

9/21/25 How Much Do You Know About ... ?

South Carolina

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Overview:

We're bringing back this popular quiz – updated and improved. Each week (ish), we'll explore one US state. This week, we've randomly selected **South Carolina**. Let's see how much you know about this state – the home of Vernon Grant, who designed the iconic Rice Krispies characters Snap, Crackle, and Pop, and where the Civil War began when Confederate forces fired on Fort Sumter in 1861.

Instructions:

1. Divide the players evenly into teams (or as closely as possible).
2. Read the first question. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may 'buzz' in and answer.
4. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

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Instructions: Find out how much you know about SOUTH CAROLINA from this quiz.

QUESTIONS

1. This city is both the capital and the largest city of South Carolina.
2. What is the second-largest city in South Carolina?
3. What two states border South Carolina?
4. This largest barrier island in South Carolina is also a famous Mecca for golfers. It is home to more than 23 championship courses designed by renowned golf architects, including Jack Nicklaus.
5. South Carolina is "The Palmetto State." What is a palmetto?
6. South Carolina is made up of three distinct regions: the coastal region, the Piedmont, and this mountain range.
7. In 1860, South Carolina was the first state to take this action after the presidential election of Abraham Lincoln.
8. After the Civil War, South Carolina was a hotbed of racial tension. President Grant sent forces into South Carolina to arrest hundreds of members of this organization, who were terrorizing African Americans.
9. What US president was a South Carolina native? (Hint: He was the seventh president.)
10. Cotton was a major crop in South Carolina until the early 20th century, when half the cotton crop in the state was decimated by this destructive insect.
11. Can you name one of the two current US senators from South Carolina?
12. The headquarters for this restaurant chain, which features the Grand Slam Breakfast, moved from California to Spartanburg, South Carolina in 1991.
13. This French-based tire manufacturer (with the puffy white advertising mascot) chose Greenville, South Carolina for its North American headquarters, where it soon became the largest employer in the state.

14. Can you identify these South Carolinians?
- a. Born in Spring Gulley, South Carolina in 1941, this singer is best remembered for popularizing “The Twist,” a ‘60s rock and roll dance.
 - b. When he was running for vice president on John Kerry’s Democratic ticket in 2004, this politician often spoke of his youth in South Carolina and of his father who worked in the textile mills.
 - c. This South Carolina beauty doles out the vowels and the consonants on *Wheel of Fortune*.
 - d. Born in Edgefield, South Carolina, this senator spent most of his long career fighting against racial integration and civil rights. Ironically, six months after he died at the age of 100, a black woman revealed that she was his long-hidden illegitimate daughter from a relationship he had with the family maid in the 1920s.
 - e. He was born the youngest of nine children in Cheraw, South Carolina. A self-taught trombone and trumpet player, he became a major figure in the development of bebop and modern jazz. He is remembered by millions with deep respect – and for his pouched cheeks that “inflated” when he played the horn.
 - f. This late-night TV host (who parodied a blustery right wing pundit on Comedy Central for almost a decade) was born in Washington, DC, but grew up (along with his 10 siblings) in Charleston, SC.
 - g. This Baptist minister, political activist, and two-time candidate for US president, who grew up in Greenville, SC, was on the motel balcony on the night Dr. Martin Luther King was murdered.

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ANSWERS

1. Columbia
2. Charleston
3. Georgia (to the south) and North Carolina (to the north)
4. Hilton Head Island
5. A type of palm tree
6. The Blue Ridge Mountains
7. South Carolina was the first state to declare its secession from the Union. It was also the state where the first shots of the Civil War occurred, at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor.
8. The Ku Klux Klan
9. Andrew Jackson
10. The boll weevil
11. Lindsey Graham and Tim Scott. Both are Republicans.
12. Denny's
13. Michelin
14. South Carolinians:
 - a. Chubby Checker (whose real name was Ernest Evans)
 - b. John Edwards
 - c. Vanna White
 - d. Strom Thurmond
 - e. (John Birks) "Dizzy" Gillespie
 - f. Stephen Colbert
 - g. Jesse Jackson