

Although Kirsten Dunst is a young actress, her resume is just as long -- if not longer -- than those of older, more accomplished actresses. This talented marvel is living proof that age is just a number and not a measure of one's career and success.

Kirsten Caroline Dunst was born on April 30, 1982, in Point Pleasant, New Jersey. Her mother Inez is an artist, while her father is a medical services executive.

Kiki, as her family and friends refer to her, has a brother, Christian. Now that her parents are separated, she and Christian live with their mother, two cats and a dog named Beauty in Burbank, California.

A far cry from the big screen, Kirsten's career began with a baby doll commercial. But it was clear that Kirsten was not destined to stay locked in television commercials forever.

kirsten in the bonfire of the vanities

She soon landed an uncredited role in 1989's *New York Stories* and got her first credited part in 1990 in *The Bonfire of the Vanities*, with [Bruce Willis](#) and [Melanie Griffith](#).

More roles followed as Kirsten's repertoire expanded exponentially. She appeared in the made-for-TV movie *Darkness Before Dawn* (1993) and the film *High Strung* (1994).

In the meantime, Trekkies caught a glimpse of her on *Star Trek: The Next Generation* in 1993. Kirsten also made a few appearances in the NBC series *Sisters*, as Kitten.

kirsten in interview with the vampire

1994 was definitely Kirsten's year. Not only did she land a supporting role as the youngest vampire amid A-list actors like [Tom Cruise](#) and [Brad Pitt](#) in the film adaptation of Anne Rice's *Interview with the Vampire*, but she also appeared in *Little Women* with [Winona Ryder](#) and the comedy *Greedy* with Kirk Douglas.

Incidentally, Kirsten beat out [Christina Ricci](#) for both the *Interview with the Vampire* and *Little Women* roles.

Kirsten was nominated for a Golden Globe (as Best Supporting Actress in a Motion Picture) and won an MTV Movie Award for Breakthrough Performance for her portrayal of Claudia in *Interview with the Vampire* (Kirsten actually loves the MTV award best since it's a golden bag of popcorn). It wasn't only MTV and the Hollywood Foreign Press Association who recognized Kirsten; audiences and critics alike were taking notice of the talented blue-eyed blonde.

kirsten in jumanji & wag the dog

Next up for Kirsten was the film *Jumanji* (1995). She also provided her voice for the animated film *Anastasia* (1997) and, on a more serious note, for the TV movie *Children Remember the Holocaust* (1995).

In 1997, Kirsten landed a role in *Wag the Dog*, with big league actors [Robert De Niro](#) and Dustin Hoffman. Then, in 1998, Kirsten was one of the only actual actors in *Small Soldiers*, while actors such as [Sarah Michelle Gellar](#) provided their voices.

The list of films Kirsten has appeared in has only expanded since 1994, with the summer of 1999's *Dick*, co-starring [Michelle Williams](#), and the dark comedy *Drop Dead Gorgeous*, with [Denise Richards](#).

kirsten in bring it on

Also in 1999, Kirsten gave an outstanding performance as Lux Lisbon in Sofia Coppola's directorial debut, *The Virgin Suicides*, about the sexually curious and rebellious daughter of overprotective parents, played by Kathleen Turner and James Woods.

Kirsten's 2000 films include *The Crow: The Salvation*, *Bring It On*, *All Forgotten*, *Luckytown*, and *Deeply*. The following year, she appeared in the romantic teen flick *Get Over It*, the disappointing *Crazy/Beautiful*, and as Marion Davies in *The Cat's Meow*.

kirsten scores with spider-man

In 2002, Kirsten hit the big time as Spider-Man's leading lady, Mary Jane Watson, in the record-making blockbuster, *Spider-Man*. After her role in *Levity* (2003), Kirsten was seen in *Mona Lisa Smile* (2003), *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (2004) with [Jim Carrey](#), *Wimbledon* (2004), and again as MJ in *Spider-Man 2* (2004).

And Kirsten only continues to be busy, with roles in 2005's *Elizabethtown*, 2006's *Marie-Antoinette* (as the title character), and 2007's *Spider-Man 3*.

kirsten dunst in real life

Although Kirsten was rumored to have dated her *Spider-Man* co-star [Tobey Maguire](#) and actor Jake Hoffman, the headlines linking her Jake Gyllenhaal are true. The two have been on and off for several years.

When not acting, Kirsten enjoys playing the piano, listening to music (especially [Jewel](#)), and playing softball. She currently resides in Southern California and is working on her own production company, called Wooden Spoon Productions.