

# MILESTONES IN GARFIELD HISTORY



- 1978 The Garfield comic strip, penned by cartoonist Jim Davis, debuts in 41 U.S. newspapers
- 1979 Popularity of Garfield strip spreads; now in 100 newspapers
- 1980 *Garfield at Large*, his first book, hits #1 on *The New York Times* bestsellers list!
- 1981 Three Garfield books appear simultaneously on *The New York Times* bestsellers list; Garfield's world headquarters, Paws, Inc., opens near Muncie, Indiana.
- 1982 Garfield now appears in 1000 newspapers, has seven Garfield books (simultaneously) on *The New York Times* bestsellers list, makes the cover of *People* magazine, and has his first TV special, *Here Comes Garfield!*
- 1983 Comic strip now appears in 1,400 newspapers in 22 countries and is translated into seven languages.
- 1984 Garfield and Jim Davis star in American Express "Do You Know Me?" TV commercial; Garfield gets big head as the giant Garfield helium balloon makes its first appearance in the Macy's Annual Thanksgiving Day Parade.
- 1985 *Garfield in the Rough* wins an Emmy award for Outstanding Animated Program

- 1986 The comic strip now appears in 1800 newspapers and is called "the fastest growing comic strip in history." Meanwhile, Garfield takes home another Emmy for *Garfield's Halloween Adventure*.
- 1987 Garfield becomes only the third comic strip in history to appear in 2,000 newspapers worldwide; the now-classic *Garfield's Christmas* special airs.
- 1988 *Garfield and Friends*, an animated TV show starring Garfield, debuts on CBS Saturday mornings. The orange Garfield Stuck-on-You Doll is red hot, showing up in cars all over the world.
- 1989 *Garfield's Babes & Bullets* wins Emmy award for Outstanding Animated Program
- 1990 Garfield heads south to appear in his first Orange Bowl parade; *Garfield's Feline Fantasies* appears on CBS primetime.
- 1991 Garfield goes on record with "Am I Cool or What?" his first musical CD, and *Garfield Gets a Life* airs on CBS primetime
- 1992 Garfield starts a campaign to save wetlands; works with the National Wildlife Federation to help schoolyards go "green."
- 1993 Comic strip now appears in 2,400 newspapers; Garfield joins First Lady Barbara Bush for ABC radio program, "Mrs. Bush's Storytime."
- 1994 Garfield hitches a ride on Muncie Public Library Bookmobile, first of many libraries on wheels to use image of Garfield to promote reading.
- 1995 *Garfield and Friends* ends its reign on CBS Saturday morning; comic strip now appears in 2,500 newspapers. In Germany, Garfield's music CD, *Cool Cat*, tops the charts; Garfield takes his magic show to Beijing.

- 1996 Garfield and Jim Davis are Grand Marshals for Indianapolis 500 Parade; first-ever permanent Garfield exhibit debuts at Muncie Children's Museum; [www.garfield.com](http://www.garfield.com) finds a home on the World Wide Web.
- 1997 Garfield becomes spokescat for Literacy Volunteers of America; launches his own catalog, Garfield Stuff!
- 1998 Garfield celebrates 20<sup>th</sup> birthday with a major exhibit at International Museum of Cartoon Art; joins national campaign to ask, "Got Milk?"
- 1999 Garfield joins the National Institutes of Health's "Sleep Well, Do Well" campaign for kids.
- 2000 Garfield finds cool new summer hangouts at Kennywood and Lake Compounce theme parks.
- 2001 Garfield plays around on his new game site [www.garfieldgames.com](http://www.garfieldgames.com); He also takes to the "third screen" – cell phones.
- 2002 "Garfield: The Most Widely Syndicated Comic Strip in the World," declares Guinness Book of World Records.
- 2003 Garfield celebrates his 25<sup>th</sup> birthday with book tour, birthday cruise, and three-day party in Muncie, Indiana, also publishes his first official cookbook.
- 2004 *Garfield: The Movie*, first-ever full-length feature film starring the fat cat, appears in theaters worldwide!
- 2005 Garfield launches an all-new, free educational website just for kids at [www.professorgarfield.org](http://www.professorgarfield.org).
- 2006 The sequel to *Garfield: The Movie* debuts. It's *Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties*. Together, the two films have a box office net of over \$340 million
- 2007 Jim Davis serves as writer and producer of a direct-to-video movie, *Garfield Gets Real*. Two more D2V movies are in the works: *Garfield's Fun Fest* (August 08) and *Garfield's Pet Force* ( June 09)

2008

Garfield celebrates his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday and releases two new collectible books: *Garfield 30 Years and Laughs and Lasagna*, and *Garfield Minus Garfield*.

2009

Garfield debuts an all-new TV show on Cartoon Network. "*The Garfield Show*," a CGI and High-Definition animated series, will air around the globe in 2009! Garfield also launches a new comics' feature, *Life According to Garfield*.