

7/20/25 How Much Do You Know About ... ?

# Tennessee

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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 **Tennessee**. Let's see how much you know about this state, where cotton candy, Mountain Dew, and Moon Pies were all invented.

## 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 Tennessee from this quiz.

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## QUESTIONS

1. What is the capital of Tennessee?
2. Five cities in Tennessee have more than 100,000 residents. How many can you name?
3. Tennessee is one of only two state names with three sets of double letters. Can you name the other one?
4. The willingness of Tennessee's citizens to serve in the military during the War of 1812 earned the state this nickname.
5. Tennessee is bordered by eight states. How many can you name?
6. Tennessee's entire western border is formed by this body of water.
7. One year after the end of the Civil War, this white separatist organization was founded by six Confederate army veterans in Pulaski, Tennessee.
8. Martin Luther King Jr.'s journey came to an end in 1968 when he was shot at the Lorraine Motel in this Tennessee city.
9. Tennessee's contributions to American music are numerous. Since the 1920s, this Nashville stage has been the center of American country music.
10. Can you name the street in Memphis that is considered by many to be the birthplace of the blues?
11. Memphis was also home to Sun Records, which shaped the early development of rock and roll by signing some of rock's most influential early stars. Can you name these rock and roll legends by their early hit songs?
  - a. "Heartbreak Hotel" and "Love Me Tender"
  - b. "I Walk the Line" and "Ring of Fire"
  - c. "Blue Suede Shoes" and "Dixie Fried"
  - d. "Great Balls of Fire" and "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On"
  - e. "Only the Lonely" and "Pretty Woman"
12. What is the name of Elvis Presley's Memphis home, now a major tourist

attraction?

13. The 1925 Scopes “Monkey Trial” in Tennessee focused attention on this controversial issue.
14. Can you name these Tennessee companies and organizations?
  - a. Starting in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Tennessee city of Alcoa was the site of the largest processing plant of this metal.
  - b. The Bush brothers began their company, founded in 1908 in Chestnut Hill, Tennessee and still family-owned today, by canning tomatoes; but they moved to this other canned product in the 1920s.
  - c. This worldwide delivery company, founded in Little Rock in 1971, moved its headquarters to Memphis two years later because a) the Memphis airport was located near the mean population center of the country, and b) flight schedules would rarely be affected by inclement weather.
  - d. This whiskey, which is still packaged in square bottles, has been produced in Lynchburg, Tennessee since 1875.
  - e. This Memphis children’s hospital was founded in 1962 on the premise that “no child should die in the dawn of life.”
15. This American hero was born in 1786 in eastern Tennessee, represented Tennessee in the US House of Representatives, and died in 1836 at the Alamo.
16. Dollywood, Dolly Parton's theme park in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, is the “Entertainment Capital” of these mountains.
17. She started her company, Harpo Productions, in Chicago; but she had attended high school and college in Tennessee.
18. Born in Memphis, Tennessee in 1950, this actress' best known roles include Jacy in *The Last Picture Show* and Maddie Hayes in TV's *Moonlighting*, opposite a young Bruce Willis.

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## ANSWERS

1. Nashville
2. Nashville (689,000); Memphis (633,000); Knoxville (190,000); Chattanooga (181,000); Clarksville (166,000)
3. Mississippi
4. The Volunteer State
5. Alabama; Arkansas; Georgia; Kentucky; Mississippi; Missouri; North Carolina; Virginia. The only other state with eight state borders is neighboring Missouri.
6. The Mississippi River
7. The Ku Klux Klan
8. Memphis
9. The Grand Ole Opry
10. Beale Street. Musicians such as W.C. Handy were performing in Beale Street's blues clubs as early as 1909.
11. Rock and Roll legends:
  - a. Elvis Presley
  - b. Johnny Cash
  - c. Carl Perkins
  - d. Jerry Lee Lewis
  - e. Roy Orbison
12. Graceland
13. Evolution — more specifically, the teaching of evolution in school
14. Tennessee organizations:
  - a. Aluminum. In honor of its largest employer, the name of the town was changed from North Maryville to Alcoa (which stands for Aluminum Company of America) in 1919.
  - b. Baked beans. Today, the Bush company produces roughly 80 percent of all the canned baked beans consumed in the United States.
  - c. FedEx
  - d. Jack Daniels
  - e. St. Jude's Research Hospital, which was founded by entertainer Danny Thomas and two friends
15. David Crockett (known in legend — and in a famous Disney tune — as “Davy”)
16. The Great Smoky Mountains
17. Oprah Winfrey
18. Cybill Shepherd