

## 1a- Biography



1- While mention of Queen usually conjures up images of its legendary frontman, Freddie Mercury, the band was actually the musical creation of guitarist Brian May, many years before the Mercury wowed the world with his three-octave vocal range.

Raised in the Feltham, Middlesex, section of London, a teenage May was smart and dedicated enough to build his own guitar, the legendary Red Special, with his father in 1963. The following year, he joined classmate Dave Dilloway to form a band called 1984, adding harmonica player and vocalist Tim Staffell before their first public gig in October.

May, who was studying astronomy at London's Imperial College, soon quit the band to focus on his schoolwork. But he also yearned for more creative musical expression, and he joined forces with his old bandmate Staffell to launch a new group that became known as Smile. The trio became a quartet when London Hospital Medical College dentistry student Roger Taylor responded to the group's advertisement for a drummer. Taylor impressed the others with his chops and energy, and by the fall of 1968, Smile was professionally up and running.