

# How Well Do You Know About "Mr. Basketball": George Mikan?

George Mikan was a basketball pioneer who helped to shape the game as we know it today. He was a dominant force in the early days of the NBA, leading the Minneapolis Lakers to five championships in six years. Mikan was also a two-time scoring champion and a four-time All-Star. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1959.



## George Mikan: How Well Do You Know About "Mr. Basketball" George Mikan ? by Anastasios Mallios

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 21952 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Print length : 46 pages  
Lending : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported



## Early Life and Career

George Mikan was born in Joliet, Illinois, on June 18, 1924. He was the youngest of five children. His father was a Lithuanian immigrant who worked as a steelworker. His mother was a homemaker.

Mikan began playing basketball at a young age. He was a natural athlete, and he quickly became one of the best players in his school. After graduating from high school, Mikan attended DePaul University in Chicago.

He played two years of varsity basketball at DePaul, and he was named an All-American both seasons.

## **NBA Career**

In 1946, Mikan was drafted by the Minneapolis Lakers. The Lakers were one of the founding members of the NBA, and they were one of the most successful teams in the league's early years.

Mikan quickly became a star for the Lakers. He was a dominant scorer and rebounder, and he helped the Lakers win their first NBA championship in 1949. Mikan led the Lakers to four more championships in 1950, 1952, 1953, and 1954. He was also the NBA's scoring champion in 1949 and 1950.

Mikan was a revolutionary player for his time. He was one of the first players to use the jump shot, and he was also one of the first players to master the art of rebounding. Mikan's dominance helped to popularize the game of basketball, and he is considered one of the greatest players of all time.

## **Retirement and Legacy**

Mikan retired from the NBA in 1956. He was 32 years old and had played 10 seasons in the league. Mikan finished his career with 10,156 points and 4,167 rebounds. He was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1959.

Mikan's legacy as a basketball player is immense. He was one of the most dominant players of his era, and he helped to shape the game of basketball

as we know it today. Mikan was a true pioneer, and he is considered one of the greatest players of all time.

## Fun Facts About George Mikan

\* Mikan was nicknamed "Mr. Basketball" because of his dominance on the court. \* Mikan was 6'10" tall, which was considered a giant in his era. \* Mikan was a four-time All-Star and a two-time scoring champion. \* Mikan led the Minneapolis Lakers to five NBA championships in six years. \* Mikan was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1959.

George Mikan was a true basketball pioneer. He was one of the most dominant players of his era, and he helped to shape the game of basketball as we know it today. Mikan was a true giant, both on and off the court, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations of basketball players.

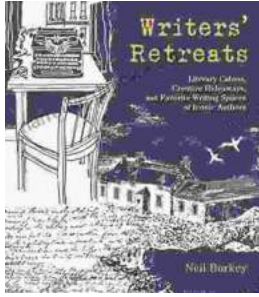


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