






DID YOU THE 27 CLUB ?

The **27 Club**, also occasionally known as the **Forever 27 Club** or **Club 27**, is a name for a group of influential [rock music](#) artists who died at the age of 27. [The 27s: The Greatest Myth of Rock & Roll](#) details the history of the phenomenon.

Musicians usually included in the 27 Club

The impetus for the club's creation were the deaths of Jones, Hendrix, Joplin and Morrison.^[1] Cobain, who died in 1994, was later added by some. With the exception of Joplin, there is controversy surrounding their deaths. According to the book [Heavier Than Heaven](#), when Cobain died, his sister claimed that as a kid he would talk about how he wanted to join the 27 Club.^[2] On the fifteenth anniversary of Kurt Cobain's death, [National Public Radio](#)'s Robert Smith said, "The deaths of these rock stars at the age of 27 really changed the way we look at rock music."^[3] [The 27s: The Greatest Myth of Rock & Roll](#) details the history of the phenomenon.

Picture	Name	Date of death	Official cause of death	Fame	Age
	Brian Jones	July 3, 1969	Drowned in a swimming pool. ^[4] The coroner's report stated "death by misadventure." ^[5]	Rolling Stones founder and guitarist/multi-instrumentalist.	27 years and 125 days
	Jimi Hendrix	September 18, 1970	Autopsy showed he asphyxiated on vomit after combining sleeping pills with wine. ^[6]	Pioneering electric guitarist, singer and songwriter for The Jimi Hendrix Experience and Band of Gypsies .	27 years and 295 days
	Janis Joplin	October 4, 1970	Probable heroin overdose. ^[7]	Lead vocalist and songwriter for Big Brother and the Holding Company , The Kozmic Blues Band and Full Tilt Boogie Band.	27 years and 258 days
	Jim Morrison	July 3, 1971	Cause of death listed as "heart failure"; however, no autopsy was performed. ^[8]	Lead singer, songwriter and video director for The Doors .	27 years and 207 days

	Kurt Cobain	April 5, 1994	Ruled as suicide by shotgun. ^[9]	Founding member, lead singer, guitarist and songwriter for Nirvana .	27 years and 44 days
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Other musicians who died at 27

Some lists include other musicians who died at age 27.^[10] Cobain and Hendrix biographer [Charles R. Cross](#) writes, "The number of musicians who died at 27 is truly remarkable by any standard. [Although humans die regularly at all ages, there is a statistical spike for musicians who die at 27."^[10]

Name [ⓘ]	Date of death [ⓘ]	Cause of death [ⓘ]	Claim to notability [ⓘ]
Louis Chauvin	March 26, 1908	Neurosyphilitic sclerosis.	Ragtime musician.
Robert Johnson	August 16, 1938	Unknown, but typically credited to strychnine poisoning.	Bluesman. Recorded very famous and influential set of 29 songs that influenced many famous musicians after him, considered the first of the 27 club.
Nat Jaffe	August 5, 1945	Result of complications from high blood pressure .	Blues musician.
Jesse Belvin	February 6, 1960	Car crash.	R&B singer and songwriter.
Rudy Lewis	May 20, 1964	Drug overdose.	Vocalist of The Drifters .
Malcolm Hale	October 31, 1968	Carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty space heater.	Original member of Spanky and Our Gang .
Dickie Pride	March 26, 1969	Overdose of sleeping pills.	British rock and roll singer.
Alan "Blind Owl" Wilson	September 3, 1970	Barbiturate overdose, possible suicide.	Leader, singer and primary composer of Canned Heat .
Arlester "Dyke" Christian	March 13, 1971	Shot.	Frontman and vocalist of Dyke & the Blazers .
Linda Jones	March 14, 1972	Diabetic coma.	R&B singer.
Les Harvey	May 3, 1972	Electrocution by live microphone after touching it with his wet hands.	Guitarist for Stone the Crows .
Ron "Pigpen" McKernan	March 8, 1973	Gastrointestinal hemorrhage associated with alcoholism.	Founding member, keyboardist and singer of the Grateful Dead .
Roger Lee Durham	July 27, 1973	Fell off a horse and died from the injuries.	Singer and percussionist of Bloodstone .
Wallace Yohn	August 12, 1974	Died in a plane crash along with three other band members.	Organ player of Chase .
Dave Alexander	February 10, 1975	Pulmonary edema.	Bassist for the Stooges .
Pete Ham	April 24, 1975	Suicide by hanging.	Keyboardist and guitarist, leader of Badfinger .
Gary Thain	December 8,	Drug overdose.	Former bassist of Uriah Heep and The Keef

	1975		Hartley Band.
Cecilia	August 2, 1976	Car crash	Spanish singer
Helmut Köllen	May 3, 1977	Carbon monoxide poisoning.	Bassist with 1970s German prog rock band Triumvirat .
Chris Bell	December 27, 1978	Car crash: ran into a telephone pole.	Singer-songwriter and guitarist of power pop band Big Star and solo.
Jacob Miller	March 23, 1980	Car crash.	Jamaican reggae artist and lead singer for Inner Circle .
D. Boon	December 22, 1985	Lying down in the back of a van when it veered off road, he was ejected from the vehicle and broke his neck.	Guitarist, lead singer of punk band the Minutemen .
Alexander Bashlachev	February 17, 1988	Suicide by jumping.	Russian poet, rock musician and songwriter.
Jean-Michel Basquiat	August 12, 1988	Speedball overdose.	Painter and graffiti artist; formed the band Gray.
Pete de Freitas	June 14, 1989	Motorcycle wreck on his way back from filming a music video.	Drummer for Echo & the Bunnymen .
Mia Zapata	July 7, 1993	Murdered.	Lead singer of the Gits .
Kristen Pfaff	June 16, 1994	Officially ruled as an accidental heroin overdose.	Bass guitarist for Hole and Janitor Joe .
Richey James Edwards	c. February 1, 1995	Disappeared; officially presumed dead November 23, 2008.	Lyricist and guitarist for Manic Street Preachers
Stretch	November 30, 1995	Shot	Rapper
Fat Pat	February 3, 1998	Shot.	Rapper and member of Screwed Up Click .
Freaky Tah	March 28, 1999	Shot.	Rapper and member of the hip hop group Lost Boyz .
Sean Patrick McCabe	August 28, 2000	Asphyxiated on vomit after ingesting too much alcohol.	Lead singer of Ink & Dagger .
Rodrigo Bueno	June 24, 2000	Car accident	Argentinian Cuarteto singer.
Maria Serrano Serrano	November 24, 2001	Plane crash .	Background singer for Passion Fruit .
Jeremy Michael Ward	May 25, 2003	Heroin overdose.	The Mars Volta and De Facto sound manipulator.
Bryan Ottoson	April 19, 2005	Prescription drug overdose.	Guitarist for American Head Charge .
Valentín Elizalde	November 25, 2006	Murdered.	Mexican banda singer.
Orish Grinstead	c. April 20, 2008	Kidney failure.	Founding member of '90s R&B group 702 .
Lily Tembo	September 14, 2009	Severe gastritis.	Zambian musician.
Amy Winehouse	July 23, 2011	To be determined. ^{[1][12]}	British singer/songwriter.