

## History

### One of a kind

The first Major League home run was hit in the National League by Ross Barnes of the Chicago White Stockings (the team that later became the Chicago Cubs) on May 2, 1876.

### Career progression

On July 18, 1921 Babe Ruth hit the 139th home run of his career, passing Roger Connor's major league record of 138. He held the record for 52 years, 8 months, 21 days until Hank Aaron broke it on April 8, 1974. Aaron held the record for 33 years, 3 months and 30 days until Barry Bonds broke it. The progression of the career home run record:

Year	Player	Total
1880	Charley Jones	23
1882	Jim O'Rourke	24
1883	Charley Jones	33
1884	Charley Jones	40
1885	Harry Stovey	50
1886	Harry Stovey	57
1887	Dan Brouthers	65
1887	Dan Brouthers	74
1889	Harry Stovey	89
1890	Harry Stovey	101
1891	Harry Stovey	117
1892	Harry Stovey	121
1893	Harry Stovey	122
1895	Roger Connor	126
1896	Roger Connor	137
1898	Roger Connor	138
1921	Babe Ruth	162
1922	Babe Ruth	197
1923	Babe Ruth	238
1924	Babe Ruth	284
1925	Babe Ruth	309
1926	Babe Ruth	356
1927	Babe Ruth	416
1928	Babe Ruth	470
1929	Babe Ruth	516
1930	Babe Ruth	565
1931	Babe Ruth	611
1932	Babe Ruth	652
1933	Babe Ruth	686
1934	Babe Ruth	708
1935	Babe Ruth	714
1974	Hank Aaron	733
1975	Hank Aaron	745
1976	Hank Aaron	755
2007	Barry Bonds	756

### Final four-bagger

On July 20, 1976, Aaron hit his 755th and final home run off the Angels' Dick Drago for the Milwaukee Brewers at Milwaukee County Stadium. His last home run was a solo shot to left field in the 7th inning of a 6-2 loss. At the time no one realized the significance of the home run; only 10,134 were in attendance.

### Unlikely duo

Two pitchers surrendered home runs to both Hank Aaron and Barry Bonds — Frank Tanana and Rick Reuschel. Reuschel gave up Aaron's 691st on June 16, 1973 and his 725th on July 7, 1974. He gave up Bonds' 93rd on May 27, 1990. Tanana gave up Aaron's 748th on June 14, 1976 and Bonds' 201st on July 17, 1993.

### Season progression

Bonds also holds the single season record for home runs, but his second best season total of 49 ranks only 40th all time. The eight players who have held the major league single-season home run record, the home run total and the season length in games that year:

Year	Player	HR	Games
1876	George Hall	5	70
1879	Charley Jones	9	84
1883	Harry Stovey	14	98
1884	Ned Williamson	27	112
1919	Babe Ruth	29	140
1920	Babe Ruth	54	154
1921	Babe Ruth	59	154
1927	Babe Ruth	60	154
1961	Roger Maris	61	162
1998	Mark McGwire	70	162
2001	Barry Bonds	73	162

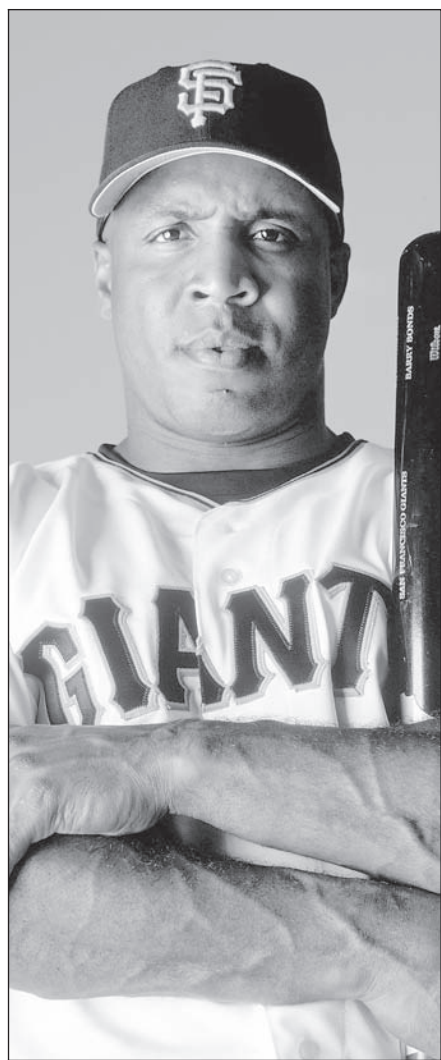
### Season's best

Babe Ruth has two of the top ten and four of the 25-best home run totals for a single season. Aaron's best season total of 47 only ranks 69th all-time. The ten-best single season home run totals including ties:

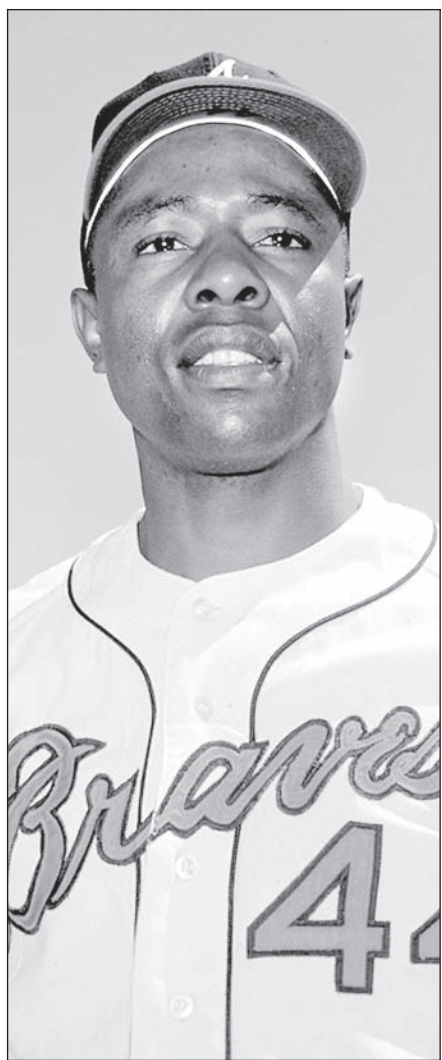
Player	HR	Year
Barry Bonds	73	2001
Mark McGwire	70	1998
Sammy Sosa	66	1998
Mark McGwire	65	1999
Sammy Sosa	64	2001
Sammy Sosa	63	1999
Roger Maris	61	1961
Babe Ruth	60	1927
Babe Ruth	59	1921
Jimmie Foxx	58	1932
Hank Greenberg	58	1938
Ryan Howard	58	2006
Mark McGwire	58	1997

SOURCES FOR THIS PAGE: David Vincent, Society for American Baseball Research, Times research by Houston Mitchell and Michael Whitley, Baseball-reference.com

## The Big Three



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# 756

## Barry Bonds

22 seasons (1986 - present)

Ht: 6'1" Wt: 228 Bats: Left

Teams: Pittsburgh Pirates, San Francisco Giants

Debut: May 30, 1986 — went 0-for-5 in a 6-4 loss to the Dodgers

First home run: June 4, 1989 — 5th inning of a 12-3 win over Atlanta

Most HR in one season	20+ HR seasons	30+ HR seasons
<b>73</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>14</b>
40+ HR seasons	50+ HR seasons	Multi HR games
<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>71</b>
Inside the park	Grand Slams	League HR titles
<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2</b>

Against left-handed pitchers	224
Against right-handed pitchers	532
Most vs. team	87 vs. San Diego
Most by day	105 on Sunday
Most by month	142 in August
Most vs. pitcher	8 vs. 5 pitchers
Most by position	719 as LF
With men on base	308
Most by inning	130, first inning
At-bats per HR	12.93
Hits per HR	3.86
HR %	25.9% of total hits

# 755

## Hank Aaron

23 seasons (1954 - 1976)

Ht: 6'0" Wt: 180 Bats: Right

Teams: Milwaukee Braves, Atlanta Braves, Milwaukee Brewers

Debut: April 13, 1954 — went 0-for-5 in a 9-8 win over Cincinnati

First home run: April 23, 1954 — 6th inning of a 7-5 win over St. Louis

Most HR in one season	20+ HR seasons	30+ HR seasons
<b>47</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>
40+ HR seasons	50+ HR seasons	Multi HR games
<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>62</b>
Inside the park	Grand Slams	League HR titles
<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4</b>

Against left-handed pitchers	221
Against right-handed pitchers	534
Most vs. team	97 vs. Cincinnati
Most by day	148 on Sunday
Most by month	152 in July
Most vs. pitcher	17 vs. D. Drysdale
Most by position	527 as RF
With men on base	355
Most by inning	124, first inning
At-bats per HR	16.383
Hits per HR	4.99
HR %	20.0% of total hits

# 714

## Babe Ruth

22 seasons (1914 - 1935)

Ht: 6'2" Wt: 215 Bats: Left

Teams: Boston Red Sox, New York Yankees, Boston Braves

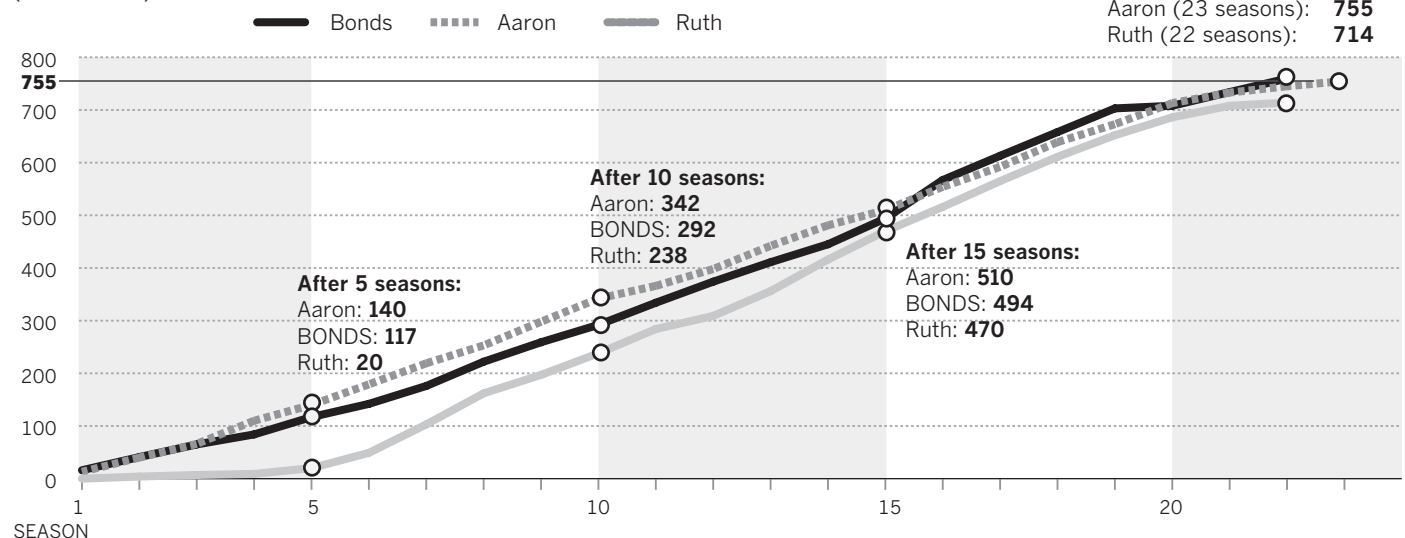
Debut: July 11, 1914 — won a 4-3 decision over the Cleveland Naps

First home run: May 6, 1915 — 3rd inning of a 4-3 loss to the Yankees

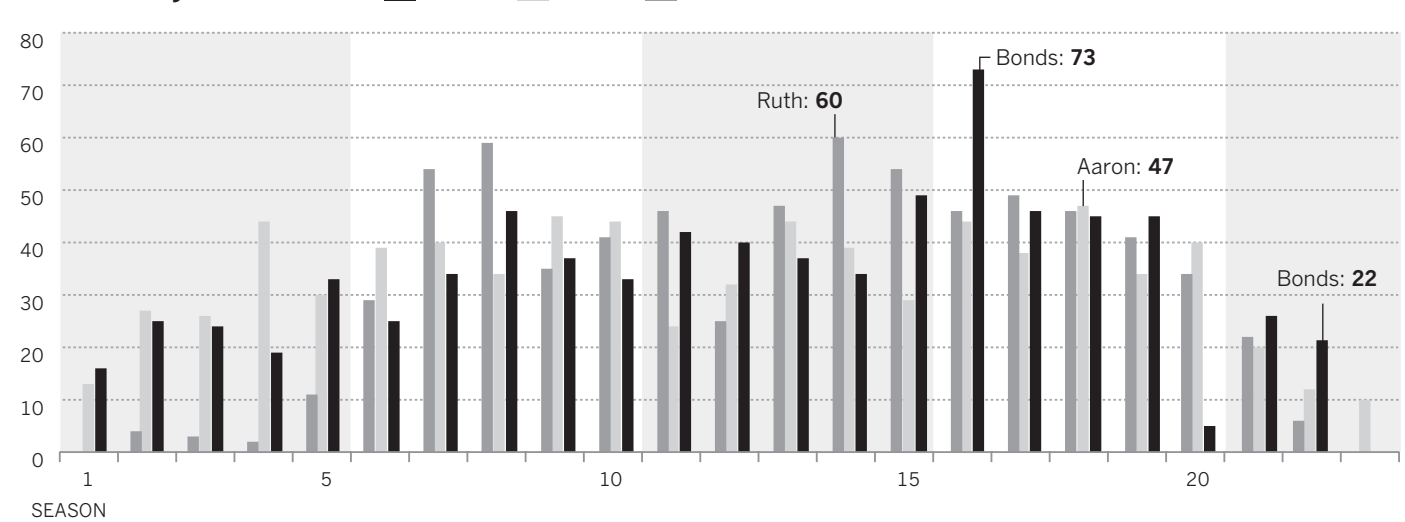
Most HR in one season	20+ HR seasons	30+ HR seasons
<b>60</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>
40+ HR seasons	50+ HR seasons	Multi HR games
<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>72</b>
Inside the park	Grand Slams	League HR titles
<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>12</b>

Against left-handed pitchers	215
Against right-handed pitchers	499
Most vs. team	123 vs. Detroit
Most by day	137 on Sunday
Most by month	147 in July
Most vs. pitcher	17 vs. R. Walberg
Most by position	354 as RF
With men on base	356
Most by inning	133, first inning
At-bats per HR	11.76
Hits per HR	3.04
HR %	32.8% of total hits

### Home runs by season (cumulative)



### Home runs by season



## Next Best

Willie Mays **660**

22 Seasons (1951 - 1973)  
 After 5 seasons: 152  
 After 10 seasons: 319  
 After 15 seasons: 542  
 After 20 seasons: 646

Sammy Sosa **604**

18 Seasons (1989 - Present)  
 After 5 seasons: 74  
 After 10 seasons: 277  
 After 15 seasons: 543

Ken Griffey Jr. **589**

19 Seasons (1989 - Present)  
 After 5 seasons: 132  
 After 10 seasons: 350  
 After 15 seasons: 542  
 After 20 seasons: 646

Frank Robinson **586**

21 Seasons (1956 - 1976)  
 After 5 seasons: 165  
 After 10 seasons: 324  
 After 15 seasons: 475  
 After 20 seasons: 583

Mark McGwire **583**

16 Seasons (1986 - 2001)  
 After 5 seasons: 156  
 After 10 seasons: 277  
 After 15 seasons: 554

Harmon Killebrew **573**

22 Seasons (1954 - 1975)  
 After 5 seasons: 11  
 After 10 seasons: 223  
 After 15 seasons: 397  
 After 20 seasons: 546

Rafael Palmeiro **569**

20 Seasons (1986 - 2005)  
 After 5 seasons: 47  
 After 10 seasons: 194  
 After 15 seasons: 400  
 After 20 seasons: 569

Reggie Jackson **563**

21 Seasons (1967 - 1987)  
 After 5 seasons: 132  
 After 10 seasons: 281  
 After 15 seasons: 425  
 After 20 seasons: 548

Mike Schmidt **548**

18 seasons (1972 - 1989)  
 After 5 seasons: 131  
 After 10 seasons: 314  
 After 15 seasons: 495

Mickey Mantle **536**

18 Seasons (1951 - 1968)  
 After 5 seasons: 121  
 After 10 seasons: 320  
 After 15 seasons: 473

Jimmie Foxx **534**

20 Seasons (1925 - 1942, 1945 - 1946)  
 After 5 seasons: 49  
 After 10 seasons: 266  
 After 15 seasons: 464  
 After 20 seasons: 534

Willie McCovey **521**

22 Seasons (1959 - 1980)  
 After 5 seasons: 108  
 After 10 seasons: 268  
 After 15 seasons: 413  
 After 20 seasons: 505

Ted Williams **521**

19 Seasons (1939 - 1942, 1943 - 1960)  
 After 5 seasons: 165  
 After 10 seasons: 323  
 After 15 seasons: 418

Eddie Mathews **512**

17 Seasons (1952 - 1967)  
 After 5 seasons: 190  
 After 10 seasons: 370  
 After 15 seasons: 493

Ernie Banks **512**

19 Seasons (1953 - 1971)  
 After 5 seasons: 136  
 After 10 seasons: 335  
 After 15 seasons: 442

Mel Ott **511**

22 Seasons (1926 - 1947)  
 After 5 seasons: 86  
 After 10 seasons: 242  
 After 15 seasons: 388  
 After 20 seasons: 510

Frank Thomas **505**

18 Seasons (1990 - Present)  
 After 5 seasons: 142  
 After 10 seasons: 301  
 After 15 seasons: 435

Eddie Murray **504**

21 Seasons (1977 - 1997)  
 After 5 seasons: 133  
 After 10 seasons: 275  
 After 15 seasons: 398  
 After 20 seasons: 501

Alex Rodriguez **500**

14 Seasons (1994 - Present)  
 After 5 seasons: 106  
 After 10 seasons: 345