

Famous people with Autistic or Asperger traits

Fictional, real, historical and contemporary celebrities

Fictional characters

Television characters

- **Alex P Keaton**, played by Michael J Fox in *Family Ties*, USA 1982-1989
- **Basil Fawlty**, played by John Cleese in *Fawlty Towers*, BBC 1975-1979
- **Bert** (voiced by Frank Oz) in *Sesame Street*, USA 1969-
- **Cliff Clavin**, played by John Ratzenberger in *Cheers*, USA 1982-1993
- **Daria Morgendorffer** (voiced by Tracy Grandstaff) in *Daria*, MTV cartoon USA 1997-
- **Jim Dial**, played by Charles Kimbrough in *Murphy Brown*, USA 1988-1998
- **Lisa Simpson** (voiced by Yeardley Smith) and **Moe** (Moe Szyslak of Moe's Tavern, voiced by Hank Azaria) in *The Simpsons* cartoon, USA 1989-
- **Mr Bean**, played by Rowan Atkinson in the eponymous TV series UK 1989- and film *Bean* UK/USA 1997-
- **Taz** Tasmanian Devil (voiced by Jim Cummings) USA cartoon 1991-1993
- "Steve" **Urkel**, played by Jaleel White in *Family Matters*, USA 1989-1998
- **Dr. Victor Ehrlich** and **Dr. Mark Craig**, played by Ed Begley Jr and William Daniels, in *Saint Elsewhere*, USA 1982-1988
- **Temperance Brennan**, played by Emily Deschanel in *Bones*, USA 2005 –
- **Gregory House**, played by Hugh Laurie in *House*, USA 2006 –
- **Monk**, played by Tony Shalhoub in *Monk*, USA 2002-2009
- **Sheldon**, played by Jim Parsons in *The Big Bang Theory*, USA 2005-

TV Aliens/Extra-Terrestrials

- **Mr. Spock**, played by Leonard Nimoy in *Star Trek*, TV and films, USA 1966-
- **Data** and **Reginald Barclay**, played by Brent Spiner and Dwight Schultz in *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, USA 1987-1994
- **Seven of Nine** and **The Doctor**, played by Jeri Ryan and Robert Picardo in *Star Trek: Voyager*, USA 1995-
- **The Doctor**, **The Daleks** and **The Cybermen**, from *Dr Who*, BBC TV and films UK 1963-1989
- **Mork**, played by Robin Williams in *Mork and Mindy*, USA 1978-1982
- **Dick**, **Sally**, **Harry** and **Tommy** Solomon, played by John Lithgow, Kristen Johnston, French Stewart and Joseph Gordon-Levitt in *3rd Rock from the Sun*, USA 1996-

Film characters

- **Andrew Martin** the robot, played by Robin Williams in *Bicentennial Man*, USA 1999 from a story by Isaac Asimov (
- **Barry**, played by Jack Black in *High Fidelity*, USA 2000 (based on the book of the same name by Nick Hornby, whose son is autistic)
- **Benjie**, played by Oliver Conant in *Summer of '42*, USA 1971
- **Chance the Gardener** ("Chauncy Gardener"), played by Peter Sellers in *Being There*, USA 1979

- **Charly Gordon**, played by Cliff Robertson in *Charly*, USA 1968
- **Cody**, played by Holliston Coleman in *Bless the Child*, USA 2000
- **Edward Scissorhands**, played by Johnny Depp in *Edward Scissorhands*, USA 1990
- **Herbie Stempel**, played by John Turturro in *Quiz Show*, USA 1994
- "Joon" (Juniper Pearl), played by Mary Stuart Masterson in *Benny & Joon*, USA 1993
- **Malcolm Hughes**, played by Colin Friels in *Malcolm*, Australia 1986
- **Melvin Udall**, obsessive-compulsive writer played by Jack Nicholson in *As Good as it Gets*, USA 1997
- **Molly McKay**, played by Elisabeth Shue in *Molly*, USA 1999
- "Noodles" (David Aaronson), played by Robert De Niro in *Once Upon a Time in America*, Italy/USA 1984
- "Powder" (Jeremy Reeves), played by Sean Patrick Flanery in *Powder*, USA 1995
- **Raymond Babbitt**, played by Dustin Hoffman in *Rain Man*, USA 1988
- **Ricky Fitts**, played by Wes Bentley in *American Beauty*, USA 1999
- **Simon Lynch**, "nine-year-old autistic boy", played by Miko Hughes in *Mercury Rising*, USA 1998
- **Thomas Newton**, played by David Bowie in *The Man Who Fell to Earth*, UK 1976
- **Victor**, played by Jean-Pierre Cargol in *L'Enfant Sauvage*, directed by François Truffaut, France 1969 (based on the true story of "the wild boy of Aveyron")
- **William Forrester**, played by Sean Connery in *Finding Forrester*, UK/USA 2000

Cartoon characters

- **Calvin** of *Calvin and Hobbes*, created by Bill Watterson, US
- **Dilbert**, engineer, created by Scott Adams, US
- Gerald **McBoing-Boing**, created by "Dr Seuss" (Theodore Seuss Geisel), US books, films and TV

Literary and stage characters

- **Alexandre Luzhin** of *The Luzhin Defence* by Vladimir Nabokov, Russia/USA/Europe 1899-1977; played by John Turturro in the 2000 film
- **Bartleby** of *Bartleby, the Scrivener: A Story of Wall-Street*, a short story by Herman Melville, USA 1819-1891
- **Billy Bibbit** of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey, USA 1935-; played by Brad Dourif in the 1975 film
- **Frankenstein's Monster** from *Frankenstein*, much-filmed book by Mary Shelley, England 1797-1851
- **Geoffrey Firmin** of *Under the Volcano* by Malcolm Lowry, played by Albert Finney in the film
- **Professor Henry Higgins**, the linguist in *Pygmalion*, a play by George Bernard Shaw staged and filmed as the musical *My Fair Lady*
- **Monsieur Hercule Poirot**, Belgian private detective, from the books of Agatha Christie, England 1890-1976
- **Ignatius Reilly** of *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole
- **Jeremy Clockson** of *Thief of Time* by Terry Pratchett
- **Mary Bennet**, **Mr. Bennet** and **Mr. Collins** from *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- **Phileas Fogg** from *Around the World in Eighty Days* by Jules Verne, France 1828-1905
- **Sherlock Holmes** of the detective stories by English-Scottish author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, 1859-1930, who himself may have had some autistic traits

Characters from children's literature

- **Catweazle** the wizard, from children's stories by Richard Carpenter, played by Geoffrey Bayldon in the UK TV series
- **Pippi Longstocking** or **Pippi Langstrump**, from the children's stories written by Astrid Lindgren, Sweden 1907-2002

Historical famous people

- **Hans Christian Andersen**, writer of fairy tales
- **Jane Austen**, 1775-1817, English novelist, author of *Pride and Prejudice*
- **Bela Bartók**, 1881-1945, Hungarian composer
- **Ludwig van Beethoven**, 1770-1827, German/Viennese composer
- **Alexander Graham Bell**, 1847-1922, Scottish/Canadian/American inventor of the telephone
- **Anton Bruckner**, 1824-1896, Austrian composer
- **Henry Cavendish**, 1731-1810, English/French scientist, discovered the composition of air and water
- **Lewis G. Carrol**, 1832-1898, English writer, wrote *Alice in Wonderland*
- **Charles Darwin**, 1809-1882, English naturalist, proposed the theory of evolution
- **Emily Dickinson**, 1830-1886, US poet
- **Thomas Edison**, 1847-1931, US inventor
- **Albert Einstein**, 1879-1955, German/American theoretical physicist
- **Henry Ford**, 1863-1947, US automotive industrialist
- **Oliver Heaviside**, 1850-1925, English physicist
- **Alfred Hitchcock**, 1899-1980, English/American film director
- **Adolph Hitler**, 1889-1945, German politician and mastermind behind the Jewish Holocaust
- **Thomas Jefferson**, 1743-1826, US politician
- **Carl Jung**, 1875-1961, Swiss psychoanalyst
- **Frank Kafka**, 1883-1924, Czech writer
- **Wasily Kadenski**, 1866-1944, Russian/French painter
- **H.P. Lovecraft**, 1890-1937, US writer
- **Ludwig II**, 1845-1886, King of Bavaria
- **Charles Rennie Mackintosh**, 1868-1928, Scottish architect and designer
- **Gustav Mahler**, 1860-1911, Czech/Austrian composer
- **Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart**, 1756-1791, Austrian composer
- **Isaac Newton**, 1642-1727, English mathematician and physicist
- **Friedrich Nietzsche**, 1844-1900, German philosopher
- **George Orwell**, 1903-1950, writer of *War of the Worlds*
- **Charles Richter**, 1900-1985, inventor of the Richter Scale for seismology
- **Bertrand Russell**, 1872-1970, British logician
- **George Bernard Shaw**, 1856-1950, Irish playwright, writer of *Pygmalion*
- **Richard Strauss**, 1864-1949, German composer
- **Nikola Tesla**, 1856-1943, Serbian/American scientist, engineer, inventor of electric motors
- **Henry Thoreau**, 1817-1862, US writer
- **Alan Turing**, 1912-1954, English mathematician, computer scientist and cryptographer
- **Mark Twain**, 1835-1910, US humorist
- **Vincent Van Gogh**, 1853-1890, Dutch painter
- **Ludwig Wittgenstein**, 1889-1951, Viennese/English logician and philosopher

Contemporary famous people

- **Woody Allen**, 1935-, US comedian, actor, writer, director, producer, jazz clarinetist
- **Isaac Asimov**, 1920-1992, Russian/US writer on science and of science fiction, author of Bicentennial Man
- **Hans Asperger** 1906-1980, Austrian paediatric doctor after whom Asperger's Syndrome is named
- **John Denver**, 1943-1997, US musician
- **Bob Dylan**, 1941-, US singer-songwriter
- **Joseph Erber**, 1985-, young English composer/musician subject of a BBC TV documentary
- **Bobby Fischer**, 1943-, US chess champion
- **Bill Gates**, 1955-, US computer genius,, Inventor of Microsoft
- **Temple Grandin**, 1947-, US doctor of animal science and professor at Colorado State Univ.
- **Crispin Glover**, 1964-, US actor
- **Al Gore**, 1948-, former US Vice President and presidential candidate
- **Jeff Greenfield**, 1943-, US political analyst/speechwriter, a political wonk
- **Daryl Hannah**, 1960-, US actress
- **Jim Henson**, 1936-1990, creator of the Muppets, US puppeteer, writer, producer, director, composer
- **David Helfgott**, 1947-, Australian pianist, subject of the film Shine
- **Howard Hughes**, 1905-1976, US billionaire
- **Michael Jackson**, 1958-2008, US singer
- **Steve Jobs**, 1955-2011, US computer genius, co-founder of Apple Computers
- **Andy Kaufman**, 1949-1984, US comedian, subject of the film Man on the Moon
- **Garrison Keillor**, 1942-, US writer, humorist and host of Prairie Home Companion
- **Kevin Mitnick**, 1963-, US "hacker"
- **John Nash**, 1928-, US mathematician (portrayed by Russell Crowe in A Beautiful Mind, 2001)
- **Keith Olbermann**, 1959-, US sportscaster
- **Micheal Palin**, 1943-, English comedian and presenter
- **Keanu Reeves**, 1964-, Lebanese/Canadian/US actor
- **John Elder Robinson**, 1957-, US self-taught electronic engineer who did special effects for KISS and Pink Floyd, author of Look Me in the Eye
- **Oliver Sacks**, 1933-, UK/US neurologist, author of The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Awakenings
- **Steven Spielberg**, 1946-, US film director
- **Charles Schulz**, 1922-2000, US cartoonist and creator of Peanuts and Charlie Brown
- **James Taylor**, 1948-, US singer/songwriter
- **Andy Warhol**, 1928-1987, US artist