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(1961-)Who Is Eddie Murphy?Eddie Murphy began doing stand-up comedy as a teenager and later joined the cast of Saturday Night Live. At age 21, Murphy co-starred with Nick Nolte in 48 Hours, and he went on to further box-office success with Trading Places, Beverly Hills Cop, Coming to America, The Nutty Professor and Shrek. He continues to star in many movies, including comedies, dramas and family films.Early LifeEddie Regan Murphy was born on April 3, 1961, in Brooklyn, New York. He spent his early years in the projects of Bushwick with his father, Charles, a New York City police officer and amateur comedian, his mother, Lillian, a telephone operator, and his brother Charles. His parents divorced when he was three, five years later, his father died and his mother went into the hospital for an extended period. When Murphy was nine years old, his mother married Vernon Lynch, a foreman at a Breyer's ice cream factory, and the family moved to the primarily African American suburb of Roosevelt, Long Island. Murphy watched a lot of television growing up and developed a great skill for impressions, doing such characters as Bugs Bunny, Bullwinkle and Sylvester the Cat. "My mother says I never talked in my own voice," Murphy later said.Although he was never a dedicated student, Murphy found a great form for his verbal agility in grade school, excelling in the popular game of "ranking" trading witty insults with classmates. Hosting a talent show at the Roosevelt Youth Center at age 15, Murphy delighted his young audience with an impersonation of Al Green. This early success ignited a passion for showbiz, and Murphy began working on his comedy routines after school and performing stand-up at local bars, clubs and "gong shows." His schoolwork suffered, however, and Murphy had to repeat the 10th grade as a result.By doubling up on classes, and attending summer and night school, he graduated only a couple of months late. Murphy was voted the "most popular" boy in his graduating class. His declared career plan: comedian.Mainstream Success. 'SNL' Cast MemberResponding to the pleas of his mother, Murphy enrolled at Nassau Community College after high school and worked part-time as a shoe store clerk. He continued to perform in local clubs and eventually worked his way into such New York City venues as the Comic Strip, billing himself as a disciple of the great comedian Richard Pryor.Although his raunchy, profanity-ridden routines resembled his idol's, Murphy stayed away from drinking, smoking and drugs, and would later declare to Barbara Walters, "I don't have to sniff cocaine to make me funny."When Murphy learned that the producers of the popular late-night comedy show, Saturday Night Live, were seeking a Black cast member for the 1980-81 season, he jumped on the opportunity. He auditioned for the part six times, and finally earned a place as an extra on the show.Murphy appeared sporadically throughout the season, until one fateful night when producers realized they had four minutes of airtime remaining and no material. They pushed Murphy before the camera and told him to do his stand-up routine. His improvised performance was called "masterful" by Rolling Stone, and Murphy became one of only two cast members (along with Joe Piscopo) asked to return for the next season.Murphy became Saturday Night Live 's strongest comedic presence, creating such memorable characters as Mister Robinson, an urban version of TV's Mister Rogers; an older version of the Little Rascals character, Buckwheat; and an illiterate convict and poet named Tyrone Green. He also continued his skillful impersonations, adding Bill Cosby, Muhammad Ali, James Brown, Jerry Lewis and Stevie Wonder to his repertoire. Murphy received criticism for his satirical characterizations based on Black stereotypes. He defended his performances, claiming that his characters were too absurd and abstract to be taken seriously.Movies'48 Hours'In 1982, Murphy received a Grammy nomination for a live album of fresh stand-up material called Eddie Murphy: Comedian. The album eventually went gold. That same year, at the age of 21, he also landed his first major motion picture role alongside Nick Nolte in 48 Hours. He approached the role with confidence and ingenuity, convincing director Walter Hill to adjust some of the dialogue to more genuinely depict a Black speaker. His charming and inspired performance as the fast-talking convict stole the film, and 48 Hours grossed over \$5 million in its first week.'Trading Places'Murphy followed this success with the 1930s style farce Trading Places (1983). Playing alongside fellow SNL alummus Dan Aykroyd, Murphy's street-wise Billy Ray Valentine becomes the victim, then the victor, of two Wall Street moguls' short-sighted bet. Paramount Pictures proceeded to sign the 23-year-old to a \$25 million contract for six pictures.'Beverly Hills Cop' FranchiseMurphy's next film, Beverly Hills Cop (1984), hit No. 9 on the list of all-time box-office hits. He played bad boy/good cop Axel Foley, a role originally slated for Sylvester Stallone. His performance was a hit with fans and earned the actor a Golden Globe nomination. Murphy went on to make Beverly Hills Cop II in 1987, which received mixed reviews from critics, but major rewards from the box office. His other efforts of this period including The Golden Child (1986) and his directorial debut, Harlem Nights (1989) were deemed failures by critics and audiences alike.Coming to America A highlight of his career during this time was the romantic comedy Coming to America (1988), co-starring Arsenio Hall. In the film, both Murphy and Hall were able to demonstrate their comedic versatility by playing multiple characters. Audiences loved Murphy's performances and the movie became a box-office smash, grossing more than \$128 million in the United States alone.In 1990, Murphy starred in a sequel to 48 Hours, titled Another 48 Hours. The second film did not perform to the same standards as the first, and Murphy decided to take a break from the Hollywood scene.'Boomerang'He returned in 1992 as a smooth, impeccably dressed bachelor in Boomerang, co-starring Halle Berry. The film met mixed reviews, but many critics found Murphy's performance as a romantic lead a step in the right direction. He followed the success of the film with Beverly Hills Cop III (1994) and Vampire in Brooklyn (1995), both low performers at the box office.'The Nutty Professor'In 1996, Murphy rediscovered his love for over-the-top comedic invention in a hit remake of the Jerry Lewis film The Nutty Professor. Murphy earned a Golden Globe nomination and an Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy & Horror Films Award for his role in the film.In May 1997, Murphy earned some unfortunate publicity when he was discovered by L.A. police with a transsexual prostitute. He claimed he was merely trying to give the prostitute a ride. The incident made him the target of jokes nonetheless.'Mulan,' 'Doctor Doolittle' and 'Bowfinger'Despite the scandal in his personal life, Murphy went on to feature in a variety of family films. He provided the voice of Mushu the Lizard in Disney's animated picture Mulan (1998) to enormous critical praise, and also starred alongside several animals in Doctor Doolittle (1998). In 1999, he headlined the comedy Bowfinger with Steve Martin, who also wrote the screenplay, and the following year, Murphy played all six lead characters in Nutty Professor II: The Klumps. During this time, he also voiced superintendent Thurgood Stubbs on the animated show The PJs, for which he served as executive producer.'Shrek' and 'Daddy Day Care'In the summer of 2001, Murphy had two more big box-office successes, starring in Dr. Doolittle 2 and lending his voice to the character of Donkey in the animated feature Shrek, also featuring the voices of Mike Myers and Cameron Diaz. In 2003, Murphy starred in yet another family comedy, this time as an overwhelmed babysitter in Daddy Day Care. The following year, he revisited Donkey for the hit sequel Shrek 2.'Dreamgirls,' 'Norbit' and 'Tower Heist'In 2006, Murphy signed on for what was arguably his most demanding film to date, a screen adaptation of the Broadway musical Dreamgirls, featuring Jennifer Hudson. His performance as soul singer James "Thunder" Early earned him a Golden Globe award and an Academy Award nomination. The actor then quickly pivoted back to comedic roles for 2007's Norbit and Shrek the Third. In 2011, Murphy appeared in the comedy Tower Heist with Ben Stiller and Casey Affleck, and two years later, he starred in the poorly received A Thousand Words.'Mr. Church' and 'Dolemite Is My Name'Seemingly choosing his roles more carefully, Murphy returned to the big screen in 2016 as the mysterious titular character of Mr. Church. This drama also drew mostly negative reviews, though Murphy was praised for his performance. Three years later, he resurfaced for Dolemite Is My Name, based on the life of comedian Rudy Ray Moore. Music Taking advantage of his status as a hot commodity, Murphy in 1985 released his first musical album, How Could It Be? which was produced by industry legend Rick James. The first single off the album, "Party All the Time," peaked at No. 2 on the Billboard Hot 100. Murphy followed with the albums So Happy (1989) and Love's Alright (1993), the latter featuring a collaboration with Michael Jackson on the single "Whatazupwitu," though neither album fared as well as his debut.Wife, Children and RelationshipsMurphy married Nicole Mitchell on March 18, 1993. They have five children together: Bria, Myles, Shayne, Zola and Bella. The couple divorced on April 17, 2006. That year, Murphy began dating singer Melanie Brown of the Spice Girls. On April 3, 2007, Brown gave birth to a daughter, Angel, whom she said was Murphys child. Murphy questioned paternity, but a DNA test confirmed he was Angel's father.On New Years Day in 2008, Murphy married Tracey Edmonds, the former wife of Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, in Bora Bora. The private ceremony was not legally binding, and Murphy and Edmonds planned to repeat their vows on a Hawaiian soil. However, the couple released a statement that they had jointly decided against a legal ceremony. In 2012, Murphy began dating Paige Butcher, and four years later, the couple had a daughter, Izzy. Shortly after the announcement of another pregnancy, Murphy and Butcher were engaged in September 2018. They had son Max in late November, giving Murphy a total of 10 children from his relationships. In 2015, Murphy received the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor which "recognizes people who have had an impact on American society in ways similar to the distinguished 19th-century novelist and essayist best known as Mark Twain," according to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, which presents the award. BrotherMurphy's only sibling and older brother, Chappelle's Show writer and star Charlie Murphy, died from leukemia in April 2017. Upon Charlie's death, Murphy released a statement: Our hearts are heavy with the loss today of our son, brother, father, uncle and friend Charlie. Charlie filled our family with love and laughter and there wont be a day that goes by that his presence will not be missed.VideosRelated VideosQUICK FACTSBirth Year: 1961Birth date: April 3, 1961Birth State: New YorkBirth City: BrooklynBirth Country: United StatesGender: MaleBest Known For: Actor and comedian Eddie Murphy began doing stand-up as a teenager. He became a popular 'Saturday Night Live' cast member and starred in several box-office hits.IndustriesAstrological Sign: AriesWe strive for accuracy and fairness.If you see something that doesn't look right,contact us!CITATION INFORMATIONArticle Title: Eddie Murphy BiographyAuthor: Biography.com EditorsWebsite Name: The Biography.com websiteUrl: Date: Publisher: A&E; Television NetworksLast Updated: September 14, 2022Original Published Date: April 3, 2014'D like to produce, direct, write, score, and star in a film in exactly the way Chaplin did. I'd do that before I'm 30.I'm relaxed about my career. I've been making movies for over 20 years, so I've earned at least the right to relax.IMDbProStarmerterTop 5,00061Edward Regan Murphy was born April 3, 1961 in Brooklyn, New York, to Lillian Lynch (born: Lillian Laney), a telephone operator, and Charles Edward Murphy, a transit police officer who was also an amateur comedian and actor. After his father died, his mother married Vernon Lynch, a foreman at a Breyer's Ice Cream plant. His brothers are Charlie Murphy & Vernon Lynch, Jr. Eddie had aspirations of being in show business since he was a child. A bright kid growing up in the streets of New York, Murphy spent a great deal of time on impressions and comedy stand-up routines rather than academics. His sense of humor and wit made him a stand out amongst his classmates at Roosevelt Junior-Senior High School. By the time he was fifteen, Murphy worked as a stand-up comic on the lower part of New York's wowing audiences with his dead-on impressions of celebrities and outlooks on life.In the early 1980s, at the age of 19, Murphy was offered a contract for the Not-Ready-For-Prime-Time Players of Saturday Night Live (1975), where Murphy exercised his comedic abilities in impersonating African American figures and originating some of the show's most memorable characters: Velvet Jones, Mr. Robinson, and a disgruntled and angry Gumbo. Murphy made his feature film debut in 48 Hrs. (1982), alongside Nick Nolte. The two's comedic and antagonistic chemistry, alongside Murphy's believable performance as a streetwise convict aiding a bitter, aging cop, won over critics and audiences. The next year, Murphy went two for two, with another hit, pairing him with John Landis, who later became a frequent collaborator with Murphy in Coming to America (1988) and Beverly Hills Cop III (1994). Beverly Hills Cop (1984) was the film that made Murphy a box-office superstar and most notably made him a celebrity worldwide, and it remains one of the all-time biggest domestic blockbusters in motion-picture history. Murphy's performance as a young Detroit cop in pursuit of his friend's murderers earned him a third consecutive Golden Globe nomination. Axel Foley became one of Murphy's signature characters. On top of his game, Murphy was unfazed by his success, that is until his box office appeal and choices in scripts resulted into a spotty mix of hits and misses into the late 1980s and early 1990s.Films like The Golden Child (1986) and Beverly Hills Cop II (1987) were critically panned but were still massive draws at the box office. In 1989, Murphy, coming off another hit, Coming to America (1988), found failure with his directorial debut, Harlem Nights (1989). Another 48 Hrs. (1990) his turn as a hopeless romantic in Boomerang (1992) and as a suave vampire in Vampire in Brooklyn did little to resuscitate his career. However, his remake of Jerry Lewis's The Nutty Professor (1996) brought Murphy's drawing power back into fruition. From there, Murphy rebounded with occasional hits and misses but has long proven himself as a skilled comedic actor with laudable range pertaining to characterizations and mannerisms. Though he has grown up a lot since his fast-lane rise as a superstar in the 1980s, Murphy has lived the Hollywood lifestyle with controversy, criticism, scandal, and the admiration of millions worldwide for his talents. As Murphy had matured throughout the years, learning many lessons about the Hollywood game in the process, he settled down with more family-oriented humor with Doctor Doolittle (1998), Mulan (1998), Bowfinger (1999), and the animated smash reks (2001), in a supporting role that showcased Murphy's comedic personality and charm. Throughout the 2000s, he further starred in the hits The Haunted Mansion (2003), reks 2 (2004), Sapu meitenses (2006) (for which he was nominated for a Best Supporting Actor Oscar), Norbits (2007), Shrek the Third (2007), and reks 4: ilgi un laimgi (2010).Murphy was married to Nicole Mitchell Murphy from 1993 to 2006. Murphy has ten children.IMDbProStarmerterTop 5,00061You have no recently viewed pages Eddie Murphy(Edward Regan Murphy) is an American actor, comedian, writer, producer, and singer of African descent. Further, he's famed for his role as a regular cast member in the sketch comedy show, Saturday Night Live, from 1980 to 1984. He began his acting career in 1976. Murphy was born on April 3, 1961, in Brooklyn, New York City, United States. He is 61 years old as of 2022. Murphy stands at an approximate height of 5 feet and 10 inches. Murphy was born to Lillian Murphy (ne Laney, later Murphy Lynch), and Charles Edward Murphy. His mom served as a telephone operator while his father served as a transit police officer, an amateur actor, and a comedian. Moreover, his parents broke up when he was 3 years old. They had two sons counting Murphy and his older brother, Charlie(Charles Quinton Murphy). Sadly, his father passed away in 1969 as a result of a murder at the age of 29. When he was 8 years old, Murphy and his brother lived in foster care for one year after his mom fell ill. Later, he and his brother were raised in Roosevelt, New York, by his mother and stepfather, Vernon Lynch. Lynch served as a foreman at an ice cream plant. Unfortunately, his mother passed away in 2000 at the age of 61. Charlie was born on July 12th, 1959, and passed away on April 12th, 2017 at age 57 as a result of leukemia. Prior to his death, he served as a comedian, actor, and writer. He's famed for serving as a cast member of the Comedy Central sketch-comedy series, Chappelles Show and the co-star of the sitcom, Black Jacks. Further, he joined the United States Navy in 1978 and served for six years as a boiler technician. Additionally, he tied the knot with Tisha Taylor Murphy from 1997 until December 2009 when she passed away from cervical cancer. They had two kids together plus Charlies child from a prior relationship Photo of Eddie Murphy Murphy is in a relationship with his girlfriend and Australian model, Paige Butcher since 2012. In May 2016, they had a daughter and a son in November 2018. They are 6 and 4 years old respectively. Further, his sons middle name pays homage to Murphys late brother, Charlie. In September 2018, the couple became engaged to be married. Prior to this, he tied the knot with film producer, former wife of Kenneth Babyface Edmonds, and ex-wife, Tracey Edmonds on January 1st, 2008. They held a private ceremony on an island off Bora Bora. However, on January 16, 2008, they depicted the ceremony as a symbolic union. Further, they decided that they would remain friends instead of pursuing a romantic relationship. Before that, he was in a relationship with previous Spice Girl, Melanie Brown in 2006. Later, she became pregnant and claimed the child was Murphys. Murphy told Dutch reporter Matthijs Kleyn that he didnt know whose child it was till a DNA test is done. During his 46th birthday, the child was born and dubbed Angel Iris Murphy Brown. After a DNA test was conducted, representatives of Brown declared that Angel was Murphys child on June 22nd, 2007. Brown later viewed in an interview that he didnt seek a relationship with Angel. In 2010, it was reported that he was getting to know her. The pair reached a paternity settlement of \$7 million. Prior to that, he tied the knot with Nicole Mitchell at the Grand Ballroom of the Plaza Hotel in New York City on March 18, 1993. They had met in 1968 at an NAACP Image Awards show. They had five children together: Bria, Myles, Shayne, Zola, and Bella. After their 13 years long marriage, their divorce was finalized on April 17th, 2006, after Mitchell filed for divorce, summoning irreconcilable differences in August 2005. Around the 1980s, he was in a relationship with Paulette McNeely whom he had a son named Eric. He was born in 1989 and is 33 years old as of 2022. Further, he was in a relationship with Tamara Hood. From their relationship, they had a child named Christian. Christian was born in 1990 and is 32 years old as of 2022. In total, Murphy has 10 kids as of 2022. Murphy has an estimated net worth of between \$200 Million which he has earned through his successful career as an actor. When he completed his high school education, Murphy went on to join Nassau Community College in Garden City, New York prior to his acting career. He graduated high school as the Most Popular boy. From 1980 to 1984, Murphy starred in the sketch comedy show, Saturday Night Live as a cast member. Additionally, he served as a stand-up comedian with a ranking of No. 10 on Comedy Central's list of the 100 Greatest Stand-ups of All Time. Further, he attained Golden Globe Award nominations for his performances in 48 Hrs. (1982), the Beverly Hills Cop series (1984present), Trading Places (1983), The Nutty Professor (1996), and Dolemite Is My Name (2019). Moreover, he attained many awards for his work on the fantasy comedy film, Dr. Dolittle (1998) and its 2001 sequel. In 2007, he gained the Golden Globe for Best Supporting Actor. Else, he gained a nomination for the Academy Award for his depiction of the soul singer, James Thunder Early in the musical film, Dreamgirls. To boot, he has starred as a voice actor. For instance, he voiced the Chinese dragon, Mushu in Disneys Mulan (1998), Thurgood Stubbs in the sitcom, The PJs (19992001), and Donkey in DreamWorks Animations Shrek series (20012010). In addition to that, he played a number of roles in some films apart from playing the title character. This served as an homage to one of his idols, Peter Sellers. In the film, Coming to America (1988) he played a number of roles. Also, in Wes Cravens Vampire in Brooklyn (1995), the Nutty Professor films, Bowfinger (1999), The Adventures of Pluto Nash (2002), Norbit (2007), and Meet Dave (2008). As of 2016, his films realized a gross of more than \$3.8 billion (\$6.5 billion adjusted for inflation) at the United States and Canada box office. Further, they have attained more than \$6.7 billion globally. In 2015, his films made him the sixth-highest-grossing actor in the United States. Moreover, he attained the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor from the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in 2015. In 2020, he attained his initial Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series for serving Saturday Night Live as a host. In 1999, Murphy starred in the comedy-drama film, Lifein the role of Ray Gibson. The film follows a story narrated by an elderly inmate, Willie Long about two of his friends, Ray Gibson (Eddie Murphy) and Claude Banks(Martin Lawrence). Ray and Claude are both wrongfully convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison. Through the film, Eddi and Murphy co-starred together for the second time after the film Boomerang(1992). Delirious serves as an American stand-up comedy TV special written by and starring Eddie Murphy and directed by Bruce Cowers. The 70-minute special served as his initial feature stand-up. Further, it was released as an album on October 24, 1983, dubbed Eddie Murphy: Comedian. Party All the Time serves as the lead single on Murphy's 1985 album, How Could It Be? Rick James wrote and produced the song for him. It reached number two on the Billboard Hot 100 for three weeks, after Say You, Say Me by Lionel Richie. Further, he voiced that the song came to be after a \$100,000 bet made between him and actor and comedian, Richard Pryor wager of whether he could sing. In 1987, Murphy starred in the stand-up comedy film, Raw. This served as his second feature stand-up comedy film, after Eddie Murphys Delirious. The 90-minute program was filmed at the Felt Forum in New York City. Lawrence is an American comedian and actor. The pair costarred in the films Boomerang (1992)and Life (1999)together. Murphy is in a relationship with his girlfriend and Australian model, Paige Butcher since 2012. In May 2016, they had a daughter and a son in November 2018. They are 6 and 4 years old respectively. Further, his sons middle name pays homage to Murphys late brother, Charlie. In September 2018, the couple became engaged to be married. Rumors and speculations might have sparked as a result of his being stopped by police in Santa Monica, California, witha transgender prostitute, in his car. Aitome Seuil on May 2nd, 1997. However, his publicist, Paul Block, repudiated that Murphy had intended to pay her for sex. Further, he voiced that Murphy was only giving her a ride home. After the incident, a number ofother transgender prostitutes alleged to have had prior relationships with Murphy. Moreover, in 2019, Murphy apologized for his jokes about homosexuals. Else, he said that some of the jokes make him cringe today. After a clip from his 1983 comedy special, Delirious was played in an interview, he argued that while he doesnt have regrets about anything he has done in his life, he understands that his old jokes will not be well received by the audience. During his career, Murphy has starred, written, hosted, and produced numerous films and TV shows such as; A Thousand WordsDolemite Is My Name The Distinguished Gentleman The Daily Show with Trevor Noah Mark at the Movies Dr. Dolittle 2 I-Spy Shrek 2 Daddy Day Care Saturday Night Live in his singing career, Murphy has released a number of albums such as Eddie Murphy (1982) Eddie Murphy: Comedian (1983) How Could It Be (1985) So Happy (1989) Loves Alright (1993) He is active on his social media accounts and is often seen posting on his Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. He has over 34.5k followers on Instagram. In the 1980s and 1990s, Eddie Murphy's name was synonymous with comedy. From a dynamic debut at 19 on Saturday Night Live to commanding center stage in cinematic juggernauts like 48 Hrs, Trading Places, Beverly Hills Cop, and Coming to America, Eddie's star was ascendant. This quick-witted, edgy comedian swiftly cemented his status as a Hollywood powerhouse.The subsequent phase of his career saw a transition to family-oriented entertainment. Movies like The Nutty Professor, Dr. Dolittle, and voice roles in animated favorites Mulan and the Shrekseries showcased Eddie's versatility.His portrayal in Dreamgirlsfurther testified to his expansive talent, earning him an Oscar nomination and a Golden Globes victory for best supporting actor in 2007.Eddie's impact on comedy is undeniable. Positioned at No. 10 on Comedy Central's list of the top 100 comedians of all time, he holds the record for the highest-grossing stand-up comedy performance with Eddie Murphy: Raw. Such an illustrious career undeniably contributed to his staggering net worth. Any Sussman Eddie Murphy poses with the Cecil B. DeMille Award in the press room during the 80th Annual Golden Globe Awards Yet, around the 2010s, Eddie became conspicuously absent from the silver screen. This enigmatic hiatus lasted six years. In a candid 2021 chat on WTF With Marc Maron, promoting Coming 2 America, Eddie delved into the reasons behind this surprising retreat. "I was making these movies," he confided. The toll of critical backlash became evident when the Golden Raspberry Awards, or the Razzies, an award "celebrating" the cinematic lows, targeted him. "I think they gave me the 'worst actor ever' Razzie," Eddie reflected, adding: "Maybe it's time to take a break when you get the 'worst actor ever' Razzie." Michael KovacEddie took a six year break from actingFor clarity, the 2010 Razzie Eddie received was 'worst actor of the decade,' which cited his roles in films that were less than well-received: The Adventures of Pluto Nash, I Spy, Imagine That, Meet Dave, Norbit, and Showtime.Eddie's intended sabbatical was initially much shorter. "I was only gonna take a break for a year," he revealed. But time, as it often does, seemed to fast forward. "Then all of a sudden, six years go by, and I'm sitting on the couch."Although the allure of continued relaxation was enticing, Eddie's legacy and the underwhelming quality of his recent films weighed on him. He did not want his cinematic journey to be remembered for a series of flops. It spurred a determination within him."Let me get off the couch and do some stuff and remind 'em that I'm funny," he declared with renewed vigor. Axelle/Bauer-GriffinEddie Murphy attends the Los Angeles Premiere of Netflix's "You People" Eddie's strategy for re-entry was meticulous. His upcoming list included roles in the Netflix series You People, Dolemite Is My Name and Coming 2 America, hosting SNL once more, and going on a stand-up tour.Reflecting on his past stand-up experiences, Eddie remarked on the profound evolution he has undergone since he last held the microphone at 28. "I'm curious to see what will it be like, because I was a baby when I did it before," he mused. Matt WinkelmeyerEddie Murphy and Paige ButcherAt the 2023 Golden Globes, while accepting the esteemed Cecil B. DeMille Award, Eddie showed the world that his sense of humor was as sharp and timely as ever. He took a lighthearted jab at "the slap" - referencing the infamous altercation between Will Smith and comedian Chris Rock at the 2022 Oscars. "To all the new up and coming dreamers and artists in the room tonight, I want to let you know that there is a definitive blueprint that you can follow to achieve success, prosperity, longevity, and peace of mind," he said. Eddie then succinctly outlined the roadmap for young Hollywood stars: "Pay your taxes, mind your business and keep Will Smith's wife's name out of your (expletive) mouth," drawing a mixture of gasps and chuckles from the audience. Among his generation of stars, Eddie Murphy had an especially atypical Hollywood trajectory. At 19, he became only the second Black not-ready-for-prime-time player on Saturday Night Live (after original cast member Garrett Morris), and two years later, in 1982, he launched one of the most successful big-screen runs in Hollywood history. The star of hits like 48 Hours, Trading Places, Beverly Hills Cop and Coming to America discusses his unusual career in the new two-part Apple TV+ documentary Number One on the Call Sheet. Episode 1, "Black Leading Men in Hollywood," was directed by Reginald Hudlin (who worked with Murphy on the 1992 film Boomerang), and in addition to Murphy, it also features interviews with Denzel Washington, Morgan Freeman, Jamie Foxx and Will Smith. Eddie Murphy in 1984's 'Beverly Hills Cop'. In the documentary, Murphy, 63, says his success was almost a foregone conclusion at least in his own head. Early on, I just knew I was going to be fa I started when I'm around 16, Im going, Im gonna be famous," Murphy says. A vintage clip from 1981 is shown next, and in it, a young, baby-faced Murphy makes a bold prediction. "I wanna get, I would say famous by the time Im 21," he says. "Im 19 now. I give myself two years." His breakthrough role in his very first film, opposite a top-billed Nick Nolte would come the following year, and apparently, Murphy so impressed on SNL that he didn't even have to audition for that it. "When I was 19, I got Saturday Night Live, and things just started happening. I didnt go through all of the stuff that a lot of actors, I didnt got through auditions," Murphy says. "I had one audition in my whole life. I think Im the only actor that could say that. I had one audition. It was for Saturday Night Live." Eddie Murphy (left) and Chevy Chase on 'SNL' in 1981.Fred Hermansky/NBCU Photo Bank/NBCUniversal via Getty Nice work if you can get it, and Murphy got a lot of it pretty easily in the decade that followed. With his fast success came advice from several of his Hollywood elders. Sidney Poitier, for one, discouraged him from playing Roots author Alex Haley in director Norman Jewison's planned adaptation of Haley's The Autobiography of Malcolm X. Heavyweight boxing champion Larry Holmes told him, "Don't forget where you came from," and Godfather of Soul James Brown told him to stop cursing and to bury his millions in the woods. Eddie Murphy in 'Number One on the Call Sheet'. "And I said, 'Why bury my money in the woods?' " Murphy says in the documentary. "He said, 'The government will take it from you. So bury it.' And I said, 'But can't the government take your land?' And he said, 'But they won't know where the money is.' That's a true story. That's the kind of advice I used to get." "I was in uncharted waters," he adds, when talking about the difficulty his Hollywood elders had giving him useful advice. "For Sidney and all those guys, when I showed up, it was something kind of new. They didn't have a reference for me." Number One of the Call Sheet is now streaming on Apple TV+.

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