

Risk, resilience and how to get rich

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Money money money: King Charles is now just as wealthy as former prime minister Rishi Sunak and his wife, but fewer of the world's wealthiest are choosing to live in the UK.

Do most billionaires deserve their wealth? The 2025 *Sunday Times* Rich List reveals Britain's wealthiest people — and how they came by their money.

What's happening?

Yesterday *The Sunday Times* newspaper revealed the 2025 version of its yearly Rich List. They make a list of the 350 richest people who live in the United Kingdom. It is the result of months of research.

The top entry for the fourth year in a row is the Indian businessman Gopi Hinduja and his family. Their £35.3bn comes from owning a number of companies, including the world's largest metal fluids maker.

Find out more

Former **prime minister Rishi Sunak** and his wife Akshata Murty are down from £651m to £640m. King Charles's personal fortune is valued at £640m, up from £610m last year.

The youngest person on the list is pop star Dua Lipa, with £115m. The richest entrant under 40 is the Russia-born Dmitry Bukhman, who made his money through mobile games.

The rich list might provide some lessons. It helps to look for answers to today's problems. Former cab driver Graham King has £1bn from providing housing, food and transport for **asylum seekers**.

Some have become rich through hard work. Ben Francis (£726m) set up clothing company Gymshark while working as a pizza delivery boy.

Yet the Rich List also reveals that a lot of wealthy younger individuals gained their money through family. The 34-year-old Duke of Westminster (£9.9bn) owes his wealth to property owned by his family for many years. Sunak and his wife's wealth comes from her father's business.

Perhaps the true lesson of the Rich List is that the easiest path to wealth is to be born into it.

Do most billionaires deserve their wealth?

Some say

Yes! The Rich List contains many people who have become wealthy through hard work and never giving up, such as vacuum businessman James Dyson.

Others think

No! Those born into **extreme** wealth do not deserve the luxurious life it gives them. And really, no one deserves to be a billionaire. They should all be giving their money away to those who need it more.

Some people say

“Wealth consists not in having great possessions, but in having few wants.”

Epictetus (50 – 138), Greek philosopher

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What do you think?

Six steps to discovery

1. Connect

How do you feel about this story? - Do you want to be rich? How would you achieve it?

2. Wonder

What questions do you have? - For example: How much money do you need to be considered rich?

3. Investigate

What are the facts? - Pick out one thing we know for certain about this story and one thing we cannot say for sure.

4. Construct

What is your point of view? - Which, if any, members of the 2025 Rich List do you admire?

5. Express

What do others believe? - In groups, discuss the best way to become wealthy today.

6. Reflect

What might happen next? - What would you buy if you were a billionaire? Make a list.

Glossary

Prime minister - A prime minister is the head of government in a country with a parliamentary system.

Rishi Sunak - A British politician who was the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 2022 to 2024.

Asylum seekers - People who have left their countries due to danger and are seeking refuge elsewhere.

Extreme - Very great, or beyond what is expected.