

Skyscraper Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

Skyscraper trivia explores the history, design, and cultural impact of the world's most famous high-rises. From early steel-frame towers in Chicago and New York to today's supertall landmarks in Dubai and Shanghai, these buildings reflect changing technology, ambition, and urban life. Expect a family-friendly mix of easy, funny, and challenging facts that turn skyline icons into memorable conversation starters.

HARD SKYSCRAPER TRIVIA

1. Which year marks the completion of Chicago's Home Insurance Building, often cited in early skyscraper history?

Answer: 1885

2. The Woolworth Building is associated with which architect?

Answer: Cass Gilbert

3. Name the architect who designed the Flatiron Building.?

Answer: Daniel Burnham

4. Which architect is credited with the Wainwright Building in St. Louis?

Answer: Louis Sullivan

5. In what city would you find the Monadnock Building?

Answer: Chicago

6. Which architect of I. M. Pei & Partners designed the John Hancock Tower?

Answer: Henry N. Cobb

7. Chicago's former John Hancock Center now carries what official name?

Answer: 875 North Michigan Avenue

8. When comparing Willis Tower with the former Twin Towers, what measurement is lower for Willis Tower despite its higher pinnacle?

Answer: Its roof height

9. Which organization is known for rankings that distinguish antennas from architectural spires?

Answer: CTBUH

10. What is the term for the deep foundation system used for some skyscrapers: mat slab, caisson foundation, curtain wall, or outrigger truss?

Answer: Caisson foundation

11. Which firm designed the Shanghai World Financial Center?

Answer: Kohn Pedersen Fox

12. Shanghai World Financial Center opened in which year?

Answer: 2008

13. The original World Trade Center employed which structural concept?

Answer: Framed tube

14. The Seagram Building reached completion in what year?

Answer: 1958

FUNNY SKYSCRAPER TRIVIA

1. Which famously pointy New York building sounds like it was named after something used to press shirts?

Answer: The Flatiron Building

2. If a London skyscraper sounds more like a pickle than a property investment, what is its nickname?

Answer: the Gherkin

3. Which London tower has the kind of nickname that suggests it belongs in a kitchen drawer: the Leadenhall Building is called what?

Answer: the Cheese grater

4. 20 Fenchurch Street has a nickname that sounds ready to call for backup. What is it?

Answer: the Walkie-Talkie

5. What nickname does 111 West 57th Street use instead of making everyone say its full address like a robot?

Answer: Steinway Tower

6. The Chrysler Building's gargoyles were modeled on what car-related detail, proving even ornamentation can be on brand?

Answer: Chrysler hood ornaments

7. Which movie gave the Empire State Building one of cinema's most famous very-bad-days-at-work?

Answer: King Kong

8. Before the web-slinging, rent-paying, superhero chaos, what is Spider-Man's civilian name?

Answer: Peter Parker

9. Which comic book series introduced Superman to the world?

Answer: Action Comics

10. In what year did Superman first appear in Action Comics #1, launching a very successful cape economy?

Answer: 1938

11. What are stair-climbing competitions held inside tall buildings called, for people who

see elevators as a personal insult?

Answer: skyscraper races

12. The New York Daily News once called the Chrysler Building the 'Little Nemo in steel and brick.' What two-word name filled that whimsical headline?

Answer: Little Nemo

13. True or false: the word 'skyscraper' only started being used after airplanes existed.?

Answer: False

FUN SKYSCRAPER TRIVIA

1. Which famous New York skyscraper wears a shiny crown made of stainless steel?

Answer: The Chrysler Building

2. What giant device helps Taipei 101 keep its cool when the building starts to sway?

Answer: A tuned mass damper

3. What is the name of the rooftop feature that ties together the three hotel towers of Marina Bay Sands?

Answer: The SkyPark

4. The Petronas Towers are joined by what kind of elevated connection?

Answer: A double-decker skybridge

5. Who designed St Mary Axe, the London tower often recognized for its distinctive shape?

Answer: Norman Foster

6. Which building was designed by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Philip Johnson?

Answer: The Seagram Building

7. If a Chicago tower looked like a three-pointed star from above, which one would it be?

Answer: Lake Point Tower

8. Which Chicago skyscraper practically turns its structure into a fashion statement with bold X-bracing on the outside?

Answer: The John Hancock Center

9. Who is credited with pioneering the tubular structural system for tall buildings?

Answer: Fazlur Rahman Khan

10. Which building is famous for relying on load-bearing masonry walls rather than a later high-rise structural approach?

Answer: The Monadnock Building

11. Rue Franklin in Paris is associated with an early apartment building using what then-innovative material system?

Answer: Reinforced concrete

12. Who was a key architect of the Sears Tower?

Answer: Bruce Graham

13. Which firm designed the Sears Tower?

Answer: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

SKYSCRAPER FAMILY TRIVIA

1. What year did the Empire State Building open?

Answer: 1931

2. The shiny-topped Chrysler Building was completed in which year?

Answer: 1930

3. Which year marks the opening of the Woolworth Building?

Answer: 1913

4. The Flatiron Building was completed in what year?

Answer: 1902

5. What is the completion year of the Metropolitan Life Tower?

Answer: 1909

6. In what year did the original World Trade Center's Twin Towers open?

Answer: 1973

7. Taipei 101 welcomed the world in which year?

Answer: 2004

8. One World Trade Center officially opened in what year?

Answer: 2014

9. What year did the Burj Khalifa open?

Answer: 2010

10. The Petronas Towers were completed in which year?

Answer: 1998

11. How many floors does the Chrysler Building have?

Answer: 77 floors

12. How many floors are in the Empire State Building?

Answer: 102 floors

EASY SKYSCRAPER TRIVIA

1. In which city is the Burj Khalifa located?

Answer: Dubai

2. The Empire State Building stands in what city?

Answer: New York City

3. What style is the Chrysler Building famous for?

Answer: Art Deco

4. Before it was called Willis Tower, what was its former name?

Answer: Sears Tower

5. One World Trade Center rises in which part of New York?

Answer: Lower Manhattan

6. The Petronas Towers are found in which city?

Answer: Kuala Lumpur

7. Taipei 101 stands in which district of Taipei?

Answer: Xinyi District

8. Shanghai Tower is located in what city?

Answer: Shanghai

9. Marina Bay Sands belongs to which city-state?

Answer: Singapore

10. Dubai Marina is a skyline district in which city?

Answer: Dubai

11. A building must be at least how tall to be considered megatall?

Answer: 600 meters

12. In accepted tall-building rankings, what feature can count toward architectural height?

Answer: A spire

13. Architectural height measures a building up to the top of what kind of features?

Answer: Its permanent architectural features

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/skyscraper>