

2022 Men's World Cup

What Is the Men's World Cup?

The Men's World Cup is a football tournament for male football teams around the world that takes place every four years. The first official Men's World Cup was held in 1930 in Uruguay. The tournament has only been cancelled twice, which was due to the Second World War. Different countries take it in turns to host the Men's World Cup. The last tournament was held in Russia in 2018 and was won by France.

This year's tournament will be held in Qatar and will take place between 20th November and 18th December. Traditionally, the Men's World Cup is held during the summer; however, due to the heat in Qatar during these months, the tournament has been moved to the winter. It is the first time during a Men's World Cup where there will be some women referees.

How Is the Men's World Cup Organised?

GROUP B



Following qualification, the tournament will include 32 national teams. As the host team, Qatar have qualified without playing any matches. During the tournament, a total of 64 matches will be played in eight different football stadiums across Qatar. The teams will be split into eight groups of four teams, with England and Wales both competing in Group B alongside Iran and USA. It is a significant moment for Wales as it is the first time they have qualified for a Men's World Cup in 64 years!

Following the group stage matches, the top two teams from each group will go through to the knockout stage. This consists of a round of 16 teams, quarter-finals, semi-finals and the final.



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What Awards Are Given?

At the end of the tournament, the winning team is presented with the gold Men's World Cup trophy for official celebrations. Due to its high value, they then receive a gold-plated copy of the trophy to take away. Medals are awarded to the top three teams, including players, coaches and managers.



Additionally, there are other awards given to certain players. The Golden Ball is awarded to the best player, the Golden Glove is presented to the top-performing goalkeeper and the Golden Boot is awarded to the highest goalscorer. The Best Young Player is awarded to someone who is 21 years of age or younger.



What Happened to the Original World Cup Trophy?

The original Men's World Cup trophy has been stolen twice! The first time was in London in 1966 when the trophy was taken from a display in Westminster Central Hall. A week later, a dog called Pickles found it wrapped in newspaper under a hedge.



In 1970, the Brazilian team was given the original trophy to keep because they won the tournament for the third time. It was placed on display in Rio de Janeiro. However, it was stolen in 1983 and it is widely believed that it was melted down and sold! Therefore, a new trophy was made and it is still used in tournaments today.



Questions



1. Which of the following teams are in Group B in the 2022 Men's World Cup? Tick **two**.

- Iran
- France
- USA
- Russia

2. Underline **one** word in the quotation below which suggests that the Men's World Cup didn't take place.

The tournament has only been cancelled twice due to the Second World War.

3. How many matches will be played during the 2022 Men's World Cup?

4. Fill in the missing words.

Medals are awarded to the top three teams, including players, _____
and _____.

5. Look at the sub-heading **How Is the Men's World Cup Organised?**

Find and copy one word which means the same as 'important'.

6. How do you think fans of Wales will feel when they watch the team play in the 2022 Men's World Cup? Why?



7. Summarise what awards are given at the end of the 2022 Men's World Cup in 35 words or fewer.

8. ... **it is widely believed that it was melted down and sold!**

What does the author mean by the use of the phrase 'widely believed'?
