

# Jackie Robinson

Jackie Robinson was born in Cairo, Georgia in 1919 to a family of sharecroppers. His mother, Mallie Robinson, single-handedly raised Jackie and her four other children. The Robinson family was the only Black family on their block. The racism they encountered strengthened their family bond.



This humble beginning would produce the first baseball player to break Major League Baseball's color barrier that segregated this sport for more than 50 years, when in 1947 Jackie Robinson became the first MLB Black player. That same year, he was named National League Rookie of the year. He led the National League in stolen bases in 1947 and 1949 and led second basemen in double plays in 1949, 1950, 1951, and 1952.



# Black History

In 1949, he was selected as the National League MVP and that same year he won the batting title with an average of .342.



Jackie Robinson made the National League All-Star Team in 1949-1954. He had a career batting average of .311 with the Dodgers and .333 with the All-Star team. Jackie led the Dodgers to six World Series and one World Series Championship in a 10-year span.

Mr. Robinson has left a lasting legacy, on and off the pitch. The Jackie Robinson Foundation administers one of the nation's premier scholarships and leadership development programs for minority college students.

His foundation established the Jackie Robinson Construction Company in 1970 to build homes for families with low incomes.

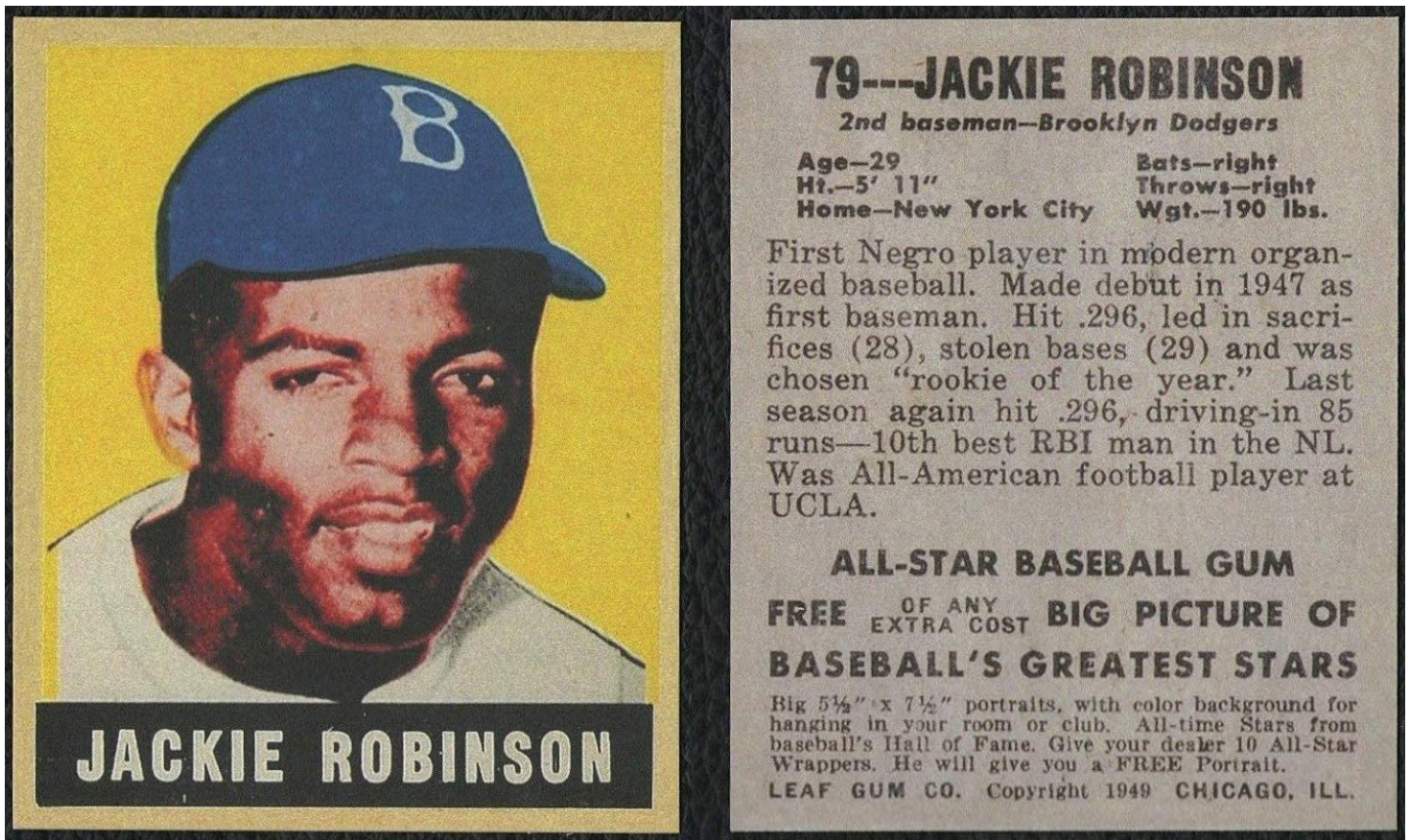




# Black History

His on-field legacy continues with every team in MLB retiring his number in 1997, and on April 15th, every baseball player wears the number 42, Jackie's number. On that day, no matter the color of a player's skin, language, sexuality, or religion, they are all alike.

Athletes like Jackie Robinson not only opened American hearts and minds, but also opened the door for some of our Civil Rights leaders such as Martin Luther King, Jr., and Malcolm X.



**79---JACKIE ROBINSON**  
2nd baseman--Brooklyn Dodgers

Age--29                      Bats--right  
Ht.--5' 11"                  Throws--right  
Home--New York City      Wgt.--190 lbs.

First Negro player in modern organized baseball. Made debut in 1947 as first baseman. Hit .296, led in sacrifices (28), stolen bases (29) and was chosen "rookie of the year." Last season again hit .296, driving-in 85 runs--10th best RBI man in the NL. Was All-American football player at UCLA.

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