



Name: Michael Gerard "Mike" Tyson

Years: June 30, 1966 to Present

Residence: Scottsdale, Arizona

Brief Biography: "Iron" Mike Tyson was born in Brooklyn, New York on June 30th, 1966. After his father abandoned him and his mother passed away, Tyson was adopted by Cus D'Amato, a boxing manager and trainer. Tyson moved frequently around New York and was a trouble child at a young age. In fact, Tyson was already arrested 38 times by the age of thirteen. Tyson was introduced to boxing by Bobby Stewart, a

former boxer and juvenile detention center counselor, in Johnstown, a town in Fulton County.

Tyson went on to win a silver medal in the 1982 Junior Olympic Games, where he won every fight by knockout. The 16-year-old also set a world record by knocking out an opponent in a mere eight seconds.

His professional career began in March 1985 in Albany, where he beat Hector Mercedes in a first round knockout. Tyson went on to win 26 of his first 28 fights by KO. His first nationally televised fight was in Troy in February 1985, where he knocked out Jesse Ferguson in six rounds.

Tyson became the youngest heavyweight champion ever in November 1986 when, at the age of 20, he captured the WBC heavyweight championship after knocking out Trevor Berbick in two rounds. In March 1987, Tyson added the WBA heavyweight championship to his résumé after defeating James Smith. Only five months later, Tyson became the undisputed heavyweight champion after capturing the IBF heavyweight championship from Tony Tucker in a twelve-round unanimous decision.

Tyson was the undisputed champion for three years, until his reign ended in Tokyo in a classic bout with Buster Douglas. Tyson recovered from this defeat by beating a series of up-and-coming opponents until he became the number one contender to the undisputed champion, Evander Holyfield. The former champion's chance to reclaim the belts was put on hold after Tyson was convicted on rape charges and served three years in prison.

Upon his release, Tyson took back WBC title after knocking out Frank Bruno in three rounds and the WBA belt by knocking out Bruce Seldon in just one. Tyson finally faced Evander Holyfield in 1996 and lost his belts in an eleventh-round technical knockout.

A year later, Tyson and Holyfield were set to fight once again for the heavyweight championships. It quickly became one of the most controversial moments in sports history when Tyson bit a piece of Holyfield's ear off in the third round. Tyson's boxing license was subsequently and temporarily revoked.

Following the Holyfield fight, Tyson went on to guest star on many WWF programs until he attempted to restart his boxing career. Tyson defeated Francois Botha in 1999 before spending nine months in prison for assault. Tyson returned to the boxing ring soon after, winning five bouts before challenging Lennox Lewis for the undisputed heavyweight championship in 2002. Lewis controlled most of the fight and beat Tyson in eight rounds.

After the Lewis fight, Tyson continued to fight against minor opponents, but only won once. He filed for bankruptcy in 2003. His boxing record is 50 wins, 6 losses, and 2 no contests, with 44 wins by knockout.

Major Accomplishments: Junior Olympic Games Champion Heavyweight 1982, National Golden Gloves Champion Heavyweight 1984, Undisputed Heavyweight champion (held all three major championship belts; WBA, IBF, and WBC) — August 1,

1987 – February 11, 1990, WBC Heavyweight Champion — November 22, 1986 – February 11, 1990, March 16, 1996 – 1997 (Vacated), WBA Heavyweight Champion — March 7, 1987 – February 11, 1990, September 7, 1996 – November 9, 1996, IBF Heavyweight Champion — August 1, 1987 – February 11, 1990 and Ring Magazine Fight of the Year — 1986 and 1988.

References: <http://www.biography.com/articles/Mike-Tyson-9512980> ,
<http://www.answers.com/topic/mike-tyson>