





# Character: Cinderella

### **Character Detail**

#### First Disney Appearance

February 15, 1950

#### Film Premiere

Cinderella

#### Origin/History

French fairy tale by Charles Perrault

#### Significant Milestone/Fact

After World War II and years of animated shorts, the Disney Studios was rejuvenated with the release of *Cinderella*, the first full-length animated feature since *Bambi* in 1942.

#### Story

After the death of her beloved father, Cinderella works as a servant in her own home for her wicked stepmother, Lady Tremaine. Her only friends are the mice and other animals who keep her company as she does her daily chores.

When the king invites every eligible maiden to attend a ball in honor of the prince, Lady Tremaine tells Cinderella that she may attend if she is able to complete all of her chores and find something suitable to wear in time for the ball. Although she completes her chores and the animals make "a lovely dress for Cinder-elly," Cinderella's dress is ripped to shreds by her jealous stepsisters, Anastasia and Drizella.

Cinderella's Fairy Godmother appears and casts a spell so she may attend the ball. She turns a pumpkin into a coach, turns the mice into horses, and transforms Cinderella's rags into a beautiful ball gown—complete with glass slippers on her feet. She warns Cinderella that the spell will be broken at midnight and sends her on her way.

Cinderella arrives at the ball and waltzes with a handsome stranger, not realizing that he is the prince. When the clock strikes midnight, she runs from the palace and loses a glass slipper on the staircase. When the Prince vows to marry the woman who can fit into the slipper, the Grand Duke uses it to search the kingdom for the mystery woman. When Cinderella is the only one whose tiny foot fits into the glass slipper, she returns to the palace and marries Prince Charming.

#### Personality

Cinderella is sweet, gentle, intelligent, well-mannered, graceful, demure, kind, and believes in her dreams. She sings like a nightingale and loves animals. She never loses her temper but is not afraid to stand up for herself (in a calm, dignified, and gentle way).

Although Cinderella is approximately eighteen years old, she is more like a mature young woman than a teenager.

## Development/Evolution

Animated by Marc Davis

# **Physical Characteristics**

# Wire Frame

- Cinderella has a very feminine design
- Tall, thin, and graceful
- Slightly rounded features and curves

## Gestures

• Soft, feminine gestures

# Movement

- Graceful and elegant, not clumsy or silly
- Movements are never exaggerated or extreme

#### Color

- Dark blond hair
- Blue eyes

#### Size/Proportions

- Six-and-a-half heads tall
- Soft, feminine proportions

#### Details

- Cinderella's hair style changes throughout the film, along with several costume changes
- In her rags, her hair is down and tied with a bow in the back

- In the dress the mice made for her, her hair is still down but now her hair ribbon is tied with a bow on the top of her head
- In her ballgown, her hair is styled up on top of her head (this hairstyle is also used when she is in her wedding dress)

#### Head/Face

- Blue eyes
- Pink lips

### Body Shape/Type/Style

• Tall, with a small (but full) waist

# Arms/Legs

• Human-like

#### Hands/Feet

• Tiny feet (to fit the glass slipper)

### Unique Physical Characteristics

- Cinderella is the Disney Princess with features and proportions drawn most "realistically human"
- Not exaggerated
- Similar to a "real" human

#### Model Scale

• Refer to comparative size chart

#### Perspective/Cast of Characters

- Love interest: Prince Charming
- Frequent companions: Jaq, Gus, Suzy, and Perla (mice), Bruno (dog), Major (horse), and Lucifer (cat)
- Villain: Lady Tremaine (stepmother), Anastasia (stepsister), and Drizella (stepsister)
- Father: not named (deceased)
- Mother: not named (deceased)

#### **Character Environment**

## Country/Setting

- France
- Castle setting
- House setting
- DISNEYLAND® Resort in California:
- DISNEYLAND® Park (Fantasyland)
- WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort in Florida:
- MAGIC KINGDOM® Park (Fantasyland)

- Epcot® (France)
- Disney-MGM Studios
- WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort character dining experiences
- TOKYO DISNEYLAND® Resort:
- TOKYO DISNEYLAND® Park, Fantasyland castle setting

## Time Period

• 16<sup>th</sup> century

# **Appropriate Use of Character**

- Costumes are limited to the appropriate time period (she is never shown wearing modern clothing)
- Never uses anything remotely modern (no phones, ovens, TV, radio)
- NOT shown playing sports
- NOT shown in modern locations (such as the city or coffee bars)

# Additional Comments/Considerations

- Cinderella is always seen as a princess
- She is always kind, polite, gentle, and sweetnatured
- She also appears in Cinderella II: Dreams Come True

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