

## Baseball Fun Facts!



1. The base most stolen in a baseball game is second base.
2. The unofficial anthem of American baseball, “Take Me Out to the Ballgame,” is traditionally sung during the middle of the 7th inning. It was written in 1908 by Jack Norworth and Albert von Tilzer, both of whom had never been to a baseball game.
3. The life span of a major league baseball is 5–7 pitches. During a typical game, approximately 70 balls are used.
4. The most home runs have been hit at the Colorado Rockies’ stadium Coors Field. This is due to the high altitude (low air density or “thinner” air).
5. While baseball initially started in the U.S., it has spread worldwide. Today more than 100 countries are part of the International Baseball Federation. Japan has the largest pro baseball league outside the U.S.
6. Baseball’s L.A. Dodgers, originally founded in Brooklyn, are named after the legendary skill that that local residents showed at “dodging” the city’s trolley streetcar system.
7. Babe Ruth’s top salary was \$80,000 (in 1930 and 1931). Adjusted for inflation, that’s the equivalent of a little more than \$1.1 million today (a little less than middle reliever Antonio Bastardo made last year).
8. The Boston Americans won baseball’s first World Series in 190
9. The baseball team with the most World Series wins is the New York Yankees with 27 titles.

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10. A “can of corn” is an easy fly ball. The term comes from when old-time grocers used their aprons to catch cans knocked from a high shelf.
11. Baseball gloves have evolved more than any other piece of the sport’s equipment
12. During World War II, the U.S. military designed a grenade to be the size and weight of a baseball, since “any young American man should be able to properly throw it.”
13. Pitcher Jim Abbott was born without a right hand and had a 10-season baseball career, including throwing a no-hitter for the New York Yankees vs. Cleveland in 1993.
14. Jackie Mitchell, a 17-year-old female pitcher for the AA Chattanooga Lookouts, once played the New York Yankees in an exhibition game and struck out Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig in succession.
15. A curveball thrown on Mars would become a screwball, and hitters would have the advantage since balls would also travel almost three times as far.
16. The Cubbies won their last World Series 108 years ago in 1908. There 108 stitches in a baseball, 108 outs required to win the World Series, 108 meters from left field and right field poles at Wrigley field. Opinion: 108 is a magic number. Go Cubs!

