

World Cup Winners Cheat Sheet

Sidebar

Football · World Cup Winners Cheat Sheet

Every FIFA World Cup final, 1930 to 2026 — winner, score, and runner-up. Only eight nations have ever won it.

THE EARLY YEARS (1930–38)

- 1930** Uruguay 4–2 Argentina — hosted the first-ever tournament and won it
- 1934** Italy 2–1 (a.e.t.) Czechoslovakia
- 1938** Italy 4–2 Hungary — back-to-back titles
- 1942 & 1946** *Not held — World War II*

1950S–1960S

- 1950** Uruguay 2–1 Brazil — the "Maracanazo," silencing 200,000 fans in Rio
- 1954** West Germany 3–2 Hungary — the "Miracle of Bern," beating a Hungary side that had thrashed them 8–3 earlier in the same tournament
- 1958** Brazil 5–2 Sweden — Pelé's first title, aged 17
- 1962** Brazil 3–1 Czechoslovakia
- 1966** England 4–2 (a.e.t.) West Germany — England's only title, on home soil

1970S–1980S

- 1970** Brazil 4–1 Italy — Pelé's third title; kept the Jules Rimet trophy outright
- 1974** West Germany 2–1 Netherlands — beat Cruyff's "Total Football" side on home soil
- 1978** Argentina 3–1 (a.e.t.) Netherlands — on home soil
- 1982** Italy 3–1 West Germany — Paolo Rossi top scorer
- 1986** Argentina 3–2 West Germany — Maradona's tournament, "Hand of God" and all

1990S–2000S

- 1990** West Germany 1–0 Argentina — West Germany's last title before reunification
- 1994** Brazil 0–0, 3–2 pens., Italy — first final ever decided on penalties
- 1998** France 3–0 Brazil — on home soil, two Zidane headers in the final
- 2002** Brazil 2–0 Germany — Ronaldo scored both, four years after his own 1998 final collapse
- 2006** Italy 1–1, 5–3 pens., France — Zidane's infamous headbutt, his final match

2010S–2020S

- 2010** Spain 1–0 (a.e.t.) Netherlands — first European nation to win a World Cup outside Europe
- 2014** Germany 1–0 (a.e.t.) Argentina — same tournament as the 7–1 semi-final demolition of hosts Brazil
- 2018** France 4–2 Croatia — Mbappé's breakout tournament, aged 19
- 2022** Argentina 3–3, 4–2 pens., France — Messi's first title, widely called the greatest final ever played
- 2026** Spain 1–0 (a.e.t.) Argentina — Ferran Torres's extra-time winner; first World Cup co-hosted by three nations (USA/Canada/Mexico) and first with 48 teams

TRIVIA & RECORDS

- Most titles** Brazil — 5 (1958, 1962, 1970, 1994, 2002)
- Highest-scoring final** 1958 — Brazil 5–2 Sweden
- First on penalties** 1994 — Brazil beat Italy after 0–0
- Youngest winner (player)** Pelé — 17 years old, 1958
- Host who won it** Uruguay (1930), Italy (1934), England (1966), West Germany (1974), Argentina (1978), France (1998) — 6 times
- First 3-nation host** 2026 — USA, Canada & Mexico

ONLY EIGHT NATIONS, EVER

In 23 tournaments since 1930, only Brazil, Germany (as West Germany and, from 1990 on, reunified), Italy, Argentina, Uruguay, France, Spain, and England have ever lifted the trophy — every other nation that's ever entered has come away without one. Germany's own tally combines West Germany's three pre-1990 wins with its one post-reunification win, following the same continuity FIFA itself credits the results under.