

Ole Kirk Christiansen

Ole was a Danish carpenter and founder of 'the LEGO group.' He was born on 7th of April 1891 and died March 11th 1958.

In his early life, he was poor and worked in a factory. Then he started a carpentry business but that got him in serious debt, so he had to fire all his workers. A

few months later, his wife had died. This made him go into a depression but then was inspired to make wooden toys for his children.



He then thought to sell his toys. One day a man walked into his shop and thought of buying his toys for when Christmas came. Ole agreed and began to make money again so he hired back all his old workers. Soon though the man who bought the toys went into bankruptcy and couldn't buy the toys. To make money he had to go around his town and sell his toys himself, it didn't give him much, but it was enough.

He held a contest to name his company but in the end he decided on his name, Lego. He decided this because it was a smaller version of the Danish words 'Leg Godt' which means play well. He didn't know though that in Latin, Lego means to put together. He then bought a milling machine to make better toys and was able to get more money.

When World War 2 started a storm set the workshop on fire, and they couldn't save any of the toys or blueprints. But Ole was not a quitter, he built a better workshop and was able to buy a plastic moulding machine which he used to make little plastic teddy bears. But he then had another idea of building bricks. He made the first Lego brick moulds and began to work on the new toys.

His son, Godfred, told him there was no creativity to toys, so he began to sell Lego to the world. But just after Godfred took over as CEO to Lego, Ole passed away.