

Dolly Parton
version one

Good golly, WE LOVE DOLLY

Eight reasons why we love the music icon

There's not many people who can pull off rhinestones, giant hair, and an arsenal of one-liners quite like Dolly Parton. The queen of country holds a special place in both our hearts and our playlists. Best known for being one of the genre's most glamorous stars, the Grammy winner, 77, is now dipping her toes into the world of rock with her aptly titled new album *Rockstar*. And, as we happily welcome a little bit more musical magic into our lives, here's why we can't get enough of Dolly...

HUMBLE ROOTS

There wasn't a rhinestone in sight when it came to Dolly's roots. She grew up "dirt poor," in a two-room cabin with her 11 siblings. In fact, her tobacco farmer father was so poor that he paid the healthcare bill for Dolly's birth with a sack of oats.

OG FEMINIST

Despite being undervalued in the early stages of her career, she refused to let the men in power slow her down. The original feminist icon, songs like *Dumb Blonde* and *Just Because I'm A Woman* proved to the world that Dolly wasn't – and never will – be second best.

FAIRY GODMOTHER

Dolly is still inspiring the next generation of musical icons. Shania Twain referred to her as a trailblazer, while Dolly's goddaughter Miley Cyrus dubbed her "saintly, even godlike". One thing's for sure: without Dolly, being a woman in the music industry would look very different.

Like godmother,
like goddaughter

Trashion,
not fashion

TRASH ICON

Dolly has a healthy disdain for hoity toity style, claiming, "I would never stoop so low as to be fashionable." Growing up, she was inspired by a local "loose woman" – revealing that she aspired to be the "trash" that so many were quick to judge. Talk about owning it.

Let's all try to be
more like Dolly

THE BOOK LADY

Spurred on by her father's illiteracy, Dolly opened her Imagination Library to help children learn to read. Since its founding back in 1995, the programme has sent over 120 million free books to kids across the globe.

Read 'em
and weep

SCIENCE BOOB

In 1996, the worlds of music, science and anatomy collided when the first sheep to be cloned was named after the singer. Dolly has said it was "because she had big mammary glands. She gave me a lot of competition... I never met her, but I always said there's no such thing as baaad publicity." Bonus points for the pun!

Dolly
Baaa-ton

It's an udderly
inspired name

VACCINE, VACCINE

During COVID, Dolly donated over £800,000 to research into the virus and helped to fund the Moderna vaccine. She even broke into song when getting her own inoculation, adapting her hit *Jolene* to praise the vaccine.

TOP BOSS

What's more impressive than having your own theme park (called Dollywood, obvs)? Investing in your workers! Any park staff pursuing a college degree get their tuition, any associated fees, and the cost of all their books 100 per cent covered.

Can we come and
work for you?