

2/9/25 How Much Do You Know About ...?

Vermont

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 **VERMONT**. Let's see how much you know about this second-least populated state in the country (coming in just ahead of Wyoming).

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 VERMONT with this quiz.

QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the capital of Vermont?
- 2. According to the 2010 census, only three cities in Vermont have more than 10,000 people (and Montpelier, with fewer than 8,000 residents, is not one of them). Can you name one of the three largest cities in Vermont?
- 3. Vermont shares a border with three US states and one Canadian province. How many of these can you name?
- 4. Vermont most likely got its name from this Appalachian mountain range that runs the length of the state from the south to the north.
- 5. The sixth-largest body of fresh water in the United States defines a large part of the border between Vermont and New York. Do you know this lake, which was named for the French explorer who encountered it in 1609?
- 6. The entire shared border between Vermont and New Hampshire is defined by this largest and longest river in New England, which starts at the Canadian border and flows into Long Island Sound.
- 7. You're a "sap" if you don't know that Vermont is the leading producer of this food product in the United States.
- 8. This Vermont company, now one of the best known in the country, was started in 1978 by two friends who met in junior high school nearly twenty years earlier.
- 9. In 1892, this English writer spent his honeymoon in Vermont, and ended up staying there for almost five years, during which time he began his *Jungle Books* short stories, the novel *Captains Courageous*, and a profusion of poetry.
- 10. Can you name this comedian and actor who played an author of do-it-yourself books while also operating an inn in fictional Stratford, VT, on a television sitcom that ran from 1982 to 1990?



- 11. This actor from Cambridge, MA went to the University of Vermont for one semester before heading to Hollywood with his high school friend Matt Damon.
- 12. This former mayor of Burlington, former US representative, and current senator ran a tight race against Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential primary.
- 13. Do you remember this former governor of Vermont who was an early front-runner for the 2004 Democratic presidential nomination? He ultimately lost to Massachusetts Senator John Kerry.
- 14. This musical family settled in Stowe, VT after escaping the Nazis from Salzburg, Austria. ("Sound" like a familiar story?)
- 15. Born in Island Pond, VT in 1901, this singer, who was immensely popular with Flappers, was the first real example of a twentieth-century mass media pop star. His trademark symbol was the megaphone, which he used to project his voice in the days before the microphone.
- 16. The founders of this religious movement were both born in Vermont: Brigham Young in Whittingham in 1801, and Joseph Smith in Sharon in 1805.
- 17. Two US presidents hailed from Vermont one probably better known than the other. Can you name both?
- 18. In 1946, this future serial killer was born in a home for unwed mothers in Burlington, VT. Forty-two years later, he was executed by electrocution in Florida, having killed at least 30 women.
- 19. This Vermont-born innovator didn't actually invent the elevator; but he did invent a safety device that prevents elevators from falling if the hoisting cable should fail. Since then, his name, which is also the name of the company he started in 1853, is still synonymous with elevators.



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ANSWERS

- 1. Montpelier
- 2. Burlington (42,500); South Burlington (17,900); and Colchester (17,588)
- 3. New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, and Quebec
- 4. The Green Mountains. (The French word for green is *vert*, and the old French term for mountain is *mont*.)
- 5. Lake Champlain
- 6. The Connecticut River
- 7. Maple syrup
- 8. Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield wanted to open a bagel shop, but the start-up costs for that were too expensive.
- 9. Rudyard Kipling
- 10. Bob Newhart. (The series was called *Newhart*.)
- 11. Ben Affleck
- 12. Howard Dean
- 13. Bernie Sanders
- 14. The von Trapp family, whose story was told in the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical *The Sound of Music*
- 15. Rudy Vallee
- 16. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS), or Mormon Church
- 17. Chester A. Arthur (the 21st president of the US, 1881-1885) and Calvin Coolidge (the 30th president of the US, 1923-1929)
- 18. Ted Bundy
- 19. Elisha Otis