Winners".

Fantastic Final Facts

Most wins:

Arsenal and Manchester United (12)

Most appearances in a final:

Arsenal (20)

Number of spectators at first final:

2000, at Kennington Oval in 1872

Most defeats:

Everton (8)

Biggest winning margin:

6 goals (Bury v Derby County, 6-0)

Most goals in a final:

7 goals (Blackburn Rovers v Sheffield Wednesday, 6-1 and Blackpool v Bolton Wanderers, 4-3)

Most appearances without losing:

Wanderers (5)

Most appearances without winning:

Leicester City (4)

Youngest FA Cup finalist:

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Most individual wins:

Ashley Cole (7)

Most individual appearances:

Arthur Kinnaird (9)

Cost of old Wembley (Empire) Stadium:

£750 000 (1923)

Cost of new Wembley Stadium:

Over £750 000 000 (2007)

Did You Know?

- The first winners of the cup in 1872 were Wanderers, who also won it the following year.
- The Challenge Cup was suspended in 1915 - 1919 because of the First World War.
- In 1923, the final was played at the newly opened Wembley Stadium.
- The Challenge Cup was suspended again between 1939 - 1945 because of the Second World War.
- Since the creation of the Football League, Tottenham Hotspur is the only non-league club to win the Cup (against league runners-up, Sheffield United in 1901).
- 4 FA finals have finished goalless.
- In 1971, Alvechurch and Oxford City had to play 6 games to eventually produce a winner – the first five being drawn matches; an amazing 11 hours of football!
- The FA Cup has only been won by a non-English team once, by Cardiff City in 1927. In the same season, they won the Welsh Cup.



The Football Association Challenge: The Cup Final

Questions

1. During which year did the Cup Final have 10 000 TV viewers?

2. What is the women's competition called?

3. How many rounds of football are there in the competition?

4. How many fewer entries were there in 1921 - 22 than in 2014 - 15?

5. Put the following information in the order it is found in the text. The first one has been done for you.

In 2005, this version was sold at auction and made £42 000.

The FA fined Aston Villa £25.

The losers ribbon is removed before the presentation.

In 1914, Burnley won the cup.

The 'little tin idol', was stolen.

Standing 61.5cm high.

Henry James Burge claimed to have carried out the robbery.

Giving the engraver just five minutes.

6. Circle your choice from the answers below.

a. Number of spectators at the first final?

7500

200

2000

750 000

b. Who had the most individual appearances in a Cup Final?

Alan Shearer

Henry Kinnaird

Ashley Cole

Arthur Kinnaird

c. How many times more expensive was the new Wembley Stadium compared with the old one?

100

10

10 000

1000

7. **Find** and **copy** a word that means postponed or put off until another time.

8. In the matches against Alvechurch and Oxford City, if each half was 45 minutes long, how long was each interval?

9. How is this information text organised? List as many features as you can.

10. Do you think the team winning the FA Cup should be able to keep the trophy? Explain your opinion.

Answers

1. During which year did the Cup Final have 10 000 TV viewers?
The 1937 Cup Final had 10 000 viewers.
2. What is the women's competition called?
The women's tournament is called the FA Women's Cup.
3. How many rounds of football are there in the competition?
Twelve first rounds and the semi-final and final matches are played, making 14 in all.
4. How many fewer entries were there in 1921 - 22 than in 2014 - 15?
There were 80 fewer entries in 1921 - 22 than in 2014 - 15.
5. Put the following information in the order it is found in the text. The first one has been done for you.

In 2005, this version was sold at auction and made £42 000.

The FA fined Aston Villa £25.

The losers ribbon is removed before the presentation.

In 1914, Burnley won the cup.

The 'little tin idol', was stolen.

Standing 61.5cm high.

Henry James Burge claimed to have carried out the robbery.

Giving the engraver just five minutes.

6. Mark your choice from the answers below.
 - a. Number of spectators at the first final?
2000
 - b. Who had the most individual appearances in a Cup Final?
Arthur Kinnaird
 - c. How many times more expensive was the new Wembley Stadium compared with the old one?
1000

The Football Association Challenge: The Cup Final

7. Find and copy a word that means postponed or put off until another time.

Another word for postponed is suspended.

8. In the matches against Alvechurch and Oxford City, if each half was 45 minutes long, how long was each interval?

If each half of the match was 45 minutes, the whole match would be 90 minutes, making 540 minutes for 6 matches. There are 660 minutes in 11 hours, $660 - 540 = 120$, divided by six matches, making each interval 20 minutes long.

9. How is this information text organised? List as many features as you can.

The text is organised into headings, sub-headings, paragraphs, bullet points, text boxes, bold font and illustrations.

10. Do you think the team winning the FA Cup should be able to keep the trophy? Explain your opinion.

Various responses which could include the opinions;

I think the winning team should be able to keep the trophy because they have worked hard to achieve it and it would be a permanent reminder of their success.

Or,

I do not think that the winning team should be able to keep the trophy because if their name is engraved on it then their success is recorded for ever and the trophy can be passed on to another team without anyone's achievement being forgotten.