

## ***Fun and interesting facts (History of clowns)***

### ***1. Do you know what the role of clowns is in a circus?***

*There are different artists who perform in a circus. Among them, the [Clown](#) is one of the performers to entertain people. Clowns use physical humor. They are often seen wearing colorful dresses with makeup. They also wear a wigs and extravagant footwear.*

### ***2. Do you know about the history of clowns?***

*Documented evidence reveals that [the history of clowns](#) dates back around 2400 B.C. In Ancient Greece, they generally were without hair and wore padded costumes to look bigger. The clowns of ancient Rome wore pointed hats. For the first time, the masked characters [Arlecchino \(Harlequin\)](#) and [Pierrot](#) were introduced in the 17th century in the [commedia dell'arte](#).*

### ***3. Do you know from which language the word clown originated?***

*The word clown originated from an Icelandic word called Klunni. Klunni means a “clumsy person”.*

### ***4. Why is Joseph Grimaldi called the father of modern-day clowns?***

*An English artist, [Joseph Grimaldi](#), is known as the father of modern clowns. He made an enormous contribution to the clowning industry. Joseph Grimaldi first appeared on the stage in 1802 as a clown named ‘Joey’ at the [Sadler’s Wells theater](#) in London. In modern-day circuses, a clown’s face has been painted with different colors. Joseph Grimaldi was the first clown to appear with colorful faces.*

## ***References***

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