

Michael Phelps
Fourteen-Time Olympic Gold Medalist

Michael Phelps is unarguably the most accomplished American swimmer of all time. Rewriting the record books in his Olympic performances, Phelps has won a total of 14 gold medals, the most by any Olympian in any sport. Additionally, Phelps is a 23-time World Record holder, a 17-time World Champion, three-time Olympic record holder, and a 19-time American record holder.

At the 2008 Beijing Olympics, Phelps took home eight gold medals. Every one of his gold medal performances set a new world record, except the 100-meter butterfly which registered as an Olympic record. In Beijing, Phelps made headlines after claiming the all-time single Olympics gold medal record, surpassing Mark Spitz's 1972 record of seven gold medals.

The previous year at the 2007 FINA World Championships in Australia, Phelps staged the greatest individual performance of any swimmer in an international competition by winning seven gold medals while shattering five world records. At the 2006 Pan Pacific Swimming Championship in British Columbia, Phelps continued to establish world records. In addition, Phelps was a six-time gold medalist at the 2006 U.S. Nationals and a three-time gold medalist at the 2005 U.S. Nationals. Phelps was also a five-time gold medalist and silver medal recipient at the 2005 World Championships.

Phelps became an American icon at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens where he won eight medals (including six gold medals and two bronze); the first Olympian since 1980 to win eight medals in a single Olympics.

At the age of 15, Phelps became the youngest American male swimmer at an Olympic Games in 68 years. Although he didn't win a medal in Sydney, later that year he became the youngest male swimmer to ever set a swimming world record.

As the most decorated swimmer in World Championship history, Phelps' sponsors include Speedo, VISA, Omega, Proctor & Gamble, Rosetta Stone, PowerBar and AT&T. On a mission to continually help the popularity of swimming grow, Phelps has played an integral role in the creation of SwimRoom.com, the sport's first social networking site, where swimmers across the globe have a place to regularly communicate and share ideas.

He also co-starred in *Unfiltered*, the first behind-the-scenes documentary in the sport of swimming. The film details the life, friendship and rivalry of Phelps and fellow Olympian Ian Crocker. Phelps recently released *Personal Best-Butterfly*, a high-definition instructional video with longtime coach Bob Bowman. In addition, Phelps co-founded "Swim with the Stars (S.W.T.S.)," the first-ever post-Olympic swimming tour. S.W.T.S. has traveled across the country promoting swimming and conducting camps for swimmers of all ages.

Phelps has been featured in national commercials with NBC Sports, Visa, Omega, Argent and AT&T Wireless. He appeared in the season finale of *The Apprentice 3*, was a celebrity judge of the 2005 Miss USA Pageant, and was a presenter at the 2007 ESPY's.

Adding to his list of personal accomplishments, Phelps was named one of China's World Top Ten Athletes, the 2004 USOC Sportsman of the Year, and the 2004 Sullivan Award Recipient. He was also recognized by the International Amateur Athletic Association as the 24th Annual American International Athlete and was the 2003 USSA Male Athlete of the Year.

As the National spokesman for the Boys & Girls Clubs, Phelps was featured in the "Where's Your Card" TV and print PSA campaigns. Phelps is also an honorary member of the B&G Club of Harford County (Maryland).